

2015 CSCC Award for Education Excellence

SPONSORED BY: BECKMAN COULTER CANADA INC.

Dr. Arlene Crowe



Arlene with the Ames Award at the Canadian Congress of Laboratory Medicine in Winnipeg, June 1978.



The CSCC is pleased to recognize the remarkable contributions of Dr. Arlene Crowe as the 2015 recipient of the CSCC Award for Education Excellence.

Through this award the Society honors her distinguished career and more than 50 years of continued involvement in clinical biochemistry as educator and archivist, especially through involvement with CSCC News and the CSCC Archives Committee. During her career she has contributed to the training of many laboratory technologists, university students, and her clinical biochemist colleagues.

Arlene was born in Wakaw, Saskatchewan, but completed her first post-secondary degree at the University of Alberta in Edmonton in 1950. She later received her MSc degree from McGill University in 1956, which she completed part-time while working full-time as a research assistant in the Department of Pathology at McGill University. Following this, she worked as Chief Technician in Biochemistry at the Montreal Children's Hospital for 2 years, which she considers one of the highlights of her career. Arlene later went on to pursue her PhD degree in Biochemistry at McGill (1962), and shortly afterward began working as a Clinical Chemist at the Hotel Dieu Hospital in Kingston Ontario, where she remained until retiring about 30 years later in 1992.

Arlene joined the CSCC back in 1958, prior to completing her PhD degree, and became a certified member in 1965 and eventually a founding fellow of CACB. Thereafter, she continued to serve as an active member, transitioning from full member to emeritus in 2004, and was then recognized as an honorary member at the 50th anniversary of CSCC in Victoria in 2006. Her many other contributions to CSCC include her first term on CSCC Council during 1971 to 1973 as membership secretary; and then from 1985 to 1991 she served as president-elect, president, and then past president of CSCC. Outside of CSCC, she is a member of numerous organizations with interests in clinical chemistry. Her hard work and commitment to the field has also earned her many awards including the CSCC award for Outstanding Contributions to Clinical Chemistry in 1978.

Arlene's role as an educator quickly ensued in 1963 where she took on the Directorship of the HDH School of Medical Laboratory technology in Kingston Ontario, a role that continued until the school was absorbed by the newly built St. Lawrence Community College in 1973. During this period, she also began teaching at Queen's University as Adjunct Lecturer and then Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Biochemistry until her retirement in 1993. Following her retirement, she relocated to Calgary.

Arlene's contributions to activities within CSCC and other Laboratory Medicine Organizations continued beyond her retirement from full time work. Her work with the CSCC Archives Committee began over twenty years ago (1994) when she began as chair. In this role she coordinated videotaped interviews which helped to create the 50th anniversary video produced by filmmaker David R. Tonks, son of CSCC founding member David B. Tonks. She also served as co-editor with Robert Baynton for the special issue of Clinical Biochemistry and authored the lead article "The Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists: Highlights of Its First 50 Years" which was published in Clin Biochem 39 (2006): 427-36. Her involvement in CSCC News began about 40 years ago, initially serving as editor of the newsletter, and continues to the present as writer of the majority of bimonthly Archives Corner columns for CSCC News. In addition to this, she also served as Assistant Editor of Clinical Biochemistry during 1981 to 1985.

Through these and many other contributions, Arlene continues to impact and enrich the collegial experience within our Society and for which we are grateful. It is therefore a pleasure to honour Dr. Arlene Crowe with the 2015 CSCC Award for Education Excellence.

Dr. Edward Randell, Chair, CSCC Awards Committee