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Emeritus Member
AACR Member Since 1953

Shortly after a general internship at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital, I joined the laboratory of Dr. Howard B. Anderson at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda. "Andy" introduced me to the AACR around 1950. My membership number is 2887; I understand that there are now some 27,000 members!

Early during my tenure in Bethesda, I resigned from the navy and, enticed by somewhat better pay, accepted a commission in The Public Health Service and established my own independent laboratory at the NCI. During this period I developed an interest in the possibility of immunity in relation to mouse cancer. Tumor immunology was at that time in high disrepute; a number of papers had appeared claiming to have shown such a phenomenon, but since a tumor was part of the self and not a foreign invader it was widely believed that tumor immunity was impossible. In 1955, I receive a request to discuss my work with the Director of NCI who, upon learning of my work, advised me in no uncertain terms to find some other interest with better prospects.

Thus, in 1956 I left NCI and began a very informative residency in pathology at the Public Health Service hospital in Seattle (the mountains and forests come down to the sea!) However, the experiments done at the NCI had been successful and in 1957 a paper convincingly demonstrating immunity to antigens in 3-methylcholanthrene-induced mouse tumors was published; on the basis of that paper, I was offered, in 1958, an Assistant Professorship in pathology at the University of Washington. While I have subsequently published extensively in the field of tumor immunology, that one paper was truly the foundation of my career.

During subsequent years, I spent ten at the Institute for Cancer Research in Fox Chase, five as Director of Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor and five as Director of the Institute for the Medical Research in San Jose. I also served a term as a Member of the Board of the AACR and I was a regular attendee at the annual meetings until after my pseudo retirement in 1987. I currently keep active as an unpaid affiliate professor of pathology at the University of Washington.