

The 2000 Ralph and Helen Oesper Awardee

Honoring

Mildred Cohn

University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine



Mildred Cohn was born in New York City on July 12, 1913. Professor Cohn has been a pioneer in several important areas of biological research such as using isotopes to investigate metabolic processes and enzyme mechanisms and applying NMR and EPR to investigate metabolism and metabolic intermediates. More generally, her work has had impact upon research areas ranging from cancer to biological NMR. Her scientific contributions to these areas resulted in numerous awards and honors including: The American Chemical Society Garvan Medal (1963), The Franklin Institute Cresson Medal (1975), the National Medal of Science (1982), The Magnetic Resonance in Biology Founders Medal (1994) and The Protein Society Stein-Moore Award (1997). In 1971, she was elected to membership in The National Academy of Sciences.

Her educational background includes a B.A. from Hunter College and a Ph.D. from Columbia University. She has held faculty positions at Washington University School of Medicine, The Institute for Cancer Research at Fox Chase Cancer Center and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Professor Cohn is currently Benjamin Rush Professor Emerita of Physiological Chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania. Currently, her research interest involves investigation of metabolites as potential anti-cancer agents in tumors as monitored by in vivo NMR and other techniques.