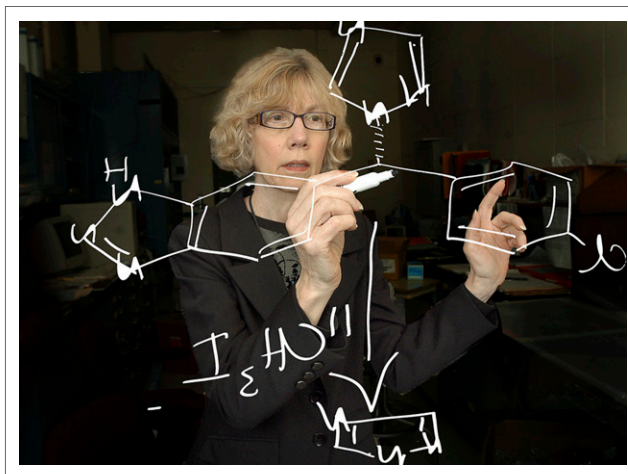


Brookhaven Names Fowler as Scientist Emeritus

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) announced in February that it had named chemist Joanna S. Fowler, PhD, as a Scientist Emeritus in recognition of her noteworthy contributions to BNL's reputation as a world-class scientific institution. Fowler retired from the BNL Biosciences Department on January 3, 2014. A feature article released on February 21 on the BNL news site reviewed Fowler's many contributions to science and to the BNL community.

Fowler has been a major contributor to brain research and the study of diseases such as addiction, an area in which she has advanced PET techniques and associated radiopharmaceutical agents. After earning a BA in chemistry at the University of South Florida (Tampa) in 1964 and a PhD in chemistry at the University of Colorado (Boulder) in 1967, Fowler carried out postdoctoral research at the University of East Anglia (Norwich, UK) and at BNL. Joining the laboratory in 1969, she spent her entire career at Brookhaven. In 1976, she and her colleagues synthesized ^{18}F -FDG. Her laboratory performed early and influential studies on ^{11}C agents. Their work with changes in brain circuits disrupted during drug addiction received international attention and praise. She was also involved in PET studies to understand the action of therapeutic drugs and facilitate the introduction of new drugs into clinical practice. Another research area centered on variations in monoamine oxidase genes and their effects on personality and vulnerability to psychiatric disorders. Most recently, Fowler and her team developed new tracers in the field of bioenergy research and were instrumental in labeling auxin, a key signaling molecule in plant growth and development.

Fowler has published more than 400 peer-reviewed articles and holds numerous patents for radiolabeling procedures. Fowler's honors include the SNM Paul Aebersold Award and the DOE E.O. Lawrence Award, both received in 1997; the American Chemical Society's Francis P. Garvin–John M. Olin Medal in 1998; and the Glen T. Seaborg Award in 2002. She was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2004 and, in 2009, was honored with the National Academy of Sciences Award in Chemical Sciences and inducted into the Long Island Technology Hall of Fame. She received



Joanna S. Fowler, PhD. Courtesy Brookhaven National Laboratory.

the National Medal of Science in 2009 at a White House ceremony.

“Joanna was the heart and soul of Brookhaven’s imaging group,” said colleague Gene-Jack Wang, MD, in the BNL-released tribute. “But she is not only a super chemist and brilliant neuroscientist, she is also a great mentor. She passionately provides guidance to students, helping them cultivate their scientific careers. As an emeritus chemist, I know she will continue to be a great contributor to Brookhaven and the field of imaging science.”

Fowler said, “I am proud of my work at Brookhaven which I truly believe makes a difference to people and society. Mostly, I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with so many extraordinary colleagues, who have also become my friends. I plan to continue doing research in this important field and providing support and encouragement to current and future scientists. We should never underestimate the impression that a happy, successful scientist working in a respectful and supportive institution makes on a young person who is trying to decide on whether to embark on a career in science.”

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