

In Memorium of Professor Patricia B. Hoyer



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We are deeply saddened about the passing of Dr. Patricia Hoyer on July 2, 2024. She was a pioneer in the field of ovarian toxicology, exceptional researcher and mentor, and active member of the Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR) and the Society of Toxicology (SOT). Dr. Hoyer received her B.S. in Medical Technology from the University of Nebraska and her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Wyoming. Following her Ph.D. training, Dr. Hoyer completed postdoctoral training in the laboratory of Dr. Gordon Niswender at Colorado State University. She then began her independent scientific career as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physiology at the University of Arizona, where she was subsequently promoted to Professor, awarded the honored position of Regent's Professor, and remained until her retirement. Dr. Hoyer's research focused on the mechanisms by which the industrial chemical, 4-vinylcyclohexene diepoxide (VCD), causes ovarian toxicity and she developed the VCD model of early menopause that is used by numerous laboratories across the world. She published over 130 scientific manuscripts and consistently obtained grant support from the National Institutes of Health for her research. In addition, Dr. Hoyer received prestigious awards for her research including the Scientific Achievement Award from the Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology Specialty Section of the SOT. Dr. Hoyer also served as an outstanding mentor for graduate students, medical students, and post-doctoral fellows. She trained 11 post-doctoral fellows, 14 pre-doctoral students, and numerous high school students, undergraduates, and medical students. Dr. Hoyer's mentoring did not end with members of her laboratory. She served on over 80 dissertation committees for students in her home department as well as from other departments across the world and she mentored junior faculty from other universities. She always had trainees' best interests at

heart and she was there to help each one grow scientifically and personally. In recognition of her exceptional mentoring skills, Dr. Hoyer received the Trainee Mentor Award from SSR and the Women in Toxicology Mentoring Award from SOT. In addition to being an exceptional researcher and mentor, Dr. Hoyer was an active and dedicated member of SSR and SOT and encouraged her trainees to give back to their scientific societies. She served as a Director on the SSR Board of Directors and as an Associate Editor for Biology of Reproduction. In addition, she served on numerous committees for SSR and SOT and drawing on her love for movies produced the recording "SSR: The Generation of a Legacy". In closing, Dr. Hoyer contributed tremendously to the academic community at the University of Arizona, the international scientific community, SSR, SOT, and her trainees. She will be deeply missed by her many friends and colleagues.