It is with sadness that I report the death on March 5, 2009 of Patricia W. Durbin, a Distinguished Emerita Member of the Council of the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP), a longtime member of the Radiation Research Society, and a former member of the Editorial Board of *Radiation Research*. She was 82 at the time of death.

Dr. Durbin began her distinguished scientific career performing research on actinide chemistry and radiobiology while working as a laboratory technician with the Nobel Laureate Ernest Lawrence in the Crocker Laboratory on the Berkeley Campus of the University of California (UCB). She began working at the Crocker Laboratory in 1946 while still a student at UCB and received her B.S. degree in Chemistry from UCB in 1948. She continued her education at UCB and received a Ph.D. in Biophysics in 1953. Dr. Durbin then became an instructor from 1953 to 1957 in the Medical Physics Program at UCB and began work during that period as a physiologist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL). At LBNL she pioneered important studies on the biodistribution and metabolism of many elements throughout the periodic table, specializing in the actinides. In 1978 she was promoted to the rank of Staff Senior Physiologist in the LBNL Biology and Medicine Division, where she performed her multidisciplinary research until retiring in 1991. After retirement she continued her unique research on actinide chelation chemistry in collaboration with Professor Kenneth Raymond in the Chemistry Department at UCB. During her career Dr. Durbin was the author or coauthor of more than 150 peer-reviewed papers and many comprehensive review articles on actinide chemistry, radiobiology and decorporation therapy.

Dr. Durbin was a significant contributor to the operation, reports and annual meetings of NCRP. She served as a member of Council from 1975 until 1993, at which time she was elected as a Distinguished Emerita Member of