

## Preface

The Nutrition and Cancer conference brought together 27 leading scientists who presented the latest information about the relationship between dietary factors and cancer. The keynote speaker, Sir Richard Doll, is well-known for his contributions to the epidemiologic information showing significant correlations between nutrition and cancer. Presentations by the other scientists addressed the roles of dietary fat, specific fatty acids, fiber, energy, microconstituents, minerals, methyl groups, tissue nucleotide ratios, diet-associated carcinogens and mutagens, molecular mechanisms of cancer initiation and promotion, and risk assessment. A panel discussion provided the basis for recommending the kinds of future research needed to elucidate the role of nutrition in cancer of humans.

Repeatedly during the conference speakers reminded attendees about the need for greater understanding of the molecular role of nutrients or their metabolites in cancer induction and promotion. There was general consensus that fat and calories were highly implicated in promoting cancer and that increasing the consumption of raw fruits and vegetables reduced cancer risk in humans. The attendees included active scientists in biochemistry, physiology, nutrition, toxicology, molecular and cellular biology, and clinical medicine, with individuals representing management, public policy, and regulatory activities.

The planning committee, chaired by Lionel A. Poirier, organized an excellent program. Credit and appreciation are extended to the authors of the papers submitted for these proceedings and to the anonymous reviewers of the manuscripts. Special appreciation is extended to Ms. Lili C. Merritt, conference manager of the International Life Sciences Institute, and her staff for shouldering responsibility in organizing the conference and coordinating the review and redaction processes of publication.

Willard J. Visek  
University of Illinois  
Urbana, IL

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