



Cancer Research

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COVER LEGEND

The Editor, Editorial Board, and staff of *CANCER RESEARCH* take special pleasure in honoring Dr. Harold P. Rusch, former Editor of *CANCER RESEARCH* from 1950 to 1964. We hope this will be as pleasant a surprise to him as it is a privilege for us to acknowledge an important milestone in his career and his many and varied contributions to the literature on cancer.

Dr. Rusch became the first Director of McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research in 1946, and it was not until September 1972, 26 years later, that his long and fruitful career in this capacity ended. He has now assumed the Directorship of the newly created University of Wisconsin Clinical Cancer Center at the Center for Health Sciences on the University of Wisconsin campus in Madison.

Harold Rusch was born in 1908 in Merrill, Wisconsin, and received both his B.A. and M.D. degrees from the University of Wisconsin. He interned at the University Hospitals in Madison and taught physiology there for one year. In 1935 he received a Jonathan Bowman Cancer Traveling Fellowship and spent a year at several leading cancer institutes in the United States and in Europe. He then returned to the University of Wisconsin as a Bowman fellow until 1941, when he was appointed the first Assistant Professor of Oncology and Chairman of the Department of Oncology at the University.

The research interests and activities of Dr. Rusch have encompassed numerous areas in the study of cancer. Between 1938 and 1945 he was concerned with the carcinogenic action of ultraviolet irradiation. He studied the influence of diet on the development of hepatic cancer in collaboration with various colleagues at McArdle between 1940 and 1948. He also investigated the effect of caloric restriction on tumor formation (1944-1954) and the various stages of tumor formation (1948-1957). Since 1955, Dr. Rusch's research program has been primarily involved with various biochemical events that control growth and differentiation in *Physarum polycephalum*. This organism was chosen because growth and differentiation occur during different parts

of its life cycle and, therefore, are readily distinguishable and also because mitosis is essentially synchronous in the multinucleated plasmodium of *P. polycephalum*, so that the individual stages of the cell cycle can be studied separately.

Although Wisconsin was his birthplace and has been his home for nearly all his life, Dr. Rusch's influence has extended throughout the world. During his 26 years as Director, McArdle Laboratory became recognized as a foremost center of experimental oncology, and its staff has been in the forefront of many important events in cancer research. Many of the world's leaders in cancer research received training at this institution; there are but few cancer centers in the world that do not have on their staffs scientists trained in the McArdle Laboratory.

Dr. Rusch's service to the Association as Editor of *CANCER RESEARCH* for 15 years represents only a relatively small part of his contributions to cancer research. In addition to his many other activities, he served on the Board of Directors of the American Association for Cancer Research from 1950 to 1965 and as its President in 1954. In 1961 he was named one of 22 members of President Kennedy's Committee on Heart Disease and Cancer and in 1970 was selected as a member of the U. S. Senate National Panel of Consultants on the Conquest of Cancer. As a member of the Panel, he had an important role in the preparation of background material for the National Cancer Act of 1971. Recently, he was appointed to the newly organized National Cancer Advisory Board. He has also been on various committees of the American Cancer Society, including membership on its Board of Directors (since 1965) and Executive Committee (since 1970). He was also a member of the Commission on Cancer Research of the International Union Against Cancer from 1958 to 1966 and in 1959 was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The portrait on the cover was taken *circa* 1961.