

"Without the love and support of the strong women in my life, my grandmother, Annie C. Whedbee, my mother, Anne W. Dawes and my aunt, Lenora White, none of my accomplishments would have been possible!!"

Dr. Sandra Elaine Burke, a cardiovascular physiologist with more than 40 years research experience in the pharmaceutical industry, has recently retired as director of Cardiovascular Biology Research at Abbott Laboratories. Dr. Burke is a native of Waterbury, Connecticut, where she was born on October 7, 1943. She graduated from Crosby High School in 1961, and four years later, received an A.B. degree in Biology from Boston University in Massachusetts. She continued her education at Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey, where she received a Master's Degree in Physiology. In 1983 she was awarded a Ph.D. in Physiology from Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Her post-doctoral training was completed at the Robert Wood Johnson Cardiovascular Research Institute in New Jersey, where she specialized in research on myocardial ischemia and infarction.

In her most recent role at Abbott, Dr. Burke conducted pre-clinical research studies in the company's Vascular division. Her expertise in cardiovascular disease ranges from the vascular biology of restenosis, a serious medical condition associated with coronary artery blockage, to the treatment of congestive heart failure. She has also conducted extensive research on thrombolytic agents used for the dissolution of blood clots in the coronary vasculature. Her scientific expertise was acknowledged in 1996, when she received an Abbott Chairman's Award for her contributions to a research program designed to provide therapies for the prevention of restenosis. She received further recognition in 1997 when she was inducted into the prestigious Volwiler Society, which honors Abbott's top scientists. In 2001, she received a President's Award from Abbott for her role in characterizing a key anti-proliferative drug which became Abbott's leading candidate for stent drug delivery.

Dr. Burke is the author of more than 75 publications and abstracts in scientific journals, and has co-authored seven book chapters on subjects ranging from the prevention and treatment of in-stent restenosis to pharmacology associated with thrombolytic therapies. In addition, she and her colleagues have submitted eleven patent applications for the use of therapeutic agents on medical devices, three of which have recently been issued. Dr. Burke is also a widely sought-after speaker, and has presented her research to audiences in the U.S. and Europe, including France, Scotland and England. She has also served as a scientific expert during company presentations to medical regulatory agencies in China, Australia, Sweden, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong.

Dr. Burke is a member of the American Heart Association Council for Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology, the American Physiological Society, the Association of Black Cardiologists and the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, where she served as President of the Great Lakes Illinois Chapter (1997 - 1999). She was also named Visiting Assistant Professor at



the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Rockford, Illinois (1991 - 1999). She was recently named to the Board of Directors of the Midwest Affiliate of the American Heart Association, and also serves actively as a volunteer and spokesperson for the AHA's Go Red for Women initiative, a program designed to educate women about their cardiovascular risks.

As a member of Women Leaders in Action and the Black Business Network Executive Council, Dr. Burke mentored a number of Abbott employees. She continues to serve as a role model by speaking about careers in science at schools and student forums.

Dr. Burke has also received numerous honors in recent years. In September 2003, she received the Women of Color Emerald Honor for Career Achievement. In further recognition of her success, the YWCA of Lake County, Illinois honored her with the 2004 Woman of Achievement Award in Science and Technology. More recently she was inducted into the Women in Technology International Hall of Fame during award ceremonies held in California in December of 2005.

Dr. Burke, a resident of Libertyville, Illinois, is an avid genealogist who has traced her family history back to 1823 and is currently researching and compiling her family tree for publication.