

**BILL WOOD**, Distinguished Professor  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology

#### **EDUCATION**

PhD, Stanford University, 1963

BS, Harvard University

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

He came to **CU-Boulder** in 1975 as a visiting professor in MCD biology and became a full-time faculty member in 1978. He went on to serve multiple tenures as both chair and associate chair of the department.

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS/AWARDS**

Received the **American Society for Cell Biology's** top education award, the seventh annual Bruce Alberts Award for Distinguished Contributions to Science Education, 2004.

*Honored for his ongoing efforts to promote science-based teaching methods. He also was cited for his 1974 textbook, "Biochemistry: A Problems Approach," that still is considered a revolutionary textbook by the science education community.*

Editor-in-chief of the biology education journal CBE - **Life Sciences Education**

Named Colorado University **Distinguished Professor**, 2002

Launched the first **National Academies of Science** Summer Institute for Undergraduate Education in Biology, 2004

Member of **National Research Council** committee that produced the 2002 report *Learning and Understanding: Improving Advanced Study of Mathematics and Science in U.S. High Schools*. Editor of the Biology Panel Report from that study

Evaluated advanced placement science courses in American high schools, **National Research Council**, 1999

In 1972, at age 34, Wood became one of the youngest members of the **National Academy of Sciences**. *Elected to the NAS for his pioneering research on the formation of complicated viruses that infect bacteria.*

Received the **Humboldt Research Award**, 2004.

*Given in recognition of a lifetime of scientific achievements, including groundbreaking work that could produce a better understanding of how genetic defects can lead to the birth of malformed children.*

Lead author of the widely used textbook **Biochemistry: A Problems Approach**, which helped to introduce problem-based learning to biochemistry, 70's-80's

#### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Mechanisms by which cell fates and patterns are determined during embryonic development of the nematode *C. elegans*, using techniques of genetics, cell biology, and molecular biology.

Pedagogical innovations for increasing student understanding of biology in large undergraduate classes through active and collaborative learning.

*(Sources: UCB Office of News Services, MCD Website, MSPNet)*