



Canadian Nuclear Society / Société Nucléaire Canadienne

Chalk River Branch, c/o Ruxandra Dranga, AECL-Chalk River Laboratories, Chalk River, ON K0J 1J0

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*“Supporting nuclear science and technology for over 30 years”
“plus de 30 ans de promotion de la science et de la technologie nucléaires”*

“A Half Century with Radiochemistry” by Donald R. Wiles (“Chemist-at-large”)

The Chalk River Branch of the Canadian Nuclear Society is pleased to be able to invite Dr. Donald (‘Don’) Wiles, Professor Emeritus at Carleton University, to talk about his life and work as a radiochemist. Don graduated from Mount Allison University (B.Sc 1946, B.Ed 1947) in chemistry and obtained an M.Sc. from McMaster in 1950 and a Ph.D from M.I.T. in 1953. He has had a long and varied career, holding almost every possible academic position, as well as various consultant positions, at universities and research institutes around the globe (including Norway, Germany, Romania, Brookhaven, British Columbia, Japan, Indonesia and Australia). From 1969 onwards, his home base for these forays was Carleton University, initially as Professor and, at his retirement in 1990, as Chairman of the Department of Chemistry.

From Don’s website (<http://http-server.carleton.ca/~dwiles/>):

Having been a radiochemist for many years, I worked for several years in the area of nuclear fission chemistry-- mostly fission yield measurement. During a four-year period at the University of British Columbia I worked on corrosion and dissolution chemistry. I continued some of this work at Carleton University, mostly in the form of electron exchange kinetics in solution. At that same time (1959) I turned my attention to hot atom chemistry, both of ionic compounds and metal-organic compounds. Particularly in the latter area our work became prominent world-wide. On reaching what I perceived to be impenetrable barriers, both in the experimental study and the theoretical interpretation of solid state hot atom chemistry, I changed my attention to measurement of environmental radioactivity - particularly that of the heavy natural decay products of uranium. This was very interesting and productive, but led to less publishable research. At the same time as my grants decreased, I became Chairman of the Chemistry Department, and ultimately was forced to stop doing research.



Don Wiles

Professor Emeritus of Chemistry
Carleton University
Ottawa, Ontario

Thursday, May 19th 2011
7:00 p.m.

J.L. Gray Building
20 Forest Ave., Deep River
Bennett/Mackenzie Room
(come through the back door)
(secured entrance)

*Further information: Blair Bromley (613-584-1518), Ruxandra Dranga (613-584-8811 ext. 46856),
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