

Biographical Note

Dr. Gordon Wood Group Leader, Research (Retired)

Gordon Wood worked at the National Research Council of Canada from 1969 to 2004. Immediately following graduation from the University of British Columbia in August 1969 with a PhD in physics, he was appointed as a Research Officer in the Division of Applied Physics. Working in the Electrical Standards Group, he developed the Josephson Volt standard using superconducting tunnel junctions and microwaves as a means of maintaining the Canadian Standard Volt.

Following the successful completion of this highly technical and painstaking project in 1980, he moved to the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI) to take on a new challenge in the nascent field of scientific numeric databases. Under his leadership, the CAN/SND program was implemented and CISTI became the first organization in the world to offer the full suite of crystallographic databases online. As the market in Canada was limited, he saw that CAN/SND needed to extend its reach and thus CAN/SND became the first CISTI service to be offered outside of Canada. Following service as a Project Coordinator, and then acting Director, in the former Information Services and Product Development Directorate, he was appointed to Group Leader of the Research Group where he worked until his retirement in November 2004.

Because of the affinity of CAN/SND to the aims of CODATA, Dr. Wood became involved in CODATA at various levels. After working to revive the moribund Canadian National Committee for CODATA (CNC/CODATA) he organized the CODATA Scientific Conference in Ottawa in 1986, became National Delegate to CODATA in 1988 until he was elected to the position of Secretary General of CODATA for the maximum period of 8 years (1990-1998). Among other achievements during this period, he was responsible for the rationalization of the mechanism for reviewing and approving Task Groups as well as drafting several key amendments to the CODATA Constitution.

He was co-chair of the International Scientific Program Committee for the CODATA Conference held in Montreal, Canada in 2002. During this period he served on the CODATA Executive Committee as a co-opted member from 2000-2002 and as an ordinary member 2002 to 2004. He served again as the Canadian Delegate to CODATA from 1998 to 2004. On the Canadian national scene, he also served as Executive Secretary of CNC/CODATA for some 20 years.

Most recently, Dr. Wood organized and managed the *National Consultation on Access to Scientific Research Data*, a two-day summit of Canadian scientists in November 2004, which reported to Canadian granting agencies and the Canadian Federal government in 2005 (http://ncasrd-cnadrs.scitech.gc.ca/NCASRDReport_e.pdf).

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