

Liz Simons

<https://lists.purdue.edu/pipermail/cytometry/2019-April/053993.html>

From our school public announcement:

From: <owner-med-fac-l@bu.edu> on behalf of busmcommunications <busmcommunications@bu.edu>
Elizabeth R. Simons, Emerita Professor of Biochemistry, died peacefully surrounded by her family on Monday, March 25. She was 89.

Dr. Simons received her bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Cooper Union (NYC), and her master's and PhD in physical chemistry from Yale. She spent her early career at Wellesley College and Harvard Medical School before joining Boston University.

Dr. Simons was a valued member of the Department of Biochemistry for more than 40 years. Her research focused on how blood cells function, on the role of phagocytic cells in the innate immune system's response to a foreign entity, on the role of platelets in amyloid processing in Alzheimer's disease as well the control of phagocyte function in infectious diseases including tuberculosis. A highly productive scientist, she had more than 130 peer-reviewed publications and extensive extramural funding for close to 40 years. Liz inspired many young scientists, including generations of young women whom she mentored to balance success in science with a fulfilling home life. As a lifelong educator, she continued her involvement in medical education later in her career by teaching classes at Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement.

Even in "retirement," Liz was very active, teaching literature classes and taking others each semester. She volunteered at Newton At Home and as a tutor at both Lasell Village and Lasell College. Liz was also an avid fan of classical music and the arts, actively involved in the Boston Artists Ensemble, and regularly attending events at the Gardner Museum.

Dr. Simons mentored countless students and postdoctoral fellows in her laboratory. She was an enthusiastic teacher both one-on-one and in the classroom. A stellar departmental citizen, friend and role model, her vitality and knowledge will be missed by many.

A Celebration of Life<http://www.mulert.com/ERS/ERS_CelebrationOfLife_PM_Invite.htm> will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 1, at Lasell Village Ballroom, 120 Seminary Ave., Auburndale, Mass.

In the spirit of her zeal for women in science, in lieu of flowers, the family asks that you please consider donating to the Association for Women in Science (AWIS) Elizabeth R Simons Memorial Fund<<https://awis.site-ym.com/donations/fund.asp?id=18355>>. She would be thrilled.

Her family encourages you to share a memory<<https://www.memories.com/>> on or before May 15. (Please sign in to create a free account.)