

## The Rebecca Buckley Lectureship



Rebecca Hatcher Buckley, MD was born in 1933 in Hamlet, North Carolina. She graduated with an A.B. degree from Duke University in 1954, an MD degree from the University of North Carolina School of Medicine in 1958 and received house staff training in Pediatrics at Duke. Dr. Buckley was a fellow in Allergy under Dr. Susan C. Dees and a fellow in Immunology under Dr. Richard S. Metzgar, all at Duke. She then became a faculty member in the Department of Pediatrics, served as Chief of the Division of Allergy and Immunology from 1974 to 2003 and has been the James Buren Sidbury Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics and Professor of Immunology at Duke since 1979.

Dr. Buckley's research interests have been in the fundamental causes of genetically-determined immunodeficiency diseases. For the past 29 years her research has been on the syndrome of severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID) and the long-term clinical and immunologic outcomes of nonablative T cell-depleted parental bone marrow transplants. This treatment can be provided to all SCID infants, regardless of whether they have a matched sibling donor. For the past one and half decades she has advocated newborn screening for SCID, and the Secretary of HHS officially recommended that this be implemented in May of 2010. Dr. Buckley is the author or co-author of more than 315 scientific publications. Over 30 national committees and councils have been fortunate to have Dr. Buckley as a member. She was president of The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI) from 1979-80. She is a member of the Society for Pediatric Research, the American Pediatric Society (Council 1991-2001; President 1999-2000), American Association for the Advancement of Science, Fellow (2000); Chairman Section on Medical Sciences (2001-2003), American Association of Immunologists (Chairman, Clinical Immunology Committee 1984-87), and American Academy of Pediatrics (Section on Allergy & Immunology; Executive Committee 1981-84).

She served two full terms as a Director of the American Board of Allergy and Immunology. Dr. Buckley has also served on a number of editorial boards including the *Journal of Immunology*, *The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* and the *Journal of Clinical Immunology*, where she was Associate Editor. She chaired the NIH Immunological Sciences Study Section and was a member of NIAID's Board of Scientific Counselors. Dr. Buckley has received countless awards and honors for her contributions to medicine from organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, the Immune Deficiency Foundation, the American Society for Microbiology and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology where she was named an Honorary Fellow in 1999. She is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha. In October of 2003 she was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. On October 13, 2006, she became the recipient of the 2006 William G. Anlyan, M.D. Lifetime Achievement Award from the Duke Medical Alumni Association. On September 30, 2007 she was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of HHS to a 4 year term as a member of the HRSA Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders of Newborns and Children. On May 3, 2011 she was elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Buckley currently serves on the ITN Data and Safety Monitoring Board for NIAID

and as Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee of the Immune Deficiency Foundation. She remains actively involved in clinical and scientific research, teaching and patient care.

**2019 marks the 8<sup>th</sup> year of the Rebecca Buckley Lectureship. It will be presented at Symposium Session 2306: Innate Immunity in Allergic Responses on Saturday, February 23, 2019: 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM, Moscone Center South, Room 201**

## **The Rebecca Buckley Lecture – Dr. Donata Vercelli, MD**



Donata Vercelli is a Professor of Cellular and Molecular Medicine at the University of Arizona, the Associate Director of the Asthma and Airway Disease Research Center and the Director of the Arizona Center for the Biology of Complex Diseases (ABCD). Dr. Vercelli received her MD degree from the University of Florence (1978), where she also trained in Hematology and Immunology/Allergy. In 1986, she joined Dr. Raif Geha's Division of Immunology at Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School as a Research Fellow, and in 1991 she became an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School. After directing the Molecular Immunoregulation Unit at San Raffaele Scientific Institute in Milan from 1994 to 1999, she joined the Asthma and Airway Disease Research Center at the University of Arizona.

Dr. Vercelli's research seeks to elucidate the impact of environment, genes and development on the pathogenesis of complex diseases, particularly asthma and allergy. To this end, her laboratory has developed a range of powerful models, from genome-wide approaches to interrogate DNA methylation in human cells to humanized BAC transgenic mice carrying asthma/allergy-associated genetic variants, to mouse and human models of asthma-protective environmental exposures, particularly those associated with traditional farming.

Dr. Vercelli has also served as a journal editor, meeting organizer and scientific board member. In 2006, she organized and chaired the Keystone Symposium on "Allergy, Allergic Inflammation and Asthma." In 2007, she joined the International Scientific Advisory Board of the GABRIEL European Project on Gene-Environment Interactions. In 2010, she became an elected member of the Association of American Physicians (AAP) and from 2005 to 2012 she was the Associate Editor for Genetics of *The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*. From 2011 to 2014 she was on the international advisory board for the Germany/Finland/China Trilateral Project on Farming Studies. In 2018, she was elected Secretary General of the Collegium Internationale Allergologicum.

Her work is funded by the NIAID, the NHLBI, the NIEHS and industry and has been recognized by the Pharmacia Allergy Research Foundation Award (1989), the Burroughs Wellcome Fund Developing Investigator Award (1991), the Developing Investigator Award of the Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America (1989), and the Women Physician in Allergy Award from the AAAAI (2001). Furthermore, she received the 14th Kwasman Memorial Lectureship for Asthma Research (University of Rochester, 2001), the Alec Sehon Distinguished Professorship in Immunology (University of Manitoba, 2002), the Burton Zweiman Lectureship (American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, 2003), the Paul Man Lectureship in Pulmonary Diseases (University of Alberta, 2010), the Gilles Filley Lectureship in Epigenetics of Asthma (Aspen Conference on Pulmonary Diseases, 2015) and the Philip Fireman Lectureship (11th International Nemaocolin Asthma Conference, 2016). For her work on the asthma-protective effects of farming, in 2017 Dr. Vercelli was a co-recipient of a Top 10 Clinical Research Achievement Award and the Herbert Pardes Clinical Research Excellence Award, both from the Clinical Research Forum.