

CITIZENS FOR NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS

1204 Whiskey Road, Suite B, Aiken, SC 29803

(803) 649-3456 /www.CNTAaware.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jim Marra
(803) 649-3456

2020 CNTA Nuclear Service Award Winner Announced

Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA) is pleased to announce that the winner of the 2020 Nuclear Service Award is Dr. Susan Wood. This prestigious award was announced on October 22, 2020 at the Up and Atom breakfast in Aiken, SC.

Dr. Wood retired in 2002 following a long and distinguished career managing the Westinghouse Manufacturing Technology Center in Baltimore, MD and serving for eight years as the Director of the Savannah River Technology Center at the Savannah River Site. She received her Hons. B.Sc. in Materials Engineering, her M.S. in Metallurgical Engineering, and her Ph.D. in Materials Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh. She holds patents in materials engineering and is the author of more than 30 papers for scientific journals, seminars, reports, and presentations. She also served on the DOD Defense Science Board and as a mentor for the Defense Science Study Group at the Institute for Defense Analyses.

Dr. Wood's impact on the local nuclear community is extraordinary. She served on the CNTA Board of Directors from 2003 to 2019 and was chair from 2004 to 2012 and from 2018 to 2019. She was appointed by the Governor of South Carolina to the Technology Council in 1997 and in 2001 to the Technology Transition Team Steering Committee. She is on the Board of Trustees for the South Carolina Research Authority and the Board of Directors for the Southeastern National Sciences Academy.

Dr. Wood is committed to the education of students across the region in STEM fields. She helped initiate the CNTA High School Essay Contest, helped develop the CNTA Educator Grants Program, and chairs the Robert Maher Memorial Scholarship committee. Dr. Wood has volunteered for countless educational outreach opportunities including "Bringing Nuclear to the Classroom" workshops, Science Education Enrichment Day, SRS Retirees Association events, and Aiken Earth Day. She is a founding sponsor of "Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day" at the USC-Aiken Ruth Patrick Science Center and previously served on the Board of Directors for the United Way of Aiken County.

Dr. Wood received the Society of Women Engineers Upward Mobility Award in 1997, the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer Laboratory Director of the Year Award in 1999, the National Management Association Savannah River Chapter Executive of the Year Award in 2001, and the CNTA Distinguished Scientist Award in 2002.

"Susan Wood is one of the most influential members of our nuclear community and her actions have made Aiken a better place to live," said Vice Admiral Charles L. Munns, USN (ret). "Aiken has many incredible citizens connected to our nuclear community, but I cannot imagine any of them more worthy and deserving than Susan Wood."

“You would see Susan Wood at almost every outreach event promoting the benefits of nuclear technologies,” said Sharon Marra, Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) Deputy Director. “I have been personally inspired by Susan’s ability to lead and impressed by the time and effort she has spent educating our community and future generations of leaders.”

“Susan has served as a mentor to me. She has invested her time and energy into education outreach and mentoring students, especially women, to pursue STEM careers, and I am honored to learn from her example,” said Marissa Reigel, R&D Execution Manager for Actinide Materials Science and Technology at SRNL.

The Nuclear Service Award is presented annually to recognize accomplishments in applying nuclear technology, advancing education in nuclear technology, increasing public awareness of the benefits of nuclear technology, and in promoting and defending the safe and effective use of nuclear technology.

CNTA is an Aiken-based charitable educational organization dedicated to providing factual information about nuclear topics and educating the public on nuclear issues. For further information, call CNTA at 803-649-3456 or e-mail at cnta@bellsouth.net.

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Tagline: Dr. Wood engaging with children who attended the Williston DIG STEM Festival in 2019.

