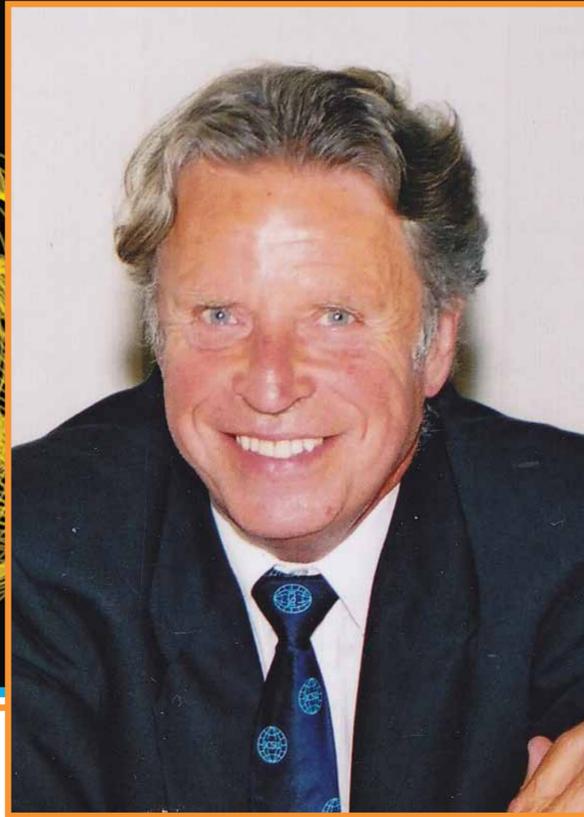


Outstanding Contributions Over the Last 50 Years

50 Years
of IOMP



1963-2013

Keith Boddy

The career of Professor Keith Boddy CBE started in radiation safety, an interest that continued for the rest of his life, but his work developed to encompass many other areas. During his 20 years leading medical physics in Newcastle, UK, he built up his group to be one of the leading such departments in the country. He was also a major figure in developing the profession nationally and internationally.

After graduating from Liverpool University in 1959, he was appointed Radiation Protection Officer and Head of Health Physics at the Aldermaston Court Research Laboratory where he was the first to report radioactivity in rainfall following Russian nuclear weapons testing. In 1963, he became a lecturer at the Scottish Universities' Research and Reactor Centre where he developed the first high sensitivity shadow-shield and mobile whole-body radioactivity counters. These and other research contributions earned him a PhD and a DSc.



The mobile whole body counter used to measure uptake of radioactivity in the population of UK following the Chernobyl accident. Professor Boddy led the project.

In 1978, he returned his native North East, on appointment as both Head of the Regional Medical Physics Department of the (then) Northern Regional Health Authority and Professor and Head of the Department of Medical Physics, Newcastle University. He succeeded in transforming a department on just two hospital sites in Newcastle into a truly regional and comprehensive medical physics service with over 270 staff in hospitals or centres across the North East of England.

He served on many committees, including the Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (COMARE) of the UK Department of Health and the Radioactive Waste Management Advisory Committee (RWMAC) of the Department of the Environment.

Professor Boddy was elected President of the UK Hospital Physicists' Association and UK Institute of Physical Sciences in Medicine in 1986. He was President of the International Organisation for Medical Physics (IOMP) from 1994 to 1997. One of his many contributions as President of IOMP

was to initiate and actively promote the inclusion of medical physicist as a profession in the International Standard Classification of Occupations of the International Labour Organisation of the UN. In 1997, he became President of the International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine (IUPESM) and through his tireless efforts IUPESM achieved full membership of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU).

Professor Boddy was awarded the CBE on his retirement in 1998. He died in 2010.