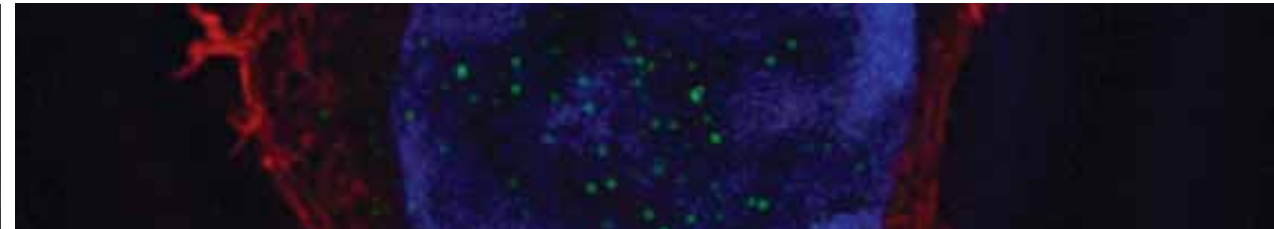




**Professor Doreen Cantrell, CBE**

Professor of Cellular Immunology, Wellcome Trust Principal, Research Fellow and Vice Principal and Head of College, College of Life Sciences



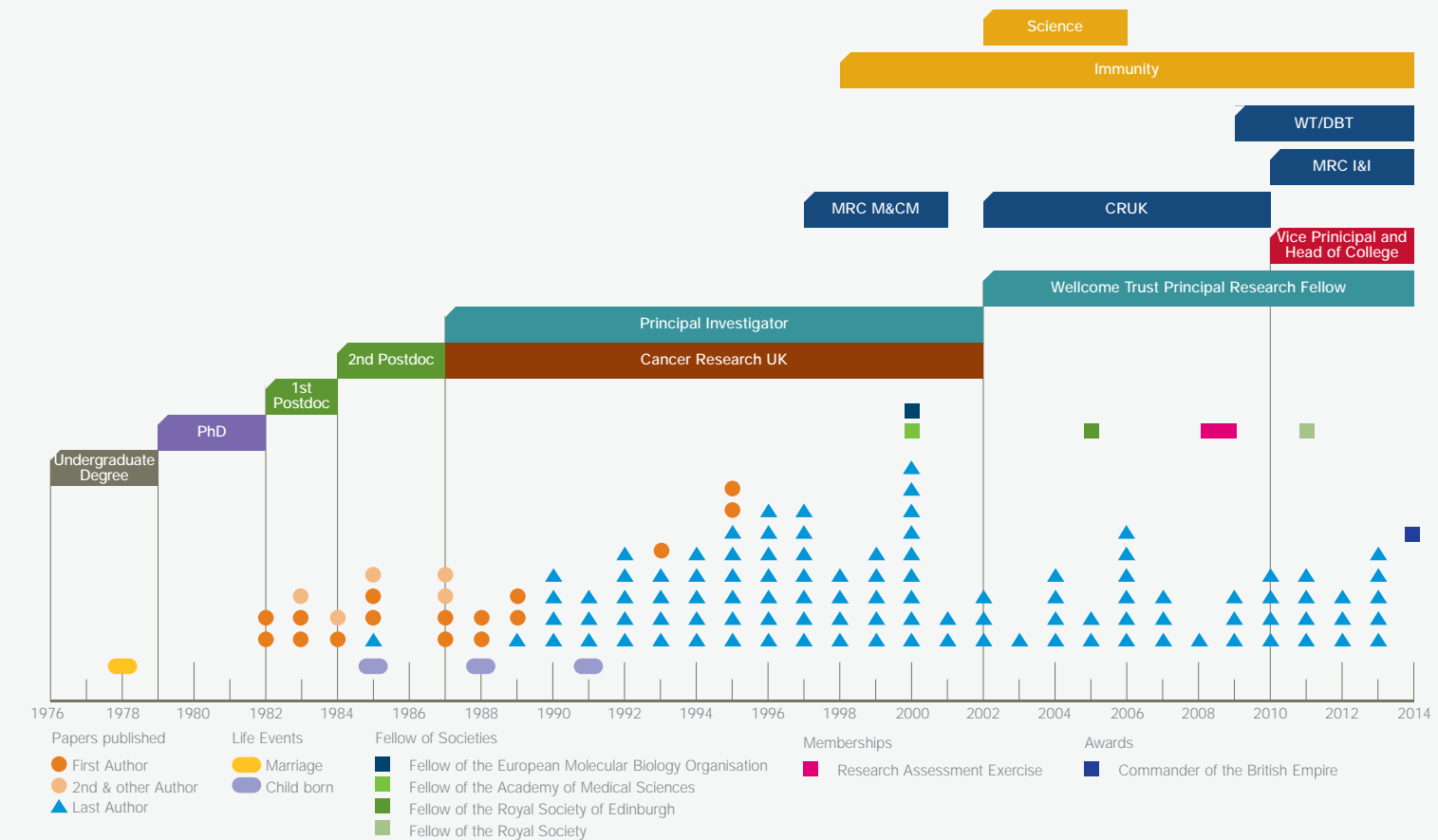
**You can have both a family and a career if you're determined enough to want it – you need to be adventurous and flexible.**



As a schoolgirl, no one would have guessed that I would end up as a scientist because my academic strengths were in humanities. However, in 1975 I attempted to save the planet by studying Environmental Science at University College of Wales in Aberystwyth. One miserable term of mapping salt marsh plants on the wet Welsh coast and an inspiring Immunology lecture prompted a revision of my plans and a switch to a Zoology degree. I initially got mediocre grades at University actually failing first year Biochemistry. There is considerable irony that I am now recognized internationally as an immunologist and a biochemist! I married in second year, making my tutors further doubt my academic aspirations! However, to everyone's surprise, including my own, I ended up with a First Class Honours degree.

I completed a PhD in Immunology in the Cancer Research Campaign Laboratories in Nottingham. I had two postdoctoral fellowships: one at Dartmouth College in the USA and one at the London Research Institute (LRI) of Cancer Research UK. In 1987 I established my research group at the LRI and then developed my independent career in this Institute. My three daughters were born in 1985, 1988 and 1991. Combining family life with an academic career was eminently feasible with a husband who delighted in sharing equally the raising of our family. I moved to Dundee in 2002, recognising that this would be the best place in the world to develop my scientific programme and achieve a good work life balance. A Wellcome Trust Principal Research Fellowship has been essential in allowing my group to achieve its research goals.

In 2010 I became Head of the College of Life Sciences and Vice-Principal of the University of Dundee. I also became Chair of the Medical Research Council Infection and Immunity Board and I still run my research group. The three roles may seem different but they are about trying to get the best out of people and supporting and encouraging high quality science.



**Undergraduate Degree**  
University College of Wales, Aberystwyth  
*BSc Zoology: 1st Class Hons*

**PhD**  
Cancer Research Campaign  
Laboratory, University of Nottingham  
Dr R A Robins and Professor R Baldwin

**Postdoctoral Positions**

- Dartmouth Medical School, Hanover, New Hampshire, USA  
Dr Kendall Smith
- Cell Surface Biochemistry Lab, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, London  
Dr M J Crumpton

**PI: Principal Investigator**  
Head of Lymphocyte Activation Laboratory, London Research Institute

**PI: Wellcome Trust Principal Research Fellow**  
Professor of Cellular Immunology  
College of Life Sciences, Dundee

**First Independent Funding**  
Core Funding, Cancer Research UK  
London Research Institute

**Vice Principal and Head of College of Life Sciences**

**Editorial Boards**  
Editor of Immunity  
Board of Reviewing Editors of Science

**Funding Panels**  
Medical Research Council Molecular and Cellular Medicine Board  
Cancer Research UK Science Funding Committee  
Chair of the Medical Research Council Immunology and Infections panel  
Chair of the The Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance Early Fellowship committee