



“Theirs are the two really inspiring lives, and I am just a by-product of their excellence.” – Dr. Sarvajna Dwivedi, MSc’88, PhD’92

Dr. Rewa Prasad Dwivedi

Dr. Rewa Prasad Dwivedi was born August 22, 1935 in Nadner, Madhya Pradesh. He is an eminent scholar of Sanskrit, a poet, and the founder of Kalidas Samsthan, Varanasi.

He commenced his studies in Varanasi and went on to obtain a *Sahityacharya* title, an MA in Sanskrit from Benares Hindu University, a PhD from Ravi Shankar University, Raipur (1965), and a DLitt from Jabalpur University (1974). He is a professor emeritus of Sanskrit at the Banaras Hindu University, where he taught in various capacities and served as Dean of the Faculty of Sanskrit for three two-year terms (1979-81; 1985-87; 1987-89).

Dr. Dwivedi has made tremendous contributions to Sanskrit literature and language. Among his most notable works are two epic poems, *Sitacaritam* and *Svatantryasambhavam*; the latter of which received four awards - Sahitya Akademi Award, 1991; Kalpavalli Award by Bharatiya Bhasha Parishad, Calcutta (1993); Vascapati award by K.K. Birla Foundation, New Delhi (1997); and Sriveni award by R.J. Dalmiya Sriveni Trust, Delhi (1999).

Other accolades include the Sahitya Akademi Award for Sanskrit in 1991, and a Certificate of Honour from the President of India in 1978.

Dr. Alan G. Mitchell

Dr. Alan Grant Mitchell was born on July 11, 1934 in England. He is an esteemed professor emeritus of the University of British Columbia Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences (UBC Pharm Sci). Dr. Mitchell undertook his studies in Great Britain, commencing with a BPharm with Honours (1956), followed by a Pharmaceutical Chemist Diploma (1957) and a PhD (1960).

Prior to joining UBC, Dr. Mitchell was employed in teaching and research at Chelsea College of Science and Technology (1957-1960), University of Singapore (1960-1964), and the University of Sydney (1964-1967). He relocated to Vancouver with his wife and three children in 1967 to join UBC Pharm Sci as associate professor (tenure-track). A fourth child was born in 1969. Dr. Mitchell was promoted to full professor on July 1, 1972.

Dr. Mitchell’s area of research was on the physical-chemical properties of drugs and excipients used in the manufacture of dosage forms, especially tablets. Factors such as the degree of crystallinity, crystal growth, crystal habit, polymorphic and hydrate forms, and chemical modifications (anomers, enantiomers, etc.) were examined for their effects on stability, solubility and dissolution rate and hence bioavailability.

The first lectures Dr. Mitchell gave when he arrived at UBC were in Biopharmaceutics/Pharmacokinetics. This was a new subject in the pharmacy curriculum at that time and was given to a class of about 30

students, mostly male, in the original Cunningham Building. His main interest, however, was in area of Physical Pharmacy which he taught to class sizes increasing over the years to 240, mostly female, students.

In addition to research and teaching, Dr. Mitchell served at various times as chair of the Division of Pharmaceutics/Biopharmaceutics, the Curriculum Committee and the Tenure & Promotion Committee. Service commitments to the University included 9 years on the UBC Senate and Senate Committee for Academic Discipline & Appeals on Academic Standing, and Tenure & Promotion.

Dr. Mitchell retired from UBC on June 30, 1994.

“Dr. Mitchell provided me the freedom to set the direction of my research projects. This allowed me to explore new avenues, make mistakes and, most importantly, learn from my mistakes. Dr. Mitchell, through his mentorship, gave me the confidence to attack problems and to not be afraid of failure. I have just completed 30 years at the University of Minnesota. As I look back, I can see the monumental influence of Dr. Mitchell on my style of mentoring the next generation of pharmaceutical scientists. Attending the University of British Columbia and studying under Dr. Mitchell was one of the best things that happened in my life!” – Dr. Raj Suryanarayanan