

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Hattie Carwell

PERSON

Carwell, Hattie

Alternative Names: Hattie Carwell;

Life Dates: July 17, 1948-

Place of Birth: Brooklyn, New York, USA

Residence: Oakland, CA

Occupations: Environmental Scientist

Biographical Note

Physicist Hattie Carwell was born on July 17, 1948 in Brooklyn, New York. Carwell grew up in a nurturing black community in Ashland, Virginia, which encouraged her interest in science. After graduating from high school in 1966, she enrolled at Bennett College for Women. Carwell earned her B.S. degree in chemistry from Bennett College in 1971. She went on to earn her M.S. degree in health physics from Rutgers University in 1971.

Throughout her career, Carwell has worked nationally and internationally for the U.S. Department of Energy and the International Atomic Energy Agency as a health physicist and nuclear safeguards group leader. From 1980 to 1985, she went on leave to Vienna, Austria where she served as a nuclear safeguards inspector and group leader at the International Atomic Energy Agency. In 1990, she became a program manager for high energy and nuclear programs with the DOE San Francisco Operations Office. She then became a senior facility operations engineer at the Berkeley Site Office in 1992. In 1994, Carwell was promoted to operations lead at the Berkeley Site Office, a position which she held until 2006. She became a senior physical scientist before retiring in 2008.

Carwell has written numerous research articles and two books including, Blacks in Science: Astrophysicist to Zoologist. Carwell is a Board Member of the Northern California Council of Black Professional Engineers, an organization of which she is a past President. She is treasurer for the National Council of Black Engineers and Scientists, co-founder and chair of the Development Fund for Black Students in Science and Technology, and Director of the Museum of African American Technology (MAAT) Science Village. MAAT Science Village archives information on the achievements of Africa American in science and engineering.

Carwell is the recipient of numerous performance awards from the Department of Energy, and is recognized as a community leader. She is a distinguished alumna of Bennett College and included in the Black College Hall of Fame. Her achievements are annotated in biographical

Related Entries

Bennett College for Women [STUDENTOf]
[from ? to ?]

B.S. in Biology and Chemistry

Rutgers University [STUDENTOf]
[from ? to ?]

M.S. in Health Physics

United States Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1978 to 1991]

Health Physicist

Energy Research Administration [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1972 to 1979]

Health Physicist

United States Department of Energy [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1972 to 1979]

Health Physicist

International Atomic Energy Agency [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1980 to 1985]

Nuclear Safeguards Inspector/Assistant Group Leader/Group Leader

Department of Energy Headquarters [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1987 to 1989]

Environmental Survey Team Leader

United States Department of Energy [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1990 to 1992]

Program Manager, High Energy and Nuclear Programs

United States Department of Energy [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1994 to 2006]

Operations Lead, Berkeley Site Office at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Development Fund for Black Students in Science and Technology [MEMBEROf]
[from 1983 to ?]

Co-founder

Northern California Council of Black Professional Engineers (NCCBPE) [MEMBEROf]

[from 1986 to 2005]

President

Museum of African American Technology (MAAT) [MEMBEROF]

[from 2000 to ?]

Co-founder/Executive Director

Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disasters (CARD) [MEMBEROF]

[from 2007 to ?]

Board Member

National Technical Association [MEMBEROF]

[from 2011 to 2012]

President