Robert A. Buerki, Ph.D., R.Ph.

A native of Madison, Wisconsin, Robert A. Buerki received his B.S. degree in pharmacy (1963) and his M.S. degree in social studies of pharmacy (1967) from the University of Wisconsin, his Ph.D. in adult education and educational development with a minor in history of science (1972) from the Ohio State University, and his M.A. in public history (1988) from Wright State University. He is a registered pharmacist in Wisconsin by examination and in Ohio by reciprocity.

A member of the faculty of the Ohio State University College of Pharmacy since 1965, Dr. Buerki initially served as the Director of Pharmacy Extension Services (1965-80) and Executive Secretary of the Council of Ohio Colleges of Pharmacy, a nonprofit educational consortium of the four colleges of pharmacy in Ohio (1966-79) before pursuing an academic career at the College of Pharmacy. Dr. Buerki has taught the history of pharmacy, professional ethics, pharmacy communications, and introduction to pharmacy at the undergraduate level; introduction to pharmacy practice at the graduate professional level; and seminars on contemporary issues, technical writing, and the history of pharmaceutical education at the graduate level. He retired in June, 2011 after 46 years of service to the University. As Professor Emeritus, he teaches history of pharmacy and professional ethics on a part-time basis. He has served as Secretary-Treasurer, Chairman-Elect, and Chairman of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Section of Continuing Professional Education (1970-79) and Secretary-Treasurer, Vice President, and President of Rho Chi Pharmacy Honor Society (1967-78), and has served as Historian for both these organizations. From 1981-85, he served as President-Elect and President of the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy (AIHP), and currently serves as its Secretary. He has served as Contributing Editor for Pharmacy in History since 1984, and has also served as Editor of the Journal of Pharmacy Teaching (1993-99).

The author of over 80 articles, book chapters, and books on various aspects of professional ethics and the history of pharmaceutical education, Dr. Buerki is recipient of the National Rho Chi Society Distinguished Service Award (1972 and 1978), the Certificate of Commendation from the AIHP (1987), the AACP Section of Continuing Professional Education's William L. Blockstein Award for sustained contributions to continuing pharmaceutical education (2000), has been inducted into the International Academy of the History of Pharmacy (2003), is the 2004 recipient of the AIHP's Edward Kremers Award for distinguished pharmaco-historical writing by an American, the 2006 recipient of the Edmund D. Pellegrino Medal for his contributions to health-care ethics, and the 2020 recipient of the Robert P. Fischelis Award for meritorious and commendable actions that have an important impact on the field of pharmacy.

Dr. Buerki is a member of the American Association for State and Local History, the AACP Section on Continuing Professional Education, the American Association of the History of Medicine, the American College of Apothecaries, the AIHP, the American Pharmacists Association (Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management), the Association for Documentary Editing, the History of Science Society, the Fédération Internationale Pharmaceutique, the Society of American Archivists, and the University Continuing Education Association.

Since 1999, Dr. Buerki has served as a scholar at the Institute for Healthcare Ethics and Law, Samford University, McWhorter School of Pharmacy, Birmingham, Alabama. He is also a member of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, Phi Kappa Phi (higher education honor society), Phi Lambda Sigma (pharmacy leadership society), Phi Alpha Theta (history honor society), Rho Chi (pharmacy honor society), Sigma Xi (scientific research society), and Phi Delta Kappa (education society).