

## NICOLE LE DOUARIN

Nicole Le Douarin started her research carrier in 1958 under the sponsorship of Prof. Etienne Wolff who was the Director of the Institut d'Embryologie Expérimentale et de Tératologie du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique et du Collège de France in Nogent-sur-Marne. For two years she worked in the laboratory only part time since, from 1954, she was teaching in a lycee. She became full time researcher in 1960 and submitted a thesis for the "Doctorat d'Etat" in 1964. Her thesis was entitled "Etude expérimentale de l'organogenèse du tube digestif et du foie chez l'embryon de Poulet". She was appointed as Maitre de Conférences first in the Faculté des Sciences of Clermont-Ferrand in 1965-1966, then in the Faculté des Sciences of Nantes where she became Professor in 1971. She was responsible for teaching developmental biology and had the opportunity of setting up a Developmental Biology Research Unit with the support of the CNRS.

In 1975, when Prof. Etienne Wolff retired, she was invited to take over the Directorship of the Institut d'Embryologie du Collège de France et du CNRS at Nogent-sur-Marne. She was appointed Professor at the Collège de France in the Chair of "Embryologie cellulaire et moléculaire" in 1989, a position that she occupied until September 2000. She was elected a member of the French Académie des Sciences in 1982, of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1984, of the National Academy of the United States America in 1989, and of the Royal Society of the United Kingdom in 1990. She received the Kyoto Prize in Advanced Technology in 1986, the Gold Medal of the CNRS in 1986, the Jeantet Price for Medicine in 1990, the Luisa Gross Horwitz Price of Columbia University in New York in 1993, and the Grand Prix de la Fondation pour la Recherche Médicale Française in 1999. She has been elected as the "Secrétaire Perpétuelle" of the Académie des Sciences de l'Institut de France from January 1st, 2001 and she continues to do research part time at the Institut d'Embryologie Cellulaire et Moléculaire du Collège de France et du CNRS.