

Patrick J. Brennan



Patrick Brennan (center) with his two sons after finishing the Boston Marathon in 2005

Current Position: University Distinguished Professor in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology at Colorado State University; recently completed five years of service on the Editorial Board of the *JBC*

Education: Ph.D. in Biochemistry (1965) from National University and Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland

Non-scientific Interests: I have been a keen long-distance runner all of my life; I held the record (22 hr 10 min) for the 105-mile Trinity College "Belfast-Dublin Walk" during my graduate student years at Trinity!

I am originally from the west of Ireland and was educated at the National University and Trinity College, Dublin, where I received my Ph.D. in Biochemistry. My first entry into the U.S. was as a postdoctoral fellow under Dr. Clinton Ballou at the University of California, Berkeley. The early work of Dr. Ballou with other graduate students and postdoctoral fellows provides the genesis of this review that I prepared with Mary Jackson, Assistant Professor at Colorado State University.

In Berkeley, I met my future wife, Carol Blair, who was a graduate student in the Virology Laboratory. I returned to Ireland in 1967 and held faculty positions at Trinity College, and University College, Dublin. In 1975, Carol returned to the U.S. with our three children to a position at Colorado State University. I followed soon after to a position at National Jewish Hospital in Denver where, in conjunction with Dr. Mayer B. Goren, I continued my work on the cell walls of mycobacteria.

In 1980, I transferred to Colorado State University where I founded the Mycobacteria Research Laboratories in the Microbiology Department; the lab is one of the larger units in the U.S. devoted to fundamental and applied studies on tuberculosis and leprosy. I have devoted my lifetime's work to these topics.

Read Dr. Brennan's article entitled: Polymethylated Polysaccharides from *Mycobacterium* Species Revisited

<http://www.jbc.org/cgi/content/full/284/4/1949>