

## Major career contributions of Collé to radionuclidic metrology at NBS / NIST (1975-2015)

- instituted forerunner of NRMAP program -- first work on any radiopharmaceutical standards by lab; first complete MQA program with proficiency testing, used as model for many others & still running after 40 years
- developed all of the lab procedures (still in use by the lab today) to do high level preparations & calibrations (source handling, shielded weighing, ampoule sealer, etc)
- established environmental radiation data reporting guidelines that were adopted by industry, states, and federal regulators (EPA, DOE, NRC) and have been in use since late 1970s (Bronze Medal, 1981)
- NBS Delegate to the historic BIPM meeting on measurement uncertainties, which resulted in the adopted 1980 CIPM Recommendations (originator of “type A and B” designators)
- served on & chaired first ISO international working group on uncertainties that led to GUM
- revitalized radium / radon program at NBS / NIST – designed, constructed, built replacement PIC system with gas purification & transport manifold -- established lab as the premier radium and radon metrology laboratory in the world; became informal international standard in initial years -- served on over 18 national & international committees involved with radon health issue
- principally responsible for developing three unique standards based on diffusion of radon in polyethylene; viz., radon in water generator, large -area flux density standard, emanation capsule.
- Precise measurement (1993-95) of the  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  half-life, and data evaluation
- performed definitive primary activity standardizations of  $^{63}\text{Ni}$  (pure beta emitter) and  $^{55}\text{Fe}$  (pure electron capture decay); both are amongst the most difficult decay modes to do primary standardizations on
- LS work contributed to NIST becoming one of the premier LS labs in world ( $^{209}\text{Po}$ ,  $^{36}\text{Cl}$ ,  $^{222}\text{Rn}$ ,  $^{226}\text{Ra}$ ,  $^{210}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{63}\text{Ni}$ ,  $^{55}\text{Fe}$ ,  $^{32}\text{P}/^{33}\text{P}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{95}\text{Zr}/^{95}\text{Nb}$ ), including work on cocktail composition effects and uncertainty assessments
- resolved long-standing need to verify  $^{36}\text{Cl}/\text{Cl}$  AMS standards; requiring LS measurements (said to be “impossible to do” at very low activity concentrations ( $<0.04$  Bq/g) and very high salt content ( $>150\text{mg NaCl per g of solution}$ ))
- designed & performed first (& ever) remote in-situ marine atmospheric measurement comparison for radon in Bermuda -- standard additions at ambient levels -- tested efficacy of global transport models

- developed a very quantitative and efficacious spiking protocol for solid granular matrices that had a verifiable matrix recovery “yield”, corresponding to an unaccounted-for loss of 34 grains of sand out of 2.7 million.
- Seminal work (first in the world) on digestive assays of brachytherapy sources (includes world's first standardization of  $^{103}\text{Pd}$ ); applied to four different types of sources, which led to model verification of dosimetric calculations because of the direct linkage between activity and dose measurements
- Maintained and demonstrated historical linkages of all standards of  $^{226}\text{Ra}$ ,  $^{63}\text{Ni}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Sr}$ ,  $^{241}\text{Am}$  issued from 1950s to current time; verification of  $^{63}\text{Ni}$  half-life by decay over 40 years
- Developed lab's capability for absolute measurements of activity by calorimetry using a dual-compensated (He-refrigerator) cryogenic microcalorimeter and a dual-cell, isothermal (heat flow) microcalorimeter; used to provide first primary calibration for  $^{103}\text{Pd}$  seeds (to treat prostate cancer, for  $^{90}\text{Sr}$  seeds (to restenosis prevention following angioplasty) and a primary standardization of  $^{55}\text{Fe}$ ; wrote (2007) definitive modern review of classical radionuclidic calorimetry
- revitalized moribund SRM program; eliminated a multi-year backlog of certification paperwork and in first three years increased productivity by factor of 7. Bronze Medal (2008) in recognition.
- HIGH VISIBILITY: collaborated (with U Penn) on the first molecular binding measurement of radon: determined association constant of Rn to a cyrtophane molecular host
- Continuity of 25 years of work on  $^{209}\text{Po}$  /  $^{210}\text{Pb}$ : Po solution stability (1990);  $^{209}\text{Po}$  SRM 4326 (1993);  $^{209}\text{Po}$  decay scheme (1994);  $^{205}\text{Pb}$  isomeric state with LS implications (1995);  $^{209}\text{Po}$  SRM recertification (2005); revealed  $^{209}\text{Po}$  half-life discrepancy(2005);  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  SRM 4337 (2006);  $^{209}\text{Po}$  &  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  methodology & links (2007);  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  comparison with NPL (2008); new  $^{209}\text{Po}$  standardization methodology (2103);  $^{209}\text{Po}$  SRM 4326a (2013); definitive  $^{209}\text{Po}$  half-life (2014)
- performed more informal measurement comparisons between sister labs and more formal international measurement comparisons than anyone in group in past 20 years.
- principally responsible for the initial lab training of most new RG members; trained more of the metrologists in group than any one else in past 25 years -- mentored best people -- more cooperative efforts in group than ever in fostering method comparisons