

BERTA SCHARRER

Berta Scharrer, Professor of Anatomy at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, is a pioneering researcher in neuroendocrinology. Born in Germany, she received her Ph.D. at the University of Munich, where she was a student of Karl von Frisch, who later received the Nobel Prize. She came to the United States in 1937 and held research positions at the University of Chicago, the Rockefeller Institute in New York, Western Reserve University, and the University of Colorado before assuming her present position at Albert Einstein College in 1955.

The research that Dr. Scharrer conducted with her late husband and continued after his death established the significant fact that the central nervous systems of invertebrates and vertebrates contain cells with secretory, endocrine properties. The three neuroendocrinologists who won the 1977 Nobel Prize for Medicine built upon the foundation that the Scharrers had laid.

Dr. Scharrer's broadly influential research has been set forth in some 125 papers and monographs. She is a member both of the National Academy of Science and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, as well as of the Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina, and of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. This University now honors Berta Scharrer for her pioneering, seminal research and for the important advice and aid she has freely given to her colleagues, including some at this Institution.