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**Statement:** I have been interested in structural biology for longer than the term has existed, and diffraction methods, including X-ray crystallography, have been central to that interest. I have focused on molecular systems that span the range from EcoRI endonuclease and nucleic acid-protein interactions to  $\alpha$ -synuclein and intrinsically disordered proteins. I have been interested in the crystallization process itself. Another interest is in the development of histogram methods for the calculation of free energies, potentials of mean force and other thermodynamic. The common thread running through these interests is the relationship between structure and function. As we all know, science does not advance in a vacuum, therefore organizations are important as well. For example, I am the founding director of the graduate program in molecular biophysics and structural biology, a joint program spanning Arts and Sciences as well as the School of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh plus Carnegie-Mellon University. I have always felt that the Pittsburgh Diffraction Society is an important and influential organization that I would be happy and honored to serve.