Episode 7: Water Researcher Biography

Dr. Synnove Knutsen received her MD from the University of Oslo, Norway in 1972. She received the MPH in Epidemiology from Loma Linda University School of Public Health in 1977 and the PhD in Epidemiology/Preventive Medicine in 1990 from the University of Tromso, Norway. She was a Public Health officer in Norway for several years and later a professor at the University of Tromso, Norway where she taught Family Medicine and Epidemiology and did research using data from the Tromso Health Study cohort.

Knutsen spent a one year sabbatical working with the Honolulu Heart Study and the Hawaii part of the INTERSALT study in Hawaii from 1984-85 and a second sabbatical working with the Adventist Health Study in 1991. She was recruited to the position of Chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at LLU School of Public Health in 1992, a position she held until 2013.

Knutsen is currently a professor of Epidemiology and a co-investigator on the Adventist Health Study-2 and involved in several funded research projects. She has served on numerous doctoral committees both at LLU and in Norway. Her research interests include lifestyle and chronic disease (cardiovascular disease, cancer and bone health), epigenetics, lifestyle and use of health services as well as more clinical studies.