Dr. Kim E. Barrett is a native of the United Kingdom, and obtained her B.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees (in Medicinal Chemistry and Biological Chemistry, respectively) from University College London. Following a post-doctoral fellowship at the United States National Institutes of Health (NIH), she joined the faculty of the University of California San Diego in 1985, was promoted to Full Professor in 1996, and advanced to her current rank of Distinguished Professor of Medicine in 2015. From 2006-2016, she additionally served as Dean of the Graduate Division at UC San Diego. In this capacity, she oversaw the recruitment, academic advancement and climate for more than 5000 masters and doctoral students. She is also serving currently as a rotating Director of the Division of Graduate Education at the US National Science Foundation. With support from the NIH and private foundations, her research interests have centered on the physiology and pathophysiology of the intestinal epithelium and their relevance to inflammatory bowel diseases and diarrheal diseases, and have resulted in more than 300 publications. Her scientific accomplishments have also garnered a number of awards and other recognitions, including the Bowditch and Davenport Lectureships of the American Physiological Society (APS), receipt of the degree of Doctor of Medical Science, honoris causa, from Queens University Belfast, and the Bayliss/Starling Lectureship of The Physiological Society of UK and Ireland. In 2012, she was chosen by the APS membership as its President-Elect, assumed the presidency in April 2013, and served as Past-President in 2014-2015. She has also been highly active in scholarly publishing, and is currently Editor-in-Chief for The Journal of Physiology.