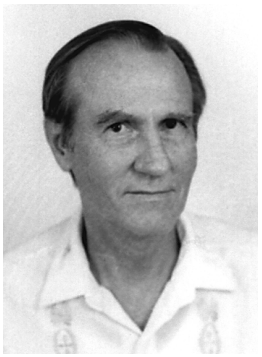
Fellows

Seven members of The American Phytopathological Society were honored as Fellows of the Society at the 1998 APS Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, NV. Election as a Fellow is a reflection of the high esteem in which a member is held by colleagues. The award is given in recognition of outstanding contributions in extension, research, teaching, or other activities related to the science of plant pathology, to the profession, or to the Society. Publication no. P-1998-1125-01O

Edward R. French



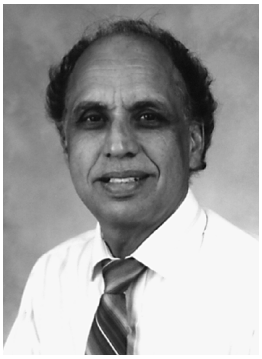
Edward R. French was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1937. He received his B.S. degree at the University of Rhode Island in 1960, his M.S. degree at the University of Minnesota in 1963, and his Ph.D. degree at North Carolina State University in plant pathology and plant breeding in 1965.

Dr. French returned to South America as a plant pathology advisor to the Government of Peru, establishing a collaborative research and teaching program between the Agricultural University and the Ministry of Agriculture SIPA Research Station. During 1970–1971 he became the coleader of the National Potato Program, helping to establish the International Potato Center (CIP). Upon initiation of the center in 1972 he acted as deputy director general for research and head of five different departments during their inception, serving as head of the pathology department until 1991. Prior to his retirement from the center in 1997, he served as associate director of research.

An examination of Dr. French's extensive list of publications will reveal an unusual breadth and quality of the research that he and his associates have carried out during the past 30 years. He has worked with a wide variety of diseases that affect potato, and he is considered an authority on the taxonomy and ecology of the bacteria that cause wilt and soft rot diseases. He not only was able to discover new and important strains of these bacteria in South America, but was responsible for the discovery of new sources of resistance among wild potatoes and for the testing and release of varieties that have resistance to wilt and that are still used in the highlands of the tropics. In recent years, he and his collaborators have emphasized integrated control of potato diseases and have promoted the use of multiple disease resistance in these programs. His work has ranged from very basic to highly applied, a major reason for the impact that he has had in efforts to control potato diseases worldwide.

Dr. French's role in the establishment and success of CIP has resulted in a significant impact on plant pathology, not only in South America but throughout the world. Dozens of young scientists from around the world have worked with him at CIP and, through this experience, have been motivated and supported in obtaining their graduate education. His worldwide leadership in potato disease issues is illustrated by his continuing leadership of GILB, the worldwide network for research on late blight of potatoes. It is not surprising that he has received numerous honors in his career including honorary member of the Peruvian and the Latin American associations for phytopathology. He has been very active in the APS Caribbean Division, is a council member of the International Society of Plant Pathology, and was a leader in bringing the Asociacion Lationoamericana de Fitopatologia to a prominent position among Latin American plant pathology societies. In addition to his role as president of that society, he has been editor of its journal, *Fitopatologia*, for many years.

Bikram Gill



Bikram Gill was born and raised in the Punjab State of northern India. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Punjab University and his Ph.D. degree from the University of California-Davis. He conducted postdoctoral fellowship research at the University of Missouri, Columbia; Washington University, St. Louis; and the University of California-Riverside. He was an assistant professor at the University of Florida, Belle Glade, and joined the faculty at Kansas State University (KSU) in 1979. He became associate professor in 1982, professor in 1987, and university distinguished professor in 1997.

Dr. Gill recognized the vital importance of protecting and utilizing wild germ plasm in wheat improvement. With his vision and leadership, the Wheat Genetics Resource Center (WGRC) was established at KSU in 1984 with Dr. Gill as director. Materials and methods from the WGRC have been used by wheat workers and others from all over the world.

His research in wheat genetics, genetic resources, and molecular cytogenetics is especially important in a state with over 10 million acres of wheat. A major focus of his research is the molecular cytogenetic analysis of bread wheat. To this end, Dr. Gill pioneered the use of chromosome banding and in situ hybridization techniques, which are now used worldwide in research on wheat and other crops. The importance of his work has been recognized in many ways including the KSU Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award, Kansas Association of Wheat Growers 1997 Wheat Man of the Year Award, University of Kansas Higuchi-Youngberg Award in Applied Science, and Agronomy and Crop Science Societies of America Fellowship.

Dr. Gill is a member of the International Wheat Genetics Organizing Committee and has been a strong force in the International Triticeae Mapping Initiative, a worldwide collaboration that is working to map the wheat genome. His laboratory was the first to develop a dense genetic linkage map of *Aegilops tauschii*, a gold mine of resistance genes for wheat improvement. His laboratory also developed the first comprehensive cytogenetic map of molecular markers in wheat. Dr. Gill has worked very closely with others in moving useful genes from wild wheat into bread wheat.

Dr. Gill has maintained a constantly accelerating publication pace. His publications have appeared in many journals of international reputation. A multiauthor textbook on chromosome biology is in press.

His work has a strong international dimension. His own training is multinational. His colleagues are from many countries. He has studied, regularly consulted, and lectured in numerous countries. He currently has a major McKnight Foundation collaborative grant with Nanjing Agricultural University, China.

His hard work has resulted in a level of productivity that is seldom seen in a plant scientist. His keen foresight in conceptualizing and bringing to fruition the WGRC has helped not only his program and the department at this time, but all future researchers everywhere who will need genetic resources to fight plant diseases.

Jan E. Leach

Jan E. Leach was born in Lincoln, NE. She graduated from high school in Lincoln and attended a small college in Iowa for 2 years. She transferred to the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, where she received a B.S. degree in 1975 in microbiology (with a minor in chemistry) and a M.S. degree in 1977 in microbiology. She obtained her Ph.D. degree in plant pathology in 1981 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the East Mailing Research Station in Kent, United Kingdom, from 1981 to 1984. She joined the Department of Plant Pathology at Kansas State University (KSU) in 1984 as an assistant professor and was tenured and promoted to associate professor in 1990 and to professor in July 1995.

Dr. Leach has received many honors including Distinguished Graduate Faculty Member of KSU in 1996 and University Distinguished Professor in 1998. She was appointed adjunct scientist and plant pathologist in the Entomology and Plant Pathology Division of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in Manila, Philippines, in 1997, the first person to hold that position in the history of the institute.

Dr. Leach is an international authority on research in plant disease physiology, with emphasis on the molecular biology of host-parasite interactions and the mechanisms by which plants resist disease. Early in her career at KSU, she pioneered studies on a model host-pathogen interaction system of the bacterial pathogen *Xanthomonas oryzae* pv. *oryzae*, which causes bacterial blight disease of rice. Her extensive and intensive research efforts have made this one of the top model systems to analyze how genetic determinants in the pathogen and the host interact to cause disease. Dr. Leach is noted for the diversity of approaches and quality of work directed to understand the *Xanthomonas*-rice pathosystem. The work of Dr. Leach and her laboratory group, along with their collaborators, has great implications for the strategies involved in breeding for resistance to bacterial blight and clarifies the many previous reports of pathogen variation. Her research program is very active and promises to shed much more light on the interactions of this important pathogen of perhaps the most important food crop in the world.

Dr. Leach is highly active within her department and campus and teaches a three-credit, upper-division, graduate-level course entitled "molecular plant-microbe interactions." She is tireless in her service on a large number of campus committees. She advises a large number of M.S. and Ph.D. graduate students, postdoctoral research associates, and visiting scientists, and she mentors new and existing faculty in several departments and colleges on her campus.

Dr. Leach has developed an international reputation for excellence. She is the president-elect of the International Society for Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions and has served for 2 years on its Board of Directors. She is also editor-in-chief of *Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions* and serves as council member of APS. She has consulted and/or presented seminars or workshops by invitation in China, England, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, and the Philippines, and she has attracted graduate students, postdoctorates, and visiting scholars from numerous countries.

Mary L. Powelson

Dr. Mary L. Powelson, born on December 25, 1941, grew up in Pennsylvania. She obtained a B.S. degree in biology education at Bloomsburg State College in Pennsylvania in 1963, a M.S. degree in plant pathology from Michigan State University in 1965, and a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from Oregon State University (OSU) in 1972. She served as a research associate at OSU until 1979, when she joined the faculty of the OSU Department of Botany and Plant Pathology as an assistant professor with principal responsibilities for teaching and research. She was promoted to associate professor in 1983 and attained the rank of professor in 1990.

Dr. Powelson is regarded as one of the top potato pathologists in the United States. Studies by Dr. Powelson and her colleagues have laid the groundwork for her current multistate leadership efforts in potato IPM initiatives. Dr. Powelson is also well known for earlier studies with soft rot *Erwinia*. In the last few years, as a resurgence of potato late blight has become of prime importance, Dr. Powelson has shifted emphasis into that area and taken national leadership in the development of alternative management practices for this important disease.

Dr. Powelson has co-authored over 80 papers, book chapters, and other scientific and popular articles on her research and, in 1994, was coeditor of a book entitled *Advances in Potato Pest Biology and Management*. The recognized excellence of Dr. Powelson's research is evidenced by financial support of her laboratory and by numerous invitations to review papers and grant proposals and to present her work to scientific colleagues and agricultural producers.

Dr. Powelson is known as a dedicated and distinguished teacher within her department and across the OSU campus. She has taught introductory plant pathology and a course in plant disease management. She is known as an instructor who always takes the extra time and effort to work individually with her students. In 1994, Dr. Powelson led the revision of the core graduate curriculum in plant pathology. She was named to the OSU College of Agricultural Sciences' Registry of Distinguished Teachers in 1994, received the Teachers Award of Merit from the National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture in 1995, and was listed in Who's Who Among America's Teachers in 1996.

Dr. Powelson takes the service role of our profession very seriously. She has advised students, served on advisory committees, served on and chaired committees in her department, chaired several college-level awards committees and the Agricultural Science Faculty Senate Caucus, and currently serves her university on the Faculty Senate and the President's Commission on the Status of Women. She takes seriously her role as senior faculty mentor and has been an active participant in the mentoring program of the Oregon State Association for Women in Science. She has been an invited participant in departmental review panels for other departments of plant pathology. Dr. Powelson has taken an active service role in the activities of several scientific societies. She has served on several committees of the Potato Association of America, served on the Editorial Board since 1990, and currently serves on the Executive Committee as a director. Dr. Powelson has played key roles in the activities of APS, serving on the APS Teaching, IPM, and Women in Plant Pathology committees, as senior editor of *Phytopathology* from 1989 to 1993, as APS Pacific Division councilor from 1989 to 1991, and as councilor-at-large from 1991 to 1994. She currently serves as APS representative to the American Institute for Biological Sciences and as a member of the Office of Public Affairs and Education.

Steven Allen Slack

Steven Allen Slack was born on May 6, 1947, in Logan, UT, one of two children of Derald and Betty Slack. In 1953, the family moved to Fayetteville, AR, where he attended the public schools and the University of Arkansas. His interest in plant pathology developed early and naturally, because his father was a plant pathologist. Dr. Slack majored in this subject throughout his university training. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Arkansas in 1969 and 1971, respectively. He continued in plant virology at the University of California-Davis, where he received his Ph.D. degree in 1974. He remained there an additional year as a postdoctoral project associate. In 1975, Dr. Slack joined the faculty of the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he progressed to the rank of associate professor in 1979 and professor in 1985. He directed Wisconsin's Seed Potato Certification Program and supervised its Elite Foundation Seed Potato Farm, while at the same time coordinating the teaching of the department's introductory plant pathology course. He also participated in the work of numerous departmental, college, and university boards and committees. The main emphasis of his research during his years in Wisconsin was on improved procedures for pathogen detection in potato plants and tubers and on in vitro propagation for production of pathogen-free plants.

In 1988, Dr. Slack was recruited by Cornell University to lead its program in seed potato pathology and certification and to direct the Cornell Uihlein Potato Foundation Seed Farm, which is the source of vigorous stocks of pathogen-free certified seed tubers of potato cultivars grown in New York. As the Henry & Mildred Uihlein Professor of Plant Pathology at Cornell in Ithaca, he continued research on epidemiology and management of bacterial ring rot, pathogen detection and assay in potatoes, potato tissue culture technology, and incorporation of virus resistance into potatoes. Dr. Slack has authored or co-authored in excess of 75 extension and popular publications, as well as over 80 refereed publications and book chapters.

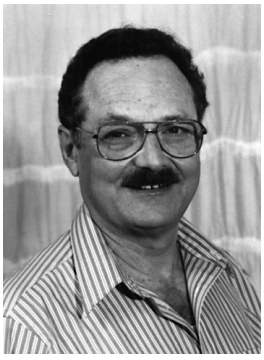
Dr. Slack has been a major contributor to the work of the Potato Association of America, leading its certification and pathology sections before joining its executive board and then progressing through the chain of elective offices. He served on the Editorial Board of the *American Potato Journal* from 1981 to 1997 and was president of the association in 1989.

Dr. Slack has also been active in APS affairs, chairing the Monographs and Reviews Committee, serving on the editorial boards of *Plant Disease*, *Phytopathology*, and APS Press, and serving as editor-in-chief of APS Press during 1991 to 1994. In 1994 to 1996, he progressed through the officer chain of the APS Northeastern Division.

Dr. Slack has often been recruited as a speaker at national and international meetings. He has also served as a program reviewer at several state, national, and international agricultural research stations.

Dr. Slack was named outstanding alumnus of the College of Agriculture, University of Arkansas-Fayetteville, in 1996. He and other members of a USDA-Cornell research team received the 1995 USDA Honor Award for their contributions to control the golden nematode with nonpesticidal measures. He is currently the Henry & Mildred Uihlein Professor and chair of Cornell's Department of Plant Pathology at Ithaca, a position to which he was appointed in 1995.

Baruch Sneh



Baruch Sneh was born in Tel Aviv, Israel, on July 25, 1939. He graduated from the Agricultural High School Miqve Israel near Tel Aviv in 1956. During 1957 to 1959, Dr. Sneh served in the Israeli Defense Forces. He earned a B.S. degree in agriculture and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant protection from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Rehovot. Dr. Sneh served as a plant pathologist at the Agricultural Research Organization, Volcani Center. He then joined the Department of Plant Sciences and Institute for Nature Conservation Research at Tel Aviv University in 1976 and moved through the ranks to his current position as professor. During his career, Dr. Sneh has taken several sabbaticals leaves, due to the Israeli system of encouraging acquaintance with different laboratories and scientists abroad, at the University of Bristol, England; Summerland Research Station, Canada; Michigan State University; Colorado State University; Hokkaido University, Japan; and EcoScience Corp.

Dr. Sneh is a leading researcher with international standing in soilborne diseases, biological control of plant diseases, and biological control of insect pests. His efforts have gone beyond the laboratory to the field and have resulted in five successful biological control methods. Dr. Sneh can be considered an expert on the biology of *Rhizoctonia*.

Dr. Sneh's interest in the genus *Rhizoctonia* led him to take the initiative with L. L. Burpee and Akira Ogoshi to organize the often confused and conflicting information on the taxonomy of this genus in a book published by APS Press in 1991. Dr. Sneh led the effort to develop a more comprehensive volume summarizing recent advances in the taxonomy, molecular biology, ecology, pathology, and disease control of *Rhizoctonia*. In 1993, Dr. Sneh initiated the International *Rhizoctonia* Subject Matter Committee in the ISPP and served as its first chairman.

Dr. Sneh developed a method for the detection and isolation of microorganisms parasitizing oospores of *Phytophthora*, *Pythium*, and *Aphanomyces* in soil. This work was the first to show that oospores of root-infecting fungi are readily parasitized by a wide range of microorganisms in soil and suggested that they might be exploited as biological control agents.

Dr. Sneh has been involved in several studies on soil suppressiveness to disease that have defined more clearly the mechanisms involved.

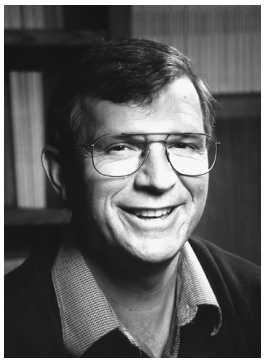
During collaborative work with the EcoScience Corp., Dr. Sneh developed a patented microbial preparation (Bio-Save 10) for the control of postharvest fungal rots of apples, pears, oranges, and lemons. The preparation is now being sold to packinghouses in the United States, with plans to expand the market to other countries.

Since 1976, Dr. Sneh's responsibilities have included the development of biocontrol preparations based on new isolates of *Bacillus thuringiensis* against the Egyptian cotton leafworm (*Spodoptera littoralis*) and other *Spodoptera* spp.

Dr. Sneh's teaching responsibilities at Tel Aviv University have included laboratory sections for undergraduate courses in soil microbiology, introductory plant pathology, diseases of vegetable crops, ecology of soilborne plant pathogens, biological control of plant pathogens, plant microbe interactions, and microbial control of insect larvae. He also initiated and coordinates a program between the Faculty of Life Sciences and the School of Education.

Dr. Sneh is a member of the Israeli Phytopathological Society, the International Society for Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions, and the International Society for Invertebrate Pathology. He has been a member of APS since 1976.

Brian J. Staskawicz



Brian J. Staskawicz was born in Boston, MA, on April 30, 1952. He received his B.A. degree in biology from Bates College in Lewiston, ME, in 1974, his M.F.S. degree in forest pathology from Yale University in 1976, and his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from the University of California-Berkeley in 1980. He joined the International Plant Research Institute in 1980 and was appointed an assistant professor at the University of California-Berkeley in 1983 and promoted to associate professor in 1987 and to professor in 1992. Dr. Staskawicz was a Fulbright Scholar on sabbatical at the Sainsbury Laboratory in Norwich England between 1991 and 1992. He has received many awards including the individual McKnight Foundation Award to study disease resistance, the APS Ruth Allen Award, and the USDA Honors Awards for environmental research in 1995. In 1998, Dr. Staskawicz was elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Staskawicz has made numerous seminal contributions throughout his career to the understanding of the molecular basis of plant disease resistance. Some of his work is conceptually important since it suggests that avirulence genes may operate to control host-pathogen specificity at multiple levels. In addition, Dr. Staskawicz and colleagues were the first to demonstrate a molecular mechanism for the evasion of plant host defense when virulent mutants emerge from avirulent pathogen populations. Dr. Staskawicz also demonstrated that some avirulence genes may be important virulence determinants.

Dr. Staskawicz has been in the forefront of recent research in which disease resistance genes have been cloned and analyzed. He has used a number of genetic approaches, taking advantage of natural variants in disease resistance occurring among the host population for map-based cloning strategies and mutagenesis analyses to identify and dissect recognition and signal transduction pathways, and to identify and map susceptible mutants that have altered disease resistance phenotypes. Dr. Staskawicz has pioneered use of *Arabidopsis* as a tool for fundamental genetic studies of plant pathogen interactions. A recent accomplishment has been the development of very powerful genetic screening procedures suitable for dissecting the signaling pathways involved in disease resistance. Characterization of isolated mutants using this strategy is expected to yield new host factors required for both resistance and virulence responses.

Dr. Staskawicz's past research achievements have been instrumental in leading us to a new era in plant pathology. His more recent breakthroughs promise to yield even greater insights into the molecular signaling that occurs during the response of plants to pathogens. Not only can we expect a clearer understanding of the molecular basis of gene-for-gene disease resistance, but in the near future, this work should contribute to practical efforts to improve disease control by engineering broader-spectrum disease resistance into agronomically important crops.

Excellence in Extension Award

This award was established in 1988 by the APS Council in recognition of excellence in extension plant pathology. The award is presented to those involved in formal plant pathology extension with recognized superior contributions in creating, developing, or implementing extension-related programs or materials, or to those who have provided significant leadership in local, regional, or national honor societies or professional organizations in the area of extension plant pathology.

W. Douglas Gubler

W. Douglas Gubler was born January 28, 1946, in St. George, UT. He graduated from Dixie High School in St. George in 1964. He subsequently enrolled in Southern Utah State College (now SUU), where he earned his B.S. degree in botany and zoology in 1970. He earned his M.S. degree in plant pathology at the University of Arkansas in 1974. He then came to University of California-Davis (UC-Davis), where he worked as a postgraduate researcher. He ultimately enrolled in the Ph.D. program at UC-Davis and completed his degree in 1982. Dr. Gubler then accepted a position with Campbell Soup Institute for Research and Technology, where he was responsible for research on vegetable diseases and the development of grower support programs. In 1983, Dr. Gubler joined the Department of Plant Pathology at UC-Davis as an assistant cooperative extension plant pathologist and moved through the ranks to his current position of professor.

Dr. Gubler has one of the strongest, most active mission-oriented research and outreach education programs within the University of California system. He has published 44 refereed papers, 17 chapters, and 189 technical reports. From 1993 to 1998, he presented over 225 talks throughout California, the nation, and the world. Many of these talks were to educate growers about canopy management in grapevines, the concepts of disease forecasting, or the myriad of other subjects of which he is considered an expert. He has profoundly influenced production practices in important crops and has assumed important leadership roles at the state, national, and international levels.

His research generally emphasizes pathogen biology and epidemiology, with overarching goals of improved disease control and reduced pesticide usage. One important example of Dr. Gubler's research accomplishments is his work on Botrytis bunch rot of grapevines. His epidemiological approach to disease control came to be known as "canopy management." This approach has become common in many parts of the world.

Dr. Gubler's powdery mildew forecasting system has been similarly successful. With this system, weather data from vineyards in various production areas are relayed via radio telemetry to central base stations. The data are fed into simulation programs to determine the risk of powdery mildew. Growers access both the weather data and risk assessment indices via modem link. The efforts of Dr. Gubler to develop the model and the validation data, to convince growers to invest in weather station equipment and establish regional reporting systems, and to establish regional base stations represented a major undertaking. This system, now privatized, is in wide use statewide, covering virtually every grape production area.

As an outgrowth, private companies involved in Geographic Information Systems mapping technology have become involved. They access the weather data and produce computer-generated maps that are sent to grower subscribers in the Napa and Sonoma Valleys. The maps show precisely where disease pressure is high, low, or moderate and allow growers to make management decisions with a degree of res-

olution never before possible. The temperature data retrieved by the reporting network also serves a role in fungicide selection.

Dr. Gubler's efforts to extend information to California's growers took a dramatic, new direction 2 years ago. Following the success of his disease forecasting network, he has been developing a plant pathological computer "bulletin board." It is envisioned that growers will connect to computers in their offices to obtain weather and disease forecasting data or connect to Dr. Gubler's bulletin board to look up the latest disease control recommendations. The fundamental goal of this project is to use modern communication technologies to extend information critical to growers in the most timely, easily updateable method possible. This visionary effort clearly places Dr. Gubler in the top rank of his peers.

The quantity and quality of Dr. Gubler's reports and publications, his applied research program, and his tireless efforts to get information into the hands of growers has earned him an enviable reputation as a leader in cooperative extension.

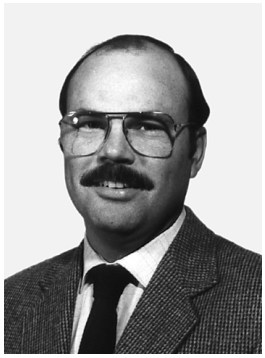
Dr. Gubler holds a lecturer appointment in the Department of Plant Pathology. Throughout his career at UC-Davis, he has been active and effective in the education and training of graduate students. In addition to classroom instruction, Dr. Gubler has been very active in mentoring graduate students.

As a result of his efforts and statewide leadership, Dr. Gubler was appointed to serve on the United Nations Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee, which is grappling with the international phase-out of methyl bromide. He serves on the APS Extension and New Fungicide/Nematicide Data committees. He is an honorary member of the Pesticide Applicators Professional Association and a member of *Gamma Sigma Delta*, the American Society of Enology and Viticulture, and the California Association of Farm Advisers.

Excellence in Teaching Award

This award was established in 1987 by the APS Council in recognition of excellence in teaching plant pathology. The award is presented to individuals with active responsibility for one or more courses in plant pathology and recognizes the individual's distinguished proficiency in teaching, as indicated by the development and effectiveness of courses taught.

James D. MacDonald



James D. MacDonald received his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant pathology from the University of California-Davis (UC-Davis) in 1973 and 1978, respectively. Following graduation, he joined the faculty at the university, advancing through the professorial ranks to become professor in both the Department of Plant Pathology and the Department of Environmental Horticulture.

Dr. MacDonald is an extremely dedicated and effective teacher who has been in the forefront of integrating computer-assisted instruction in plant pathology and mycology within the curriculum at UC-Davis. He has taken the leadership in assisting other faculty to introduce this format for instruction in their own courses. It is his ability to innovate and implement his ideas into reality that distinguish him. Dr. MacDonald has been tireless in his efforts to make mycology and plant pathology available, interesting, and relevant to today's students.

Early in his career, Dr. MacDonald developed an advanced undergraduate course on plant pathology—diagnosis and control of plant diseases. This course has served as a second course in plant pathology for many students interested in acquiring more hands-on and in-depth knowledge about the isolation of pathogens from diseased specimens and the subsequent identification of the pathogen and disease. He also is a regular contributor to courses in environmental horticulture, capitalizing on his extensive knowledge of diseases of ornamental crops. It is within these highly regarded courses that he developed the sense of what is interesting to students and crafted his superb pedagogic style.

More recently, Dr. MacDonald has been a pioneer in computer-assisted instruction in plant pathology, particularly in the area of mycology. Several years ago, a gap in the delivery of the introductory and advanced mycology courses at UC-Davis arose upon the retirements of several key people. Dr. MacDonald took the lead in essentially resurrecting the introductory mycology course. He, in essence, totally revised the course. The course is taught by Dr. MacDonald, now in collaboration with David Rizzo. They have created a series of multimedia lecture and lab reviews that are, in a word, spectacular. His development of these multimedia lessons was an extremely demanding task and required sequestering the necessary resources, developing new computer facilities for the department, and learning new programming, as well as a establishing a complete review and organization of knowledge on the fungi. This has involved image scanning and micro- and macrophotography to develop a large and outstanding digital image collection of the fungi. As was noted recently by one faculty member knowledgeable in mycology, "this is a very sophisticated presentation relative to other materials available on the fungi." This work will be published by APS Press in a CD-ROM titled *Introduction to the Fungi*.

This is not Dr. MacDonald's first venture into electronic publishing. In January 1997, he co-authored with Gail Schumann a CD-ROM titled *Turfgrass Diseases: Diagnosis and Control* that also was published through APS Press. As a result of this accomplishment, Drs. Schumann and MacDonald were named the 1998 winners of the "Excellence in Media Award" by the National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture for having authored "the top instructional media in the past year."

Dr. MacDonald's teaching evaluations have always been first rate. Student comments are uniformly laudatory of his instruction, for example, "I love his enthusiasm, his interaction with students, and his dedication to enhance our learning." Many students comment specifically on the value of the computer lessons.

Dr. MacDonald is active in graduate education, serving on many qualifying exams and thesis committees, as well as having chaired the departments' Graduate Affairs Committee and two graduate programs. He has demonstrated effective leadership in these functions and has a clear vision of what is needed in a contemporary graduate program.

Perhaps more unusual is his encouragement and support of quality undergraduate and graduate instruction by his faculty. Many faculty have noted his excellence in teaching and effective leadership in education. As department chair, Dr. MacDonald has encouraged and aided other faculty to develop additional courses related to the fungi (mushroom cultivation, fungal ecology, and more). The mycology curriculum has developed to the point that he is now seeking to establish an undergraduate minor in fungal biology and ecology. He has helped to bring mycology at UC-Davis back from near-extinction to a thriving curriculum under the wing of plant pathology.

Excellence in Industry Award

This award was established in 1998 by the APS Council in recognition of significant contributions to plant pathology through activities associated with employment in industry. The award is presented to individuals whose work has advanced the technological development of plant pathology through publications, patents, novel information programs, effective coordination of development programs for new chemicals and biocontrol agents, or demonstrated leadership of an organization with a focus toward plant pathology.

H. Vincent Morton

Dr. H. Vincent Morton is the first recipient of the Excellence in Industry Award. Dr. Morton was born and raised in Johannesburg, South Africa, and was awarded a B.S. degree from the University of Natal in 1959. After working for ICI in Britain, he immigrated to the United States, where he became an assistant for Dr. Mortimer Cohen's citrus blight research program at the Fort Pierce Experiment Station in Florida. In 1964, Dr. Morton moved to Gainesville, where he completed his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees, the latter in nematology.

In 1967, Dr. Morton joined Geigy Corporation and spent 7 years managing the epidemiology and fungicide development research station in Boynton Beach. His work in this position led to development of the phenylamide (metalaxyl) class of fungicides. Following the merger of Ciba and Geigy, Dr. Morton moved to Greensboro, NC, to manage and provide leadership for fungicide research and development. During his 21 years in this role, he became known as the "United States father of metalaxyl (Ridomil)." Under Dr. Morton's leadership, a crop-by-crop resistance management plan was developed and implemented, allowing metalaxyl to remain as a viable oomycete fungicide in the United States for more than 17 years after resistance was first recorded in Europe. At least seven other products in the metalaxyl, propiconazole, difenconazole, and fludioxonil classes of chemistry became valuable fungicides for United States agriculture during his tenure as leader of the Ciba-Geigy Research and Development Group. During his career, Dr. Morton made significant contributions to the improvement of fungicide screening and, more recently, was instrumental in the development of deliverable technology to induce systemic-activated resistance. The first product of this type is expected to be introduced in the United States in 1999 or 2000. Dr. Morton has been an advocate of biological control, and his research has led to several patents. Although he officially retired in 1997, he continues to consult for Novartis and has formed his own consulting firm, VIVA Inc.

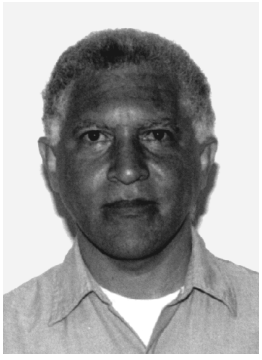
Dr. Morton has been a very active member of APS, serving on the Biocontrol, Root and Soilborne Disease, IPM, Chemical Control, and Industry committees. He has represented both industry and the discipline of phytopathology in an exceptionally strong manner as both an invited speaker and author. Dr. Morton worked closely with the APS Council to create the Ciba-Geigy Award, now the Novartis Award, designed to recognize outstanding scientists early in their careers. In addition, he was instrumental in having Ciba become one of the first corporate sponsors of the APS Foundation.

Dr. Morton's truly outstanding human resource skills have impacted a highly significant number of APS members. He has served as mentor and role model for phytopathologists and members of other disciplines within industry, government, and academia. In this role, Dr. Morton has never hesitated to challenge or compliment his colleagues in ways designed to promote the best interests of science, industry, and agriculture.

International Service Award

This award was established in 1998 by the APS Council in recognition of outstanding contributions to plant pathology made by APS members in countries other than their own. Contributions include collaborative projects, sabbaticals, short- and long-term assignments with educational or government agencies, or effective coordination of education programs.

Benham E. Lockhart



Benham E. Lockhart was born in Kingstown, St. Vincent, West Indies. He earned his B.Sc. degree in tropical agriculture at the University of the West Indies in Trinidad in 1965 and his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology at the University of California-Riverside in 1969. Between 1969 and 1971, Dr. Lockhart was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Nebraska and the University of California-Berkeley.

In 1971, Dr. Lockhart, a new faculty member in the Department of Plant Pathology of the University of Minnesota, accepted an assignment at the Institut Agronomique et Veterinaire at Hassan II University in Rabat, Morocco. From 1971 to 1976 in Rabat and from 1981 to 1986 in Agadir, he played a key role in developing both plant pathology and plant virology in Morocco. He established the virus research laboratories at Rabat and Agadir, taught undergraduate courses in plant virology and plant disease diagnosis, directed graduate research projects, established a free diagnostic clinic at Agadir, and conducted cooperative research with the ministry of agriculture on plant virus identification, epidemiology, and control. Dr. Lockhart designed his teaching and research in an integrated fashion to meet the demands of education in a developing nation. He adapted his lifestyle to be compatible with the customs of Morocco. Although a native in the English language, he became proficient in several languages, taught students in French and, to increase his effectiveness, became proficient in written and classical Arabic and Spanish.

Each undergraduate student who studies with Dr. Lockhart researches a virus disease of an important Moroccan vegetable or fruit

crop. He arranged for many of these students to attend universities in Europe or the United States for advanced graduate education. In 1975, King Hassan II personally visited Dr. Lockhart and his students at his plant virology laboratory at Hassan II University. In 1993, the Moroccan ambassador to the United States traveled to Minnesota to present Professor Lockhart with a gold medallion to honor his dedicated service to Moroccan science and agriculture. Dr. Lockhart is also an adjunct professor at the Institut Agronomique et Veterinaire at Hassan II University.

Approximately 60 plant viruses representing 23 virus groups have been identified in Morocco. Dr. Lockhart identified or contributed to the identification of 50 of these viruses. To ensure practical application of his research, Lockhart and his students worked closely with the Moroccan Ministry of Agriculture. They identified bean common mosaic virus as an important yield constraint on dry bean production. They introduced resistant bean cultivars and developed a local breeding program to ensure that new cultivars would carry resistance. With the assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture, they developed a virus-free certification program for seed potato introductions. Working with private seed companies, they assisted in removing potato virus Y-susceptible tomato and pepper varieties (two major Moroccan export crops) from local breeding programs.

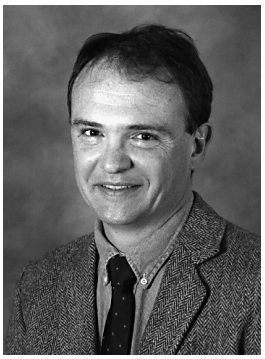
In addition to his highly productive years in Morocco, Dr. Lockhart has developed major international collaborations in 22 countries. These and other collaborations have developed as a result of his reputation as a world authority on plant pathology, plant virology, and in particular, a group of nonenveloped bacilliform plant viruses transmitted by mealybugs and through seed. Professor Lockhart named this new group the "badnaviruses" and proposed commelina yellow mottle virus as its type member. These viruses affect many important agricultural commodities in the tropics and subtropics, notably banana and sugarcane. Together with his Minnesota collaborator, Dr. Neil Olszewski, Lockhart demonstrated the plant pararetrovirus nature of the badnaviruses.

Professor Lockhart's accomplishments are unique in that he has made exceptional contributions to both international development and to fundamental aspects of plant pathology. He has quietly accomplished what others can only dream or talk about. Dr. Lockhart has successfully balanced the demands of international development with the intellectual stimulation and satisfaction accruing from exciting fundamental research in plant pathology.

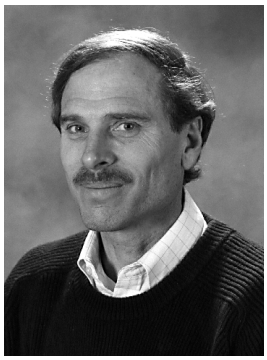
Lee M. Hutchins Award

The Lee M. Hutchins Fund was established in 1979 by gifts from the estate of Dr. Lee M. Hutchins. The award, consisting of a certificate and income from the invested fund, is given for the best contribution to basic or applied research on diseases of perennial fruit plants (tree fruits, tree nuts, small fruits, and grapes including tropical fruits but excluding vegetables). The results of the research must have been published in an official journal of the Society.

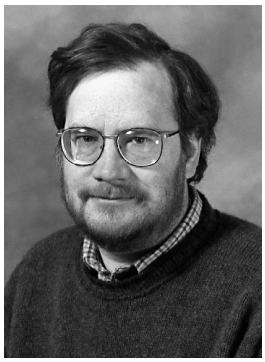
Kenneth B. Johnson



John N. Pinkerton



Jeffrey K. Stone



Kenneth B. Johnson, John N. Pinkerton, and Jeffrey K. Stone are recognized for their outstanding work on the eastern filbert blight disease of European hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*). Since the disease was first reported in the Willamette Valley of Oregon in 1986, their work has described the etiology, epidemiology, and management strategies for control of the disease. They have described factors that are required for release of ascospores of the causal agent, *Anisogramma anomala*, and they have identified the weather conditions that produce the greatest risk for disease spread. From this data, they developed epidemiological models that describe the likelihood of release of ascospores during individual rain events as affected by rain duration and time of the year. In addition, the annual pattern of ascospore maturation and the relationship of cumulative annual precipitation to cumulative spore release have been used to develop a model that predicts the relative availability of inoculum during the period when hazelnuts are susceptible to infection.

Their research also has addressed the processes of regional disease spread. Using spore traps mounted on towers and trap trees, they concluded that ascospores are discharged actively and that the spores move rapidly up and away from orchards during periods of heavy rain. They used this data as well as historical weather records to explain the current distribution of eastern filbert blight and to estimate the likelihood of the disease spreading into noninfected areas. This information, along with survey data, was used to further characterize the epidemic and develop regulatory programs to contain the disease.

Another aspect of their research involved characterizing the infection biology of *A. anomala* and host response to infection. They determined that the infection site was immature shoots formed after bud break, rather than dormant buds damaged by Eriophyid mites as previously reported. In histological studies, they described the adhesion and germination of ascospores on hazelnut shoots and the direct penetration of the germinated hyphae. They have documented the host response at the infection site, as well as the response of a large collection of *Corylus* germ plasm to *A. anomala* in field screening projects. They also have conducted experiments to ascertain the effects of temperature and moisture on the survival, germination, and infectivity of ascospores of *A. anomala* and developed an axenic

culture method for *A. anomala* that furthered the understanding of the biotrophic nature of this pathogen. This latter research also demonstrated the involvement of autohibitors to ascospore germination.

Their collaboration has resulted in a thorough understanding of the biology of *A. anomala* and the epidemiology of eastern filbert blight. With this as a basis, they developed a disease management program that combined information on cultivar susceptibility, disease sanitation, and properly timed fungicide applications. Growers have been able to maintain productivity of infected trees in orchards with this program.

Their contributions to the understanding and management of the eastern filbert blight have been original, creative, multifaceted, and well documented, as evidenced by the publication of 12 scientific articles in *Phytopathology*, *Plant Disease*, and *Mycologia* since 1992. Drs. Pinkerton, Stone, and Johnson were presented the Oldfield/Jackman Team Research Award for their collaborative contributions to the understanding of eastern filbert blight by the College of Agriculture at Oregon State University.

Kenneth B. Johnson was born in Minneapolis, MN. He obtained his B.S. degree in plant health technology in 1979 from the University of Minnesota and his M.S. degree in plant pathology from Oregon State University in 1982. He completed his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology in 1986 at the University of Minnesota and continued as a postdoctoral associate and lecturer until 1988. He then joined the faculty of the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Oregon State University, where he is an associate professor. Dr. Johnson has distinguished himself through outstanding, pioneering research on potato and deciduous tree fruit and nut crop diseases. His research focuses on the areas of quantitative epidemiology, integrated control, and application of epidemiological principles for enhancing biocontrol. He teaches graduate courses on plant pathology and disease management. Dr. Johnson has served APS as a member and chair of the Plant Disease Losses and Epidemiology committees, as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee for Plant Pathology 2000, and as associate and senior editor of *Phytopathology*. He also has been active in the IPPC Epidemiology Committee. In 1996, APS honored him with the Ciba-Geigy Award for his significant contributions to the advancement of knowledge of plant diseases and their control.

John N. Pinkerton was born in Englewood, NJ. He received a B.S. degree in zoology from Oregon State University in 1968. After serving as an extension fisheries specialist with the Peace Corps in Nepal, he returned to Oregon State University to pursue a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology. While in graduate school, he was the extension nematologist and ran the plant clinic's nematology laboratory. In 1983, he accepted a research associate position in nematology with Washington State University at the Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center, Prosser. Between 1986 and 1988, he worked for the Oregon Department of Agriculture as a plant pathologist. In 1988, he accepted a position with the USDA-ARS Horticultural Crops Research Laboratory in Corvallis, OR, to work on the epidemiology and management of eastern filbert blight. In 1996, his responsibilities at the USDA changed to the epidemiology and management of phytonematodes and soilborne plant pathogens in small fruit and ornamental nursery production. Dr. Pinkerton is a member of APS and has served on the Nematology Committee. He also is a member of the Society of Nematologists and the Organization of Nematologists of Tropical America.

Jeffrey K. Stone was born in East Liverpool, OH. He received a B.A. degree in biology in 1976 from Antioch College, Yellow Springs, OH. He completed a Ph.D. degree in biology and mycology at the University of Oregon in 1986. His doctoral research dealt with the ecology, taxonomy, and physiology of *Rhabdocline parkerii*, an asymptomatic foliar endophyte of Douglas fir. From 1987 to 1990, he served as a research associate at the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Oregon State University in Corvallis. It was at this time that he was actively involved in studying the pathology of *A. anomala* on European hazelnut. In 1993, he accepted a position as assistant professor (senior researcher). His research interests continue to be the ecology, distribution, and biodiversity of fungal parasites of plants in natural systems, and endophytes. He has also been involved with the pathology, ecology, and taxonomy of foliar and stem fungi of woody hosts, and the systematics and evolutionary biology of inoperculate discomycetes. He teaches courses in fungal plant pathogens (mycology), biology of conidial fungi, and forest pathology at Oregon State University. Dr. Stone is a member of APS, the Mycological Society of America, the British Mycological Society, and the International Symbiosis Society. He is currently an associate editor for *Mycologia* and serves as the chair of the MSA Endowment Committee. In addition, he has served as a MSA councilor of ecology/pathology.

Novartis Award

Sponsored by Novartis Crop Protection, this award is given to individual plant pathologists who have made significant contributions to the advancement of knowledge of plant diseases or their control. The award consists of a trophy and an expense-paid trip to Basel, Switzerland.

Robert L. Gilbertson

Robert L. Gilbertson was born in Chicago, IL. He earned his B.S. degree in wildlife biology in 1978 and his M.S. degree in plant pathology in 1980 from the University of Massachusetts. After serving as an extension technician in the Department of Entomology at the University of Massachusetts from 1980 to 1981, he resumed his graduate education in plant pathology at Colorado State University, where he received his Ph.D. degree in 1985. Between 1986 and 1990, Dr. Gilbertson was a research associate and assistant scientist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as part of the USAID-funded Bean/Cowpea Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP). During this time, he worked with common bacterial blight and developed a new method for screening beans for resistance to *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *phaseoli*, identified nonpathogenic pectolytic xanthomonads associated with bean debris, and was the first to develop a specific DNA probe to detect *X. campestris* pv. *phaseoli*. Later, working with bean-infecting geminiviruses, he generated infectious clones of three genetically diverse bean-infecting geminiviruses, and demonstrated their infectivity with particle bombardment. He continues to play a leadership role for a University of California-Davis (UC-Davis) Bean/Cowpea CRSP in East Africa, in which the primary goal is the development of bean varieties with multiple disease resistance.

In 1990, Professor Gilbertson joined the Department of Plant Pathology at UC-Davis. He developed a multidisciplinary research program in which he collaborates with industry to study basic and applied aspects of diseases of vegetable and field crops caused by plant-pathogenic bacteria, fungi, and viruses. In his research, he uses the latest molecular approaches to solve practical disease problems. Professor Gilbertson's accomplishments demon-

strate a unique ability to bridge the gap between basic molecular biology and applied plant pathology.

His laboratory is involved in the characterization of whitefly-transmitted geminiviruses infecting various crop plants in the Caribbean and in Central and South America. In collaboration with colleagues at the University of Wisconsin, Gilbertson's laboratory demonstrated that tomato yellow leaf curl geminivirus had been introduced into the Dominican Republic from the Middle East. As a result of a subsequent recommendation, tomato production has returned to previous levels.

In other activities, his laboratory has molecularly characterized tomato mottle geminivirus from Florida, tomato leaf crumple geminivirus from Mexico, bean golden mosaic geminivirus from southern Mexico, and has partially characterized tomato-infecting geminiviruses from Brazil and Venezuela. Research on basic geminivirus biology has emphasized the phenomena of pseudorecombination between bipartite geminiviruses, and his group was the first to establish a viable pseudorecombinant. Other areas of research include host adaptation and cell-to-cell and long-distance movement.

In collaboration with Dr. W. J. Lucas of UC-Davis and Dr. R. F. Allison of Michigan State University, Dr. Gilbertson has conducted studies to identify proteins involved in potyvirus movement. Gilbertson and his colleagues have established that the potyviral coat protein and helper component protease are cell-to-cell movement proteins.

Dr. Gilbertson's laboratory also maintains a significant research program on seedborne plant pathogens. Efforts have focused on celery bacterial blight caused by *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *apii*, carrot black rot caused by *Alternaria radicina*, bacterial blight of carrot caused by *X. campestris* pv. *carotae*, bacterial leafspot of lettuce caused by *X. campestris* pv. *vitians*, and bean common mosaic and lettuce mosaic potyviruses. Celery bacterial blight is a new disease in California, and Dr. Gilbertson's laboratory has characterized the pathogen responsible for the disease and demonstrated its seedborne nature.

The development of PCR-based detection methods for the seedborne bacterial pathogens *X. campestris* pv. *carotae* and *X. campestris* pv. *vitians* provides the basis for current studies comparing standard seed wash methods with PCR-based methods to determine relative sensitivity and reliability of the PCR-based technology for routine detection of seedborne plant pathogens.

Professor Gilbertson teaches introduction to plant pathology in collaboration with Dr. Rick Bostock. He highlights concepts by providing actual disease specimens and anecdotes from his broad experiences as a general plant pathologist. He also co-teaches graduate courses in phytobacteriology and virology and has recently developed a new multidisciplinary course, plant virus vector interactions, with Drs. W. J. Lucas (plant biology) and Diane Ullman (entomology). He also serves as an editor for *Plant Cell Reports* and is an associate editor for *Phytopathology*.

Ruth Allen Award

The Ruth Allen Memorial Fund was established in 1965 by gifts from the estate of Dr. Ruth Allen through the generosity of her heirs: Sam Emsweller, Mabel Nebel, Hally Sax, and Evangeline Yarwood. The award, consisting of a certificate and income from the invested fund, is given for outstanding contributions to the science of plant pathology.

Harry A. J. Hoitink

Dr. Harry A. J. Hoitink was born in the Netherlands. He received an Ing. degree from the Hogere Landbouw School in Roermond, the Netherlands; B.S. and M.S. degrees in plant pathology from MacDonald College of McGill University in Montreal, Canada; and a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology-bacteriology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His highly meritorious career began at The Ohio State University in Wooster in 1967, where he currently serves as both professor of plant pathology and professor of environmental sciences graduate studies program. Dr. Hoitink is best recognized for his landmark contributions to the understanding of the role of soil organic matter in natural suppression of diseases caused by soilborne pathogens. This has been achieved through careful and diligent integration of basic and applied research among the disciplines of plant pathology, soil microbiology, and microbial ecology. His work with composts and suppressive peat mixes has clearly revolutionized the ornamentals industry throughout the world.

With his students, Hoitink first began to unravel the mystery of biocontrol agents by defining the conditions that consistently led to induced microbiostasis and natural suppression of root rots caused by *Pythium*, *Phytophthora*, and *Rhizoctonia* spp. Moreover, they showed that controlled amendment with specific biocontrol agents, including fungal and bacterial mycoparasites, was essential to consistently induce suppression of *R. solani*. This led to the idea of using composts as a foodbase for biocontrol agents, and today this approach to biological control is becoming a reality.

A unique and significant aspect of the research was the elucidation of the importance of the decomposition level of organic matter and the microbial species composition essential for biological control. His innovative methodology for assessing microbial activity has now been adopted by numerous scientists studying microbial ecology.

Dr. Hoitink and his colleagues have used nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy to nondestructively characterize the change in chemistry and biological energy available in the substrate as bacterial taxon composition changed and suppression was lost. Their work on microbial community biomass and activity is cited heavily not just in plant pathology, but in the general field of microbial ecology.

More recently, Hoitink's group has demonstrated that naturally suppressive composts consistently induce systemic resistance to Pythium root rot, whereas highly decomposed peat substrates failed to protect plants.

Dr. Hoitink is in great demand nationally and internationally as a lecturer and research development consultant. Expanding beyond plant pathology, he has developed a computer-controlled system for composting municipal sludges that has been adopted widely in the United States and abroad. In 1988, he received the first National Award for Research on Composting from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He is a Fellow of APS.

His enthusiasm for science and facilitation of innovative and holistic approaches to biological control are truly infectious. The research program developed under his leadership is a truly exceptionally example of how balance between fundamental and applied research can make major contributions to the advancement of science and also have a highly significant positive socio-economic and environmentally sound impact on a major plant industry.

APS Award of Distinction

Through its Award of Distinction, The American Phytopathological Society formally recognizes exceptional productivity in research, inspiring leadership, and effective application of plant pathology for the benefit of humanity. This rarely bestowed honor has been presented 10 times previously in the history of the Society.

Anne K. Vidaver

Anne K. Vidaver received her B.A. degree in biology at Russell Sage College, Troy, NY, and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in bacteriology at Indiana University, Bloomington. She joined the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Nebraska in 1966 and progressed from a position as a research associate to that of professor and head of the department within 18 years, a position she has held for the past 14 years. Dr. Vidaver's initial contributions to plant pathology came through the excellence of her research program. She is one of a small group of individuals who are responsible for developing the foundations of modern plant bacteriology. Any description of Dr. Vidaver's research accomplishments must mention her fundamental studies of bacteriocins and the phi 6 bacteriophage. The phi 6 bacteriophage, which she discovered, formed the basis of a new family of viruses, and it was the first double-stranded RNA virus discovered in bacteria. This virus has since attracted much interest as a model dsRNA virus system. Her research with gram-positive plant-pathogenic bacteria forms the foundation of much of the current research with these important, but intransigent, plant pathogens. Her pioneering studies in many areas of plant bacteriology have led to extensive work of great importance and have promoted the development of plant bacteriology as a rich area for scientific study. Typical of many of our pioneering leaders in plant pathology, Dr. Vidaver has received awards not only for her contributions to fundamental research, but also for her applications of knowledge to the solution of immediate plant disease problems.

Dr. Vidaver has been an instructor of graduate students, both through a formal course on plant-pathogenic bacteria and through advising graduate student research. Her impact on students and colleagues has been significant; she is recognized as one of the foremost mentors in plant pathology. Many former associates and friends continue to seek her advice and counsel as they progress through their careers in plant pathology.

Dr. Vidaver, as department head, sets a high standard of research excellence in her department, and there is high morale among her faculty members. Her leadership as an administrator has recently led to an additional assignment, as the interim director of the University of Nebraska's Center for Biotechnology. In this position, she is responsible for programs that occupy a considerable portion of a new George W. Beadle Center for Genetics and Biomaterials Research.

Dr. Vidaver has served APS in various capacities including secretary and as the second woman in APS history to be elected its president. Dr. Vidaver had a significant impact on APS's decision to turn its attention from centering on internal issues into developing a systematic program of informing the public about issues of interest to plant pathology. She was instrumental in the development of the APS Office of Public Affairs and Education and served as its first director. She has been actively involved with the APS Foundation, having served on its Board of Directors and as treasurer. Such intense involvement in the activities of APS would normally leave most individuals with little time for other activities, particularly if they are a department head who maintains an active research and teaching program. This level of activity apparently has not taxed Dr. Vidaver, since she has also been actively involved in the leadership of the American Society for Microbiology. She has served the H. A. Wallace Institute for Alternative Agriculture on its Board of Directors, as treasurer, and recently as president. She has clearly developed an outstanding legacy of leadership in science, both in its practice and in roles that influence the direction of science policy.

As important as her impact in teaching, research, and administrative leadership are, Dr. Vidaver's recent contributions to plant pathology as a spokesperson and policymaker are touching all members of APS. She has represented APS and the American Society for Microbiology before congressional committees; has been a member of important government policy boards including the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Committee and the National Academy of Sciences Board on Agriculture; and has been an important source of credible information for key government policymakers. Her position as chair of the APS National Plant Pathology Board, a post she has held from the time of this board's organization, has allowed APS to benefit from the visibility that comes from her outstanding contributions to science and our citizens. In summary, Dr. Vidaver has made outstanding contributions in both research and teaching, has served as an effective administrator at her university, and has conducted her professional service activities with dedication and compassion. She more than meets the very high standards that have been set for recipients of the APS Award of Distinction.