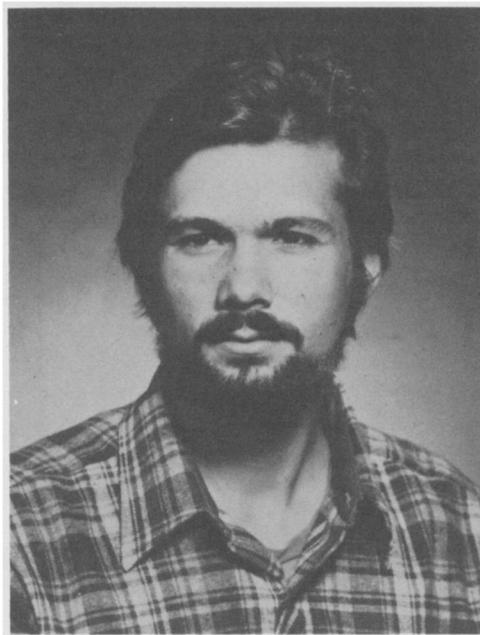


WILLIAM S. COOPER AWARD

James S. Clark

The William S. Cooper Award is a recognition by the Society of distinguished research in geobotany and physiographic ecology. The award has two objectives, first to honor the author of a paper in geobotany or physiographic ecology published in the past five years in any journal, and second, to encourage students to pursue work on these subjects. In making the Cooper Award, the awards committee has agreed that geobotany and physiographic ecology includes studies of the interaction of earth processes, surface forms, and physical disturbance events (or processes) that structure or control the nature of biotic assemblages.

Dr. James S. Clark of the State Museum of New York, Albany, New York, receives the William S. Cooper Award for 1988. His award-winning paper is entitled *Dynamism in the Barrier Beach Vegetation of the Great South Beach, New York*. It appeared in *Ecological Monograph* 56, 1986. Dr. Clark used precise dating of sediment cores along a series of transects across the modern strand lines, salt marshes and the back-barrier lagoons of Great South Beach to reconstruct dune development, overwash and leveling events, subsequent altering of inlets, and rebuilding of the dunes, all covering only the last 340 years. His focus was on the spatial and temporal patterns of vegetation destruction and recovery. The paper is a classic in the Cooper tradition, although that is not a criterion for the award. This monograph and other papers were derived from Dr. Clark's Master's thesis work at the University of Massachusetts at Am-



herst, with Dr. W.A. Patterson II as his thesis advisor. Dr. Clark has just concluded his Ph.D. work at the University of Minnesota.

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