

Awards

ROBERT H. MACARTHUR AWARD



Stephen R. Carpenter

The Robert MacArthur Award is given once every two years to an established ecologist in midcareer for meritorious contributions to ecology,

in the expectation of continued outstanding ecological research. The winner of the MacArthur Award in 2000 is Stephen R. Carpenter. Professor Carpenter stood out as a clear choice for the award in a very strong field of nominees. He has distinguished himself both in basic and in applied research, through his work on trophic cascades in lakes and on the management of highly nonlinear ecosystems.

Carpenter's work is a model for the study of complex systems, such as lake ecosystems, seamlessly integrating theory, example, and practice to deal with multiple causation and inherent uncertainty. His research career exhibits exponential growth in both quantity and diversity. He began with a focus on the organismic, population, and community scales of ecology, but his more recent work looks at the whole system, landscape, and global scales. He championed large-scale experimentation, developed the statistical tools required to provide quantitative rigor, and demonstrated how whole-lake manipulation could advance the understanding of ecosys-

tem dynamics. More recently, he has undertaken highly innovative and influential work integrating ecology, economics, and management.

The Pew Foundation recognized the breadth, capability, and creativity of Steve Carpenter's work when they selected him as Fellow in Conservation and the Environment. He is also the recipient of two awards from the Mellon Foundation, the Per Brinck Award in Limnology of Lund University in Sweden, the Hutchinson Medal from the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, and the Ecology Institute Prize for 2000. Of course, he was also selected to be the ESA President for 2000–2001.

Stephen Carpenter is an exceptional scholar, a skilled leader, and a citizen of the best kind. He is an outstanding choice for recognition through the MacArthur Award.

R. H. MacArthur Award Subcommittee: Simon Levin (Chair), Timothy F. Allen, Donald L. DeAngelis, Patricia A. Flebbe, Diane Marshall, Alison Power, Peter Vitousek
