

MacArthur Award
Alan Hastings
University of California at Davis

The **Robert H. MacArthur Award** is given biannually to an established ecologist in mid-career for meritorious contributions to ecology, in the expectation of continued outstanding ecological research. Nominees may be from any country and need not be ESA members. The recipient is invited to prepare an address for presentation at the annual meeting of the society and for publication in *Ecology*.

Alan Hastings of the University of California at Davis is one of the most respected theoretical ecologists working today. He has been a leading force in this field for two decades. He is distinguished both for his research and for his commitment to advancing the basic ecological sciences and their management implications. He has published fundamental papers in population genetics and ecology, made important contributions in metapopulation theory and conservation biology, and brought the full power of sophisticated advances to bear on the solution of applied problems.

His work, from the start, has sought to integrate ecology and evolutionary biology. His contributions to making space and time explicit in metapopulation and dispersal models have launched new research sub-fields, not only in theoretical ecology but in conservation biology and resource management. Dr. Hastings is distinguished not only for the breadth, quality, and impact of his work, but for his productivity, with more some 170 peer-reviewed papers, many of which have become classics. Alan has also written a successful textbook (*Population Biology: Concepts and Models*). Indeed, his nominators describe his writing in research papers as “both rigorous and pedagogical.”

After receiving his Ph.D. from Cornell in 1977, Alan Hastings began his professorial career in Washington State University in the Department of Pure and



Applied Mathematics. Since 1979, he has been at U. C. Davis, where he is now Distinguished Professor of Environmental Science and Policy, a department he chaired from 1992 to 1998.

As a mentor, Dr. Hastings has trained 16 doctoral students and 22 postdocs, and is beloved by those who have worked with him. His contributions to the wider community include service to the Society for Mathematical Biology as President and to the ESA as Chair of the Theoretical Ecology Section. Currently, he is Editor-in-Chief of the Theoretical Ecology Series for Academic Press, Co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Mathematical Biology*, Associate Editor of *Theoretical Population Biology*, and serves on the Editorial Board of *Mathematical Biosciences*. In the past, he has served on the Board of Editors for *Ecology and Ecological Monographs* and as Associate Editor for *Evolution and Oecologia*.