1976 Mercer Award was given to William Neill by President Douglas Kenny of the University of British Columbia.

ing a successful, productive career in any of these areas. Of those completing the Ph.D. under my supervision in the past 6 years, 6 have appointments in college or university basic science departments, but one is a museum curator, one is with a large environmental consulting firm, and one is an assistant professor of environmental health. The current positions of Ph.D. students of a colleague in a closely related research area make a similar list.

In addition to ensuring that our graduates are well qualified for these non-traditional positions as well as traditional ones, how can we encourage additional positions for ecologists? In the area of environmental impact studies, every effort should be made to have the studies required under existing law made (and signed—see the cogent comments of J. Ghiselin, Commentary, Vol. 56, No. 2) by the most highly qualified people available. This should not only provide jobs for more highly trained ecologists but also improve compliance with federal and state laws and the quality of information available in environmental impact statements. The ecologically sound approach to NEPA and similar laws is to provide decision-makers with as much knowledge as possible of how the effects of proposed projects will ramify through ecosystems. The well-trained Ph.D. in ecology should be optimally equipped with the broad view required as well as with the requisite research ability.

Those of us responsible for graduate programs can help alleviate the problems posed and simultaneously provide soundly trained people capable of gaining and disseminating information needed for environmental planning and problem solving. We must ensure that our programs require graduate students to gain breadth as well as depth of training and experience. And we must urge that the newer and expanding applied fields seek broadly trained ecologists. We will then expand the alternative types of employment for which our graduates qualify and to which they can contribute significantly.