



The Ecological Society of America's
Focus on Ecologists Project Presents:

2015 Odum Education Award

Nathaniel Thoreau Wheelwright



The Odum Education Award recognizes an ecologist for outstanding work in ecology education. Through teaching, outreach, and mentoring activities, recipients of this award have demonstrated their ability to relate basic ecological principles to human affairs.

Throughout his 29 years at Bowdoin College, Dr. Wheelwright has proven to be an inspiring teacher. He has taught 14 different courses. He is a dedicated research mentor in taxonomically diverse projects involving birds, amphibians, vascular and non-vascular plants, insects, and mammals. He gives students the opportunity to work as long-term participants on field projects- including responsibility for writing and publishing. 49 of his former students have been inspired to pursue their Ph.D. in ecology or related fields; and several dozen of them are currently on the faculty of 24 universities and colleges across the country. Dr. Wheelwright has also bravely taken on controversial topics, such as the impact of war in Nicaragua on its natural environment. His teaching, mentorship and outreach make him deserving of this award.