

The Walter F. Snyder Award for 1983

presented to

JOHN R. BAGBY, JR.

John R. Bagby, Jr., a pioneer in environmental health education, is Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, and Director, Institute of Rural Environmental Health at Colorado State University (CSU), Fort Collins, Colorado.

Dr. Bagby earned the Bachelor of Science degree in zoology and chemistry, and Master of Science in entomology at The University of Arkansas; his Doctor of Philosophy degree was earned at Emory University. During World War II, he served as a navigator in the Army Air Corps, and is active today as a licensed private pilot.

In his early career, Dr. Bagby worked in communicable disease control. He joined the US Public Health Service as a malariologist in 1946, then moved to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), where he advanced to the position, Deputy Director. During his tenure with CDC, Dr. Bagby worked with state and local health departments to develop models for effective

community living. Both official and voluntary efforts were integrated in the models for solving environmental and public health problems in the community.

Under Dr. Bagby's leadership, the graduate and undergraduate environmental health curricula at CSU were among the first to be nationally accredited. The Rural Environmental Health Institute has attained wide recognition for program excellence, particularly in the fields of epidemiology and industrial hygiene.

Dr. Bagby has served as an advisor to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) since 1964, focusing on contamination control problems associated with space exploration. His responsibilities have been associated primarily with Article IX of the Space Treaty, which requires that the United States and other signatory nations maintain the planets and other extraterrestrial bodies of the solar system as

"biological preserves," at least until their exploration has been completed. This task has required the constant evaluation of all environmental conditions that impact space missions, the application of judicious quarantine. containment and examination of material and equipment returned from space, and the achievement of full cooperation from many groups with diverse, cognate interests public health, agriculture, the scientific community, the mission directors, contractors, and NASA, itself. In addition to advising the NASA program, Dr. Bagby served on the editorial review board and was co-chairman of the Federal Interagency Committee that directed the NASA Apollo quarantine program.

As a consultant, Dr. Bagby has served the World Health Organization, US Public Heath Service, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology. He has served as a lecturer at Emory University and the Harvard University School of Public Health: and, as a member of President Kennedy's Science Advisory Committee Task Force during the development of the National Strategy for Environmental Protection. The pesticide epidemiology program which is now administered by the US Environmental Protection Agency is an outrowth of this activity. Dr. Bagby served several years as the Public Health representative on the Armed Forces Pest Control Board: and, intermittently, on the Vector Control Committee of the National Water Resources Council.

At the request of Governor Richard Lamm, Dr. Bagby has, for the past four years, been a member of Colorado's Panel for Cancer Control and Research; he is currently chairman. In addition, he is a member of the Governor's Task Force to evaluate health effects of oil shale development. In both of these appointments, it has been his responsibility to work with communities, health officials, oil companies, The American Petroleum Institute, state agencies, labor unions, and others seeking consensus on the best possible solutions to environmental problems.

Dr. Bagby has recently been appointed to the Colorado State Board of Health. He is a member of Sigma Xi, the Colorado Public Health Association, the National Environmental Health Association, the Colorado Environmental Health Association, the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, the United States-Mexico Border Public Health Association, and the New York Academy of Sciences. His biography appears in several publications including American Men of Science, Who's Who in America, and Who's Who in the World.

Dr. Bagby is admired and respected by his colleagues; he is a mentor to many practicing health professionals. For his lifetime of achievements in attaining a quality environment and improving the public health, John R. Bagby, Jr. has been selected by a committee of his peers to receive the Walter F. Snyder Award for 1983.

Past Recipients of The Walter F. Snyder Award

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