

Lawren Sack Receives Inaugural Diversity Award



Dr. Lawren Sack, recipient of the inaugural Diversity Award.

At its annual Diversity Luncheon, the Education and Human Resources Committee (EHRC) of ESA awarded the inaugural Diversity Award to Dr. Lawren Sack of the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California, Los Angeles, for “long-standing contributions . . . towards increasing the diversity of future ecologists through mentoring, teaching, or outreach.” The award was accepted on his behalf by Faith Inman-Narahari, one of his graduate students. Sack could not be there to accept the award, as he was in the field mentoring several of his other graduate students. His nominators (almost 10 current and previous students) often noted his dedication to helping them in the lab and field.

During his career at the University of Hawaii and now at UCLA, Dr. Sack has actively recruited students from under-represented groups, especially native Hawaiian students. He has also mentored graduate students, post-docs, and visitors to his lab who come from diverse backgrounds. All of his nominators acknowledge the active interest he has taken in their careers and how he has helped and inspired them to

be successful ecologists. EHRC shares Dr. Sack’s vision of an inclusive ecological community in which people from diverse backgrounds contribute to our understanding of the natural world. We commend him for his past and future work increasing the diversity of future ecologists.

Faith Inman-Narahari (left) receiving the Diversity Award on behalf of Dr. Sack from Dr. Meg Lowman, ESA Vice President for Education and Diversity.

