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**Dr. Vernon I. Cheadle, Chancellor of the University of California at Santa Barbara (left), presents a \$100.00 check and congratulations to Mercer Award Winner, Dr. Joseph H. Connell, Associate Professor of Zoology at UCSB.**

## THE GEORGE MERCER AWARD FOR 1963

The George Mercer Award for 1963 was awarded to Dr. Joseph H. Connell, Associate Professor of Zoology, University of California at Santa Barbara, for his paper entitled "Effects of competition, predation by *Thais lapillus*, and other factors on natural populations of the barnacle *Balanus balanoides*" in *Ecological Monographs* 31:61-106. At the time of the announcement of this award at the Amherst meetings, Dr. Connell was continuing his research in Brisbane, Australia.

Dr. Connell began looking at ecological communities when he was about 5 years old, but it wasn't until after he had his B.S. (meteorology at the University of Chicago) that he realized that he might be able to make a living studying ecology. So he started his formal study of biology at age 23 at the University of California, Berkeley. There he studied rabbits for an M.A. under Dr. A. S. Leopold. Then after two years of teaching high school, he went to the University of Glasgow where he did the Ph.D. under Prof. C. M. Yonge. During this period he wrote the paper honored here. Since then he has worked on clams at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and on barnacles at Woods Hole, Santa Barbara, and at Friday Harbor, Washington. For the past year he has been studying species diversity of tropical rain forest trees and coral reefs in Queensland, Australia.

His philosophy of ecology has been influenced mainly by Frank Pitelka and by Charles Elton; in addition his colleagues and his students have supplied a constant stream of ideas. During his meteorological training he made many measurements of physical environmental factors; and through this experience he seems to have gotten them out of his system. At any rate, he is now much more interested in biological interactions and species diversity.

The George Mercer Award was established in 1948 by a member of the Ecological Society of America in honor of a young naturalist and ecologist who was killed in World War 1. Its purpose is "to encourage others to publish papers comparable with those it is reasonable to suppose he would have published if he had lived." The Award is made each year to a young man who in the previous two years, has published an outstanding ecological paper.

The Mercer Award for 1964 will be for a paper published in the years 1962-63 and, although the paper may be in any general area of ecology, the focus will be on papers dealing with aspects of plant ecology. The following scrutineers for the 1964 award will welcome nominations of outstanding papers (before May 1): Dr. Jerry S. Olson (Chm.), 110 W. Farragut Rd., Oak Ridge, Tenn.; Dr. Peter Frank, Dept. of Biology, University of Oregon, Eugene, Ore.; Dr. Calvin McMillan, Dept. of Botany, U. of Texas, Austin 12, Texas.

The Mercer Award for 1965 will be for a paper published in the years 1963-64 and, although the paper may be in any general area of ecology, the focus for selection will be more on papers in animal ecology. The following scrutineers for the 1965 award will welcome nominations of outstanding papers before May 1, 1965: Dr. Dwight Billings (Chm.), Department of Botany, Duke University, Durham, N. C.; Dr. Reed W. Fautin, Department of Zoology, U. of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming; Dr. Shelby Gerking, Department of Zoology; Indiana Univ., Bloomington, Ind.