Geoff West on scaling and allometry that might have the widest impact. Using realistic constraints and optimization principles, they have been able to reproduce an amazing range of allometric relationships seen in nature. It is, of course, hard to separate the contributions of the three individuals, each of whom brings unique skills to the table, but Jim's imprint is unmistakable.

Jim Brown is in the finest tradition of the MacArthur Award, using mathematical models skillfully to explain patterns in nature. He is clearly one of the leaders in the ecological community and it is with pleasure that ESA recognizes him as the 2002 MacArthur Award recipient.

MacArthur Award Subcommittee: Simon A. Levin (Chair), Rob Colwell, Carla D'Antonio, Diane Marshall, Judy Meyer, Alison Power, and Peter Vitousek.

EUGENE P. ODUM AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ECOLOGY EDUCATION

Margaret D. Lowman

The Eugene P. Odum Award for Excellence in Ecology Education, ESA's newest award, recognizes an ecologist for outstanding teaching, outreach, and mentoring activities and for demonstrated ability to relate basic ecological principles to human affairs. The winner for 2002 is Margaret D. Lowman, Director and Jesse B. Cox Chair in Tropical Botany at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota, Florida. Dr. Lowman has a truly impressive record of excellence in elementary teaching and curriculum development, ecology outreach programs, including teacher training, adult education, distance learning, and virtual laboratories; and development of ecology programs at nature centers and for the general public.

Dr. Lowman was one of the first researchers to work in forest canopies, and she opened a previously inaccessible area of the forest to scientific inquiry and to public interest with her canopy walk designs. She has used these extensively to take students into the forest canopy, eliciting tremendous enthusiasm as students of all ages observe and begin to appreciate and understand these complex systems.

The diversity of the outreach and innovative educational efforts led by Dr. Lowman is very impressive. She taught science at the country's first summer environmental science program (Burgundy Science Camp) and co-wrote curricula from that program for the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. In 1993, Dr. Lowman produced a Reading Rainbow feature film about trees; this was part of a national series to educate K–9 students about science and reading. As the chief scientist of the JASON V Project, an international K–12 science education project, she completed 61 live classes (via satellite link) from the rain forest canopy of Belize and wrote curricula with the National Science Teachers Association.

As Director of the Selby Botanical Gardens, Dr. Lowman has established education and outreach programs that are rivaled by few others. The gardens work closely with the Sarasota County School District to design and implement educational activities for elementary and middle school students. Initiatives that Meg Lowman developed on the biology of plants in Florida are now available for educators throughout the region.

Dr. Lowman is a prolific scientist with a wealth of impressive research publications, as well as publicly accessible books for lay readers. Her 1999 autobiographical book, *Life in the Treetops*, has won many awards and was on the New York Public Library's list of "books every teenager should read" in 2000. She was also a featured scientist in the National Geographic TV special, "Heroes of the High Frontier."

In sum, Margaret Lowman is a passionate and effective educator who successfully reaches her colleagues, students, children, and the general public. She has a striking and enviable ability both to contribute new knowledge and to make it accessible to the widest possible audience. It is with pleasure that ESA honors her as the third recipient of the Eugene P. Odum Award for Excellence in Ecology Education.

Odum Education Award Subcommittee: Monica Turner (Chair), Gary Barrett, Rich Bowden, Carol Brewer, Janet Lanza, Jim MacMahon, Linda Wallace.