

## 1995 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CITATION



**Robert K. Peet**

The Ecological Society of America is pleased to award its 1995 Distinguished Service Citation to Robert K. Peet, a professor in the Department of Biology at the University of North Carolina. As Secretary of the Society for the last three years, Bob Peet has done an extraordinarily fine job. He understands the machinery of the organization and has undertaken several extra tasks that have made it run more smoothly. For example, he compiled a new version of the President's Book that has facilitated the work of the Executive Committee and made

it easier to put present decisions in historical perspective. Then he made administrative information accessible to the membership by compiling and arranging for the publication of the first ESA Handbook. It contains critical information such as the Constitution and Bylaws, information on current policies, Section and Chapter bylaws, and current committees. After proposing revisions of the governing structure of the organization, he and Tony Janetos redrafted the Constitution and Bylaws according to the recommendations of the Executive Committee. Bob Peet's attention to detail has facilitated enormously the administration of our society.

Even before this recent term as Secretary, Peet had chaired the Southeastern Chapter (1984-1986), and served on the Board of Editors for *Ecology* and *Ecological Monographs* (1982-1985) and on numerous committees. With David Glenn-Lewin, he co-founded the Vegetation Section of the ESA in 1982. He helped establish and now serves on the ESA's Panel on North American Vegetation Classification, an effort to provide professional oversight, review, and standardization of vegetation classifications used in North America by federal agencies, conservation organizations, and academic

institutions. All this altruism will take on a new dimension in 1996, when he assumes the role of Editor-in-Chief for *Ecology* and *Ecological Monographs*.

The ESA is not the only ecological society to benefit from Bob Peet's organizational and editorial skills. He currently serves on the Boards of Directors of the International Association for Vegetation Science and the Organization for Tropical Studies and on the Board of Consultants for the North Carolina Nature Conservancy. He is coordinator of the multi-university North Carolina Vegetation Survey. Simultaneously with all this, Bob Peet has been editing books and publishing original research papers on forest dynamics, plant succession, and plant demography. He is a sterling example of what a well-organized ecologist can accomplish and the Ecological Society of America is deeply grateful for his contributions.

### **Eminent Ecologist/ Distinguished Service Subcommittee**

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