
Distinguished Service Citation Margaret Palmer

Dr. Margaret Palmer of the University of Maryland is recognized with the **Distinguished Service Citation** based on her extensive service to the Ecological Society of America and to the discipline of ecology as a whole.

Margaret Palmer's service comes in many forms, most of which involve working on the inside – actually getting into the middle of the issues at hand and working tirelessly to ensure that results are forthcoming. Three significant efforts in recent years characterize the type of professional service she has provided. In 2000-2001 Margaret served as a Program Officer in the Ecology Program at the National Science Foundation. While there, she effectively pushed for important programs and initiated and oversaw a symposium jointly supported by NIH and NSF on mathematical-biological linkages. From 2002-2004 Margaret chaired the Visions Committee for the ESA. This was a monumental undertaking involving people and organizations from many realms. She did an excellent job that led to effective results and a high-profile outcome for ESA. Currently, Margaret chairs the hydrology subcommittee for the NEON. This is a major effort on her part, serving the broader interests of ESA and allied disciplines.

The impact of Margaret's service has extended beyond ESA and professional scientists. For exam-



ple, she has aggressively engineered a collaboration among many organizations and individuals in the National River Restoration Science Synthesis project. Carrying this much farther than the scientific domain, she worked with the public in Virginia to develop broad conservation plans for the banks of important streams in the area. In a clear indication that public service is important to her, Margaret was a participant in the Aldo Leopold Leadership Program, designed to prepare prominent scientists for roles in the public sphere.

Palmer has also been an outstanding mentor for students at all levels. In particular, she has guided many young women as they have moved through the pipeline to become knowledgeable citizens or professional scientists. In all of her service, she has made particular efforts to ensure that women and other underrepresented groups are fully represented.

Her knowledge, insights, and hard work, coupled with her natural leadership skills, make it clear why Margaret Palmer has been so effective serving ESA, ecology, and the public.