

FOUNDERS AWARD

The American Institute of Hydrology (AIH) established this award in 1990 to honor the founders, Sandor C. Csallany, Roman Kanivetsky and Alexander Zaporozec, for their initiative and vision in forming the Institute. The award is given at the discretion of the AIH Executive Board to a member of AIH for outstanding, long and dedicated service to the Institute. The first AIH Founders Award was presented to Ralph C. Heath at the 10th Anniversary Meeting of the American Institute of Hydrology in Orlando on November 4, 1981.

Citation – *Joseph S. Rosenshein*

I appreciate the opportunity to present the citation for Dr. Darryll Pederson's Founders Award. I have known Darryll for more than 25 years and know, first hand, of his contributions and dedication to hydrology not only in his activities with AIH but also with other professional societies.

Darryll is a Professor of Geology at the University of Nebraska and a Senior Scientist at the Nebraska Conservation and Survey Division (the State Geological Survey).

When the Institute was first established, the Board of Registration was swamped with applications for certification. The evaluation of these applications was no easy task. The rejection rate was about 50 percent and the time between application and certification was as much as a year or more. The Board of Registration was faced with a critical problem. If the new organization was ever to be established some thing had to be done. The Board was determined to ensure that no application for certification be approved without strict adherence to the Institute's standards and requirements. To address its problem, the Board established a Task Force to process the applications. Darryll was one of the first members of the Task Force. Through his services on the Task Force, he significantly contributed to the early efforts to make AIH a viable professional organization.

After serving on the Task Force, Darryll became a long-term member of the Board of Registration (1988 to present). He has served on the Board for more years than he probably would care to admit. He undoubtedly participated in the evaluation of the credential of many of the members attending this meeting. Darryll also served as acting Chairman of the Board in 1994.

In the early 1990s, the Executive Committee determined that it was time to take a fresh look at the Institute's Constitution and Bylaws and to revise and update them as appropriate. The Committee turned to Darryll to undertake this effort. As is true to all his efforts for AIH, he undertook this charge willingly and carried out his core with care, diligence and expedience. At the end of six months, he forwarded a draft copy of the revised Constitution and Bylaws for Executive Committee Review.

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Darryll's continue service to AIH spans almost the full life of AIH as an organization. This service has been in areas key to AIH maintaining its creditability as a professional society and its acceptance by other professional societies. He has clearly shown his dedication to hydrology and AIH; while at the same at the same time contributing to other scientific organizations, such as the Geological Society of America (GSA) and the American Geophysical Union (AGU) and carrying out his responsibilities as a Professor Geology at the University of Nebraska and as a Senior Scientist at the State Geological Survey. Darryll has clearly shown that he is motivated to give back some of himself to the professional that has given him so much.

No professional society can survive as an organization without dedicated people like Darryll, his service to AIH and other professional societies has set a standard that more of AIH members need to emulate if this organization is to continue to prosper and grow as a positive force in promoting professionalism in hydrology.

It is with sincere appreciation for his outstanding, long, and dedicated service to the American Institute of Hydrology that AIH presents Dr. Darryll Pederson, a charter member, this year's Founders Award.

Dr. Joseph S. Rosenshein
Ret. U.S. Geological Survey
Virginia Beach, Virginia

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Response – Darryll T. Pederson

My first thought on hearing that I would be this years recipient of the Founders Award was how can I be on each side of the continent at two meetings at nearly the same point in time with United Airlines being my only lifeline. That lifeline may still be a problem.

I am grateful for this recognition. Involvement with AIH has been good for me. I remember my first active role in AIH. John Sharp, as chairman of the Examination Committee, called and asked me to help develop a test to administer to those wanting certification. I found it fascinating to review tests given at the major universities in this country and see the strength of the profession. A second request from the AIH Board led me into a major review of the constitutions and bylaws of the major professional societies and preparation of a draft copy of a revised constitution and bylaws for AIH. I gained a new appreciation for the purpose of professional societies and their missions with this project. Having served on the Registration Board for longer than I can remember and putting in a stint as Chairman I have a deeper appreciation of the effort and the dedication required to be a certified professional. In all of my involvement with AIH I have found that I gained more that I gave.

Water bridges so many disciplines. AIH by its structure and organization provides the bridge between these disciplines. The founders of AIH recognized the possibilities and while it would be difficult to match their dedication we can do our part. I want to thank you once again for selecting me for the 2000 Founders Award.

Dr. Darryll T. Pederson
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, Nebraska