

2007 ABSA Service Award Recipients

Award Presentations from the ABSA Conference, October 2007

Arnold G. Wedum Distinguished Achievement Award

Joseph Songer
Ames, Iowa

The Arnold G. Wedum Distinguished Achievement Award is given to a current ABSA member for outstanding contributions to biological safety accomplished through teaching, research, service, or leadership.

Dr. Songer, a Charter Member of ABSA, was the first recipient of the Everett Hanel, Jr. Presidential Award, and served as president of the Association in 1988. Dr. Songer worked at the National Animal Disease Laboratory, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), in Ames, Iowa where he conducted research on the effects of relative humidity and temperature on the survival of biological aerosols. His work was critical in the design, construction, and operation of some of the first high containment facilities engaged in activities with infectious diseases, especially those involving livestock. He created the *Biosafety Bibliography* containing important and original references of fundamental work prior to Internet availability of published investigations. Dr. Songer is a true pioneer whose many contributions provided the foundation for the development of the field of biosafety.

Everett Hanel, Jr. Presidential Award

Daniel F. Liberman, PhD
Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research
Cambridge, Massachusetts

The Everett Hanel, Jr. Presidential Award is given to a current ABSA member for outstanding contributions to ABSA by promoting the field of biological safety and fostering, by example, the high professional standards of the Association's membership.

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Dr. Liberman is presented this award for his tireless work as a Charter Member of ABSA, and his consistent and continuing support of the organization. He has volunteered as a member of the Local Arrangements Committee (1995, 2006), as the chair of the Scientific Program Committee (2006-2007), and served on the committee in 1994. He has taught workshops for ABSA and other professional organizations, has been the lead editor of the *Biohazard Management Handbook*, and served on numerous governmental committees to shape biosafety guidelines and regulations. He receives the Everett Hanel, Jr. Presidential Award for his outstanding contributions to biological safety through teaching, research, service, and leadership.

Richard C. Knudsen Memorial Publication Award

Mark A. Czarneski
ClorDiSys, Inc.
Lebanon, New Jersey

The award shall be given, when merited, to the author(s) of an article that reports a significant contribution in scientific investigation and/or health and safety in those areas of interest to Richard Knudsen during his career. The award recipient need not be a member of the American Biological Safety Association.

The Richard C. Knudsen Memorial Publication Award is presented to Mark A. Czarneski for his article entitled, "Selecting the Right Chemical Agent for Decontamination of Rooms and Chambers," which was published in *Applied Biosafety* (Volume 12, Number 2, 2007, pp. 85-92). This article was selected as an excellent example of a very well-written review of the use of several commonly employed chemical agents, the benefits and deficits of their application, the methods for their use, and an outline of the factors to be considered in their selection. The contents of this article are of practical assistance to the diverse ABSA membership.

EPA Free Online Course

The EPA provides a free, basic online course entitled "Introduction to Mold and Mold Remediation for Environmental and Public Health Professionals." For more information, visit: www.epa.gov/mold/moldcourse/chapter1/home.html