Hugo B. Fischer Award

California Water and Environmental Modeling Forum

February 24, 2014

Hugo B. Fischer Award

- In honor of Dr. Fischer's pioneering work on San Francisco Bay-Delta water quality modeling

- Conceived and endowed by Lyle Hoag
  - Retired Executive Director of CUWA
  - Co-founder of CWEMF

Hugo B. Fischer

- B.S. (1958), M.S. (1963) & Ph.D. (1966) from California Institute of Technology
- Professor of Civil Engineering at U.C. Berkeley until 1983
- World-renowned authority in:
  - Salt water intrusion
  - Water pollution
  - Heat dispersion in waterways
  - Mixing of rivers & oceans

Hugo B. Fischer Award

- The innovative development, refinement or application of a computer model, or
- Significant furtherance of the effective use of models in open forums for planning or regulatory functions

Past Fischer Award Winners

- 1995 - Dr. Alan Jassby (UCD); Dr. Richard Denton (CCWD)
- 1996 - Dr. Ralph Cheng (USGS)
- 1997 - Dr. Greg Gartrell (CCWD); Dr. Francis Chung (DWR)
- 1999 - Walter Bourez III (SWRI); Jack Rowell (USBR)
- 2000 - Dwight Russell (DWR); Kamyar Guivetchi (DWR)
- 2001 - Armin Munevar (DWR)
- 2002 - Dr. Gerald Orlob (UCD)
- 2003 - Dr. Emin Dogrul (DWR)
- 2004 - Tom Heinzer (USBR)
- 2006 - Dr. Carl Chen (Systech); Dr. Paul Hutton (MWDSC)
- 2007 - Dr. John DeGeorge (RMA)
- 2008 - Dr. Jay Lund (UCD); Dr. Richard Howitt (UCD)
- 2009 - Dr. Peter Smith (USGS)
- 2011 - Dr. Russell Brown (ICF)
- 2012 - Nancy Parker (USBR)
- 2013 – Dr. Nigel Quinn (LBNL, USBR)

2014
Hugo B. Fischer Award Winner

Dan Easton

MBK Engineers

Dan Easton

- Born in Long Beach, CA in 1969, raised in Bakersfield, CA
- 1988 - Graduated Bakersfield High School. Went to Senior Prom with Christine Hall.
- 1992 - B.S. in Civil Engineering at Loyola Marymount University.
- 1992-1994 – Joined Luft Environmental Consulting in Bakersfield, working on regulatory compliance in the petroleum industry.
- 1993 - Married Christine Hall, now Christine Easton.
- 1996 - M.S in Water Resources Engineering at UC Davis in 1996. Interned at the USACE Hydrologic Engineering Center, worked on a rainfall-runoff model based on spatially distributed radar-rainfall data.
- Completed 3 DAD-Degrees while at UC Davis (1998 – Ben, 2000 - Charlie and Billy)
- 2000 – Made the best (luckiest) choice of career (& gained decent health benefits) by accepting a job offer from DWR's Bay-Delta Office Modeling Support Branch.
- Despite no prior experience in water supply planning, dove head first into CalSim development and various projects including In-Delta Storage (Delta Wetlands).
- 2007 - Joined MBK Engineers working on WRIMS, CalSim, and CalLite development and various water supply planning and system operations studies.

Dan Easton
Significant Contributions

- Development and application of CalSim II & III, WRIMS 2.0 platform & CalLite.
- Dan developed a daily time-step CalSim operation of the CVP and SWP to quantify water supply benefits of the proposed In-Delta Storage program.
- Nancy Parker – "Dan combines a nuanced understanding of the solution process in the WRIMS software with a detailed knowledge of CVP/SWP operations …….. he was able to identify and correct a problem in the depiction of the Coordinated Operations Agreement that had withstood other testing for over a decade. The value of his role in this regard cannot be overstated."
- Developed an "LV Module" for Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) operations and Los Vaqueros Expansion Alternatives to function as a stand-alone model or as an integrated sub-module to CalSim. The organizational concept has paid off as the CCWD system model has been incorporated into new versions of CalSim II.
- Awards committee noted that Dan embodies all we like to see in modeling – he is careful, comprehensive, accurate, and works with a cooperative spirit in which he freely shares his knowledge and analytical techniques.

2014
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In recognition of your significant technical contributions to the development and application of water planning models that simulate the operation of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, specifically CalSim II, CalSim III, the WRIMS 2.0 platform, and CalLite.

CWEMF also recognizes you for working collaboratively with other modelers in the water community to improve models and the technical foundation of analysis relied upon by decision makers.