

Joe E. Heimlich

Principal Researcher; Professor Emeritus Ohio State University
2013 Walter E. Jeske Award

Karen Hollweg's Introduction of the 2013 Walter E. Jeske Award Winner, October 12, 2013

The Walter E. Jeske Award is the highest honor bestowed by NAAEE. It's our "lifetime achievement" award -- established to honor Walt Jeske, who was among the best of federal bureaucrats. Walt was a master of acronyms who worked tirelessly for efficiency in organizations, coordination among compatible efforts, and promotion of quality EE.

I was a NAAEE Board Member with Walt and I remember his unrelenting efforts to streamline NAAEE's governance by defining and implementing Standard Operating Procedures (that's SOPs). As Chief of the Education and Publications Unit in the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, he led efforts to get a Federal Interagency Committee on Education to coordinate the EE work of many different federal agencies -- their acronym was pronounced "FIXIT" ! (Boy, do we need Walt in DC today!)

This year's recipient -- like all Jeske winners -- has tirelessly served NAAEE and been a leader in the field of environmental education for decades. Our awardee has

- my admiration for serving not only on the Board -- twice -- but as President, and
- my respect for professional accomplishments, and for an incredible amount of collaborative work that's promoted excellence in EE.

This year's awardee is

- a teacher and mentor who listens carefully and speaks substantially,
- infectiously friendly and welcoming to all,
- the quintessential "Energizer bunny",
- one who has dedicated an entire career to working on EE programs for children and adults at community, state, national and international levels, and
- who generously gives time to support and improve education projects & efforts to improve NAAEE's governance, committees and interest groups.

He's a scholar of note, who has already received NAAEE's Research Award, has served on panels at The National Academies, and is a recognized leader at the World EE Congress and UNESCO.

He is a prolific author of over a hundred academic journal articles, chapters, and books, and has written more than 250 popular publications on environmental education free-choice learning and has been a consulting editor for numerous scholarly journals.

He has made a substantial impact on the rigor and efficacy of program evaluation in the field of environmental education. His work has served to strengthen the field and helped to increase the methodological appropriateness of evaluation projects throughout the country.

Please join me in welcoming to the podium Joe Heimlich, 2013 Jeske Award Winner!

Recipient

[Joe E. Heimlich](#)