

AAS-AMS-APS Public Service Awards



Neal Lane.



AMS President Hyman Bass (left) and Congressman Vernon Ehlers.



Left to right, Senator Barbara Mikulski, Congressman James T. Walsh, and AMS President elect David Eisenbud.

For the past three years the American Astronomical Society (AAS), the AMS, and the American Physical Society (APS) have presented Public Service Awards to recognize committed and sustained efforts in support of science.

The 2001 AAS-AMS-APS Public Service Awards were presented to CONGRESSMAN VERNON EHLERS (R-MI) and to NEAL LANE.

Ehlers's passion for science research and education shows in his tireless work to achieve a higher priority for science and science education in Congress. Ehlers, who holds a Ph.D. in physics, currently chairs the House Science Committee's Subcommittee on Environment, Technology and Standards.

Lane served for five years as the director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) before being appointed in 1998 as President Clinton's assistant for science and technology and director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy. A physicist by training, Lane is currently University Professor and Senior Fellow at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University.

The 2002 AAS-AMS-APS Public Service Awards were presented to SENATOR BARBARA MIKULSKI (D-MD) and CONGRESSMAN JAMES T. WALSH (R-NY).

At the time of the award, Mikulski chaired the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies. Walsh chairs the counterpart subcommittee in the House.

Mikulski and Walsh were honored for their committed and sustained efforts to ensure adequate federal support for science research and education. Both have worked tirelessly to build bipartisan consensus within their respective appropriations committees for funding for the NSF and for NASA, which are two of the federal agencies falling under the aegis of their subcommittees.

—Allyn Jackson