

Friends of the Biological Sciences Herbarium Distinguished Service Award Recipient for 2002: Lawrence Janeway

by John Dittes

On 2 November 2002, the **Friends of the Biological Sciences Herbarium** were honored to present the 2002 Distinguished Service Award to Lawrence Janeway.

Although Lawrence is the latest of six recipients of this award, he was among the first mentioned as a candidate by Board Members in 1996, the first year the award was presented. Others were chosen that year and subsequent years, not necessarily because they were better candidates, but because Lawrence seemed then, as now, too obvious a choice. Because of his dedication to the herbarium, botany in general, his attention to detail, diligent work, extensive experience, and many collections of plant specimens, his name has almost become synonymous with the Biological Sciences Herbarium and northern California botany. Lawrence's nomination for this Award is long overdue.

Lawrence's association with the Herbarium began in the Fall Semester of 1985, when he arrived in Chico to attend graduate school. While previously working on his B.S. in Botany at Humboldt State University (HSU), Lawrence completed a senior project, under the supervision of Dr. Dan Norris, which involved collection and identification of sedges (*Carex*). Lawrence continued with this challenging group at CSU Chico and, with Dr. Rob Schlising as his graduate advisor, completed his Master's thesis: *The Genus Carex (Cyperaceae) in Butte County, California* (later issued as Number 9 of "Studies from the Herbarium" as *Cyperaceae of Butte County, California, Part 1: Carex*). Lawrence added 471 specimens of *Carex* to the Herbarium collections as part of his thesis work. This important treatment

and his invaluable (and expanding) research collections remain much appreciated and well-used references.

Lawrence has been a continuous presence in the Biological Sciences Herbarium since he began his graduate school years at Chico State. He came to CSU Chico from Humboldt State University (HSU) with experience in and enthusiasm for the herbarium environment. At HSU he was one of a select group that called themselves "herbariophiles." As a graduate student at Chico State, Lawrence immediately established workspace for himself in the herbarium and sometimes worked as a Student Assistant or Graduate Assistant in the Herbarium. Even when not actually employed in the Herbarium, Lawrence was always helping and advising those who were. Following his graduation in 1991, Lawrence continued to volunteer time in the herbarium, enough so that during the last several years of

Dr. Kingsley Stern's Directorship of the Herbarium, Lawrence's volunteer time was as Assistant Curator. After Dr. Stern's retirement in 1994, he became Herbarium Curator, although still as a volunteer. With Dr. Kristina Schierenbeck as Herbarium Director starting in 1998, Lawrence has been variously funded for his work as the Herbarium Curator, for the past three

years working half time.

In addition to the many ongoing curatorial duties in the Herbarium, some of Lawrence's other important contributions and services to the Biological Sciences Herbarium include initiating and maintaining an active exchange program with nine other North American herbaria, curating the herbarium's moss and lichen collection, coordinating and supervising the Herbarium Databasing Project, corresponding with and assisting other researchers, creation and maintenance of the Herbarium web site, and supervising the many fortunate

herbarium volunteers and Work-Study students. Under Lawrence's careful eye, the Herbarium collection has grown from approximately 40,129 specimens in the fall of 1985 to 83,973 specimens today. Of these, Lawrence has personally contributed nearly 7,000, mostly from northern and central California. In addition

to these activities Lawrence also serves as Editor-in-Chief of the "Studies from the Herbarium" and is a long-time Board Member of **Friends of the Biological Sciences Herbarium** (one of the founding board members) where he organizes the workshop program, is editor of this newsletter, and shares his sedge



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expertise through his popular workshop “Introduction to Keying *Carex*.”

The botanical community, the Department of Biological Sciences, and the **Friends of the Biological**

Sciences Herbarium owe much and are deeply grateful to the energy and many contributions of Lawrence Janeway. As a token of appreciation from the **Friends of the Biological Sciences Herbarium** Lawrence was given a large cobalt Amazon vase, etched with sedges by local glass de-

sign artist Kerry Rippon. You can see a photograph of this vase by going to www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/curator/lawrence_janeway.html and clicking on the Distinguished Service Award plaque.

Congratulations Lawrence.



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