



AAWRE Founding Trustee Jerry Rogers Receives ASCE's Highest Honor



Founding AAWRE Trustee and a founding member of the Environmental Water Resources Institute (EWRI), Jerry R. Rogers, Ph.D., P.E., D.WRE, Dist.M.ASCE, a professor at the University of Houston, was recently named a Distinguished Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). Formerly known as honorary membership, distinguished membership is the Society's highest accolade and recognizes those who have achieved eminence in a branch of engineering. Professor Rogers played a vital role in the establishment of EWRI at its beginning and presently, still serves as the Chair of EWRI's History and Heritage Committee. Mr. Rogers also serves as Chair of AAWRE's Promotions committee.

The active roster of ASCE distinguished members is comprised of only 193 of the Society's more than 140,000 members worldwide. Professor Rogers is being honored for his distinguished service to increasing appreciation of the engineering profession, in particular, his leadership in the history and heritage of environmental and water resources. Rogers will be formally inducted on Thursday, November 6, 2008, at ASCE's Annual Civil Engineering Conference in Pittsburgh.

Rogers has served as an associate professor of civil engineering at the University of Houston for more than 35 years and also spent one year at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Prior to his work with the University of Houston and the USACE, Jerry was a visiting industrial professor at Southern Methodist University and an assistant professor of civil engineering at Rutgers University.

Jerry received his bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from the University of Arkansas and his doctorate in water and urban planning from Northwestern University.

A lifetime ASCE member, Rogers served on and chaired more than 200 committees in the areas of engineering history, water resources, flood control, drainage control, environmental issues and engineering education. He was responsible for leading the publication efforts for seven ASCE National Engineering History symposia and has edited seven ASCE publications that provide information for university and K-12 students and faculty on civil engineering history.

AAWRE President, Michael A. Ports, P.E., P.H., D.WRE remarked, “Jerry Rogers is an inspiration to thousands of civil engineers. Through his leadership and service he has benefited the profession in numerous profound ways. In 1979, he hosted the first significant conference dedicated to a systems approach to water resources engineering problems. He helped organize the first Water Forum in 1981. He served on the founding Governing Board of EWRI. He also serves on the founding AAWRE Board of Trustees. Over the years, it has been a distinct honor and privilege to serve the profession with Jerry Rogers.”

During his more than 40-year career in water resources and engineering education, Rogers’ research has focused on storm water management, urban growth planning, drainage engineering, water distribution and water resource systems. His expertise in these areas has assisted the cities of Pearland, Conroe, Houston and others with planning.

Throughout the nearly four decades he has been involved with ASCE, he has served in roles that include Dallas branch board member, Houston branch president, Texas section president and district director. From 1992-95 he served as national board member and as the national vice president on the ASCE Executive Committee from 2001-03. This is in addition to efforts to lead publications for seven ASCE National Engineering History symposiums and the founding of the Environmental and Water Resources Institute.

In addition to his work with AAWRE and EWRI, Rogers is a member of the American Water Resources Association (AWRA), the Engineering, Science and Technology Council of Houston; the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), and Chi Epsilon/Tau Beta Pi. Among his numerous awards, Rogers has received the ASCE Houston Branch’s Award of Honor and Engineer of the Year Award, the ASCE Texas Section’s History and Heritage Award, ASCE’s Wisely Award, AWRA’s Icko Iben Award and Excellence in Civil Engineering Education’s (ExCEED) Leadership Award. Jerry is also active in the Houston Chamber of Commerce, the Regional Water Committee, the Texas Water Policy Committee and his local church.

Jerry is also an avid basketball and baseball fan. He played college basketball at his alma mater, University of Arkansas.

To visit Jerry Rogers’ webpage at University of Houston:
<http://www.egr.uh.edu/cive/faculty/rogers/>

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