2009 Eminent Ecologist Award

Steven Hubbell

Steven Hubbell of the University of California, Los Angeles and the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute will receive this year’s Eminent Ecologist Award, given to a senior ecologist in recognition of an outstanding body of ecological work or sustained ecological contributions of extraordinary merit. Most widely known for his neutral theory of biodiversity and biogeography, Hubbell’s wide-ranging research career has investigated tropical biodiversity, sexual selection, and resource competition through the lens of theoretical ecology. He has written three books and more than 160 scientific papers, and his work has received more than 60 National Science Foundation grants. In 1990 he founded the National Council for Science and the Environment, a nonprofit organization intended to improve the scientific rigor of environmental decision-making, which now has 10,000 members.