



Five Honored with CSICOP Awards

While it is true that one of CSICOP's primary roles is to provide critical examinations of paranormal and fringe-science research and reports, it may be less well known that CSICOP understands the importance of recognizing and honoring exceptional individuals and their efforts to educate and contribute to the public's understanding of science and the scientific method. At its 1994 Conference in Seattle, June 23-26, CSICOP presented awards to the following people:

Carl Sagan: The Isaac Asimov Award. This award was newly established to acknowledge our gratitude to Isaac Asimov for his extraordinary contributions to science and humanity. The award is in recognition of an individual who throughout his or her life has shown outstanding commitment and ability in communicating the achievements, methods, and issues of science to the public. When told that the award would be presented to Carl Sagan, Janet Asimov said, "There is no one better qualified for the CSICOP Isaac Asimov Award than his good friend and colleague Carl Sagan. Isaac was particularly fond of Carl. He was also in awe of Carl's genius, and proud that he was so adept at communicating science to the public through speaking, writing, and the

visual media. Thank you again for remembering my beloved husband in this way."

Elizabeth Loftus: In Praise of Reason Award. Loftus is professor of psychology at the University of Washington and a leading researcher in the field of human memory and eyewitness testimony. She was presented the award in recognition of her distinguished contribution to the use of critical inquiry, scientific evidence, and reason in evaluating claims to knowledge.

Previous winners of this award are: Martin Gardner (1982), Sidney Hook (1984), Antony Flew (1985), Stephen Jay Gould (1986), Carl Sagan (1987), Douglas Hofstadter (1988), Cornelis de Jager (1990), Gerard Piel (1990), Donald Johanson (1991), and Richard Dawkins (1992).

John Maddox: Public Education in Science Award. Maddox is the editor of *Nature*, perhaps the world's most respected science magazine. He was presented this award in recognition of his distinguished contributions to the public's understanding of science and scientific principles.

Previous winners of the Public Education in Science Award are: Richard Berendzen (1990), Eugenie Scott (1991), and Sergei Kapitza (1992).

Philip J. Klass: Distinguished Skeptic Award. Klass is former senior editor of *Aviation Week and Space Technology*. He was presented this award in recognition of his unparalleled contributions to scientific and critical thinking in evaluating claims of extraterrestrial visitations.

Previous winners of the Distinguished Skeptic Award are: Henri Broch (1990), Susan Blackmore (1991), and Evry Schatzman (1992).

Jack Smith: Responsibility in Journalism Award. Smith is a columnist with the *Los Angeles Times*. He was presented this award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to fair and balanced reporting of paranormal claims.

Previous winners of the Responsibility in Journalism Award are:

Davyd Yost (1984), Leon Jaroff (1984), Boyce Rensberger (1986), Ward Lucas (1986), Ed Busch (1987), Michael Willesee (1987), Lee Dembart (1987), Eugene Emery (1988), Milton Rosenberg (1988), Stephen Doig (1990), Keay Davidson (1991), Mark Curtis (1991), Andrew Skolnick (1992), and Henry Gordon (1992).

In past years CSICOP has given a "Frontiers of Science and Technology Award." Past winners of this award are: Paul MacCready (1986) and Murray Gell-Mann (1987).

—Barry Karr
CSICOP Executive Director

More news from the 1994 CSICOP Conference will appear in our next issue.
—EDITOR

□ *Frantzes Pledge \$250,000, Name Skeptics' Library*

CSICOP's library in the new Center for Inquiry, Phase Two, will be named by two major contributors to our capital fund drive. Drs. John A. and Mary H. Frantz, of Monroe, Wisconsin, have been among the leading individual supporters of CSICOP's "Price of Reason" capital fund campaign. While attending the May 21 Center for Inquiry ground-breaking, the Frantzes made a new pledge, which brought their total support of the

capital campaign to the \$250,000 level. That level of giving entitled them to choose from a number of significant recognition opportunities. They have chosen to name the Center for Inquiry's Library of Skepticism and the Paranormal. The exact name of the library will soon be announced.

Recognitions are still available for naming the Phase II building (gift of \$1,000,000) and the Computer Center (gift of \$250,000), among other opportunities. □