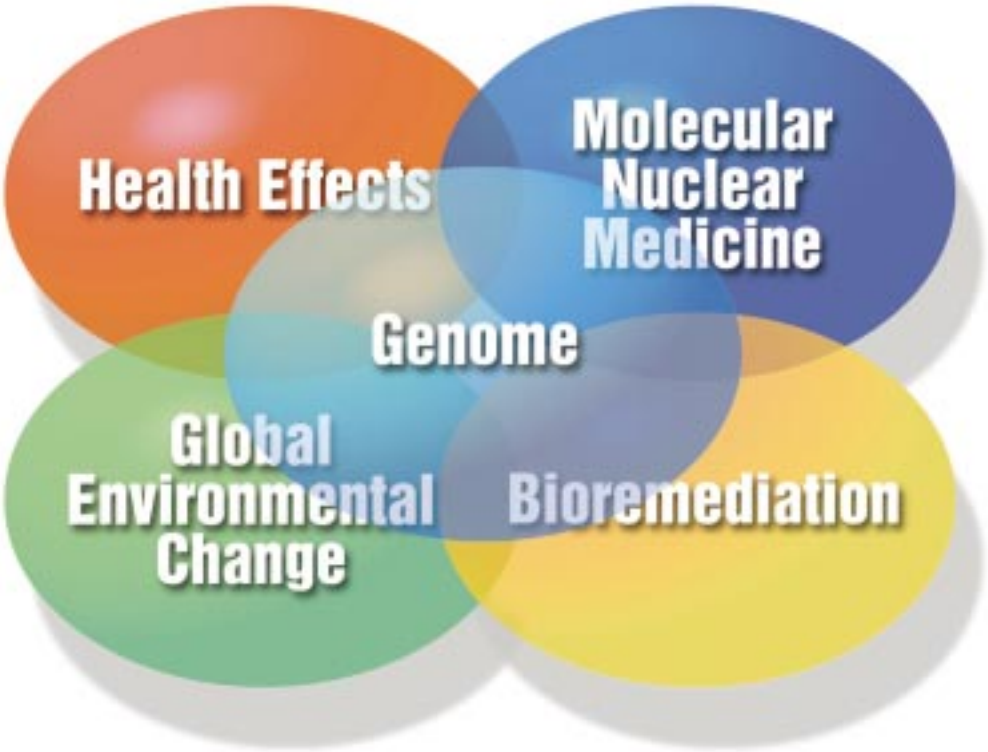
EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARDS

Presented at the
BER 50th Anniversary Symposium

May 21–22, 1997



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Introduction

At a symposium held May 21–22, 1997, at the National Academy of Sciences, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Biological and Environmental Research (OBER) celebrated the legacy and promise of 50 years of achievements. On the last day of the symposium, 13 individuals were presented with Exceptional Service Awards as exemplars of the quality of effort and diversity of issues, disciplines, and institutional sectors encompassed by OBER's Biological and Environmental Research (BER) program. The awardees and their achievements are honored in this booklet.

Each award recipient is necessarily a surrogate for many others who deserve recognition for their imaginative, compelling, and productive work and for the rich promise their efforts foreshadow.

Key to the BER program's success has been its multidisciplinary, comprehensive approach to achieving a more fundamental understanding of life processes and environments and to exploiting the boundless promise of these discoveries for the public benefit. DOE and its predecessor agencies, acting on mandates set out by Congress in the Atomic Energy Act of 1946, have pursued biological and environmental research with an unwavering commitment to understanding the health and environmental consequences of energy technologies and their by-products.

Early pioneers of this research hardly could have predicted its course over the years. Studies on the effects of radioactive fallout have evolved into today's global climate change research. Explorations of human metabolism using radiotracers have led to high-resolution imaging devices and the exciting new field of molecular nuclear medicine, and questions raised by early epidemiological radiation studies gave rise to the Human Genome Project.

The future, as usual, promises unknown challenges—and unexpected opportunities. At the doorstep to the 21st century, the BER program is poised to continue its tradition of scientific advancement.

Exceptional Service Awardees

May 1997

Recipients of the Exceptional Service Awards presented by the Office of Biological and Environmental Research, U.S. Department of Energy, are pictured at the BER 50th anniversary symposium in May 1997. Seated, from left, are Edwin Westbrook, Mina Bissell, Michael Knotek, Betty Mansfield, Claire Fraser accepting for J. Craig Venter, Tuan Vo-Dinh, and Warren Washington. Standing, from left, are Michael Huston, Joe Gray, Charles DeLisi, presenter Ari Patrinos (Associate Director, DOE OBER), James Edmonds, Joanna Fowler, and W. Lawrence Gates.