

# Emeritus Award for Research and Scholarship 2018

**Dr. John Morse, Professor Emeritus of Entomology**



L to R: Dan Warner, EC Acting Director, Hoke Hill, EC Chair, Dr. Morse  
Back Row: Debbie Jackson, Chair EC Awards Committee

This award was established by the Emeritus College Advisory Board to recognize emeritus faculty members who continue to produce extraordinary research and scholarship, either in their discipline or in a new field. The award is presented in even-numbered years.

Dr. Morse's nomination letter divided his research and scholarship into two categories: his pre-retirement research and scholarship (1975-2008) and his post-retirement research and scholarship (2008-present).

The Professor Emeritus Morse authored 135 research publications in **pre-retirement (4.1/yr.)** and 47 in **post-retirement (4.7/ yr.)**. He was the major advisor of 30 graduate students (**0.9/ yr.) in pre-retirement** (18 M.S., 12 Ph.D.) and has been the "co-advisor" of

12 graduate students **(1.2 / yr.) in post-retirement** (9 M.S., 3 Ph.D. and a Ph.D. candidate currently).

Research proposals funded since 1980 total 2 million + dollars with **~\$72 k/yr. in pre-retirement** from 70 sources and \$532,000 **(53.2 k/yr. in post-retirement)** from 9 sources.

From 1978-2008, he gave 144 invited papers, seminars, colloquia, or workshops **(4.8/yr. in pre-retirement)**. Since his retirement in 2008, he has given 33 such presentations **(3.3/yr. in post-retirement)** including 18 in the U.S. and 15 internationally: China (7), Thailand (3), Iraq (1), Mongolia (1), Russia (2), and Singapore (1). Internationally, he has collaborated with scientists and students, providing lectures and workshops that facilitated research programs enabling biomonitoring.

He taught 10 courses (100 times) **3.0/yr. in pre-retirement**. Since retirement, he has taught 4 regular courses (22 times) and 13 creative inquiry courses **(3.5/ yr. in post-retirement)**.

**As a Professor Emeritus**, he has served as an editor of a professional journal and reviewed/edited 238 manuscripts and was a co-editor of two international symposia wherein he reviewed/edited 86 manuscripts.

All **post-retirement** activities have been unpaid and voluntary.

Other continuing activities that bear mentioning include: teaching a two-week course (twice each summer) on aquatic insects at the Highlands Biological Station (NC) and he has taught a Sunday School Class at Pendleton First Baptist for 30 years.

This professor emeritus has been as productive **in post-retirement** as **in pre-retirement** based on the data comparisons of research and scholarship indicators sited in his nomination letter. This arc of sustained productivity implies that he has clearly found his passion in his professional calling. He has not slowed down to this day despite two bouts of cancer in recent years. And as his nominator states: "He possesses a keen intellect, a

strong work ethic, a giving spirit and has the support of a very loving and encouraging wife.”

Dr. Morse’s accomplishments have been recognized throughout his outstanding career—since his retirement he has been recognized with the

- 2015 Distinguished Service Award, Society of Freshwater Science
- 2015 Distinguished Research Leadership Award, SC Governor’s School (mentor for 16 high school students);
- 2017 Alumni Distinguished Service Award, College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences.

In Dr. Morse’s 43-year faculty career, he has been instrumental in establishing the use of aquatic insects as bio-monitors that indicate the health of freshwater ecosystems. He’s the world’s most respected specialist in the systematics of caddis flies and is pursued for collaborations worldwide by researchers and students.

In 2008, Dr. Morse and his wife, Suzanne, established the *John C. and Suzanne E. Morse Endowed Chair in Arthropod Diversity*. This gift ensured two realities: that arthropod diversity and systematics would continue in perpetuity at Clemson; and the large arthropod collection/museum on campus that Dr. Morse established would remain.