

Distinguished Achievement Citation

Neven S. Scrimshaw

Class of 1938

He has won worldwide recognition for his role in defining global protein-energy needs and for his support of research to meet those needs, such as attempts to develop new food supplements from non-traditional sources.

A recipient of a B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan in 1938, he has also received degrees in biology, physiology and related fields from Harvard University and the University of Rochester.

Dr. Scrimshaw currently serves as director of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's International Nutrition Program. He has been designated Institute Professor of MIT in recognition of his leadership and scholarly accomplishments.

Traveling the globe to assess and solve the nutritional dilemmas of the world's hungry, Dr. Scrimshaw has led investigative governmental committees into the refugee camps of Bangladesh and economically depressed areas of South America, Africa, Asia and the Far East. He also has served as advisor to several international agencies such as the United Nations and the World Health Organization. During his twelve-year stint as Director of the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama, he helped develop supplemental nutrition formulas for infant, child, and emergency feeding.

The author of more than 450 scientific papers and eight books, Dr. Scrimshaw has received an array of international awards. These include an honorary degree, Doctor of Public Service, from Ohio Wesleyan in 1961, honorary degrees from universities in Japan and Bangkok, a Medal of Honor from a Spanish foundation and honors from several American institutions, including the American Medical Association.

In researching the world food crisis, Dr. Scrimshaw has gone beyond compiling statistics and deploring inequities in the global distribution of food resources. He has pursued actively the development of alternate food sources and helped implement their distribution to the benefit of hungry men, women and children the world over.

