



BISHOP MUSEUM

Dieter Mueller-Dombois, PH. D.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, Dieter Mueller-Dombois, Ph.D. exemplifies the accomplishments, leadership, and vision that is inherent in the criteria for the Herbert E. Gregory Medal (the “Medal”); and

Whereas, in 43 years of study, learning, and teaching at the University of Hawaii, and in collaboration with a number of colleagues, Dr. Mueller-Dombois’ studies of the vegetational ecology of the Pacific Islands resulted in over 200 published articles and books on basic and applied Pacific science; and

Whereas, among these are four major synthesis books and textbooks including entitled “Aims and Methods of Vegetation Ecology” (1974) co-authored with Heinz Ellenberg, “Island Ecosystems: Biological Organization in Selected Hawaiian Communities” (1981) with K.W. Bridges, and H. L. Carson, “Vegetation of the Tropical Pacific Islands” (1998) with F.R. Fosberg; “[PABITRA Methods Book](#): Biodiversity Assessment of Tropical Island Ecosystems” (published online in 2005) with K.W. Bridges and C. Daehler, and “Hawaii, the Fires of Life: Five Decades of Vegetation Development in Volcanoland” (2007); and

Whereas, these books are seminal scholarly works of high quality and confirmed as such by his peers in botany and colleagues in other disciplines; and

Whereas, Dr. Mueller-Dombois received his Ph.D. in Forest Ecology from the University of British Columbia in 1960, and was awarded an Honorable Doctor’s Degree in Engineering (Dr. h.c.) from Brandenburg Technical University, Cottbus, Germany in 2004; and

Whereas, Dr. Mueller-Dombois established the Pacific-Asia Biodiversity Transect Network (PABITRA), a collaborative program established under the auspices of the Pacific Science Association for investigating the function of biodiversity and the health of ecosystems in the tropical Pacific Islands; and

Whereas, PABITRA has generated a wealth of new data on biodiversity in the region, provided a critical venue for training local scientists and building the scientific capacity in the countries of the participating sites, and provided significant support for conservation and sustainability efforts; and



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Whereas, Dr. Mueller-Dombois is dedicated to mentoring new generations of scientists, having supervised eighteen Ph.D. and seventeen Masters students since his academic tenure began; and

Whereas, Dr. Mueller-Dombois has, over many decades, provided a level of leadership and commitment to the goals and objectives of the Pacific Science Association that is second to none; and

Whereas, Michael T. Chinaka, the Interim President of the Museum, received and reviewed all nominations for the Medal and recommended to the Executive Committee that Dieter Mueller-Dombois, Ph.D., be conferred the Medal; and

Whereas, at its meeting on January 25, 2007, the Executive Committee unanimously voted to recommend Dr. Mueller-Dombois to be conferred the Medal; and

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Bishop Museum, at its meeting on January 25, 2007, confers the *Herbert E. Gregory Medal* on **Dieter Mueller-Dombois, Ph.D.** in recognition of his exceptional contribution to science and our understanding of Hawai'i and the Pacific. All actions heretofore taken by the directors and officers of the Museum in furtherance of the foregoing resolution is hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

Adopted: January 25, 2007

Watters O. Martin Jr. Secretary
Board of Directors
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