

## The 16th Heinz Awards



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### **Leading Ocean Scientist Receives Prestigious Heinz Award Richard Feely's research identifies ocean acidity as global warming's "evil twin."**

PITTSBURGH, September 21, 2010 – Teresa Heinz and the Heinz Family Foundation today announced Richard Feely, Ph.D., a renowned scientist, as a recipient of a Heinz Award. Dr. Feely is being acknowledged for his contributions to the debate on the greenhouse effect and its effects on the world's oceans. He currently lives in Seattle, Washington.

Logging more than 1,000 days at sea on over 50 scientific expeditions, Dr. Feely, a senior research scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Pacific Marine Laboratory, has played a leading role in examining the acidification of oceans and shifting public policy to address this growing issue.

The Heinz Awards, in their 16<sup>th</sup> year, honor Dr. Feely and nine other environmental innovators. Dr. Feely has conducted groundbreaking studies on altering ocean chemistry and its impact on marine ecosystems. He has shined a spotlight on these issues, arguing that with the continuation of uncontrolled greenhouse gas emissions, the acidity of the world's oceans will double by the end of the century and represent a major challenge to the health of the ocean's food web.

"Ignoring the acidification of our oceans could lead to potentially catastrophic consequences to our marine fisheries and related economies. Among other damages, it could lead to increased global warming and adverse effects on marine life," said Dr. Feely.

The Heinz Awards annually honor the late U.S. Senator John Heinz's long-standing commitment to the environment. This year's awards, totaling \$1 million, recognize individuals who are addressing global change caused by the impact of human activities and natural processes on the environment.

Throughout his career, Dr. Feely has promoted improvements in public policy to protect our oceans. His research documenting the pace and extent of acidification have brought this issue worldwide attention and forced recognition of the fact that policy measures that only address global warming will fail to fully confront global change.

"Dr. Feely's seminal research is sounding the alarm that our oceans are becoming increasingly and dangerously acidic. His contribution to understanding the chemical imbalance of the oceans will have enormous impact on our environment," Teresa Heinz, chairman of the Heinz Family Foundation, said today.

He has led pioneering NOAA expeditions that discovered corrosive waters in the Pacific Ocean at acidic levels far exceeding climate change models. Dr. Feely's expertise is often called upon at conferences, Congressional hearings and by the media.

In addition to Dr. Feely, the 16<sup>th</sup> Heinz Awards are honoring the following individuals:

- **James Balog**, Extreme Ice Survey (Boulder, Colo.) *For his dramatic use of photography to document the devastation of global warming*
- **Terrence Collins, Ph.D.**, Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh, Pa.) *For using “green chemistry” to detoxify hazardous chemicals and training the next generation of scientists*
- **Gretchen Daily, Ph.D.**, Stanford University and the Natural Capital Project (Stanford, Calif.) *For her achievements demonstrating the financial value of natural ecosystems*
- **Cary Fowler, Ph.D.**, Global Crop Diversity Trust (Rome, Italy) *For establishing the Global Seed Vault to conserve genetic diversity of the world’s food plants despite climate change*
- **Lynn Goldman, M.D.**, George Washington University (Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, Md.) *For promoting regulation of dangerous chemicals and expanding citizens’ right to know about pollution in their communities*
- **Elizabeth Kolbert**, *The New Yorker*, (Williamstown, Mass.) *For her groundbreaking environmental journalism and devotion to informing readers*
- **Michael Oppenheimer, Ph.D.**, Princeton University (Princeton, N.J. and New York, N.Y.) *For assessing the impacts of global warming and air pollution, and working for policies to prevent future harm*
- **Daniel Sperling, Ph.D.**, University of California, Davis (Davis, Calif.) *For advancing sustainable transportation policies and accelerating the transition to low-carbon alternative fuels nationwide*
- **Frederick vom Saal, Ph.D.**, University of Missouri (Columbia, Mo.) *For uncovering health problems linked to the chemical BPA*

### **About the Heinz Awards**

The Heinz Family Foundation, one of the Heinz Family Philanthropies, began as a charitable trust established by the late U.S. Senator John Heinz. His widow, Teresa Heinz, established the Heinz Awards in 1993 to honor and sustain the legacy of her late husband.

Nominations for the Heinz Awards are submitted by invited experts, who serve anonymously. Award recipients are selected by the board of directors for the Heinz Awards upon recommendation by a blue-ribbon panel of jurors.

In addition to the \$100,000 award for their unrestricted use, recipients are presented with a medallion inscribed with the image of Senator Heinz on one side and a rendering of a globe passing between two hands on the other.

The Heinz Awards will be presented at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. on November 15.

For more information about the Heinz Awards, Heinz Family Foundation or the recipients, visit [www.heinzawards.net](http://www.heinzawards.net).