



**Werner Wieland, Ph.D.**

Werner Wieland, Professor of Biological Sciences at University of Mary Washington, has been elected a Fellow of Virginia Academy of Science by VAS Council at its March 2013 meeting.

A 1973 graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University, Wieland received the Master of Science degree in biology from VCU in 1976, where he was a faculty research assistant and adjunct faculty member. He worked as a Biological Technician, USFWS, Alabama Fisheries Research Unit, in Auburn, Alabama, in 1977-1978, and earned his doctorate in zoology from Auburn University in 1983, where he was President of Auburn University Student Chapter, American Fisheries Society.

The focus of Dr. Wieland's research is fish stocks and their ecosystems in Virginia tributaries, the Tennessee River, and the Gulf of Mexico. The American Fisheries Society designated him a Certified Fisheries Scientist in 1985 and a Certified Fisheries Professional in 2001 and 2007. He has worked as a Technical Consultant for a variety of clients, including the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

He is a member of Sigma Xi, the American Fisheries Society, the Southeastern Fishes Council, the Association of Southeastern Biologists, and the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. He has served on various committees in these organizations including a term as President of the Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society in 1996. He has also served as a panelist for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program.

As Professor of Biological Sciences at Mary Washington, Dr. Wieland has mentored numerous students engaged in undergraduate research, and some of his students have presented at the Annual Meeting of VAS. He was Chair of his department from 2002-2011 and honored with a Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2001 and Mary Washington's Mary Pinschmidt Award in 2000.

He has been an active member of VAS since 1984 and has held a variety of leadership positions in the Academy. Initially, Werner was a member of the Biology Section and held every office within the section. He was an advocate for the formation of the Natural History and Biodiversity Section, started in 1994; he has held every office in this section and, on a number of occasions, held two positions simultaneously.

In May 2005, Werner was elected VAS Vice-President and served as Program Chair for the 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in 2006. He was President of the Academy in 2007-2008. He has served as Editor of the *Virginia Journal of Science* since 2002 and currently is a member of the Long Range Planning Committee and the Publications Committee.

Dr. Wieland explains, "My first experience giving a presentation at a professional meeting was at the VAS Annual Meeting in 1972, held at Lexington (VMI). Upon returning to Virginia I renewed my membership in VAS and have since encouraged all my students to present their research at the annual meeting as a first step toward pursuing a career in the biological sciences. The annual meeting provided an excellent first experience for me. The Academy brings together colleagues from throughout the Commonwealth and through the Virginia Journal of Science provides an excellent periodical for the dissemination of their scholarly endeavors."

In recognition to his many contributions within biology, his mentoring of countless students, and his long-time service to VAS, the Academy is pleased to name him a Fellow.