

Walter S. Mangold Award

History and Nominating Process



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History

Walter S. Mangold was born in 1895. He attended The Ohio State University for three years prior to World War I and then served in the United States Army. In 1921, he was hired as a sanitarian by the Los Angeles County Health Department. At that time, the health and sanitary inspectors were political appointees with very little education and highly inconsistent, unsupervised practical experience. They handled complaints, outbreaks of disease, and enforced the health and sanitary rules and regulations of the governmental entity. Mangold recognized that these individuals needed to be taught modern techniques of sanitary science in class and standardized practices in the field under direct supervision of highly-experienced individuals, and had to be tested to determine their competency. Mangold impressed his superiors with his knowledge of modern scientific sanitary practices, his practical field experience, his ability to communicate, and his teaching ability. In 1930, the Los Angeles County Health Department promoted Mangold to the position of Sanitary Instructor. He developed and taught a series of training courses, each lasting three months, which included lectures and appropriate field experiences. He utilized the basic sciences and advancements in the sanitary sciences including new methods of detection, diagnosis, and control of communicable diseases.

Mangold proceeded to help found the California Association of Sanitarians in 1930 and the National Association of Sanitarians (now NEHA) in 1937. He worked diligently to create a registration program for sanitarians. In the April 1935 issue of the *American Journal of Public Health*, Walter Mangold submitted the following plan to the public health leaders and educators of the United States:

1. The American Public Health Association shall establish a Board for Certification of Sanitary Inspectors with a full-time executive secretary. Such a board shall promulgate rules and procedures for certification, standards, and fees.
2. The Board shall appoint State Boards of Examiners to conduct examinations and certify applicants to the Association.
3. The Board shall set up a standard course of instruction for schools to teach. After two years, only those who have taken such a course will be eligible for examination (and certification).
4. The U.S. Public Health Service and Rockefeller Foundation should be encouraged to cooperate with this plan in those counties where grants are given for public health work.

Mangold took the next step necessary to turn a successful, innovative program at a local and/or state level into a national effort by utilizing the knowledge and power of the American Public Health Association, the U.S. Public Health Service, and the Rockefeller Foundation to promote the professionalization of the sanitarian and the improvement of public health in the United States.

Meanwhile, he continued his own professional development by graduating in 1935 with a Bachelor of Science degree in public administration from the University of Southern California. In 1939, he was appointed Lecturer and Campus Sanitarian at the University of California, Berkeley. Because of his far-sighted leadership as a faculty member, he rose through the academic ranks to the position of Professor of public health and became a member of the graduate faculty for sanitary science. Since he was the Campus Sanitarian, Mangold was constantly solving real-life practical problems and developing programs that worked for the new field of college and university sanitation. In 1944, he became the Chief Sanitarian for all of the campuses of the University of California system while still a full Professor of public health.

Even though Mangold was a brilliant academician, he was always the practitioner. He continued to professionalize the sanitarian through many efforts at the local, state, and national level. He was the first Editor of the journal *Sanitarian*, now known as the *Journal of Environmental Health*. He served in this capacity from 1938 to 1944, and then was Chairman and a member of the Board of Examiners from 1937 to 1957. After World War II, Mangold worked towards the development of a bachelor's degree program in sanitation, which later became a bachelor's degree in environmental health, to help further professionalize the environmental health field.

Mangold's many contributions to the environmental health field and his influence on the countless individuals that he mentored are too numerous to list. He always started with the premise that a problem could be resolved if a group of individuals worked together, used modern scientific theory, tested the potential solutions, and then revised the program as needed. He then advised people at the national level on how to utilize the program, with modifications, throughout the country. His two-pronged goal was to improve sanitary practice and professionalize sanitarians.

Walter S. Mangold, who died in 1978, was a person of great courage, foresight, confidence, and character. He recognized that physical possessions were insignificant compared to what a person can achieve by helping others live a better life through control of disease and injury and promotion of good health.

Reflections of prior Mangold Award Winners

- *Mangold will live forever because his name is as honey on the tongues of humanity and his life will always be an example to all of us of how we should live our own lives.*
- *The award honoree will treasure the nominations document as much as, or more than, the award itself.*
- *The (nominating) document serves as a guide for other individuals on how to live a wonderful professional and personal life.*

Criteria for Nomination

Overview

The Walter S. Mangold Award, which was established in 1955, was first awarded to Walter Mangold in 1956 for his lifetime dedication to upgrading the professional education and performance of sanitarians; to raising the standards of the environmental health practitioner, and professionalizing the individual, throughout the country; and for innovating his many brilliant programs that helped shape the environmental health profession throughout the world. Now, more than fifty-five years later, the Mangold Award continues to recognize individuals for outstanding contributions to the advancement of the environmental health professional. These contributions include, but are not limited to, promoting the art and science of environmental health through the development of innovative programming, which can be used to resolve environmental health problems in a multitude of areas, including at the national level; acting as a mentor and role model for peers and others; preventing disease and injury and promoting good health in communities, utilizing the highest standards of modern environmental health practices; and continually urging others to improve by use of all forms of modern communication. When we honor those who exemplify the highest quality and service to human kind in environmental health, we also recognize the many in the profession who labor daily without recognition, which is the nature of the environmental health professional's work.

A. Eligibility

To be eligible for consideration for the Walter S. Mangold Award, a nominee must:

1. be an active contributing member, in good standing, of the National Environmental Health Association for a minimum of ten years;
2. have been actively engaged in the field of environmental health for a minimum of ten years;
3. have performed professional duties in the field of environmental health well beyond the usual employment requirements (outstanding level) so as to elevate the professional status of the environmental health professional, while preventing disease and injury and promoting good health for individuals and the community;
4. possess a current R.S. (or equivalent) registration, earned either through the nominee's state or through NEHA; it is suggested that a baccalaureate degree be the minimum requirement for the Mangold award unless there are specific circumstances;
5. exemplify the characteristics and principles for which Walter S. Mangold stood; and
6. not be an incumbent national officer of the association (e.g., President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, or Immediate Past President).

B. Nomination Process

Candidates being considered for the Walter S. Mangold Award may be nominated in one of two ways:

1. By the local affiliate of which he/she is a member, with each affiliate limited to one candidate, or
2. By any five NEHA members who may or may not belong to an affiliate.

Note: If a nominee has not been successful in earning the Walter S. Mangold Award, an affiliate is encouraged to re-nominate the individual if he/she possesses the aforementioned quality credentials.

C. Evaluation

According to Article IV, Section I of the NEHA Bylaws, the selection process is handled by the Walter S. Mangold Award Committee, which consists of the prior five recipients of the award. The senior recipient serves as the committee chairperson, who directs and coordinates the evaluation process using a rating sheet – a sample of which is enclosed in Appendix A. In case of resignation or inability to serve, the replacement shall be the sixth, seventh, etc. person, until one is willing and able to serve.

D. Award Presentation

The Mangold Award is presented during the Awards Ceremony at the National Environmental Health Association's Annual Education Conference & Exhibition.

E. Submission of Nomination

Nominations must be received by March 31 or specified date at via email to hfolker@neha.org. All nominations must be submitted electronically.

Nomination Document

Introduction

Those who prepare a document in support of a nomination should keep in mind the following factors:

- a) The committee, when making the decision as to who will become the Walter S. Mangold honoree, is limited to the contents of the written presentation and supporting written documentation as its sole source of information that will be measured against the established criteria. **(Strictly enforced)** Personal knowledge of a nominee by an evaluator or the candidate's popularity is not considered by the committee when making decisions about the viability of the presentation for the nominee.
- b) It takes a carefully prepared and complete document to effectively record in depth the contributions of the nominee to the improvement and expansion of the environmental health science field and the growth and development of the working professional at the local, state, national and/or international level.
- c) The committee seeks to recognize those who go beyond local or regional limits to contribute on a national or international level to advancing the profession of environmental health. Committee members are looking for direct effects and documented results that occurred beyond local or state boundaries.
- d) The judges, all former Mangold winners, look for high quality of work performed including information on how the nominee's exceptional performance is shared with others and affects those around him/her, and how he/she has contributed in outstanding ways to improve the environmental health practice.
- e) The length of the biographical narrative portion of the nomination should not exceed 25 pages, since weight and volume by itself is not necessarily persuasive. However, the supporting documents, found in the appendices, can be considerably more in number. Each portion of the biographical narrative should reflect the high points of the supporting documents.
- f) Affiliates and nominating individuals are urged to focus on those activities and accomplishments in the nominee's career that are most salient and best exhibit his/her contributions to the environmental health profession in developing new programs and the acceptance of the programs by the individual's peers in other venues. Particular attention should be given to the work of the individual as a mentor to others to help them in their professional growth. The emphasis must be on quality rather than quantity of contributions to the profession; however, a large quantity of quality work is to be commended.
- g) The nominee will be judged separately by each of the five members of the committee utilizing the enclosed rating sheet. (See Appendix A of this document.)
- h) Start your search for a nominee and the necessary documentation early in the year prior to the nominating year.

Substance of Nominating Document

The following format is to be used for submission of nominations:

General

- a) Cover page
- b) Letter from the affiliate president making the formal nomination. When the nomination is made by five individual NEHA members instead of an affiliate, the nomination letter may come from any one member.
- c) Photograph of the nominee (optional but preferred)
- d) Table of contents (with pagination)
- e) Use specific appendices to include supporting documents for a specific content area; the appendix is noted after the description of the specific content area.

Content

a. General Biographical Sketch of Nominee's Life:

- The general biographical sketch of the nominee's life gives the reader a total picture of the character of the individual from childhood through maturity.

b. Details of Nominee's Professionalism:

- Professionalism is defined as the scope and significance of contributions to the professional status of the Sanitarian.
 - What was done to enhance the working practitioner and how was it carried out and evaluated to determine if it was successful?
 - Was the program then made available to other entities for implementation to strengthen the environmental health practitioner?
 - What type of mentoring of individuals occurred and what were the results?
 - Written documentation is absolutely essential.

c. Individual Achievements:

- Individual achievements are defined as the special activities, accomplishments, or work above and beyond usual employment requirements. Usually the nominee will have received multiple outstanding ratings from his/her employer(s) and there will be substantiating documentation for the outstanding rating.
- The achievements can be the development of an innovative, specific, complex, and/or long- running program to resolve a serious environmental health hazard or it can be a series of innovative programs addressing a variety of specific hazards.
- The program(s) will either be utilized at the national level or can have a ripple effect and start on a local or state level and lead to changes at the national level. There should be a definitive change in environmental practice, if not environmental policy, at the national level over time.

d. Contributions to the Betterment of Environmental Health Sciences:

- Contributions to the betterment of environmental health sciences include publications, research, new or improved concepts, procedures, or technology in the practice of environmental health. These may include:
 - publications authored or co-authored by the candidate;
 - significant scientific or applied research;
 - accomplishments in the development and implementation of new, broader, or improved concepts, procedures, or techniques in the practice of environmental health; and/or
 - training of new professionals.

e. Active Involvement and Contributions to NEHA and Affiliate Association Activities:

- Active involvement and contributions to NEHA and affiliate association activities includes specific details of offices held, committee responsibilities, and how the work performed contributed to the professionalization of the sanitarian and the enhancement of the knowledge and practice of environmental health. Documentation must be provided on the accomplishments that have occurred.

f. Other Public Health Activities:

- Other public health activities refers to membership and activities in other public health, environmental health, and related organizations that help contribute to the prevention of disease and injury and the promotion of good health for individuals and communities. This description should include details concerning offices held, committee responsibilities, and how the work performed contributed to the well-being of all. Documentation must be provided on the accomplishments that have occurred.

g. Employment History:

- The individual during the course of his/her working career must have served in a broad range of capacities in environmental health, including field, supervisory, and management levels. In this section, enunciate the high points of the employment career.

h. Education:

- The category of education is a chronological listing of formal education as well as special training courses and special supervised experience

i. References:

- There should be a very brief summary of the high points of the reference letters. There should be recommendations from recognized persons in the field of public health, environmental health, and/or community affairs. These personal and professional references should be limited to ten people or groups.
- There should be at least three (3) letters from nationally recognized leaders in the field. These references are in addition to any letters of commendation that may have been sent to the individual over a lifetime of work validating the individual's successful programs and have been previously placed, in a chronological manner, into an appendix of a specific category, in this outline.

j. Miscellaneous:

- The category of miscellaneous refers to the other parts of the individual's life that helps give you a picture of the total person. It may include professional items such as working with other health groups or helping to edit professional work. It may also include participation in civic organizations, religious groups, good press relationships, special research outside of the environmental health science field, etc.

The nomination documents must be received by NEHA no later than **specified deadline**.

Appendix – Rating Sheet

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| Walter S. Mangold Award – Rating Sheet |
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Applicant _____

Affiliate _____

Committee Member _____

Date _____

| Criteria | Maximum Points | Points Awarded |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| 0. Letter of submittal - Photo and other information | n/a | n/a |
| 1. Professionalism - Scope and significance of contributions to the professional status of the Sanitarian. | 25 | |
| 2. Individual Achievements - Special activities, accomplishments or work above and beyond usual employment requirements. | 15 | |
| 3. Contributions to the betterment of environmental health sciences - Publications, research, new or improved concepts, procedures or technology in the practice of environmental health. | 15 | |
| 4. Active involvement and contributions in NEHA and State Association Activities - Offices held, committee assignments, etc. | 10 | |
| 5. Other Public Health Activities - Membership and activities in other Public Health or related organizations. | 10 | |
| 6. Employment History - Positions held, level of duties, broadness of experience, etc. | 5 | |
| 7. Education - Degrees obtained and special courses of training completed. | 5 | |
| 8. References - Recommendations from recognized persons in the field of Public Health, environment or community. | 10 | |
| 9. Miscellaneous - Other items which help evaluate the candidate such as editorship or association with a public health or related publication, participation in civic organizations and church groups, evidence of good press relationship, special research etc. | 5 | |
| TOTALS | 100 | 0 |