the Select Agent Program, the founding of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity, and the Formation of the National Strategic Stockpile, which maintains quantities of medicine and medical supplies to protect the American public in the event of a public health emergency (bioterrorism or otherwise), as well as expansive debates on recombinant DNA research and its potential national security implications.

Watching this evolution, I’m faced with the same challenge I was faced with at the beginning, when I set out on this career path in the wake of the landmark events of fall 2001—how do we maintain the right balance between science and security without letting our guard down? Many of the decisions and initiatives central to the Ron Atlas Collection remain under debate today, their futures clouded in growing uncertainty. The “anthrax letters” are 13 years old now—are we the victims of alarmist mentors, or have we simply become wavering protégés, less convinced that so-called low-probability-high-impact threats deserve our dollars in today’s increasingly austere fiscal environment? I know my answer... what’s yours?

The Ron Atlas Collection will be processed and made available to researchers in the coming months. When the finding aid is completed and the collection is open, a notice will be included on the CHOMA homepage, http://www.asm.org/index.php/choma3.

CHOMA’s collections include records of the Society from its founding in 1899 to the present, including journals and proceedings of meetings; 9,000 volumes on microbiology and related topics; photographs of scientists and microbes; topical files on various aspects of microbiology, including bibliographical materials; instructional materials, including slides and motion pictures; and several collections of personal papers.

Richard Pilch
Raytheon Intelligence, Information and Services
Dulles, Va.

Jeff Karr
ASM Archives

Obituaries

Edwin E. Geldreich

Edwin E. Geldreich, Jr., a long time member of ASM and a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology, died at age 92 on 7 October 2014. A native Cincinnatian, he received both his undergraduate and masters’ degrees in biological sciences from the University of Cincinnati. He served in the U.S. Army in the European campaign during the Second World War. Initially hired by the noted bacteriologist C. T. Butterfield, his entire professional career was spent with various federal agencies working on water-related programs. He was a charter employee of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), where he served as both Chief Microbiologist and Senior Advisor for drinking water research activities.

He was the author of numerous peer-reviewed scientific research articles and other publications, including the classic Handbook for Evaluating Water Bacteriological Laboratories. The recipient of EPA Bronze and Silver medals, he also received numerous other awards, including the Kimble Methodology Research Award and the 1989 Abel Wolman Award of Excellence from the American Water Works Association. In 1991 he was the Allen Hazen Lecturer to the New England Water Works Association. International activities included serving as a consultant for the World Health Organization dealing with water-related issues in Caribbean and Latin American countries. He was held in high esteem among his federal colleagues and by others both in academia and in industry for his numerous contributions to the field of drinking microbiology. He was noted for providing encouragement to young scientists to pursue their research interests aimed at improving water quality.

Ed had many avocational interests including photography, travel, playing the organ, and gardening. He was also a licensed ham radio operator who built much of his own equipment. He was preceded in death by his wife Detta, to whom he was married for over 55 years. He is survived by two daughters, Linda Lambers and Pamela Bogosian, their respective spouses, and four grandchildren.

Eugene W. Rice

Terrance C. Covert

Martin J. Allen

David Gibson

David T. Gibson, Professor Emeritus of Microbiology at the University of Iowa, passed away on 24 July 2014 at the age of 76. Dave was a beloved husband, father, and grandfather, a gifted scientist, teacher and lecturer, and a dear friend to so many. Gibson was born in Wakefield in 1938, and spent his early years in Redcar, on the northeast coast of Yorkshire. He emigrated with his wife Janet to the United States in 1964 after receiving his B.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in biochemistry at The University of Leeds. In 1967, after post-doctoral studies with Charles Sih at the University of Wisconsin and Reino Kallio at the University of Illinois, he joined the faculty of the Department of Microbiology at The University of Texas at Austin. The following year he returned to England and was employed as a research scientist at the Pharmaceuticals Division of Imperial Chemical Industries. In 1969 he returned to The University of Texas, eventually rising to the positions of Professor and Director of The Center for Applied Microbiology. In 1988 he moved to The University of Iowa to take the first endowed Edwin B. Green Chair in Biocatalysis and Microbiology, a position he held until his retirement in 2004.

Gibson’s research focused on the pathways used by microorganisms to degrade aromatic hydrocarbons and environmental pollutants. His work at the University of Texas focused on the mechanisms involved in the activation