

Walter S. Mangold Award

Robert W. Powitz, MPH, PhD, RS, DLAAS

NEHA presented the 2017 Walter S. Mangold Award, its premier honor, to Robert “Bob” W. Powitz. The Walter S. Mangold Award recognizes and honors individuals for outstanding contributions to the advancement of the environmental health professional. It is the highest honor that NEHA can bestow upon one of its members.

Dr. Powitz was selected for the Mangold Award because of his illustrious career and the respect he has earned among his peers and colleagues in the environmental health profession.

Michèle Samarya-Timm of the American Academy of Sanitarians, who nominated Dr. Powitz along with the New Jersey Environmental Health Association, praised him for the impact he has had on the evolution of environmental health. In her nomination letter she stated, “Dr. Robert W. Powitz has spent his career championing evidence-based practice in environmental health; all of his work is framed by a commitment to the sanitarian profession and illustrates the opportunities for the professional outside of the traditional health department role. As his long and storied career illustrates, Dr. Powitz’s work has changed the classic meme of



Michèle Samarya-Timm and Dr. Robert Powitz celebrate after Dr. Powitz was honored with the Mangold Award.

the environmental health profession through his commitment to continuing education, stimulating others to be knowledgeable and proficient in the sanitarian craft, and assuring and creating innovations in environmental health practice. He is the personification of a model sanitarian.”

The Mangold Award is a highlight achievement for Dr. Powitz, who has already received several professional awards. Dr. Powitz received his first license as a sanitarian 50

years ago and throughout his career, he has demonstrated initiative, leadership, and dedication in the environmental health field. In 1984, he established R.W. Powitz & Associates, PC, a professional corporation specializing in environmental public health and contamination control advisory services to industry, law firms, insurance companies, and government agencies. He is currently principal and forensic sanitarian for this corporation. He also serves as health director for the Town of Franklin, Connecticut.

Dr. Powitz is active in several environmental health organizations, an author of numerous articles and books, and a member of several boards and committees. He has spent his career working to elevate the practice of environmental health, and his involvement and achievements are impressive and extensive. Dr. Powitz’s peers continually highlight his passion for elevating the environmental health profession and innovation. He has immersed himself in the field and has risen to the top of his field.

To read more about Dr. Powitz’s career, please visit www.neha.org/about-neha/awards/walter-s-mangold-award.

Walter F. Snyder Environmental Health Award

CAPT Wendy Fanaselle, MS, RS, DAAS

NSF International and NEHA presented this prestigious award to CAPT Wendy Fanaselle in recognition of more than 30 years of significant and lasting impact to environmental health and public service. The Snyder Award honors NSF International’s cofounder and first executive director, Walter F. Snyder, who provided outstanding contributions to the advancement of environmental and public health.

“Wendy Fanaselle’s accomplishments reflect the principles expressed by Walter F. Snyder and the public health mission of NSF International,” says Kevan P. Lawlor, NSF International president and CEO. “A hallmark of CAPT Fanaselle’s career has been bringing people together to craft and implement practical and effective solutions to environmental health problems and creating new systems to ensure the sustainability of these solutions. These accomplishments make her a worthy recipient of the Walter F. Snyder Award.”



CAPT Wendy Fanaselle proudly receives the Snyder Award from Kevan Lawlor (left), NSF International president and CEO, and Dr. David Dyjack (right), NEHA executive director and CEO.

CAPT Fanaselle is a risk assessment project manager for the Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, where she is responsible for over-

seeing and developing major food safety risk assessments. In this role, she has led the development of a risk assessment on foodborne norovirus acquired from ill employees in retail food facilities. The assessment quantitatively evaluates the impact of different interventions in food establishments on reducing the risk of norovirus foodborne illness, provides a better understanding of the norovirus transmission pathway, and identifies compliance with removing symptomatic food employees as a priority in preventing norovirus foodborne illness.

To read more about CAPT Fanaselle’s career, please visit www.nsf.org/newsroom/wendy-fanaselle-earns-walter-f-snyder-environmental-health-award-from-nsf.