

American Society for Public Administration

Section on Natural Resources and Environmental Administration

The SENRA section's premier award is presented for lifetime contributions to the environmental professions. The 1994 Award recipient was Professor Larry Gordon, who at the time was Visiting Professor of Public Administration at the University of New Mexico. The nomination for Professor Gordon's award was prepared by John Bretting, Associate Professor of Public Administration at the University of New Mexico.

Professor Gordon's distinguished career in public health and administration spans 44 years. From humble beginnings as a high school science teacher in 1949, Professor Gordon moved to progressively more responsible positions in local and state government.

Those positions included:

- 5 years in the New Mexico Department of Public Health
- 13 years as Director, Albuquerque Environmental Health Department
- 3 years as Director of the Environmental Sciences Division in the New Mexico Health and Social Services Department
- 3 years as Director, New Mexico Environmental Improvement Agency
- 3 years as Director, New Mexico Scientific Laboratory System
- 2 years as Administrator for Health and Environmental Programs of the New Mexico Health and Social Services Department, and
- 4 years as Deputy Secretary of the New Mexico Health and Environment Department.

After returning to the Albuquerque Environmental Health Department as Director for 4 years, Professor Gordon was appointed New Mexico Cabinet Secretary for Health and Environment, a position from which he retired in 1988.

During his career, Professor Gordon has been an active participant in the development of policies concerning air and water pollution control, solid waste management, food protection, subdivision control, occupational health and safety, and drinking water safety.

Professor Gordon has presented testimony to both houses of the U.S. Congress, and has over 120 professional publications, including articles in the Journal of Environmental Health, the Journal of Public Health Policy, and Environment News Digest.

It is a pleasure to recognize a lifetime of contributions to the profession of environmental and natural resources administration accomplished by Professor Gordon.