

Dr. Zimmerman to Receive Award from Governor Rendell

Dr. Mel Zimmerman, the Frank and Helen Lowry Professor of Biology at Lycoming College, was honored by Pennsylvania Governor Edward Rendell on October 6 as one of the state's top environmentalists.

Dr. Zimmerman was one of six Pennsylvanians to be honored at a special banquet in the Governor's mansion for "Lighting the Way" through their positive impact on Pennsylvania's environment.

Dr. Zimmerman is Director of the Clean Water Institute at Lycoming College, a program that he founded in 1999. His students have historically monitored trends in both biology and chemistry for local watersheds. The "Clean Water Institute" has helped a number of watershed groups compile data and evaluate trends, needs and solutions. He was instrumental in helping DEP's Northcentral Regional Office Team 5 by providing a forum for exchange with various partners.

Dr. Zimmerman was extensively involved in the formation of the Susquehanna River Heartland Coalition for Environmental Studies. His expertise has been monumentally instrumental not only in beginning this group but also coordinating the participation of higher education facilities. He serves on the board of the Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers and is also the chair of the Keystone Stream Team.

Dr. Zimmerman helped the North Central PA Conservancy accomplish a Rivers Conservation Plan for a portion of the western branch of the Susquehanna River.



Dr. Zim, 3rd from rt.



Gov. Rendell and Dr. Zimmerman

"This tremendous effort involved numerous partnerships, including counties and municipalities," reads his citation. " Dr. Zimmerman has generously shared his time, expertise and environmental ethic to help those interested in watershed work throughout Pennsylvania. He serves as an inspiration for every individual who wants to personally work toward creating a better environment for our commonwealth."

A graduate of SUNY-Cortland, he has a master's and doctorate degrees from the Miami University (Ohio).