The first Mu Sigma Rho award for Statistical Education went to John D. Spurrier of the University of South Carolina, for his consistently outstanding instruction and his efforts to improve the teaching of Statistics by others. He was one of the early leaders in the development of activity-based Statistics instruction and capstone experiences for undergraduate majors, receiving NSF support and authoring or co-authoring four books on these subjects. His excellence as a researcher, innovative instructor and undergraduate advisor earned him many awards, including election as a Fellow of the American Statistical Association in 1992, USC’s Amoco Foundation Outstanding Teaching Award in 2000, and the Governor’s Professor of the Year award in 2002. He was the first Principal of Capstone Scholars at USC, 2005-08.