ASABE 2020 Annual International Meeting

Service to the Profession Awards

Kishida International Award

The Kishida International Award serves to “recognize outstanding contributions to engineering mechanism-technological related programs of education, research, developments, consultation or technology transfer outside the United States.” Initiated in 1978, the award is endowed by Shin-Norinsha Co., Ltd. of Japan – publisher of Agricultural Mechanization in Asia, Africa and Latin America magazine and other publications — in honor of Yoshikuni Kishida, founder of the firm. The award is given “for outstanding contributions toward food and fiber production, improved living, and education of people outside of the United States of America.”

The award consists of a plaque and a cash award of $1,000.

Previous Kishida International Award Winners

1978.................................................................Ralph C. Hay
1979.................................................................Bruce H. Anderson
1980.................................................................G. Wallace Giles
1981.................................................................Emmanuel U. Odigboh
1982.................................................................Merle L. Esmay
1983.................................................................Byron L. Bondurant
1984.................................................................William J. Chancellor
1985.................................................................Harry D. Henderson
1986.................................................................Bill A. Stout
1987.................................................................Lyle G. Reeser
1988.................................................................Amir U. Khan
1989.................................................................Gilbert L. Corey
1990.................................................................Gajendra Singh
1991.................................................................Jaw-Kai Wang
1992.................................................................Do Sup Chung
1993.................................................................Ravindra N. Kaul
1994.................................................................Gerald E. Thierstein
1995.................................................................Loyd Johnson
1996.................................................................John S. Balis
1997.................................................................Giuseppe Pellizzi
1998.................................................................Pierre F.J. Abeels
1999.................................................................No Recipient
2000.................................................................Abdel Ghaly
2001.................................................................Osamu Kitani
2002.................................................................Brian G. Sims
2003.................................................................John L. Merriam
2004.................................................................Ronald T. Noyes
2005.................................................................James W. Jones
2006.................................................................Yasushi Hashimoto
2007.................................................................R. Paul Singh
2008.................................................................K.C. Ting
2009.................................................................Fedro S. Zazueta
2010.................................................................Rabi H. Mohtar
2011.................................................................Donald C. Slack
2012.................................................................Radhey Lal Kushwaha
2013.................................................................Vilas M. Salokhe
2014.................................................................Diger S. Jayas
2015.................................................................P. Kumar Mallikarjunan
2016.................................................................John Lumkes
2017.................................................................G.S. Vijaya Baghavan
2018.................................................................John K. Schueller
2019.................................................................Ramesh Kanwar

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Prasanta Kalita

Prasanta K. Kalita, ASABE Fellow, is the recipient of the 2020 Kishida International award for outstanding international contributions through research, education, and development in water and food and improving lives and livelihood.

Kalita is a professor of soil and water resources engineering in the agricultural and biological engineering department, and a Presidential Fellow of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). Kalita teaches courses and conducts research in water, food loss and waste, and agricultural mechanization. He provides leadership and develops and coordinates research priorities for the Discovery Partners Institute Water and Environment Group. He directs all activities for the Appropriate Scale Mechanization Consortium (ASMC), a multi-year project funded by the Feed the Future Program of the USAID through Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab (SILL).

Kalita has developed integrated teaching, research, and engagement programs in the area of sustainable food production, water, and environmental management both in Illinois and internationally. These programs have resulted in new designs and best management practices for integrated water resources management, sustainable soil management practices, improved crop production and agricultural mechanization practices, and new practices and equipment for grain drying and storage. Kalita has also made significant improvements in educational programs through administration at UIUC, developed institutional capacity for several countries, pioneered new educational curricula, and improved learning methods, with the overall goal of contributing to high quality human resources that can then support a sustainable global food production system.

A 29-year member of ASABE, Kalita has been extensively involved as a leader and member in a number of ASABE committees. Currently, he is the chair of the ASABE Global Engagement Sub-Committee and he serves as a member on the ASABE Meetings Council. Kalita was an associate editor of Transactions of the ASABE and Applied Engineering in Agriculture. Kalita was an organizing committee member for the ASABE Global Water Security Conference in Hyderabad, India in 2018 and was chair of the development committee for the ASABE Global Food Security Conference in Stellenbosch, South Africa.

Kalita is author or coauthor of more than 250 peer-reviewed articles, conference proceeding papers, book chapters, and other publications. Throughout his career, Kalita has received a number of awards. Most recently, he received Outstanding Service Recognitions from the University Senate Conference, University of Illinois and the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities Academic Program Section. He was inducted as a Fellow of the Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers in 2017 and as an ASABE Fellow in 2013.