## AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



William R. Dawson, the 1996 recipient of the Miller Award.

## MILLER RESEARCH AWARD

At its 1996 annual meeting, the Cooper Ornithological Society honored William R. Dawson with the Loye and Alden Miller Research Award, which is presented for lifetime achievement in ornithological research.

## CITATION FOR WILLIAM R. DAWSON

William R. Dawson is one of the world's foremost comparative physiologists. In addition to his outstanding research on reptilian and mammalian physiology, it is his pioneering research on how birds survive hostile environments, particularly deserts and cold climates, that this award recognizes.

Bill Dawson was George Bartholomew's first graduate student at UCLA, and his Ph.D. dissertation was one of the first studies to use the comparative approach in the newly emerging field of physiological ecology. That research, followed by decades of comparative studies on desert and closely-related nondesert birds in the southwestern United States, Mexico, and Australia, focused on the physiological and behavioral mechanisms used by desert birds for regulation of body temperature and body water content. During his fortyplus years at the University of Michigan, he also studies how birds, particularly small ones, survive cold winters. A rare attribute of his approach to physiological research is that he validates his laboratory findings with field observations. His multifaceted approach, utilizing ecological, physiological, behavioral, endocrinological, cellular, and biochemical techniques, has illustrated that survival in hostile environments is fostered by a variety of adjustments at a variety of biological levels.

Dr. Dawson has served on the Board of Directors of the Cooper Ornithological Society, is an Honorary Member of the Society, and received the Painton Award in 1963. He is also recipient of the Brewster Award and is a Fellow of the American Ornithological Society. He has served as President of the American Society of Zoologists and on the editorial boards of many journals, including *The Condor, The Auk*, and *Current Ornithology*. The Cooper Society recognizes Bill Dawson's lifetime contributions to the ornithological community through outstanding research and dedicated service.