2017 Associate Editor Excellence Awards and Editor’s Citations for Excellence in Review

The *Vadose Zone Journal* Editorial Board has selected four individuals for recognition for excellence in performing their work as associate editors. The recognition is based on their efforts in establishing a quality review process—for timely and professional manuscript editing, for fair and rigorous integration of reviewer comments, and for overall excellence in managing a professional review process. The Editorial Board has also chosen four individuals for the Editor’s Citation for Excellence in Review. Members of the VZJ Editorial Board want to express their deepest appreciation for these associate editors and volunteer reviewers, who have benefitted our journal, our community, and our sciences through their outstanding work.

**Associate Editor Excellence Awards**

**Mark Nearing**

Mark Nearing conducts research on soil erosion processes, erosion modeling, and soil conservation. He served as technical director of the Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP) that developed a new generation of soil erosion prediction technology. He received the USDA’s Superior Service Award group award for WEPP in 1990. He and his team also created the Rangeland Hydrology and Erosion Model, which assesses erosion rates on western rangelands. His investigations of climate change impacts showed that erosion rates in the United States will probably increase greatly in coming decades unless significant preventative measures are taken.

**Horst Gerke**

Horst H. Gerke is senior scientist and head of the Working Group “Hydropedology” at the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF), Müncheberg, Germany, with research focusing on soil physics and soil hydrology. He earned a Diploma in Agriculture in 1980 and a Ph.D. in forestry in 1986, both from the University of Göttingen. His post-doctoral lecture qualifications (PD) are in Environmental Sciences from the University of Cottbus in 2004 and in Soil Science from the University Kiel in 2015. His main research interest is preferential flow and transport processes in structured and heterogeneous soils.

**Henry Lin**

Henry Lin is a professor of hydropedology/soil hydrology in the Dep. of Ecosystem Science and Management at The Pennsylvania State Univ. His research and teaching interests are centered on the development of hydropedology as an intertwined branch of soil science and hydrology that embraces integrated and multiscale study of the landscape–soil–water–ecosystem relationship across space and time. He has been a guest editor for 12 special issues/sections of various scientific journals related to hydropedology and Critical Zone science. He is a Fellow of the Agronomy Society of America (2014) and of the Soil Science Society of America (2013).

**Yan Jin**

Yan Jin is professor of soil and environmental physics in the Dep. of Plant & Soil Sciences at the University of Delaware. Dr. Jin received a B.S. from Hebei Agricultural University, China, and a Ph.D. from University of California, Riverside. Her research interests are in measurement, modeling, and interpretation of mass transport and transformation in soil and other environmental systems. She is internationally recognized in the area of colloid and microorganism transport in soils and groundwater.
Editor’s Citations for Excellence in Review

Andrea Carminati
Andrea Carminati is currently professor of soil physics at the University of Bayreuth in Germany. He has a Ph.D. in soil physics obtained at the ETH Zurich under Hannes Flühler’s supervision. Andrea worked as a postdoc at the Helmholtz Center for Environmental Research in Leipzig (Germany) and then as junior professor of soil hydrology at the Georg-August University of Göttingen (Germany). Currently, Andrea’s main interests are the biophysical processes taking place at the root–soil interface and their impact on root water uptake.

Jannis Groh
Jannis Groh is a research assistant and works in the Research Area 1 “Landscape Functioning” of the Leibniz Centre for Agriculture Landscape Research (ZALF) in Müncheberg. He received his M.Sc. in hydrology from Freiburg University and worked during the last years for his Ph.D. at the Forschungszentrum Jülich (Agrosphere). His current research interests include developing a better understanding of water flow and solute transport in the unsaturated zone by the use of stable water isotopes, simulation of land surface–atmosphere interactions, and the quantification and estimation of non-rainfall water and its ecological relevance.

Todd Caldwell
Todd Caldwell received his B.S. degree in earth and planetary sciences from the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, in 1997 and M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Hydrogeology from the University of Nevada, Reno, in 1999 and 2011, respectively. From 2002 to 2012, he was a research soil scientist at the Desert Research Institute in Reno. Since 2012, he has been a research hydrologist and geoscientist at the Bureau of Economic Geology in the Jackson School of Geosciences at the University of Texas at Austin. His current research focuses on field investigations and modeling of soil and vadose zone processes across multiple scales and environments. He is principle investigator for the Texas Soil Observation Network, a core calibration and validation site for NASA’s Soil Moisture Active Passive Satellite Mission.

Sabine Goldberg
Sabine Goldberg served 3 years as an AE of VZJ, 6 years as AE and 6 years as a Technical Editor for the Soil Science Society of America Journal (SSSAJ) Soil Chemistry Division. She is currently serving her second 3-year term as Editor of SSSAJ. She retired in 2016 after 33 years of service as a Research Soil Scientist with the USDA–ARS US Salinity Laboratory in Riverside, CA.