

## 2019 Recipient of the IETS Distinguished Service Award

### Kenneth R. Bondioli



Dr. Kenneth R. Bondioli (Ken to all who know him) obtained his BS from Cornell University (1973), with his master's (1979) and PhD under the direction of Dr. Raymond Wright from Washington State University in 1982. For the next 10 years, Dr. Bondioli was the senior research scientist at Granada BioScience Inc., Marquez and College Station, Texas. He was

instrumental in setting up the first bovine nuclear transfer and IVF laboratory, advanced protocols for bovine embryo sexing, and new approaches to arresting bovine oocytes for maturation; developed new embryo culture environments; improved embryo transfer procedures; was first to discover embryo toxic effects caused by media exposed to rubber-tipped syringes; and began using embryo splitting (glass technique) as a commercial option for bovine twinning. Granada was an open door to many researchers continentally as well as internationally, which afforded Dr. Bondioli the opportunity to promote research ideology for the advancement of animal production.

Dr. Bondioli took a position in 1992 as a special consultant for the American Breeders Service and in 1993 worked as a principle scientist for Altra Bio. Inc., Beltsville, Maryland. From 1996 to 2003 he was employed as the associate director for transgenic technology, Alexion Pharmaceuticals Inc., Sherburne, New York, before accepting a position at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, as an associate professor (2004–2011). Currently at LSU, Dr. Bondioli holds the position as Dr. Daniel Ivy Dupree Professor of Animal Science. He wears many hats that include chairing several faculty and safety committees with positions on agricultural councils. He continues to serve nationally by participating as a peer-review panelist for NIH (special grants), USDA National Research Initiatives for Animal Reproduction, and the Scientific Biotechnology Research and Development Consortium. In addition, he has for the past two years reviewed grants for the Estonian Research Council.

Dr. Bondioli first attended an IETS meeting in 1978. He served on the Board of Governors from 1991 to 1994 and was elected vice president

(1991) and president (1992). From 1992 to 1995 and 2006 to 2014 he served on the IETS Foundation Board and over many years has served by chairing or co-chairing numerous meetings in addition to organizing preconference workshops (including this year) and student competitions.

Dr. Bondioli's research field has covered many aspects of embryology, cryopreservation, micromanipulation, transgenic production of porcine and caprine animal models for biomedical applications, somatic cell nuclear transfer (bovine and porcine), adult stem cells, gene knockout by homologous recombination, and genome editing with CRISPR-Cas9. His grant-writing abilities have accumulated amounts upward of 2 million dollars, helping to fund many researchers and postgraduate students. Since 1973 he has published more than 125 peer-reviewed articles, chapters, and technical articles and in his spare time is also a peer reviewer for 12 major journals.

Truly, Dr. Bondioli has "furthered the science of embryo production, development and transfer" as outlined in the IETS by-laws. He has made significant contributions to the embryo technology industry and continues to support IETS in the advancement of animal reproduction. Considering his commitment in service to IETS, academia, science, and technology, it is with great honor and pleasure to announce to you the recipient of the 2019 IETS Distinguished Service Award—Dr. Kenneth R. Bondioli.