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CTASLA Presents 2009 Connecticut Olmsted Award to Dean of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

New Haven, CT — The Connecticut Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (CTASLA) has presented its 2009 Connecticut Olmsted Award to **James Gustave Speth**, Dean of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies since 1999. The Olmsted Award is given annually by CTASLA to an organization or person who works or resides in Connecticut and has employed the principle of stewardship of the land as a guiding force in their actions.

Dean Speth, a professor, scientist, author, lawyer and environmentalist, has worked tirelessly on environmental and energy issues locally and around the world. He is a leader in the struggle against global warming, as evidenced by his latest book, *The Bridge at the Edge of the World: Capitalism, the Environment and Crossing from Crisis to Sustainability*.

Before his tenure at Yale, Dean Speth was administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and chair of the UN Development Group. Prior to his service at the UN, he was founder and president of the World Resources Institute; professor of law at Georgetown University; chairman of the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality; and senior attorney and cofounder of the Natural Resources Defense Council. Throughout his career, Dean Speth has provided leadership and entrepreneurial initiatives to many task forces and committees whose roles have been to combat environmental degradation, including the President's Task Force on Global Resources and Environment; the Western Hemisphere Dialogue on Environment and Development; and the National Commission on the Environment.

The Olmsted Award is named after Connecticut native Frederick Law Olmsted, who founded the landscape architecture profession in the 19th century, and is best known for his creation of New York's Central Park as well as such prominent Connecticut landscapes as Bridgeport's Beardsley and Seaside Parks, New Britain's Walnut Hill Park, and Hartford's Pope Park.

Past recipients of the Connecticut Olmsted Award include Senator Joseph Lieberman (1997); Jack Shannahan, Connecticut Historical Commission (1999); Lieutenant Governor M. Jodi Rell and Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin B.

Sullivan (2002); the Town of Simsbury (2003); the Green Valley Institute (2004); State Senator Bill Finch (2005); former DEP Deputy Commissioner David Leff (2006); and State Senator Andrew Roraback (2007).

Founded in 1899, the American Society of Landscape Architects is the national professional association for landscape architects, representing more than 17,000 members. Landscape architecture is a comprehensive discipline of land analysis, planning, design, management, preservation and rehabilitation. ASLA promotes the landscape architecture profession and advances the practice through advocacy, education, communication and fellowship. Learn more about landscape architecture online at www.asla.org. For more information on activities of the Connecticut Chapter, please see our website at www.ctasla.org.

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