

## Professor Joy Mench received ISAE Honorary Fellowship in 2018

Biography of Professor Mench, written by Dr. Michael Appleby



It is difficult to imagine that anyone could more fully meet the requirement of being a 'person of eminence in the field of the aims of the ISAE,' as she has made extensive and important contributions to all six of the aims listed in our constitution.

Joy Mench received her Ph.D. in Ethology (Animal Behavior) from the University of Sussex in England in 1983. She carried out her postdoctoral research at Cornell University in the Department of Poultry and Avian Science, and was then hired as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Poultry Science at the University of Maryland, College Park, in 1985. In 1995 she moved to the University of California, Davis, where she was a

Professor in the Department of Animal Science as well as the Director of the Center for Animal Welfare.

Joy is primarily a poultry scientist (although she and her group have also worked on companion, lab and zoo animals), publishing on subjects including handling and transport, housing management and the welfare aspects and sustainability of systems for egg-laying hens and meat chickens. She has published more than 150 articles and book chapters on these topics.

Here are just three of the many varied papers on which she has been lead author:

- Lighting Programs for Broiler Chickens: Pre- and Post-Hatch Effects on Behavior, Health, and Productivity
- Determination of space use by laying hens using kinematic analysis
- Sustainability of egg production in the United States: The policy and market context

She was also co-author of *Poultry Behaviour and Welfare* (2004) and an editor of several books including *Animal Welfare* and *Biology of Animal Stress*. Perhaps most important, she has worked with the poultry industry and related organisations throughout her career to ensure implementation of changes for the benefit of people, animals and the environment. This includes extensive work on science-based welfare standards for – take a breath here – United Egg Producers, Certified Humane, American Humane Certified, Maple Leaf Farms, Foster Farms, the National Chicken Council, McDonald's, Welfare Quality and the OIE, as well as other advisory and committee inputs too numerous to list here. The Poultry Science Association gave Joy their Poultry Welfare Research Award in 2004 and elected her a Fellow in 2016.

This has been a life of science and service. Since 1995 Joy has been based at University of California, Davis, making considerable contributions to both undergraduate and graduate teaching and to university life, including as Department Vice Chair. She was given the UC Davis Distinguished Public Scholarly Service Award in 2007 and made Professor Emeritus on her semi-retirement – she is still more active than most of us – in 2016.

That service includes to ISAE. Among other contributions Joy was only our second female president (1999-2001, after Marie-France Bouissou, 1982-3) – which felt important at the time, although of course it was not why she was elected – and organised our Congress in 2001. It is well overdue that Professor Joy Mench should be recognised as an Honorary Fellow of our Society.