Dr. Hawley’s doctoral work at the U of O in the laboratory of Drs. William Bradshaw and Christina Holzapfel on the population biology of mosquitoes carrying dog heartworm showed the challenges of mosquito control by genetic engineering. He continued on to a post-doc at Notre Dame, where he became proficient in virology and became the world’s authority on the Asian Tiger Mosquito, *Aedes albopictus*, which has since emerged as a major invasive species spreading Zika, dengue, and West Nile viruses world-wide. Dr. Hawley then joined the staff at the Center for Disease Control (CDC), where be became the first population biologist in their Malaria Branch. He spent six years doing field research in Kenya (where he learned Swahili) and was instrumental in developing the impregnated bed net program that became both the main defense against malaria and a cottage industry (re-impregnating bed nets). After a stint at CDC in Atlanta, he represented and then became Director of CDC in Indonesia (from his Peace Corps experience in Malaysia, he was fluent in Malay, sufficiently similar to Indonesian that he could hit the ground running). He has returned to CDC in Atlanta, GA, where he is Chief of the Entomology Branch in the Division of Parasitic Diseases and Malaria.

Dr. Hawley has been there and done that. He is an accomplished field biologist, innovative medical entomologist, learned epidemiologist and outstanding ambassador for the United States of America by his ability and willingness to learn the local language, wherever he is stationed. His work on the bed net program in Kenya has saved the lives of literally millions of children and adults. He was assigned to Indonesia, the most populist Muslim country in the world, at a time when the government was hostile to America. He served CDC and UNICEF in Indonesia for 15 years, ultimately becoming CDC’s Country Director for the last four of those years. He is someone who thrives in rural Third-World communities, interacts successfully with difficult foreign governments, and has tactful and effective administrative talents as attested to by his increasing breadth of responsibility within CDC.

Dr. Hawley has a life-long concern for children and their education, starting with his Peace Corps years teaching biology in rural Malaysia (in Malay) and continuing with his work at CDC in Africa and Indonesia. What is it like to work in a rural setting where 100% of the population has a debilitating disease by the time they are six months old and 80% of the adults have two or more debilitating diseases? What is it like to work under these circumstances where there is no money and little effective health care? How does one communicate with and help people in a country where the people, administrators, and bureaucrats up to the highest level in a government harbor overt animosity toward America? Dr. Hawley knows; he’s been there and done that.

At a time when there is an increasing threat of Zika, West Nile, and dengue viruses here in the United States, we have little understanding of the true impact of these diseases on our present and future. Dr. Hawley is in the position to provide a perspective on diseases that kill a child every 10 minutes in sub-Saharan Africa and that kill more people across the world today than all wars or military conflicts combined, including ISIS. His perspective is based on extended experiences ranging from impoverished, Third World communities to dealing with inimical governments at the highest level. He has not just visited these places, he has lived there for extended periods of time, learned the languages, and made a difference, both in terms of human health and disease, and as a representative of the United States of America and his University of Oregon graduate education.

