

PLENARY SESSION (SU2582) -- Session Chair: **Deborah Neher, President-elect of UT Sigma Xi**

11:00a - 12:00n **Prof. Rattan Lal**, Ohio State University, Member of the National Academy of Sciences, Director, Carbon Management and Sequestration Center

Professor Rattan Lal received a B.Sc. degree in agriculture from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, India, in 1963; an M.Sc. degree in soil physics from Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India, in 1965; and a Ph.D. in soil physics from The Ohio State University in 1968. He worked in the Department of Soil Science, University of Sydney, Australia, from 1968-69 and then joined International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Ibadan, Nigeria, as soil scientist in January 1970. He worked in Africa for about 18 years and joined The Ohio State University in 1987.

As a faculty member at Ohio State, Professor Lal has conducted research on soil degradation and has demonstrated a strong link between soil degradation and the emissions of radiatively-active or greenhouse gases from soil to the atmosphere. He has collaborated with other scientists in a national, multi-institutional research effort that has quantified the potential of soil carbon sequestration for agricultural soils of USA and the world. The project has led to publication of 12 books that are the source of a major global body of literature on the topic.

Professor Lal has authored/co-authored about 300 refereed journal articles in addition to 500 book chapters, invited keynote papers, and conference/symposia presentations. He has written five books and edited/co-edited 32 books. He serves on the editorial board of about 10 international journals, and is a fellow of several professional societies. He is a member of the Inter-Government Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and of the U.S. National Committee of Soil Science established by the National Academy of Sciences.