NEW PRESIDENT OF THE TENNESSEE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE FOR 1982

Dr. S. K. Ballal was elected as the President of the Tennessee Academy of Science at the ninety-first meeting of the Academy held at Austin Peay State University on November 20, 1981. Dr. Ballal has been Professor of Biology at the Tennessee Technological University since 1965. He received his B.S. degree in Agricultural Sciences, and M.S. degree in Phytopathology in 1959 and 1961 respectively from the Madras University. He received his Ph.D. in Botany in 1964 from the University of Tennessee.

Dr. Ballal’s research is in the field of physiological taxonomy of certain groups of higher fungi, a field in which he has published several manuscripts. He is a member of many professional organizations such as the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Institute of Biological Sciences, and Federation of American Scientists. He has been active in the Tennessee Academy of Science since 1961 and served its Executive Committee for four years. He served as a consultant to the Division of Environmental Sciences of the U.S. Department of Education and has received a number of grants from the National Science Foundation, HEW (HHS), and TVA in basic research, science education, and programs in solar energy development. He served twice as the Director of the Energy-Environment Sciences Institute. As a Shell Merit Fellow at Stanford University, California in 1970 he participated in the study of foundations in science education in the preparation of science teachers in the United States.

Dr. Ballal has always been active in civic affairs. As a member of the U.S. Jaycees he won the public speaking contest twice in nationwide competition. He is the Founder-President of the Cookeville Toastmasters Club. He is also active in the local Parent-Teachers Organization and the Children’s Theatre. At Tennessee Technological University he was selected twice by the family, alumni, and students for the Outstanding Faculty Award in recognition of excellence in teaching, research, and public service.

Dr. Ballal views his election to the Presidency of the Tennessee Academy of Science as an opportunity to foster the growth of scientific enterprise in Tennessee. Dr. Ballal is married to the former Katherine Hackett of Smith County. They have two children.