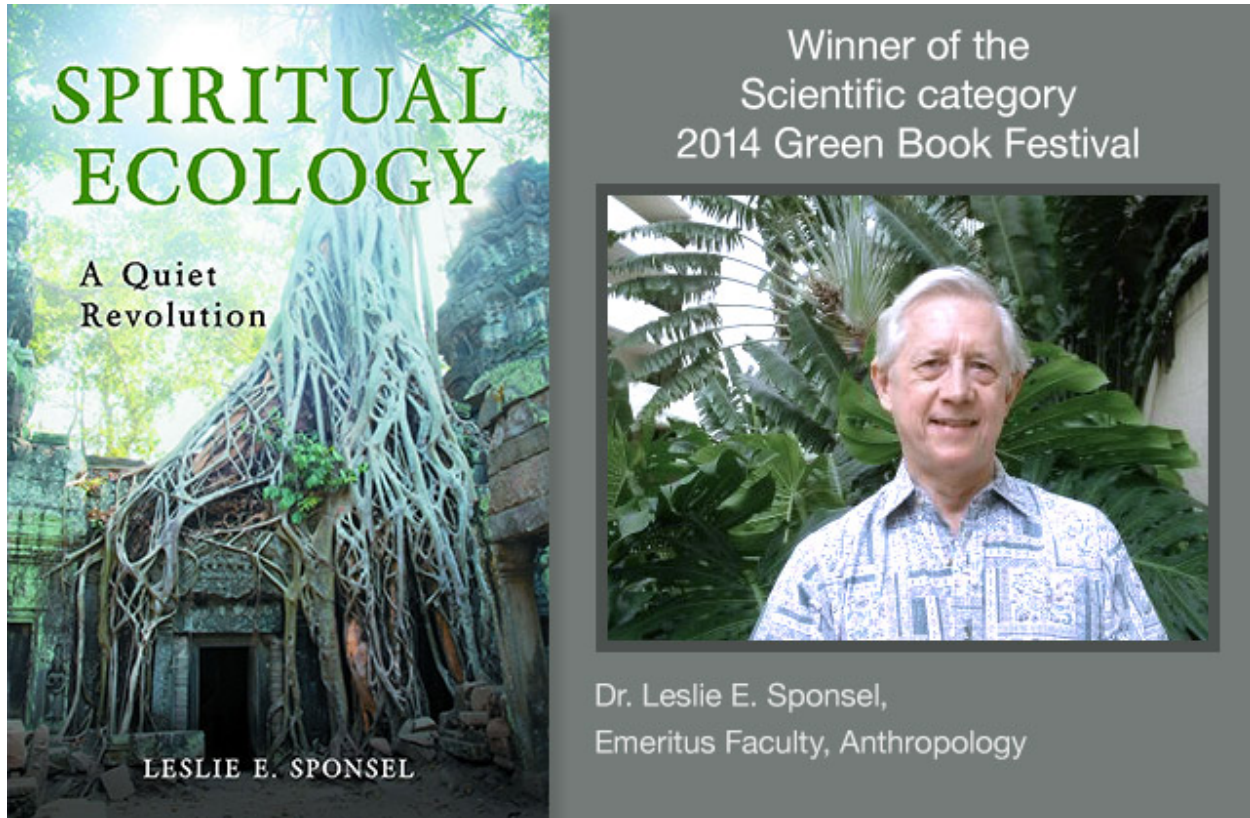


***Spiritual Ecology: A Quiet Revolution* by Anthropology Department's Emeritus Professor Leslie E. Sponsel wins the Science category at the 2014 Green Book Festival**



Spiritual Ecology: A Quiet Revolution by Dr. Leslie E. Sponsel, emeritus faculty from the Anthropology Department at the University of Hawai'i-Mānoa's College of Social Sciences, was recognized as the winning entry in the Science category at the 2014 Green Book Festival in San Francisco. The book captivates readers and offers a historical and cross-cultural context for understanding the spiritual ecology revolution. Touching upon indigenous and Asian religious traditions, as well as Western, *Spiritual Ecology* focuses on pioneers in the movement and their contributions.

A developing field, spiritual ecology reflects the convergence of several fields of study – science, religion, spirituality and sustainability. The movement proposes that resolving the world's environmental crisis requires secular solutions combined with a spiritual awareness of and responsibility toward the planet.

Leslie E. Sponsel, who holds a PhD in biological and cultural anthropology from Cornell University, joined the University of Hawai'i-Mānoa as part of the Department of Anthropology

in 1981. During his tenure with the university, he developed the unit's Ecological Anthropology program. His specialties include: Mainland Southeast Asia (Thailand) and Amazon (Venezuela); biodiversity studies in relation to cultural diversity, cultural ecology, historical ecology, and sacred places; spiritual ecology (religions and environment); and Buddhist ecology (environmental philosophy, ethics, and action, especially in relation to forests in Thailand).

Established in 2009, the Green Book Festival is an annual competition recognizing books that have made significant contributions to our understanding of, respect for and positive action on the world's changing environment. Winning entries are selected by an independent panel of judges based on the following criteria: overall writing style and presentation of work; and potential for the work to enhance understanding of the environment and its issues.