

## The Richard and Megumi Strathmann Endowed Fellowship at UW Friday Harbor Labs

This endowment supports graduate students' studies and research at FHL, of the organisms, physical environment, or geology of the San Juan Archipelago and adjacent regions in the NE Pacific Ocean.



### **The Strathmanns:**

Megumi Fukushima and Richard Strathmann were graduate students at the University of Washington when they first experienced the special academic world of the Friday Harbor Laboratories. There they had access to diverse organisms and habitats, generously shared facilities and equipment, and an egalitarian culture of students and scientists from many institutions in the U.S. and abroad. Richard had come to FHL to take graduate courses in Oceanography and Megumi to be a teaching assistant and student in Zoology. Newly wed, their first home was one of the huts (unheated, uninsulated, single light bulb version). When they began their research in 1965, each explained to advisors that it would be good to work at FHL because the spouse was doing research there. Both were delighted to study living marine embryos and larvae in the Comparative Embryology course. The Strathmanns completed their master's degrees at FHL and remained there most of the time until 1970, when Richard obtained a PhD in Zoology. They returned in 1973 when he became Resident Associate Director. Their research interests converged on embryos and larvae of marine invertebrates. One of Megumi's projects was to compile information in a book, *Reproduction and Development of Marine Invertebrates of the Northern Pacific Coast* (UW Press 1987). Richard taught Marine Zoology, Comparative Embryology, and Larval Biology and advised graduate students' research at FHL. Together they have traveled to other marine laboratories and some museums for research. The Strathmann Fellowship Endowment was established so that graduate students can experience independence and freedom during studies at FHL. The fellowships are intended to encourage students' originality and autonomy while they do research or take advanced level courses. The Strathmanns are grateful for the donations from many associates that have increased the endowment and are pleased to see it supporting innovative studies by diverse young scientists.