

Nomination for Honours Award – David Jones (djones@ualberta.ca) – 2014

The Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives (ACMLA) recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to map librarianship at the local, regional, national, and international levels through their granting of the Honours Award for Outstanding Achievement. David Jones is one such individual who has done a great deal for map librarianship and the ACMLA since he became Map Librarian for the University of Alberta William C. Wonders Map Collection in the mid-1990s until his retirement. David served on the ACMLA Executive from 2000 to 2009 and within that time period he was president from 2005-2006.

David's career spans four decades of librarianship. While a doctoral candidate in Molecular Biology at McMaster in 1970, David decided to make a career change and received his MLIS at Western in 1971. His first professional position was with Humber College in Toronto where he worked for nine years from 1971-1980. He then made his move to Alberta where he became the Assistant Science Librarian at the University of Alberta. Over time, David became the Collections Coordinator for the Science and Technology Library and then another career shift entered David's life – the William C. Wonders Map Collection.

In the early 1990s the University of Alberta Library assumed the administration of the Map Library from the Geography Department. The one library building that had room for the largest academic map collection in the country was the Science and Technology Library which became the new home of the collection. Several librarians were tasked with administering the collection with one of them being David. Eventually, the several became only one – David. Shortly thereafter, David joined professional groups like the Western Association of Map Libraries (WAML), the Canadian Cartographic Association (CCA), and ACMLA, but gave the majority of his time to our organization. One of his major achievements as Map Librarian was to convert the map catalogue from 24 – 3 inch binders of hand-written entries into a keyword searchable database. This project lasted roughly a decade and was completed in 2006. Another highlight includes convening CARTO 2000 in Edmonton, one of the few times that brought ACMLA, CCA, and WAML together at a single conference.

David's passion for maps was always at the forefront with his service ethic. His interest in learning more and more about maps was always evident. This along with his enjoyment of meeting and helping people made him a dedicated reference librarian. As quoted in *LISAA*, the University of Alberta Library and Information Studies Alumni Association newsletter, "Everyday I learn something new, and most days I also meet someone new. Helping identify a client's spatial data needs and, in most cases, finding the appropriate map(s) in the WCWMC, or from other sources, is rewarding for both myself and the client." David not only promoted his map collection at the local or national stages but took it overseas to the International Conference on the History of Cartography held in Budapest in 2005. Here David highlighted the Austro-Hungarian maps in the Collection, one of its treasures. Another of his projects to highlight interesting maps was to curate an exhibition titled – *Journeys Beyond the Neat Line: Expanding the Boundaries of Cartography* – an exhibit of two people who documented their personal journeys through text and maps. This exhibit was highly praised. In the fall of 2013, David's career at the University of Alberta was further recognized with him being granted the title Librarian Emeritus.

I believe that something needs to be kept in mind with David's achievements, those highlighted and the many unmentioned due to space - David completed these accomplishments being a half-time Map Librarian. The other half of David's time through most of his tenure as Map Librarian was still performing his duties as a Science Librarian. And, to top all of this off, David always had time to mentor people in

the profession. Many of us have received calls from David encouraging us to become involved with ACMLA or to encourage or support our careers. I can vouch for this at the local level since I am one of those people. And so it is a great honor for me to nominate David Jones for the ACMLA Honours Award.

Nominated – Danial Duda

Seconded – Andrew Nicholson and Larry Laliberte.