

ACMLA Awards Committee Annual Report, 2004/05

The Committee consisted of Elizabeth Hamilton (chair), Trudy Bodak and Cheryl Woods, with expert assistance provided by Lori Sugden (out-going chair) and Grace Welch (Font of Knowledge). There were a few bumps along the way, as sometimes happens with a transition in chair, but we expect the business of the upcoming year to flow smoothly. The Committee conducted its business via email, with an occasional telephone call as needed.

The significant new business undertaken by the Committee at the direction of the membership was the implementation of the Student Paper Award, approved at the 2004 Annual General Meeting. The wording of the contest notice was sent to Heather McAdam at Carleton University, who did a fabulous job of converting the idea and text into a visually impressive poster. The Board approved funds for translation and the poster is available in both French and English.

Colour copies of the poster were sent out to post-secondary institutions offering geography, GIS, or library science programs for posting, and a PDF version (in French and English) was linked to the ACMLA home page (with the assistance of Colleen Beard and Gerald Romme) along with an FAQ on the award conditions. The Committee also sent out a message on CARTA to let ACMLA members know that they could download the file and print as many copies as they needed for local use. A notice of the new award was also printed in *ACMLA Bulletin*, no. 121 (p. 56).

The first year of the inception of the award engendered much interest, but no submissions within the deadline. We feel that next year, with the award formally launched, we can expect submissions, particularly if students are aware of the award in the first term of their studies. The Committee will be looking at the deadline for the award and perhaps at other means of publicizing and promoting the award in the up-coming year.

The responsibilities of the Committee includes include the Honours Award and the ACMLA Paper Award. Requests for submission of nominations for both awards appeared in *ACMLA Bulletin*, no. 121 (p.54) but no nominations for either award were received by the deadline. This was a transitional year for the Committee and we anticipate that next year's promotion of the various awards offered by the Association will increase considerably. We do thank Lori again for her work in passing over the duties of chair and continuing to act as a resource for us!

Submitted by E. Hamilton
July 2005