

ACMLA Awards Committee

Annual Report, 2007/08

The Awards Committee consisted of Elizabeth Hamilton (chair), Trudy Bodak and Cheryl Woods. The task of the committee is to ensure that the guidelines and protocols of the ACMLA Awards are carried out according to the wishes of the Association. The Committee conducted its business via email and personal contact at last year's conference.

There are five awards currently offered by ACMLA.

Honourary Membership Award:

The first and most prestigious is the ACMLA Honourary Membership Award. In the ACMLA By-laws, provision is made for a special category of member, above and beyond those awarded with other recognition of accomplishments:

4.2.5 Honourary Members –

Such individuals who the Association chooses to honour by election to such membership status. Such individuals shall be nominated by two full members of the Association and the nomination confirmed by the Board of Directors and ratified by mail by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of at least 40% of the full members of the Association.

As an Association, we have only awarded this membership category to seven other individuals: Theodore Layng (1970), Kate Donkin (1988), Lou Sebert (1981), Joan Winearls (2004), Serge Sauer (2004), Barbara Farrell (2004), and Betty Kidd (2007). All have been extremely active and involved members of the Association until, and even beyond, retirement from their full-time jobs. From the outset, they assumed leadership roles within the association and championed the Association beyond the confines of institutional walls.

This year, the members of the Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives have elected one of our members, **Grace Welch**, to be an Honourary Member of the Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives.

As directed by the By-Laws, the nomination was confirmed by the Board of Directors this Spring and was ratified unanimously by over 40% of the full members of the Association. We applaud this addition to the ranks of those who have sustained support for the Association over their careers.

Honours Award:

A call for nominations is sent to the membership through the ACMLA Bulletin and, this year, through email reminder. No nominations were received this year.

Paper Award:

The third award administered by the Awards Committee is the Paper Award. No nominations were received by the Awards Committee, but the Committee members reviewed all the papers meeting the Paper Award criteria in Bulletins 127-130.

The Committee recommended that one paper be sent to an external reader and, in consideration of the response of the outside reader and the unanimity of the Committee, the 2008 Paper Award will go to Elise Pietroniro and Darlene Fichter, for their paper, *Map Mashups and the rise of Amateur Cartographers and Mapmakers*, published in ACMLA Bulletin no. 127. The Executive have been informed and will contact the two individuals about the cheque for the award.

Student Paper Award:

The fourth award is the Student Paper Award, and the Committee was delighted to receive four submissions for the award. The Awards Committee is recommending that James Ripley, student in the University of Western Ontario School of Library and Information Studies program, be awarded the ACMLA Student Paper Award for the paper, "*Second to the right, and straight on till morning*" (Barrie) *Geospatial Visualization and Children's Literature*

Certificate of Appreciation:

There were no nominations for the Certificate of Appreciation this year.

The Committee brings to the Executive the concern that ACMLA members are not taking advantage of the opportunity of ensuring high quality of papers in the *Bulletin* by failing to nominate deserving papers for the Paper Award. We would recommend the promotion of this award more actively this year.

As this is my last year on the committee, I would like to thank the Executive and Committee members Cheryl Wood and Trudy Bodak for their unstinting support in recognizing and rewarding excellence in our profession.

Respectfully submitted by E. Hamilton
April 2008