

CASEA/ACEAS Distinguished Service Award

Committee Report 2015

Committee Members: Bruce Sheppard; Bonnie Stelmach; Carol Harris; Jerome Cranston; Wendy Poole (Chair)

A call for nominations for the award was sent out on three occasions – twice in the fall of 2014 and once in January 2015. Nominations closed on February 1. One nomination was received from Dean Fernand Gervais at the Faculté des sciences de l'éducation, Université Laval. Claire Isabelle, Carolyn Shields, Dawn Wallin, and Randy Wimmer provided letters of support. [Note: Normally members are nominated by a department, however, because the nominee was Head of Department, the Dean of the institution submitted the nomination on behalf of the department.]

Following closure of nominations, the chair contacted CASEA members, inviting them to serve on the Committee. An attempt was made to achieve geographical and gender balance, and to avoid potential conflict of interest with the nominee. Two men and three women (including the Chair) representing Newfoundland, Manitoba, Alberta and BC comprised the committee.

Committee members were emailed the nomination materials and asked to declare if they had any conflicts of interest with the nominee. None were declared. Committee members were then asked to vote 'yes' or 'no' via email as to whether to award the nominee. All members voted. It was unanimously decided to award Dr. Claire Lapointe at Université Laval. Dr. Lapointe met all of the criteria for the award.

The award, an engraved plaque, was presented to Dr. Lapointe at the CASEA banquet on June 2 2015.

During the Committee's deliberations, the issue of whether or not to notify the award winner was discussed. There were differences of opinion. The Chair contacted President Brien who informed her that practices differed from year to year; that is, some years the recipient was notified prior to the conference and other years they were not. The decision was made to notify this year's recipient, however, it would be helpful to future committees to have a protocol in place regarding notification of the award winner. The Committee would like to place this matter on the table for discussion by members at the 2015 CASEA AGM.

As Chair, I would like to thank Committee members for their prompt responses during email exchanges, thoughtful deliberations, and service to the Association.

Respectfully,

Wendy Poole