



**UNIVERSITY OF
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To: Paul Newton
President, Canadian Association for the Study of Educational Administration (CASEA)
Department of Educational Administration, University of Saskatchewan
3073, 28 Campus Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0X1

From: Brenda Spencer
Chair, CASEA Distinguished Service Award Committee

Date: May 24, 2021

Re: Chair's Report for CASEA AGM - May 30, 2021: 2021 CASEA Distinguished Service Award Committee

This is the sixth year that I have served as the Chair of the CASEA Distinguished Service Award Committee. The following is an account of the Committee activities of this past year.

At the beginning of January 2021, I circulated an email call for nominations for the Distinguished Service Award to all CASEA members. Due to COVID-related pressures during the past year, this was about a month later than the notice is usually sent out, so the nomination deadline was also adjusted to be a month later, March 15, 2021. Then, in mid-February, I sent out email reminder of the March 15th deadline.

I received one nomination for the Award, submitted by Dr. Bonnie Stelmach (University of Alberta). Nevertheless, following what we have done in the past for a single nomination, I sent out the nomination package to be adjudicated by three reviewers to ensure that the award goes to a candidate who meets the award criteria. As I had expected, by early May all committee members indicated that the nominee was indeed an excellent and most-deserving candidate.

On May 12, 2021, I contacted CASEA President, Dr. Paul Newton, to report that the CASEA Distinguished Service Award for this year will go to Dr. Jim Brandon of the University of Calgary. As I have done in the past, I also contacted the nominator, Dr. Stelmach, to ask if she would like to share the news with Dr. Brandon before a more public announcement was made. She was pleased to do so. On May 22, 2021, I then sent out an announcement to the CASEA membership that Dr. Brandon is this year's recipient of the DSA.

Due to COVID-19, we will not be meeting in person again this year for our annual CASEA Banquet at CSSE, the event at which we usually present awards; however, the award will be presented via Zoom at our CASEA AGM on May 30th. Although we will not be able to celebrate with Dr. Brandon in person, we will look forward to doing so at our CASEA Banquet next year. At that time, we will also celebrate with Dr. Ken Brien, the 2020 Award recipient, who was not recognized in person due to COVID cancellation of CSSE last year.

In preparation for the award presentation to Dr. Brandon this year, as we have done in the past, I contacted the nominator, Dr. Stelmach, to request that she make the Award presentation to Dr. Brandon, and she has agreed to do so. I have also ordered a 2021 CASEA Distinguished Service Award plaque to be given to Dr. Brandon. And, since I did not do this last year, I have also ordered a 2020 plaque to be given to Dr. Brien. Based on past cost, I expect each plaque to be approximately \$100.00.

Many thanks to the members of the Distinguished Service Award Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve CASEA in this capacity.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Spencer
Chair, DSA Committee

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