



Canadian Federation
of Earth Sciences

Fédération canadienne
des sciences de la Terre



CFES/FCST mentorship medal

Mentorship is recognized across the board as a critical part of professional and academic development and is vital to the health of any professional community.

The CFES/FCST mentorship medal was created in 2008 to recognize the sustained and inspirational mentorship of colleagues and employees including peers, graduate students, undergraduate students and technicians. The medal was set up in honour of Paul F. Williams, a geologist known for scientific and mentoring excellence, candour and integrity.

The CFES/FCST Mentorship Medal is awarded annually to an individual from Canadian academia, government or industry.

The sole criterion for the medal is excellence in mentoring over a sustained period of time.

Guidelines

- A good mentor is forthright, supportive and constructively critical, committed to the mentee regardless of age or career goals.
- A good mentor has the ability to recognize and nurture potential and to bring out the best in mentees



- A good mentor provides emotional support, encouragement and essential strategies for a future career and has a continued interest in the mentee's professional advancement.
- A good mentor helps mentees to achieve professional goals with e.g. career transitions, setting up their own business or any other aspect of professional development

Nominating a candidate

In order to nominate a candidate, the following materials should be submitted to the awards subcommittee prior to October 31 of each year:

- position, institution, and all coordinates of professional and home address of the candidate
- a summary of the actions that form the basis for the nomination: max 300 words
- a letter of nomination that highlights the ways in which the candidate reflects the purpose of the medal.
- the candidate's CV
- a maximum of 5 supporting letters from mentees and 3 supporting letters from colleagues (at least one from within the candidate's institution) supporting the candidate's nomination.

CFES/FCST awards subcommittee

- The CFES/FCST board appoints a subcommittee for a period of 3 years. The subcommittee consists of 3 active and three alternate (back-up) members.
- The CFES/FCST Board will ensure that not all 3 members are renewed at once.
- The chair of the subcommittee reports to the CFES/FCST Board.
- The managing director of CFES/FCST functions as the secretary of the subcommittee
- A call for nominations is published annually in the newsletters of all CFES member organizations and on the CFES/FCST website
- The medal is given each year during at a conference that is appropriate in terms of the background of that year's recipient.