

Carol V. Ruppé Distinguished Service Award



William Moss

The Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) established the prestigious Carol V. Ruppé Distinguished Service Award to honor individuals who have a record of sustained and truly outstanding service to the society. In January 2016, at the 49th Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology in Washington, D.C., SHA presented the Ruppé Award to an archaeologist who exemplifies a life of service to his profession and to his colleagues—William Moss.

After receiving an honors degree in anthropology at the University of Waterloo in Ontario and a master's degree in historical archeology at Laval University, William Moss became principal archaeologist at Quebec City in 1985. This post, created to coordinate municipal action on archaeological heritage management, was the first of its kind in Canada. Together with the city's partners, including the Ministry of Culture and Communications and Laval University, William Moss has led more than 200 archaeological studies of Quebec City over the years. The results have been published as articles in national and international journals, and as scientific works on archaeological collections unique in the world for their quality and context. William Moss has also participated in numerous national and international conferences, communicating the rich heritage of Quebec, a UNESCO World Heritage city. As a result, William Moss is an eponymous figure for the archaeology of the historical period in Quebec.

William Moss has a long and distinguished record of service to SHA. This service has been colored by one constant theme: the promotion of the society and of the discipline of historical archaeology to the scientific community and the general public within the French-speaking world. William served as a valued member of the SHA Board of Directors for two consecutive terms from 2000 to 2005, the latter term as president-elect, president (2004), and immediate past-president. His terms spanned the transition of the organization to management by professional firms, marking a watershed in the evolution of SHA as an international society.

William organized two highly successful annual meetings: the first, in 2000, as co-chair (with Pierre Beaudet) of the 33rd Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology, and the second as chair of the 47th Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology in 2014. Organizing a conference on the scale of SHA's is a continuous effort spanning many years; the sum of his volunteer contributions to the 2000 and 2014 meetings represents over a decade of constant action. In addition to meeting high scientific standards, both conferences attained the goals of wide international participation and a strong French-language presence. William has notably managed the promotion and the selection process for the SHA Quebec City Award/Bourse de Québec since 2003. This travel award, created with funds generated by the 2000 meeting in Quebec City, assists French-language students participating in the annual conference. William also served on several SHA committees, particularly the Conference Committee, but also the Collections Management, Public Education and Information, and Awards committees.

William has been an active member in the promotion of historical archaeology in Quebec and Canada for more than three decades. The attribution, in 2000, of SHA Awards of Merit to the Ville de Québec, the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications, Parks Canada, and Laval University recognized and helped to consolidate the success of efforts to promote historical archaeology in the province of Quebec. His career is characterized by a series of well-articulated national and international contributions to the cultural heritage community. William was a proactive agent in several of the programs recognized by these awards, and he was instrumental in having them bestowed. Laval University awarded a doctorate *honoris causa* to William in recognition of his contribution to the consolidation of archaeology as an instrument of economic development in Quebec. This degree was bestowed in 2014 during a colorful ceremony that marked the opening of the 47th Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology in Quebec City.

For his dedication to the management of SHA through service on the board, for his promotion of the vitality of the society by organizing two highly successful conferences, and, generally, for his constant efforts to promote the French-language presence of SHA in the world, William Moss is the ideal recipient of the Carol V. Ruppé Distinguished Service Award.

DENA DOROSZENKO

RÉGINALD AUGER