

Citation (by Kathryn Bethune):

The 2018 CFES Mentorship Medal is awarded to Dr. Herwart (Herb) Helmstaedt of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. In his 36+-year career as a Professor of Geology, Dr. Herwart (Herb) Helmstaedt of the Dept. of Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering, Queen's University, has served as a dedicated advisor, role model and mentor for 59 graduate students, 26 Ph.D. and 33 M.Sc., along with numerous undergraduate students and M.Sc. students in the Mineral Exploration Program. Over his career, Herb continually exhibited an unparalleled interest and enthusiasm for geology. This enthusiasm was driven by an energetic yet at the same time highly focused and deep intellectual curiosity in how the earth works, in particular the nature of tectonic processes and how they have changed through time. This broad-based perspective strongly framed his entire career, and his related drive, energy, and enthusiasm were a continuous source of inspiration to his students and colleagues alike. At its height, in the late 1980s and early 1990s, Herb's research program was unique in fostering a wide range of field-based structural and tectonic studies in diverse areas of the Canadian Shield, facilitated by excellent collaborations with several geological surveys, including the Geological Survey of Canada but also DIAND and the OGS, among others. Herb's approaches benefited his students enormously, both by providing an environment in which they could develop individual know-how and skills, while at the same time learn from fellow, like-minded students within a collaborative research group at Queen's. Herb created this unique environment and, in doing so, trained and mentored a generation of strongly field-oriented geologists/tectonicists who have contributed their talents and expertise within the realms of government, academe and the mineral exploration industry. The success of each and every one of these 'mentees' is in large part due to Herb's inspirational leadership coupled with his support, advice, and encouragement, both in their formative years and beyond, as they transitioned into the professional world. Herb truly epitomizes what it means to be a great mentor and his legacy within the Queen's University 'family' and in the greater Canadian geoscience community will be enduring.