



NEWS RELEASE

CASLT AWARDS 2020

Ottawa, September 28, 2020 – The Canadian Association of Second language Teachers (CASLT) is honoured to recognize second language educators who have developed innovative teaching practices and contributed significantly to the advancement of language teaching and learning.

Named after CASLT's founding president, the **Robert Roy Award** goes to two recipients this year: Norman Sieweke and Dr. Roswita Dressler.

Following 25 years of classroom teaching in bilingual immersion programs, **Norman Sieweke** served for 12 years as a consultant with the Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education (IISLE) at Edmonton Public Schools. He provided support for the teaching and learning of languages in bilingual and immersion programs in the areas of literacy, pedagogy, assessment, resources, technologies, curriculum planning, and teaching in the content areas. He also managed many of IISLE's numerous international partnerships.

Dr. Roswita Dressler is an Associate Professor at the Werklund School of Education at the University of Calgary. She was a teacher of high school German and French as Second Language and has also taught German at the post-secondary level. Her research is in the field of second language teaching and learning, examining pre-service and in-service teachers' understanding of pedagogy as well as their own personal and professional learning around languages.

The **Honorary Lifetime Membership Award**, bestowed on an individual who has contributed significantly and broadly to the field, goes this year to **Dr. Mary Grantham O'Brien**. Dr. O'Brien is a Professor of German at the University of Calgary, where she has been teaching since 2003. At the undergraduate level, she teaches German language and linguistics; at the graduate level, she teaches applied linguistics and language pedagogy. Her research focuses primarily on second language learning. Most of her current work is on the extent to which listeners are able to comprehend accented speech. She is especially interested in making the results of research accessible to non-specialists and in determining how research is relevant to classroom language learning contexts.

The H.H. Stern Award is given to second language teachers in recognition of their innovative teaching practices. This year the award goes to **Beth Hubley**. Born and raised in St. John's Newfoundland, she attended Université Sainte-Anne, St. Mary's University, and St. Francis Xavier University, all in Nova Scotia. In 2001, Beth began teaching in High River, Alberta; in 2003, she moved home to Newfoundland where she has been teaching ever since. For the past 12 years, Beth has taught at St. Peter's Junior High where she is French department head. She and her partner Craig have been married for 15 years and have two children: Caroline (13) and Simon (9).

CASLT is delighted to honour these outstanding educators for their contributions to furthering CASLT's vision of excellence in the teaching of languages.

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Since 1970, the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) is dedicated to promoting the advancement of language learning and teaching throughout Canada. This is achieved by creating opportunities for professional development, by initiating and disseminating research, and by facilitating the exchange of information and ideas among language educators.

For more information:

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