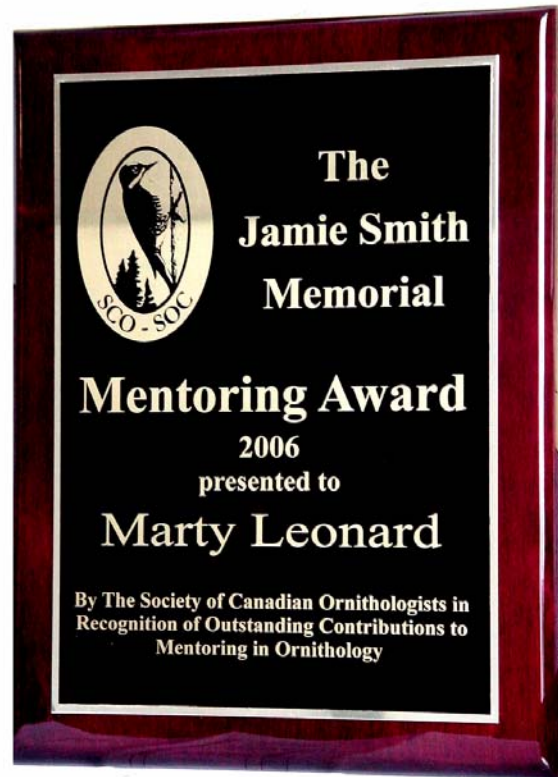


The Jamie Smith Memorial Award for Mentoring in Ornithology

It is with great pleasure that the Society of Canadian Ornithologists presented the inaugural Jamie Smith Memorial Mentoring Award to:

**Dr. Marty Leonard,
Professor, Dalhousie University.**



Marty had tremendous support from the many former students who nominated her. All spoke highly of Marty's ability to inspire and motivate them to think creatively and critically about their work. She was described as having an "uncanny ability to know exactly how much supervision to provide and how much free rein to give", allowing students to design their own experiments while providing guidance to ensure scientific rigour and potential for success.

Her passion and enthusiasm for ornithology and conservation were described as captivating, and she was noted by several as instrumental for inspiring young women to consider biology as a career. All her support letters also commented on her willingness to take the time to listen and help resolve problems that students encountered during any stage of their field studies, analysis or writing. One former student described her as "one of the best mentors of prospective young scientists that I have encountered in my years in the field of conservation".

Marty's suitability as the inaugural recipient of this award is, however, summed up beautifully in the letter provided by her nominator, who had actually sought Jamie Smith's advice on graduate supervisors. His response had been "if you want a really great mentor, you should contact Marty Leonard"

On behalf of the award committee, I would like to congratulate Marty on her achievements and encourage others to consider making nominations of supervisors and peers for next year's awards.

Ken Otter, Chair,
Jamie Smith Memorial Mentoring Award Committee