

Award for Service to the Profession of Geography Dr Bernard Thraves

Dr. Bernard "Bernie" Thraves earned his B.A. from The Queen's University in Belfast in 1971. He began his academic association with Canada in the early 1970s when he enrolled in the graduate program in Geography at the University of Manitoba. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees, both in Geography with a specialization in City Planning, from that institution in 1976 and 1986, respectively. During that period the City of Winnipeg was his research focus and he wrote numerous papers on ethnic migration and urban growth in that community.



In 1987 he moved to Saskatchewan to take up a tenure-track position at the University of Regina where he became a cornerstone of the Department of Geography until his retirement in 2011. His move to Regina opened up new research horizons for him and he was able to develop comparative analyses of urban populations and ethnic geographies of Prairie cities. Yet Dr. Thraves yearned for more. He developed a reputation at the university for his international field studies courses. He has taught the Geography of the Caribbean course, based in Jamaica, thirteen times, including twice since his retirement. He has led two field courses to New Zealand. During the 24 years that Dr. Thraves was at the University of Regina, he taught 20 different Geography courses to over 3200 students and participated in over 34 thesis defences.

Dr. Thraves's service to the CAG – and the Prairie Division, in particular – has been stalwart. For eleven years, from 1987–1998, he was the University of Regina's representative to the PCAG. From 2006–2009, he was a member of the CAG national executive, serving as the Chair of the CAG Awards Committee in 2009. He has been a very active member of the PCAG executive over the past fourteen years, culminating in a three-year term as President from 2006-2009. He edited 3 PCAG proceedings volumes: *Prairie Perspectives* volumes 5 and 11; and *Regina Geographical Studies: The Estevan Papers*. He was a tireless promoter of CAG events among the faculty and students at the University of Regina.

Perhaps Dr. Thraves's greatest academic achievement in serving Canadian geography was his role as lead editor for the 2007 publication *Saskatchewan: Geographical Perspectives*. With sections on physical geography, historical and cultural geography, population and settlement, and economic geography, this handsome 480 page tome is Saskatchewan's first comprehensive geography textbook. It received the 2007 Saskatchewan Book Award for Publishing in Education. It will undoubtedly be a benchmark volume for years to come.

Dr. Thraves has served the Profession of Geography with outstanding dedication and commitment and it is fitting that he is honoured with this award.