

2016
CSRS Lifetime Achievement Award/
SCÉR Prix pour l'ensemble d'une carrière
Ron Huebert's Remarks

Merci beaucoup

Merci beaucoup, Hélène. Merci beaucoup mes chers collègues, mes amis. Ce soir je me sens au milieu de mes confrères et de mes consoeurs, c'est-à-dire des gens qui m'ont choisi pour être accorder d'une faveur très spéciale. Je voudrais répondre avec mes reconnaissances les plus profondes.

Jusqu'ici en français, dans lequel je manque la facilité pour faire même la plus simple plaisanterie. Alors, on continue en anglais.

Not that I'm all that funny in English, either.

Yesterday I told my wife, Elizabeth, that if I were given the chance to make a speech this evening, I would take the opportunity to enumerate all of the petty grievances I've experienced over a long career. She didn't discourage this, except by implying it would be a long speech, but I'm going to do something else.

The theme of our Congress, after all, is the renewal of communities. So I'm going to identify three different communities that have nurtured my work and made it possible for me to stand here this evening.

1. First, I've been lucky to be a member of the Department of English at Dalhousie University for almost my whole career, a department in which my

agenda has been fostered and encouraged. And, for the second half of my career, roughly speaking, I was able to become a member of the University of King's College as well, where I was offered another kind of collegial encouragement and support.

2. Secondly, it's been my great good fortune to be a member of this association, the Canadian Society for Renaissance Studies. Year after year, I have prospered from the opportunities to present examples of my work in progress, or to organize (with my colleagues) discussions of new research initiatives. It has also been the perfect place to renew old friendships and to establish new ones. All told, my relationship to this association has been a wonderful ride.
3. Thirdly, I want to acknowledge how delightful it has been for me to do my work in collaboration with students and former students. I believe there are three former students of mine in the room this evening. These would include, to start with the recent past, Kirsten Inglis, who was a member of my graduate seminar on Early Modern Privacy just a few years ago, after which I was able to supervise her MA thesis. Since then, she has gone on to complete a PhD here at the University of Calgary and, as I learned only a few days ago, has won a SHRCC Postdoctoral Fellowship in the most recent competition.
(applause) To go back a bit further, Ian McAdam is also among my former students. When I first met him he was a member of my seminar in Renaissance Dissident Writers, after which I had the opportunity to supervise his PhD thesis, and to watch the subsequent development of his career. He taught here at the University of Calgary for several years, and then went on to

establish himself in his current position as Professor of English, University of Lethbridge. It gives me a special joy to say that my wife, Elizabeth Edwards, is also a former student of mine. And I would like to add, as an honorary student, Christina Luckyj who, upon arrival at Dalhousie as a Killam Postdoctoral Fellow, decided to audit a graduate seminar I was teaching, where she became a key member of this group and soon after a valued and distinguished colleague at Dalhousie.

So, I'm grateful indeed to the many friends and colleagues who have supported me in various ways. Each year this occasion, our annual banquet, gives us an opportunity to appreciate what the Canadian Society for Renaissance Studies means to us as individuals and as a collectivity. This year I have a special reason to celebrate, and to express my gratitude to all of you.