

2002 Award Recipients

The Benton H. Box Award - not awarded this year

The William C. Everhart Award - Barbara Tagger

The Dwight A. Holder Award - Dr. Colmore S. Christian

The Walter T. Cox Award - Fran P. Mainella

The Benton H. Box Award

The Award is named in appreciation of Dr. Box's distinguished career as an educator/administrator, especially as Dean of the College of Forest and Recreation Resources at Clemson University, which he led to national and international recognition for academic excellence and for leadership in fostering private innovation in resource management. The Award recognizes the teacher who by precept and example inspires in students the quest for knowledge; or the administrator who fosters a learning environment and encourages curriculum innovation to inculcate an "environmental ethic" as the rule of conduct involving resource management, development and utilization; or the private practitioner whose management over a sustained period demonstrates leadership in preserving, enhancing, renewing and restoring a livable environment.

The Benton H. Box Award is awarded for recognition as a teacher who by precept and example inspires in students the quest for knowledge and encourages curriculum innovation to inculcate an "environmental ethic" as the rule of conduct.

This was not awarded this year.

The William C. Everhart Award

The Award is named in appreciation of the distinguished career of Bill Everhart as field interpreter, researcher, administrator, author, and creator of the National Park Service's Harpers Ferry Center for creative design and

communication, which has received national and international recognition for excellence. The Award recognizes sustained achievements during a career or in a specific episode that illuminate, provide creative insights to, and that foster an appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage.

The William C. Everhart Award was presented to Barbara Tagger for sustained achievements in interpretation that have illuminated, created insights to, and fostered an appreciation of our cultural and historic heritage.

Barbara Tagger currently serves as a historian and Regional Coordinator of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program in the Division of Interpretation and Visitor Services in the Southeast Region of the National Park Service. Barbara began her career with the National Park Service in 1982 at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site where she helped research and develop interpretive programs on the Auburn Avenue community and its influence on Martin Luther King, Jr. During her tenure as a historian in the National Park Service (NPS), Barbara has served with the RTCA, Cultural Resources and National Register Programs Divisions. She has played a key role in developing the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail, the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program, the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site, and is currently assisting with the Harriet Tubman Special Resource Study. Not only has Barbara worked with interpretive planning, research programming, and historic preservation, she has taught classes in World History, United States and African-American history at Clark Atlanta University and Morehouse College. Her many publications include, "They Came to Fight: An Overview of the Black Civil War Soldier in Vicksburg, Mississippi" and *Interpreting African American Women's History through Historic Landscapes, Structures, and Commemorative Sites*. She has written and lectured extensively on historic preservation and interpretation of African American history around the country, and is creating time, amongst her other professional activities, to work on a PhD. in the Institute of Liberal Arts program at Emory University.

The Dwight A. Holder Award

The Award is named in honor of Mr. Holder's illustrious career as an entrepreneur and public servant. As Chairman of the South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission he led South Carolina's parks into a new era of service to the people of South Carolina and the nation. The Award recognizes outstanding work by doctoral candidates in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management; a member of the Department faculty for original research, scholarly writing, and innovative and inspired teaching; the faculty adviser and graduate student as a team, for initiatives that foster understanding of and provide new insights into the promotion, management, wise use and enjoyment of South Carolina's natural and cultural heritage in perpetuity; and distinguished academic leadership by a member of the Department faculty. (Mr. Holder passed away in Spring 2006).

The Dwight A. Holder Award is awarded to Dr. Colmore S. Christian for outstanding work as a doctoral student in PRTM and sustained achievement after graduation, management, wise use, and conservation of natural and cultural resources.

Dr. Colmore S. Christian is Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism, Industry and Enterprise Development, Government of Dominica. As Permanent Secretary, he advises the Honorable Minister with policy formulation and manages funds and other resources allocated to the Ministry. From 1996 - 1998, Dr. Christian was the Director of the Forestry and Wildlife Division in Dominica, where he had overall responsibility for the management and implementation of all the Division's programs and projects, including national parks. He also served as Acting Deputy Director of the Forestry and Wildlife Division from 1986 - 1987. During the period of 1982 - 1995, Colmore served as National Park Superintendent, where he coordinated national park programs, supervised employees, and formulated planning and administrative policies. It was during Dr. Christian's

employment with Dominica's National Parks that he had the honorable distinction of co-authoring the dossier for the Nomination of Dominica's *Morne Trois Pitons National Park* for inclusion on *UNESCO's List of World Heritage Sites*. The Park was enlisted as a World Heritage Site in December 1997.

Dr. Christian received his Ph.D. from the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management in 1996, his Masters from PRTM in 1991, and his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Michigan (1985).

Colmore's doctoral research involved an environmental impact assessment of visitor use in two national parks of Dominica. Dr. Christian's dissertation was one of the top five finalists for the 1997 Best Dissertation Award by the American Academy of Parks and Recreation Administration. While a graduate student at Clemson, Dr. Christian also served as President of Clemson University's International Student Association from 1992 - 1994.

Dr. Christian is author of numerous publications, particularly in the area of Parrot Conservation and Tourism. He travels widely and participates in professional programs, conferences and seminars over the entire world.

The Walter T. Cox Award

The Award is so named in appreciation of Dr. Cox's distinguished career in education and public service, especially his tenure as President of Clemson University and as the Director of the Santee-Cooper Authority. The Award recognizes sustained achievement in public service on the firing line, where the public interest meets the private interest in public policy formulation and administration; distinguished leadership and support of innovation in conflict resolution of policy initiatives that enhance the quality of life; personal achievements during a career or in a specific episode that provides inspiration and leadership to others in serving the above purposes.

The Walter T. Cox Award was presented to Fran P. Mainella for sustained achievement in public service providing leadership in

administration of public lands and for policy formation affecting our natural and cultural resources.

Fran P. Mainella is the 16th Director and first woman to lead the National Park Service in the organization's history.

Fran Mainella is committed to improving the full scope of programs in an agency already renowned for the support and respect it has earned from the American public. She is vitally concerned with strengthening programs for preserving natural and cultural resources in the parks and reducing a massive maintenance backlog that affects all of the properties in the National Park System. She is especially focused on the opportunities available through strengthened volunteerism, partnership, and outreach programs.

Appointed by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the Senate, she is a career professional in park and recreation management, with more than 30 years' experience. Most recently, she served 12 years as Director of Florida's Division of Recreation and Parks. Florida State Parks were voted the best in the nation, achieving the 1999-2001 Gold Medal Award given jointly by the National Sporting Goods Association and the National Recreation and Park Association.

During her tenure, the Florida Park Service became a national model for its volunteer and partnership programs which formalized and strengthened the effective use of interested, talented, and committed individuals and companies to enhance a broad spectrum of programs and services for public benefit. She oversaw management of 155 state park units from the Florida Keys to Pensacola Bay. She also served as Florida's Outdoor Recreation State Liaison Officer, administering Land and Water Conservation Fund grants to support acquisition and development of outdoor recreation sites.

Before assuming her State post, she was Executive Director of the Florida

Recreation and Park Association, a statewide professional organization for those working in public and private park and recreation programs and facilities. In recent years, she has served terms as President of both the National Recreation and Park Association (1996-97) and the National Association of State Park Directors (1997-99).

Among her many awards and recognitions, she has received several for her support of equal employment opportunities and ethnic diversity. She was also the 2001 recipient of The Senator Bob Williams Award in Florida, in recognition of her work for historic preservation.

The Connecticut native obtained her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Connecticut and her Master's from Central Connecticut State College.

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