

The 2003 Peter Schmidt award presented to Joanne Lerud

Cor F. Winkler Prins

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C.F. Winkler Prins, Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum Naturalis, Postbus 9517, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands (winkler@naturalis.nnm.nl).

It was decided 'en petit comité' to present the Peter Schmidt award for 2003 to Joanne Lerud, a dear friend who attended many of the 'Erbe Symposia' and made valuable contributions to them. The award is especially for organising in such an excellent way the Fifth International Symposium 'Cultural Heritage in Geosciences, Mining and Metallurgy: Libraries - Archives - Museums' at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden (Colorado).

The award is not valuable in a material way, but I hope it will be a precious souvenir of the mining history in The Netherlands and of the Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum Naturalis in Leiden. It consists of a piece of rock with Carboniferous plant fossils (*Alethopteris decurrens* (Artis) Zeiller and *Lepidophloios laricinus* Sternberg) from a Dutch mine, the National Mine Hendrik of south Limburg, long since closed down. It formed part of the important Jongmans collection, but was collected in 1976, long after the demise of Professor Jongmans. I was allowed to mount it and use it for the award.

It was with great pleasure that I handed over the award to Joanne Lerud (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. The presentation of the Peter Schmidt award for 2003 to Joanne Lerud by the author.