1999 Harlan D. Mills “Practical Visionary” Prize Award

The program committee of “Science and Engineering for Software: A Recognition of the Legacy of Harlan D. Mills” and the Mills Prize Award committee are pleased to announce that the winner of the 1999 Harlan D. Mills “Practical Visionary” Prize is:

David Lorge Parnas
McMaster University

David Lorge Parnas holds the NSERC/Bell Industrial Research Chair in Software Engineering in the McMaster University Faculty of Engineering's Computing and Software Department where he is Director of the Software Engineering Program.

He has been a Professor at the University of Victoria, the Technische Hochschule Darmstadt, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Maryland.

He has also held non-academic positions advising Philips Computer Industry (Apeldoorn), the United States Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. and the IBM Federal Systems Division. At NRL, he instigated the Software Cost Reduction (A-7) Project, which develops and applies software technology to aircraft weapon systems. He has advised the Atomic Energy Control Board of Canada on the use of safety-critical real-time software at the Darlington Nuclear Generation Station.

The author of more than 200 papers and reports, Dr. Parnas is interested in most aspects of computer system design.

In his teaching, as well as in his research, Dr. Parnas seeks to find a “middle road” between theory and practice, emphasizing theory that can be applied to improve the quality of our products.

Professor Parnas received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering - Systems and Communications Sciences from Carnegie Mellon University, and honorary doctorates from the ETH in Zurich and the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium. He won an ACM “Best Paper” Award in 1979, and two “Most Influential Paper” awards from the International Conference on Software Engineering. He was the 1998 winner of ACM SIGSOFT's “Outstanding Research Award”.

Dr. Parnas is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a Fellow of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM). He is licensed as a Professional Engineer in the Province of Ontario.