

It gives me great pleasure to write this citation for Paul Bauman, who is receiving the CSEG's Special Commendation Award. Paul Bauman received a bachelor's degree in Geological Engineering from Princeton University in 1981, and a Master's degree from the University of Waterloo in 1989 in groundwater and geophysics. His career in near-surface geophysics spans more than 30 years, and includes important contributions in the fields of groundwater, geotechnical engineering, contaminated site remediation, and archaeology. After a stint working for Schlumberger in the jungles of Indonesia and Borneo, Paul began his consulting career in Calgary for Komex International, later to become part of the Worley Group, and now continues at BGC Engineering. In addition to his consulting work, starting in the 1990s, Paul volunteered time and geophysical equipment to archaeological research projects in the Middle East, including at the Cave of Letters and Bethsaida in Israel.

In 2005, Paul was seconded to UNICEF in Aceh Province, Indonesia, to help assess impacts to, and the redevelopment of, groundwater supplies after the 2004 Boxing Day earthquake and tsunami. From this experience Paul recognized that geophysics could play an important role in humanitarian aid projects, particularly as a means to explore for and develop groundwater resources. Since 2015 Paul has volunteered to lead water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) courses to refugees in Kenya. After seeing the situation firsthand, Paul used this introduction as a springboard to design and lead geophysical groundwater exploration and water well rehabilitation programs in Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, and Zambia, with a key focus on training and building resilience in the local communities. Paul was also instrumental in leading an emergency response geophysical groundwater exploration program for the UNHCR in 2017, with the objective to improve the desperate water supply situation for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.

In addition to humanitarian water supply projects, Paul has been a leader in using geophysics to research sites in Eastern Europe associated with the Holocaust, including at the Sobibor extermination camp and in the former Warsaw Ghetto. These projects involved working together with US universities, local Jewish communities, and cultural preservation societies. In 2016, Paul was part of a team that used geophysics to help confirm the existence of an escape tunnel that was used in 1944 by slave labourers to escape certain death from the Nazis and their collaborators at the Ponary extermination site in Lithuania. This discovery was recognized by the New York Times as one of the most memorable scientific discoveries of 2016, which helped spur further research into the Holocaust at other sites in Lithuania and Poland. Closer to home, Paul has most recently provided technical support to indigenous communities in Canada with the ongoing search to locate unmarked graves at former residential school sites.

Over the years Paul has mentored and inspired countless students and colleagues to participate in humanitarian projects, and has helped nurture budding geophysicists through the CSEG's mentorship program. It is important to also note that many of Paul's projects would not have been possible without donor funding, including the SEG's Geoscientists Without Borders program. Speaking from personal experience, it is hard to not draw motivation from this level of passion, and to go along for the ride on another Paul Bauman project. For his contributions to humanitarian projects and mentorship, Paul is a worthy recipient of the CSEG's Special Commendation Award.

Alastair McClymont, Ph.D., P.Geo.