NETS Special Recognition Awards – Fall 2007

Criteria

Special Recognition Awards are designed to recognize single instances of extraordinary work performed by employees. Employees may qualify for a Special Recognition Award if one or more of the following criteria are met. The employee has:
1. Performed single-instance services that are of outstanding quality or of unusual importance to the execution of UCAR's programs;
2. Displayed commitment to activities or demonstrated outstanding skill or effort above and beyond his or her prescribed duties and workload;
3. Saved significant time or money;
4. Maintained an excellent level of performance during an organizational emergency or period of high stress, or shown great ingenuity or perseverance.

Based on these criteria, CISL/NETS is nominating two groups of individuals for work performed during FY2006 and FY2007.


This activity meets Criteria #2: displayed commitment to activities or demonstrated outstanding skill or effort above and beyond his or her prescribed duties and workload. This was a very visible external activity supporting a leading national research and education network provider and was viewed very positively by NLR.

At Marla Meehl’s request, with Al Kellie’s approval, CISL agreed to assume responsibility for the support of NLR's Domain, Mailing Lists, and Web Pages. Of course, managers approve these activities and engineers make them happen. Joel Daves and Greg Woods stepped up and made this happen in a timely fashion, with minimal disruption to NLR operations in the Spring of 2006. Their technical skill and expertise were unmatched, and they worked well and professionally with the Internet2 staff and Marla to migrate these responsibilities smoothly.

This activity was supposed to be temporary but lasted over a year. Joel and Greg maintained their excellent level of support throughout that timeframe. Joel and Greg then graciously transitioned this activity to the NLR Network Operations Center in the Spring of 2007 with great skill and professionalism.

2. Front Range GigaPoP (FRGP) Invoicing and Accounting - Lisha Kramer, Amy Moore, and David Waltman

This activity meets Criteria #4: maintained an excellent level of performance during an organizational emergency or period of high stress, or shown great ingenuity or perseverance.

The FRGP Invoicing and Accounting is relentless and has been for over seven years. There are new problems to solve every month, invoices must go out accurately and on time every month, invoices must be reviewed and approved for payment every month, and new FRGP policies must be implemented in the invoicing algorithm as needed. Ingenuity and perseverance are critical to this effort.

Lisha, Amy, and David are the team that makes sure the millions of dollars that flow in and out of the FRGP year after year are invoiced and accounted for per policy, standards, and the utmost in accuracy. David has developed, enhances, and maintains the financial spreadsheets that
guarantee that costs are estimated, passed on, and recovered correctly. Amy is the technical expert in NETS and makes sure that we meet UCAR policies and procedures and our own FRGP and NETS standards on both the invoicing side and the payments side to multiple FRGP vendors and members. Lisha is responsible for making sure that the invoices are sent to the FRGP members, all data is accurately entered in the UCAR accounting system, and receivables and payments are reconciled. Lisha is the F&A person responsible for ensuring that all UCAR policies and procedures are adhered to.

Amy, David, and Lisha’s patience, expertise, attention to detail, and dedication to this project are incredible. This is an extremely complicated set of agreements and cost allocations that continue to require advanced expertise to design, develop, track, and monitor the invoicing and accounting process. This is an ongoing effort as each new partner joins and as new services and costs are incurred. Amy, David, and Lisha continue to show excellent levels of performance.