

Press Release for January 7, 2008
Lincoln Journal Star

Four Volunteer Recognition Awards and One Dedication Award was presented to individuals and companies at the Dec. 13, 2007 meeting of the Lincoln Chapter of the American Society for Training and Development, Inc.

The ASTD–Lincoln Active Leadership Award was presented to **Laura Dyer, West Asset Management** and **Sarah Kahler** with **Southeast Community College**. This award recognizes a chapter member who provided vision, guidance, and support during the current year on an ASTD–Lincoln Board, Committee, Special Interest Group, or other capacity in a leadership role.

The ASTD–Lincoln Sponsorship Award was presented to **Doane College**. This award recognizes an organization that supports ASTD–Lincoln membership or events through financial contribution or other support that enabled or encouraged individual or collective growth or opportunity of membership to participate in workplace learning and performance activities during the current year. (Membership is not required for this award).

The ASTD–Lincoln Teamwork Award was presented to the **Big Event Committee**. Co-chairs for the committee were **Laura Dyer** with **West Asset Management** and **Sarah Kahler** with **Southeast Community College**. This award recognizes a group of ASTD–Lincoln members who successfully accomplished or completed an ASTD national or local chapter task assigned by the Board during the current year that increased or improved the knowledge or skill of membership or the capability of the chapter.

The ASTD–Lincoln Dedication Award was presented to **Michael Merritt** with **The Nebraska Medical Center, The Learning Network**. This award recognizes a chapter member who provided continual selfless service to the organization with disregard to hours spent or personal sacrifice during the current year with no expectation of recognition to ensure the success of the organization.

The ASTD-Lincoln Rookie of the Year Award was presented to **Gina Larson, Fall River Consultants**. This award recognizes a member who joined ASTD-Lincoln during the current calendar year and has made a significant contribution to the chapter through involvement in committees, events special interest groups or board positions.

The ASTD-Lincoln Community Impact Award was presented to **Kevin Mattran, Continuum EAP**. This award recognizes a member for an outstanding contribution in the areas of training and development or learning and performance. Nomination can be made by business leaders in the Lincoln area or ASTD –Lincoln members.

The ASTD-Lincoln Best Program Award was presented to **Marcus Buckingham** for the **Big Event**. This award recognizes the presenter(s) of a monthly or special event program during the

calendar year that was of significant relevance and importance to the professional development of the ASTD-Lincoln membership.

The ASTD-Lincoln Presidents Award was presented to **Lisa Hayes, Union Pacific Railroad**. This award recognizes an individual or group who has provided exceptional support and guidance, mentorship or who has proven to be a valuable resource to the ASTD-Lincoln President during his/her term.

The ASTD-Lincoln Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to **Judy Davidson-Whitehead, State of Nebraska**. This award recognizes a member of ASTD-Lincoln's general membership (ASTD-Lincoln board members are not eligible for this award) who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the chapter in the current year through volunteerism.

The 2007 ASTD-Lincoln Board of Director's were also announced. The board members are:

Ranelle Maltas, president; **Sandy Smith**, president-elect; **Michael Merritt**, past president; **Ron Snyder**, vice president professional development; **Marguerite Himmelberg**, director of programming; **Gina Larson**, vice president of education and research; **Anita Lewandowski**, director of competency and certification; **Elizabeth Howe**, vice president of membership; **Kevin Mattran**, director of involvement; **Lori Botz**, director of recruiting; **Shannon Poppe**, vice president of communications; **Lisa Chandler**, director of newsletter; **Anissa Schroeder**, vice president of finance.

For more information on ASTD-Lincoln, call (402) 434-7557 or visit www.astdlincoln.org. We help Nebraska work better!