CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

FAEDS Honors Ron Schoenau

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Table of Contents

FAEDS Honors Ron Schoenau .................................................................3
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At its most recent conference, the Florida Association of Educational Data Systems (FAEDS) honored Ron Schoenau for his decades of service to the Association. Schoenau, former NERDC director, and UF have been major participants in FAEDS for 27 years.

According to Marie Dence, associate director of NERDC and a past president of FAEDS, "The award recognizes Ron's years of support and contributions to the organization and the achievement of its goals."

FAEDS is the oldest Florida professional association dedicated to the advancement of educational technology. Its goals are to provide a forum for discussion of issues in educational technology; provide information and assistance to Florida educators and technical personnel; promote a greater understanding of the uses of technology at all levels of education; and encourage greater communication among instructional and information technology professionals in the State of Florida.

During his service, Schoenau has been membership chair, a member of the board, and has been an active participant for more than two decades.

"It's appropriate that FAEDS has recognized and shown its appreciation for Ron's supportive attitude and many contributions he has made to FAEDS and other statewide computing endeavors—both personally and through participation with NERDC," Dence said.

The award includes a lifetime membership to FAEDS and a plaque recognizing Schoenau's efforts. It was awarded during the October 2002 luncheon held in Safety Harbor, Florida. According to NERDC's Allan Pither, another past president of FAEDS, the award was unexpected.

"The award was a real surprise to Ron. Preceding the award was the presentation History of Technology in Florida Education by Glenn Mayne, who is the chief technology coordinator for the Council for Education Policy Research and Improvement in the Office of Legislative Services for the State of Florida. During his presentation, Glenn shared many stories of Ron's and UF's involvement in BITNET, FIRN, IBM's SNA, and Internet2, to name a few," Pither said.

Schoenau said his and NERDC's participation in the organization has helped the university better prepare for incoming students. "This is the only professional IT organization that brings together the K-20 education system. This provides us with invaluable contact with our feeder schools; it's important for us to know what our future students are encountering in the realm of information technology before they arrive at UF," he said.

We at NERDC join with FAEDS in congratulating Ron for his many years of contributions to educational technology.

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