

Talbott announces retirement

Brian Talbott, AESA Executive Director since 1997, announced his retirement at the 25th Annual AESA Annual Conference. Talbott said, "This is the best job in the world, but it is time for Anita and me to step back and enjoy another phase in our lives."

When Talbott began as AESA Executive Director the Association has membership in 31 states. Today it has grown to 45 states. The five states without membership do not have state legislation recognizing service agencies.

Talbott will continue to work with AESA on educational projects on an as needed basis following his retirement.

Talbott's education career began in 1965 as a Reading, Social Studies, and Language Arts teacher and cross-country and track coach at Marysville, Washington, where he became a high school vice principal in 1968. In 1969 Talbott became principal of Granger High School at Granger, Washington. He was named superintendent of the Granger School District in 1972. From 1975-76, while completing his Ph.D. at the University of Idaho, he also served as an instructor of undergraduate and graduate courses. Talbott was hired as Superintendent of Educational Service District 105 at Yakima, Washington in 1976. He served in

that role until 1982 when he became Superintendent of Educational Service District 101 at Spokane until his retirement in 1998.



Brian Talbott

Talbott currently serves as Board Chair of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), and member of the National Rural Education Advocacy Coalition. He is a past President and Council Member of AESA, and past member of national boards including United States Distance Learning Association, Reading is Fundamental (RIFNet), National Telecommunications Organization, and the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory.

AESA President Dee Alarcon presented Talbott with a plaque that read: In appreciation of creative leadership and significant contributions to public education and the nation's students as a teacher, coach, principal, superintendent, ESA superintendent, and AESA executive director.

The job posting for AESA Executive Director is available on the AESA website at www.aesa.us. The job opening closes at 5 pm Eastern Standard Time on Friday, February 18.

Executive director applications open through February 18

AESA has posted the position announcement and timeline for selection of the AESA Executive Director. The job posting closes at 5 pm Eastern Standard Time, Friday, February 18. The AESA Executive Council will conduct interviews scheduled in March time frame.

The start date for the new AESA Executive Director is negotiable. The posting including the application process, position description, candidate qualifications, professional qualifications, and job description are available for download from the AESA website at: www.aesa.us.

Please direct all inquiries regarding the position opening to AESA Chief Financial Officer Peter Young at pyoung@aesaus.

In this issue: AESA celebrates 2010 award winners

AESA presents national awards

Three individuals and an Educational Service Agency were honored with awards at the 2010 AESA Annual Conference at Savannah, GA.

Recipients of the Walter G. Turner award were Carolyn (Lynne) Cannon, Board Vice President, Grant Wood Area Education Agency of Iowa, and William K. Bogdan, Assistant Superintendent and Chief Operating Officer of Hamilton County Educational Service Center of Ohio.

Recipient of the Justus A. Prentice Award was Lee Warne, retired Executive Director of Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative of Minnesota.

Recipient of the Brian L. Talbott Award was Educational Service Unit 10 of Nebraska.

Profiles of each award winner follows.

Walter G. Turner Award

AESA annually recognizes outstanding accomplishments of contributions to education and to AESA. The Walter G. Turner Award is presented for outstanding contributions in the advancement of regional education programs at the regional, state and/or national levels.

The 2010 AESA Annual Conference was dedicated to Turner, who died on July 4, 2010. Turner, one of the original founders of the National Organization of County, Intermediate and Education Service Agencies (NOCIESA), now the Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESA), served as AESA's first Executive Director, a position he held for 14 years. He also served as Associate Director of the American Association of School Administrators and was a teacher, coach and superintendent in four Oregon school districts.

Nancy Turner, wife of Walt Turner, attended the 2010 conference and presented the prestigious award to this year's recipients.

Carolyn Cannon, Vice President of the Grant Wood Area Education Agency Board of Directors



Carolyn Cannon

Congratulations to Carolyn (Lynne) Cannon of the Grant Wood Area Education Agency Board of Directors at Cedar Rapids, IA who received the 2010 Walter G. Turner Award at the 2010 AESA Annual Conference at Savannah, GA.

Cannon, who has served on the Grant Wood Area Education Agency board for 30 years, 26 as president or vice president, was recognized for her advancement of the goals and philosophies of educational service agencies, outstanding accomplishments and innovative practices, leadership, and service to educational service agencies.

She began her education journey as a parent of a student with disabilities. Her quest for an appropriate education for her children led her into leadership roles with local, state, and national child advocacy groups where she also was a voice for educational service agency programs at the local, state, and national level. This quest also led her to leadership positions in her local school board where she served as a member and president of the Iowa City schools and as a board member at Grant Wood Education Agency.

Her advocacy for Iowa's Area Education Agencies was critical in development of Iowa's AEAs as a statewide "system of AEAs" which led to the hiring of a state director and lobbyist, creation of a statewide shared budget for joint AEA services, creation of the Iowa Educators Consortium purchasing cooperative, state AEA accredita-

tion process, and reduction of the number of AEAs from fifteen to nine.

Cannon also served as president of the Learning Disabilities Association of America, founder and president of Johnson County Chapter of ACLD, president of Elder Services, Inc., and vice president and board member of the Iowa City Area Science Center.

She served as managing editor of the Learning Disabilities Association of America's national journal, Learning Disabilities: A Multidisciplinary Journal, and editor of its newsletter, Newsbriefs. She also was managing editor for two national chemistry journals, and in 2001 retired from the University of Iowa's Chemistry Department where she was Director of Undergraduate Laboratories.

William Bogdan, Assistant Superintendent and Chief Operating Officer of Hamilton County Educational Service Center



William Bogdan

Congratulations to William K. Bogdan, of Hamilton County Educational Service Center at Cincinnati, OH who received the 2010 Walter G. Turner Award at the AESA Annual Conference at Savannah, GA.

Bogdan started his career as a special education teacher in Kentucky. In 1980 he moved to Hamilton County Educational Service Center as a special education consultant. In the subsequent 30 years at the agency he has been director of Special Education and Student Services, director of the Southwest Special Education Regional

Walter G. Turner Award (continued)

Resource Center, and currently serves as Assistant Superintendent and Chief Operating Officer.

Over the past three decades he has served on a multitude of boards, committees, councils, and task forces at the agency, region, state, national, and international level. Within every program he has worked with, Bogdan has advocated for the collaboration and partnership with a vision of the critical contribution that service agencies make to the larger educational community in service to children, schools, districts, and communities.

He is recognized for the prominent role he plays in advocating for persons with disabilities and the integration of special education and general education to better meet the needs of all children. His extensive service in this capacity include not only creation of programs and services at Hamilton County ESC, but also prominent positions on the board of the Children's Home of Cincinnati, the Family and Children First Council, the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence and two years as president of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) where he presided over the CEC's International Conference and the 2000 World Conference on Special Education.

Bogdan's work was influential in establishing policies at the state and federal level – including assistance in formulating AESA's positions – regarding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Bogdan has also been influential with development of effective regional networks nationally. For the past 15 years he has worked with 2007 Robert E. Stephens Award Winner Susan Leddick, president of Profound Knowledge Resources, Inc. Leddick stated, "As a very concrete and unique example of service to the ESA

community, Bill worked with me on a major project in Montana to review existing regional service structures and to provide recommendations to the Montana Department of Public Instruction on how to elevate those humble beginnings to full-fledged ESCs. The report that emerged from that project was a significant influence on policy recommendations provided to the Montana Legislature and Montana Governor. ... Bill's deep knowledge of ESAs, other regional structures (especially special education co-ops), and practical organization development was invaluable to our work."

Justus A. Prentice Award

Justus A. Prentice Award for outstanding contributions through executive leadership in the advancement of regional educational service agency programs at the regional, state, and national levels. The award was presented at the 2010 AESA Annual Conference at Savannah, GA.

Lee Warne,
retired
Executive
Director of
Southwest/
West Central
Service
Cooperative

Congratulations to Lee Warne, retired Executive

Director of Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative at Marshall, MN. Warne, currently leading the Minnesota Rural Education Association, is a former teacher, local school district superintendent, executive director of the Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative, member of the AESA Council, and president of AESA in 2006-2007.

He has advanced the goals and philosophies of educational service



Lee Warne

agencies through the creation of the Minnesota Service Cooperative statewide organization, and providing assistance to South Dakota in creation of that state's regional agencies, and assistance to the Wisconsin CESAs in their creation of a Wisconsin rural education group.

Warne has been involved in outstanding accomplishments and innovative practices, including helping create AESA's Executives in Residence program, piloting the original natural gas cooperative program for AESA, development of the AESA succession plan, and developing at SW/WC Service Cooperative a model for what is now known as shared services with out-sourcing agency personnel to member districts for back office and technology services.

His exercise of leadership includes serving on the AESA Council, and being elected president of AESA, serving as chair of AESA Governmental Relations Committee, past member of the AESA Foundation, president and later executive director of Minnesota Rural Education Association, chair of Minnesota Service Cooperatives statewide organization, and its Legislative Committee.

He has also chaired the AESA Conference Committee, has been part of the conference planning team in 2008, 2009, 2010, and helped create the "AESA Rockers" to assist in raising funds for the AESA Foundation.

Brian L. Talbott Award

To an individual or agency for contribution in the area of technological innovation and support to local districts and educational service agencies.

Educational Service Unit 10 of Kearney, NE received the 2010 Brian L. Talbott Award for outstanding contributions through innovative technology support to constituent

AESA cosponsors webinar on

'turnaround schools'

Join experts from the nation's Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs) on February 24 for an informative and interactive webinar cosponsored by AESA on the Turning Around Chronically Low-Performing Schools Practice Guide — one of 14 guides produced by the What Works Clearinghouse, U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences.

The Guide identifies four practices for improving the performance of chronically low-performing schools — or "turnaround schools." All 14 practice guides are available for free download at: www.ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/publications/practiceguides.

Nationally recognized school improvement expert Sam Redding, Director of the Center on Innovation and Improvement, will present recommendations with a special emphasis on how education service agencies and state education agencies can work together to help low-performing schools and districts with turnaround efforts.

A panel of ESA and SEA representatives will share their insights and experiences about turning around low-performing schools. Participants will also suggest topics for future webinars.

Details of the webinar are:

- Date: Thursday, Feb. 24, 2011
- Time: 2:30-4:30 p.m. (Eastern, 1:30-3:30 p.m. (Central), 12:30-2:30 p.m. (Mountain), 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (Pacific)
- Registration: Register by Thursday, February 10, 2011 at <http://tinyurl.com/2w44k3q>
- For more information: Contact Heather Hoak at hhoak@mcrel.org or call: (800)781-0156.

Brian L. Talbott Award (continued)

schools that caused positive improvement to be made and through the effective use of technology to enhance the agency's own operation and accountability.

The award was presented at the 2010 AESA Annual Conference at Savannah, GA.

Educational Service Unit 10's technologies have national, state, regional, local school district, and community reach.

- Nationally it has developed an online system software for the Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership that now is also used in Alaska, Arkansas, California, Idaho, Indiana, Michigan, Nevada, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.
- Statewide, as part of the Greater Nebraska Educational Network Consortium (GNENC), ESU 10 serves as the base of technical and network operations for five ESUs, and over 100 school districts in a region covering 50,000-plus square miles of central and western Nebraska.
- Regionally and at the school district level, ESU 10 provides direct technology services to 35 public school districts in an 11-county, mostly rural area of the state.
- Within its extended community, ESU 10 provides technical support



Lanny Kizer



Ron Cone

for all Buffalo County, Nebraska services; and, has provided streaming educational website services to the Great Platte River Road Archway for the return of the Pawnee Indians to Nebraska and to the Rowe Sanctuary crane cam to document the sandhill crane migration across Nebraska.

Accepting the award on behalf of Educational Service Unit 10 were ESU 10 Board President Lanny Kizer and ESU Network Information Systems Director Ron Cone.

Craven receives NAMTC's Braselman Award

Geoff Craven, Telecommunications and Technical Support Manager for Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit at Lewisburg, PA, was named the winner of the 2010 Herb Braselman Award at the National Association of Media and Technology Centers' Leadership Summit. The Summit was held in conjunction with the 2010 AESA Annual Conference at Savannah, GA.

The Braselman Award is given in recognition of exemplary service and leadership for regional media centers and for outstanding contributions to the field of educational media and technology.

Craven also was the first recipient of the Brian L. Talbott Award presented at the 2009 AESA Annual Conference at Austin, TX.



Geoff Craven

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Corwin Press named newest AESA Business Partner

Corwin Press was announced as AESA's newest Business Partner at the 2010 Annual Conference at Savannah, GA.

The Business Partner relationship requires a due diligence review by the Washington DC law firm Patton and Boggs, internal AESA review, and negotiation of a contractual agreement between the company and AESA.

Corwin was established in 1990 as an affiliate of SAGE Publications to provide solutions for those serving the field of K–12 education. Since that time, Corwin dedicated to "Helping Educators Do Their Work Better," has expanded its practice-oriented publications to cover PreK–12, ranging from very practical, experiential-based manuals to more reflective or research-based books. Corwin Press' extensive booklist targets school principals, administrators, specialists, teachers, and other educational practitioners at one end of the continuum, to teacher educators and advanced-level students at the other.

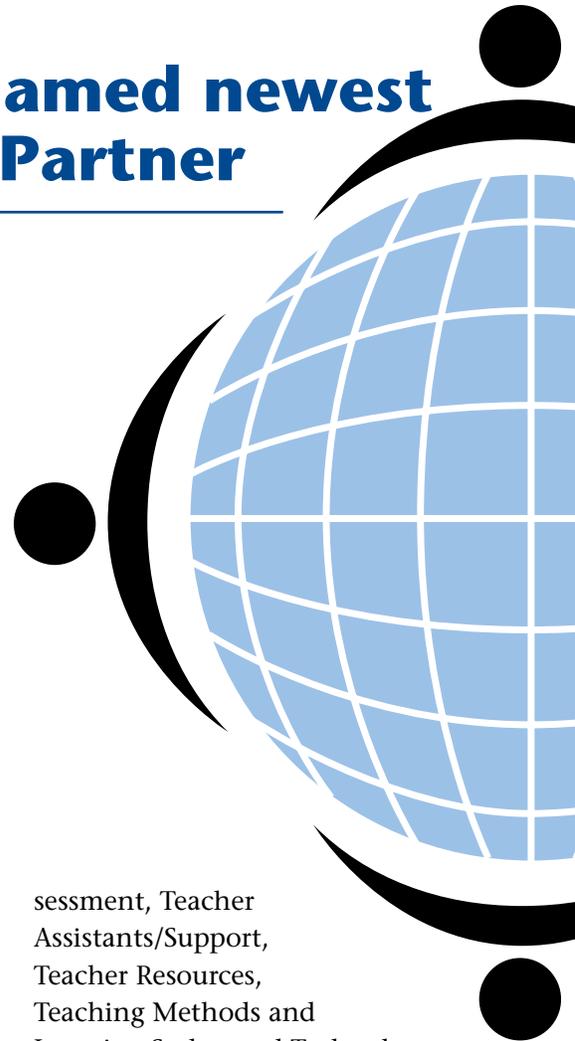
Among the books and resources published by Corwin are titles in the areas of: Administration and Leadership, Classroom Management and Student Behavior, Community and Family Issues, Curriculum and Content, Diversity, Early Childhood Education, Educational Research, Gifted and Talented Learning, Higher Education, Preservice Training, School Counseling, School/Educational Psychology, Special Education, Staff Development and Professional Learning, Student As-

essment, Teacher Assistants/Support, Teacher Resources, Teaching Methods and Learning Styles, and Technology.

Additionally Corwin's Online Professional learning provides web access to Authors on Video and On-Demand Online Courses.

Educators can connect with Corwin at its website, www.corwin.com, or through social media networks Facebook, TeacherTube, Twitter, or YouTube.

Corwin books and multimedia resources range from very practical, experience-based resources to more reflective or research-based titles, and are written for a diverse set of professionals—school principals, administrators, specialists, teachers, counselors, consultants, teacher educators, and collegiate-level students. Corwin authors are available for speaking engagements through the Corwin Press Speakers' Bureau.



Witten earns 2010 NAMTC Partner in Excellence Award

Upcoming AESA conferences

The AESA Executive Council and the AESA Foundation Board have set the dates and locations for 2011 conferences. Mark your calendars to save the dates:

- 2011 AESA Foundation Summer CEO Conference, July 18-21, Traverse City, MI
- 2011 AESA Educators' Call to Action Conference, Sept 19-21, Arlington, VA
- 2011 AESA Annual Conference, Nov 30-Dec 3, Colorado Springs, CO

Conference registration and lodging details will be sent to superintendents/ceos and posted to the AESA website

Congratulations to Robert G. Witten who was awarded the National Association of Media and Technology Centers Partner in Excellence Award. This annual award is given in recognition of exemplary leadership and for outstanding contributions to the field of educational media and technology.

Dr. Witten has served as Executive Director of the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit for the past 16 years, where he oversees operation of a regional education agency conducting more than 100 programs and services. Prior to this position, he was Superintendent of the Upper Adams School District (Biglerville, PA) for 15 years.

Dr. Witten has been a champion for educational technology and educational service agencies. As president of AESA he was instrumental in assisting and supporting the NAMTC board's decision to hold the annual conference in conjunction with AESA, and he recognizes the critical role technology and media play in education. One of his favorite quotes is the important role educators' play in being "dream makers" for our kids. Throughout his more than 35 years in education he has played a major role in making "dreams come true" for countless students and families.

Dr. Witten is a current member and past president of both the AESA and the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators (PASA). He also serves on the Governor's Commission on Children and Families

and University of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania State University School Study Councils. He is a member of the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) and Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units (PAIU).



Robert Witten

Active in community service, Dr. Witten is a member and former Vice Chairperson of the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Economics Pennsylvania Board of Directors.

In 2001, he received the AESA Justus A. Prentice Award, and in 2009 the PASA Service to the Profession Award.

NAMTC Partner in Excellence Award Recipients include:

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| 2010 | Robert Witten |
| 2009 | Mel Blackwell |
| 2008 | Brian Talbott |