

**Saprena Lyons, A.J. Mousseau
recipients of Lou Milam awards**



Electronic newsletter from Communications
for employees of the INEEL

Saprena Lyons and A.J. Mousseau have been named the recipients of the 2004 Lou Milam Next-Step Education Award. Both received \$1,500 scholarship awards to apply toward the costs associated with continuing their education.

The Next-Step Education Award scholarship was established in 1992 in memory of former employee Lou Milam to encourage female administrative support employees to improve themselves through education.



A.J. Mousseau



Saprena Lyons

Lyons, a principal office specialist within Clean/Close INTEC, will use her award to pay for costs of a certification exam associated with pursuing a degree in nursing. Her manager is Richard Loos.

Mousseau, a consulting office specialist for the Idaho Completion Project, will use her \$1,500 to purchase a laptop computer, which will be useful in her quest to attain a degree in professional writing. Her manager is Frank Russo.

The two recipients of the Lou Milam Next-Step Education Award were recognized at a reception Aug. 18.

The Next-Step Education Award scholarship was established in 1992 in memory of former employee Lou Milam to encourage female administrative support employees to improve themselves through education. For the past 13 years, the prime contractor

has provided matching funds to support a second education award that is presented annually.

Lyons is earning an associate's degree in nursing through Excelsior College and attending Idaho State University in pursuit of a bachelor's degree in health education with community/worksites emphasis. She plans to use the funds received with this award to travel to a designated test hospital to take the three-day Clinical Performance in Nursing Exam (CPNE), which is required to complete her nursing degree.

Mousseau is attending Idaho State University, pursuing a bachelor's degree in professional writing. With her \$1,500 award, she plans to purchase a laptop computer.

All female employees in administrative support positions are invited annually to apply for the education award. Since 1992, there have been 24 recipients of the award.

Trudy Overlin, one of the first two recipients of the award, went on to complete master's and doctorate degrees. She compiled the statistics and presented an overview of where the past recipients are now. "Education is one of the things people can do for themselves that will change them for a lifetime," she said.

She reported that of the 22 past recipients, 13 are employed at the INEEL. A statistical breakdown shows one recipient achieved a doctorate degree, with another person aiming for the same. One recipient is in the process of achieving a juris doctorate degree. Three have completed master's degrees and one is in progress. A total of 15 of the recipients went on to earn bachelor's degrees, with five others still in progress.

Those attending the reception were the managers of each recipient, friends and co-workers, family members and previous award recipients. Stu Milam, former DOE-ID employee and Lou's husband, presented the awards along with Candy Wilkinson, representing the Human Resources Directorate.

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