Five Honored for Contributions to Council

Five people were recognized at the 2007 annual meeting for substantial service to CSE: Distinguished Service Awards went to Michael Held and Edward O’Connell, Certificates of Appreciation were given to Rebecca Benner and Dana St John Plette, and Kathy Hoskins received special recognition.

Held was recognized principally for facilitating publication of the seventh edition of Scientific Style and Format: The CSE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers. "He was the driving force, the whip, the tireless, determined, and yes—let’s just call it what it was—pushy go-to guy for all those mind-boggling details of publishing,” said Awards and Honors Committee Chair Faith McLellan at the presentation ceremony. “If it weren’t for Michael’s relentlessness, we’d have a lot of beautiful text and artwork and electronic files, but no book.” A past president of CSE, Held has also been treasurer and has chaired a variety of CSE committees. Currently, he is director of the Division of Scholarly Journals and Professional Periodicals of the American Academy of Pediatrics. He was previously executive director of The Rockefeller University Press and director of editorial operations of the Journal of Clinical Investigation.

O’Connell has been a Council member since 1997. He is professor emeritus of pediatrics at the Mayo College of Medicine and editor-in-chief emeritus of Annals of Allergy, Asthma, & Immunology. His publications include more than 100 original articles and book chapters and many abstracts and editorials.

Benner was recognized for her leadership of the Education Committee, especially with regard to the international scholarship program. “This program had been the dream of many of us for some years, especially as CSE has tried to engage more deeply with international issues and with editors in the developing world,” McLellan said. “Rebecca Benner took the idea and ran with it, turning a vague dream into a concrete and welcome reality.” A CSE member since 2000, Benner joined the Education Committee in 2004 and chaired it from 2005 to 2007. She is the managing editor of Obstetrics & Gynecology. Previously, she was an editor at BioScience.

Plette was honored for her work in seeing the seventh edition of Scientific Style and Format into print as chair of the Publications Committee. Since joining the Council in 1991, Plette has served on a variety of committees, including Program, Sponsorship, and Editorial Policy, of which she was a vice chair. In addition, she has taught in the CSE Short Course for Managing Editors and the CSE Short Course for Journal Editors. Her professional positions have included managing editor of Circulation, managing editor of Cancer, and journal sales representative for Dartmouth Journal Services.

Hoskins, executive director of the Council since 1998, received a special plaque for her many contributions. In presenting it, McLellan noted that Hoskins had put up with the “quirks, oddities, and occasional charms” of CSE members “with good humor and skill”, taking in her stride science editors’ extreme attention to detail. “Kathy, I know it may seem to you like you’ve been working with us for 50 years,” McLellan said, “but on this occasion of our 50th anniversary, we especially wanted to pay tribute to you and encourage you to stick with us for just 50 more annual meetings.”

Congratulations and thanks to all the award recipients.