

AWM Awards Presented in San Diego

The Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) presented two awards during the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Diego in January 2002.

Louise Hay Award

The Louise Hay Award for Contributions to Mathematics Education was established in 1990 to honor the memory of Louise Hay, who was widely recognized for her contributions to mathematical logic and her devotion to students.

The 2002 Hay Award was presented to ANNIE SELDEN of Tennessee Technological University. She received the award for “her outstanding scholarly contributions to undergraduate mathematics education, her sustained efforts to promote the mathematics community’s understanding of the importance of research in mathematics education, and her role as a mentor to young faculty.” She has been a key figure in the development of a new professional organization, the Association for Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education. Her contributions to research in teaching and learning collegiate mathematics include many writings on calculus learning and proof in advanced mathematical thinking. She has also served as a mentor in a project to pair senior mathematics education researchers with mathematicians and other young faculty interested in research in undergraduate mathematics education. “Annie Selden has been a visionary for the promotion of research in collegiate mathematics education and has provided leadership for the professional community of mathematics educators,” the citation states.

Schafer Prize

The Alice T. Schafer Prize for Excellence in Mathematics by an Undergraduate Woman was established in 1990. The prize is named in honor Alice T. Schafer, one of the founders of AWM, who also served as AWM president.

The 2002 Schafer Prize was awarded to KAY KIRKPATRICK of Montana State University and MELANIE WOOD of Duke University.

Kay Kirkpatrick is a senior at Montana State University, where she has excelled in many graduate courses. In the summer of 2000, she participated in the Industrial Mathematics Workshop for Graduate Students at the Center for Research in Scientific Computation at North Carolina State University. Her mentor there says that Kirkpatrick “was extremely insightful, very creative in her thinking, and was the intellectual peer of the best graduate students in the program. She is one of the brightest undergraduates I have encountered in more than thirty years in academia.” Kirkpatrick also participated in a Research Experiences for Undergraduates program in the summer of 2001 and wrote a paper that has been accepted for publication. Kirkpatrick was awarded a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship in 2001.

Melanie Wood is a junior at Duke University. In 1999, she was a member of Duke’s third-place Putnam team and received an Honorable Mention for her individual Putnam performance. She has excelled in many graduate courses, beginning in the fall of her freshman year and continuing to the present. One of her professors commented that she is “a truly remarkable student, one of the best I have ever encountered in my twenty-one years of teaching”; another commented, “I know that she will become a top-flight mathematician.” In the summer of 2000, Wood participated in a Research Experiences for Undergraduates program and wrote a paper that has been submitted for publication. She was awarded a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship in 2001.

Five students also received honorable mentions in the Schafer Prize competition: KAREN M. LANGE of Swarthmore College, SONJA MAPES of the University of Notre Dame, AMY E. MARINELLO of Swarthmore College, KATHLEEN A. PONTO of the University of Notre Dame, and GRACE C. WANG of the University of California at Berkeley.

—From AWM announcements