Lynn Denzin has retired from Metropolitan State College (also known as “Metro”) in Denver after serving there for 25 distinguished years. Lynn began her career in education as an English teacher in South Dakota. It wasn’t long after that that Lynn moved into higher education as the Director of Veterans Affairs and Institutional Research at Black Hills State College. Lynn was very involved at the national level in veteran’s organization. It was this involvement and an outstanding reputation in veteran’s affairs that first brought her to “Metro” in 1978. She served the veteran’s organization for three years as the national Vice President, and two years as its national President. She was awarded Outstanding Service Awards in 1984 and 1986, as well as the President’s Award in 1985, 1988 and 1991.

When she first started at Metro, Lynn also served in the position of Associate Registrar. She was responsible for the registration, record keeping, and class schedule process. She also served as the college’s Tuition Classification Officer position. It was during this time that Lynn first became involved in RMACRAO. In 1992, Lynn was one of four individuals who participated in the development of the RMACRAO Profile of Admissions and Registrar’s Office Report. Lynn not only gathered the data, she also served as the report editor, putting her former English teacher skills to work. This report won a national recognition award at the 1992 AACRAO meeting for Best State and Regional Project.

While working in the registrar’s office, Lynn was recognized for her dedication and hard work at several levels. She was honored at “Metro” with the Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Administrator in 1993 and the 1995 Outstanding Woman Administrator Award. Also in 1995, she was selected to attend the Academic Management Institute. RMACRAO recognized her talents and her energy, and she was elected as the association’s regional treasurer.

Following this time, “Metro” decided that the time was now to implement a new computing system. Not only did they select the SCT Banner system, but they also selected the best person on the campus to co-chair this project’s implementation. This new project, named the Integrated Systems Initiative, replaced existing administrative computing systems on the “Metro” campus. Lynn served as the co-project manager and the huge responsibility that accompanied this position. She was charged with staff allocations, development of IT staff, communicating with the campus community through presentations and publications about the project, and team organization. Anyone who has worked on a project of this type is aware of the huge responsibility that accompanies this work. It takes someone with talent, energy, creativity, intelligence and initiative to keep the project running, and Lynn did this admirably. At the conclusion of this project, Lynn was then recognized again by “Metro” for this work. First, she was selected to attend the prestigious 1999 Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania. In addition, she was appointed as the new Director of Application Services within Information Technology at “Metro”. In this position, Lynn was responsible for the systems and the procedures that were developed during the Project Implementation phase, including enhancing all network-based applications such as desktop PC, Web, Kiosk and Voice Response systems. In 2000, she was promoted to Executive Director of Application Services and Customer support, with added duties of Help Desk, IT Student Development program, and college wide Technology Training.

In addition to her duties at “Metro”, Lynn was elected as the RMACRAO Vice President for Colorado in 1997. Lynn has also served the AACRAO organization, first participating on the Professional Access and Equity committee, and then chaired for two years the Information Systems and Technology committee. Lynn has spent a great deal of time enlightening all of us through numerous presentations at not only RMACRAO conferences but also at AACRAO.

Lynn has also been very active in the Denver community as a volunteer, including serving on committees at the Denver Art Museum, KUVO Public Radio and the Capitol Hill United Neighborhood. Her service to her community, “Metro”, RMACRAO and AACRAO will long be remembered and will set a benchmark that few will attain. More than this, she has been a tremendous friend and mentor to many of us within the organization. She has served us with professionalism, with ethics, with energy, with creativity, and with caring. There will be a tremendous loss to the higher education community the day Lynn retires. We send her out with our thoughts and with our love. Rocky Mountain ACRAO is honored to present its distinguished service award to Lynn Denzin.