Steve Ekerholm is a quiet, unassuming man, but as it has been said don’t let his quiet and relaxed demeanor fool you! Steve began his career path a number of years ago like many others, as a student employee in Admissions and Records. Like so many others he didn’t set out to be a “Registrar”, but that is the career path he did go down after graduating from CU-Colorado Springs.

As a student employee in the Records office it was his responsibility to keypunch all the IBM punch cards following arena-style registration. He single-handedly pounded away to get the data so everyone would know the outcomes of registration. Experiences like this are what helped motivate Steve to become an advocate for new and more modern student systems.

It might have been said that Steve wasn’t able to keep a job….because he moved around so much within the CU system. He has served as the Registrar in Colorado Springs, moving then to the Denver campus to become Registrar there, and then the Associate Director of Admissions in 1994. In 2000 he moved on again to the University of Colorado at Boulder into the Registrar position there. In 2002 he came back to the Colorado Springs campus to take on the tasks related to the Director of Enrollment Management.

All during this time he has been involved in RMACRO and AACRAO. And his involvement and evolvement in our professional organization has been of great benefit to all of us. He co-chaired the 1993 RMACRAO meeting in Colorado Springs. Out of that meeting came the working document so dearly treasured in our organization as “How to plan a successful state/regional meeting”. With all the hard work that went into developing this very valuable resource, RMACRAO submitted it for Best State and Regional Professional Activities to AACRAO in 1995-96. RMACRAO received the honor at the AACRAO Annual Meeting in April of 1996. The document is still in use today and a very helpful guide for our membership as they step up to the plate to host a regional meeting.

Steve has served on the Executive Committee since 2000 in the positions of President-Elect, President and Past President. He was the program chair for the RMACRAO Annual Meeting held in Grand Junction, Colorado. He has served on various committees, presented at both the regional and national level, and has been there whenever the organization needed to have something done.

He is well respected for his technical knowledge, people skills and in leading others to help make innovative changes to improve student services across many campuses. He
has a knack for making the complex, simple. And although he does not necessarily say a lot, when he does speak what he has to say is important enough that others take notice and listen!

Steve, thank you for your service to your profession and RMACRAO. We are all the richer for it. On behalf of all involved in RMACRAO we are honored to award you with Distinguished Service Honor, this July 17, 2003.