The RMACRAO Board of Directors has selected an individual to receive the Distinguished Service Award this year who has done more work for our association in 5 years than many have had the opportunity to do in their entire professional career. This individual has worked hard, above and beyond, for the continued growth of RMACARO that we have all benefited from and will continue to benefit from for a very long time.

It’s 2001 at the Annual Meeting in Colorado. It’s break time and folks are outside enjoying the sun and the camaraderie when an idea was born. If they can do it why can’t we do it? And at Grand Junction the adventure began.

When we all gathered in Durango, Colorado in 2003, on the Fort Lewis College campus, the chance for the “college experience” -- to live on campus, sleep in the dorms, shower with tiny towels, and sit in the classroom to learn and converse about important issues that affect Admissions and Records, was an experience most of us hadn’t done in years.

From serving as Local Arrangements Chairperson in 2003, to Vice-President for Colorado from 2003 - 2005, to currently serving as President-Elect during this past year, Sherri Waggoner has given her all to the growth and development of our organization.

Her willingness to help out at the National level from volunteering to help out at the Newcomers sessions, to facilitating sessions, to writing articles for SEM, and teaching several Registrar 101 courses to members around the country, she has certainly added to the professional development of all of us here today.

From the shores of Navajo Lake, to the towering suite at Mandalay Bay hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada, she has shared her experiences from working at Fort Lewis College for the Alumni Office, Admissions and Registrar’s Office with those seeking professional mentorship.

During her term as Vice-President of Colorado she worked on formalizing the association’s Peer Institution Review process. She communicated with the membership in Colorado on a very regular basis, encouraging everyone to become involved. It’s been said there might have been a bit of arm twisting to step up to the plate, but after all what are volunteer organizations all about.

She will be known as the most connected person many of us know. From the cell phone to the blackberry to the land phone to e-mail, no matter whether she is on vacation with the family in Hawaii to attending the AACRAO Leadership meeting in Washington, D.C., she’ll get back to you with the answer to your questions in a very timely manner. There are those who can attest to the fact that she knows exactly where to stand with her right foot at a 90 degree angle and her left arm shot up in the air facing just a tad south, to return your call while she is water skiing at Navajo Dam.

From the RMACRAO community to Sherri Waggoner, we honor and thank you for your energy, contributions and commitment to the growth of our association. Awarded on this 20th day of July 2006.