

# Association of Texas Professional Educators

305 E. Huntland Dr., Suite 300, Austin, TX 78752  
(800) 777-ATPE • (512) 467-0071 • [www.atpe.org](http://www.atpe.org)

**Supporting Your Freedom to Teach<sup>SM</sup>**

**July 15, 2009**  
**Release No. 07-09-07**

**Media contact: Adam Rondeau**  
**[arondeau@atpe.org](mailto:arondeau@atpe.org)**

## Top local units and campus reps named

The winners of the Association of Texas Professional Educators 2009 Local Unit of the Year and Campus Representative of the Year awards were announced during a special ceremony at the association's annual "Leader U" leadership workshop.

The four recipients of the Local Unit of Year award were selected for displaying effective local unit management, innovative methods for encouraging membership growth, and community service initiatives. The award recipients are:

- University local unit category: Schreiner University, Region 20
- 1–500 members category: Nacogdoches ISD, Region 7
- 501–1,000 members category: Forney ISD, Region 10
- 1,001-plus members category: Mesquite ISD, Region 10

"These local units serve as a role model for other units seeking to emulate the success that these award recipients have reaped from their hard work," said Sam Spurlock, ATPE state president.

Campus Representatives of the Year are chosen by their peers for their superior abilities to recruit new members and communicate ATPE's incredible services and resources to members on their campuses. The award recipients are:

- 1–500 members category: Ma Elena Ingram, McAllen ISD
- 501–1,000 members category: Toni Martin, Forney ISD
- 1,001-plus members category: Diane Nix, Mesquite ISD

"Campus representatives form the backbone of ATPE's efforts to remain the premier education association in the state," said Spurlock. "Without their dedication to the ATPE's success, we simply couldn't function."

More than 800 teachers, para-educators and administrators from across the state joined the award recipients for a special ceremony July 10 to honor them for their achievement.

The three-day Leader U event also gave attendees the opportunity to attend special workshops, learn more about ATPE's legislative and governance program, and receive continuing education credit.

###

*The 112,000-member Association of Texas Professional Educators is the largest educators' group in Texas and the largest nonunion educators' group nationwide. Its membership consists of classroom teachers, para-educators, administrators, college students and retired educators. ATPE is committed to advocating for better benefits for all educators, promoting a collaborative work environment and the right of educators to choose the association they feel represents their interests, and providing the best education possible for all Texas school children.*