



Software Association of Oregon
SAO Foundation

NEWS RELEASE **For Immediate Release**

Contact: John Tortorici, (503) 228-5401

Software Association of Oregon Foundation Announces 2005 Oregon Information Technology Educator of the Year

PORTLAND, OREGON, December 2, 2005 — The Software Association of Oregon Foundation honored Jim Lorenz from South Salem High School as the 2005 *Oregon Information Technology Educator of the Year*.

This annual award recognizes outstanding contributions of an educator who inspires passion and commitment from his/her students while advancing their critical thinking ability, skills, and knowledge. Additionally, the Oregon Information Technology Educator of the Year is an advocate for the study of information technology, makes information technology accessible to all students and is a role model for colleagues by being committed to ongoing professional development.

Jim Lorenz's teaching career began in January 1978 and in 1991 he moved to his current school, South Salem High. A favorite part of his job is connecting students with projects that have a visible impact at school. Recent student projects include a program that eliminates the need to print a student directory -1200 sheets of paper every 2 weeks - and a network analysis program.

Outside the classroom, Lorenz is well known and respected for his efforts to create a community of support for other computer science educators in Oregon. He was one of three co-developers of SuperQuest, a unique professional development program held each summer by the SAO Foundation in conjunction with Western Oregon University. This program—which he continues to help plan—enables instructors to master emerging technology concepts and gain exposure to new teaching and learning approaches. Eighty teachers attended during this year's SuperQuest program, impacting an estimated 7500 Oregon students.

Lorenz has also served as president of the Oregon Computer Science Teachers Association, and has been a member of the Information Technology Education Advisory Committee. He is a graduate of Pacific Lutheran University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in mathematics. He received Master of Arts Degrees in mathematics, science and computer education from Oregon State University.

About the Software Association of Oregon Foundation

The SAO Foundation (a subsidiary of the Software Association of Oregon) is a 501c3 charitable non-profit that supports K-12 technology education by creating and investing in programs that build and improve skills in educators and inspire a passion for technology in youth.

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