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Press Release

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Edwards, Lauinger Named David G. Stone CTE Recipients

JUNEAU, Alaska—The Alaska Workforce Investment Board has named Doug Edwards the David G. Stone Secondary Vocational Training Instructor of the Year and Leslie Lauinger Post-Secondary Instructor-Administrator of the Year for significantly improving and promoting career and technical education.

“These awards were re-named in honor of former Deputy Commissioner David G. Stone, whose life was cut tragically short last November,” Labor Commissioner Dianne Blumer said. “David was a part of our labor family. He was named to the Alaska Workforce Investment Board in 2002 and in 2008 joined the department as deputy commissioner. I am thankful that David was a part of our department and for the work he so strongly supported – helping Alaska continue to be a great place to live and work.”

Nominations for the prestigious awards come from an Alaska business or industry.

“Career and technical education is a critical component of our Alaska workforce investment system,” AWIB Vice Chair Michelle Zenger said. “CTE helps keep students in school, reduces dropout rates, improves grades and increases entry into the workforce or postsecondary education.”

Edwards has taught culinary arts at Ketchikan High School for 10 years. His courses include three levels of culinary instruction and two pre-culinary courses that not only teach the fine art of cooking, but also fiscal management, entrepreneurship, collaborative learning and development of interpersonal relations needed to become a valuable employee. Edwards restructured the curriculum and implemented student scholarships. Under his leadership, enrollment in the program has steadily increased.

Lauinger is training director at the Alaska Laborers Training School. He increased training availability with satellite training sites in Nome, Juneau, Kenai, Kodiak and Valdez. He sets high standards and assures that students receive safe and effective training. Lauinger has reached out to recruit Alaskans from diverse locations and backgrounds and has helped secure funding for rural students to receive training in Anchorage. He has worked with employers to ensure that curriculum is always focused on industry needs.

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