

DISTINGUISHED SECONDARY SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHER AWARD: 2000

PAT CARPENTER

Greene County Schools, Greeneville, Tennessee

Pat Carpenter has been named the recipient of the prestigious 2000 Tennessee Academy of Science Distinguished Science Teacher Award. Ms. Carpenter, middle school science teacher, Greene County Schools, Greeneville, Tennessee, received the award on November 17, 2000, during the Tennessee Academy of Science Annual meeting in Nashville (Belmont University).

Begun in 1997 by the Tennessee Academy of Science (TAS), the awards program is designed to recognize excellence in science teaching. This award is given annually to one science teacher in Tennessee who has made significant contributions to science teaching and learning. In addition to the award and a trip to the TAS annual meeting, Ms. Carpenter received a \$500 cash award and a plaque.

Pat has made many contributions to science education at the local and state levels. Her service to science education is long-term and outstanding. She is widely recognized as an individual who demonstrates excellence in science teaching. Through her efforts, hard work, and many positive attributes, Ms. Carpenter has been instrumental in planning and implementing innovative and exemplary science programs in her school and district. For example, she has actively engaged her students in the Science Bowl, Science Olympiad, and other competitions. She is actively involved in writing the Tennessee Science Curriculum Framework (K-12). She has been instrumental in gaining external funding to enhance and enrich the science curriculum in her school and school district.

In addition to presenting numerous science in-service activities throughout the state, Ms. Carpenter has made many presentations at local, state, and national conferences. Pat has held numerous leadership positions in science organizations; she currently serves as Program Chair for the Tennessee Science Teachers Association (TSTA); she is serving on the Board of TSTA; she is serving as a Key Leader in the Building a Presence for Science in Tennessee for the National Science Teachers Associ-



Ms. Pat Carpenter (right) and Dr. Jack Rhoton, Tennessee Academy of Science.

ation (NSTA); and she has served on the Board of Directors for the Tennessee Environmental Education Association (TEEA).

Ms. Carpenter received an Associate of Arts (AA) degree from Hiwassee College, a Bachelor of Science (BS) from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and a Masters in Education (MEd) from East Tennessee State University. She also has completed several courses/workshops beyond the master's degree.

Ms. Carpenter is truly an award-winning teacher. In addition to being a finalist in the prestigious President's Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching, she has been Greene County Teacher of the Year, Environmental Educator of the Year for East Tennessee, listed on the National Honor Roll of Science Teachers, and named Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year.