

2005 ASTDD President's Award: Monette McKinnon

Presented by Lewis N. Lampiris, DDS, MPH

Monette McKinnon joined the ADEA Center for Public Policy and Advocacy in January 2003 to serve as its first director of state issues and grassroots advocacy. Monette initiated a new ADEA electronic newsletter entitled the *State Issues Update* that communicates a wide array of newsworthy items to various dental partners in dental education, dental research and public health. She has been including information about MCH, Head Start, ASTDD and state oral health and Medicaid programs in the newsletter. Monette has played a key role in informing ADEA of potential new collaborations that could enhance its dental education advocacy activities. In that vein, Monette asked ADEA to host the ASTDD Head Start Committee meeting in November in their building, and facilitated scheduling of a faculty development workshop on Head Start at the ADEA Annual Meeting in March. Monette has represented ADEA at various ASTDD partner meetings and the NOHC; participated in the 2004 Dental Public Health Workforce Workshop, serving

on the steering committee, helping to develop a section of the final action plan, and disseminating the workshop information. Her insights, enthusiasm, persistence and timely

response to requests have helped move ASTDD forward in the policy and partnership goals of its strategic plan and in its relationship with ADEA.



Left to right: Monette McKinnon, Lewis Lampiris

Remarks on Receiving the ASTDD President's Award

Monette McKinnon

I want to thank all of the wonderful members and leaders of ASTDD for this award. I particularly want to thank Nick Mosca. He has worked tirelessly to keep me informed of opportunities and to share information about the activities of ASTDD and AAPHD. None of the progress we have made in fostering collaborations

between ADEA and ASTDD could have taken place without his assistance.

I also would like to thank Jack Bresch and Dr. Rick Valachovic in ADEA's national office and Dr. Frank Catalanotto, who was ADEA President during the year for which this award is presented. When they were

approached about activities or ideas, they were always receptive, supportive and personally involved in these efforts.

Finally, I hope this is the beginning of a long and productive relationship that will open up many new windows of opportunity that will be of mutual value to both our organizations.