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For Immediate Release

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ASTD Presents the Volunteer-Staff Partnership Award to the Chapter Excellence Awards Team

(Alexandria, VA) June 13, 2008 – The American Society for Training & Development (ASTD) presented its Volunteer-Staff Partnership Award to the Chapter Excellence Awards Team on June 2 during the ASTD 2008 International Conference & Exposition in San Diego, California. This award recognizes outstanding contributions to the goals of ASTD achieved through collaboration and teamwork.

In early 2007, volunteer members of the Chapter Excellence Awards team convened and developed criteria for three awards to recognize outstanding chapter contributions that support ASTD's mission and advance the workplace learning and performance (WLP) profession: strategic partnership with local businesses and communities, advancement of the WLP profession, and membership growth.

The team developed the application and submission process, and promoted the new program to chapter leaders through print and electronic communication. The entries were received and reviewed in September 2007. The \$1,000 cash awards were presented to five chapters at the ASTD Chapter Leaders Conference in October.

Within 10 months, the Chapter Excellence Awards team was able to unite quickly, collaborate, and accomplish the desired results to produce an awards program to recognize chapters' impact on the WLP profession. With the successful launch, this program provides a way to recognize chapter accomplishments aligned with ASTD's strategy and goals, and will continue to strengthen the ASTD national-chapter partnership.

The Chapter Excellence Awards team volunteers include: Ann Alexander of Grand Rapids Community College, Rebecca Boyle of Trocaire College, Veronica Bruhl of Bruhl Company, Lisa Hayes of Union Pacific Railroad, Jean Lamkin of Landmark Communications, and ASTD Chapter Services department staff members, Renee Eder and Gina Urgena.

About ASTD

ASTD (American Society for Training & Development) is the world's largest association dedicated to workplace learning and performance professionals. ASTD's members come from more than 100 countries and connect locally in 134 U.S. chapters and 26 Global Networks. Members work in thousands of organizations of all sizes, in government, as independent consultants, and suppliers.

ASTD started in 1943. In recent years, ASTD has widened the profession's focus to link learning and performance to individual and organizational results, and is a sought-after voice on critical public policy issues. For more information, visit www.astd.org.

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