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SCIENCE NOTES

Gary E. Downs and Karen L. Murphy Receive Iowa Science Teachers Section Awards

Gary E. Downs and Karen L. Murphy were recently presented with Iowa Science Teachers Section Outstanding Service Awards for 1989. Both award recipients were honored at the ISTS Fall Conference and School Science and Mathematics Association Annual Convention in Des Moines.



Downs is a professor and acting head of the Department of Elementary Education at Iowa State University. He holds degrees from Western Illinois University (B.S. and M.S.) and Northern Colorado University (Ed.D.). He has been a public school teacher and has served as a consultant to the state department of public instruction.

Downs has been very active in the Iowa Academy of Science and has served as its Director of Meetings and Programs for several years. He has numerous publications in national journals and has received grants from the National Science Foundation and other organizations.



Murphy is a science teacher in the Des Moines Public School system with a specialty in marine biology. She received degrees from Iowa State (B.S. and M.S.) and Drake (M.S. and Ed.D.) Universities.

An active member of the Iowa Academy of Science and the Iowa Science Teachers Section, Murphy has served on the board of directors and planned the fall conference and the spring section meeting. She has also been active on the national level in the NSTA and on the state level serving on advisory committees to the governor in the areas of science and mathematics. She received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching in 1983 and has received grant funding from NSF and the State of Iowa.