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Regents' Awards recognize outstanding service to higher education

TUCSON– The Arizona Board of Regents honored the 2015 Regents' Award for Outstanding Service to Higher Education recipients at an awards dinner held Thursday evening in conjunction with the board's meeting at the University of Arizona.

Named as 2015 Regents' Award honorees and recognized for excelling service were Wayne Doran, Translational Genomics Research Institute and J. David and Edith S. Lowell. The award was established in 1996 to provide special recognition for Arizona citizens and/or organizations that provide exceptional service to higher education in Arizona.

"Nominees that were submitted this year were outstanding. Each tells a story of dedication to higher education in Arizona and to improving our state through the education of its citizens as well as supporting research endeavors that make a difference in our world and contribute to our state's economy," said Regent Ram Krishna, vice-chair of the Regents' Award nomination committee.

Each of the recipients have made lasting and significant contributions to public higher education in Arizona. Following is background information on the recipients.

- Wayne Doran is committed to the advancement of education and dedicated to helping students achieve their dreams of higher education. His philanthropic spirit extends to the advancement of Arizona State University where he attended college as a first generation student and graduated from the business school in 1956. He has focused on transforming the lives of students at his alma mater after a successful career through the Doran Community Scholars Program that he and his wife, Maureen, established with a \$1 million gift in 1997 to support first-generation students like himself who graduated from the Phoenix Union High School District. Funds are awarded to students with the most need to provide access to education in alignment with ASU's mission. Recipients are provided with academic and personal coaching, and they participate in community service, professional and engagement activities and a senior trip to Washington D.C. More than 100 scholars have graduated from the program in the past 18 years. Doran is

also a member of the ASU Foundation Board of Directors, President's Club and Board of Trustees.

- Focusing on earlier diagnostics and smarter treatments, the Translational Genomics Research Institute develops tools to fight cancer, neurological disorders, diabetes and other diseases. Led by Jeffrey Trent, Ph.D., TGen has strong ties to Northern Arizona University, notably through TGen's Pathogen Genomics Division - TGen North - that is led by NAU Cowden Endowed Chair of Microbiology Paul Keim, Ph.D., and David Engelthaler, Ph.D., the director of programs and operations for TGen North and a graduate of NAU. A recent example of research success between TGen and NAU is a joint patent announced in August of 2014 for a pandemic H1N1 flu test, the second joint patent between the two organizations. This partnership also benefits the state by contributing to Arizona's intellectual capital and its highly skilled workforce as well as bringing in external funding in support of research. Students directly benefit through first-hand experiences as interns and employees. TGen and NAU's relationship exemplifies the power of collaboration as well as the impact of the biosciences on Arizona's economy and the health of its citizens.
- J. David and Edith S. Lowell are distinguished alumni of the University of Arizona and are among the institution's greatest supporters. Through their vision, the Lowell Institute for Mineral Resources was brought to fruition and they have supported the Geosciences Field Camp as well as establishing the J. David Lowell Graduate Scholarship in Geosciences. Mr. Lowell, one of the best known graduates of the Arizona College of Mines and the College of Science Geosciences/Geology Department, published 50 articles and received 35 professional awards, including the prestigious Society of Mining Engineers and Society of Economic Geology awards. He is an inductee of the National Academy of Engineering, received three honorary degrees and was the subject of an autobiography published by the University of Arizona press. Mrs. Lowell was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi and earned an UA athletic letter sweater. Mr. Lowell was a member of the 1945 UA football team, and the Lowell's have a 70-year history of involvement with Arizona Athletics as well as making two of the largest gifts in Arizona Athletics history.

A list of previous winners of the Regents' Award for Outstanding Service to Higher Education is available [here](#).

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