



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Kathi Brown, Public Relations Specialist
(505) 222-6600 or 1-800-432-

9168

New Mexico Network for Women in Science & Engineering Honors Chris Morgan with *IMPACT!* Award

Albuquerque, NM (October 3, 2007) – The New Mexico Network for Women in Science and Engineering (NMNWSE), in cooperation with the NM Commission on the Status of Women, honors Chris Morgan of Albuquerque with the *First Annual IMPACT! Award*.

The award, given to a New Mexico woman for her extraordinary efforts in encouraging and helping women enter and succeed in science, technology, engineering and math as well as promoting networking and communication among women in these careers. Ms. Morgan will be honored at the NMNWSE Annual Meeting and Technical Symposium, October 26-28, 2007, in Clayton, NM. Commissioner Judith Cooper of Clayton will be present to honor the recipient.

Chris Morgan has spent the last 35 years as a software practitioner, excelling in her career while encouraging many other women to enter science and engineering professions. A distinguished member of the technical staff at Sandia National Laboratories, Ms. Morgan has developed, maintained and tested many software applications. She is a core member of the Sandia Women's Action Network and, throughout her career, has been involved – often one-on-one – mentoring other women.

Ms. Morgan also makes numerous contributions through her devoted service to Girl Scouts. She is a Master Trainer, Troop Advisor, Leader, Committee Chair, Camp Counselor and currently serves as the Secretary for the Girl Scouts of Chaparral Council's Board of Directors. The Council's Science Spectacular and Math Magic Programs were co-developed by Ms. Morgan and during the past

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15 years, these programs have offered hundreds of girls the opportunity for hands-on activities designed to explore math, science, technology and engineering concepts. In addition, she is the liaison between Sandia National Laboratories and the Girl Scouts for the Girl Scout Fair Play Technology Summer Camp.

The NMNWSE began in 1975 with a core group of faculty and staff from UNM wanting to reach out to women in science as a group. Since then, the Network has worked to encourage and help women enter and succeed in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math careers and promote networking and communication among members by providing regularly scheduled meetings, talks and other local activities.

The NM Commission on the Status of Women was created by state statute to increase the knowledge of the rights, responsibilities and interests of women and girls in New Mexico and to preserve women's history and contributions to our state.

Nominations for the 2008 IMPACT! Award will be accepted beginning June 2008. For further information on NMNWSE or the IMPACT! Award, please visit www.nmnwse.org

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