

**For Immediate Release**

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**2010 FES K-12 Awards Program Recognizes Teachers and Volunteers**

**MARCO ISLAND** – The Florida Engineering Society (FES) K-12 Committee presented the first annual K-12 Awards to two individuals on Friday, August 6, 2010 in Marco Island, FL. The 2010 Teacher of the Year for Engineering was presented to Jeffrey G. Cumber from Robert E. Lee High School in Jacksonville, FL. Jeffrey and Robert E. Lee High School received \$500 checks from the K-12 Committee and the Florida Engineering Foundation to support future K-12 initiatives in the classroom. The 2010 Engineer Volunteer of the Year was presented to David M. Schmitt, PE member of the Central Florida Chapter in Orlando, FL. David and the Central Florida Chapter received \$500 checks to support future K-12 initiatives in their community.

The awards program recognizes and rewards the support by the teachers and engineer volunteers that encourage math, science and problem solving in the classroom. The FES K-12 Teacher of the Year Award for Engineering recognizes an individual teacher who creatively incorporates and promotes engineering and technology concepts and activities in their classroom lessons. Jeffery G. Cumber from Robert E. Lee Senior High School in Jacksonville, Florida is the lead magnet teacher for Robert E. Lee High School Math, Science, and Engineering Academy and believes that teaching should be hands-on, inquiry-based, real-world applications using the latest technology, and tailored to what students like to do. He works year round to connect teachers to engineering and engineering to students. He is passionate about bringing the real world to the classroom, and as a result, students are excelling and embracing math, science, and engineering. Jeff received strong support from his Principal, Dr. Denise D. Hall and from the Northeast Florida FES Chapter members.

The 2010 K-12 Engineer Volunteer of the Year is awarded to the FES member who has volunteered their time to introduce engineering and technology concepts and activities to K-12 students. David M. Schmitt, PE, is owner and principal of Dave Schmitt Engineering in Orlando, Florida, an active member and former President of the Central Florida Chapter, and creator of many of the Chapter's current K-12 programs. He grew the Project CREATE program from 4 schools to over 30 schools in Orange and Seminole Counties, created the very successful Engineering Day known as the Planning, Engineering, and Science Days, started the Central Florida Chapter Community Service Committee, and established a structure for reaching the community in Central Florida. Outside of FES, David is very involved in his community through Kiwanis, Teach-Ins, classroom guest speaking, and Toys for Tots, to name a few. His support and involvement is immeasurable to both the community and FES.

The K-12 awards program was supported and funded by the generous donations received through the Florida Engineering Foundation. Additional information about FES, K-12 Committee, and FEF is available at [www.fleng.org](http://www.fleng.org).