

Quest Award Nomination

for

Shauna M. Huston

(Pronounced like the city Houston)

Utah Association of Legal Administrators

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2010 Quest Award Nomination

for

Shauna M. Huston

Human Resource Director

Workman Nydegger

Salt Lake City, Utah

Simply stellar

That is the best two-word description of Shauna Huston - particularly with regard as a new member of the Association of Legal Administrators. With fifteen years of prior legal services experience as a secretary, paralegal, and human resources manager, Shauna was hired in 2007 as Human Resource Director of the 75-attorney Salt Lake City IP law firm of Workman Nydegger. She joined ALA and its Utah chapter in February 2008 and attended her first ALA annual conference that May.

Shauna quickly recognized the positive networking and educational opportunities through her affiliation with ALA, and has consistently participated in all chapter functions. She has taken initiative in recommending educational topics for the chapter's monthly lunch meetings and freely gives input on what would be most beneficial for legal administrators. Shauna is particularly interested in increasing the frequency and enhancing the level of education about HR-related topics, including recent changes to federal labor laws. She even organized a panel of human resources managers – including herself - to discuss and field questions about employee recognition practices at a chapter meeting.

Although Shauna believes education should be the primary focus of the chapter's activities, she also fully supports and participates in the chapter's networking and service activities. In October 2008 she assisted teachers at the Guadalupe School for disadvantaged children in conjunction with ALA's Community Challenge Weekend, and in October 2009 served meals to the homeless at the St. Vincent DePaul Dining Room. She has also participated in the chapter's summer social, holiday party, vendor fair and managing attorney luncheon.

Simply deserving

The most noteworthy way Shauna has distinguished herself as an outstanding new ALA member worthy of the Quest Award is the leadership role she undertook to revamp the format of the Utah Association of Legal Administrators' annual salary and benefits survey. Shauna had identified some format limitations with the existing survey and, after obtaining the approval (and blessing) of the chapter board, formed a committee to evaluate and revamp the survey.

Shauna led the committee through an extensive redesign and restatement of the survey. She organized the committee meetings, led the discussions, assisted in drafting templates for discussion among committee members, and coordinated and consolidated the final drafts. Most significantly, she negotiated a very favorable arrangement with an

accounting firm to assist with the assembly and presentation of the 2009 survey and has initiated migration from a paper survey to a web-based platform in 2010.

Shauna's willingness to jump into this effort and her exceptional ability to execute it will benefit the chapter and the law firms it serves for many years to come. Throughout the extensive and time-consuming process, Shauna was consistently professional and demonstrated strong leadership and consensus-building skills. She shines as a leader, facilitator and administrator, and does so with poise and friendliness.

Simply the best! (Like Tina Turner would sing it)

The Utah Association of Legal Administrators is fortunate to have several outstanding chapter members, but few, if any, have become so quickly and significantly engaged and made such a notable contribution as a new ALA member – as has Shauna M. Huston. So sing it, Tina...as Shauna takes center stage in Boston to accept ALA's 2010 Quest Award: "You're simply the best!"