

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OEOC to receive thanks from co-op educators



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CLEVELAND, July 19, 2010 -- The Association of Cooperative Educators (ACE) will recognize Kent State University's Ohio Employee Ownership Center (OEOC) on July 29 for sharing its experience with ACE Institute participants.

OEOC helped establish Cleveland's Evergreen Cooperative Laundry, part of a growing network of worker cooperatives that show how ventures serving anchor institutions (those unlikely to move from an area) and protecting the environment provide stable employment, create important spin-offs in the local economy, and increase the wealth of workers and their families. Institute participants will tour the laundry and learn about more Evergreen Cooperative businesses on July 28 and 29 in Cleveland.

Other OEOC programs include the *Owners At Work* magazine, business owner succession planning, technical assistance for businesses considering employee ownership, and research on employee ownership.

OEOC's late founder will also be honored at the ACE Awards banquet. ACE introduces the John Logue ACE Award that will be given annually to individuals or organizations whose educational programs, technical assistance and research lead to innovative cooperatives that promote democratic work environments and economic sustainability.

Additionally, receiving awards for their contribution to knowledge about cooperatives and credit unions are Audrey Malan who served as executive director of CooperationWorks!, Bob Cohen, CEO of the Braintree Business Development Center, a non-profit serving business startups and emerging companies in Ohio, and Jen Heneberry of the Ontario Co-operative Association.

ACE is a membership organization that links educators, researchers, cooperative members, and cooperative developers across cooperative sectors and national borders to enhance cooperative development, strengthen cooperatives, promote professionalism and improve public understanding. More information on the 2010 ACE Institute is posted on www.2010ACEInstitute.com in English, French and Spanish.

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