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President Bob Bulla  
President Elect Fred Boice  
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## Media Release

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### Regents recognize outstanding service

**November 29, 2006** – During a dinner hosted by the University of Arizona, the Arizona Board of Regents honored recipients of the 2006 Regents' Award for Outstanding Service to Higher Education. The awards were presented to Mary Lou and Ira Fulton, Greater Phoenix Leadership, and Robert Wick.

Board President Bob Bulla praised the honorees for their service to Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, and the University of Arizona. Bulla said, "The Arizona University System is extremely fortunate to be benefiting in so many ways from the commitment to higher education exemplified by these award winners.

Since 2003, Mary Lou and Ira Fulton have gifted nearly \$170 million to Arizona State University. They are considered the most generous and the largest single donors to the university. In December 2005, they donated \$100 million, one of the largest single donations in higher education history. Half of this gift was earmarked for the College of Education, where Mrs. Fulton received her bachelor's degree in 1975. In May 2006, ASU celebrated the naming of its College of Education honoring Mary Lou Fulton. Additionally, the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences was renamed to the Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering and the ASU Foundation Building was renamed to the Fulton Center.

Mr. and Mrs. Fulton have a lifelong commitment to Arizona and to the education of Arizona's youth. They are a wonderful example of what it means to give back to the community. Higher education and the well-being of all Arizonans are better off because of the remarkable philanthropy of the Fultons.

For nearly a decade, the Greater Phoenix Leadership (GPL) has taken the lead in advocating for quality education, at all levels, and in bringing together the resources to achieve success. This organization played a leadership role on Governor Hull's Task Force on Higher Education and was the primary business group supporting Proposition 301, which to date has provided over \$280 million in new revenue for technology and research initiatives at Arizona's public universities. In addition, GPL actively participates on Governor Napolitano's P-20 Advisory Council.

The overriding goal for GPL's higher education focus is to create a progressive, globally competitive system with the capacity to match Arizona's rapid growth. In pursuit of this goal, they have supported strategies to redesign the state's university system and to expand and enhance the universities' undergraduate education program as well as its world-class research capabilities and reputation. GPL played a major

role in working with the business community, state policy makers, elected officials, the Department of Commerce, and the universities to attract the Translational Genomics Research Institute and the International Genomics Consortium.

Robert Wick is co-owner of Wick Communications, a company that owns and publishes 39 newspapers throughout Arizona and other parts of the United States. He was one of the founding members of the University of Arizona South Foundation Board and participated on the architectural committee whose mission was to design the UA South's first administration building. He was also one of the major financial contributors for the construction of this building.

Mr. Wick serves on the Astronomy Board at the University of Arizona and helped shift public opinion in support of the Mt. Graham Observatory. He recently provided a major contribution for the establishment of an astronomical observatory on the UA South campus that will serve as both an observatory and education center for students, adults, and children. As an internationally known artist and sculptor, Mr. Wick has provided amazing art pieces to the university, both in Sierra Vista and Tucson.

Previous recipients of the Regents' Award include Christopher Bavasi, James E. Rogers, The Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust, APS/Pinnacle West Capital Corporation, Don Budinger, Louise Solheim, the Honorable Clinton Pattea and the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Jerry Colangelo, Bennett and Jacquie Dorrance, Ed and Nadine Carson, Dick and Alice "Dinky" Snell, Raytheon Systems Company, Roy P. Drachman, Frances B. McAllister, Donald N. Soldwedel, Phelps Dodge Corporation, Katherine and Robert Herberger, The Flinn Foundation, and Jim Click.

Contributions from current and former Regents cover the cost of designing, sculpting, and casting a suitable art object to present to recipients.

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