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**LECTURERS – THE UNRECOGNIZED HEROES IN THE
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING COMMUNITY**

Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, and Singapore (September 21, 2007) –Better funding and greater support for lecturers and teaching staff are crucial in the battle to engage and attract young people into science and engineering careers, said a leading academic publishing company last night. Ziyad Marar, Deputy Managing Director of SAGE, the world's fifth largest journals publisher, made the observation yesterday evening in London at the "Oscars" of the higher education science and engineering world. The claim comes at a time when a shortage of science graduates risks threatening the future of British industry.

The Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Student of the Year Awards are designed to raise the profile of science and technology education in Britain. They are judged by professional SET bodies and sponsored by global industrial and pharmaceutical companies.

"Subjects defined as strategically important by the UK government and therefore worthy of greater funding and study include science and technology. At SAGE, we fully appreciate the value of these subjects to society and to the economic well-being of the UK," said Ziyad Marar, Deputy Managing Director, SAGE.

"We passionately believe that publishing scientists' best cutting-edge research in peer-reviewed journals and disseminating the results world-wide informs high calibre teaching. We're proud of our role in the positive development of our society and how this shapes the next generation of researchers and practitioners."

SAGE's commitment to supporting the research and teaching of science and technology was demonstrated last night with the sponsorship of the SAGE Lecturer of the Year Award. Over 15 awards are made in areas ranging from biology and biotechnology to mathematics and materials science and engineering. The highest scoring student across all awards is declared the "Science, Engineering and Technology Student of the Year" and it is to the Lecturer of this student that the SAGE Lecturer of the Year is awarded.

Mr. Marar concluded, "During the presentation of the Awards, I watched these talented young people talking about how thrilled they were to receive an award of this kind. I was moved by the consistent and heart-felt thanks that they give to their tutors and supervisors, who clearly played a large role in their success. At SAGE, we understand and fully support the role that academics play in the formal teaching, training and development of the scientists and innovators of the future".

"We're particularly pleased to be the first academic and professional publisher to sponsor the SAGE Lecturer of the Year Award and delighted that Dr. Andrew Owen from the Pharmacology Department at the University of Liverpool has won the Award. It recognises his key role in personally inspiring and nurturing the talent and drive of the young students at Liverpool today."

Dr. Owen received his trophy at the gala awards dinner attended by hundreds of scientists, engineers, industrialists and opinion formers from the higher education community. He said, "I am thrilled for Craig who won the overall Student of the Year Award. He is an exceptional student and I'm proud, along with all my colleagues in the pharmacology department at Liverpool University, to have played a part in shaping his doubtless exciting future."

Dr. Lynda White, a senior lecturer in mathematics from Imperial College London was the 2006 Lecturer of the

Year. She added, "Winning this award is both a personal delight and of real practical use, professionally speaking. It's given the department a great boost in morale over the last year and shown both undergraduates and prospective students how committed we are to their development."

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SAGE is a leading international publisher of journals, books, and electronic media for academic, educational, and professional markets. Since 1965, SAGE has helped inform and educate a global community of scholars, practitioners, researchers, and students spanning a wide range of subject areas including business, humanities, social sciences, and science, technology and medicine. An independent company, SAGE has principal offices in Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, and Singapore. www.sagepublications.com

As the world's fifth largest journals publisher, SAGE continues to invest in a flourishing STM publishing programme to complement its established reputation as the market leader in the social sciences. SAGE publishes over 460 journals, over 150 of which are in the science, technical and medical fields, including influential publications such as *The American Journal of Sports Medicine*, the *Journal of Psychopharmacology*, and the *Journal of Composite Materials*.

The Science, Engineering and Technology Student of the Year Awards celebrate their tenth year in 2007. They are established as the UK's most important awards for science and engineering undergraduates and are also open to students studying at universities in the Republic of Ireland. For further information about the Awards and to see a list of all Award winners, go to www.sagepub.co.uk/awards