

2014 AURA Outstanding Achievement Award

CAS & HR Team

The centralization of business administrative services and human resources this past year has transformed the administrative operations of NOAO, NSO, LSST and Gemini.

CAS and HR teams have demonstrated a high level of responsiveness and innovation. During this past year, CAS and HR experienced a comprehensive and time consuming NSF Business System Review with a successful result.

The CAS and HR teams provided extraordinary service during the Government Shutdown, developing a strategic plan that would have allowed AURA to continue operations for an extended period when AURA would not have been able to extract funding from the federal government. CAS Business IT staff has created several new and enhanced business information tools. The procurement and business IT staff created Carina, an online application for tracking proposals, awards and agreements. The Reqless requisitioning system was significantly enhanced for ease of use and more advanced assurance of regulatory compliance. They are also in the process of developing a web-based data base of all active awards which assigns individual responsibility for complying with those terms and condition.

The Human Resource department has partnered closely with CAS and AURA Center Management on operational continuity and strategic planning. Over the past 2 years, Human Resource service levels have significantly improved. New management training courses are now available to all AURA staff and the development of best practices for the performance review process is in progress."

Congratulations to each of you for your part in earning this award.

Deborah