## For Immediate Release

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## MACUL RECOGNIZES REMC RITS FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION

Lansing (MI), March 10, 2010 – The Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) has named **REMC Instructional Technology Specialists (RITS) of the REMC Association of Michigan** as the recipient of its 2010 President's Award. The honor is given annually to those who have made an outstanding contribution to further the use of technology to enhance teaching and learning in education. MACUL will present the honor at an awards reception during its annual conference on March 12, 2010 at DeVos Place in Grand Rapids.

MACUL President Tim Kamps, Director of Technology for the Holland Christian Schools praised the group for their contributions to the field of educational technology and for their support of MACUL. "The REMC RITS of the REMC Association of Michigan has an outstanding reputation for their support of Michigan educators." Ric Wiltse, MACUL Executive Director added, "MACUL is proud to recognize the REMC Association of Michigan and the RITS committee for sharing their expertise to benefit student academic achievement."

"The REMC Association of Michigan has a rich history of collaborating with others to support quality teaching and learning in Michigan. We are very proud of this recognition that MACUL has given our REMC Instructional Technology Specialists (RITS) committee. The members of this group provide essential leadership and expertise that benefits not only the districts that they individually serve through their ISD/RESA, but statewide as well," stated Mike Oswalt, Assistant Superintendent for the Calhoun Intermediate School District and President of the REMC Association of Michigan.

"The many hard-working members of this group have historically been in the forefront of providing solutions and programs that support teaching and learning at the classroom level. Initiatives such as the Online Learning Companion Document, the Eighth-Grade Literacy testbank, the Staff Proficiency in Technology assessment and the 21 Things Technology online professional learning course have bridged the gap between state and federal programs and implementation at the grassroots level," stated Ricki L. Chowning, Executive Director of the Regional Educational Media Center Association of Michigan.

Last year MACUL presented the award to Tech4Learning. Over the 14 years that MACUL has bestowed the President's Award, the honor has been given to various corporations, non-profit organizations and public officials including U. S. Senator Carl Levin, U.S. Representative Fred Upton, MDE Superintendent for Public Instruction Mike Flanagan, the Michigan Education Association, Michigan Virtual University, the International Society for Technology in Education, the Consortium for Outstanding Achievement in Teaching with Technology, and the Regional Educational Media Center Association of Michigan.

The Regional Educational Media Center Association of Michigan (REMCAM) is an organization committed to providing media and technology resources to Michigan's students and teachers. Through leadership, collaboration, future thinking, and the visionary use of technology, Michigan's REMCs promote equity and quality teaching and learning. The RITS committee has created a toolkit designed to promote the use of media and technology in education. Visit the link from the REMC Association website at www.remc.org.

Founded in 1975, MACUL is a non-profit organization of over 4000 members dedicated to bringing educators from all levels together to share their knowledge and increase expertise in academic uses of computers and technology. MACUL provides service to its members through a statewide conference, regional workshops, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), grant programs, a quarterly journal and online resources. Please visit www.macul.org for more information about MACUL initiatives.

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