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In honor of Dr. Charles Southwick’s long-standing commitment to conservation education, we have developed the Charles Southwick Conservation Education Commitment Award. This award is dedicated to recognizing individuals living in primate habitat countries who have made a significant contribution to formal and informal conservation education in their countries. The amount of the award is $750: $500 is given to the recipient, and $250 will be given in the recipient’s name to a project of their choosing in their community.

The IPS Education Committee is pleased to announce the following recipients of the 2004 Charles Southwick Conservation Education Award:

Dr. Surendra Mal Mohnot, Emeritus Professor and Chairman, Primate Research Center, Jodhpur, India, has a long and distinguished career in teaching, research, and public conservation education in India. He is the founding director of the School of Desert Sciences, a teaching and research center devoted to the conservation of wildlife, environments, and people in the Great Thar deserts of western India. He has trained and mentored more than 40 pre- and post-doctoral students and young investigators, many of whom are now working for the conservation of India’s natural resources.

Mr. Wilberforce Okeka founded the Kakamega Environmental Education Program (KEEP), a program focused on environmental education for school children living near the Kakamega Forest in Kenya. The educational goal of the KEEP project is to teach local people about the wonder and beauty of the forest and the importance of conserving it. By partnering with local Kenyan organizations, KEEP has also become involved in facilitating lifestyle changes that relieve pressure on the forest, including tree planting, income generation from on-farm cultivation of forest products, and fuel-efficient cooking technology.

The Lawrence Jacobsen Education Development Award supports the initiation and long-term support of primate conservation education programs. This education award supports field conservation programs, work with local communities and/or schools, and programs that provide training in conservation education techniques. The Education Committee is pleased to announce the following recipients of the 2004 Lawrence Jacobsen Education Development Award:

Randy Kyes was awarded $500 to support a conservation education program in the elementary schools around Tangkoko-Batuangs-Duasudara Nature Reserve, North Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Sandra Correa was awarded $500 to support an educational exhibit for Alouatta seniculus as part of Fundación Ecolombia’s program to reintroduce animals rescued from the pet trade to a restored forested area in Colombia.

Please join us in congratulating these deserving individuals as they develop conservation education programs aimed at preserving primates in their region.

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