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Recommended Citation

Aaron, Bob, "Geoffrey L. Story, Jr., Endowed Scholarship Fund Established at Illinois Wesleyan University" (2000). *News and Events*. Paper 879.

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Aug. 17, 2000

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Geoffrey L. Story, Jr., Endowed Scholarship Fund Established at Illinois Wesleyan University

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--The family of a retired faculty member has endowed a new scholarship at Illinois Wesleyan University.

A \$25,000 gift from the family of Geoffrey L. Story, Jr., an emeritus professor of religion, will permanently support the Geoffrey L. Story, Jr., Endowed Scholarship Fund. Story joined the IWU faculty in 1966, retiring in 1998.

Members of the Story family who established the endowed fund are: Bettie Wilson Story, Geoffrey's wife; Gregory Story, a son who is self-employed in Bloomington; Anita Story Friedmann, a daughter, who is director of development for Foundations and Corporations at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va.; and John Friedmann, a son-in-law, who is assistant to the president and chief executive officer of the Norfolk Southern Railroad.

The scholarship, according to a Christmas 1999 family remembrance honors "G.L." for his lifetime devotion to education as a student and teacher and expresses his care for students, as well as his commitment to lifetime learning.

The scholarship, family members wrote of "G.L.," demonstrates "your high interest and respect for Illinois Wesleyan University, where you have devoted most of your life in teaching young people and in participating actively in administrative responsibilities on the faculty."

The family concluded: "It gives us a great deal of delight and thankfulness to you for your dedication, integrity, and zeal, as well as your love and support of each of us, to establish this scholarship to honor you and to assist students throughout the future who attend Illinois Wesleyan."

Students receiving the scholarship will be known as Geoffrey L. Story, Jr., Scholars. They will be selected for the scholarship on the basis of financial need and or academic merit. Recipients will be selected from among three categories of students holding promising potential for high academic achievement: first, for a child of an United Methodist minister, regardless of major course of study; second, for a religion major, and third, for a student in any humanities' major or as determined by the university.

The first Geoffrey L. Story, Jr., Scholar is expected to be chosen during the 2000-2001 school year.

Story, a native of Lee County, Ala., a community near Auburn, received his undergraduate degree from Birmingham-Southern College and a bachelor of divinity degree from Garrett Theological Seminary. He received a master of arts degree and a Ph.D. from Northwestern

University. Story received a Fulbright Scholarship in 1960-61 to study at the State University of Utrecht in The Netherlands.

Over the years, he has been a member of the American Academy of Religion, Society of Biblical Literature, and the American Association of University Professors. He is a clergy member of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference, The United Methodist Church.

Geoffrey and Bettie Story reside at 1215 E. Jefferson, Bloomington.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 2,000 students in a College of Liberal Arts, and individual schools of Music, Theatre Arts, Art, and Nursing. Since 1994, these facilities have been added to the IWU campus: a \$15 million athletics and recreation center, a \$25 million science center, a \$6.8 million residence hall, a \$5.1 million Center for Liberal Arts, and a \$1.65 million baseball stadium. A \$26 million library and a \$6 million student center are under construction.

As IWU approached its sesquicentennial, which will be celebrated during the 2000-2001 school year, it won several national accolades. U.S. News & World Report ranks it among the nation's most selective liberal-arts campuses. It's ranked 12th nationally by Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine among private colleges and universities in terms of delivering high-quality education at an affordable cost. It's ranked the 8th "most wired" college in the nation by Yahoo! Internet Life. Men's Health magazine ranks IWU among the 10 "most male-friendly colleges in America."