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Oral History Interview of Amanda Toney-Logan and Myrtis Sullivan, Delta Sigma Theta-Iota Zeta

July 1, 2014 at Pleasant Home Foundation, Oak Park, IL

Elissa Ledvort: Hi, this is Elissa Ledvort, class of 2013. I'm sitting here with Amanda Toney-Logan and Myrtis Sullivan to talk about a Delta Sigma Theta sorority and the Iota Zeta Wesleyan chapter. Amanda and Myrtis, could you please introduce yourselves so anyone listening to this recording will know what your voice sounds like, and then also state your major, your year of graduation, and then what you did after Wesleyan.

Amanda Toney-Logan: My name is Amanda Toney-Logan. I graduated in 1974. I was a history major with a minor in business so I could get a job after school, and since leaving Wesleyan I've worked as a manager at a telephone company, AT&T, I went to law school, and I had a private practice in law—I was a general practice lawyer—and in 1994 I ran for judge of Cook County—circuit court of Cook County—I ran for judge. I won and I was a judge for sixteen years in the circuit court of Cook County and I retired in 2009.

Myrtis Sullivan: Hello, my name is Myrtis Sullivan and I'm also a 1974 graduate of Illinois Wesleyan. While at Wesleyan I was a biology/pre-med major with a minor, or actually a second major, in French. I always like to add that because that was my passion. After graduating from Illinois Wesleyan in '74, I attended medical school at the University of Illinois at Chicago, the Abraham Lincoln School of Medicine. After medical school, I did a residency in pediatrics at Cook County Hospital—now it's John Stroger Hospital. And then I have practiced as a pediatrician both in general pediatrics and emergency pediatrics at Cook County Hospital for twenty years. And then I went on to do public health because I had received a degree in—a master's in public health back in 1983 also. So I continued to do both medicine and public health while at the UI schools, UIC School of Public Health. After that I went on to be—before retirement I went on to be a state child health director, and I retired from that position in 2010, and now I'm working part time contractually in health care services.

Ledvort: Okay, great. Thank you so much for being here today. So to start us off, what type of organization was Delta Sigma Theta, and how did the Iota Zeta chapter originate at Wesleyan?

Sullivan: Delta Sigma Theta is a national-actually an international public service sorority, and the way it got started, the Iota Zeta chapter, in a way we—there was no chapter of Delta Sigma Theta at Illinois Wesleyan, and there was one at Illinois State University, and we first tried to pursue joining that. As students at Illinois Wesleyan we found out that that was not possible, and we were informed we would have to start an interest group, and then that would be the first step for becoming a charter-forming a charter of Delta Sigma Theta. So the interest group was Iota Zeta. Delta Psi—it was Delta Psi—

Toney-Logan: The interest group.

Sullivan: —the interest group was Delta Psi. And then we went on to be chartered after—formally being inducted and chartered—in 1972 at the regional convention in St. Louis, and our chapter was named Iota Zeta chapter.

Toney-Logan: It was April 28th 1972 that we were installed, it was at the regional—what we call—we have regionals every two years?

Sullivan: Every—yeah, because they alternate the regional—conference-conventions alternate with the national—

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: —conference, yearly. One year is national—

Toney-Logan: —regional, the next year national.

Sullivan: Yes.

Ledvort: Okay. And so this was—it started out in the area at Illinois State, and how did Illinois Wesleyan students get interested in the sorority at Illinois State?

Sullivan: Because it's a national organization, and we had several members who had family members, some, like Rose Shelby, who was a charter member. Her mom—

Toney-Logan: Right. Her mother was a regional director of Delta down in Florida. She was from Florida but her mom was already—it was established in 1913. Delta Sigma Theta was established at Howard University. So it had been around for a long time but not all universities of course, have a chapter, a lot of times. Illinois Wesleyan, we were challenged, because we had a very small number of minority women which the chapter's mostly composed of. And so we didn't have the number, and it was very hard to establish one there so we thought it might be best since they already had established one at a bigger university which is Illinois State, and that was right down, it's not far, but it didn't work out.

Ledvort: Yeah, okay. And the Iota Zeta chapter was originally supposed to be an all-black sorority, but Wesleyan requested that it would not be. Why do you think that was that they did that?

Sullivan: They didn't—

Toney-Logan: I don't think it was not—it wasn't—I don't think I would put it that way that it wasn't supposed to be an all-black sorority because it was never really originally stated that it was supposed to be an all-black sorority.

Sullivan: It was never exclusionary.

Toney-Logan: Right, right.

Sullivan: And we never attempted that, we just established it, we said that we were minority—I mean, African-American women and we wanted to start it so it was an organization made pre-dominantly of

African-American women, but because it was international, we do have chapters all over the world, but it was primarily—it was predominantly African-American because it was started at a historically black university, which is Howard. And so but we never—in fact we had a white member. She came voluntarily; it wasn't like we had to look for one. She just—

Toney-Logan: —it was open to all, the question was would anyone else want to—

Sullivan: Join.

Toney-Logan: —want to join. And we were open to other people joining, I don't know other sororities were so open to us joining. [Laughs]

Sullivan: That's right. But we were open to anyone who wanted to. We had a rush, and—well even actually with our interest group Jo Flesner, who was the Caucasian American, she was part of that, so she was a charter member. So it was never established—we never were all-black, ever.

Ledvort: Okay.

Sullivan: Because she was a charter member.

Toney-Logan: She was like a little kid.

Ledvort: Oh really? [Chuckles]

Toney-Logan and Sullivan: She had red hair. All red hair.

Ledvort: Cool.

[Ledvort, who has red hair, and Sullivan laugh]

Ledvort: Okay. And what were the requirements to join? Did—is that true that you call it Delta for short or DST? Okay.

Sullivan: Either one.

Ledvort: Okay. So did Delta have on- or off-campus housing? Where did you meet and how often?

Toney-Logan: We really didn't have housing. [Laughs]

Ledvort: Okay.

Toney-Logan: We were just women in different dorms on the campus. And we would hold meetings—we would hold meetings over in the main lounge. We would hold meetings in —

Sullivan: Turfler—

Toney-Logan: —room, in the dormitories, in our reception areas—we would hold meetings at—it wasn't any—

Sullivan: Davidson room, yeah.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: Whatever room was available at the time, what was convenient.

Toney-Logan: And we weren't really concerned about having a house because that's—you have to financially support those houses and and our numbers were so small—

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: —we wouldn't have been able to—

Toney-Logan: No.

Sullivan: —we never had enough people that we would support. And we never really wanted to.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: Because we did a lot. It was mostly focused on public service.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: So you can do that all around the community so you don't need a house. It wasn't a social organization per se. We did a lot of social things, you know, to raise funds. But the focus nationally is public service.

Ledvort: Okay. And what were the requirements to join? What did rushing involve?

Toney-Logan: Grade average. What was the grade average, 2.5?

Sullivan: 2.8?

Toney-Logan: 2.8?

Sullivan: Something, yeah, 2 point something—

Toney-Logan: Right. It might've been 2.8 because it was better than just the average, it was a little bit higher than what we would consider average. So it might've been 2.8 to 3.0?

Sullivan: Yeah, but we know it wasn't below 2.5.

Toney-Logan: Right. It wasn't, right.

Sullivan: You definitely had to be a student in good standing.

Toney-Logan: Right, student in good standing, you had to have the grade point average and it's still—

Sullivan: —the same thing.

Toney-Logan: The grade point average is higher today than it was back then. And that's about it, the grade point average and what we call—

Sullivan: The interest.

Toney-Logan: —interest, and I think, interested. We had pledge activities for—

Sullivan: —rush.

Toney-Logan: —rush, similar things where they may be put on dances, they may have interacted with their big sisters on different projects and things, and...just normal things.

Ledvort: Okay. And how did you personally get involved and why was it important to you?

Toney-Logan: I was telling you earlier, I had the law because I had a brother who was a Kappa, red and white, and he was always encouraging me to be a Delta—

[Sullivan chuckles]

Toney-Logan: —before I even got to Wesleyan. So that's one reason why I was looking into it because I already had a family member who was Greek. And then I wanted to have sisters who I didn't have, so I thought if I joined an organization or get together with like-minded women, maybe I could have my sisters do projects, just be with them, to hang with them, to tell you the truth. But again, it was a great thing to do and be because it's helped me since I've gotten out of college because of the network. It's been a very good network because again, Deltas are everywhere. They're all over the world, and usually if you go someplace, you don't know anybody, if you know that that city or that place has a Delta chapter over there, you can get in touch with somebody who's in the chapter and let them know that you're in town and whatever Deltas are doing, maybe you can become involved in whatever the Deltas are doing in that particular area.

Sullivan: I'll give you a current example of my daughter who's also a Delta.

Toney-Logan: And that's another thing.

Sullivan: The legacies.

Ledvort: Yeah. That's nice.

Sullivan: But they still have to fulfill the criteria. She moved to California, and so that's the first thing she did, she got in contact with the Deltas there, and she's already gone on a weekend trip, wine tasting in California, and she says a whole group of Deltas, about twelve of them, and she said they were all nice, she felt like. So you feel like you have family no matter where you go.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: And one reason I got interested—I had never heard of it before, sororities and fraternities and things like that, I hadn't even known what they were, but then in Gulick, because Amanda and Rose and

Cynthia, all of them had known—they had all known about it and they were so enthusiastic, and then it was public service—all of that really captivated me and then to have this sisterhood—I have two sisters but then to have this sisterhood that did things that were so meaningful. It was impressive, but I learned the more and more I learned about the organization the more I was impressed, that these thirteen women at Howard University formed this sorority, and it was still existing in 1970, when we first came to Illinois Wesleyan. So I was just impressed with the people who were interested. And I'd learned about it through them because we were all—most of us were in Gulick Hall, so I was just impressed with joining and eager to do community service, and it has social interactions, because life at Wesleyan, at that time was kind of—the social life was very limited.

Ledvort: Really?

[Toney-Logan, Ledvort, and Sullivan laugh]

Sullivan: For us.

Ledvort: Sometimes it can still be that way.

Sullivan: For us it was. So we had to go to parties at Illinois State and we saw them—we would do what we would call performing. They call it stepping now. And so we saw that. That was fun and impressive to me, and then just the whole social and service opportunities, I thought, was just amazing. So that's how I got interested.

Ledvort: That sounds great. Can you tell me about some of the other women in the sorority, what other people were involved and who were you close to, and what sort of roles did you all take on in the organization?

Toney-Logan: One of the persons that I was pretty close with was Janice Bradley, and she was in high school with me. She was at Austin High School with me. And so we came down together, but Janice did not pledge with us. She was not a charter member. Janice was our first pledge, right? Was Janice our first pledge?

Sullivan: Mhm.

Toney-Logan: She was our first pledge and I was the dean of pledgees. So I was the vice president, the first vice president of Iota Zeta. First dean of pledgees, and we only had one. So we pledged her right off the bat. That was the one who stayed down at Wesleyan, like she was a teacher.

Ledvort: Oh, yeah.

Sullivan: And she was principal.

Toney-Logan: And she was principal, and then she went over to—

Sullivan: Creek.

Toney-Logan: —Champaign—

Sullivan: —Creek.

Toney-Logan: —Sugar Creek.

Sullivan: Sugar Creek in Normal.

Toney-Logan: —Sugar Creek Elementary in Normal. She was down there, and she stayed down there for at least fifteen years. That was how long that the chapter lasted down there—

Sullivan: —because she was there—

Toney-Logan: —and being instrumental being their advisor, making them follow the rules, reporting to nationals, et cetera et cetera et cetera. And we had fun. She was the only one, the first one and the only one of the line. [Laughs]

Sullivan: It was really fun. She had—at the time she had a boyfriend who later became her husband. He was from Normal—

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Sullivan: —and the escapades that she would get in with us and with him and things, it was just really funny to have her as our first pledge. She was—if you knew Janice, you would—everybody loves her, she was just a character. Very smart, very outgoing, just different. That's all I can say about Janice is she was very, very different.

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Ledvort: Can you share one of those stories? Anything that—

Sullivan: Well you would probably have—

[Ledvort chuckles]

Sullivan: —she was her roommate so she probably had a lot—

Toney-Logan: She wasn't my roommate.

Sullivan: —oh no but Sheryl was her roommate.

Toney-Logan: Sheryl was. I didn't have any roommate the first—well I had one for—

Sullivan: You didn't? So who was Janice's roommate?

Toney-Logan: Sheryl!

Sullivan: Oh Sheryl was. Well I thought you and-I thought you and Janice—

Toney-Logan: No.

Sullivan: Okay.

Toney-Logan: Sheryl and Janice, they were roommates from the start!

Sullivan: I can't remember back that far.

Toney-Logan: That's what I was telling you. They were roommates from the start.

Sullivan: But that's probably how Sheryl got-Sheryl got interested through you and—

Toney-Logan: Right!

Sullivan: —Diane Reed—

Toney-Logan: Right. She was one of the charter members.

Sullivan: Right.

Toney-Logan: Janice—

Sullivan: —was a pledge.

Toney-Logan: —liked to be with her boyfriend, she had to spend time—

Sullivan: —with him. And so she didn't—that's why she was unable to become—

Toney-Logan: Right, right. That's exactly right.

Sullivan: And then my roommate was Karen Turner, and we were high school friends. We came down together and we were roommates. And we were both interested, and so that was helpful, because at least I—she was the one that I really knew the best. And so that she was interested, that was really helpful to me too.

Toney-Logan: And for stories, I think the only main thing that I really remember is running interference between Janice and her big sisters. Because Janice, her big sisters, all of us, we had some of them who were always trying to get her to do things for them, to come and sit with them, and Janice had school, she had Josh, she had a boyfriend, she was trying to pledge. So I was the one running interference all the time, like no, you cannot see her, no, she cannot do that. And so my big sisters weren't always happy.

Sullivan: I didn't know people were asking her to do that.

Toney-Logan: Yeah, that was part of my-part of my job. And then some of them—

Sullivan: The dean.

Toney-Logan: —that's right, the dean would say, oh you're her friend, I'd say no, no, no. She has this, she has this, she has this, she has this. She cannot spend time with you. She cannot do this, she cannot do that. But she did do some things for her big sisters. But that's what I did, I ran interference. And I said

I would never do this again, because I'm dealing with them and I'm dealing with her. And it used to be kind of hard because you're trying to make sure that she's a good pledge or a good person to soon-to-be sisters. But you also want to make sure that her grades stay up and that she stays on the line—

Sullivan: Because that's her first priority.

Toney-Logan: —and she's still interested-interested in being a Delta, period, community service, and what have you. So that's—

Sullivan: That's a hard job.

Toney-Logan: —the main thing. And I can't—and some of them might be able to tell better stories than me. I was the one running—

Sullivan: And I was a pre-med major. I really didn't have time—I didn't even know—she wouldn't even be able to do anything for me because I was in the lab all the time. But I-I-I just-I really can't tell-I think it was probably two big people.

Toney-Logan: You know who they were but you won't say anything.

Sullivan: I won't say anything.

[Toney-Logan and Sullivan laugh]

Sullivan: But everybody else, that's the whole thing. We were students. We—everybody else was so busy—

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Sullivan: —that you didn't really have time to—because then you had to set aside time to come to meetings and things like that.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: But then after Janice, we had—

Toney-Logan: —another pledge.

Sullivan: —another pledge, Kim Mullis, and then Mitzy. And Lois, you know, because she's one of the Trustees. She was another person who had this boyfriend that they were inseparable.

[Toney-Logan and Sullivan laugh]

Sullivan: So that was a challenge.

Toney-Logan: It was—and all I can remember with that is we went out to the graveyard—

Sullivan: —the cemetery.

Toney-Logan: —the cemetery one night. And what were they irritating, because it would switch-it would switch a room and they would leave us in the-in the—

Sullivan: —the cemetery.

Toney-Logan: —the cemetery. And we were supposed to get back. This was the big sisters. You knew how to get back.

Sullivan: And we know how to get back. [Laughs]

Toney-Logan: All I hear is clangs, clangs, clangs. And I know Mitzy sat on me—

[Sullivan laughs]

Toney-Logan: —once we had the station wagon—and that's one of the pledges—she sat on me.

Sullivan: [Laughs] and she wasn't petite.

Toney-Logan: And she wasn't small. And that's the only thing. And they can probably tell the story better than I could, because like I said, I'm the quiet one trying to run interference, trying to do what's right.

[Toney-Logan and Sullivan laugh]

Sullivan: It would be good for you to talk to one of the pledges, either Janice or Lois—

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Sullivan: —or Mitzy, any of those, that would be good to have them as well.

Toney-Logan: Mhm. Maybe we'll see one of them.

Sullivan: We were in leadership. We didn't pledge because we were charter members. So it'd be good to have the perspective of a charter member—

Ledvort: Okay.

Sullivan: —and a person who actually pledged the sorority.

Toney-Logan: We practiced our patience and dotting our t's—dotting our i's, crossing our t's, doing what the university—

Sullivan: —National—

Toney-Logan: —wanted and national wanted. That was our pledge for two years.

Sullivan: Because Dean Vance was so supportive and instrumental, because Judith Vance, she was the dean of women students. And she was instrumental that even though we had the interest I think if she

had not been as helpful as she was, we may not have been able to establish the sorority because we were such small—small university, small amount of people.

Toney-Logan: And she kept telling us that too. ‘There’s not enough of you’, or ‘it should be more of you’ and ‘how are you going to sustain this’ and that was the main point that there wasn’t enough of us, but there couldn’t be enough of us. There wasn’t many of us on campus.

Sullivan: There still are not, but the one thing that’s different now is that they’re doing this in a lot of chapters because now, before African Americans, there were higher numbers in historically black colleges, and now, we’re not as monolithic. We go to so many different types of schools because now with the affirmative action now, they kind of torn down some of those barriers to us going to other schools. So they have established what is called “city wide,” so that if they’re more than one chapter in a city, you can have a city one, you don’t need to have it exclusively at one university. So a city wide would be in Bloomington-Normal. Now both students at Illinois State and Illinois Wesleyan can pledge and then you have the alumni association of that city as well. So it makes it easier to sustain a chapter over time.

Ledvort: Okay. Can you talk about some of the challenges of being charter members? What did you—how did you balance that—your personal life, school, and then also starting the sorority?

Toney-Logan: We just simply did it. [both laugh]

Sullivan: We really had a strong desire to do it. We just kind of had tunnel vision. We were just doing everything that was required. We had Mrs. Freeman and Hortense Canady, those were all the—

Toney-Logan: Frankie Freeman.

Sullivan: —Frankie Freeman and Hortense Canady were the regional state leaders. We enlisted their help as well, so they came down and they wrote letters to tell us the steps to do. And then once we started it, then we had to learn all what any knew and what they would know, and then establish it. But then they were saying in the rules and regulations you got—you were privy to all of that, and then what we had to do was just know how to juggle because most of us—all of us were students, but we knew we all wanted to graduate, so we had to kind of be a little bit organized in order to carry the vow.

Toney-Logan: We had to raise money because not everybody had the money to pay fees and what have you. So we’d give dances, parties—

Sullivan: So that was the fun part.

Toney-Logan: —big things to raise money, to help pay whatever it was that we needed to pay for.

Sullivan: We would have dances. We would invite—we put up posters down at Illinois State and around the city—

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: —so people would come. And much to our surprise, they would come down to our party!
[Laughs]

Toney-Logan: They would make it to our parties.

Sullivan: Yeah, uh huh. And so we ended up being able to sustain it for a while and then after we left Janice was still there like Amanda said. So it was just really knowing our priorities and—

Toney-Logan: Right, and we shared duties, we shared responsibilities for doing certain things like we did spread out what we had to do, we'd give somebody to do, they would do it, give somebody else to do, things like that. We would coordinate whatever it was we had to do. We would make sure it got done, there were dates that things had to be done by. We got it done. It was nothing-nothing fell by the wayside. Let's just put it that way because we know if something had fallen by the wayside, we probably wouldn't have the chapter. Don't give an excuse, just go out and do whatever is being required of you to be done, and that's what we did.

Sullivan: Right, and then just at Wesleyan we were the surviving type anyway because it was a challenging environment in that era. And so we had to kind of band together to be unified and share things and share so that we kind of lift each other up as we go along. And so we just kept close contact and made sure everybody was—if they needed something they were supported.

Ledvort: Okay. How was Wesleyan a challenging environment? Can you tell me a little bit about the campus climate at the time?

Sullivan: Of course. [Chuckles]

Toney-Logan: You said it was challenging.

Sullivan: Well for once, the numbers—okay, when we first came, there were like altogether how many blacks, would you say?

Toney-Logan: Forty?

Sullivan: Forty-something. It was—in our class, we had the largest class at that time, because '70—when we came in 1970, and there were about twenty of us—no, I mean just in-just in our group.

Toney-Logan: Oh okay, yeah okay.

Sullivan: And then altogether it was forty to sixty on campus, out of at the time it was like—

Toney-Logan: 1200?

Sullivan: —about 1700 students.

Toney-Logan: Okay.

Sullivan: And so—and that was the largest amount they had ever had. And so we were spread out in a lot of different dorms, and Gulick, one thing was—I don't know if this was by design or what or just happened—we had the largest amount of black girls in that dorm, so I think that helped us tremendously because some dorms like where Shirley was—

Toney-Logan: Munsell.

Sullivan: —she was in Munsell. It was only like two of them in Munsell. Then maybe it was like one or two in Ferguson—

Toney-Logan: Pfeiffer.

Sullivan: And Pfeiffer, Phyllis in there. And then my second or third year I became an RA and I was like, one of three in Pfeiffer. And I had to keep coming up to Gulick because that's where all of my friends were so—

[Toney-Logan and Sullivan laugh]

Ledvort: It's not a far walk!

Sullivan: It was across the street but because being an RA, you had to have a lot of time and then all of my classwork. So those were the kind of challenging things, the social environment was not that receptive to us at times—

Toney-Logan: We made our own social environment.

Sullivan: —so we had to create our—we had to create our—that's the one reason we did it, because you know how they say need is the mother of invention, or however that saying goes? We needed that so we had to invent it for ourselves. And so it was challenging because I had—all of us had a lot of—maybe double challenges. I was not the only pre-med, the only black pre-med so all of my classes mostly were—it was just me, I didn't have any study partners or whatever. So that was kind of lonely. In order to circumvent the loneliness, you gravitated to all your friends. So Delta was there, that's really helped us and sustained us through the years because you have friends and comrades to rely on. But then you had the fun, the parties.

Toney-Logan: We created fun!

Sullivan: We did create the fun. And we are all friends to now, so we created lasting friendships too.

Ledvort: That's wonderful. Can you tell me about some of your traditions? The ones that you can tell me about.

Sullivan: We do have traditions.

Toney-Logan: We do have traditions. We have Founder's Day every January which is January 13th.

Toney-Logan: 13th, right, because—

Sullivan: —we created—

Toney-Logan: —we had thirteen, we had Founder’s Day, and we have regional meetings. We just started a cycle of regional meetings. The Midwest region just had theirs down in Louisville, so we have those every other year. Next year we have the national meeting. That means all the chapters across the United States—

Sullivan: It’s going to be in Dallas.

Toney-Logan: It’s going to be in Dallas next year. So those two things, well those are things we have like I said, every year--every other year, we still have them. And...

Sullivan: The public service is—we have all these different committees and entities.

Toney-Logan: We have five point programmatic thrust which I’m going to bring you the five things that we’re working on.

Ledvort: Okay.

Toney-Logan: Because right now I know social action is one, and I can’t think of all—scholarship.

Sullivan: Teams and—

Toney-Logan: Scholarship, social action. And I can’t think of the other ones.

Sullivan: Oh social action is the political—

Toney-Logan: —political one, right. Okay. So we keep doing that, and we just keep meeting Delta like she was talking about, legacies, traditions. It’s an organization that keeps going and when I say we’re trying to be relevant, we’re trying to make sure that we don’t have hazing and things on campuses, we’re trying to get more people on campuses involved. Sometimes they don’t want to be involved, they can’t see the purpose of it.

Sullivan: —because they-because they have a negative opinion—

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Sullivan: —because mostly out of ignorance they don’t really know anything about it so it’s up to us to enlighten people because had I not known firsthand from them I probably would’ve said, a Greek organization—

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Sullivan: —and joined them. But you have to show relevance to people and show that they can—how it can be beneficial to them. And as Amanda said, this is a lifelong membership, a commitment, and so you’re a member for life, and then the networking that you will not have any other way.

Toney-Logan: And the social—the Delta Days in DC, we do that too. Delta Days—

Sullivan: That's part of the social action.

Toney-Logan: That's social action. Delta Days in DC, again we go, we visit Congress et cetera et cetera, and if we could, we'd visit the President but we don't always get in to see the President—and we also had the Delta Days—oh! UN. Delta Days at the UN, we had, so those are the things that we do every year.

Toney-Logan: Yes.

Ledvort: That's fantastic. Were you doing that back in 1970 when it was first formed then?

Toney-Logan: Yes.

Ledvort: Okay.

Sullivan: We had to.

Toney-Logan: We did the same programs then.

Sullivan: Because you had to make a report.

Toney-Logan: Right, right. And that's-again, that's one of the requirements—

Sullivan: Here's the five front thrust.

Toney-Logan: —of the sorority. That's one of the foundations of the sorority.

Sullivan: Here's the five front thrusts—

Toney-Logan: Okay, here's the five point—

Sullivan: Educational development, economic development, international awareness and involvement, physical and mental health, and political awareness and involvement.

Ledvort: Have those five points always been the focus of Delta?

Toney-Logan: I would say yes!

Sullivan: Yes, but they hadn't been articulated in that fashion.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: So it's like Amanda said, it's evolved and it's updating over the years. It's always been—we've called ourselves a social action—

Toney-Logan: —community service—

Sullivan: —community service or public service organization.

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Sullivan: And we have—when you talk about traditions that we can't really disclose, we had manuals and things like that, and all of that is encapsulated in it, all of those and more, these and more. These facets are described and articulated and pledged to uphold those—

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Sullivan: —throughout our lifetimes.

Toney-Logan: Whatever work we do is work to support those five items. Whatever we do, we can always put it up under one of those headings.

Ledvort: Okay.

Sullivan: We do a lot with girls, before all of the STEM and recognition that girl power and things like that. We had the Delta teens, the Delteens, and we had a concentration on pre-teens in Delta and-and teenage girls.

Toney-Logan: And we're also working with the young men now, too. Because we have in our chapter in Chicago, the Embody—what we call the Embody program. And that's trying to get young men to go to school, or we find—trying to model other men, try to help the young men, expose them to careers and what have you, so Embody program is one of the programs that—one of the newer programs, that we work just to try to get young men more involved. Because we have girls but we have no young men.

[Toney-Logan and Sullivan laugh]

Toney-Logan: And scholarships, they give scholarships to all male—male and female.

Sullivan: Yeah, we—that's one thing that we've always done is scholarships.

Toney-Logan: Mhm, scholarships.

Sullivan: Even when we were at Wesleyan, I remember when the kids at the—what was it, the Sailors Home and Aid, that they would have—I remember that they had a convention there where they were working with these adopted kids and orphans, because they used to have a settle—a home for orphans in Bloomington-Normal area. And so I remember once we volunteered, when there was a convention, we watched the kids, and we interacted with them. So it's always been some commitment to community.

Ledvort: Okay. And what sort of events did you do during college?

Sullivan: We did floats for the parade, whenever there was Homecoming parade, we would try to have a makeshift float. We did a lot of, as Amanda mentioned, fundraisers, and we—which were the dances and other types of fundraisers—and—

Toney-Logan: Didn't we participate in—

Sullivan: —Panhell.

Toney-Logan: Yes, that's what I was going to say, Panhell living council. We were a member of that—

Sullivan: We were a member of that so—

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: —so we participated in things that the Panhell council—

Toney-Logan: —did, right, we sure did.

Sullivan: Uh huh.

Ledvort: Okay. And during those—the trips to DC and visiting your local politicians and state politicians, do you remember what events or what causes you were advocating for back in college, and then what have you done—

Sullivan: We didn't do a lot of traveling. [Chuckles]

Ledvort: Okay. [Chuckles]

Sullivan: We had no money or time.

Toney-Logan: But I remember voting, trying to get people registered—

Sullivan: —to vote.

Toney-Logan: —to vote.

Sullivan: That's a big thing. That's a big deal.

Toney-Logan: Right. They had that in the 70s, the 60s, we did that. Because I remember when we were—

Sullivan: We went to Sunnyside.

Toney-Logan: Right. I became of age. I became what, eighteen, and so I voted down here and didn't know about the judges or anything like that—

[Sullivan chuckles]

Toney-Logan: —but I did vote, okay. So we were always involved and trying to get people registered to vote. That's been ongoing forever and as far as I can remember. So that was one of the main things. Again, we're just trying to get—work with the kids, like you said, babysitting, things like that.

Sullivan: But then we did something that—there was a public housing project called Sunnyside. That was the orphanage. And so I remember we did—I can't remember exactly what we did but I remember we

went there, we had a project there, and so that was the low income community, because otherwise we would never have had contact with any-any outside of Delta.

Toney-Logan: And we thought it was important to be involved in the community because you have Wesleyan, and everybody's thinking about Wesleyan being the school with all the rich kids, what have you. So we did go out in the community more so than I think the school in general interacted with the community.

Sullivan: Mhm.

Toney-Logan: Because a lot of the time, 'you go to Wesleyan?' and 'you do this?'

Sullivan: 'I didn't even know black people went there!'

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: And the guy's rich like the rest of—

Toney-Logan: No.

[Toney-Logan and Sullivan laugh]

Ledvort: And what did you learn about the community? What was Bloomington-Normal like?

Sullivan: That's a very good question, because I had no idea they had that public housing. I never would have known, because it was on the edge of the town, but it was called Sunnyside. It was very small, and I really would not have even have known that there were black people in the town, had I not gone over there. And we wouldn't have known that they had that home for orphans there. In fact, one of the students, Andre Serrel—

Toney-Logan: He went to Wesleyan.

Sullivan: —he went to Wesleyan, but he was an orphan there.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: He and his brother were raised there, and then they—he ended up going to Illinois Wesleyan.

Ledvort: Wow.

Sullivan: And then, we didn't know—Janice was—Michael, his family was the only black family in Normal.

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Sullivan: And so we didn't know that. And so-and then when Dean Vance came, we would have some—she invited us up to her house for a few functions—we never would have seen that end of—we didn't—

that was a true community. We never would have gone there. So I think being in an organization like Delta, which is community-oriented, it got us out of the so-called ivory tower—

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Sullivan: —and the academia to really see the community—

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: —and the different facets of it we never would have known anything about. And I think when kids go to colleges a lot of times they only know the university life. They don't know what life is like surrounding. We also went to some of the churches that were there.

Toney-Logan: Yeah, uh huh.

Sullivan: Yeah, we never would have known that. We got a chance to get exposed to a lot. So that was a learning experience. That enriched our learning experiences at Wesleyan too, just being in the sorority and knowing about it, knowing that they had an international trust so we went beyond our little world. So that was an educational experience as well.

Ledvort: Yeah. How did that contribute to your personal development as a person during your college years and how did that translate into your adult life?

Toney-Logan: Oh I think I expected more from the world. You come from a small little group—I come from Austin High School, which was—it wasn't really a small high school—coming down to Wesleyan even though you're coming from a small town, they still expanded my world view, I would say, because it opened me up to things that I probably would have never been open to if I had not gone to Wesleyan. It's like it expanded my world. Even though it was a small school it still expanded my world and I liked the fact that when I first came, that I had Religion 101, they had Humanities—

Sullivan: Right, it was required—

Toney-Logan: —all these were required courses, and I thought that they were just so great, because I'm learning more than I would've learned about the world without coming down here to Wesleyan, period. And the fact that it was a liberal arts school even was-better, because to me liberal means that you learn a little bit of everything.

Sullivan: She went to Europe too.

Toney-Logan: It's not just one subject. I know I have to get a job, that's why I took business just—

[Ledvort laughs]

Toney-Logan: —but I was a history major, so it's like I'm opening-I've opened up to the world being at Wesleyan. And then I would've never gone to Europe if I had not been at Wesleyan, because January short term I thought was the greatest thing since sliced bread—

Sullivan: [Laughs] it was just the best.

Toney-Logan: Right. I-I should've taken advantage of it more. I wanted to go to Russia, but I didn't go to Russia because I didn't want to take out another student loan—

[Sullivan laughs]

Toney-Logan: —okay. But if I had known what they do today, I would've taken out another student loan and not worried about it.

[Sullivan laughs]

Toney-Logan: Because that's what they do nowadays, unfortunately.

Sullivan: Yeah.

[Ledvort laughs]

Toney-Logan: But it was just-it just opened up my whole world, I thought. And then I go back to the city and it's like even though I go off and get a job it's just like things closed down again. It's like the world isn't so open.

Sullivan: Mhm. It was just wonderful.

Toney-Logan: Right, right, right. And like I said, coming from the west side of Chicago, limited to certain things, you don't—

Sullivan: Your world is so small.

Toney-Logan: Right, right.

Sullivan: And in school you haven't been exposed to a lot.

Toney-Logan: Right, right, right.

Sullivan: I went to an all-black high school, Englewood High School, and then it was considered one of the worst, and now it's considered the worst probably in Chicago because of all the violence—

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Sullivan: —but I didn't see it as that, because again—we were so isolated, and everything's relative, definitely wasn't as bad as it was. [Laughs]

Toney-Logan: Right. Where you learn Latin at. Everybody comes from their high schools good in science. [Laughs]

Sullivan: Yeah. I was the valedictorian and I ended up getting a scholarship to study in France in the summer. But still, that was—it's so limited because my community was so small and narrow. And so

when I got there, not only did we see other kids from across the city. We saw—there were African American kids that came from across the country—

Toney-Logan: Nigeria, they came from Africa.

Sullivan: Nigeria, too, Earnest—

[Toney-Logan laughs]

Sullivan: And then we had Gail Magoy from Texas, we had Reba from DC—

Toney-Logan: Mhm, mhm.

Sullivan: —we had Gail from DC. And we had them from every—all over.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: And so then we got a little chance to learn about the states and communities they came from. Rose was from Florida and she was our soror—sister—we call them soror. And she told us all about Delta. And you're independent but you're in a safe environment, you can explore, you can do so many things and it was so safe.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: You can walk around at night. We even did hitchhiking which—

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: —it was a group of us Deltas, we said, oh, we wanted—we're going to a function down the state and then we'd all get together.

Toney-Logan: Try going on Main Street and getting a ride down—[Laughs]—Wesleyan if we didn't walk.

Sullivan: So then it just expanded. As Amanda said, it expanded our world. We just—we had the challenging part because I mentioned that we had our schoolwork. But we knew we could make it because we had the unity and support where we needed—

Toney-Logan: —from each other, right. We did have support. That's where we got the support from, each other. We got it from school, too, but mainly I think we got it from each other. We really did.

Sullivan: Right.

Toney-Logan: Because we encouraged each other, we talked about what was going on in class, which was a lot. So it's like we all—

Sullivan: And we were mentoring the kids that were coming after us.

Toney-Logan: Right, right. We did.

Sullivan: And then we were role model Deltas, role model for the girls, because every year we were there, after we established the sorority, we had people who were interested, even people who didn't pledge, they would come to us to learn about it and a lot of them wanted to do it, but maybe because of academic challenges or just because they weren't sure, whatever, they did enjoy it, but then we kind of—I think we influenced them because we gave them parties, then we told them we gave them help, they could get involved with some of our activities, things like that. So I think we not only benefited—it not only benefited us, but it enriched the other kids as well.

Toney-Logan: I think I neglected to tell you that the whole chapter, we had to keep the grade point average up in order to keep the chapter. If our grade point average fell below a certain level—

Ledvort: Oh, yeah.

Toney-Logan: —we couldn't, we'd be suspended.

Sullivan: Right. And we never got suspended.

Toney-Logan: Right, we never got suspended. So as a group, we had to keep our grade point average up too.

Sullivan: And as a group we all graduated.

[Toney-Logan and Sullivan laugh]

Sullivan: Because a lot of the black kids at Wesleyan—not a lot. Wesleyan pretty much picked pretty strong people so I think most people were successful even back then. But some of them didn't like the isolated environment.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: So they either transferred or left.

Toney-Logan: But it was fine with me, I didn't mind.

Sullivan: I liked the quietness because—

Toney-Logan: Right, that's what I was telling them before.

Sullivan: —the big hustle and bustle city—

Toney-Logan: Right, it was just quiet.

Sullivan: —I just—you looked at it as a refuge. I was happy when it was time to go back to school. I was ready to go.

Toney-Logan: Because you felt free. It wasn't stifling, like you said, you could do things. You could go out, you could be out, and not be afraid that anything's going to happen.

Sullivan: And if we didn't have money to buy food, we would say, let's buy a pizza. We would always—nobody was ever hungry because we would all join in, we'd say, okay, I have this now—

[Ledvort laughs]

Toney-Logan: And I told her about Wilfred at the desk.

Sullivan: Oh yeah, the loans! We would go, we could get 25 dollars, so didn't have money to go home, or whatever or—

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: —eat. We could always go to the desk.

Toney-Logan: It's money.

Sullivan: 25 dollars.

Toney-Logan: Right, four dollars to ride the bus back to Chicago.

Ledvort: Wow.

[Toney-Logan and Sullivan laugh]

Sullivan: We can't have money in our pockets.

Toney-Logan: Right, right, right.

Ledvort: Yeah. And now this—what, did you call it a welfare desk?

Toney-Logan: No, we just said desk.

Ledvort: Oh, okay. [Laughs]

Sullivan: They probably still do that.

Ledvort: Not that I know of! [Laughs]

Sullivan: You could just get petty cash.

Ledvort: Well, we have just ATMs throughout the campus. That's what—

[Sullivan laughs]

Toney-Logan: Oh no.

Sullivan: There was no such thing.

Toney-Logan: No such thing.

Ledvort: Yeah.

Sullivan: We could go there, and anybody, no matter who you were—

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: —you were a student—

Toney-Logan: —had to sign in.

Sullivan: Sign in.

Toney-Logan: But you had to pay back. Those 25 dollars, you had to pay back.

Sullivan: You had to pay them back. And everybody paid back. You tried not to get 25.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: I don't think I ever had 25 before.

Toney-Logan: Right, that's true.

Sullivan: Shh!

[Toney-Logan and Sullivan laugh]

Toney-Logan: But I thought that was so good—

Sullivan: Who ever heard of that?

Toney-Logan: —of the university. Right, and that was the university too.

Sullivan: And the food was so good!

Ledvort: Yeah!

Sullivan: The food was so good. We had the steak night, and the shrimp. The steak night—

Toney-Logan: That's the one I was talking about.

Sullivan: Oh, yeah.

Toney-Logan: That's why I was quiet.

Sullivan: And we loved their food!

Toney-Logan: That's right. I told her, I was the first in line almost every time.

Sullivan: We had no complaints about the food.

Ledvort: Yeah. We still have that. It's every other Friday though.

Sullivan: Not every Friday.

[Ledvort, Toney-Logan, and Sullivan laugh]

Ledvort: That would be good.

Sullivan: Do you still have the ice cream socials?

Ledvort: No, I don't think so.

Sullivan: We had the special ice cream all the time. I've never seen that many toppings for ice cream.

Toney-Logan: Right, right.

Ledvort: Was this put on by the university?

Sullivan: Yeah!

Ledvort: Just in—was it in the quad or in the—?

Sullivan: No, it was in the commons.

Toney-Logan: In the commons, inside.

Sullivan: Ice cream social.

Toney-Logan: —night, right. Make your own sundaes.

Sullivan: We would go to town.

Ledvort: Yeah, we do—we have that almost every day.

Sullivan: The ice cream social?

Ledvort: Well yeah, it's not called the ice cream social, but—

Sullivan: —where you make your own sundae.

Ledvort: —yeah, you can make your own sundae every day.

Sullivan: Oh no, this was a big thing. An ice cream place, it was a big thing.

Toney-Logan: It wasn't yogurt, it was real ice cream.

[Ledvort, Toney-Logan, and Sullivan laugh]

Toney-Logan: But I thought they treated us pretty good.

Sullivan: It was short term, but oh my, you could do whatever you want. I remember I took a French immersion course where we could only speak French and we would cook food. Every time I tried to do something different it was short term.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: And it was always fun—

Toney-Logan: It was the best though. Right, that was the best thing. And they stopped doing that too.

Sullivan: They changed things! No more short term.

Toney-Logan: They go for semesters, overseas, abroad, for whole semesters. We did that too. January short term you did because it was so cold, so you got away or mostly everybody left so—

Sullivan: I didn't though .

Toney-Logan: —some people stayed, but you left in January and see, the only thing about it is, you would have to have money, and like I said, you take out most definitely a separate semester that you have to pay for, okay.

Ledvort: Right.

Toney-Logan: So—

[Sullivan laughs]

Toney-Logan: —I had no idea, I would've take out a loan for every January short term—

[Ledvort and Sullivan laugh]

Toney-Logan: Europe was 800 dollars. That's how much it costs to go to Europe.

Ledvort: Wow.

Toney-Logan: 800 dollars. I couldn't believe that. Food, room and board—

Ledvort: The entire trip was 800?

Toney-Logan: Yes.

Ledvort: Oh, my gosh. [Laughs]

Sullivan: Do you know how much tuition was then?

Ledvort: No, how much was it?

Toney-Logan: How much was it?

Sullivan: It was 4,000 a year.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: Tuition—

Ledvort: Oh, my gosh.

Sullivan: —and room and board was 4,000.

Toney-Logan: Right, that is right, per year, right. So 800 dollars to go to Europe, never. I think I was probably three weeks through, so I got some money from my mother, sitting, that's when I got the telegram for some money. I didn't even have that much pocket change.

[Sullivan laughs]

Toney-Logan: And I'm serious. [Laughs] But I wasn't Shirley, with her money. [Laughs]

Sullivan: Shirley was the only one of us who had a car. So every time we had to have activities, if it was off campus, like sometimes we had to go to Bradley or Purdue, it was always Shirley, had to depend on Shirley and her car. She had a brand new car.

Toney-Logan: Mhm, mhm.

Sullivan: So she had money when you all went?

Toney-Logan: Mhm.

Sullivan: So that's how you got money?

[Ledvort, Toney-Logan, and Sullivan laugh]

Toney-Logan: And speaking of Shirley, that's who I'm going to see. I'm going to the Regional—the Southwest Regional, instead—I didn't go to the Midwest Regional, so I'm going to the Southwest Region in Albuquerque next month.

Sullivan: Oh that's wonderful.

Toney-Logan: So it counts, so we go to Regional. That's making a difference where it's at. So we can credit for it.

Ledvort: Yeah. Now I have a sad question.

Sullivan: Oh.

Ledvort: What happened to the Iota Zeta chapter at Wesleyan, and why is it no longer here? Why is it no longer existing?

Toney-Logan: We didn't have the numbers.

Sullivan: We didn't have the numbers. And after Janice left we didn't really have an ambassador that was there to shepherd along and make sure to nurture it. And so then, Wesleyan, for a while, it went through hardly any—we went through, even though we only had like sixty or forty—they went down to a very low amount. I remember one class, they only had less than ten left there, maybe. It was just a very small amount, so there was simply because of the numbers. That was the reason. And we just couldn't sustain it over time, because even Illinois State lost their chapter because of numbers also and they're a state university.

Ledvort: Yeah.

Sullivan: So that was the main reason. But it's not gone forever because now they're starting to stabilize. We feel that we still have that best part of the legacy because it was in the area. That's why we want to do this to make sure that we know, at Wesleyan and in the city—I mean, in the townships of Bloomington-Normal, we want that to be.

Toney-Logan: And if women come to the campus, maybe they'll know that Delta's were there, and they can go visit the library, the archives, and maybe they might be interested.

Sullivan: And aspire the organization, and to have known that it has this type of history.

Ledvort: Yeah. That's wonderful. I sort of want to become part of Delta Sigma Theta.

Sullivan: You can, you can pledge!

Toney-Logan: It's a lovely chapter.

[Ledvort laughs]

Sullivan: Yeah! And Joan—you can talk to Joan. We should—

Toney-Logan: The DuPage—the Glen Ellyn chapter. You say you're from Berwyn?

Ledvort: Yeah.

Toney-Logan: We have a Glen Ellyn chapter.

Sullivan: Yeah, that's the western one.

Toney-Logan: That's the western suburbs.

Sullivan: Yeah, it passes all the west.

Toney-Logan: Right.

Sullivan: But if you look in the yearbook, you'll see Joan.

Toney-Logan: Flestner.

Sullivan: Flestner, with her red hair, everything.

[Ledvort laughs]

Sullivan: She was in all our pictures. And she lives in Boston now.

Toney-Logan: I thought she moved down and she's back in Champaign.

Sullivan: She was, but she—after her husband passed away she moved to—she got a job in Boston. Very smart. She was the smartest person in our class. She had a straight 4.0 average all the time.

Ledvort: Wow.

Sullivan: She was extremely smart.

Ledvort: Well you know what, I think that is a good place to end for this interview. But I hope this is the beginning of a continuing conversation—

Toney-Logan: Yes.

Ledvort: —that we can get some more members at Homecoming that we can all sit down and talk more—

Sullivan: Yeah. Do you think Shirley is coming, or no? Because it's our 40th—

Ledvort: Oh, okay, yeah.

Toney-Logan: I can ask her and see but maybe I can send her an email.

Sullivan: We can just—

Toney-Logan: The regional's in August, and I was thinking that maybe I can talk to her and maybe take—

Ledvort: Yeah.

Sullivan: Maybe I can take the train down to Albuquerque.

Toney-Logan: Yeah.

Sullivan: Because I've always wanted to go to Albuquerque.

Ledvort: Before we close, do you have anything you would like to add about Delta, and anything that you would want Wesleyan to know?

Sullivan: Well, both Delta, and Illinois Wesleyan for us, is intricately entwined. We can't think of one without the other. So for that, I think that we left a powerful legacy to Illinois Wesleyan and then they'd leave a powerful impression on us, and then the community around us at that time. So I just would like to thank Delta and Illinois Wesleyan for the experience that I had, because—that's why I try to give to students now, because it's so important to support students while you're there because it affects the

rest of your life, your entire life. I just really—as you move away-further away from it you tend to forget all the bad things and remember all the fond things.

Toney-Logan: It was one of the best times of my life, when I look back on it. It really was. And I too have a scholarship there, an endowed scholarship. It's the Judge Amanda Toney-Logan scholarship. So-and I say that-I do that as a way of paying for an education that I didn't really pay a lot for when I was there. I did take out some loans, I had scholarships, grants, and what have you, but I'm just trying to give back to somebody else in the hope that they can have the experience that I had while I was there. So, and again, and I try to tell them all the time, this is the best part of your lives, so you better take advantage.

Sullivan: Let me tell you one other story that came from there that shows you how a lot of times you're making an impact and you don't really know about it. My daughter got married last year and she had this young lady come to do the makeup. She assisted because I don't wear a lot of makeup. But anyway, she insisted. So while we're getting the makeup done, and she says, oh okay, and then I walked into the room in the hotel where they were doing the makeup and the young lady says, 'You're Dr. Sullivan, right?' And I said, 'Yeah.' She says, 'You went to Illinois Wesleyan!' I said, 'Yeah, how'd you know?' And so she was actually a friend of my daughter's. She had graduated from University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. So I said, 'How does she know?' She says, 'I remember you from Wesleyan.' I said, 'Oh, Stephanie said you graduated from U of I, Champaign last April.' She says, 'I did, but I've been to Wesleyan first, and I transferred.' And she says, 'And I remember while we were there, you and some other Deltas came down', because we were trying to start restart the chapter, 'we were interested, and you spoke to us, and we were so impressed and we really wanted to do it', and-but certainly they didn't have enough students in Delta. I don't think that's why she transferred, but she did become a Delta at U of I, Champaign-Urbana. And she says, 'I ran into you again'—because she was from Detroit—she says, 'I ran to you again at Detroit and this conference, and I thanked you, because you really were very helpful in us starting it.' She says, 'So I just remember that and that really was so helpful to us.' So you don't what type of impact that you're making, and so that's why you always want to try to help because even though you may not know it then, you'll finally realize later on that you really have made an impact on people's lives.

Ledvort: Yeah. What a nice story and a nice lesson.

Sullivan: Right.

Ledvort: Alright, well, thank you Amanda and Myrtis for sitting down with me today.

Sullivan: Thank you, Elissa for helping us along with this. This is—

Ledvort: Yeah.

Sullivan: We really thank you for that.

Toney-Logan: This is great on the university's part.

Sullivan: It really is.

Toney-Logan: If I was a student today, I would be over there in the library looking at all this stuff—

[Ledvort laughs]

Toney-Logan: And then telling somebody, oh, I didn't think I would be here fifty years later. Here we are, forty. We used to always say that when the older people—

Sullivan: Older people, well they look so old.

[Ledvort laughs]

Toney-Logan: They went to school sixty years ago?! I don't know if I'll be down here at the age of 60.

[Ledvort and Sullivan laugh]

Toney-Logan: And here we are—

Sullivan: Sixty years old.

Toney-Logan: Forty years. Forty years. And you're there, you're thinking, forty years? That's a long time. I won't be coming back to Wesleyan! [Laughs]

Sullivan: You're sixty, and then sixty sounded so old.

Toney-Logan: Mhm, mhm, mhm. And here we are. And it's a constant—it's been a constant in my life. So when—I think one of the few constants in my life.

Sullivan: We're going to try to get Mitzy and Lois too, and-and Jenine.

Toney-Logan: Do this, this is for the—

Sullivan: Oh that's not—

Toney-Logan: It's for the tour—

Sullivan: Oh.

Toney-Logan: It's not—

Sullivan: I thought that was—

[Recording Ends]