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Alumnus Elected President of Texas Music Organization

December 2, 2010

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University graduate George W. Jones '77, was recently elected to serve as president of the Texas Music Administrators' Conference, an organization of 150 Fine Arts Administrators from across the state of Texas.

According to the Texas Music Educators' Conference (TMAC) mission statement, the group focuses on promoting and supporting "music education and music educators through collaboration, networking, and the sharing of best practices so that every child in Texas is assured of receiving quality instruction in the understanding, appreciation, and performance of music."

"It is critical in this day of high stakes testing and budget cuts that we continue to educate the whole child by including a quality fine arts education curriculum" said Jones in a recent interview. Jones holds a master's degree in music from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. In addition to his membership in TMAC, he is a member of the Texas Music Educators' Association, the Texas Bandmasters Association, and Phi Beta Mu honorary music fraternity.

After serving 18 years as a band director in the Garland (Texas) Independent School District (ISD), Jones was appointed to the position of Director of Fine Arts in 1997. The Garland ISD is in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and serves approximately 58,000 students on 68 campuses. Jones oversees the Fine Arts Department consisting of over 250 teachers.

In addition to his work in the Garland ISD, he also serves as conductor of the Richardson Community Band (RCB), a position he has held since 1998. In 2010, Jones was presented with the "Real Heroes Award" by the Richardson Coalition for his 27 years of volunteer service as conductor of the RCB.

For additional information, contact the University Communications Office at (309) 556-3181.

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