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Students honored with Margaret Wakeley scholarship

September 27, 2011

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – On Sept. 8, Melissa Seeborg '13 and Jazmyn Becker '12 received the Margaret Wakeley scholarship from the Professional Women of McLean County. The scholarship is open to students of junior or senior standing at Illinois Wesleyan University, Illinois State University or Lincoln College. The \$1500 award is named after the first president of the Women's Division of the McLean County Chamber of Commerce, Margaret Wakeley, and is intended to honor students of academic excellence who are seeking college degrees. Applicants are evaluated on academic standing and participation in leadership activities, among other criteria.

Seeborg, a native of Bloomington is an economics major with a minor in political science. "I am very honored to be recognized by such admirable women. The members of the organization are all skilled, confident and caring. It is a blessing to have this organization along with its members in our community," said Seeborg.

Working this summer as an intern at the Action Research Center (ARC), Seeborg was given the opportunity to explore areas of community involvement and leadership. After graduation, she would like to attend law school and work in a field where she can directly connect with people and impact their lives in a positive way.

Becker, a native of Bloomington, Minn. is a double major in business administration with an emphasis in marketing and interdisciplinary educational studies in public policy. "I was so grateful to receive this scholarship, especially because it is from such a wonderful organization," she said. "The Professional Women of McLean County are a group of highly aspiring women who balance career, children, not-for-profit work and much more. I was so happy that women of this caliber felt I deserved this scholarship."

An ARC intern this summer as well, Becker worked three days a week at State Farm Insurance Company and two days each week at a local not-for-profit organization. This unique combination helped her decide a future career path. Because of her interest in policy work for public education, as well as the legal aspects surrounding human resources, she is currently applying to a teaching position and corporate leadership development programs.

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