HISTORY OF THE I.W.U. HEALTH SERVICE

In November, 1941, Velma Arnold was interviewed about being the nurse at Illinois Wesleyan University. The first health service was developed from the womens lounge on the first floor of Hedding Hall. It took until February, 1942, to get the space ready for use. The first patient seen in a real health service was in February, 1942. The Health Service was open for only four (4) hours a day.

Within five months the Health Service outgrew its space and was moved into new quarters on the east side of the first floor of Hedding Hall as part of the Dean of Womens Office, and the nurse was on duty full time. This health service was destroyed in the Hedding Hall fire in 1943.

After the fire the Health Service was temporarily located in an office on the third floor of the science building. After four weeks it was moved into space on the ground floor of Buck Library where it remained until quarters were finished in the northwest corner of Duration Hall.

After several years, barracks were moved onto the campus for more classroom and office space, and the Health Service was moved into one of the barracks buildings.

When the barracks were removed, the Health Service moved into space which had been built from storage space in Magill Hall, on the ground floor, where it has remained ever since.

When the Health Service was founded and the nurse came on the campus, Dr. Jenkins was the physician for men and Dr. Robert Price for women. When Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Price went into the armed services, Dr. J. K. P. Hawks and Dr. Fred Brian took over the duties of physicians for Illinois Wesleyan University.

Dr. Fred Brian was the first Medical Director and Team Physician for Wesleyan, serving from 1944 until his death in 1958. His associate, Dr. David Jenkins, became Medical Director and served until his death in 1970. From 1959 until 1970, Dr. A. F. Cunningham was Associate Medical Director. Dr. John Wright was added to the staff as Orthopedic Consultant and is still serving in that capacity.

In September, 1970, Dr. Cunningham became Medical Director and Team Physician, where he continues to serve.

Velma Arnold retired as University Nurse in August, 1971.

(This history was contributed by Miss Velma Arnold)