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Peopletalk: Robert Eckley

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Dr. Robert S. Eckley

Every college thinks it is different, but the distinguishing characteristics of Illinois Wesleyan mark it in a special way. The liberal arts are offered by a faculty dedicated to teaching and close student contact. The College of Fine Arts provides excellent performance opportunities in music, drama, and art. Together with the School of Nursing, they interest a group of students who have already made a professional commitment during their college years. Business and teacher education are taught without the degree of over specialization typical of such programs in many large universities today. Nevertheless, sufficient elements of professional and specialized study are here to permit students to test their tentative plans against their own interest and abilities. During recent years the faculty has devised various experiences in professional problem solving, in ethical and moral questions, and in basic skill acquisition to enable students to connect more easily with life after the four college years. They have done this without narrowing the breadth of a student's undergraduate experience. This emphasis does help a student, along with the counseling available in the new Career Education Center, to grow to full potential at Illinois Wesleyan.