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IWU Faculty Donates Textbooks to Africa

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BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Boxes of books donated by Illinois Wesleyan University faculty members are being shipped to Africa the week of April 24 through the “Books for Africa” program.

“Books for Africa,” the largest shipper of donated textbooks to the African continent, was started in 1988, had sent approximately 13 million primary, secondary, post-secondary and community library books to 26 countries.

Njeri Mbugua, assistant professor of sociology at IWU organized the project. In March of this year, Mbugua, who wanted to do something useful with the textbooks she no longer needs, found the program online and asked other IWU faculty to donate any recent textbooks to the drive.

“It is such a great thing,” said Mbugua. “In the United States, books are inexpensive and easy to purchase, however, in Africa, books are invaluable, especially new books. Many universities have very limited and outdated textbooks. The books that we are sending are recent and in excellent condition...I know they will be put to good use.”

For additional information, contact Meg Dubuque at the Office of Communications at (309) 556-3181, or email Mbugua at nmbugua@iwu.edu. For additional information on “Books for Africa,” visit www.booksforafrica.com.