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Country Insurance Awards Two Students Scholarships

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Illinois Wesleyan University

NEWS RELEASE

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Country Insurance Awards Two Students Scholarships

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University students Dan Armstrong and Bukola Olaosebikan have been awarded scholarships by Bloomington-based COUNTRY Insurance and Financial Services.

Armstrong, a senior English-writing and sociology double major, and Olaosebikan, a junior business administration and computer science double major, are interns in different departments at COUNTRY.

Armstrong, who began his internship at COUNTRY in August 2007, is an intern in the public relations department. He writes press releases and contributes to numerous communications projects, including the monitoring of media coverage. Armstrong says he has also "written for the company's employee magazine, helped prep subject-matter experts for media interviews, and worked with firms on various promotions and projects."

The son of Mark and Lynn Armstrong of Carlinville, Ill., Armstrong plans to start his career in a public relations or journalism position either for a sports team or university.

Olaosebikan, who began at COUNTRY in January 2007, works in the recruiting and marketing division on a variety of projects including marketing campaigns and updating the department's database. She also helps assess project progress and results.

Originally from Nigeria, the daughter of Drs. Kofo and Bola Olaosebikan, she intends to pursue a post-graduate degree or work full time after graduating in May 2009.

The scholarships, available to interns and work-study students at COUNTRY, "recognize corporate intern students for outstanding academic achievement and service contributions to the organization and community," said Chris Anderson, a media relations coordinator for the company.

Criteria for the scholarships include employment at COUNTRY as an intern or work-study student and a grade point average of 2.5 or higher. Applicants must also submit their resumes, a list of extracurricular activities they participate in, and write a themed essay. The essay topic this year was "What does financial security mean to you, and why do you feel financial security is important in today's society?"

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