



11-17-2009

IWU Receives Grant to Curb Underage Drinking

Kristin Fields '12
Illinois Wesleyan University

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Recommended Citation

Fields '12, Kristin, "IWU Receives Grant to Curb Underage Drinking" (2009). *News and Events*. 447.

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November 17, 2009

Contact: Kristin Fields, '12, (309) 556-3181

IWU Receives Grant to Curb Underage Drinking

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Early this fall, Illinois Wesleyan University co-authored a grant application with the Bloomington Police Department (BPD) and received \$15,000 through the Illinois Higher Education Center to help curb high-risk drinking and promote a safer campus environment for students, faculty and staff.

The grant will be used to assign police officers from the Bloomington Police Department to work with IWU security during late night hours. Officers will be visible on foot near the periphery of campus, the campus proper and adjacent neighborhoods, in order to deter underage drinking and illegal behavior. One of the many efforts to keep students safe and healthy, the grant coincides with IWU's "Stay in the Green Zone" campaign, an endeavor to inform students of local laws, ordinances and healthy choices regarding alcohol and other drug use.

Although the grant's primary focus is to reduce underage drinking, it will also be used in hopes of diminishing on-campus crime. While Illinois Wesleyan is considered a safe campus, recent crime reports, both on campus and off, have prompted IWU to take action and respond.

The University accepted the grant in hopes that police presence on campus will allow for a faster response time to crime and a stronger relationship between IWU security and the BPD, one that will outlast the duration of the grant.

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