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Bob Aaron
Illinois Wesleyan University

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CONTACT: Bob Aaron, 309/556-3181

New Trustees Named at Illinois Wesleyan

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. --A pharmaceutical research leader, a financial planner, a banker-agriculturist, and an aviation-industry executive have been elected to the Board of Trustees of Illinois Wesleyan University. A Grammy Award-winning Metropolitan Opera star also has been elected an honorary trustee.

The new board members, including four IWU alumni, were elected at the trustees' meeting, May 9.

The new board members are Robert E. Evans of Holden, Mass., IWU class of 1962 and president of the Financial Marketing Group; Nancy J. Hutson of Stonington, Conn., IWU class of 1971 and senior vice president of U.S. Research for Pfizer, Inc.; Parker Kemp of Bloomington, president of Kemp Farms, Inc.; and Durham J. Monsma of Greenwood Village, Colo., IWU class of 1968 and corporate vice president of Jeppesen Sanderson, Inc.

The new honorary trustee is Dawn Upshaw of Bronxville, N.Y., IWU class of 1982 and a three-time Grammy Award-winning artist affiliated with New York's Metropolitan Opera Co., and other world-class opera houses.

Robert E. Evans

Evans founded the Financial Marketing Group in 1967, a firm specializing in corporate and individual financial planning. He received a bachelor of science degree in insurance from IWU in 1962, was awarded the designation of Chartered Life Underwriter in 1972, and became a Chartered Financial Consultant in 1985. He is past president of the Massachusetts Life Underwriter Association and served as Massachusetts Chairman of Legislative Affairs for the insurance industry. He is a trustee of the Life Underwriters Training Council, a nonprofit education and training organization, and is a director of Tornquist Construction Co., of Bloomington. At IWU, Evans was a member of the Theta Chi fraternity and served on the Argus, the campus newspaper. He is married to Kathleen (Knuth), a 1962 IWU graduate.

Nancy J. Hutson

As senior vice president of U.S. Exploratory Development and U.S. Development Science at Pfizer, Hutson is responsible for development research, drug-safety evaluation, and project management. She received a bachelor of arts degree in biology from IWU and a doctorate in physiology from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. She was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Oxford under a U.S. National Institutes of Health National Research Service Award. Hutson received IWU's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1999. At IWU, she was a member of the Kappa Delta sorority and a participant in the College Bowl. A native of Colfax, Ill., Hutson resides in Connecticut with her husband, Ian H. Williams.

Parker Kemp

Kemp has been affiliated with Kemp Farms and Kemp Grain Co., of Lexington, Ill., since 1958, serving as president and director. He also has a 34-year career in banking at the Peoples Bank of Lexington, which is now part of Commerce Bank, where he is a director. Kemp received bachelors degrees in civil engineering and accounting from the University of Colorado and was an Air National Guard pilot. He and his wife, Dorothy, reside in Bloomington.

Durham J. Monsma

Monsma is an executive with Jeppesen Sanderson, the world's leading supplier of flight information services and a subsidiary of the Times Mirror Co., of Los Angeles. He received a bachelor of arts degree in English from IWU, a masters degree in journalism from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., and a law degree from the University of California-Los Angeles. At IWU, he was president of the Student Senate, a member of the track team, and a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. A native of Ipswich, Australia, Monsma and his wife, Robbie, live in a Denver suburb.

Dawn Upshaw

Honorary trustee Upshaw, an internationally acclaimed opera star and recording artist, received a bachelor of music degree from IWU. She received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree when she was the keynote speaker at the university's 1995-graduation ceremony. Described as "the world's greatest soprano," Upshaw is known for a wide repertoire and will appear this fall in the premiere of "The Great Gatsby." Upshaw is married to, Michael Nott, IWU class of 1979.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 2,070 students in a College of Liberal Arts, and individual schools of Music, Theatre Arts, Art, and Nursing. Since 1994, these facilities have been added to the IWU campus: a \$15 million athletics and recreation center, a \$25 million science center, a \$6.8 million residence hall, a \$5.1 million Center for Liberal Arts, and a \$1.65 million baseball stadium. A \$26 million library and a \$6 million student center are under construction. Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine ranks Illinois Wesleyan University 12th among the nation's top 1,600 private colleges in providing a top-quality education at an affordable cost. Also sharing IWU's rank are Princeton and Dartmouth.