



Winter 2-14-2001

Harriett Rust Portrait to be Unveiled by IWU

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Recommended Citation

Aaron, Bob, "Harriett Rust Portrait to be Unveiled by IWU" (2001). *News and Events*. 986.
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Feb. 14, 2001

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	<h2>Harriett Rust Portrait to be Unveiled by IWU</h2>
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BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--A portrait of the late Harriett Fuller Rust, a former member of Illinois Wesleyan University's board of trustees, will be unveiled this month in the lounge of a residence hall named in her honor.

The unveiling of the original oil painting by a Russian-born artist will take place Feb. 19 (Monday) at 3:30 p.m. at Harriett Fuller Rust House, which also is affectionately known as Harriett House, 201 E. Emerson St.

Mrs. Rust was the wife of one State Farm insurance chief executive and the mother of the current one, Edward B. Rust, Jr., who is a 1972 IWU graduate and university trustee.

Feb. 19 marks the anniversary of Mrs. Rust's birth.

Mrs. Rust's three children are expected to attend the ceremony.

IWU President Minor Myers, jr. will preside at the celebration honoring Mrs. Rust's memory.

Student Senate President Matt Glavin and Vice President Sara Nelson, both seniors, will participate in the ceremony.

Harold Gauthier, a 2000 IWU graduate and a former Student Senate president, will speak at the ceremony about Mrs. Rust as an advocate for students.

Refreshments, including birthday cake, will follow the ceremony. Attendance at the ceremony is by invitation only. The event is open for news-media coverage.

The oil painting, commissioned by IWU, is by New York-based artist, Alexander Michtchan. It is based on one of Mrs. Rust's favorite photographs.

The portrait will hang over the fireplace mantle in a first-floor lounge of IWU's newest residence hall, which was named for Mrs. Rust in 1999. The \$6.8-million, four-story residence hall, which accommodates about 118 students in various suite-type arrangements, was originally called New House. It was given its new moniker to honor Mrs. Rust for her long-time contributions and dedicated service to the university.

Point of Pride

Brandee Morris, a junior majoring in sociology from Dolton, Ill., is a resident assistant in Rust House. "It's a point of pride for me," Morris said, "to live in Rust House since Mrs. Rust helped people so much. I'm honored to live there."

In anticipation of the unveiling of Mrs. Rust's portrait, Morris designed two bulletin board displays on the third floor of the residence hall with photographs and biographical information about Mrs. Rust to help inform residents about her accomplishments, background, and interests.

Harriett Rust Profiled

Harriett Fuller Rust died on July 13, 1999, at the age of 80. She had battled cancer.

A longtime friend of IWU, Mrs. Rust had served as an honorary trustee of the university since 1989. She served as president of IWU's President's Club from 1983-99.

When Rust House was named for her, IWU President Minor Myers, jr., said: "Harriett Rust is a beloved community leader, who is a model for the spirit of volunteerism that makes so many wonderful things happen. We're very proud that generations of Illinois Wesleyan University students will live in a residence named for her. We know she serves as an inspiration, and a role model, for these young men and women."

A biography of Harriett Rust points out: "Many Bloomington area organizations have benefited from Mrs. Rust's time and energy over the years. She served 37 years on the United Way of McLean County board of directors, retiring in 1984. She was United Way vice president of planning for six years."

She served as a board member and president of Victory Hall Home for Boys for more than 35 years, and the Advisory Council to the Bloomington Board of Education for five years. A long-time member of the McLean County Historical Society board of directors, Mrs. Rust served as that group's president from 1985-87.

Among her community-service activities were: Illinois Shakespeare Society, vice president, 1977-86; and McLean County Historical Society board of directors, 1971-99.

She received many awards, including: the city of Bloomington's Preservationist of the Year Award (1995) and Illinois Museum Trustee of the Year (1998).

Harriett Fuller married Edward B. Rust, Sr., on Aug. 7, 1940. Edward Sr. was an IWU trustee for 15 years and headed State Farm Insurance for 27 years before his death in 1985. She was the mother of IWU trustee and 1972 IWU graduate Edward B. Rust, Jr., who is chairman and chief executive officer of State Farm Insurance Cos.; Peggy (Mrs. Bill) Wetzel of Bloomington; and Holly (Mrs. Joe Tom) Wood of Evergreen, Colo.

She was born in Central Illinois and was a Bloomington High School graduate. She attended the University of Illinois before enrolling in the University of Southern California, where she graduated with honors in 1940 with a bachelor of arts degree in speech.

About IWU

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls more than 2,000 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 an \$8 million student center are under construction.