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First Honoree IWU Names First Starkey Award Recipient

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Roger Brucker, office manager for Illinois Wesleyan University's Physical Plant, was awarded the first Max L. Starkey Service Award. Brucker received the award at the university's tenth annual recognition banquet honoring faculty and staff held on March 30 at the Holiday Inn in Normal.

Given to a member of the administrative, technical, support, security or physical plant staffs, the award is named to honor the late Max Starkey, IWU class of 1957 and university comptroller from 1957-1996.

At last year's banquet, it was announced that, thanks to a generous gift from the Starkey family, IWU would establish the staff service award, which would become part of the university's annual recognition event.

IWU staff members were asked to submit nominations for the award and a committee of retired staff and faculty made the selection. At the recognition banquet, Brucker was presented the award by members of the Starkey family who were introduced by IWU President Minor Myers, jr.

Starkey, who died in 1999, is remembered as a loyal and devoted employee to IWU and was known for his enthusiasm, outstanding contribution to his work and assistance to others. Brucker, who received a check for his meritorious service to the university, exemplifies those characteristics.

Brucker has been on IWU's staff for 38 years. While managing a hectic workplace, juggling many projects and concerns, Brucker has maintained a sense of humor. As office manager of the Physical Plant, Brucker interacts with nearly all of Illinois Wesleyan's 525 employees, and is universally known for his friendliness, helpfulness and professionalism.