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Wesleyan Awarded Mellon Foundation Grant

March 5, 2012

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded Illinois Wesleyan University a three-year grant valued at \$250,000 for a program designed to support writing and information literacy across the curriculum. This is the second Mellon Foundation grant awarded for Wesleyan writing initiatives in recent years.

“The Mellon Foundation's decision to continue its support of writing initiatives at Illinois Wesleyan is a testament to the significant evidence of our previous success in these efforts,” said Provost and Dean of the Faculty Jonathan Green. “The unprecedented access to information we have today makes the process of researching and developing persuasive argument far more complex than at any time in our history, which is what this grant will address.”

According to Writing Program Director Mary Ann Bushman, this latest grant has two goals: to support teaching writing across the curriculum and to develop strategies to improve students' information literacy or research skills. The funds from this grant will support research on how students acquire information literacy in their disciplines, training for student tutors in writing and research skills, workshops for faculty and partnerships between library and disciplinary faculty.

In 2008, the Mellon Foundation awarded Illinois Wesleyan a \$175,000 grant to develop a new program focused on the writing curriculum in the sophomore year.

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