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Student Programming Board Receives Award

Nov. 13, 2014

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Illinois Wesleyan University's Office of Student Activities and Leadership Programs has been named best Programming Organization of the Year by the National Association of Campus Activities (NACA) Mid America region.

Illinois Wesleyan's student programming board was evaluated on several criteria including: effective use of available resources, promotion and marketing to the student population, participation in events, creativity in the creation and successes of the program, and involvement of students in the planning and implementation of programs. Illinois Wesleyan's award came in the small budget category.

Members of the Student Activities Programming board include: Ateh Tettah '15 (Accra, Ghana), Robert Clark '17 (Gurnee, Ill.), Julia Jaudes '17 (Naperville, Ill.), Drake Sorensen '16 (Eureka, Ill.), Sam Lundquist '17 (North Aurora, Ill.), Paxton Johnson '18 (Paxton, Ill.), Amy DeBoer '15 (Manhattan, Ill.), Sneha Subramanian '15 (Singapore, Philippines), Maddie Savin '15 (Deerfield, Ill.), Pat Domke '15 (Homer Glen, Ill.) and Tyler Casebolt '18 (Wauconda, Ill.). The board is advised by Colin Stewart, director of Student Activities and Leadership Programs.



Student Activities hosts the annual Color Run.



Undercover is one of Student Activities' most popular events.

In its application, the board noted its focus is to educate while entertaining students and to provide events that are safe and inclusive. "Along with educating while entertaining, the programming board strives to support students while providing them with a venue to perform whatever they are passionate about. Whether it is poetry, comedy, music, or theatre, our programming board connects students with their passion," according to the award application.

Among their achievements for the 2013-2014 academic year, the board increased Family Weekend attendance by 30 percent over the prior year; continued to organize the popular Undercover event, a "Battle of the Bands" type of event attended by more than 25 percent of the student body; and the implementation of a rubric to assess each student's development as a programmer or crew member.

NACA is a national organization providing its members with innovative practices and access to programs that support campus engagement. The Mid America region includes Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Indiana and Iowa. Illinois Wesleyan received the Programming Organization award at the regional conference Nov. 6-9.