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IWU School of Nursing to Honor Distinguished Alumna for 2005

September 27, 2005

BLOOMINGTON, III. – Illinois Wesleyan University's School of Nursing will name Wendy Nehring, class of '79, the 2005 Distinguished Alumna for Nursing Excellence at the School of Nursing Homecoming brunch on Saturday, Oct. 8, at 9 a.m. in the Beckman Lecture Hall, Room C102 of IWU's Center for Natural Science (201 Beecher St., Bloomington).

Nehring will receive a framed certificate recognizing the honor and speak about "Choosing a Road Less Traveled: Nursing in the Field of Developmental Disabilities." In addition, Nehring's name will be engraved on an urn displayed in Stevenson Hall, IWU's school of nursing building.

After receiving her bachelor's degree from Illinois Wesleyan, Nehring earned her master's from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her doctorate and post-doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

In addition to authoring a book, *The History of Nursing in the Field of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities*, Nehring has written or contributed to more than 50 published articles and book chapters and also reviewed material for a number of books and medical journals.

Currently associate dean for academic affairs and associate professor for the college of nursing at Rutgers, over the last two decades Nehring has instructed at Rush University, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and Illinois Wesleyan University.

Prior to her work in education, Nehring gained nursing experience at the Madison Convalescent Center in Madison, Wis., Kishwaukee Community Hospital in DeKalb, Ill., and Evanston Hospital in Evanston, Ill.

Nehring served on the Board of Directors of the National Association for Down Syndrome from 1990 to 1998 and was the 2nd Vice President of the board from 1991 to 1994.

A member of the National League for Nursing since 2001, Nehring has received Fellowships from the American Association on Mental Retardation and the American Academy of Nursing. Her name has appeared consistently on Who's Who lists since 1990, most recently in 2004, when she was included on both Who's Who in America and Who's Who in the World.

For additional information, contact the IWU School of Nursing office at (309) 556-3051.

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