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The 2006 and 2005 Pantagraph Award winners Mary Ann Bushman, left, and Christopher Prendergast at a reception in their honor. Bushman was named as winner of the 2006 award at the Honors Day Convocation where Prendergast received the 2005 award.

Mary Ann Bushman Named Winner of 2006 Pantagraph Award at IWU

April 13, 2005

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Mary Ann Bushman, associate professor of English at Illinois Wesleyan University, was named Wednesday (April 13) as the 2006 winner of The Pantagraph Award for Teaching Excellence at the University.

The \$1,000 teacher-scholar award is the University's top teaching honor and is sponsored by the daily newspaper headquartered in Bloomington that services eight counties and more than 60 communities in Central Illinois. As is custom, the award-winner was announced at the University's annual Honors Day Convocation in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall. The honoree is selected by Illinois Wesleyan's Promotion and Tenure Committee based on nominations received from members of the faculty.

The principal address at the Honors Day Convocation was delivered by the 2005 Pantagraph winner, Christopher Prendergast, professor of sociology, who formally received his prize from Barry Winterland, general manager of *The Pantagraph*. Prendergast's address was titled "Cultural Capital: Intellectual Traditions and the Liberal Arts."

- [Read the Honors Day Address by Christopher Prendergast \(pdf\)](#)
- [Read Senior Class President Chelsey Hillyer's Honors Day remarks](#)

In addition to the announcement of The Pantagraph winner, the convocation was an occasion to recognize numerous student award winners.

Bushman, who will receive the 2006 Pantagraph Award in April 2006, joined the Illinois Wesleyan faculty in 1980. She teaches courses in Shakespeare, Renaissance literature, and medieval and 18th century British poetry. In addition, she conducts research on feminist perspectives of Renaissance drama.

A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Illinois where she was an Edmund J. James Scholar, Bushman received her master's and Ph.D. degrees from the University of California at Berkeley.

In announcing the award, Illinois Wesleyan Provost Janet McNew noted that Bushman "continues to lead curricular innovation and to teach some of the most rigorous but nevertheless popular courses at Illinois Wesleyan."