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IWU Admissions Office to Host Ventures Scholars Conference

July 5, 2006

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - The Illinois Wesleyan University Admissions Office will guide 31 high school juniors and seniors through the college search process during the inaugural Ventures Scholars Summer Conference, scheduled for July 8 through July 12.

Created in 1999, the Ventures Scholars program is a national non-profit membership organization designed to promote access to higher education for young adults. Its mission is to increase the number of racially underrepresented students pursuing career pathways in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology. Illinois Wesleyan's summer conference, which is free of charge to all invited student participants, welcomes students interested in any discipline.

During their stay on the IWU campus, the students, who represent 19 states, will attend several seminars facilitated by faculty and staff. On July 9, they will participate in team-building exercises on the quad, followed by their first seminar, "Finding the Right College Fit." Narendra Jaggi, professor and chair of the IWU physics department, will conduct a seminar, "Faculty Expectations in the Classroom" on July 10. The students will also attend workshops on July 11, including "Writing a College Application Essay" and "Understanding the Financial Aid Process."

In addition to the seminars, the Admissions Office has planned a variety of social activities, including a movie night, bowling, miniature golf, and Shakespeare Fest-interactive performances of Shakespearean plays sponsored by Illinois State University and the Illinois Shakespeare Festival and Touring Company.

For additional information, contact Bob Geraty, assistant director of admissions, in the IWU Admissions Office at 1-800-332-2498.

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