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Short Honored with Scholarship, 15 Others Recognized at Benefactor's Dinner

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Sixteen new scholarships were announced at Illinois Wesleyan University's Scholarship Benefactors and Awards Recipients Dinner on Wednesday. The scholarships, part of the *Transforming Lives: The Campaign for Illinois Wesleyan*, included one dedicated to Normal resident and former Illinois Wesleyan Director of Admissions Lee Short.

Dennis Stark, an Illinois Wesleyan 1959 graduate, established the Lee W. Short '44 Honorary Scholarship Fund, in honor of Short, who worked for 30 years at the University. "There were several people like Lee who encouraged me, and gave me direction," said Stark, who went on to Harvard Business School and is currently the vice president of a bank in Rhode Island.

During his time with Illinois Wesleyan, Short oversaw the University's admissions, financial aid, registrar's office, and alumni and public relations – occasionally all at once. Under his leadership, the University posted gains in enrollment at a time when enrollment was declining on college campuses all over the nation. "It's all very unexpected," said Short of the scholarship in his honor. "When I think of the University, I think of the people who I influenced and who influenced me."

Illinois Wesleyan junior Nathan Cornish is the inaugural recipient of the award. Cornish, a Downers Grove native, is a music major, which fits well with Short's background. A 1947 graduate of Illinois Wesleyan with a degree in music, Short began his career at Illinois Wesleyan as a faculty member, teaching French horn before taking on administrative roles.

Last year, Illinois Wesleyan University gave more than \$26 million in financial aid for students. More than 90 percent of all students at the University receive financial assistance, with every six out of 10 students receiving funds on the basis of financial need – without which they could not attend Illinois Wesleyan. Scholarships created by alumni and friends meet part of the needed funds for those students. The 16 new scholarships recognized at the dinner are among the nearly 200 scholarships established by alumni and friends of the University. The new scholarships established over the past year include: