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## IWU Alumna Recognized for Outstanding Librarianship

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## **IWU Alumna Recognized for Outstanding Librarianship**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Illinois Wesleyan alumna Barbara J. Ford, class of 1968, is the recipient of this year's American Library Association (ALA) International Relations Committee's John Ames/OCLC/Forest Press Award. Ford will be recognized during the International Relations Round Table Chair's program on June 30 at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, Calif.

The award commemorates an individual's significant contribution to international librarianship. Ford was this year's honoree for her librarianship efforts, various publications and contributions to the ALA and International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA). Previously she has presented and published on international aspects of librarianship and has encouraged dissemination of information on librarianship to a global audience.

Robin L. Kear, Chair of the IRC-John Ames Humphry/OCLC/Forest Press Award Committee, said of Ford's work as a librarian, "Barbara J. Ford is truly an outstanding and influential international librarian. She is thoroughly committed to connecting librarians around the world through her work at the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs at the University of Illinois, through her long involvement with IFLA...and through her leadership in ALA's and ACRL's (Association of College and Research Libraries) international committees and activities."

Ford received a bachelor's degree in history and education from Illinois Wesleyan University, a master's degree in international relations from Tufts University's School of Law and Diplomacy and another master's in library science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She was president of the ACRL, a division of ALA, from 1990-1991. From 1997-1998 she retained presidency of the ALA and created the theme

“Libraries: Global Reach, Local Touch.” In 1998 she was chosen for Illinois Wesleyan’s Distinguished Alumna Award. Currently, Ford is the director of the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs and a professor at the Library of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

For additional information, contact Sherry Wallace at (309) 556-3792.