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Faculty, Staff Chosen for Morocco Initiative

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Faculty, Staff Chosen for Morocco Initiative

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Seven members of Illinois Wesleyan University have been chosen to travel to Morocco this summer as part of the IWU Faculty/Staff Seminar, also known as the Morocco Initiative. Five faculty members and two staff members will spend a week in June at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco, helping to develop cross-continental ties between the universities.

The faculty and staff chosen are: Academic Outreach Librarian and Associate Professor Lynda Duke, Environmental Studies Chair and Associate Professor of Environmental Studies Abigail Jahiel, Hispanic Studies Chair and Professor Carolyn Nadeau, Associate Professor of Economics Ilaria Osella-Durbal, Associate Professor of Economics Diego Mendez-Carbajo, University of Communications Staff Writer Rachel Hatch and Staff Counselor Robyn Walter. Those chosen will spend the spring semester preparing for the journey to Morocco through research and readings.

A committee comprised of several faculty and staff reviewed applications for the initiative. “The task of selecting applicants was not an easy one,” said Frank Boyd, associate dean of faculty at Illinois Wesleyan, who noted the committee had many qualified candidates. “The committee identified proposals that would benefit both the applicant and the University community.”

The seminar is part of the University’s ongoing effort to globalize the IWU campus. Illinois Wesleyan has explored areas of cooperation with universities in the Middle East and have plans to explore similar relationships with institutions in India. Members of the administration have made visits to Al Akhawayn, and to both Al Zaytoona University and the Arab Open University in Amman, Jordan.

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