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ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

NEWS RELEASE

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August 3, 2012

Federal Grant to Improve Lab Instruction Awarded to Illinois Wesleyan University

Contact: Kim Hill

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.—The National Science Foundation has awarded a \$400,000 grant to Illinois Wesleyan University professor Michael Cregor for a project to improve laboratory instruction at colleges and universities nationwide.

Cregor, a professor of biology, said the grant will support the research activities of Illinois Wesleyan students and faculty at other colleges including Northwestern and the University of Illinois.

The grant totals \$100,000 annually over four years. Cregor said the grant is an important one for IWU because it recognizes the institution's laboratory teaching methods. "While not known as a major research university, IWU is leading the initiative on this project," Cregor added. "We will engage students to help us determine how best to measure outcomes. Students will work with us in the data analysis and receive valuable research experience."

Cregor noted that the National Science Foundation awards less than \$10 million of its \$400 million grants to undergraduate institutions.