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Illinois Wesleyan University

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. -- Award-winning newspaper feature writer Elaine Graybill has been named Assistant Director of Public Relations at Illinois Wesleyan University, school officials announced today.

In the newly-created position at IWU, Graybill, who writes for The Pantagraph in Bloomington, Ill., will be responsible for developing and writing news and feature stories for a new alumni quarterly magazine, along with assisting in the magazine's layout and makeup, and monitoring production to ensure publication on a fixed schedule.

Graybill joined The Pantagraph in 1978 and worked as a police reporter, general assignment reporter, and copy editor until being assigned as a feature writer in 1981.

In 1987 Graybill was a finalist in the category of "Series-Special Section Reporting" in the Penney-Missouri Newspaper Awards Competition, a national contest, and she earned third place finishes in the "Feature Writing" category in the Illinois Associated Press contests in 1987 and 1988.

From 1986 to 1992 she has won a first place, two second places, and four honorable mention awards in the Polly Robinson Feature Writing Contest, a statewide competition sponsored by the Southern Illinois University School of Journalism.

In addition to her work at The Pantagraph, Graybill has served at various times as a part-time instructor at both Illinois State University and IWU, and has worked since 1986 as a non-fiction consultant to the IWU Writers' Conference.

Graybill graduated magna cum laude with a degree in English from Graceland College in Lamoni, Iowa, and earned a master's degree in English from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

From 1974 to 1976, Graybill was the information specialist at Peabody College's John F. Kennedy Center for Education and Human Development in Nashville.

Graybill and her husband, Dan, reside in Bloomington and are the parents of two children.