



Fall 9-8-1982

For Release : Anderson Physics Scholarship Announced

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Recommended Citation

Alsene, Ed, "For Release : Anderson Physics Scholarship Announced" (1982). *News and Events*. 7383.

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1982



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FORRELEASE AFTER NOON WEDNESDAY, SEPT.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL.-- The longtime dream of Illinois Wesleyan University alumnus and former trustee Scott Anderson of Champaign was realized Wednesday during the President's Convocation in Presser Hall.

Anderson and his wife, Annabelle, were present as University President Robert S. Eckley announced the establishment of the Anderson Physics Scholarship, which will provide a full or partial tuition grant to a physics major of exceptional scholarship and character.

Other criteria for the scholarship are that the student must have junior standing academically, and must have completed at least one year of study at Wesleyan.

The maximum length of a scholarship award will be two years. The student must maintain academic excellence in physics to retain the award. Also, an award may not be presented each year.

Anderson, founder and president of Anderson Physics Laboratories, Inc., Champaign, graduated from Wesleyan in 1935, and earned master's and doctor's degrees from the University of Illinois.

Although he did not have the benefit of a scholarship during his college years, Anderson believes that more aid should be made available to qualified students. His interest lies in helping students of exceptional scholastic abilities regardless of financial need.

While making regular contributions to a scholarship fund that aided several students over the years, Anderson started building an independent fund for the physics scholarship announced Wednesday. Thus he now is able to achieve his dream because of his deep love and devotion for his alma mater and because of the success of his physics research company.

There are few, if any, manufacturers of electric lamps in the world that do not use the purified salts and amalgams produced in the Anderson Physics Laboratories. His products are used in mercury vapor and sodium vapor lamps as well.

The son of a Methodist minister, Anderson's early education was acquired in schools throughout central Illinois as his father moved from one assignment to another. He graduated from Lexington High School, where he played football.

After completing his education at Wesleyan and the University of Illinois, he accepted a job with Alcoa in Pittsburgh. The lure of the Midwest soon brought him back, however. During World War Two, he worked at the University of Chicago metallurgical laboratories on the development of stainless uranium. It was at this time, in 1944, that the decision to open his own physics research laboratory led him to Champaign.

He even found time to teach for one year (1952-53) at Wesleyan where he served as acting department chairman. He also taught briefly at Carleton College.

Anderson's support for Wesleyan includes memberships in the President's Club, the Chapel Committee, the Board of Visitors and the Science Advisory Committee. He served as a trustee from 1958-76. He was president of the Alumni Association in 1956-57. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Wesleyan in 1960 and received the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1980.

His wife, a brother, Carl, and one son, Scott, Jr., attended Wesleyan.

The Andersons greeted the first recipient of the Anderson Physics Scholarship and his family Wednesday.

Kirk Schroeder is the son of Harland and Sharon Schroeder, RR 3, Watseka.

A member of the Dean's List for academic excellence in each of his first four semesters, Schroeder has a cumulative grade point average of 3.944 on a 4.0 scale.

He is a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, which he served as rush chairman last year. He also is a member of Green Medallion, local activities honorary for sophomores. He graduated from Watseka Community High School in 1980.