

Illinois Wesleyan University



Publicity Office

Bloomington
Illinois 61702
309/556-3181

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Jerry Bidle

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BLOOMINGTON, ILL.--Two facilities on the Illinois Wesleyan University campus have been named, effective immediately, to honor retirees Velma J. Arnold, University nurse, and Marian Niehaus, associate professor and director of women's physical education, De. Wayne Anderson, University president, announced today.

The women, both of whom retired in 1971 following careers of 30 years or more at Wesleyan, are being recognized for their long years of dedicated service and loyalty.

The University Health Service, located in the lower level of Magill Hall, will be known as the Velma J. Arnold Health Service. The faculty office in the new Fort Natatorium, scheduled for completion in late summer, will bear the name, Marian Niehaus Faculty Office.

The two were notified at their Lake Bloomington home by Anderson and trustee Rev. Bert Lancaster, who said, "This action honors two very fine women who have given their finest to Wesleyan. We are honored they are allowing us to bestow this token of our appreciation."

A formal dedication ceremony for naming the health service will be held as part of the Alumni Weekend activities, May 16. The faculty office will be dedicated in the fall.

Miss Arnold, an alumna of the Brokaw Hospital School for Nurses, also studied at Loyola University and at Cook County Hospital in Chicago. At the personal request of the then president, William E. Shaw, she came to Wesleyan in 1941 to establish the health service and served as its director until her retirement. Originally located in Hedding Hall, the facility eventually moved to Magill Hall in 1948.

Miss Niehaus graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Cornell College and earned a master's degree from the University of Iowa. She joined the Wesleyan facility in 1936, only weeks after returning from an extensive tour of Europe during which she thrilled to the feats of track star Jesse Owens, who won four gold medals in the Berlin Olympic Games. While at Cornell, she was elected to membership in the Mortarboard, a national scholastic honor

society for women.

In addition to her regular teaching assignments, Miss Niehaus was a sponsor of the Women's Sports Association and the Swim Club, out of which evolved the Terrapin Club for aquatic arts. She directed the activities of the Terrapin Club, which annually presented a water ballet show.

The two honorees continued their service to Wesleyan for several years after retirement by assisting with student registration every spring and fall.