



WESTERN
ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY

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Developments

Newsletter of the WIU Foundation and private giving on behalf of Western Illinois University

Following are a few of the recent major gifts to the WIU Foundation that will greatly impact the University. The desire of these individuals to share their success with the University and support its many endeavors is a strong indicator of their loyalty and dedication to Western Illinois University.

Issue 22 Spring/Summer 2006

ALSO INSIDE

- BEYOND THE NORM: COUPLE HELPS WESTERN STUDENTS
- ALUMNI COUPLE ESTABLISHES SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT TO BENEFIT ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE STUDENTS

WESTERN GIFT-GIVING GOES ONLINE

To give Western Illinois University alumni and friends another gift-giving option, Western has established online giving that can be accessed on the Western Illinois Foundation's home page.

This secure website features University colleges, academic programs, scholarships, and other giving opportunities. Many programs or areas benefit from private gifts each year.

ONLINE GIVING MADE EASY

- Visit www.wiu.edu/foundation and click on "Donate Online."
- Provide your personal information (which is kept confidential).
- Click on the area you wish to support.
- Verify your information on the gift summary page.
- Submit payment information (secure form).
- Print the verification form for your records.
- A receipt for tax purposes will be mailed to you from the WIU Foundation.

If you prefer to mail your information, a form will be generated that you can enclose with your check or credit card payment — Visa, Mastercard, American Express, and Discover are accepted — and return to the Foundation by U.S. mail.

For more information about making a gift to Western, contact the WIU Foundation at 309/298-1861.

Would you like to receive the WIU Foundation Developments Newsletter via e-mail? If so, send an e-mail to JD-Murphy@wiu.edu

Illinois Soybean Association Invests in Department of Agriculture

The Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) has established an Endowed Soybean Support Fund at Western Illinois University in the amount of \$300,000 to support research of soybean related activities in the areas of agribusiness, food and nutrition, and international business. "This endowment is a vote of confidence in the University, the caliber of its faculty, and the quality of its research record," says WIU Agriculture Department Chair William Bailey.

Research areas may encompass development of biodiesel fuel, use of soy-based livestock feed, soy-based foods in school lunch programs, and changes in production, marketing, and supply-chain systems.

ISA works for the benefit of Illinois soybean farmers, to increase demand for Illinois soybeans and improve soybean related profit potential. Its investments in higher education are targeted to benefit the



WIU President Al Goldfarb, left, with George Dixon, soybean farmer from Colchester, IL and ISA vice president.

farmers and people of Illinois, and to attract and keep highly qualified faculty who do soybean related outreach or research on Illinois' university campuses.

"We are greatly appreciative for the Illinois Soybean Association's contribution which will support our outstanding agriculture department. The Association's commitment to higher

education is to be commended," WIU President Al Goldfarb said. "The endowment will give our students additional opportunities to engage in research-related activities and will give our faculty enhanced opportunities for research and discovery."

The fund will be administered through the WIU Foundation with Dr. Bailey serving as fiscal agent. The annual earnings of

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—ISA from front page

the \$300,000 endowment will be matched by the University, which will provide research funding. An advisory committee comprised of both ISA and WIU representatives will administer the proceeds by soliciting and reviewing research proposals, selecting fund recipients, and monitoring research projects. While Department of Agriculture faculty will be integral participants, ISA will seek input from faculty across campus and will

encourage cross-disciplinary projects. ISA will look to WIU faculty from multiple fields to collaborate on projects designed to enhance the profitability of Illinois soybean producers, attract more funding for higher education, and improve the international marketing of soybeans. According to Dr. Bailey, “Western is uniquely positioned to bring together a diverse and comprehensive research program – one

that encompasses not only the production and utilization of soybeans, but the international marketing of soybeans as well.”

This endowment is another example of the continued commitment by Illinois soybean farmers to establish close working relationships with agriculture related universities to ensure quality research.

Beyond the Norm: Couple Helps Western Students

Western Illinois University is the recipient of \$78,600 in generous support of students, research, and facilities from 1967 graduate Dr. Norman Teeter and his wife, Carmelita Bostre-Teeter, M.D. The Teeters’ value of education and affinity for Western are a result of their personal and professional partnership spanning some 30 years.

A native of Mt. Carroll, Illinois, Teeter came to Western after serving in the military because his sister had attended here. He arrived with what he refers to as a “dismal academic past” yet was inspired to learn. “I was a lousy high school student – I entered Western on academic probation – but I’d learned to appreciate education due to my time in the Air Force,” says Teeter. After trying several directions, a turning point came when Teeter began to focus his liberal-arts studies, blending his interest in social sciences with psychology and starting to specialize in substance abuse. He earned a B.S. in psychology from Western in 1967.

Norman and Carmelita met while working at a hospital, both in the field of addiction, and married in 1977.

“After a while we thought we’d set up our own business and start doing for ourselves what we’d done for hospitals,” Norm says. “It was a real partnership, a working relationship before we were married and one that has continued.”

The Teeters practiced together in what became eight clinics in Kentucky and Tennessee. “Substance abuse can be persuasive and destructive,” says Norm. “I still think it’s an area of study not given enough interest in course work, especially considering that it’s a social problem that accounts for such a large percentage of our nation’s resources.” After more than 25 years, the Teeters

have phased out their connections to their clinics.

“We’re not out there to change the world or help everyone fix everything,” says Norm. “We have interests, we have resources – ‘excess’ resources, in our view – and we try to create opportunities.” These opportunities range from professional assistance to helping schools in general and students in particular.

“We were always interested in helping students, but we did that on a more limited basis while we were working,” says Teeter. “Later we started having some students stay in our home. Our interest in foreign students came from my wife having come from another country. We’ve helped students from the Philippines, Russia, and the Czech Republic.”

Here at Western, the Teeter gift supports graduate assistantships for international students in Western’s psychology department, graduate research projects in psychology, and equipment upgrades for the psychology program. A portion of their latest gift will also enable improvements to the



*Dr. Norman Teeter and his wife,
Carmelita Bostre-Teeter*

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—TEETERS from second page

International House, a year-round residential facility for students from all countries.

The Teeters were honored at the May commencement with an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. “The Teeters’ personal involvement with WIU, as well as the work they do to improve the lives of others is something we can aspire to,” Provost and Academic Vice President Joe Rallo said. “Because of their philanthropic and altruistic endeavors, it’s only fitting

“Our agenda is to support student success through scholarships, to increase academic interest in the area of addiction, to support research that contributes to knowledge of the field, and to enhance the educational experience for students through equipment and facility upgrades.”

Norman Teeter

to recognize the Teeters with our University’s highest honor.”

“The Teeters are committed to Western, its students, and the educational process,” adds Vice President for

Advancement and Public Services Dan Hendricks. “Their sensitivity to the needs of graduate and international students combined with their background in rehabilitation and recovery have impacted countless individual lives. This generous gift will continue their established record of creating opportunities for students who will then open doors to the people they serve in their professions. We at WIU are truly grateful to be a part of this process.”

*Excerpts from the Spring 2006
College of Arts & Sciences “Focus” magazine.*

Alumni Couple Establishes Scholarship Endowment to Benefit Accounting and Finance Students

The WIU Foundation received a \$31,500 gift from alumni Larry and Brenda Miller of Galesburg, Illinois to establish a scholarship to benefit accounting and finance students in the College of Business and Technology at Western Illinois University.

A native of Galesburg, Larry Miller graduated from Western Illinois University with a bachelor of business degree in finance in 1972. Following graduation, Larry returned to Galesburg and entered into the insurance business with his father. Seven years after entering the profession, Larry not only established his own insurance agency, but also purchased 13 other agencies in the Galesburg and Peoria areas which all operated under the umbrella of Larry L. Miller Insurance Agencies. With the purchase of the Dredge Insurance Agency in 1988, Larry’s insurance conglomerate was renamed Miller, Dredge Insurance Agency, Inc.



Larry and Brenda Miller

Brenda Seaman Miller attended high school in Decatur, Illinois and came to Western in the fall of 1970. She graduated in 1973 with a bachelor of business degree in accountancy. During their tenure at Western, Larry and Brenda met through a blind date arranged by friends that ultimately led to marriage one week after Brenda’s graduation. The couple settled in Galesburg, where Brenda began her

career track as an accountant with Peat Marwick, the world’s largest information technology consulting company. In 1977, Brenda accepted a position spanning nine years as a controller with Protexall, a uniform clothing manufacturer in Galesburg. From there, Brenda accepted a controller position with National Seal Company in Galesburg, a manufacturer of high-density polyethylene geotextile liners for ponds, reservoirs and landfills. In 1988, Brenda joined Larry as the controller for Miller, Dredge Insurance Agency, Inc., where she served until Miller sold the insurance business to an employee in January 2005.

The Millers have established a scholarship to assist graduates of an Illinois high school or community college located south of Interstate 80, or a graduate of the Illinois Math and Science Academy. The scholarship will benefit a student with junior or senior standing pursuing a degree in either accounting or finance at Western. The

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ANNOUNCING... WIU'S ONLINE SOCIAL NETWORK!

WIU's Online Social Network is now available exclusively for Western graduates at <https://incircle.wiu.edu>. The online social network allows grads to reconnect with friends and former classmates, as well as with professionals in their fields.

The Online Social Network provides opportunities to:

- * Reconnect with WIU
- * Create a profile, including information about your personal and professional life
- * Invite friends to be a part of your network
- * Search for fellow alumni who work in your professional field
- * Blog
- * Create online groups
- * Post pictures and photo albums and on a personal profile
- * Coordinate mini-reunions with fellow WIU alumni

For more information, please visit the network's website at <https://incircle.wiu.edu>.

Retirement has freed Larry's schedule, allowing him to pursue other interests such as teaching Russian delegates the American insurance industry and traveling extensively with the off-shore delivery of sail boats.

"Larry and Brenda are great examples of alumni who have had successful careers after graduating from Western and who wish to remember where they got their start by giving back to their alma mater" said Brad Bainter, director of planned and major giving. "Their generous gift to WIU will provide financial assistance in perpetuity to students majoring in accounting or finance."

First scholarship will be awarded this fall.

"We had a great college experience and always knew we wanted to give back to Western," said the Millers. "When we sold the business everything was in place for us to make a gift to benefit students in the programs from which we received our degrees," the Millers added.

The Millers have three daughters. Their oldest daughter, Kate, teaches middle school theatre arts in Fayetteville, NC. Their middle daughter, Haley, is a senior at the University of Illinois majoring in computer science engineering. Kegan, the youngest, is a junior at the University of Illinois majoring in accounting.