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10/11/1984 - Teachers Association

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

October 11, 1984

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HARRY READ, Director of Information and Publications (217) 581-2820
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Minutes of the Eastern Illinois State Teachers College Alumni Association of June 3, 1933 show that "Miss Ruby Harris made the suggestion that she knew of no better way to pay tribute to the memory of Mr. Lord than to establish a Memorial Fund in his honor."

That was the beginning of a tradition that is alive and well today--honoring outstanding students with the Livingston C. Lord Scholarship.

Named for Eastern's first president, and now administered through the EIU Foundation, the scholarship is the most prestigious given by the University.

It recognizes academic achievement and is the only one personally presented by the University president at spring commencement ceremonies each year.

The award was initiated in 1934 and the first recipient was a Charleston native, now a retired Pan American pilot, William B. Bails. He will be among recipients returning to Eastern this weekend in observance of the 50th anniversary of the award.

Eighty two persons have received the scholarship in those 50 years and 27 will attend a dinner in their honor given by President Stanley Rives Saturday evening. Joining Bails will be last two honorees, Michelle Mitchell and Allen D. Rogers, both in 1984.

Charles Titus, Director of Alumni Services, said "these Lord scholars have brought great credit to themselves and to their University by their professional accomplishments. It is entirely fitting that they be honored on the 50th anniversary of an effort launched by the Alumni Association."

Lord Scholarship

Add 1

Miss Harris not only suggested the scholarship; she volunteered to raise \$1,000 for the fund, with the interest going to finance the award. If the Association met in 1934, the minutes aren't available. But in June, 1935, Miss Harris reported that the Lord Scholarship Fund contained \$1,992.29.

She further reported that the interest amounted to \$45 and that this sum was to be given to Thomas Chamberlin, the second recipient.

In 1984 the two recipients each received \$2500. And for the first time additional prestige was added to the scholarship. Medals were struck, designating the holders as Lord Scholars.