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## 12/01/1987 - Duncan Scholarship Benefits Future Teachers

University Marketing and Communications

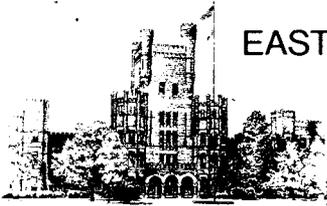
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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
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news

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ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DUNCAN SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS FUTURE TEACHERS

CHARLESTON, IL.--Generations of future teachers from Crawford County will benefit from the establishment of the Ray C. and Evelyn B. Duncan Teaching Scholarship at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston.

The scholarship, made possible by a \$250,000 bequest to the EIU Foundation by the Duncan estate, was announced by Dr. Daniel E. Thornburgh, Foundation director, at a luncheon attended by Crawford County school superintendents and high school principals.

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Robinson resident, James Lane, Sr., a good friend of the Duncans and administrator of their estate, told the group that before his death on February 4, 1987, Mr. Duncan decided he would like to continue serving the people of Crawford County by establishing the Scholarship. Duncan had been superintendent of Crawford County schools from 1952 to 1964.

He told how Duncan did not have money to complete his senior year at Eastern and was tempted to enter the oil business. However, upon the advice of his professors he decided to borrow the money, enabling him to earn his Bachelor of Education degree.

After teaching for several years, Duncan pursued graduate study at the University of Illinois and the University of Colorado. He was superintendent for the Martinsville School District from 1941 to 1952, before assuming his duties in Crawford County.

Dr. Errett Warner, Lawrenceville, former Superintendent of Schools for Lawrence County, and a close friend of the Duncans, gave a special invocation at the luncheon. He said in part, "Ray possessed a fervent spirit of charity to leave his life savings to the Eastern Illinois Foundation as an endowment fund for future Crawford County students of high moral and academic standards to enhance their further education..."

Dr. Charles Joley, dean of the EIU College of Education, said he was very impressed by the "...staggering generosity of this man to leave his estate to help the youth of the county."

He said the scholarships will open a unique relationship between EIU and the five local high schools and predicted that the earnings from the funds will provide sufficient monies to help every needy senior who wants to be a teacher.

Robinson resident David Musgrave, president of the EIU Foundation, said it was a great pleasure to accept the funds and predicted that teaching will again one day be a cherished profession. He said Duncan's foresight will still be benefiting Crawford County youth fifty and more years from now.

Musgrave also expressed the hope that other local residents might also be willing to help needy students and would contact the Foundation.

Thornburgh said the Ray C. and Evelyn B. Duncan Teaching Scholarship will be one of more than 100 endowments under the direction of the EIU Foundation and will provide scholarships to students for up to four years. The amount of the scholarship will be determined annually by earnings of the Duncan Endowment Fund.

Principals of each Crawford County high school may nominate annually (no later than March 1) one or more graduates of their respective high schools, who live in the county. No nominee may have lower than a 2.5 grade average on a 4 point scale in all high school academic work.

Financial need must be demonstrated and a minimum of three letters of recommendation must be reviewed by the selection committee. Preference is to be given to incoming freshmen for new awards, with consideration given to additional upperclass candidates if earnings of the Duncan Endowment permit.

Students may continue to receive the scholarship for no more than three additional years provided they maintain a 2.5 point on a 4.0 scale grade point average and continue pursuit of an academic program designed to prepare them for a teaching career.

Each year the scholarship winners must sign a pledge to engage in a teaching career for at least a period equivalent to that the Duncan Teaching Scholarship was held.

School officials attending the luncheon were: Howard Jackson, Superintendent, Robinson; Darrell Brown, Superintendent, Palestine; Gary Matteson, Superintendent, Hutsonville; Art McCormick, Superintendent, Oblong; Phil Trapani, Principal, Robinson; Irvin M. Haak, Principal, Hutsonville; Allen Price, Principal, Oblong; and Rod Stewart, Principal, Palestine.

Also present was Robinson attorney Max Tedford, representing the Duncan estate.