



Office of Communications

September 26, 2005

Contact: Laura Hanna
Director of Communications
Office: (817) 531-4498
lhanna@txwes.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEXAS WESLEYAN MEDAL AWARD RECIPIENTS TO BE HONORED OCT. 21

The Texas Wesleyan University Alumni Association announces the Medal Award recipients for 2005. This year, the Association has created the O.D. Bounds Award, which will be presented, beginning next year, to alumni involved in athletics who exemplify the work, character and contributions made by the late O.D. Bounds, a beloved Wesleyan graduate, faculty member, volunteer and friend.

Award Recipients:

Janie Faris, BMed '77, MAEd '83 and Evan Faris, BMed '76: Wesleyan Service Award

Awarded to a Texas Wesleyan graduate whose service to the university and the alumni have contributed specifically to the success of the Alumni Association and its programs.

Janie and Evan Faris met at Texas Wesleyan as undergraduates and have been married for 30 years. They have been active on the Alumni Association Board of Directors for many years. Janie served as president from 1998 to 2000. She was recognized for her leadership by being asked to serve on the search committees for the University President and the Provost. Evan has served on the Texas Wesleyan University Alumni Association Board for the last four years and is the

immediate past president. Most recently, Janie was asked to join the Board of Trustees of Texas Wesleyan University. She began as a trustee this fall.

Janie has worked in education since 1977, beginning as a classroom teacher with the Azle Independent School District. She is currently the principal at Heritage Elementary School in Keller. She was named in Who's Who in American Education in 1990, and was named Fort Worth Classroom Teacher Association Outstanding Young Educator in 1989.

As a student at Texas Wesleyan, Evan was involved in Phi Mu Alpha, several theatre productions, and was president of the Wesleyan Singers. He began his career as a fourth and fifth grade teacher in the Fort Worth ISD. He currently is director of technology with the Burleson ISD. In contrast to his technical skills, Evan also appears in community theater in Fort Worth, Arlington, Weatherford, Graham and Aledo.

Janie and Evan are active in the alumni theater group, Encore, and sing with the Wesleyan Chorale and the Arlington Heights Methodist Church Choir. Their daughter, Stephanie Faris Sanders, graduated in 2001 from Texas Wesleyan with a bachelor of arts with a major in music. Stephanie and her husband Chris are proud parents of two-year-old Faris Sanders.

Karen Cole, BBA '99, MBA '04; Young Alumni Achievement Award

Awarded to an alumnus or alumna within ten years of graduation to recognize outstanding personal or professional achievement.

As a student at Texas Wesleyan in the late '70s, Karen was active in many campus groups. She pledged Gamma Phi Beta, was in Wesleyan Singers, participated in Dean Bawcom's leadership class, and was also part of the TXWECO yearbook staff. Karen returned to Texas Wesleyan in 1996 to finish her degree and work full time for Texas Wesleyan. She began her career in the business office as a clerk in the fall of 1997 and subsequently was an accountant and then director of financial services before being named controller.

Karen completed her undergraduate accounting degree in May 1999. Karen and her daughter Katie both graduated from Texas Wesleyan in May 2004; Karen earned her MBA and Katie received a BS in kinesiology.

Karen worked on the Texas Wesleyan 2004 Reunion Committee as a representative of the Class of 1999 and is often found involved with committees at her church, Normandale Baptist Church in west Fort Worth. Karen is a member of the choir, has accompanied youth groups to Mexico and summer camps, houses youth for mini-retreats in their home and helps her husband teach a Sunday bible study class for parents with college-age children. Karen and her husband, Doug, often participate in performances with the First Christian Church choir during the Christmas season.

Karen and Doug have three grown children: Danny, Katie and Becky. In June, they became grandparents with the birth of Zachary Nathaniel.

Dr. Frank Norwood: Honorary Alumni Award

Awarded to a non-alumnus/alumna whose contributions to students, alumni and the life of the University merit special recognition.

Professor Emeritus of Business Administration Frank Norwood retired in February 2005 after 43 years with Texas Wesleyan University. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of North Texas and his doctorate at the University of Oklahoma.

Frank comes from a long line of teachers: his grandfather taught Native Americans in Oklahoma and his father was the superintendent of schools in Burleson for 33 years.

At Texas Wesleyan, Frank was the dean of the business school for more than 30 years. He served on many committees, including Academic Affairs (41 years), Faculty Council, and Weekend University Development Committee. He advised hundreds of students during his years at Texas Wesleyan, with average of about 75-90 student advisees per academic year. Frank was the local

advisor of Phi Beta Lambda, a national business organization, for 30 years, and was state advisor as well. He was chosen as “Top Professor” by Mortarboard Students and received the Ram Mentor Award from the Texas Wesleyan University Athletic Department.

In addition to his service at Texas Wesleyan, Frank was mayor of Burleson from 1972 to 1976. He was a charter member and first president of the Texas Business Teacher Education Council.

Dr. Carlos Martinez: Wesleyan Flame Award

Presented to a current faculty or staff member whose commitment and dedication to the University and its students exemplifies the Wesleyan mission and traditions.

Carlos is dean of the School of Education at Texas Wesleyan and director of the ESL/bilingual programs. Carlos was born in Puerto Rico and came to Texas in 1986 to pursue a graduate degree and teaching career. He began teaching at Texas Wesleyan in 1991 after earning a bachelor’s degree in Hispanic studies and linguistics at University of Puerto Rico and a master’s of education in secondary education and English as a Second Language (ESL) at Stephen F. Austin State University and Texas A&I University, respectively. In December 2000 Carlos received a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction, Bilingual Education from Texas A&M University.

Carlos is researching, among other things, a description of the attitudes toward bilingualism of teachers, principals, and other school personnel and their influence on the implementation of bilingual programs. He has developed study abroad programs from Texas Wesleyan to Costa Rica, Monterrey, Mexico, and Siguatepeque, Honduras.

Carlos has served as chair of several different committees at Texas Wesleyan, including International Education and Institutional Effectiveness. He has served on the Academic Affairs and Faculty Recognition Councils, among others. At Texas Wesleyan, he has taught several courses, including linguistics in education, ESL Methodology, Comparative Education: Studies in Costa Rica, and Foundations of Bilingual Education.

Carlos married his wife, Lisa, in 2001 and has one son, Daniel.

Margaret Parker, BMed '31: Distinguished Alumni Award

Awarded to a Texas Wesleyan graduate whose achievements have distinguished him or her in a broad (community, national or international) sense.

Margaret was the first in her family to attend college and came to Wesleyan when it was Texas Woman's College. She carried her violin with her, purchased from a Sears Roebuck catalog, and went on to become second violinist with the Fort Worth Symphony.

In the 1960s and 1970s, Margaret helped found the Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge. At the time, she was a member of the Fort Worth Audubon Society. When the city planned to cut down trees near Greer Island in Lake Worth, Margaret, along with several other activists, convinced the city government to turn the area into a wildlife refuge. For more than 15 years, she volunteered at the Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge, which ultimately amounted to 3,600 acres, from 33 original acres.

In addition to her work with the Nature Center and Audubon Society, Margaret volunteered with the Junior League and, for 17 years, at John Peter Smith Hospital. She helped found the Bethlehem United Community Center in near south Fort Worth and the Fort Worth Volunteer Center.

Margaret's family includes her son, three grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. She is an active member of University Christian Church and her Sunday school class.

Dr. Shelly Brooks, BS '84: Alumna of the Year Award:

Awarded to an outstanding alumnus or alumna whose service and loyalty to the University, community involvement and personal accomplishments merit the honor.

Shelly majored in biology and minored in psychology at Texas Wesleyan. She went on to earn a doctor of osteopathy degree at University of North Texas Health Science Center and a master of divinity from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University.

Currently, Shelly serves as the Brownwood District Superintendent of the Central Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church. She was senior pastor at First United Methodist Church in Alvarado and First United Methodist Church in Ranger, Texas. In addition to her ministerial experience, Shelly was a staff physician for five years at MediCenter in Waco.

At Texas Wesleyan, Shelly was a McFadden Scholar and was named Outstanding Pre-Medical Student. She was a Nichols scholar at SMU and received the American Osteopathic Association Scholarship for medical school. In 2001 she received the Alvarado Masonic Lodge Community Builder Award. She was elected as a delegate to the 2004 Jurisdictional Conference.

Outside of work, Shelly enjoys English dressage horseback riding, walking and gardening. In 2005 she traveled to Greece and Turkey, following the journeys of the apostle Paul.