Lilburn Wesche spent his childhood years in China, the place of his birth to missionary parents, and his teen years in Kentucky where his father taught at Asbury Seminary. Lilburn attended and graduated from Northwest Nazarene University, then earned graduate degrees at Trinity University in Texas and at the University of Northern Colorado. He began his teaching career in western Kansas, also coaching and serving as a high school counselor. Prior to joining the faculty at NNU, Dr. Wesche was a school principal at Meridian, Idaho. He also served as a professor and administrator at Seattle Pacific University.

Dr. Wesche came to Northwest Nazarene University in 1961 to direct the teacher education program. During thirty years at NNU he initiated the graduate program, including programs in education, and served in several administrative roles. Under Dr. Wesche's leadership the university received national accreditation in teacher education in 1967, and has since been widely recognized for the quality of its teacher preparation.

Always active professionally, Dr. Wesche served as president of local and regional education associations, was elected president of the Idaho Education Association, and was twice elected to the Board of Directors of the National Education Association. He also served on several boards of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, was Idaho director for the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education, and has chaired numerous accreditation teams reviewing college and university programs. The Idaho Education Association awarded the prestigious Friend of Education award to Dr. Wesche in 1999.

Dr. Wesche met his wife, Esther, at Northwest Nazarene University from which she also graduated. Esther, highly respected for her expertise as an elementary teacher and music specialist, taught for many years in Seattle and in Boise. The Wesch's have three children and ten grandchildren.

This scholarship has been established to encourage prospective teachers to recognize that the effective teacher must not only be outstanding in the classroom, but has an obligation to better society by demonstrating leadership through active involvement in the professional teacher's union.

**Criteria for the Award**

1. Recipients are to be students who meet general scholastic requirements and show potential for academic success and degree completion;
2. The recipient will demonstrate potential for excellence as a public school teacher and commitment as a professional educator through active participation in the local and/or state chapter of the National Education Association Student Program (NEASP);
3. Financial need will be a consideration in the awarding of this scholarship;
4. Recipients may receive the award in successive years, not to exceed four years;
5. Nominations for this award are to be made through the Department of Education and the Office of Financial Aid.

---

A most satisfying way to honor a loved one or friend is to invest in a life yet to be lived. Gifts to NNU's Endowed Scholarship Program become a "helping hand" to students as they prepare for their vocations and for lives of service to others. For more information, contact the Office of Planned Giving, NNU, 623 Holly St., Nampa, ID 83686. Phone (208) 467-8772.

**NORTHWEST NAZARENE UNIVERSITY**