



## **EDUCATIONAL MISSION AND EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS**

Indiana Wesleyan University is a Christian liberal arts university sponsored by The Wesleyan Church. The University purposes to Search for truth by study in liberal arts and in professional education within the framework of Christian faith and philosophy so that the person is developed for service to God and man in the church and society. Moreover, we desire to relate every facet of life and scholarship to a Christian world view under the Lordship of Jesus Christ so that faith might illuminate learning and learning might clarify and expand faith. Rather than limiting our quest for truth or stifling our creativity, such a commitment actually sets us free to explore, learn, invent, analyze, criticize, and think within loving obedience in the God "in whom we live and move and have our being."

Therefore, Indiana Wesleyan University seeks to employ persons who subscribe to its educational mission and whose personal and professional lives reflect:

1. A belief in and commitment to Jesus Christ and the Christian Faith as these are interpreted through the historic witness of the Bible and the contemporary ministry of the Holy Spirit.
2. A vitality of Christian experience which is maturing in insight and application, and which is appreciative of differing viewpoints.
3. Evident competence and commitment to the continuing development of one's abilities.
4. A commitment to liberal arts education and preparation to serve in an environment of purposeful and rigorous inquiry.
5. A capability, by temperament, preparation, and will, to support students as they confront the intellectual, social, physical, emotional, and spiritual challenges of their lives.
6. A sensitivity and support for the ethos and traditions of the campus community, which includes abstaining from the use of tobacco and alcohol as well as the practices of gambling and dancing.

## **COMMUNITY LIFESTYLE STATEMENT**

Indiana Wesleyan University, as a Wesleyan Christian College, is a community joined together to further academic achievement, personal development and spiritual growth. Together the Community seeks to honor Christ by integrating faith, learning, and living while its member's hearts and lives mature in relationship to Jesus Christ and each other.

Working in a community with others is a sacred privilege and a demonstration of God's grace. We, therefore, place great value on the quality of relationship in our Community. This quality is emulated by the following relationship characteristics: being dependent and accountable to one another; serving one another in the Community, nation and world; supporting one another, especially those experiencing personal trials; resolving problems through loving confrontation; and restoring relationships that have been hurt.

Faith in God's Word should lead to behavior displaying His authority in our lives. The following statements exhibit our continuing desire to integrate faith, and action in a relevant manner. However, these positions are not set forth as an index of Christianity.

Scripture teaches that certain attributes such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are to be manifested by members of the Christian Community. By contrast, Scripture condemns such attitudes as greed, jealousy, pride, lust, needless anger, an unforgiving spirit, harmful discrimination, and prejudice. Furthermore, certain behaviors are expressly prohibited by Scripture. These include theft, lying, dishonesty, gossip, slander, profanity, vulgarity, adultery, homosexual behavior, premarital sex, drunkenness, immodesty, and occult practices.

Scripture teaches that all our actions (work, study, play) should be performed to the glory of God. We endeavor, therefore, to be selective in choices of entertainment and recreation, promoting those which strengthen the body of Christ and avoiding those which would diminish sensitivity to Christian responsibility. In violation of the scriptural teaching concerning personal dignity and moral purity, individuals are exploited and degraded by immoral and inhumane action of the pornographic industry. Therefore, possession of such materials is unacceptable behavior.

Since the body of the Christian is the temple of the Holy Spirit, deserving respect and preservation of its well being, we therefore disapprove of the use of tobacco in any form and the use of alcoholic beverages. Under no circumstances should controlled substances such as marijuana, hallucinogens, depressants, stimulants, cocaine, and narcotics be used, possessed, sold, or distributed on or away from campus unless prescribed by a physician. Members are expected not to abuse the use of legal substances.

Scripture teaches the stewardship of God-given resources. Therefore, we disapprove of gambling (the exchange of money and goods by betting or wagering in its various forms).

We recognize that dancing is an issue about which committed Christians disagree, and that discretion and maturity are required if dancing is to be an edifying activity. We therefore covenant together as a community to make decisions about our participation in dancing that reflect our commitment to Christ, our pursuit of holiness, our desire for purity in relationships, our adherence to biblical principles, and gracious sensitivity to others.

(Revised October 21, 2011)