Louis A. Simpson
Class of 1958

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan’s Distinguished Achievement Citation, we are honored and privileged to recognize Louis Simpson’s exceptional career as a business leader in the field of financial investments and money management.

After graduating from Ohio Wesleyan in 1958 with a B.A. in Economics and Accounting, Mr. Simpson went on to obtain an M.A. in Economics from Princeton University in 1960 and immediately joined their teaching faculty. The following year, Mr. Simpson returned to his native Chicago to become an associate partner with Stein, Roe & Farnham an investment firm. Then in 1971, Mr. Simpson became Vice President of United California Bank and quickly achieving the position of Senior Vice President and Director of Portfolio Management within a year, and assuming the position of Executive Vice President in 1976. Mr. Simpson advanced upward the following year to become President and Chief Executive Officer for Western Asset Management, a subsidiary of Western Bancorporation, a position he would hold until 1979.

It was in September of 1979, when Mr. Simpson joined Government Employees Insurance Company or GEICO, as Senior Vice President and Chief Investment officer. From 1985 until 1993 he served as Vice Chairman of the Board of GEICO at which time he became President and Chief Executive Officer for Capital Operations of GEICO. Mr. Simpson was at the helm in 1996 when Warren Buffett’s Berkshire Hathaway purchased GEICO, making it a wholly owned subsidiary.

Mr. Simpson also lends his talents and expertise to many other organizations across the country. He is a director of AT&T, Western Asset Funds Inc, Pacific American Income Shares Inc, and a trustee of Western Asset Premier Bond Fund. He also serves as a trustee for the Cate School, the University of California San Diego Foundation, the Urban Institute and the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. He is also chair of the Scipps Institution of Oceanography Council.

While at Ohio Wesleyan, Mr. Simpson was active in numerous clubs and organizations. He was a member of Kappa Sigma Fraternity, sailing club, Republican club, and the Red Cross. Mr. Simpson was also worked tirelessly at WSLN the radio station and for the Le Bijou Yearbook.

Mr. Simpson has three grown sons, Irv, Ken & Ted and currently resides in Chicago, with his wife Kimberly.

His leadership talents, which were nurtured while he was an undergraduate at Ohio Wesleyan, have led to a business career distinguished by significant accomplishments and industry accolades. We join everyone who benefits from his investment skills today in applauding and recognizing Louis A. Simpson’s notable career through the presentation of this Distinguished Achievement Award.

29 September 2005