Alumni Award

Thomas E. Wenzlau
Class of 1950

It is a privilege to present an Ohio Wesleyan alumni award to Thomas E. Wenzlau, Class of 1950.

Tom Wenzlau served Ohio Wesleyan for fifteen years as its twelfth president. His tenure was marked with transition, both on campus and in the wider world.

His leadership of the institution during these extraordinary years resulted in adaptations and innovations in undergraduate life and in extensive improvements in and additions to the physical face of his Alma Mater. The many renovations and additions undertaken and completed during this period enhance the traditional stature and luster of Ohio Wesleyan, thereby serving well generations of past, present, and future alumni.

Under his guidance the $33.5-million XIVth Decade development program was begun and successfully completed; significant construction projects furnished much needed facilities, such as the Chappelar Drama Center, the Branch Rickey Physical Education Center, the expansion and remodeling of Sanborn Hall, and the magnificent Rexford Keller Memorial Concert Organ in a remodeled Gray Chapel. Also, major advances were made in upgrading Ohio Wesleyan’s computer capabilities and services for the benefit of students, faculty and administration.

In the academic area, the Reach for Quality program represented a major effort to reinforce the university’s tradition of educational quality and its commitment to intellectual achievement.

Dr. Wenzlau’s frequent travels helped spread the Ohio Wesleyan story. His informality and accessibility encouraged interest and active involvement in Ohio Wesleyan’s welfare, and he has left to his fellow alumni a legacy of warmth and friendliness.

May 1985