

Annenberg Foundation Pledges \$1 Million to Principia College for Visiting Scholars Program

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(Elsah, Illinois) – Principia College has been awarded a \$1 million grant by The Annenberg Foundation to endow a Visiting Scholars Program within the College's newly formed Leonore Annenberg Center for Educational Innovation. Modeled after programs at the nation's finest institutions, the new Visiting Scholars Program will draw leading scholars, diplomats, writers, and civic and business leaders to Principia for short-term teaching and writing opportunities.

Leonore Annenberg, President and Chairman of The Annenberg Foundation, views the Visiting Scholars Program "as an opportunity to enhance the educational experience at Principia College."

"We are extremely grateful to Mrs. Annenberg for her significant contribution to academic excellence at Principia by helping us bring leading writers, thinkers and policy makers into an already rich and animated learning environment," said College President, Dr. George Moffett. "It is an honor to have the new Visiting Scholars Program as the cornerstone of the Leonore Annenberg Center for Educational Innovation."

Principia sponsors a number of programs that, in recent years, have brought distinguished public servants and scholars to the College campus including George H. W. Bush, Colin Powell, Sandra Day O'Connor, Margaret Thatcher, Jimmy Carter, Thomas Friedman, and six Nobel Peace Laureates. The Visiting Scholars Program will further enrich the academic curriculum by providing students with the opportunity to interact directly with distinguished thought leaders beyond the boundaries of a one-time speaking engagement.

Principia will implement the Visiting Scholars Program during the 2006-2007 school year. While the focus will be primarily at the College, the program may also include pre-K through grade 12 on the St. Louis campus.

The Principia, a private, independent school and four-year liberal arts college for Christian Scientists, was founded in 1898. The College is a 2,600-acre National Historic Landmark campus situated on high bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River. The entire school emphasizes whole man character education — developing the whole person intellectually, physically, socially, morally, and spiritually — in all aspects of its curriculum. Students attending Principia come from 40 U.S. states and 21 countries.

Founded in 1989 by the late publisher, diplomat, and philanthropist Walter H. Annenberg, the Annenberg Foundation exists to advance the public well-being through improved communication. As the principal means of achieving its goal, the foundation encourages the development of more effective ways to share ideas and knowledge.

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