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DAYTON, Ohio, August 2, 1968 --- The School of Education of the University of Dayton has been chosen as Southwestern Ohio host for the Jennings Scholar Program of the Cleveland-based Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, Bro. Joseph Panzer, S.M., Dean, School of Education at UD, announced today. He revealed that Mr. M. Byron Morton, Associate Professor of Education, has been appointed director of the year-long program.

Under the plan, a series of eight lectures by noted scholars from various professions and academic disciplines will be conducted at the University from September, 1968, until May, 1969, for teachers selected from school districts in Southwestern Ohio. It will be the first time the program is conducted in this part of the state. Bowling Green University, Ohio University and Kent State University have been involved in the project in recent years.

Selection of teachers will be done by school administrators in their districts with one person chosen for each 70 teachers in the elementary and secondary schools. The lectures will be given on Saturday mornings and will be supported by the Jennings Foundation. Each participant receives a stipend, a plaque and a bound volume of the lectures. He must attend at least six lectures to receive these benefits.

Mr. Morton, in discussing the Foundation, says: "While the Foundation normally limits its activities to Ohio, its speakers come from all over the United States. We have discussed 50 or more lecturers on the Jennings Scholar Program with administrators from school systems throughout Southwestern Ohio and expect to develop the full program within the next four weeks.

"Some of the country's top educators serve as Jennings Scholars along with men and women like Walter Reuther of the U.A.W., Dr. Margaret Mead, Leonard Bernstein, Dr. Ralph Bunche, and Dr. Abe Silverstein, Director of NASA Lewis Research Center in Cleveland," he continued.

The Jennings Foundation, established in 1959 by the woman whose name it bears, is a non-profit, charitable corporation dedicated to the recognition of outstanding teachers and to enhancing the teaching profession.

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In its articles of incorporation, it states in part: "...to foster the development of individual capabilities of young people to the maximum extent through improving the quality of teaching in secular primary and secondary schools and by furnishing incentives with respect thereto."

Following Mrs. Jennings' death in 1962, the Trustees of the Foundation adopted the motto "Pro Excellentia" as the symbol of an agency whose main purpose is to encourage excellence in education, principally within the state of Ohio.

In keeping with these efforts the Foundation has given grants to teachers and students who have suggested and developed creative and original ideas for the improvement of the teaching profession. It has awarded other monies to administrators and members of school boards for projects specifically designed to assist schools in dealing with the rapidly changing needs of today's education.

Institutes have been conducted for administrators and school board members to acquaint them with the ever-changing face of education. The Yardstick project is an effort to develop methods by which school boards and administrators can evaluate and improve the effectiveness of their school systems through the modern techniques of operations research and computer technology.

Besides the Jennings Scholar Program, there are master teacher and special awards to groups of teachers whose influence and impact on their students is outstanding and whose propagation of the desire for learning is conspicuous.