



NEWS RELEASE

from

AICUP

Association of Independent Colleges
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AICUP HONORS PHILANTHROPIC COUPLE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIGHER EDUCATION IN PENNSYLVANIA

*AICUP Awards Tom and Diane Wilfred the Robert P. Casey Medal for Commitment to
Independent Higher Education*

HARRISBURG, MARCH 24, 2015 -- The Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP) last night presented local couple Tom and Diane Wilfred with the Robert P. Casey Medal for Commitment to Independent Higher Education during an awards ceremony at the Hotel Hershey. The philanthropic couple, heads of the Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation, received the award at AICUP's annual meeting of its 89 member college and university presidents.

In a statement released to the press, AICUP President Dr. Don Francis congratulated the Wilfreds on their thoughtful contributions to Pennsylvania's independent higher education system.

"It is an honor to recognize the Wilfreds for their longstanding work on behalf of the higher education sector and particularly their efforts to assist adult women students attending Pennsylvania's independent colleges and universities," Francis said. "Because of the thoughtfulness and generosity of donors like the Wilfreds, the dream of attaining an education from a rigorous academic institution is well within the grasp of thousands of young scholars and their families. The Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania thanks the Wilfreds for their leadership and commitment to our schools, all of the hardworking students and their families."

Tom Wilfrid is Executive Director and Diane Wilfrid is Program Officer for the Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation, a Princeton, NJ-based independent foundation that was established in 1979 as the result of a bequest from the estate of Mrs. Newcombe, a Philadelphia philanthropist. The Foundation continues Mrs. Newcombe's lifelong interest in supporting students who wish to complete degrees in higher education. Currently, the foundation funds scholarships for mature women or students with disabilities at 39 colleges and universities, 15 of which are AICUP members. Since 1981, Newcombe grants to 28 AICUP member institutions have totaled more than \$10.7 million.

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Prior to joining the Newcombe Foundation in 2007, Tom served Mercer County (NJ) Community College for 38 years, retiring after 15 years as Vice President for Academic Affairs. He holds a bachelor's degree from The Cooper Union, a master's degree from Princeton University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Diane, a graduate of Hunter College, retired in 2006 from Lawrence (NJ) High School after 27 years as an English teacher. The Wilfrids have three sons and five grandchildren.

The Association of Independent Colleges & Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP), the only statewide organization that serves exclusively the interests of private higher education within the Commonwealth, exists to complement and support the work of campus leaders. With a membership of 89 private colleges and universities within Pennsylvania, the Association provides a variety of services and programs tailored specifically to the needs and situation of independent higher education. A list of AICUP's member colleges and universities is included on its website at www.aicup.org.

NOTE: Photo attached.

Caption: Tom and Diane Wilfred stand with award presenter and president of Wilson College Dr. Barbara Mistick at last night's award ceremony at the Hotel Hershey.

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