

Lois Holt Scholarship, 1992-2007

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Lois Holt Scholarship

Miss Lois Holt was born in New York City in 1907 and raised in New Jersey. Her grandfather settled in the Orlando area in the late 1800s and lived on North Magnolia Avenue (across from the *Orlando Sentinel*). Her father was a New York City attorney, who retired in Central Florida in the early 1920s and lived in his father's house. Miss Holt graduated from Douglass College at Rutgers University with a degree in home economics in 1930. After several years of working in private industry, she received her Master's degree from Columbia University in 1942 and returned to Rutgers to teach for 12 years before moving to Florida to live with her father in the 1950s. Like him, she invested in the state's lucrative citrus industry, and became a millionaire when she sold her extensive land holdings in the 1980s. The family citrus business was located on groves about a half a dozen miles from downtown Orlando. As Orlando developed, the Holt family groves became the city's homes, churches, and shopping centers.



John Stilwell & Lois Holt

Miss Holt was always vitally interested in the advancement of women as key players in the marketplace. She worked for several years as a home economist and was active in the pioneering days of canning vegetables and other foods and participated in the evolution to freezing for food preservation. Miss Holt passed away in July 1999.

Miss Holt's interest and dedication to educational excellence found expression through the foundation established in her name in 1992 to provide scholarships and grants enabling students to pursue their educational goals. Thanks to Miss Holt's generosity over \$600,000 have been given to more than 100 students from half a dozen countries of origin at 12 southeastern colleges, including 12 fortunate UCF Libraries student assistants. In addition, as of 2004/05, the Holt Foundation contributed \$45,000 to the University of Central Florida Library Enrichment Fund and a study room was dedicated in her honor in September 1993.

The \$2,000 Lois Holt Scholarship for Library Student Assistants was established at the University of Central Florida in 1994. The last scholarship was awarded in 2006/2007 when the Foundation directors decided to take the Foundation in a different direction.

Longtime friend of the UCF Library John P. Stilwell served as administrator of Holt Foundation until his passing in 2006, when Mr. Ed Hofma stepped in as administrator.

Recipients of the Lois Holt Scholarship for Library Assistants

2006/07	Ryan Bauer	Circulation
2005/06	Carmen Serrano	Cataloging
2004/05	Joshua Smith	Reference
2003/04	Ruth Heidt	Periodicals/AV
2002/03	Esperanza Flores	Reference
2001/02	Placido Buniao	Reference
2000/01	Erin Zink	Interlibrary Loan
1999/00	Abby Meishner	Curriculum Materials Center
1998/99	None Awarded	
1997/98	Sarah M. Roland	Circulation
1996/97	Arthur Watkins	Circulation
1995/96	Christine Bekemeyer	Circulation
1994/95	Cheryl Cooper	Circulation