The “Doc” and Betty Newell Scholarship

The purpose of this award is to provide support for currently enrolled students in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology who are pursuing a degree in either Electrical Engineering or Electrical Engineering Technology at Northern Illinois University.

The Award:
Two scholarships valued at $1,000 each for one academic year. The award may be applied to tuition, academic fees, required text, and room/board.

Eligibility:
- Candidates must be enrolled at NIU as full-time undergraduate students. Full-time is defined as a minimum of 12 semester hours of course work per semester.
- Candidates must be a declared major in Electrical Engineering or Electrical Engineering Technology.
- Candidates must have a NIU minimum overall GPA of 2.00.
- The quality of a student’s prior academic record will be evaluated based on such criteria as the strength of prior coursework, other academic performance, professional experience, and recommendations received on behalf of the applicant.

Requirements:
- Recipients must remain a declared major in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology for the awarded semesters.
- Recipients must earn a minimum of 12 semester hours for the awarded semesters.
- Recipients must maintain a NIU cumulative GPA of 2.00.

About the Donor:
Darrell “Doc” Newell came to Northern Illinois University in September 1967 as a temporary, part-time associate professor in the Department of Industry and Technology (as it was called at that time) to teach specifically in the area of electrical engineering technology. Doc Newell became a full-time, associate professor in the Department of Industry and Technology in January, 1969. In 1973 he was promoted to the rank of professor. Doc was very active in the garnering of support from industry and the planning stages of the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology at NIU which was signed into being July 1, 1985 by the Illinois legislature.

On August 1, 1985 Doc Newell’s appointment was officially transferred from the Department of Industry and Technology (officially renamed the Department of Technology) to the newly established Department of Electrical Engineering. In 1986 he was chosen by the NIU Committee for Improvement of Undergraduate Education as one of three university recipients of the 1986 Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

On October 1, 1986 Doc was formally appointed Chair of the Department of Electrical Engineering. In addition to this appointment he served the college as Interim Associate Dean from August 1987 through June 1988. He served as Chair of the Department of Electrical Engineering until his retirement in August 1990. Doc returned to NIU and the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology as a part-time professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering in January 1991. Doc Newell passed December 25, 2010, at his home, surrounded by his family. He is survived by his Wife Betty and two daughters.