The Dennis F. and Ellin C. Murphy
Irish Studies Library Endowment

Dennis F. Murphy (’71) began his career as a field engineer for Peter Kiewit Company, one of the world’s largest construction companies. He is now retired as president of Kiewit Engineering, which provides engineering, estimating, and quality assurance service for all Kiewit construction operations. A recipient of the Engineering Honor Award from the College of Engineering, Dennis serves as a member of the advisory council for the college. He and his wife, Ellin, a former educator with St. Robert Bellarmine School in Omaha, Nebraska, established the Dennis and Ellin Murphy Foundation, which is dedicated to fostering Catholic education. The Murphys are the parents of three children, two of whom are Notre Dame graduates. They have also established three Endowments for Excellence at the University.

The Murphy Endowment provides for the acquisition of resources in northern vernacular literature, which is consonant with the goals of a National Endowment for the Humanities grant aimed at bringing Notre Dame’s Irish studies collection to an unprecedented level of excellence. It also assisted in the acquisition of the Loeber Collection, a unique repository of Irish fiction central to the University’s Irish Fiction Initiative, whose mission is to make the Irish fiction collection at the Hesburgh Libraries the premier world destination for scholarship in this area.