Jenna Grider has been named a Bone Student Scholar for the 2008-09 academic year. Being designated a Bone Scholar is the highest honor an Illinois State University undergraduate student can receive. The scholarship is named in honor of the late Robert G. Bone, president of Illinois State from 1956-1967. Bone Scholars are selected through a rigorous campus-wide competition on the basis of their scholarly achievements and their engagement and leadership in activities, in the university community and beyond. Invited finalists submit a comprehensive portfolio including several essays and statements, a project, and five letters of recommendation.

“I became interested in nursing because I wanted to make a difference in someone’s life each and every day,” said Grider. “A profession in nursing became attractive to me because I will have the ability to practice after graduation, and there are many opportunities available to pursue advanced practice degrees.”

Grider’s career plans include graduating from Mennonite College of Nursing with a B.S.N. and then continue her education to receive her M.S.N. This summer she will be in the nursing externship program at the Children’s Hospital of Illinois at OSF in Peoria, Illinois. “I hope to become a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, and in the future be able to teach nursing courses.”