



2010

Convocation for New Students (2010 Program)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

CONVOCATION

for New Students



Westbrook Auditorium

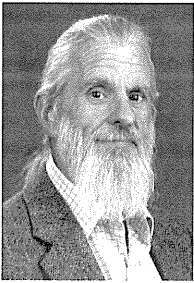
Presser Hall

August 17, 2010

4:15 PM

PROGRAM

- Prelude Doris Hill, *Organist*
(please stand as the Platform Party enters)
- *Invocation Lori Harvey
Interim University Chaplain
- President's Welcome Richard F. Wilson
President
- Welcome from the Dean of Students Kathy Cavins-Tull
Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students
- Greetings from Student Senate Erick Henderson '12
Vice President, Student Senate
- Remarks from the Alumni Justine Robinson '06
Chair, Young Alumni Committee
- Musical Performance—
- Sonata for Oboe and Piano* Francis Poulenc
Scherzo
Abigail Lyons '14, *Oboe*, and Nancy Pounds, *Pianist*
- Reflections from the Faculty Irving Epstein
Associate Dean of the Faculty
- Address—“Booklice, Blackberries, and Reading in Slow Time” Dan Terkla
*Professor of English, Recipient of the 2011
Kemp Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence*
- *Alma Wesleyana Jimmy Schiffer '14
(please stand and join in singing, led by Mr. Schiffer) NATIONAL HYMN
George William Warren (1828–1902)
Ms. Pounds, Pianist
- From hearts aflame, our love we pledge to thee,
Where'er we wander, over land or sea;
Through time unending, loyal we will be—
True to our Alma Mater, Wesleyan.
When college days are fully past and gone,
While life endures, from twilight gleam til dawn,
Grandly thy soul shall with us linger on—
Star-crowned, our Alma Mater, Wesleyan
- *Benediction Chaplain Lori Harvey
- *Recessional Ms. Hill, *Organist*
- * *Audience will please stand*
- Senior Marshal for the convocation is Professor Zahia Drici, Associate Dean of Curriculum*
Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.



DAN TERKLA

Dan Terkla, Professor of English, is a medievalist whose recent work focuses on Anglo-French world maps from the twelfth and thirteenth centuries and on the Bayeux Tapestry, a 240-foot long embroidery that tells a version of the Norman conquest of Britain. He is a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and the recipient of a J. B. Harley Research Fellowship in the History of Cartography and a British Academy/Newberry Library Fellowship and a council member of the Society for the History of Discoveries. Prof. Terkla recently co-edited two books: *The Bayeux Tapestry: New Interpretations* (2009) and *New Research on*

The Proceedings of a Conference at the British Museum (2010). He teaches courses on Chaucer, medieval literature, and romance (the literary genre), and courses on travel narrative and the Beat writers, among others.

ACADEMIC COLORS AND REGALIA

Like judicial robes, the garments worn on academic occasions such as today's Convocation derive from the ecclesiastical garb of medieval England. The scholar in the Middle Ages, it must be remembered, was a clerk, and therefore required to wear the clerical gown and tonsure. As early as the fourteenth century, scholars of certain colleges were required by statute to wear "a decent habit" befitting a clerk, and no evidence appears that there was much differentiation among undergraduates, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral robes. Hoods were worn by all and probably had no academic significance at the beginning. By 1330-40, doctors began to adopt scarlet for their hoods, and by 1500, for their robes, with black retained by the masters of arts and bachelors of divinity. Over the years, distinctions were created to identify various ranks and faculties.

Caps evolved in a similar manner. The round velvet cap is still worn in the full dress of doctors (except doctors in theology); the familiar square, or mortar-board, was copied in the early sixteenth century from the thirteenth century cap of the University of Paris. The "who" and "how" of the wearing of caps has produced numerous rulings, restrictions, and change.

The growth of higher education in the United States during the nineteenth century, when the great land grant colleges and universities were established under the Morrill Act, created a confusion of conflicting styles and colors. The easy identification of one's academic status by means of cut, fabric, and color was lost. In 1893, however, an intercollegiate commission presented a uniform code for caps, gowns, and hoods to be worn in the United States. The mortarboard caps are the same for doctoral, master's, and baccalaureate degrees, except that doctors' caps may be of velvet and may have a gold tassel. The bachelor's gown is marked by pointed sleeves, reaching to the knee, while the master's sleeve is squared at the ends, and longer. The doctoral robe is fullest, with rounded bell shaped sleeves marked by three velvet stripes.

The greatest symbolism of the academic costume is borne by the hood, which identifies the level of the degree, the faculty (or department of learning) in which it was earned, and the institution that awarded it. The size of the hood, its shape, and the width of its velvet trim identify the level of the degree, with doctoral hoods naturally being the fullest, widest, and longest. Faculty colors tell us the department.

The Illinois Wesleyan University Mace, first carried at the 1969 inauguration of Dr. Robert S. Eckley as fifteenth president of the University, is a striking symbol of the institution. Made of bronze for power and endurance and of walnut for organic strength, its cupola represents the bell tower of Old North Hall, Illinois Wesleyan's first building, which was erected in 1856 and demolished in 1967 to make way for Sheean Library. The bell suggests the Hedding Bell, a campus landmark since 1931, when it was installed on the IWU campus after pealing for generations at Hedding College, now defunct. The staff of the Mace is made from the walnut of Old North Hall, and the names of Illinois Wesleyan's presidents are engraved on its bronze base.

NEW STUDENT CONVOCATION

On the Tuesday that new students arrive on campus, New Student Convocation is held at Westbrook Auditorium in Presser Hall. The incoming class is expected to attend to be matriculated into our community of artists and scholars.

PRESIDENT'S CONVOCATION

The President's Convocation opens the academic year with a prominent speaker invited to address the community. All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend. This year's convocation will be September 8, 2010 featuring Colin Beavan, author of the summer reading selection, *No Impact Man*.

FOUNDERS DAY CONVOCATION

Founders Day commemorates the founding of the University in 1850 and honors its academic history. All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend this year's convocation on Wednesday, February 23, 2011. Previous speakers include U.S. Civil Rights Commissioner Mary Frances Berry, Pulitzer Prize recipient John Updike, and film director Ismail Merchant.

HONORS CONVOCATION

Graduating seniors are featured at the Honors Day Convocation, set for Wednesday, April 13, 2011 in Westbrook Auditorium. Presentations by the Senior Class President, the President, the Provost, and other faculty members, including Kemp Foundation Awardee for Teaching Excellence, make up this program. All students, faculty and staff are invited and encouraged to attend.