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Annual Luncheon to Feature WGN Director

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Annual Luncheon to Feature WGN Director

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Orion Samuelson, renowned agribusiness director of WGN and Chicago’s “Voice of Agriculture” since 1960, will be the featured guest speaker for the annual Illinois Wesleyan Associates Luncheon on Tuesday, April 17 at noon in the IWU Shirk Center Performance Gym (302 E. Emerson St., Bloomington).

In his lecture titled “From Reaper to Satellite,” Samuelson will discuss farmers and their vital work that raises food for 300 million Americans and millions more people overseas.

Considered to be one of the country’s most prolific broadcasters, Samuelson has provided the Midwestern farmer with agricultural news and information for over 40 years. In conjunction with his associate, Max Armstrong, he presents 16 daily agribusiness reports on the WGN radio station and on the morning and noontime shows. Samuelson’s syndicated *National Farm Report* airs on 260 radio stations daily and his weekly *Samuelson Sez* is broadcasted on 110 stations.

Among his many awards and distinctions Samuelson has earned in his lifetime, he was given the highest award in the radio broadcasting industry in 2003 when he was inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame in Chicago. Samuelson also was named a Laureate of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois in May 2001 and has been honored with the National 4-H Alumni Award, the Honorary FFA American Farmer Degree and honorary membership of the agriculture fraternity, Alpha Gamma Rho.

Samuelson serves as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation and formerly served as a trustee of the Farm Foundation.

Illinois Wesleyan Associates, founded in 1953 with Adlai H. Rust and Clarence W. Heyl as co-chairmen, consists of business and professional leaders interested in the advancement and support of private higher education.

For luncheon reservations, contact Marleen Monts at (309) 556-3222 or at mmonts@iwu.edu.

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