President's Convocation (2005 Program)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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Illinois Wesleyan University

PRESIDENT’S CONVOCATION

Westbrook Auditorium
Presser Hall
September 7, 2005
11:00 a.m.
Prelude
Vienese Serenade No. 1 for Two Violins and Cello
Allegro
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

String Trio
Bret Negro '06, violin
Molly Doran '07, violin
Andrew Hesse '06, cello

Invocation (please stand)
Dennis E. Groh '61
University Chaplain

Welcome
Richard F. Wilson
President

Greetings from the Student Senate
Kevin Maliszewski '06
President, Student Senate

Special Music
Claribel
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
Justin Holloway ‘09, Tenor
Maxie Scifres, accompanist

Address
“The Future of Life”
Edward O. Wilson

Alma Wesleyana
(please stand and join in singing led by Mr. Holloway)
J. Scott Ferguson, Organist
Professor of Music
National Hymn
George William Warren (1828-1902)

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.
—Professor W. E. Schultz (1935)

Benediction (remain standing)
Chaplain Groh

Postlude (remain standing)
Divertimento No. 26 for String Trio
Un Poco Presto
Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)
Edward O. Wilson

*The David and Ann Lawrence Visiting Fellow*

Edward O. Wilson, Pellegrino University Research Professor, Emeritus, at Harvard University, is one of the most highly respected scientists in the world today.


His 1992 volume, *The Diversity of Life* brought together knowledge of the magnitude of biodiversity and the threats to it and had a major public impact.

*Consilience: The Unity of Knowledge* (1998) draws together the sciences, humanities, and the arts into a broad study of human knowledge. Most recently, he wrote *The Future of Life* (2002), which offers a plan for saving Earth’s biological heritage.

A native of Alabama, Wilson received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Alabama where he devoted much of his early career to the study of ants. He received his doctorate from Harvard and joined the Harvard faculty in 1956. Today he continues entomological and environmental research at the Museum of Comparative Zoology.

Wilson has received some 75 awards in international recognition for his contributions to science and humanity, including the U.S. National Medal of Science (1976), Japan’s International Prize for Biology (1993), the Crafoord Prize from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (1990), the French Prix du Institut de la Vie (1990), Germany’s Terrestrial Ecology Prize (1987), Saudi Arabia’s King Faisal International Prize for Science (2000), and the Franklin Medal of the American Philosophical Society (1999).

For his conservation work he has received the Audubon Medal of the National Audubon Society and the Gold Medal of the World Wide Fund for Nature. He is also the recipient of 27 honorary doctoral degrees from North America and Europe.
From a 1931 booklet of pen sketches:

“THE MEMORIAL GYMNASIUM IS ONE OF ILLINOIS WESLEYAN’S NEWER BUILDINGS AND COMPLETE IN EVERY DETAIL. IT WILL SEAT 2500 PEOPLE FOR BASKETBALL GAMES AND BESIDES A LARGE, MODERN PLAYING FLOOR IS EQUIPPED WITH A BIG STAGE, OFFICES, LOCKER ROOMS, STORE ROOMS, AND LARGE, MODERN SWIMMING POOL.”

The Hansen Student Center was created from historic Memorial gymnasium and opened in January, 2002.

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Our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. David Lawrence, parents of David ’79 and Lisa ’83 for their support of this event.

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