



Fall 9-25-2002

President's Convocation (2002 Program and audio)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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Illinois Wesleyan University

PRESIDENT'S CONVOCATION



Westbrook Auditorium
Presser Hall
September 25, 2002
7:30 p.m.

President Minor Myers, jr., *Presiding*

Recessional (*remain standing*)
Fanfare

Ms. Fillingham-Cavanaugh
Jacques Lemmens
(1823-1881)



ISABEL ALLENDE

I think that my most significant achievement is not my writing, but the love I share with my family."

Isabel Allende has risen from political exile to international acclaim as one of Latin America's foremost writers and author of seven best-selling novels, including *The House of Spirits*, *Daughter of Fortune*, and *Portrait in Sepia*.

The niece and goddaughter of former Chilean President Salvador Allende, she was born in Lima, Peru in 1942 and raised in Chile, Bolivia, Europe, and the Middle East. She worked as a journalist on magazines and television in Chile until the 1973 military coup when she fled her homeland, settling in Venezuela with her husband, son, and daughter. "I felt, as many Chileans did, that my life had been cut into pieces, and that I had to start over again," she has recalled.

She spent nine years in Venezuela as a newspaper journalist with *El Nacional*. In at least one subsequent interview, Allende confessed that she was not a very good journalist. "Really," she was quoted as saying, "I was a lousy journalist."

In 1982 she published *The House of the Spirits*, which began as a long letter to her dying grandfather in Chile and evolved into a three-generational saga of the Trueba family, interwoven with the history of Chile. It was later made into both a stage play and a motion picture. *Paula*, released in 1994, started as a memoir to her 28-year-old, terminally ill daughter and became a meditation on a mother's life and a daughter's death. She has called *Paula* "the most important book I will ever write, which has the greatest truth."

Aphrodite, a book of recipes, stories, and aphrodisiacs, won the 1998 Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize granted to one "who has contributed to the beauty of the world."

Daughter of Fortune (1999), a detailed historical novel set during the California gold rush, was followed in 2000 by *Portrait in Sepia*. Allende's latest book, *City of Beasts*, a young adult novel, will be released in October by HarperCollins as the first in a planned three-book series. This will mark the first time in her career that one of her books is being released simultaneously in Spanish and English in the United States. Allende has also written children's stories and plays for the Chilean theatre. She has been the host of television shows in Santiago and has taught literature at the University of Virginia and the University of California-Berkeley.

Allende's books have been translated to more than 27 languages. They have been best sellers in Europe, USA, Latin America, and Australia. She has been named author of the year or had one of her works named book of the year in Germany, Chile, Switzerland, and Mexico. Allende herself has received honorary doctorates from Bates College, Dominican College, New York State University, and Columbia College. She is a Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres in France and was named Feminist of the Year by the Feminist Majority Foundation in 1994.

Allende ended a 15-year exile from Chile in 1990, returning to receive the Gabriela Minstral award, named in honor of the Chilean poet and educator who won the 1945 Nobel Prize in literature. Allende has made her home in San Rafael, Calif., since 1988.

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS

Class of 2006

Philip Arquette

Philip is a National Merit Scholar from Bensenville, Illinois, who plans to double major in computer science and music. At Fenton High School he participated in football and track as well as band and symphonic winds. He was selected to the Illinois Music Educators Association District Jazz Band three times. For Philip, he says that cleanly hitting a high B flat requires much more practice and preparation than getting ready for a math test.

Amy Cadwallader

From Maryland Heights, Missouri, Amy was valedictorian of her high school class and is a National Merit Scholar. She enters Illinois Wesleyan as a biology major, but during high school Amy has also been active backstage at many theatre productions, as well as taking courses in pottery and studio art. She has participated in many service activities, including tutoring children, working at food pantries, helping at shelters for abused women, and work with Habitat for Humanity.

Jodie Daquilanea

From Woodridge, Illinois, Jodie graduated from Benet Academy and is a National Merit Scholar. Jodie describes her interests as highly diverse, ranging from physics to religion to literature and art. She has worked on her school's literary magazine and newspaper, has volunteered in a peer mentoring program, and has worked as a telephone interviewer at the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago. Describing her possible career plans, she says she would like to work her way up to a university professorship.

Kathleen Frawley

Kathleen was valedictorian of her high school in Oswego, New York. She comes to Illinois Wesleyan with interests in political science, pre-law, and economics. Kathleen has played viola for ten years and piano for thirteen. She also played soccer, basketball, and softball, and intends to continue with softball here.

Sherri Haas

From Sycamore Illinois, Sherri graduated from the Illinois Math and Science Academy. Her extracurricular activities at IMSA included diving, softball, and volunteer work. A recipient of the Congress-Bundestag Scholarship, Sherri has just returned from a year in Germany. At Illinois Wesleyan she is undecided as to major, but has an interest in psychology.

Stephanie Jaeckel

From Mundelein IL, Stephanie says she has developed the skill of being able to teach herself almost anything. This talent comes from having been home schooled her entire life. She has been a pianist for ten years and a member for the past two years of the Midwest Young Artists youth orchestra. With MYA she has participated in a European tour with performances in Austria, Hungary, and the Czech Republic. She will major in music at Illinois Wesleyan.

Robin Johnson

Robin is a National Merit Scholar and valedictorian from Dunlap High School in Peoria, Illinois. In addition to her academic subjects, Robin has been a swimmer and participant on the track team, two activities that she intends to continue at Illinois Wesleyan. She will be majoring in chemistry, preparing for an eventual career in medicine.

Jennifer LaBrenz

Jennifer comes from Kalamazoo, Michigan, where she was valedictorian of her high school class. Having already completed the course in differential equations at Western Michigan University, she will be a physics major with a secondary interest in mathematics. She will also be participating in soccer at Illinois Wesleyan.

Alex Mitchell

Alex is a graduate of the University Lab School in Urbana, Illinois. He is undecided as to major, but among his interests are art and theatre. The theatre interest comes naturally, since both his parents teach acting. In his application essay he describes himself as “a procrastinator, an egotist, and sort of funny looking.” He is a creative thinker, but “maybe a bit dreamy.” But most of all, he describes himself as honest and well-intentioned. Bravo, Alex.

Justin Myers

Justin is a graduate of Hoover High School in Des Moines, Iowa, and a National Merit Scholar. The two passions in Justin’s life are computers and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. He has been working as a computer technician for a couple of years and studying Jui-Jitsu even longer. He finds both activities lead to mental development. At Illinois Wesleyan Justin will be a computer science major.

Sara Novak

From Northbrook, Illinois, Sara is a graduate of Glenbrook North High School. She has been involved in a range of creative activities, from playing clarinet in various music ensembles to writing poetry and making art. Sara has won awards in all three areas. She also runs track. At Illinois Wesleyan Sara will be an art major, and she intends to study English and psychology as well.

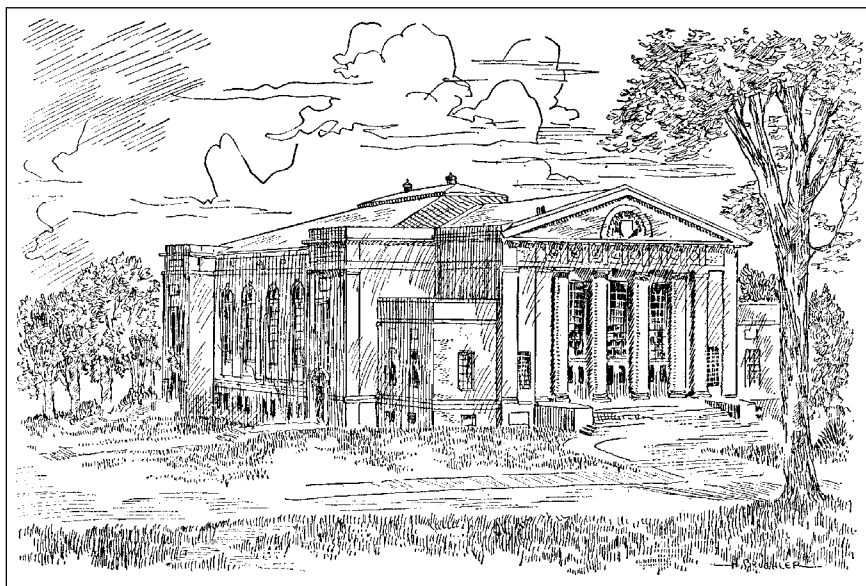
Debo Olaosebikan

Debo comes to Illinois Wesleyan from Lagos, Nigeria, where he graduated from King’s College. He is a debater and a playwright, among other talents, which include soccer, table tennis, and cricket. He will be a physics major and hopes for a career in engineering. Debo is the recipient of Illinois Wesleyan’s President’s International Student Scholarship this year.

PRESIDENT'S CONVOCATION



MEMORIAL GYMNASIUM



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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