



Fall 8-24-2004

Convocation for New Students (2004 Program)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

CONVOCATION

for First-Year Students



Shirk Center
Performance Arena
August 24, 2004
2:45 PM

PROGRAM

Prelude Maxie Scifres
Pianist

*Procession

*Invocation Dennis Groh '61
University Chaplain

President's Welcome Richard F. Wilson
President

Welcome from the Faculty Janet McNew
Provost and Dean of the Faculty

Greetings from the Students Trevor Sierra '05
President, Student Senate

Performance

'Quando Te Rivedro' *Stefano Donaudy*

William Dwyer '08, Tenor
Maxie Scifres, piano

Introduction of the Speaker James D. Matthews
Dean of Students and Associate Professor of French

Address Narendra Jaggi
"What Exactly is a Liberal Arts Education, and Who Needs It?"

*Alma Wesleyana NATIONAL HYMN
George William Warren (1828 -1902)

From the 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 Groh

Postlude Ms. Scifres

* *Audience will please stand*

** *Please remain seated until dismissed*

NARENDRA JAGGI



Narendra Jaggi is professor and chair of the Department of Physics at Illinois Wesleyan where he has taught since 1991.

A native of India, Jaggi received degrees in physics from Ranchi University and from the University of Bombay where he earned the Ph.D. After working in the Department of Atomic Energy in Bombay, he pursued a postdoctoral fellowship at Northwestern University, then joined the physics department at

Northeastern University in Boston before coming to Illinois Wesleyan.

In 2003, Jaggi was named the Illinois Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). That honor came a year after Illinois Wesleyan students elected him as the winner of the annual “Professor of the Year” award presented by the Student Senate.

A materials physicist by training, Jaggi teaches physics and conducts research in the areas of materials physics and artificial societies. He has co-authored 37 research papers in refereed journals in both physics and sociology.

One example of both the interdisciplinary nature of Jaggi’s research and his involvement with undergraduates is a paper that he co-authored with Alexander Laurie, a 2003 graduate of the University. Their paper explores issues of racial segregation and was published in the journal *Urban Studies*.

In addition to his teaching and research, Jaggi is co-founder of the Sports and Scholars Program, a summer academic enrichment experience that has been recognized as a model for exemplifying “university-industry-community” cooperation. He also serves as faculty adviser for a variety of campus organizations, including Student Senate, the South Asian Student Society, and the Society of Physics Students, and is a Faculty Visitor to the University’s Board of Trustees.

In describing his teaching philosophy, Jaggi has said: “I believe that genuine affection and enthusiasm for learning can be infectious. I believe that students can learn from each other, and I from them.... I smile whenever my students can see through the fog, and can see that they are seeing through. Such moments build the confidence of the students and enable them to take responsibility for their own learning. They also make teaching the joyous vocation that it is!”

FIRST-YEAR STUDENT CONVOCATION

On the Tuesday that first-year students arrive to campus, First-year Student Convocation is held in the Shirk Center. The incoming class is expected to attend to be matriculated into this community of artists and scholars. Family members and others may also attend this event.

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 9, 2005. 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, 2005 in Westbrook Auditorium. Seniors process in their academic regalia as part of Senior Week activities. Presentations by the Senior Class President, the President, the Provost, and other faculty members, including *The Pantagraph* Awardee for Teaching Excellence, make up this program. All students, faculty and staff are invited and encouraged to attend.

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 Wednesday, September 8, 2004 featuring Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist David Halberstam. Previous guests at the President's Convocation include author Isabel Allende, Nobel laureate James Watson and scientist/author Sandra Steingraber '81.