President’s Convocation

Fall 9-27-1999

President's Convocation (1999 Program and video)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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Illinois Wesleyan University

PRESIDENT’S
CONVOCATION

Westbrook Auditorium
Presser Hall
September 27, 1999
4:00 P.M.
Program
President Minor Myers, jr., Presiding

Organ Prelude .................................................................J. Scott Ferguson, Organist
Associate Professor of Music
Antonín Dvořák
(1801-1904)

Praeludlium und Fughette

*Processional
Prelude from Te Deum
Marc-Antoine Charpentier
(c. 1645-1704)

*Invocation .................................................................Dennis E. Groh ’61
University Chaplain

Welcome .................................................................President Minor Myers, jr.

Greetings from the Student Senate ............................Harold E. Gauthier, II ’00
President, Student Senate

Recognition of Presidential Scholars and ....................Roger H. Schnaitter
The Anderson Physics Scholar
Associate Provost

Special Music
Scherzo

Vadim Mazo, violin
Associate Professor of Music
Eva Ferguson, piano
Instructor in Music

Awarding of Honorary Degree .................................President Minor Myers, jr.
Provost Janet M. McNew

Remarks .................................................................Prime Minister Janez Drnovšek
Republic of Slovenia

“Future of the Balkans”

*Alma Wesleyana

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 ...............................................................Dennis E. Groh ’61
University Chaplain

Organ Postlude ...........................................................J. Scott Ferguson, Organist
Associate Professor of Music
Jean Langlais
(1907-1991)

Postlude I

*Audience will please stand
Janez Drnovsek, prime minister of Slovenia, is among the world’s youngest Heads of State. He represents a new generation of political leadership for a nation in the turbulent Balkans—a nation that’s making the tough transition from communism to democracy. Slovenia, a parliamentary democracy, is a Southeastern European nation slightly smaller than New Jersey with a population of about 2 million, bordering the Adriatic Sea, between Austria and Croatia.

On April 2, 1989, Drnovsek was elected—in a free and democratic contest—to the post of Slovenian representative to the collective presidency of the former Yugoslavia. His term as President of the Presidency spanned 1989-90—a time in which he also became head of the Non-Alignment Movement, the global political association of nations not teamed with the two superpowers—Washington and Moscow. He chaired the group’s Summit Conference in 1989. As President of the Presidency, Drnovsek worked to shift the former Yugoslavia to a market economy and to integrate the country into the European Community. During his tenure, Drnovsek succeeded in liberating all political prisoners held in the former Yugoslavia’s jails, a clear sign of his commitment to human rights.

Drnovsek played a pivotal role in abolishing one-party rule, introducing a multi-party political system. The first free multi-party democratic elections in Slovenia and Croatia were held while he was President of the Presidency.

Slovenia voted overwhelmingly for independence in a plebiscite, declaring its freedom from the former Yugoslav federation on June 25, 1991. This triggered military action by the Yugoslav People’s Army (YPA). Ultimately, the YPA withdrew from Slovenian territory. During the conflict, Drnovsek was the principal negotiator with the YPA and a key player in the Brioni talks, which ended the war.

As president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Drnovsek was elected prime minister of the Republic of Slovenia in April, 1992. During his term in office, he has focused on Slovenia’s political transformation, as well as privatization of the economy, rehabilitation of the banking system, and restructuring enterprises.

A Drnovsek biography points out that “... the Government under the leadership of Dr. Drnovsek succeeded in bringing about ... strong economic growth, low inflation, reorientation of foreign trade towards the western markets and full integration of Slovenia into numerous international organizations,” including the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and the Council of Europe.

Drnovsek, born in 1950 in Celje, Slovenia, received a doctorate in economics from the University of Maribor, Slovenia, where he specialized in monetary policy. He received an Honorary Degree from Boston University in 1994.
Presidential Scholars
Class of 2003

Nimish Adhia
Nimish is an economics major from Ahmedabad, India. He directed a street play as part of the government’s “AIDS Awareness Programme” which was staged in many impoverished areas of his city. Nimish also conceived, directed and acted in a school play titled, “English is too very much crazy,” demonstrating the peculiarities of spoken English in India.

Gaurava Agarwal
Gaurav comes from Morgantown, West Virginia, where he graduated as valedictorian. At Illinois Wesleyan Gaurav will be a biology major. During high school, he participated in tennis and was co-captain of his team. He also did volunteer work at a community health center.

Annelisa Anderson
Annelisa is a music major from Minneapolis, Minnesota, where she graduated from Minnehaha Academy. She has studied violin for 14 years. She has been a member of the Minnesota Youth Symphonies for six years and has been principal violinist for one. She has also been involved in theatre performances and choir.

Marybeth Bartelt
From St. Louis, Missouri, Marybeth is undecided about her major at Illinois Wesleyan. She is interested in both biology and engineering. She attended the Missouri Scholars Academy as a chemistry major, and she was co-captain of her varsity field hockey team. Marybeth is a National Merit Scholar.

Christina Catalano
Christine is a political science major from St. Louis, Missouri. She was the captain of her tennis team and has won the Junior District PGA Tournament for the past five years. She has done community service at a recovery home for children. In her family, she is known as “Ms. President.”

Cheryl Clauson
From Schaumburg, Illinois, Cheryl will major in biology. She has been active in a community service organization called “Students Helping Others.” Cheryl has also volunteered at the Schaumburg HIV Coalition, providing services to HIV-infected members of her community. She was the manager of the varsity football team and was an exchange student to France.

Jeffrey Horvath
Jeffrey is a biology major from Morton, Illinois. Jeffrey participated in varsity tennis and swimming for four years and was a state qualifier in swimming. He is an avid reader and is interested in physics and philosophy as well as biology. Jeff is a National Merit Scholar.

Alexander Laurie
From Lebanon, Illinois, Alexander will double major in music and mathematics. A bassoonist, Alexander has participated in All State Honor Band and All State Orchestra, as well as the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra. He is an Eagle Scout and a golfer.
Presidential Scholars (continued)

Kristopher Maulden
Kris is a mathematics major from Lovington, Illinois. He has played soccer and baseball in high school, and is continuing with soccer at Illinois Wesleyan. Kris also plays guitar, and enjoys reading material ranging from the Napoleonic wars to The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy.

Trisha Powers
From New Lenox, Illinois, Trisha is undecided as to her major, although she is thinking about both history and biology. Trisha runs cross-country and plans to keep that up at Illinois Wesleyan. She has been a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity.

Anna Pulliam
Graduating from the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities in Muncie, Indiana, Anna will be a biology major at Illinois Wesleyan. Anna writes poetry and has had two of her poems published. She loves music and is teaching herself to play the violin. She says that finger painting brings out the best in her.

Jay Ratliff
From Mount Prospect, Illinois, Jay will be a chemistry major. Jay has volunteered at a hospital and assisted a pathologist in analyzing statistical data on kidney diseases. He was a varsity swimmer, and expects to continue on the swim team at Illinois Wesleyan.

Adrian Sauder
From Tremont, Illinois, Adrian graduated from the Illinois Math and Science Academy in Aurora, IL. At Illinois Wesleyan he will major in biology. Adrian’s other interests range from baseball to ultimate frisbee.

Michael Stoll
Graduating from Notre Dame High School, Mike comes from Niles, Illinois. At Illinois Wesleyan he will major in business administration. Mike attended the World Affairs Seminar at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater during the summer of 1998. He is a golfer and a swimmer.

Kristin Tracy
A graduate of Joliet Catholic Academy, in Joliet Illinois, Kristin will major in biology at Illinois Wesleyan. She has worked on her school newspaper and literary magazine, and has participated in many theatre activities.

The Anderson Physics Scholar
1999-2000

Matthew Dearing
Matt began working on a research project during his first year, and by his junior year had already presented at three conferences. He works in the area of nanoassembly using holographically guided optical tweezers. Additionally, Matt has won a research grant from the Council of Undergraduate Research for the work he is doing. He plans to pursue graduate studies in materials physics.
When this building was erected in 1870, it was one of the landmarks of Central Illinois. It housed the administration offices as well as many recitation rooms and the museum. It was formally known as Main Hall but when Hedding College was merged with Illinois Wesleyan it was renamed in honor of Hedding College. A fire in 1943 destroyed all but the basement foundation. This was covered over and the building renamed Duration Hall until it was razed in 1965.