President's Convocation (1998 Program and video)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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Illinois Wesleyan University

PRESIDENT’S CONVOCATION

Westbrook Auditorium
Presser Hall
September 9, 1998
11:00 A.M.
Program
President Minor Myers, jr., Presiding

Organ Prelude .........................................................J. Scott Ferguson, Organist
Associate Professor of Music
Prelude in C minor (BWV 546)  
Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

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

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

Greetings from the Student Senate .........................Michael G. Balsley ’99
President, Student Senate

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

Special Music
Impromptu No. 3 in G-flat Major  
Franz Schubert
from Vier Impromptus, D.899 (1827)
(1797-1828)
C. Lawrence Campbell
Professor of Piano and Former Acting Director, School of Music

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

Remarks ........................................................................Laurie Garrett H’98
“The Coming Plague: Russia and its Neighbors”

*Alma Wesleyana ..................................................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 .................................................................Dennis E. Groh ’61
University Chaplain

Organ Postlude .........................................................J. Scott Ferguson, Organist
Associate Professor of Music
Postlude in C major (BWV 545)  
Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

*Audience will please stand
Laurie Garrett
Journalist — Science and Medical Writer

Laurie Garrett is the only writer to have ever been awarded all three of the Big “P’s” of journalism — The Peabody Award, The Polk Award, and the Pulitzer Prize. Yet, she was a Ph.D. candidate at the University of California, Berkeley, in immunology before completely changing career paths to work in communications.

A recipient of the Pulitzer Prize in Explanatory Journalism in 1996 for her article on the Ebola virus outbreak in Zaire, Garrett received the Polk Award in 1998 for her 30-part series in Newsday on the public health care crisis in the former Soviet Union, entitled “Crumbled Empire, Shattered Health.”

As a freelance journalist, Garrett has reported on some of the world’s most prominent scientific issues for National Public Radio, the British Broadcasting Corporation, CBS, Omni, The Washington Post, and The Los Angeles Times. She has also appeared on such television shows as Dateline NBC, The McNeil/Lehrer Newshour, and Nightline. Since 1988, Garrett has had an award-winning career as a health and science reporter for Newsday.

Garrett’s book, The Coming Plague: Newly Emerging Diseases in a World Out of Balance, published in 1994, tracks the progression of “hot” viruses, or mutations of already-existing strains of disease that resist cures. She examined how vulnerable American cities are to potential epidemics and what members of the global community can do to prevent such outbreaks.

The Coming Plague was named “One of the Best Books of 1994” by both the New York Times Sunday Book Review and Library Journal. Peter Jaret of The Washington Post said, “Garrett knows her stuff. She’s as skillful at explaining the tricks bacteria use to elude antibiotics as she is at tracing the complex genetic clues that hint at how the AIDS virus emerged.”

In April 1997, Turner Original Productions aired a four-hour documentary entitled The Coming Plague, which Garrett co-produced. The program was subsequently nominated for the prestigious International Documentary Award. In October of that same year, Garrett hosted the five-hour PBS series Great Minds of Medicine, which aired on 80 television stations nationwide and was published in concise form in Health magazine.

Garrett was a visiting professor of science writing at the University of California School of Journalism at Berkely in the fall of 1997. She was named a National Public Health Hero by the University of California School of Public Health in 1998.
Presidential Scholars
Class of 2002

Katherine Brokaw
Katie is a graduate of University High School in Normal, IL. She enters Illinois Wesleyan with a double major in Theatre and Art. Katie is a National Merit Scholar.

Margaret Chorazy
Margaret is a biology major from Schaumburg (IL) High School. She has studied piano for 13 years and is a National Merit Scholar.

Chad Corbley
Chad is a National Merit Scholar from Algonquin, IL. He intends to major in French with a focus on linguistics. Chad is also a violinist.

Kathryn Diana
Kathryn was valedictorian at Logan High School in LaCrosse WI. At Illinois Wesleyan she will major in music and theatre. She is a violinist, and especially enjoys chamber music.

Alexander Dimov
Alexander comes from Varna, Bulgaria, to major in computer science. He is also interested in photography, architecture, law, and beach volleyball.

Kyle Eash
Kyle is a graduate of Bloomington (IL) High School. He was class valedictorian and a National Merit Scholar. He will major in biology at Illinois Wesleyan.

Melanie Hall
Melanie is a graduate of Lincoln East High School in Lincoln, NE, and a National Merit Scholar. She will major in music theatre. In addition to extensive experience in theatre, Melanie has studied piano and flute.

Thomas Hladish
Tom is a National Merit Scholar from Evanston, IL. He will major in biology. Tom also plays piano and viola.
Presidential Scholars (continued)

Katia Hristova
Katia comes from Stara Zagora, Bulgaria to study computer science and economics. She studied English, Russian, and German at Romain Roland Language School, and she plays the guitar.

Elizabeth Kensek
Elizabeth is a graduate of Lyons Township High School in LaGrange, IL. She will double major in biology and vocal music. In addition to voice, Elizabeth plays the piano and flute.

Alicia Levin
Alicia is a graduate of Fremd High School, Palatine, IL. She will double major in piano performance and political science. She will also be studying French, and possibly Japanese.

Robert Nierzwicki
Bob graduated from Fenwick High School in Oak Park, IL. Bob will major in biology at Illinois Wesleyan. He has done marine biology fieldwork in Belize.

Ileana Rau
From Sibiu, Romania, Ileana has come to Illinois Wesleyan to study physics and German. She has also studied karate for several years.

Jeffrey Stumpo
Jeffrey is a graduate of Schaumburg (IL) High School, and he will major in history. He has won awards for poetry and short stories, and also does stand-up comedy.

Sean Wise
Sean is valedictorian at Hampshire (IL) High School and a National Merit Scholar. Sean plays piano and bassoon. He will major in biology.
Presser Hall, home of the School of Music, was built in 1929-30. It was made possible by a challenge gift from the Presser Foundation of Philadelphia. Its auditorium contains a Schantz three-manual pipe organ, the gift of V.C. Swigart in memory of his wife. The 548-seat auditorium is named in honor of former Dean Arthur L. Westbrook. Other facilities include studios, practice rooms, classrooms, listening rooms, and the music library.