



Summer 2020

## Honors Convocation (Program 2020)

Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/honors\\_programs\\_docs](https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/honors_programs_docs)



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Illinois Wesleyan University, "Honors Convocation (Program 2020)" (2020). *Honors Convocation Programs*. 64.

[https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/honors\\_programs\\_docs/64](https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/honors_programs_docs/64)

This Article is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@iwu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@iwu.edu).

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

# *Honors Convocation*



## **Student and Faculty Honors 2020**

*This program is dedicated to the Class of 2020  
and  
to students who have earned scholastic and activity honors*



*Tim Rettich*  
*Professor of Chemistry*

*Recipient of The Kemp Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence — 2020*

“A Grain of Salt”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=YvKjT1MeFnc&feature=youtu.be>

Professor of Chemistry Timothy Rettich joined Illinois Wesleyan University as an assistant professor in 1981. He was promoted to associate professor in 1987, and to professor in 2004.

Rettich's general area of interest is physical chemistry, especially thermodynamics and kinetics, with a focus on gas-liquid exchanges including gas liquid solubility, solution thermodynamics, and condensed phase photochemical kinetics. Along with teaching introductory General Chemistry at Illinois Wesleyan, Rettich also teaches upper-level Physical Chemistry I (Thermodynamics) and Physical Chemistry II (Kinetics).

Photochemical smog, greenhouse gases, and ozone depletion are common examples of environmental problems that involve Rettich's area of research, which has been widely published. According to Rettich, understanding the nature of these problems is the first step toward finding a solution. Previous collaborative work done by Rettich and students has focused on photochemical reactions of nitrous acid in the presence of radical scavengers.

Rettich earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Dayton and a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from Case Western Reserve University.

## PHI KAPPA PHI

1922

*National scholastic honorary for students with junior and senior standing*

Haylie Aeschliman  
Erin Burnison  
Adam Cady  
Bernie Coderre  
Keara Corbett  
Brianna Fogo  
Moises Garcia  
Gabrielle Ghaderi  
Ellen Gilbert  
Amy Gourley  
Richard Guingrich  
Shireen Hassan  
Marissa Irelan  
Paraskevi Kakares  
Alexa Letourneau  
Emily Lezcano  
Yutong Li  
Maya McGowan  
Lauren Neitzel  
Rebecca Rochacz  
Joshua Segatto  
Logan Servin  
Shiqi Wang  
Elisabeth Williams  
Julie Xu  
Xu Xu  
Ruihan Zhang

## PHI BETA KAPPA

2000

*Undergraduate honors society fostering and recognizing excellence in the liberal arts and sciences*

Megan Baker  
Theo Bantas  
Samantha Berghoff  
Leah Bieniak  
Adam Cady  
Katherine Cavender  
Paige Dold  
Andrew Duffin  
Rich Guingrich  
Tulasi Jaladi  
Paraskevi Kakares  
Jack McKermitt  
Nicholas Milcik

Amanda Pippin  
Taylor Plantan  
Kayley Rettberg  
Kira Schoen  
Rachel Schoenecker  
Naing Tun  
Stephen Vega  
Tera Wilson  
Lauren Yep  
Ruihan Zhang

## MORTAR BOARD

*National honor society recognizing college seniors for their exemplary scholarship, leadership and service*

Carlos Aromin  
Ayana Blair  
Olivia Causer  
Klara Cockrell  
Bernie Coderre  
Daria Dodonova  
Edward Donathan  
Maeghan Eaker  
Laurin Ebert  
Megan Frederick  
Richard Guingrich  
Dilyetna Gebru  
Zhijia Geng  
Shireen Hassan  
Allison Henry  
Hannah Heraty  
Marissa Irelan  
Freya Jennison  
Kathryn Jefferson  
Jessica Keen  
Natalie Kuca  
Alexa Letourneau  
Yesenia Martinez Calderon  
Mark Mathison  
Jack McKermitt  
Danielle Ponsot  
Kayley Rettberg  
Breanna Walker  
Amanda Wesche  
Lucas Wheat  
Megan Zebrowski  
Sarah Ziwiski

## PERFORMANCE AND EXHIBITION HONORS IN THE FINE ARTS

### Music

Alexa Letourneau

### Theatre Arts

Taylor Coduto  
Madisen Debord  
Robert Grey  
Samuel Hulsizer  
Maya McGowan  
Braden Tanner  
Travis Ulrich  
Christopher Woodley

## AWARD RECIPIENTS

### CREATIVE WRITING

**Arthur William Hinners and Louise Hinners Sipfle Poetry Prize presented by The Academy of American Poets**  
Yovana Milosevic

*Honorable Mention*

Bonnie Smith

**The Illinois Wesleyan University Department of English Prize for Short Fiction**

Paraskevi Kakares

*Honorable Mentions*

Emma Gray  
Gillian Thomson

**The Illinois Wesleyan University Department of English Essay Prize**

Rachel Williams

*Honorable Mention*

Paraskevi Kakares

## ECONOMICS

**The Margaret Chapman Memorial Award in Economics**

Tera Wilson

## ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

**Outstanding Senior in Environmental Studies**

Tera Wilson

**Excellence in Advancing Environmental Sustainability**

Janna Fitzgerald

Hannah Horn

## FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

**Outstanding Student in French and Francophone Studies**

Nicolina Purpura

## HISPANIC STUDIES

**Luis Leal Scholarship for Excellence in Hispanic Studies**

Avalon Bruno

Colleen Palczynski

## ITALIAN STUDIES

**Outstanding Student in Italian Studies**

Elisabeth Williams

## JAPANESE STUDIES

**Exemplary Student in Japanese Studies**

Nathan Vartivarian

## LINCOLN LAUREATE AWARD

Kayley Rettberg

## MUSIC

### David Nott Collegiate Choir Scholarship

Spencer Burbach

### Presser Scholarship

Daria Van de Loo

## NURSING

### Frances D. Alikonis Memorial Award

David Torres, Jr.

### Alumnae Association of the Brokaw Hospital School for Nurses Scholarship

Tania Silva

### Finfgeld Family Scholarship

Wah Chook

### Patricia Giese Memorial Scholarship

Rebecca Rochacz

### Delores Helsley-Ascher Scholarship

Kaylah Keuch

Jennipher Sanchez

### Mary D. Shanks Scholarship Established by Upsilon Pi Alumni Chapter of Alpha Tau Delta

Anna Mitroszewska

### Sara M. Stevenson Memorial Scholarship

Madelyn Schmitt

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

### Cultural Leadership

Tayyibah Ahmed

### Intellectual Leadership

Sydney Shanks

### Student Service to Campus Life

Kayley Rettberg

### Student Service to the Community

Hannah Horn

### Student Service as a University Employee

Kalen Gray

### STUTZMAN PEACE FELLOWS

Wah Chook

Adna Mujovic

Shaela Phillips

Maeve Plunkett

### TECHNOS INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

Tatum Zsorey

### UNIVERSITY WRITING PROGRAM

#### Best Gateway Essay

Holly Brill

#### Honorable Mention

Emily Chamernik

### WEIR FELLOWS — ARC

Devan Patel

## HONORARIES

### ALPHA KAPPA DELTA

*International sociology honor  
society*

Olivia Causer

Nicole Lewis

Sarah Rollins

Amanda Wesche

### ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA

*National first year honor society*

Joseph Alberts

Amanda Best

Kalen Gray

Allison Henry

Yesenia Martinez Calderon

Maya McGowan

Nicholas Milcik

Lauren Neitzel

Esther Niedert

Haley Rojek

Sydney Rowley

Rachel Schoenecker

Emily Strub

Naing Tun

Angela Whiting

Lauren Yep

### ALPHA MU ALPHA

*National marketing honorary*

Sydney Alery

Casey Becker

Emma Darragh

Ruoqing Li

Ann Meyers

Abbie Netherton

Colin Orchard

Kyle Ostrowski

Ian O'Toole

Ryan Paslay

Caroline Reeb

Adam Richard

Rachel Rosch

Garrett Shea

Isaiah Timms

Richard Von Helms

Justin Yaeger

Dean Zigulich

### BETA BETA BETA

*National honorary for biology  
majors*

Carlos Aromin

Salomi Arunima

Jennifer Barnes

Emily Berry

Ayana Blair

Kate Bonnell

Ross Burandt

Julia Chen

Kyle Cole

Matt Crosse

Anaol Dalle

Sam Dooley

Laurin Ebert

Megan Frederick

Lilia Garcia

Dilyetna Gebru

Noah Haskin

Tulasi Jaladi

Lakshmi Jayam

Hannah Johnson

Rosemary Josenkoski

Jessica Keen

Maya Lach

Zoephia Laughlin

Jae Won Lee

Yushan Liu

Peyton Long

Caroline Marchi

Jack McKermitt

Richard Morrison

Anjali Nimavat

Alexander Palacios

Devan Patel

Ria Patel

Ria Patel

Manish Pathuri

John Phillip

Jackson Rapala

Bailey Reichert

Angela Roman

Rachel Schoenecker

Jessica Sheelam

Morgan Truncer

Stephen Vega

Alexa Weiss

Saylor Williams

Kelsey Wyman

Cara Wynn

Julie Xu

Julianne Yoo

Ryan Yoo

Samantha Ziomek

### DELTA PHI ALPHA

*National German language and  
literature honor society*

Amanda Best

Cole Churchill

Thomas Hillebrand

Ruth Reding Hoffart

Maeve Plunkett

### ETA SIGMA PHI

*National honorary society for  
students of Latin and Greek*

Quinn Higginbotham

Kira Schoen

**GAMMA UPSILON***National media honorary society*

John Barrett  
 Sarah Buchmann  
 Leah Carter  
 Justin Fairchild  
 Katie Fata  
 Janna Fitzgerald  
 Will Heidenreich  
 Sophia Heilman  
 Hannah Horn  
 Olivia Jacobs  
 Samira Kassem  
 Pooja Patil  
 Jonathan Recchia

*W.E. Schultz Award for Excellence in Media Management*

Olivia Jacobs

*Harvey Beutner Award for Journalistic Excellence*

Jonathan Recchia

**IOTA IOTA IOTA***Women's Studies honorary society*

Lily Bjerkan  
 Daniel Drake  
 Emma Gray  
 Taylor Plantan  
 Kayley Rettberg  
 Melissa Spacapan  
 Amanda Wesche

**KAPPA DELTA PI***National honorary for junior and senior education majors*

Katherine Cavender  
 Allison Henry  
 Brittany Hill  
 Kathleen Holub  
 Sarah Luce  
 Yesenia Martinez Calderon  
 Aly Mirasol  
 Danielle Ponsot  
 Kira Schoen

**LAMBDA ALPHA***National anthropology honor society*

Kathryn Jefferson  
 Kayla Ranta

**OMICRON DELTA EPSILON***National scholastic honorary for students of economics*

Stephen Cutro  
 Tyler Dedianous  
 Anna Eager  
 Annika Fuller  
 Amber Gauthier  
 William Gustafson  
 Steve Hogan  
 Keagan James  
 Robert Ladd  
 Thao Le  
 Katharine Long  
 Chase Ochsner  
 Alec O'Halleran  
 Colin Orchard  
 Joseph Quednau  
 Jared Schneider

**PHI ALPHA THETA***National history honor society*

Jessica Bugayong  
 Graham Dano  
 Emma Garcia  
 Katelyn Hailey  
 Andrew Hiller  
 Natalie Kuca  
 Haoqian Yu

**PHI BETA DELTA***Honor society for International scholars*

Samantha Berghoff  
 Emily Lezcano  
 Wenjia Lu  
 Yesenia Martinez Calderon  
 Taylor Plantan

**PHI SIGMA TAU***International honor society for philosophers*

Adeline Schultz

**PI DELTA PHI***National French language and literature honor society*

Quentin Jackson  
 Nicolina Purpura

**PI KAPPA LAMBDA***National music honor society*

Shireen Hassan  
 Andrew Johnson  
 Daria Van de Loo

**PI MU EPSILON***National mathematics honor society*

Joseph Alberts  
 Madeline Bollinger  
 Colin Cheaney  
 Zhijia Geng  
 Yutong Li  
 Patrick Ward  
 Xiao Yang  
 Ted Yap

**PI SIGMA ALPHA***National honorary society for the study of politics and government*

Jordan Baker  
 Theo Bantas  
 Adam Cady  
 Madysen Crowder  
 Anna Eager  
 Samira Kassem  
 Shaela Phillips  
 Kayley Rettberg  
 Oscar Romero  
 Andrew Zienty

**PSI CHI***National honorary for psychology students*

Brynn Beveridge  
 Paige Dold  
 Brianna Fogo  
 Ellen Gilbert  
 Amy Gourley  
 Marissa Irelan  
 Kate McHugh  
 Sydney Pinder  
 Kelsey Robertson  
 Olivia Romano  
 Jorri Sandage

**SIGMA DELTA PI***National Hispanic honor society for exemplary Spanish majors*

Samantha Berghoff

Jaeden Danko  
 Sabrina Fague  
 Hannah Foley  
 Megan Frederick  
 Amy Gourley  
 Paraskevi Kakares  
 Yesenia Martinez Calderon  
 Joshua Segatto  
 Tamara Snevely  
 Toni Tortorella  
 Julianne Yoo

**SIGMA TAU DELTA***International honor society for students of English*

Megan Baker  
 Jackson Bettis  
 Erin Burnison  
 Adam Cady  
 Katherine Cavender  
 Emma Cottrell  
 Matthew Dinelli  
 Paige Dold  
 Gabrielle Ghaderi  
 Gia Joyce  
 Paraskevi Kakares  
 Maya Manzonelli  
 Rachel McCarthy  
 Yovana Milosevic  
 Joseph Pasternak  
 Amanda Pippin  
 Taylor Plantan  
 Danielle Ponsot  
 Jonathan Recchia  
 Olivia Ruff  
 Isabel Sperry  
 Gillian Thomson  
 Nathan Vartivarian

**SIGMA THETA TAU***International honor society for nursing*

Megan Amato  
 Mikayla Blankenship  
 Nicholas Figus  
 Shannon Gatehouse  
 Claire Geier  
 Kaitlyn Geier  
 Lianna Greene  
 Cameron Hindel



Benigno Houser  
Meghan Lehmann  
Emily Lezcano  
Alyssa Lingafelter  
Sabrina Matthews  
Anna Mitroszewska  
Hannah Mueller  
Anna Otis  
Melanie Pelczynski  
Rebecca Rochacz  
Jennipher Sanchez  
Stephanie Schrage  
Sydney Shanks  
Tania Silva  
Bonnie Smith  
Breanna Soto  
Leah Sternberg  
Haley Steward  
Sara Toniolo



## STUDENT SENATE 2020

### OFFICERS

President  
Freya Jennison  
Vice President  
Jared Schneider  
Chief of Staff  
Kelly Kitahata  
Treasurer  
Emily Wynne  
Comptroller  
Shannan Abraham  
CAB Director  
Hannah Horn

### COMMISSIONERS

Civic Engagement  
Wah Chook  
Inclusion & Awareness  
Neal George  
Sustainability  
Ankush Kecht

### MEDIA

*Argus* Editor  
Olivia Jacobs

### WESN

Co-Managers  
Kaleb Carter  
Ely Kleinsmith

Executive Director  
of TitanTV  
Justin Fairchild

*Ashley Wilson Award for  
Argus Staffer of the Year*  
Hannah Horn

### CHAIRPERSONS, SPECIAL CAMPUS EVENTS

Campus Activities Board  
Director  
Hannah Horn

### SENATOR OF THE YEAR

Tera Wilson



## MEN'S VARSITY ATHLETICS

### MOST VALUABLE PLAYERS

Basketball  
Peter Lambesis  
Matt Leritz  
Cross Country  
Steven Raybould  
Matt Wagner

Football  
Defense:  
John DiCanio

Offense:  
Ryan Swift

Golf 2019  
Ben Johnson  
Drew Pershing

Soccer  
Patrick Hickey

Swimming  
William Garcia  
Mason McCauley

### TEAM CAPTAINS

Baseball  
Nicholas Figus  
James O'Brien  
Garrett Shea  
Basketball  
Bernie Coderre  
Cross Country  
Maxwell Crowninshield  
Steven Raybould

Football  
Brandon Bauer  
Bryce Dooley  
Jack Healy  
Brandon Koepke

Golf  
Skyler Le Vine  
Jonathan Nocek

Lacrosse  
Evan Anderson  
Max Bousk  
Patrick Murphy  
Cristian Torres

Soccer  
Joshua Essary  
Patrick Hickey

Swimming  
William Garcia  
Oscar Schmidt

Tennis  
Michael Behrensmeyer  
Ryan Yoo

Track  
Maxwell Crowninshield  
David Horn  
Colin Orchard  
Steven Raybould

## WOMEN'S VARSITY ATHLETICS

### MOST VALUABLE PLAYERS

Basketball  
Kendall Sosa

Cross Country  
Katie North

Golf  
Melanie Wolf

Softball 2019  
Ally Wiegand

Swimming  
Ellen Gilbert

Volleyball  
Madi Corey  
Jessica McCall

### TEAM CAPTAINS

Basketball  
Samantha Munroe  
Sydney Shanks  
Kendall Sosa

Cross Country  
Rachel Budd  
Rachel Schoenecker

Golf  
Rylie Loux  
Melanie Wolf

Lacrosse  
Hannah Foley  
Bridget O'Malley

Soccer  
Ellie Crabtree  
Flower Edington  
Sydney Pinder

Swimming  
Madeline Bollinger  
Amber Gauthier  
Ann Meyers

Tennis  
Rebecca Rochacz

Track  
Rachel Budd  
Cecelia Galvan  
Angela Roman

Volleyball  
Raina Emery  
Jessica McCall

# Faculty Retirements



**R. Kent Cook**  
*Professor*  
*School of Music*

Professor R. Kent Cook joined the faculty of the Illinois Wesleyan University School of Music in 1999. Over the past 21 years, he has taught piano, music theory, music history, and the occasional Gateway course. He served as Head of the Piano Department from 2008 until 2018, and he has been a leader on committees in the School of Music and in the University at large.

Dr. Cook's piano students have gone on to a variety of careers in music, music education, musicology, even medicine and engineering. He remains in close contact with many of his former students, and he is extremely proud of all of their accomplishments. As a performer, Dr. Cook maintains a busy schedule as soloist and chamber musician. He has given recitals throughout the United States and in many European venues, with recent performances in Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, England, and Italy. Following his retirement from IWU, he plans to continue with an active concert schedule, and he hopes to pursue research into some lesser-known piano composers from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Professor Cook is extremely grateful to faculty, staff, and students at Illinois Wesleyan University for all of the support and inspiration over the past 21 years.



**Linda French**  
*Professor*  
*Physics Department*

Dr. Linda French, Professor of Physics, is retiring from IWU after 18 years of service. Her scientific research, funded by the National Science Foundation, concerns the study of the shapes and surfaces of asteroids and comets. She has been a frequent guest observer at Lowell Observatory in Arizona and at Cerro Tololo Interamerican Observatory in Chile, and was often accompanied by students on these research trips.

During her sabbatical in 2009-2010, Dr. French was a Visiting Professor of Physics at the University of York, England where she investigated the life of York astronomer John Goodricke (1764-1786). She has given lectures on Goodricke and his mentor Edward Pigott in York, Boston, and Toronto, and at major observatories in the United States and Chile.

In February of this year, French was named to the inaugural class of American Astronomical Society (AAS) Fellows in recognition of her contributions toward the AAS mission of enhancing and sharing humanity's scientific understanding of the universe.

"I was both honored and humbled to be named a Fellow of the American Astronomical Society," French said. "My work as a professor at a small university has involved teaching, mentoring students, and service to the IWU community and beyond, as well as research. It is the combination of all these aspects of professional life that I have found most rewarding in my career, and it is doubly rewarding to be recognized for them."

For the past three years, French served as Program Director at the National Science Foundation (NSF) Division for Astronomical Sciences where she was responsible for the CAREER program, a highly-prestigious five-year grant for young tenure-track scientists. French's additional work with the NSF included organizing panels for review of research proposals, recruiting panelists, running the panels, and then, evaluating and passing on the panels' recommendations for funding. French was also responsible for programs in planetary and stellar astronomy research and in astronomy education.



French joined Illinois Wesleyan's faculty in 2002 and was promoted to Professor of Physics in 2008. In 2016, she earned the Kemp Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence, the University's highest teaching honor.

A native of Hagerstown, Indiana, French earned a bachelor's degree in astronomy from Indiana University and a master's and Ph.D. from Cornell University. She also did post-doctoral work at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



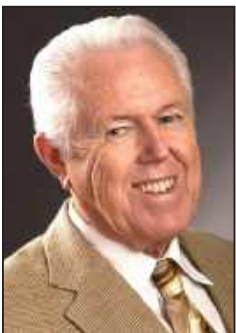
**Roger Garrett, B.M., M.M**

*Assistant Professor  
School of Music*

I was hired at IWU during the spring of 1988. Still in the middle of a Ph.D. degree at the University of Michigan, my wife was expecting our first born, and I was looking at another year before the degree would be completed. I received a call from Thomas

Streeter, Chair of the then Instrumental Division in the SoM, and subsequently I agreed to a performing, conducting, and teaching interview. Upon my arrival in the fall of that year, I found only two clarinet majors and one non-major taking clarinet lessons. My concert band had only 19 students, and I was assigned Titan Band and the Fundamentals of Conducting course. Ironically, I had never taught conducting before! Ten years later, the Concert band had 92 students in it, the conducting classes had been split into three sections during the year, I had over 20 clarinet students studying in the clarinet studio, and I was teaching Marching Band Practicum and heading up the self-created Recording Services division that is still called "The Recording Studio." Titan Band was still a big part of the assigned "voluntary" work. We hit the new millennium firing on all cylinders!

Flash forward to now, and I am very pleased with many of the things that occurred at IWU while I was there. Eight years of Car Shows on the Quad during homecoming (at one point we had 160 classic restored and modified cars!), over ten concerto aria winners in clarinet, an auditioned second wind ensemble, two compact disc recordings, multiple publications, performing in, at one point, three professional orchestras and two chamber orchestras, and frequent solo appearances. During this time, I was fortunate to perform with YoYo Ma, Emanuel Ax, Dudley Moore, Itzhak Perlman, Bobby McFerrin, and Joshua Bell (to name a few). Over my 32 years at IWU, my wife Sara (a cellist and string educator in District 87) and I brought up two terrific sons, Phil and Peter, have provided a home to six dogs (two of whom are currently with us – border collies Linus and Archie), built a home in Bloomington that contains a woodworking shop, explored the state of Iowa on bicycles by riding across it three times (RAGBRAI), cycled the Seattle-Portland two day ride twice, and I have learned to love (and at times hate) the game of golf. I've established a small business that will continue, and I will continue to perform with the Peoria Symphony Orchestra as principal clarinetist until I can no longer play – or they ask me to stop – whichever comes first!



**Melvyn Jeter**

*Professor  
Mathematics Department*

Mathematics professor Melvyn Jeter's research interests include convexity, linear algebra, mathematical programming, and linear complementarity theory. Professor Jeter is retiring after thirty-four years of service to IWU.



**Vadim Mazo**  
*Associate Professor*  
*School of Music*

Mr. Vadim Mazo has pursued a career as a teacher, soloist, chamber musician, and conductor. Presently he is an Associate Professor of Violin and Viola at Illinois Wesleyan University. Mr. Mazo studied at the Byelorussian State Conservatory in Minsk with Michael Goldstein, a student of Pyotr Stoliasky. From 1968 to 1980, he was a soloist with the Byelorussian Philharmonic and performed with the Minsk Chamber Orchestra and the Byelorussian Symphony Orchestra. He performed on radio, television, and with performance tours throughout the former Soviet Union with such international artists as O. Kagan, M. Rostropovich, and M. Shostakovich, among others. He immigrated to the United States in 1980, and before coming to Illinois Wesleyan University, Mr. Mazo collaborated with the Fine Arts Quartet and held teaching positions at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay, and the University of Evansville.

Professor Mazo is a devoted teacher. As a pedagogue, his teaching activities have taken him many places around the world. He has been invited to present master classes everywhere from American music schools such as Northwestern University, Lawrence University, the Universities of Kansas, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Long Beach California to Greece, Spain, the Czech Republic, Japan, England, Germany, Canada, the Conservatoire Superior in Paris, and elsewhere in France. More recently he has conducted master classes in Thailand, Taiwan, the Philippines, China, Hong Kong, Russia, and Byelorussia. As a member of the faculty and as a performer, he participated in the Boccherini and Mozart-issimo festivals in Madrid, the Mozart in Monterey festival, the Southeastern Music Center, the B. Martinu festival in Prague, and the Interlochen Chamber Music Conference. He has also collaborated as a conductor and soloist with the Suk Chamber Orchestra in the Prague Spring Festival and Virtuosi di Praga, and most recently with the Manila Symphony Orchestra. Professor Mazo is an active performer as a violinist, violist, and chamber musician, featured in a Carnegie Recital Hall (a 1992 program, "Homage to Shostakovich") and many various concert venues on a regular basis in the USA, Europe and Asia. Since December 2012, Professor Mazo has been appointed guest professor at Sichuan Central Conservatory of Music in Chengdu, China.



**Michael Seeborg**  
*Robert S. Eckley Distinguished Professor of Economics*  
*Economics Department*

Michael (Mike) Seeborg started his career at Illinois Wesleyan University in 1989 as the Robert S. Eckley Distinguished Professor of Economics in 1989 after 14 years in the economics department at Ball State University. He chaired the Illinois Wesleyan University economics department for 10 years and also chaired a number of university committees. He enjoys teaching, doing research, and mentoring student research. To date, Mike has chaired 56 successful research honors projects and supervised 4 student summer research projects. He is faculty advisor to a unique online undergraduate journal that is published at IWU (*The Undergraduate Journal of Economics*) and founder of two other undergraduate journals (*Park Place Economist* and *University Avenue Undergraduate Journal of Economics*). He has taken students on numerous field trips, including trips to professional conferences and trips to Chicago to explore issues of poverty, discrimination, and immigration.

Mike is the author of numerous articles in labor economics with a recent focus on the economics of immigration. Most of his articles are co-authored with IWU alumni. He also is author of a number of pedagogy papers on capstone senior seminar courses and on the use of undergraduate journals to promote higher quality student research. In his spare time, he enjoys travel and competing in triathlon and other multisport events.



## **David Vayo**

*Fern Rosetta Sherff Professor of Composition and Theory  
School of Music*

Under Vayo's stewardship, IWU came to have one of the nation's leading music-composition programs based at a liberal-arts school, with alumni going on to careers in fields such as university teaching, music production, music publishing, church music, popular music, orchestra management and contemporary-music performance. Vayo revised the Bachelor of Music in Composition degree, developed the Concentration in Music Composition and the Honors designation in Music Composition, shepherded the growth of the School of Music's computer facilities, and introduced courses in free improvisation, contemporary music and Latin American music. Expanding on the legacy of the Symposium of Contemporary Music, Vayo developed the IWU New Music Series, hosting over 150 guest composers and performers from four continents and participating frequently in Series concerts as a pianist and keyboardist.

During his time at IWU Vayo wrote eighty-one musical compositions; received fellowships and commissions from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation (to date the only Guggenheim awarded to an IWU faculty member), the Koussevitzky Music Foundations in the Library of Congress, the Barlow Endowment for Music Composition, and the Illinois Arts Council; took part in fifteen artist residencies in the US and Canada; traveled to many of the hundreds of performances of his music that took place in the USA and eighteen other countries; and became one of the few western composers to write extensively for traditional Chinese and Japanese instruments. In retirement, Vayo plans to continue developing himself as a composer and performer, and to explore the roles that a creative artist can play in a local community.

## PAST HONOREES FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

1960	William T. Beadles, <i>Insurance</i>	1990	Thomas A. Griffiths, <i>Biology</i>
1961	Wayne W. Wantland, <i>Biology</i>	1991	Robert C. Bray, <i>English</i>
1962	R. Dwight Drexler, <i>Piano</i>	1992	John D. Wenum, <i>Political Science</i>
1963	Elizabeth H. Oggel, <i>English</i>	1993	Mona J. Gardner, <i>Business Administration</i>
1964	Rupert Kilgore, <i>Art</i>	1994	Paul E. Bushnell, <i>History</i>
1965	Dorothea S. Franzen, <i>Biology</i>	1995	James D. Matthews, <i>French</i>
1966	Joseph H. Meyers, <i>English</i>	1996	Kathleen O’Gorman, <i>English</i>
1967	Marie J. Robinson, <i>Speech</i>	1997	Jared Brown, <i>Theatre Arts</i>
1968	Bunyon H. Andrew, <i>History</i>	1998	W. Michael Weis, <i>History</i>
1969	Wendell W. Hess, <i>Chemistry</i>	1999	Michael C. Seeborg, <i>Economics</i>
1970	Jerry Stone, <i>Religion</i>	2000	Teodora O. Amoloza, <i>Sociology</i>
1971	Doris C. Meyers, <i>Philosophy</i>	2001	Carole A. Myscofski, <i>Religion</i>
1972	John Ficca, <i>Drama</i>	2002	Tari Renner, <i>Political Science</i>
1973	Robert Burda, <i>English</i>	2003	Carolyn Nadeau, <i>Hispanic Studies</i>
1974	Max A. Pape, <i>Sociology</i>	2004	James Plath, <i>English</i>
1975	Lucile Klauser, <i>Education</i>	2005	Christopher Prendergast, <i>Sociology</i>
1976	R. Bedford Watkins, Jr., <i>Music</i>	2006	Mary Ann Bushman, <i>English</i>
1977	Harvey F. Beutner, <i>English</i>	2007	James P. Sikora, <i>Sociology</i>
1978	Frank D. Starkey, <i>Chemistry</i>	2008	Marina Balina, <i>Russian Studies</i>
1979	Fred B. Brian, <i>Art</i>	2009	Jonathan Dey, <i>Biology</i>
1980	Sammye Crawford Greer, <i>English</i>	2010	Wes Chapman, <i>English</i>
1981	Jerry M. Israel, <i>History</i>	2011	Dan Terkla, <i>English</i>
1982	John D. Heyl, <i>History</i>	2012	William Munro, <i>Political Science</i>
1983	J. Robert Hippensteele, <i>Biology</i>	2013	Narendra Jaggi, <i>Physics</i>
1984	Larry M. Colter, <i>Philosophy</i>	2014	Rebecca Roesner, <i>Chemistry</i>
1985	Sue Ann Huseman, <i>French</i>	2015	Kathleen Montgomery, <i>Political Science</i>
1986	Bruce B. Criley, <i>Biology</i>	2016	Linda French, <i>Physics</i>
1987	Michael B. Young, <i>History</i>	2017	Rebecca Gearhart Mafazy, <i>Anthropology</i>
1988	Emily Dunn Dale, <i>Sociology</i>	2018	Victoria Noltkamper Folse, <i>Nursing</i>
1989	Pamela Buchanan Muirhead, <i>English</i>	2019	Carmela Ferradans, <i>Hispanic Studies</i>