1993

Founders' Day Convocation (1993 Program)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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Founders' Day Convocation

February 17, 1993  11:00 a.m.
Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall
Ei’ichi Hamanishi

General Director, The Japan Foundation

Eiichi Hamanishi, director of the New York City office of The Japan Foundation, is a distinguished diplomat, international business leader, and educator.

For a dozen years, he served as an international trade official and diplomat with the Japan External Trade Organization and Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Those positions led to postings in Los Angeles with the Japan Trade Center and Chicago, where he served for two years as Japan’s chief consular official.

Hamanishi joined The Japan Foundation in 1975, where he was assigned to executive positions in Tokyo. He also directed the foundation’s offices in Bangkok, Los Angeles, Kyoto, and now New York. The Japan Foundation, a non-profit organization, was established in 1972 by the Japanese Diet (legislature) to promote international cultural exchange and mutual understanding.

Hamanishi earned a bachelor’s degree from Keio University and a master’s degree in East Asian Languages and Literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has taught at U.S. and Japanese campuses.

Igor Kipnis

Mellon Visiting Fellow in the Humanities

Time magazine calls him, “The foremost harpsichordist of the day.” The virtuoso Time described is Igor Kipnis.

Since his debut in 1959, Kipnis has performed worldwide and recorded 73 albums. His harpsichord repertoire spans traditional 16th through 18th century composers, as well as contemporary music and jazz.

He has received a half dozen “Grammy” nominations, the recording industry’s highest honor; three “Record of the Year” awards from Stereo Review, and in Keyboard magazine’s annual readers’ poll he won “best harpsichordist” honors three times and was twice voted “best classical keyboardist.”

Kipnis also is a prolific writer and editor, a frequent guest on radio and television, and often serves as a master teacher at colleges and universities.

Kipnis is a graduate of Harvard University and is the son of the late Metropolitan Opera bass, Alexander Kipnis. He lives in Redding, Connecticut.
Founders’ Day Program

President Minor Myers, jr., Presiding
Professor Mona Gardner, Mace Bearer

ORGAN PRELUDE ................................................ Professor David Gehrenbeck, Organist
Partita on the hymntune FOUNDATION ........................................... Alice Jordan
(1916- )

PROCESSIONAL
Trumpet Tune in B-flat ............................................................... Robert J. Powell
(1932 - )

INVOCATION................................................................................. Chaplain William White

WELCOME.................................................................................. President Minor Myers, jr

SPECIAL MUSIC
Ryosi no Uta (Fisherman’s Song) ............................................... Koichi Kishi
(1909-1937)
Professor Vadim Mazo, violin,
Professor Ririko Hayashi, piano

AWARDING OF HONORARY DEGREES President Minor Myers, jr and
Dr. Pamela Muirhead
Acting Dean of Faculty

Mr. Ei’ichi Hamanishi, General Director
The Japan Foundation

Mr. Igor Kipnis
Mellon Visiting Fellow in the Humanities

Mr. Reinhold Weege ’71
Writer/Director/Producer

REMARKS..............................................................................Mr. Reinhold Weege ’71

“Alma Wesleyana” (NATIONAL HYMN) ........................................... George W. 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.

—William Eben Schultz

RECESSIONAL ....................................................... Professor David Gehrenbeck, Organist
Trumpet Tune in D ................................................................. Henry Purcell
(1659-1695)

ORGAN POSTLUDE
Prelude and Fugue in B-flat, BWV 560 ...................................... Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)
Reinhold Weege
Writer / Director / Producer

Reinhold Weege '71, a native Chicagoan and former Illinois Wesleyan University student, is creator of the top-rated TV sitcom, "Night Court."

Weege enrolled at IWU taking drama, English, and other courses. After serving in the U.S. Army, earning an associate's degree in journalism, and working as a weekly newspaper reporter, Weege was lured to Hollywood. There he became associated with TV hits like "M*A*S*H," "The Bob Newhart Show," and "The Mary Tyler Moore Show." He worked on 50 episodes of "Barney Miller," shifting from a writer to producer of the sitcom revolving around the chaotic world of the detectives of New York's 12th precinct.

In 1979, NBC contacted Weege to create a show with a courtroom theme and for seven years he served as creator, writer, and executive producer of "Night Court."

Weege's shows about the traumas and foibles of big-city life continue to tickle America's funny bone, giving aid and comfort to millions of insomniacs addicted to late-night television.