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Illinois Wesleyan Celebrates Constitution Day

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – In recognition of the tenth annual Constitution Day, Illinois Wesleyan University will host a panel discussion, “Spies, Lies and Videotape: The State of the U.S. Constitution Today,” on Monday, Sept. 18, at 4 p.m. in the Hansen Student Center, 300 Beecher St., in Bloomington.

The discussion, which is free and open to the public, will feature panelists Tari Renner, professor and chair of political science; Greg Shaw, assistant professor of political science and David Gauthier, visiting assistant professor of political science.

IWU students, faculty and staff may also register to vote from 3-5 p.m. in the Hansen Student Center.

Also in honor of Constitution Day, the IWU Division of Student Affairs will host its second annual Constitution Trail Fun, Run, Walk and Roll this weekend. On Saturday, Sept. 16, students, faculty and staff will meet at the Hansen Student Center at 10 a.m. and walk to the trail together. Event T-shirts will be provided to participants on a first-come, first-serve basis.

In another tribute to the founding fathers, from Sept. 10-18 the University will show the film version of the Broadway comedy “1776” on Titan TV, a University-sponsored channel available in campus buildings. Filmed in 1972, “1776” portrays the days leading up to the signing of the Declaration of Independence as John Adams and Benjamin Franklin persuade the 13 colonies to support a resolution for independence from England.

The film stars William Daniels, Howard Da Silva, Ken Howard, Donald Madden, Blythe Danner and Roy Poole. College students will most likely recognize Daniels, who plays John Adams, from his iconic role as Mr. Feeny on the sitcom “Boy Meets World.” Danner, who plays Thomas Jefferson’s wife, earned widespread recognition for her role as potential mother-in-law to Ben Stiller’s character in “Meet the Parents.”

Constitution Day, which was founded in 1997 as a non-profit organization to educate young students about the Constitution, received federal recognition for the first time in 2005. September 17 marks the day that the last of the delegates to the 1787 Constitutional Convention

signed the Constitution. Due to the fact that this year Sept. 17 falls on a Sunday, schools will celebrate Constitution Day on Monday, Sept. 18.

For additional information, contact the Illinois Wesleyan Office of Student Activities at (309) 556-3850 or visit their Web site at <http://www2.iwu.edu/studact/>