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News Media Advisory

Shannon Gore
Illinois Wesleyan University

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March 31, 2000
Contact: Shannon Gore, 309/ 556-3181

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Event: A brown bag lunch with environmentalist and author Donald Worster.

Date: April 7, 2000 (Friday)

Time: 11:45 a.m.

Location: IWU Sheean Library, lower-level

Admission: Free, open to the public
Drinks and dessert will be provided

Sponsor: IWU's Sheean Library and Environmental Studies

Background: Worster holds the Hall Distinguished Professorship Chair in American History at the University of Kansas. His principal areas of research and teaching include North American environmental history and the history of the American West and the Great Plains.

Worster, is currently writing *A Journey West: John Wesley Powell and His America*, a biography about the one-armed Civil War veteran, Major John Wesley Powell. In 1865, after his service in the war, Powell accepted the position of professor of geology and museum curator at Illinois Wesleyan University. Powell led IWU students in 1867 to the Rocky Mountains--the first expedition of its kind in the history of U.S. higher education. Later, Powell became the first director of the Smithsonian Institution's Bureau of Ethnology.

Worster's book, published by Oxford University Press, will be available for purchase later this year.

Contact: Marcia Thomas, director of technical services for Sheean Library, at (309) 556-3808.

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