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BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you. Happy birthday Illinois Wesleyan. Happy birthday to you!

Illinois Wesleyan University turns an ageless 150 years old this fall and a yearlong series of special events are planned to mark its sesquicentennial.

"Our sesquicentennial," said IWU President Minor Myers, jr., "will celebrate a century and a half of realized dreams. It also will be a time for serious consideration about how the private liberal-arts institution can flourish in the 21st century."

Myers added: "We started in 1850 and closed twice by 1856. Against many odds, we survived, we have grown, and last year one magazine ranked us as a national best buy between Dartmouth and Princeton. A sesquicentennial is a time to review how that all happened and where we might dream to go next."

Sesquicentennial-year events will feature the Nobel Prize-winning scientist who co-discovered DNA, an alumna star of the Metropolitan Opera, and the former president of Bolivia. Other events highlighting the sesquicentennial calendar are a gala celebration in Chicago for alumni and friends, an exhibit of rare books on liberty and democracy, a likely guest performance by the Volgograd Philharmonic orchestra, publication of a new university history, and a symposium on religion and universities.

Remnant Trust Rare-Book Exhibit

An exhibit of about 70 rare books of Western political philosophy will be on display in IWU Sheean's Library from Sept. 12-Dec. 7.

The exhibit--The Wisdom of the Ages Antheneum--will include masterpieces such as the first English translation of Plato's Republic from 1763, Machiavelli's The Prince from 1640, the first Dublin printing in 1776 of Adam Smith's Wealth of Nations, and a first edition of The Federalist from 1788, as well as a leaf of the Gutenberg Bible, the first book ever printed.

The exhibit is on loan from the Remnant Trust, an Indiana-based educational foundation that is home to a collection of about 400 rare volumes and manuscripts stretching back to the 1400s.

The exhibit is part of a celebration marking construction of the \$26-million Ames Library and IWU's 150th anniversary.

Remnant Trust President Kris Bex believes that it is important for students and others to read these great works in their original form, especially in an age characterized by pop culture.

"We need balance in our society," Bex explained. "We need to talk about the ideas that made this country what it is—a great experiment in liberty, freedom, and dignity."

Kris Bex is the son of Brian Bex, IWU class of 1964, the founder and chairman of the Remnant Trust.

The Remnant Trust has built its rare collection of first-edition works on liberty by scouring flea markets, estate sales, auctions, and book fairs, as well as working with high-powered rare-book dealers in New York City, London, and elsewhere. The Remnant Trust, for example, counts among its collection one of three editions in the world of St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologiae* from 1475. The prized volume, which will be at IWU, was stumbled upon at an antique show in suburban Chicago.

The Remnant Trust is so committed to spreading the word about freedom that it refuses to lock up its valuable collection in sterile display cases. The trust's trademark is encouraging readers to touch, feel, and read the original pages containing the great words and thoughts of political philosophers from various countries and generations. Consequently, IWU students will be using many of the books on exhibit as part of their class work in various courses.

An opening reception will be held for the Remnant Trust exhibit on Sept. 21 at 4 p.m. in Sheean Library. The public is invited, free of charge.

Metropolitan Opera Star Dawn Upshaw

Metropolitan Opera star Dawn Upshaw will take center stage on Sept. 16 at 8 p.m. in Westbrook Auditorium in Presser Hall, 303 E. University Ave. Doors will open at 7 p.m. A post-concert reception will follow the event.

Upshaw, a three-time Grammy Award winner, is a 1982 IWU graduate.

A limited number of free tickets will be distributed on a first come-first served basis on Sept. 14 at 12:30 p.m. at the McPherson Theatre Box Office, 304 E. Graham St., Bloomington. A maximum of two tickets will be offered per person. The remaining tickets will be distributed on Sept. 15 to students and staff with identification, free-of-charge, on a first come-first served basis. For more ticket information, please direct calls to Martha Tyner at (309) 556-3061.

Recently, Upshaw created leading roles in two opera world premieres: Daisy Buchanan in John Harbison's *The Great Gatsby* at the Metropolitan Opera, and the title role in Kaija Saariaho's *Clemence* at the Salzburg Festival. She appears in the Lyric Opera of Chicago premiere of *The Great Gatsby* this fall.

Applauded in the opera houses of New York, Paris, Salzburg, and Vienna for her portrayals of the great Mozart roles, Upshaw is also renowned for her work in 20th-century opera. In

Salzburg, she sang the role of the Angel in the revival of Messiaen's St. Françoise d' Assise. Since 1993, she has given over 25 world-premiere performances. The million-selling recording of Henryk Gorecki's Symphony No. 3 is but one of her award-winning Nonesuch disks. Upshaw was a guest of President and Mrs. Clinton on the NBC-TV special, "Christmas in Washington." A one-hour documentary portrait, "Dawn Upshaw: Intimate Collaborations" premieres on French television this season.

A New York Times writer commented on Upshaw, saying: "I revere Upshaw above all the singers of her generation because of her voice's clarity and its resemblance to life's ordinary days." Time Magazine, reporting on the world-class soprano, said: "Upshaw conveys what the best singers have always striven for, the sense that a song springs directly from serious prompting within her."

Upshaw holds a master's degree and an honorary doctorate from the Manhattan School of Music. She was a 1984 winner of the Young Concert Artists auditions and the 1985 Walter W. Naumburg Competition. She was a member of the Metropolitan Opera Young Artists Development Program, which provided her first appearances on the opera stage.

Chicago Celebration

Illinois Wesleyan will mark its sesquicentennial with a festive event at the historic Chicago Cultural Center, the former Chicago Public Library, located at Michigan and Randolph, on Sept. 23.

Writing to alumni, about the event, Myers said: "There is much to celebrate as the academic tradition of 1850 flourishes in the 21st Century. Relive achievements, and rejoice in opportunities for the future."

The event will feature entertainment by IWU's Jazz Ensemble, a group that performed in Japan in last year. Attendance is by invitation-only.

Nobel Prize-Winning DNA Pioneer

James D. Watson, co-recipient of the 1962 Nobel Prize in medicine for research into the structure of DNA, the genetic building block of life, will be the keynote speaker at the President's Sesquicentennial Convocation, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. His address, located in the Shirk Center Performance Arena, 302 E. Emerson, Bloomington, is entitled, "The Human Genome."

Following Watson's sesquicentennial address, there will be a festive party in the Shirk Center's Activity Center for students, faculty, staff, and others—featuring IWU's Jazz Ensemble—to commemorate the university's 150th birthday.

Watson will kickoff his visit with a 5 p.m. presentation in Evelyn Chapel, 1301 N. Park St., on Sept. 26, entitled, "The Pursuit of Happiness," in which he will reflect on the humanistic side of science.

Watson's landmark 1953 work on DNA, which successfully proposed the substance's double-helical structure, is a feat described by Sir Peter Medawar as "the greatest achievement of science in the 20th century."

Watson is president of the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory on Long Island, N.Y., a center renowned for its studies of cancer genes and the molecular basis of cancer. The laboratory also functions as a postgraduate university on DNA science.

Watson was a driving force in setting up the Human Genome Project. Earlier this year, according to Associated Press, scientists proclaimed a "historic point in the 100,000-year record of humanity," when they announced that the human genetic code essentially was deciphered. This monumental achievement opens a dramatic new frontier in medicine. Watson's work on the Human Genome Project was a major factor in his receipt in 1993 of the Copley Medal from the Royal Society that elected him a member in 1981. Watson, a member of the National Academy of Sciences, received the Medal of Freedom--the nation's highest civilian honor--from President Gerald Ford.

Watson's wife, Elizabeth, a noted historic preservationist of buildings, will accompany her husband to IWU. She will headline a special 4 p.m. presentation, Sept. 27, in Evelyn Chapel, 1301 N. Park St., entitled, "Preservation of Cultural Landscapes."

The programs featuring the Watsons are open to the public, free-of-charge.

Sesquicentennial Gateway

The university's new sesquicentennial gateway, located at the corner of Park and Empire, will be dedicated on Oct. 14 as part of Homecoming festivities. The two-section curved gateway to the campus--adjacent to the \$26-million Ames Library, which is under construction--features two inscriptions: Illinois Wesleyan University and 1850 Scientia et Sapientia 2000 (the university's motto, knowledge and wisdom).

Four pillars are the gateway's architectural highlight. They were key design features that straddled the entrance to a building at Hedding College, an Abingdon, Ill., campus, that merged with IWU in 1930. The four limestone pillars are composed of eight segments each. Each pillar is about 25-feet tall. They stand on a wall five-to-six feet tall.

The Rev. Henry M. Bloomer, president of Hedding's Board of Trustees, preserved the pillars in the hope they would one day be used to honor his mother and father and the joint heritage of Hedding College and IWU. His son, H. Harlan Bloomer, presented the pillars to IWU to commemorate the university's sesquicentennial. The late Harlan Bloomer was married to Florence Bloomer, who is the granddaughter of Joseph Fifer, governor of Illinois from 1889-93, an 1868 graduate, and the 37th student to earn an IWU diploma.

Religion Symposium

Dennis Groh, university chaplain and professor of humanities and archaeology, will convene a symposium, Religion in the University of the Twenty-First Century on Oct. 25-26. Headlining the symposium will be:

- o Robert Clark Gregg, Teresa Hihn Moore Professor in Religious Studies, Stanford University.
- o Cheryl Townsend Gilkes, professor of religious studies, Colby College.
- o Rabbi Edward Feld, who has spent more than a quarter-century as a college chaplain at Princeton University, Smith and Amherst colleges, and the University of Illinois.
- o Sa'diyya Shaikh, an Islamic scholar who is a doctoral student at Temple University in Philadelphia.

Highlights of the symposium program are:

- o Oct. 25, 11 a.m.--Plenary Session.
- o Oct. 25, 4 p.m.--What is Education For?
- o Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m.--And I Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray? Religion and Cultural Discovery in the 21st Century.
- o Oct. 26, 4 p.m.--Islam(s) and the Politics of Representation: A Muslim Feminist Perspective.
- o Oct. 26, 7 p.m.--Faith and Reason? Reason versus Faith? Unfaith and/or Unreason?

All symposium sessions will be held in Evelyn Chapel, 1301 N. Park St., Bloomington. The symposium--cosponsored by the University Chaplain's Office and the Student Senate Committee on Religious Life on Campus--is open to the public, admission free.

New IWU History Slated for Publication

A new history of Illinois Wesleyan will be published as part of sesquicentennial festivities. Illinois Wesleyan University, 1850-2000: Continuity and Change will be a 192-page, cocktail-table quality volume with more than 200 photographs. It is written by Bob Aaron, director of university communications; Carl Teichman, executive assistant to the president; and President Myers.

The souvenir edition--priced at \$39.95 before publication and \$49.95 afterwards--will take readers on a memory-filled trip across the decades, recalling distinguished alumni and beloved faculty. It will chronicle the university's century and a half history that spans the eras of Abraham Lincoln's Illinois to the beginning of the 21st century. It will trace IWU's academic development--preparatory school, law school, and liberal-arts university--as well as IWU's rich athletic tradition and strong school spirit, while taking a lighthearted look at campus hijinks over the years such as pajama parades and streaking.

Continuity & Change is slated for publication late in 2000 or early in 2001. To order copies of the book, call: 1-800-626-0411.

High School Composers Contest

As part of the sesquicentennial celebration, the university's School of Music is sponsoring its first annual High School Composers Contest.

David Vayo, associate professor of composition and theory and coordinator of New Music Activities, said the competition is open to high-school sophomores and juniors. Original music compositions--concert music, popular, and jazz--were to be submitted by Aug. 1.

The winner will receive a \$250 honorarium, up to \$500 in travel expenses, and the programming of their music on next year's special Sesquicentennial Symposium of Contemporary Music, Feb. 28-March 1. The winning student composer, according to Vayo, will see their composition performed alongside the music of an eminent guest composer.

Volgograd Philharmonic

The Volgograd Philharmonic, a Russian orchestra, is scheduled to perform with the Illinois Wesleyan Civic Orchestra on April 6 at the Scottish Rite Consistory, 110 E. Mulberry, Bloomington. Additional details surrounding the orchestra's performance--including ticket cost and sales information--are pending.

Initial arrangements for the orchestra's appearance were handled by Erica Joncich, a 1997 IWU international studies and Russian language and literature major, who is serving as a Peace Corps' volunteer in Volgograd, the city once known as Stalingrad. She is teaching English at the Volgograd Academy for Public Service, an institution that trains future public officials. As a student, Joncich was a violinist with the IWU Camerata, a chamber-music orchestra, and minored in music.

The Volgograd Philharmonic had its first performance on Feb. 2, 1988, under the baton of conductor Eduard Serov.

"Maestro Serov has approached me with the idea of taking members of the orchestra to the United States for a tour/musical exchange with American institutions," Joncich wrote President Myers last February. "I believe it is a wonderful opportunity for Russian and American musicians to transcend international borders and share the common language of music."

Former President of Bolivia

The former president of Bolivia, Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada, will visit IWU on March 6-7. Program details will be released later.

Sanchez de Lozada, a mining entrepreneur and former planning minister, served as Bolivia's president from 1993-97. He pursued a policy of privatization and continued free-market reforms

begun in the 1980s. He also launched a social-security program and granted greater autonomy and more resources to poor urban and indigenous communities.

A May, 2000, U.S. State Department report observed: "Sanchez de Lozada pursued an aggressive economic and social reform agenda. He relied heavily on successful entrepreneurs like himself and on fellow veterans of the Paz Estenssoro administration (during which Sanchez de Lozada was planning minister). The most dramatic change undertaken by the Sanchez de Lozada government was the capitalization program, under which investors acquired 50% ownership and management control of public enterprises, such as the state oil corporation, telecommunications system, electric utilities, and others.

"The reforms and economic restructuring," the State Department analysis added, "were strongly opposed by certain segments of society, which instigated frequent social disturbances. . . from 1994 through 1996."

Bolivia, a South American nation, is about the size of Texas and California combined with a population of about 7.9 million. Its gross-national product is about \$8.3 billion with a per capita income of \$1,036. Bolivia, a republic, gained its independence from Spain in 1825.

Student-Designed Anniversary Logo

A new student-designed sesquicentennial logo will commemorate the university's 150th anniversary. A concept created by Sarah Studnicki, IWU class of 2000, was selected by the Sesquicentennial Planning Committee from a batch of proposals crafted by students enrolled in an Advanced Graphic Design class taught by Sherri McElroy, associate professor of graphic design.

The logo Studnicki designed features an abstracted version of the IWU's Memorial Gymnasium, which is being remodeled into the \$6-million Hansen Student Center. Her choice of the building was based on discussions with several alumni who said "they see the campus as always changing." Studnicki decided that the 77-year-old gym was the perfect choice to symbolize IWU history because it is not only one of the oldest buildings on campus, but one that is undergoing major renovations reflecting current university life.

"Even though mine was chosen," Studnicki said, referring to her logo design, "the entire class put in a lot of effort."

Studnicki, who graduated in May, has accepted a position as a web-designer with Osborn & DeLong, a Bloomington-based graphic-design firm.

Other sesquicentennial events will take place in connection with various landmarks on the annual IWU calendar, including Founders' Day (Feb. 14, 2001), Honors Convocation (April 18, 2001), Research Conference (April 20-21, 2001), and Commencement (May 6, 2001).

Sesquicentennial Planning Committee

A 17-member faculty, staff, student, and alumni planning committee has guided sesquicentennial planning. Committee members are:

- o President Minor Myers, jr., chair
- o Janet McNew, provost
- o Paul Bushnell, professor of history
- o Robert Bray, R. Forrest Colwell Professor of English
- o Pamela Muirhead, associate professor of English and a 1968 graduate
- o Mario Pelusi, associate professor of music and director of the School of Music
- o Ben Rhodes, director of development and a 1969 graduate
- o Steve Seibring, director of alumni relations and a 1981 graduate
- o Carl Dixon, executive director, National Kidney Cancer Association and a 1970 graduate
- o Elmer Beadles, a retired dentist and a 1935 graduate
- o Nancy Brokaw, a writer and a 1971 graduate
- o Bob Aaron, director of university communications
- o Dennis Groh, university chaplain, professor of humanities and archaeology, and a 1961 graduate
- o Susan Bassi, assistant to the president
- o Carl Teichman, executive assistant to the president and a 1980 graduate
- o Matthew Glavin, class of 2001, who is the IWU Student Senate president.
- o Harold Gauthier II, a 2000 graduate who is the former Student Senate president.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls more than 2,000 students in a College of Liberal Arts, and individual schools of Music, Theatre Arts, Art, and Nursing. Since 1994, these facilities have been added to the IWU campus: a \$15 million athletics and recreation center, a \$25 million science center, a \$6.8 million residence hall, a \$5.1 million Center for Liberal Arts, and a \$1.65 million baseball stadium. A \$26 million library and a \$6 million student center are under construction.

As IWU approached its sesquicentennial it won several national accolades. U.S. News & World Report ranks it among the nation's most selective liberal-arts campuses. It's ranked 12th nationally by Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine among private colleges and universities in terms of delivering high-quality education at an affordable cost. It's ranked the 8th "most wired" college in the nation by Yahoo! Internet Life. Men's Health magazine ranks IWU among the 10 "most male-friendly colleges in America."