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Founders' Day 2001 Marks IWU's 150th Anniversary; IWU Launches Phi Beta Kappa Chapter, Honors 5 Alums & Explorer-Prof John Wesley Powell

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--150 years and counting!

Illinois Wesleyan University will mark the 150th anniversary of its founding on Feb. 21. "Celebrating Our Academic Legacy" is the theme of the day's events.

Highlighting Founders' Day 2001 will be the unveiling of IWU's new Phi Beta Kappa Society chapter. The chapter kickoff will take place at 4 p.m. on Feb. 21 in the Merwin and Wakeley Galleries, 302 E. Graham St. (This event is not open to the public, but is available for news-media coverage).

Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious undergraduate honors organization, was founded at Virginia's College of William and Mary just five months after the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776. There are approximately 255 PBK chapters nationwide.

Honoring Alumni

A special Founders' Day Convocation also will be held on Feb. 21, where five IWU alumni, who have distinguished themselves as scholars and educators, will receive honorary degrees. It is slated for 11 a.m. in Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall (IWU School of Music), 303 E. University Ave. The Convocation is open to the public, free-of-charge.

Several of the alumni, who will be recognized at the Convocation will meet with various student and faculty groups on Feb. 20-21 to share their expertise and professional experience. Those events are open to the public only where specifically indicated below. However, all events are available for news-media coverage.

The alumni who will receive honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees are:

- **David L. Hull**, class of 1960, retired Dressler Professor in the Humanities, Northwestern University. He will make a presentation, "Deconstructing Darwin," at 4 p.m., Feb. 21, at 100 Center for Liberal Arts, 301 E. Beecher.
- **Marilyn Keiser**, class of 1963, professor of music, Indiana University. Keiser, an acclaimed organist, will perform in recital at 8 p.m. on Feb. 20 at Evelyn Chapel, 1301 N. Park St. The recital is open to the public, free-of-charge.
- **Andrew Postlewaite**, class of 1965, professor of economics, finance, and public policy, and management, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. He will meet with an econometrics class at 1 p.m. on Feb. 21 in 305 Center for Liberal Arts, 301 E. Beecher. Postlewaite also will have an informal discussion and coffee with the IWU economics

faculty at 2 p.m., Feb. 21, in the Cartwright Room, IWU Memorial Student Center, 104 E. University. He will attend the annual Omicron Delta Epsilon, economics honor society, dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Davidson Room, Memorial Student Center. Following the dinner, Postlewaite will make a presentation, "Exploring the Boundaries Between Economics and Other Social Sciences," at 7 p.m. in the Beckman Auditorium, Center for Natural Sciences, 201 E. Beecher St. His lecture is open to the public, free-of-charge.

- **Edelbert Rodgers**, class of 1933, IWU's oldest living minority alumnus, retired professor, Flint Junior College (now Mott Community College) in Michigan. Rodgers also was a practicing psychologist. He will meet with a group of students at 4 p.m. on Feb. 20 in the Cartwright Room, IWU Memorial Student Center, 104 E. University St. Rodgers also will meet with psychology faculty and students in C009B of the Center for Natural Sciences, 201 E. Beecher, at 9 a.m. on Feb. 21.
- **Rebecca L. Sherrick**, class of 1975, president, Aurora University. Sherrick, an historian, will meet with members of the IWU history honorary society at 3:30 p.m., Feb. 20 in the Henning Room, IWU Memorial Student Center, 104 E. University.

Worster's Itinerary

The Founders' Day Convocation also will honor a famed post-Civil War IWU faculty member, John Wesley Powell, with a presentation by Donald Worster, Hall Distinguished Professor at the University of Kansas.

Worster is the author of a new biography of Powell, who is remembered for his pioneering explorations of the Rocky Mountains, Grand Canyon, and the Colorado River.

The title of Worster's address is "John Wesley Powell of Illinois: His Life and Legacy."

Donald Worster

Worster will have lunch with a group of IWU librarians and historians at 12 p.m. on Feb. 20, in the Main Lounge, Memorial Student Center, 104 E. University St.

He will sign copies of "A River Running West: The Life of John Wesley Powell" at 1 p.m. on Feb. 21 in the DugOut, Memorial Student Center, 104 E. University. This event is open to the public. The book is on sale at bookstores and is a selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club and the History Book Club.

Phi Beta Kappa

IWU's Phi Beta Kappa chapter, the Lambda Chapter of Illinois, will be launched Feb. 21 with delivery of its charter by a national officer of the organization at a 4 p.m. ceremony in IWU's Merwin and Wakeley art galleries, Joyce Eichhorn Ames School of Art Building, 302 E. Graham.

The chapter, which belongs to IWU's faculty members who are members of Phi Beta Kappa, will receive the charter. IWU has about 30 emeritus and current faculty members who are Phi Beta Kappa members. IWU's oldest Phi Beta Kappa member is 101-year-old Lloyd Bertholf, who served as university president from 1958-68.

IWU was voted a chapter membership in Phi Beta Kappa last October, when the group's Triennial Council met in Philadelphia. Consequently, Phi Beta Kappa membership will be open to IWU students in the future under standards that are being developed during the current semester.

Sketches of Honored Alumni

Here are thumbnail biographies of the five IWU alumni, scholar-educators, who will be honored at Founders' Day 2000:

David L. Hull, IWU Class of 1960

David L. Hull is an internationally acclaimed scholar, who founded the academic field of the Philosophy of Biological Science.

Hull, who retired in 2000, was the Dressler Professor in the Humanities at Northwestern University from 1989-2000. Prior to joining the Northwestern faculty in 1985, Hull was a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for 20 years. Over the years, he has held visiting professorships at the University of Chicago; Indiana University; University of Illinois, Chicago; and the University of California, Los Angeles.

A veteran of 16 editorial boards, Hull also has edited and written numerous books, papers, articles, and anthologies. Last year, he authored "Science and Selection: Essays on Biological Evolution and the Philosophy of Science," and co-edited "Selection Theory and Social Construction: The Evolutionary Naturalistic Epistemology of Donald T. Campbell."

His scientific investigations have been supported by the National Science Foundation and he has received a Guggenheim Fellowship. Hull also has had various leadership positions in several scholarly organizations, including the Philosophy of Science Association, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Academy of Arts and Science, and the International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology.

Hull received a Ph.D. from Indiana University in 1964.

Marilyn Keiser, IWU Class of 1963

Marilyn Keiser is a professor of music at Indiana University, where she teaches courses in sacred music and applied organ.

The American Organist observed: "She represents to the organ world what the late Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis did to America: the epitome of taste, dignity, and elegance."

After graduating from Illinois Wesleyan, Keiser attended New York City's Union Theological Seminary, where she graduated summa cum laude with a master of sacred music degree, followed two years later by a doctorate.

Keiser has appeared throughout the United States and overseas as a recitalist and in connection with the American Guild of Organists. She has performed at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., and with the Detroit Symphony. Keiser also has performed in Cambridge, England, and Paris, as well as with the Singapore Symphony. She also has been heard in performance on National Public Radio and has made numerous recordings.

A virtuoso concert organist, Keiser also has given lectures and workshops in church music. She has served as president of the Association of Anglican Musicians, a contributing editor to the hymnal, Ecumenical Praise, and has served on the Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on Church Music.

Andrew Postlewaite, IWU Class of 1965

Andrew Postlewaite is a professor of economics, finance, public policy, and management at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

Postlewaite has developed economic theories of marketing and market positioning applying game theory and social analysis.

Before joining the University of Pennsylvania, Postlewaite held professorships at the University of Illinois, Stanford Business School, Princeton University, and the University of California, San Diego.

His international reputation has taken him as a visiting scholar to institutions around the globe, including Tel Aviv University, University of Bonn, European University, Autonomous University of Barcelona, University of Toulouse, University of Tokyo, and Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. He has been awarded numerous grants from the National Science Foundation, as well as the Sloan Foundation and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.

Postlewaite has been a visiting scholar at the Federal Reserve Banks of Minneapolis and Philadelphia, as well as a visiting research associate with Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill, N.J. He also is a fellow of the Econometric Society.

He is the author of numerous papers in scholarly journals. A recent article he co-authored for the Journal of Games and Economic Behavior, is entitled, "Specialization of Labor and the Distribution of Income."

Edelbert Rodgers, IWU Class of 1933

Edelbert Rodgers, IWU's oldest living African-American alumnus, is a retired professor at Flint Junior College (now Mott Community College) in Michigan and a practicing psychologist.

When Rodgers was a student, he was one of four African-American students attending IWU. He was born in a rural Mississippi shack, moving to St. Louis at age 7 with his family, which included 10 youngsters.

Rodgers, who told a newspaper in 1993, that he "hated poverty," at one point earned \$18 weekly-saving \$17 for college. In 1929, he entered IWU, majoring in sociology. Recalling one of his IWU professors, sociologist Samuel Ratcliffe, Rodgers said: " . . . he was kind of like a father to me."

Later, he earned a master's degree from the University of Minnesota and a Ph.D. from New York University.

During his career, Rodgers also taught at Lincoln University in Missouri and Virginia State University. He also worked in psychology clinics, including one owned by a former student who he mentored through a Ph.D. program.

Rodgers also participated in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s civil-rights march on Washington, D.C., in 1963.

"That was the most exhilarating experience in my life," Rodgers told the Flint Journal in 1993. "It was almost a spiritual thing. I wouldn't have missed that for anything in my life."

Rebecca L. Sherrick, IWU Class of 1975

Rebecca L. Sherrick was elected the 13th president of Aurora University in 2000.

Sherrick, a summa cum laude IWU graduate in history, received a William Randolph Hearst Fellowship at Northwestern University, where she earned a Ph.D. in history. Among her academic interests are recent U.S. history, Latin American history, and women's history.

In 1980 she joined the faculty of Carroll College in Waukesha, Wis. A decade later, she became the first woman to hold a senior-level position at Carroll College, when she was appointed vice president for planning. Subsequently, Sherrick held other senior administration posts, including the position of provost.

As a member of the suburban Waukesha community, Sherrick was an active leader in a wide range of organizations, including the Women's Center, Waukesha County Historical Society, Y.W.C.A., and Great Blue Heron Girl Scout Council. Her strong commitment to volunteerism was recognized in 1991, when she was honored for her professional and volunteer achievements by the Y.W.C.A. with the Women of Distinction Award.

Sherrick is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, Delta Sigma Nu, Egas, Kappa Delta Phi, Phi Alpha Theta, and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies, as well as the Lincoln Academy of Scholars of the state of Illinois.

Remembering John Wesley Powell

In his keynote address at IWU's Founders' Day Convocation, Donald Worster will recall the exploits of a fabled explorer and educator, soldier and scientist, who is the subject of his new book, "A River Running West: The Life of John Wesley Powell."

John Wesley Powell (1834-1902)--a Civil War hero who lost his right arm from wounds inflicted at the bloody Battle of Shiloh--was a trailblazing professor of geology at Illinois Wesleyan University from 1865-68. IWU President William Wilder (1888-98) wrote of Powell that "he

devoted all his energies toward building up the science department of the school, and imparted the true scientific spirit to a large body of men."

Powell's legacy runs deep in Illinois Wesleyan's history. He set up IWU's museum and with a colleague reorganized the university's curriculum and faculty responsibilities. Powell designed IWU's seal, authored its motto--*Scientia et Sapientia* (knowledge and wisdom)--and he was the guiding spirit behind a great new building that rose on campus in the early 1870s. He taught chemistry, botany, physical geography, cellular histology, natural philosophy, organic chemistry, mineralogy, geology, and other subjects to freshmen through seniors.

Joseph Fifer, who later became governor of Illinois, was one of Powell's students at IWU. Years later, Fifer recalled that "my professor of science was Major John Wesley Powell, explorer, ethnologist, linguist, and sociologist, a very great man."

But, history remembers Powell most vividly for his efforts to get students out of the classroom and laboratory and take them on pioneering expeditions to the largely uncharted American West. During the summer of 1867 he organized his first adventure in "fieldwork," taking three IWU students and a faculty member across the Great Plains to the mountains of Colorado. This expedition was capped by an arduous ascent of Pike's Peak, an exploit chronicled in dispatches from the explorers published by Bloomington's newspaper, *Daily Pantagraph*.

Powell mounted a second expedition to the American frontier in 1868, which included five IWU students. He left an indelible stamp on U.S. higher education as the first professor to introduce fieldwork on a grand scale into the undergraduate-college curriculum.

Powell's daring journeys across America to the little-known Rocky Mountains produced a number of firsts: the climbing of Long's Peak, the exploration of the Continental Divide, a series of ethnological studies of Western Indian tribes, exploration of the Grand Canyon by white men, and maps of the Grand Canyon. In 1875 the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., published Powell's expedition reports about the geology of the Grand Canyon and the Utah Mountains.

John Wesley Powell is the subject of a new biography, the first in almost a half century. "A River Running West: The Life of John Wesley Powell" is written by University of Kansas historian Donald Worster. A synopsis of the volume by publisher

Oxford University Press points out that: "The heart of Worster's biography is Powell's gutsy epic journey down the Colorado in 1869, a tale of harrowing experiences, lethal accidents, and breathtaking discoveries. The famous river voyage not only testified to Powell's driving ambition, it opened the national imagination to a landscape that continues to astonish, awe, and inspire."

The great scientist-explorer--who attended several colleges without managing to graduate from any of them--held many interesting posts throughout his career. He was a founder of the National Geographic Society and served as the second director of the U.S. Geological Survey. Powell was the first director of the Smithsonian's Bureau of American Ethnology and he was responsible for

collecting and recording much of the language and lore of Native American tribes. In 1880 Powell became a member of the National Academy of Science and served as president of the Anthropological Society of Washington from 1879-88.

Powell's connections to IWU continued long after he left campus in the late 1860s. Based on his scholarly work, IWU conferred on him a Ph.D. in 1877. This was not an honorary degree, but it was part of the external-degree program, which the university had launched in 1874. Powell continued to augment the university collections, and the library today displays pieces of Native American pottery, which he gave to IWU. Illinois Wesleyan continues to honor Powell with a campus monument and an annual research conference named for him, which keeps his spirit alive.

About IWU

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.