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## IWU Homecoming Honors Alums

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September 27, 2001

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## **IWU Homecoming Honors Alums**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. -- Four Illinois Wesleyan University graduates will be honored during IWU's annual Homecoming festivities the weekend of Oct. 5-6 on campus.

Rhett Dawson of Washington, D.C., a 1966 graduate, will be awarded the school's Distinguished Alumnus Award and Matthew D. Troyer of San Francisco, a 1986 IWU graduate, will receive the Robert M. Montgomery Outstanding Young Alumnus Award.

Alice Siegfried of Scottsdale, Ariz., a 1942 graduate, and Debra Burt-Frazier of Dolton, Ill., a 1975 graduate, are the recipients of the IWU Alumni Association Loyalty Award.

The Homecoming awards will be presented on Saturday at the 11:45 a.m. alumni luncheon in the Shirk Center, one of a number of events planned for Illinois Wesleyan graduates during the weekend.

### **Student Homecoming Activities**

"I Don't Want to Miss a Thing" serves as the student theme for the Homecoming celebration. Among the festivities are a lip sync contest at 9 p.m. on Monday (Oct. 1) in the Main Lounge of the Memorial Student Center, with a student talent show scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday (Oct. 3), staged in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall.

The Homecoming king and queen coronation will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday (Oct. 4), in the area known as "McPherson Beach" just north of McPherson Theatre, and the annual Titan Games, competitions among students in living units, get underway at 6 p.m. Friday (Oct. 5) at the IWU football stadium. A fireworks show will begin at dusk Friday, following the Titan Games.

The student Homecoming dance will be from 9:30 p.m. to midnight on Saturday (Oct. 6) at Bloomington's Radisson Hotel, Veteran's Parkway and Brickyard Dr.

### **Alumni Homecoming Activities**

An alumni golf tournament and a 5-K run are among the activities scheduled. The golf tournament will begin at 11:30 a.m. Friday with a shotgun start at Prairie Vista Golf Course, 502 Sale Barn Rd., Bloomington. The entry fee is \$75 and includes greens fees, cart rental, lunch, and prizes.

Open to the public as well as alumni is the 10th annual Titan 5-K run/fun walk, which will begin at the IWU track, just north of the Shirk Center, at 8 a.m. Saturday with an entry fee of \$12, which includes a tee shirt.

To sign up for the alumni events, contact Mary Bible at (309) 556-3091.

Also on Friday, a series of free lectures will be presented in the "Back to College" program, covering topics being discussed in student classrooms. The 50-minute programs, with presenters, times, and locations, are:

- "Innovative Curriculum Changes in Business and Accounting: Technology in the Classroom", Gerry Olson, associate professor of accounting and chair of business administration department, 10 a.m., Sheean Library Auditorium (lower level).
- "Using a Digital Camera or Camcorder with your Personal Computer", Tim McKeown, Technology Training Coordinator, 11 a.m., Sheean Library Auditorium (lower level).
- "Reflections on the 2000 Elections", Tari Renner, professor and chair of political science department, 11 a.m., Shaw Hall, room 202.
- "Alumni as Mentors", Warren Kistner, director of the Career Center, 1 p.m., Sheean Library Auditorium (lower level).
- "What Did a First Century Synagogue Building Look Like?", Dennis E. Groh, IWU chaplain and professor of humanities and archaeology, and Constance Groh, 2 p.m., Sheean Library Auditorium (lower level).
- "Bats, Pipe Organs, Harp Strings, and 19th Century German Physicists", Tom Griffiths, IWU professor of biology, 2 p.m., room C-101, Center for Natural Sciences.

The sixth annual Festival on the Eckley Quad, free to all members of the community, will take place on Saturday from 9 to 11 a.m. There will be a climbing tower from Upper Limits, face painters, and clowns. A variety of refreshments will be available and the IWU Titan Band will perform on the Sheean Library steps throughout the Festival. There will also be performances from the barbershop quartet "Society Rhythm" as well as an antique car display. Current and former faculty members will be on hand to greet returning alumni during the festival and a continental breakfast will be available for alumni, faculty and staff from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

The dedication of The Ames Library will be at 11 a.m. on the front terrace of the library at the corner of Park and Empire Streets. Ground was broken in November 1999 for the library, which is named for B. Charles and Joyce Eichhorn Ames of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, and Vero Beach, Fla. They are leading the library construction fundraising project with a commitment to match all gifts earmarked for the library, on a dollar-to-dollar basis, up to \$12 million.

Mr. Ames is a 1950 IWU graduate and Mrs. Ames graduated in 1949 and they met while students at Illinois Wesleyan.

Although the library is not fully completed, tours will be offered beginning at 10 a.m.

Augustana provides the opposition for the Homecoming football game at 1:30 p.m. at Illinois Wesleyan Stadium. Then, from 9 p.m. to midnight there will be the post-reunion party open to all alumni and friends, at the Radisson Hotel, Veteran's Parkway and Brickyard Dr., Bloomington.

On Sunday at 10 a.m. there will be the 10th annual Minority Alumni Network Chapel and Recognition Program at Evelyn Chapel. Reverend James E. Fother Jr. of Miami Shores, Fla., a 1986 IWU graduate, will lead the service. Fother, senior minister of the Church of the Open Door, is a recipient of Chicago's Harold Washington Award for excellence in the workplace in

1986. The Church of the Open Door, a bi-racial church in Miami, Fla. was founded in 1958 by a missionary from Africa, and has a congregation of approximately 240.

## **Alumni Honorees**

### **RHETT DAWSON '66**

Distinguished Alumni Award

This award is presented annually to an alumnus/na who has made a distinguished contribution to society, has achieved professional distinction, or has demonstrated civic leadership.

Rhett Dawson, a 1966 Illinois Wesleyan graduate, is president of the Information Technology Industry Council, a trade association comprised of the leading information technology companies.

Prior to joining ITIC, Dawson was a senior vice president for law and public policy for Potomac Electric and Power Company (PEPCO).

Dawson earned his juris doctor degree from Washington University (Mo.) in 1969, then served in the U.S. Army before moving to Washington, D.C. He has been in a number of high profile roles, including positions at the White House including assistant to the President for operations, director of former President Reagan's blue ribbon commission on defense management, and staff director and chief counsel for the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Dawson, who has testified before Congress numerous times on information technology industry issues, has served on the executive committee for the Greater Washington Board of Trade and the National Conference of Christians and Jews, as well as on the board of directors for the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness.

A Canton, Ill., native, Dawson was a member of Phi Gamma Delta, the Young Republicans, and the staff of The Argus while at Illinois Wesleyan.

Dawson and his wife, Mary Ann ("Mimi"), are parents of a daughter (Elizabeth) and a son (Andrew). In October 1987, Mimi Dawson was appointed by President Reagan as deputy secretary of transportation, at the time one of the highest ranking women in the administration.

### **ALICE SIEGFRIED '42**

Loyalty Award

This award recognizes alumni who have benefited Illinois Wesleyan either through service to the University or strong financial support.

A great ambassador of Illinois Wesleyan University, Alice Siegfried has served as newsletter editor for her class since the inception of the class newsletter program. In addition, she has also served as class agent for the Class of 1942.

She has served the University as a member of the Campaign Advisory Committee and was active as a member of the Phoenix Regional Campaign Committee. She is a regular attendee and promoter of IWU alumni events in the Phoenix area and has also been a key volunteer for the Las Fuentes Family Health Clinic in Guadalupe, Mexico.

A native of Gibson City, Ill., Siegfried earned her bachelor's of music degree from Illinois Wesleyan, where she was a member of Sigma Alpha Iota, then studied at Eastman School of Music and received a master's of special education in 1965 from Kent State University. She taught the hearing impaired and was a hearing specialist in the Tempe (Ariz.) elementary school district prior to her retirement.

Alice and her husband, Jack, reside in Scottsdale, Ariz., and are parents of two grown sons &mdash; David and William.

### **DEBRA BURT-FRAZIER '75**

Loyalty Award

This award recognizes alumni who have benefited Illinois Wesleyan either through service to the University or strong financial support.

Over the years, Debra Burt-Frazier of Dolton, Ill., has served Illinois Wesleyan University in a variety of roles and is currently co-president of the IWU Minority Network and a member of the executive board of the Alumni Association. She has been a volunteer phonathon caller for a number of years, has been on the Chicago Alumni executive board.

A Chicago native, Burt-Frazier graduated from IWU with a degree in English/journalism in 1975 and earned a master's degree in English Literature in 1983 from Chicago State University. She is currently the district business manager for Snyder Health Care Sales and prior to that, she was district manager for Bristol Myers Squibb Company in Oak Brook, Ill. At Bristol Myers, Burt-Frazier was a neonatal sales specialist and served as the company's north district sales manager. For many years after graduation, she was a sales manager for Mead Johnson Nutritional Group and has been nominated for inclusion in "Who's Who in Executive Women."

Debra and her husband, Melvin, are parents of a daughter (Candice) and two sons (Nicholas and Max).

### **MATTHEW D. TROYER '86**

Robert M. Montgomery Outstanding Young Alumnus Award

Named for a 1968 alumnus and former IWU Alumni Director (1970-73), this award recognizes alumni within 15 years of their graduation for outstanding professional achievement, civic leadership, or both.

Matthew D. Troyer, a 1986 graduate, is a neurologist in San Francisco, where he conducts neurology research in the laboratory of Dr. Robert H. Edwards. Troyer also sees patients in the

neurology clinic of the University of California, San Francisco, and maintains specialized clinical activities in the area of Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders.

After his graduation summa cum laude from Illinois Wesleyan with a double major in biology and philosophy, Troyer studied courses in "Philosophy of Mind" at Kings College, University of London, prior to enrolling at Stanford University Medical School in 1987. In 1993 Troyer began residency training at Harvard University-Longwood area. In addition to working at four hospitals, he was chosen as chief resident for the neurology program, which called for addition teaching, administrative duties, and supervision of the training program.

In 1996, Troyer was awarded the Warren-Whitman-Richardson Fellowship, a privately-endowed fellowship administered by Harvard Medical School. The fellowship enabled him to pursue subspecialty training in the area of Parkinson's disease and movement disorders at the Institute of Neurology at London's Queen Square, one of the world's premiere centers for neurological care and research for more than 100 years.

At Illinois Wesleyan, Troyer was president of the Sigma Pi fraternity, participated in undergraduate research, and participated in the wind ensemble, concert band, and orchestra.

Troyer and his wife, Keiko Hayashi, reside in San Francisco.