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Munro to Speak at Honors Convocation

April 3, 2012

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — Illinois Wesleyan will hold its annual Honors Convocation on Wednesday, April 11 at 11 a.m. in Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall.

One of the highlights of the academic year, the Convocation celebrates the scholastic achievements of students and faculty. The 2013 winner of the Kemp Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence, the University's highest teaching honor, will be announced at the Convocation.

The 2012 Kemp award winner, Professor of Political Science William Munro, will give the keynote address, "I-74, Humanitarian Science, and the Ecological Imagination."

Munro has been lauded for his internationally renowned scholarship, campus leadership and high standards in the classroom. The former director of Illinois Wesleyan's International Studies Program, Munro teaches courses in international politics with emphasis on African social movements.



William Munro

A scholar of the politics of state formation and development in the global south, as well as the international food economy, Munro is the author of *The Moral Economy of the State: Conservation, Community Development, and State-Making in Zimbabwe* (Ohio University Center for International Studies, 1998).

He also is the co-author of *Fighting for the Future of Food: Activists versus Agribusiness in the Struggle over Biotechnology* (University of Minnesota Press, 2010), which was awarded the Lynton Keith Caldwell Prize from the American Political Science Association. This book also won Honorable Mention for the American Sociological Association's Charles Tilly award for the best book on collective behavior and social movements.

His scholarly works have been published in academic journals such as the *American Journal of Sociology*, *Comparative Politics* and *African Rural and Urban Studies*, and he has contributed book chapters to texts such as *Reconstructing Biotechnologies: Critical Social Analysis* (Wageningen Academic Press, 2008) and *Frontiers of Commodity Chain Research* (Stanford University Press, 2008).

Munro joined the Illinois Wesleyan faculty in 2000. He earned a doctorate in political science from Yale University, a bachelor's and master's degree from Cambridge University, and a bachelor's from Natal University in South Africa. He is an honorary research professor at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa, and a research scholar at the Center for African Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Active in his service to Illinois Wesleyan, Munro has served as a faculty advisor to the IWU chapter of Amnesty International and to the International House on campus. He was a member of the Committee for a Sustainable Campus and the first-year advisory board. Currently, Munro is a member of the African Studies, Development, and Diplomatic Studies Teams of the International Studies program, and acts as faculty coordinator of the John and Erma Stutzman Peace Fellows Program. He sits on the Scholars at Risk committee and serves as chair for the Technos Award Selection Committee.

Munro is a past winner of a Fulbright Placement Fellowship, and is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi national honorary society and Phi Beta Delta international honorary society.

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