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Real World Pride Alliance Speaker at IWU

December 5, 2005

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - Illinois Wesleyan University's Pride Alliance will host speaker Danny Roberts from MTV's *Real World: New Orleans* with a presentation titled "Out in the Real World" on Jan. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hansen Student Center (300 E. Beecher St., Bloomington). The event is free and open to the public, although donations may be made to the Bloomington AIDS Task Force.

Roberts will speak on gay, lesbian, and diversity issues. A cast member of the ninth season of the *Real World*, Roberts has appeared on *Dawson's Creek* and *The Real World/Road Rules Challenge*, and now tours the country as a public lecturer. While on the *Real World*, Roberts held a candid relationship with a member of the U.S. Army, who remained anonymous while the show aired but has since quit the military and come public with his sexuality. The hardship of having an anonymous relationship and dealing with an extremely conservative military, as well as being the single gay man while on the show, is one that Roberts has addressed in his talks. He has been called by critics the "accidental activist" with a "down home charm," having grown up and attended college in Georgia. He is also said to bring a "light humor" to his talks, with a "blunt look at serious issues."

For additional information, contact IWU's Pride Alliance President Erin Triplett at etriplett@iwu.edu.

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