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Illinois Wesleyan University Announces Faculty Tenure, Advancement

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February 11, 2005

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - Fourteen Illinois Wesleyan University faculty members have been awarded tenure, and five others earned promotions to full professor in action taken by the University's Board of Trustees.

The faculty receiving tenure are Roger Bechtel, theatre arts; Linda French, physics; Joan Friedman, business administration; Rebecca Gearhart, sociology and anthropology; Nina Gordon, music; Christina Isabelli-Garcia, Hispanic studies; Robert Kearney, business administration; Ilaria Ossella-Durbal, economics; Thomas Ossowski, theatre arts; J. Tim Query, business administration; Scott Sheridan, modern and classical languages and literatures; Cesar Valverde, Hispanic studies; Loni Walker, biology; and Joseph Williams, psychology.

- Bechtel, a faculty member since 1999, earned his bachelor's degree at DePauw University and a juris doctor degree at New York University School of Law. He also has a master's from Yale School of Drama and a doctorate from Cornell University.
- French, who joined the IWU faculty in 2002, has a bachelor's degree from Indiana University and a master's and doctorate from Cornell University.
- Friedman, a faculty member since 1995, has a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from Radcliffe College. She earned a master's in Romanesque sculpture from the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London; a master's in rare books from the Columbia University School of Library Service; and a master's from the University of Illinois Department of Accountancy.
- Gearhart, a faculty member since 1999, has a bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke College and a master's and doctorate from the University of Florida.
- Gordon, who joined the IWU faculty in 1999, earned her bachelor's degree at the Moscow Conservatory, her master's at the University of Tel Aviv and her doctorate at the University of Kansas.
- Isabelli-Garcia, a faculty member since 1999, has a bachelor's degree from Illinois State University, a master's from the University of Iowa and a doctorate from the University of Texas-Austin.
- Kearney, who joined the IWU faculty in 2002, has a bachelor's and juris doctor degree from the University of Notre Dame, and a master's from the University of Illinois-Chicago.
- Ossella-Durbal, a faculty member since 1999, earned a bachelor's, master's and doctorate from Cornell University.
- Ossowski, a faculty member since 1999, has a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska and a master's from Florida State University.
- Query, who joined the Illinois Wesleyan faculty in 1999, earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at Indiana State University and his doctorate at the University of Georgia.
- Sheridan, a faculty member since 1998, earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and his doctorate at the University of Iowa.
- Valverde, who joined the IWU faculty in 2001, earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of California-San Diego and his doctorate at the University of California-Irvine.
- Walker, a faculty member since 1999, has a bachelor's degree from Western Oregon State College and a master's and doctorate from The Ohio State University.
- Williams, a faculty member since 1999, earned his bachelor's degree at The University of Utah, his master's at The Johns Hopkins University, and his doctorate at The Ohio State University.

Five Others Earn Promotions in Rank

Promoted to professor from associate professor are Zahia Drici, mathematics and computer sciences; J. Scott Ferguson, music; Jeff Frick, chemistry; Carolyn Nadeau, Hispanic studies; and Kevin Strandberg, art.

- Drici joined the Illinois Wesleyan faculty in 1995 and became an associate professor in 2000. She has a licence es-Sciences Physiques from the University of Algiers, Algeria, which is the French equivalent of a bachelor's degree in physics. She earned a master's in electrical engineering at Case Western Reserve University and a master's in applied mathematics at the Florida Institute of Technology. She also earned doctorates in both electrical engineering and applied mathematics at the Florida Institute of Technology.
- Ferguson, a faculty member since 1996, earned his bachelor's degree at Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, his master's at the University of California-Irvine, and his doctorate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Frick joined the Illinois Wesleyan faculty in 1992 and became an associate professor in 1999. He has a bachelor's degree from Augustana College and a doctorate from Loyola University.
- Nadeau has been a faculty member since 1994 and became an associate professor in 2000. She earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Virginia, her master's at New York University-Madrid, and her doctorate at Pennsylvania State University.
- Strandberg joined the University faculty in 1979 and became an associate professor in 1986. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota and a master's from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

All tenure appointments and advancements will become effective at the start of the 2005-06 academic year.