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## Stephen Lewis to Speak at Founders' Day Convocation

January 29, 2007

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - Stephen Lewis, diplomat, humanitarian and one of *TIME* magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World in 2005, will speak at Illinois Wesleyan University's Founders' Day Convocation at 11 a.m. on Feb. 21, 2007 in the Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall (1210 Park St., Bloomington). The Convocation program will also be broadcast online. [View the Webcast.](#)

Prior to the convocation, at 9 a.m. on Feb. 21, Lewis will participate in a Q & A session in the Beckman Auditorium of The Ames Library.

In order to further commemorate the University's founding in 1850 and to share Illinois Wesleyan's history with students, faculty and staff, there will be a historical display in The Ames Library during the month of February.

Lewis' speech, entitled "Time To Deliver: Winning the Battle Against Poverty and Disease in the Developing World," will address social policy in regards to HIV/AIDS, economic development and international cooperation.

In his 2005 international bestseller, *Race Against Time: Searching for Hope in AIDS-ravaged Africa*, Lewis not only discusses how the international community is neglecting to fight poverty, but also offers realistic solutions.

Lewis, who was leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party for eight years, is a former United Nations (UN) Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa (2001-06), co-chair for the Leadership Programme Committee for the 17th International AIDS Conference, Commissioner for the World Health Organization's Commission on the Social Determinants of Health, a Senior Advisor for Health and Human Rights to the Harvard School of Public Health and a member of the Board of Directors of the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative. He is also the chairman of the board of his Stephen Lewis Foundation, which provides resources to small, front-line groups that focus on HIV/AIDS patients, as well as children who have become orphans due to the disease.

While serving as Canadian Ambassador to the UN from 1984 to 1988, Lewis was chairman of the committee that drafted the Five-Year UN Programme on African Economic Recovery. He was also the chairman of the International Conference on Climate Change, which developed the first comprehensive policy on global warming.

Lewis' awards include the *Maclean's* magazine "Canadian of the Year" in 2003, the Pearson Peace Medal from the UN in Canada, which recognizes outstanding achievement in the field of international service and understanding, in 2004 as well as the Jonathan Mann Health and Human Rights Award from the International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care. He is also the recipient of numerous honorary degrees.

For more information about Founders' Day activities, contact the Office of University Communications at (309) 556-3181.



Stephen Lewis

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