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Illinois Wesleyan University

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NEWS RELEASE

Sept 19, 2008

Contact: Jessica Block '09, (309) 556-3181

Homecoming 2008 Offers Celebration of Tradition and Change

BLOOMINGTON, III. – Only one year ago, Illinois Wesleyan University Homecoming attendees had the opportunity to sign beams to be placed in the Minor Myers jr., Welcome Center. Now complete, the Welcome Center and Alumni Walkway will be dedicated on Saturday, Oct. 4 at 10:30 a.m. as part of the 2008 Homecoming festivities, to take place from Friday, Oct. 3 to Sunday, Oct. 5.

The dedication ceremony will also include tours of the Welcome Center, Bloomington's first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) new construction project.

Along with celebrating the new Welcome Center, the 2008 Homecoming festivities will include several new events. This year's pep rally, billed as "Titanium – IWU's Largest and Best Pep Rally Ever," will take place at 6 p.m. on Oct. 3 at Wilder Field. The rally will feature a performance by the Titan Pep Band, the crowning of the Homecoming king and queen by University President Richard F. Wilson, and a concert by "The Blanks," who have been featured on the television show "Scrubs" as "Ted's Band." A fireworks display will conclude the evening.

The first "Fall into the Arts" juried fine arts fair will take place on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Eckley Quadrangle. The fair, sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations, will feature the work of nearly 100 IWU alumni and local professional artists. Blown glass, drawings, paintings, sculpture, photography, jewelry, mosaic art and more will be available for purchase.

Also during Homecoming weekend, green and white bows will adorn points of interest along the route of the first IWU Traditions Tours, which will take place on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Tours will leave from the registration desk in the Memorial Center (104 University St., Bloomington) every 20 minutes.

During the weekend, two Greek organizations will mark major milestones. The Alpha Iota chapter of Sigma Chi fraternity will celebrate its 125th anniversary on Friday, Oct. 3 with a gathering at the Sigma Chi house (111 E. Emerson St., Bloomington) following the Titanium pep rally. Kappa Delta sorority will commemorate its 100th anniversary with a celebratory brunch at

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9 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4 at the Memorial Center veranda. Kappa Delta (1105 N. Main St., Bloomington) will also offer house tours from 10 a.m. to noon.

Each year, Illinois Wesleyan presents awards to distinguished alumni during Homecoming weekend. This year's awards recipients are Raymond Berger, 2008 Loyalty Award; Joe Herzog, 2008 IWU Robert M. Montgomery Outstanding Young Alumnus; Stephen L. Ondra, Distinguished Alumnus Award; and Mary Ellen Simpson, 2008 Distinguished Alumna for Nursing Excellence.

Additionally, "Back to College" classes will be offered to alumni from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 3.

For a full schedule of events and a list of "Back to College" classes, visit <u>http://www.titanpride.org/s/653/index.aspx?sid=653&gid=1&pgid=600</u>. For more information on the award winners, go to

For more information about the juried fine arts fair, contact Jenn Mitchell at jenn@artcateringbyjenn.com.

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