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Former Director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights to Speak at Illinois Wesleyan University

Anna Deters
Illinois Wesleyan University

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CONTACT: Anna Deters, 309/556-3181

Former Director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights to Speak at Illinois Wesleyan University

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Linda Chavez, former director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and current president of the Center for Equal Opportunity, a think tank devoted to the promotion of colorblind equal opportunity and racial harmony, will speak at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 30 at the Hansen Student Center, 300 Beecher St., Bloomington.

Sponsored by the Illinois Wesleyan Student Senate, the event is free and open to the public.

Described by the *Washington Post* as one of “a new generation of intellectuals [seeking] to question the orthodoxies of the civil rights establishment,” Chavez is known mostly for her syndicated column, which appears in newspapers across the country as well as articles she writes for the *Wall Street Journal*, *The New Republic*, *Commentary*, and *Reader’s Digest*. Chavez also makes regular appearances on television programs such as *The McLaughlin Group*, *CNN & Co.*, *To the Contrary*, and *The News Hour with Jim Lehrer*.

Chavez has held several political positions, among them White House Director of Public Liaison (1985) and U.S. Expert on the United Nations Subcommittee on Human Rights (1992-96). In 1986 she won the Republican nomination for U.S. Senator from Maryland, but lost in the general election.

Chavez is the author of *Out of the Barrio: Toward a New Politics of Hispanic Assimilation* and is currently working on her second book, which will deal with the impact of feminism on social policy.

For more information, contact Issues and Programming Commissioner Lea Claire Panek at 309/556-2663 or lpanek@iwu.edu.