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September 13, 2004

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Director of Amnesty International to Speak on Human Rights

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – The lecture by Executive Director of Amnesty International (USA) William F. Schulz has been rescheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 26, at 7 p.m. in Illinois Wesleyan University's Hanson Student Center, 300 Beecher St., Bloomington.

The event is free and open to the public.

Schulz, who has had extensive experience in a variety of international and social justice causes, will address "Terror, Torment, and Tyranny: The State of Human Rights Today." He has made frequent appearances on both radio and television, including *60 Minutes*, *Larry King Live*, *Nightline*, and *ABC World News*.

Schulz is also the acclaimed author of several books including *In our Own Best Interests: How Defending Human Rights Benefits Us All*, *Making the Manifesto: The Birth of Religious Humanism*, and his latest work *Tainted Legacy: 9-11 and the Ruin of Human Rights*.

Schulz is former president of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations (UUA). As an active member of the UUA and Amnesty International, he has visited countries around the world in an effort to further investigate human rights protections. In 1997, he led an Amnesty mission to Liberia to learn about human rights injustices during the Liberian Civil War, later returning to Northern Ireland in 1999 to petition that human rights protections be added to the peace process.

This delegation was preceded in February 1992 by a visit to India in accordance with the Holdeen India Fund, a human rights program working towards securing social justice and promoting the economic and political success of women, bonded laborers and other oppressed individuals. Schulz then proceeded to the Middle East and Northern Ireland on a fact-finding mission where he played an essential role in the Unitarian Universalists' opposition to U.S. military aid to El Salvador.

In January 1991, Schultz led the first visit to post-revolutionary Romania by a U.S. member of Congress, just two weeks after the fall of Communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, subsequently improving the rights of religious and ethnic minorities in Romania. Schulz is a *Phi Beta Kappa* graduate of Oberlin College and has a Doctor of Ministry degree from Meadville/Lombard Theological School and a master's degree in philosophy from the University of Chicago. He has been named one of the "World's 365 Most Influential People" by the Pray 365 Project and is listed in *Who's Who in America* as well as *Who's Who in the East*.