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Illinois Wesleyan Hosts Pakistani Journalist as Scholars at Risk Guest Speaker

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Illinois Wesleyan Hosts Pakistani Journalist as Scholars at Risk Guest Speaker

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — Pakistani journalist Ameera Javeria will give a public lecture at Illinois Wesleyan University about her experiences as a female scholar in Pakistan as part of the Scholars at Risk Speaker Series to educate the public about threats to academic freedom and attacks on scholars.

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, entitled "Islamic Women in the Line of Fire," will be held at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 24, in Room C102 of the Center for Natural Sciences, 201 Beecher St., Bloomington.

Javeria will discuss her personal experiences as a female scholar in Pakistan and her current research on crimes against women in Islamic societies. She will also give an informal talk the following day to undergraduate students.

Currently a visiting scholar at the Institute for Research on Women and Gender at the University of Michigan, Javeria formerly worked for the newspaper *The Frontier Post* in Peshawar, a conservative town in Pakistan less than 20 miles from the border of Afghanistan. After the offices were torched and criminal proceedings were brought against several journalists, including her husband, Javeria was unable to continue working safely in Pakistan and chose to leave the country with her husband.

Illinois Wesleyan is an early founder of Scholars at Risk, an international network of universities and colleges that promotes academic freedom and defends the human rights of scholars worldwide. Scholars at Risk is located at New York University. More information about Scholars at Risk can be found at <http://scholarsatrisk.nyu.edu> or by contacting Carla Stuart at (212) 998-2179.