To: Illinois Wesleyan Faculty  
From: Committee on Diversity  
11-25-03  

Dear Colleagues,  

The committee on diversity present the following resolution for your consideration at the next faculty meeting.  

Our committee is composed of faculty appointed by the nominating committee. Also on the committee is Monica Taylor from the Dean of Students office. According to memos from fall of 1996 the committee on diversity was formed by then Dean of Students, Debra Carlson Wood, as a replacement for the Minority Affairs Committee.  

We have met in response to the violent speech incident this semester during National Coming Out Day.  

We are grateful to Acting President McNew for already speaking out against violent speech.  

Because the violent speech was so public in nature we feel that a public reaction from the faculty is also warranted. As a start we hope that you will support the following resolution.  

Be it resolved that the faculty of Illinois Wesleyan University condemn the violent speech that was directed in the fall of 2003 toward members of the Illinois Wesleyan community who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered. Further, be it resolved that the faculty of Illinois Wesleyan University promotes a campus that advocates diversity including sexual orientation, ethnicity, race, gender, religious affiliation, age, marital status, national origin, and different ableness. Be it also resolved that the faculty of Illinois Wesleyan especially affirms its celebration of differences in sexual orientation and gender identity.