

Commencement Invocation by Dr. Madeline,
2001

WILKES INVOCATION - May 19, 2001

INVOKE:

**A) TO CALL ON FOR AID OR PROTECTION;
ADDRESS, AS IN PRAYER;**

**B) TO CALL FOR , AS IN SUPPLICATION; AS, TO
INVOKE A BLESSING;**

**C) TO SUMMON OR CONJURE AS SORCERER OR BY
MEANS OF SORCERY!**

**IS PRESIDENT BREISETH CALLING ON ME TO
SUMMON OR CONJURE AS SORCERER SOME SPECIAL
SPELL ON THIS CLASS? I DON'T THINK SO!!!**

**I RATHER BELIEVE HE HAD IN MIND A CALL FOR AID
AND PROTECTION AS IN PRAYER, AND TO INVOKE A
BLESSING.**

**BUT THEN I ASKED MYSELF WHO DO I FOCUS ON
WHEN I ASK SOME BLESSING OR ASK FOR AID OR
PROTECTION WHEN I AM IN NEED AND THE ANSWER WAS
IMMEDIATE. I THINK GOD IS TOO BUSY TO PAY MUCH
ATTENTION TO ME DIRECTLY SO I INVOKE THE AID OF
"INTERCESSORS". TO ME THEY ARE MOST OFTEN MY
MOTHER AND FATHER. WHEN I NEED HELP I ASK THEM TO
INTERCEDE FOR ME AND ASK FOR HELP ON MY BEHALF.**

**I HESITATE TO BE SPECIFIC ABOUT WHEN I THINK I
NEED HELP BECAUSE NEED CAN RANGE ACROSS BROAD
RANGES OF CIRCUMSTANCE. I'M SURE I ASKED FOR HELP
WHEN STOPPED BY A TRAFFIC COP, FOR COLLEGE TESTS,**

MAKING SPEECHES, OR DURING PERSONAL CRISES OF HEALTH, FAMILY NEED, CHILDREN, ETC. SOME MAY SEEM FRIVOLOUS, BUT AT THE TIME I WAS ASKING GOD'S HELP.

THAT RUMINATION IN TURN, LED TO HOW I WOULD PROVIDE AN INVOCATION APPROPRIATE TO THIS TIME AND PLACE. MY TWENTY YEARS AT WILKES AS A FACULTY MEMBER IN BIOLOGY, DEAN, AND PRESIDENT WERE FILLED WITH THE INFLUENCES OF MANY WONDERFUL PEOPLE WHO ARE PART OF THE RICH HISTORY OF THIS UNIVERSITY. SOME OF THEM HAVE BUILDINGS NAMED FOR THEM AS CONSTANT REMINDERS TO NEW GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS THAT MANY PEOPLE DEDICATED THEIR LIVES, AND YES, FORTUNES, TO MAKING THE OPPORTUNITIES YOU HAVE SHARED ACCESSIBLE. BUT MANY ARE UN-NAMED YET JUST AS SIGNIFICANT TO THIS COMMENCEMENT DAY.

I THINK OF TRUSTEES, LIKE GILBERT McCLINTOCK, ARNAUD MARTS, ANDREW SORDONI, ADMIRAL HAROLD STARK, WALTER CARPENTER, ANNETTE EVANS, MARY KOONS, DR. KOCYN, JOE LESTER, CHARLES MINER, LOUIS SHAFER, JUDGE FRANK PINOLA, REUBEN LEVY, AARON WEISS, AND MANY OTHERS WHO I WOULD INVOKE FOR INTERCESSION.

FACULTY, STAFF, AND ADMINISTRATORS WHO SIMILARLY DEVOTED THEIR LIVES AND TALENTS TO THE GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS WHO PRECEDED YOU; EUGENE AND ELEANOR FARLEY, OF COURSE, BUT ALSO STAFF PERSONNEL LIKE BILL JERVIS, MILLIE GITTENS,

**FRED WALL, GERTRUDE DOANE, MARGARET AND
LEONARD CONNOLLY, JOHN WHITBY, JOHN CHWALEK,
ART HOOVER, ALEX PAWLENOK, NADA VUJICA,
AND SO MANY OTHERS WHO PROVIDED SUPPORT TO THE
COLLEGE OPERATIONS.**

**THEN I THINK OF THOSE DEDICATED PEOPLE ON THE
FACULTY LIKE HAL THATCHER, HUGO MAILEY,
SAM ROSENBERG, GEORGE ELLIOT, PAUL WERNER,
PAUL "POP" GIES, BILL GASBARRO, AL BASTRESS,
CATHERINE BONE, TOMMY RICHARDS, FRANK DAVIES,
CHARLOTTE LORD, RUTH ROBERTS, JOE SALSBURG,
CATHAL O'TOOLE, CHET COLSON, PHIL RICHARDS,
FERDINAND AND ANN LIVA, MIFFY WILLIAMS, FRED
BELLAS, STANKO VUJICA, V.B. HALL, CROMWELL
THOMAS, ED HELTZEL.**

**OBVIOUSLY THE LIST IS LONG AND I COULD GO ON AND
ON ABOUT THEIR COLLECTIVE IMPACT ON THE STUDENTS
WHO HAVE PASSED THROUGH THE CLASSROOMS OF THIS
INSTITUTION AND WHOSE LIVES WERE INFLUENCED BY
THE EDUCATIONS THEY RECEIVED HERE.**

**I THINK MY INVOCATION IS CLEAR. I WOULD ASK THE
INTERCESSION OF ALL OF THOSE WHO HAVE GONE
BEFORE TO USE THEIR INFLUENCES WITH THE ALMIGHTY
TO ASK THAT YOUR LIVES WILL REFLECT THE WILKES
VALUES OF AN EDUCATED MAN OR WOMAN THAT WERE
ARTICULATED AND REAFFIRMED BY FACULTIES EVER
SINCE THE COLLEGE FOUNDING .
GOD BLESS YOU ALL!**

5013
100-323-331
PROB. 100-323-331
100-323-331
100-323-331