

FALL CONVOCATION 2016

Revised on 9/6/16

SOUND: Kerwin Leader, Organist, will play a Prelude, Processional, the Alma Mater, and a recessional. Carillon will begin playing at 1:15 and continue until 1:30 PM.

LIGHTS: All lights on.

11:00 a.m. – Sound Check

11:45 - *Platform party processes over to Caine Student Center to meet up with faculty.*

The processional forms in Caine Student Center then proceeds to the Chapel beginning at 11:55 a.m.; procession includes (in order) (a) the Platform Party (President, Chaplain, VPAA, Guest speaker (Dan Coyle) Faculty President (Nancy VanOver), Student Representative (Tyler Romo) (b) the faculty marshals and (c) faculty and staff.

Platform Party Line up:

Left Line

President Jeffrey Docking

Dan Coyle

Chaplain – Rev. Chris Momany

Right Line

Dr. Agnes Caldwell

Faculty President – Nancy VanOver

SGA President – Tyler Romo

12:03 MOMANY: [Invocation]

[Remove caps.]

As Momany is returning to seat, Caldwell walks to podium.

12:05 CALDWELL: Thank you Rev. Momany. Please be seated. Good afternoon and welcome. I am Agnes Caldwell, Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs, here at Adrian College. I would like to thank all of you for attending the Opening Convocation in the James Borland Convocation Series for academic year 2016-2017. At this Fall Convocation, we have the honor of hearing from outstanding leaders from the academic, political, social and business community. Our guest today, someone that some of you may know, Mr. Dan Coyle is such a person. We also hear from the faculty and student body president's, as well as, meet new faculty, congratulate faculty newly promoted and recognize the achievements of three faculty for teaching, scholarly, and research accomplishments. This year we continue to have a contest to begin the academic year, outside the chapel under the tent are the 11 submissions by students in the build a bulldog contest. So, if everyone else would silence their phones and put them away, I am pleased to introduce someone you know well, Adrian College's 17th president, Dr. Jeffrey R. Docking.

CALDWELL sits as PRESIDENT walks to podium.

12:06 DOCKING: [Welcome speech.]

Convocation Speech

I. WELCOME

A. Another academic year at Adrian College

B. Especially

1. Dean Caldwell

2. Distinguished Faculty

3. Staff

4. Students

Freshman

5. Guest Speaker – Dan Coyle

II. AS THE YEAR GETS UNDERWAY, LET ME OFFER A FEW OBSERVATIONS

A. This year to my surprise we nearly eclipsed 6000
applications freshman enrollment

1. 1100 eleven years ago

2. The quality of our students continues to improve dramatically.

3. ACT scores up again above 22

4. Average H.S. GPA nearly 3.3

5. And all major indices

a. Diversity

b. International students

c. Geographic Diversity of US State

1. Trending Right Direction.

B. But statistics only tell what we are as a community

1. It doesn't describe who we are,

a. Our values

b. Aspirations

c. Qualities that we believe should characterize

our academic community at this point in our history.

III. Allow me to briefly list 3 qualities that I hope will describe this College in the coming year.

A. Qualities that come to mind when people describe

Adrian College

1. Hard Working

a. We should seek to be a community that

expects nothing to be handed to them

i. Grades should be earned

ii. Grit, determination, perseverance a

never-say-die part of our DNA

b. Why?

i. Because this is the most important

singular quality that will lead to success

in life.

- 1. The world is filled with intelligent, talented people that simply refuse to work hard.**
- 2. Nothing replaces hard work**
- 3. Outworking others and over performing should guide our students inside and outside the classroom.**

c. I still believe that America is the land of opportunity for those who are willing to work hard,

- i. Make good life decisions**
- ii. Live and ethical and driven life**

2. The Second quality that I hope will define us this year is **STRENGTH**

- a. Not physical strength like so many of our athletes
 - i. Strength of character
- b. Strength to engage in class discussions with those whom you disagree.
- c. Strength to voluntarily attend lectures with those you oppose.
- d. Strength to place oneself in intellectual discussions that rub you the wrong way.
 - i. I'm talking about the strength gained through civil discussion, through listening, considering, debating, and remaining open to new ideas.

e. Some of you may have seen a courageous letter sent two weeks ago from the dean of one of the most prestigious colleges in the world

i. The University of Chicago

ii. In this letter to all students Dean Jay

Ellison said:

“Our commitment to academic freedom means that we do not support so-called “trigger warnings,” we do not cancel invited speakers because their topics might prove controversial, and we do not condone the creation of intellectual “safe spaces” where individuals can retreat from ideas and perspectives at odds with their own.

Fostering the free exchange of ideas reinforces a related University priority – building a campus that welcomes people of all backgrounds. Diversity of opinion is a fundamental

strength of our community. The members of our community must have the freedom to espouse and explore a wide range of ideas.”

iii. I applaud Dean Ellison for his courage in sending this letter to all undergraduates.

3. Finally, I hope that we are a community defined by **EMPATHY...**

- a. The intentional desire to know and understand how others are feeling**
- b. Empathy moves us beyond self-interest**

- c. Empathy helps us understand at a much deeper level**
 - i. Why Martin Luther King, Jr. needed to fight discrimination**
 - ii. Why Mother Theresa found great inner satisfaction from serving the poor**
 - iii. Why the 267 words in the Gettysburg Address still speak to the hearts of families who have lost sons and daughters in war.**

- d. Though empathy students**
 - i. The deep desire to understand the feelings of others**
 - ii. Something magical will happen**
 - 1. You will discover yourself**

2. You will understand your own feelings, thoughts, aspirations at a much deeper level.

3. In so doing you will discover the professional life that you will find most meaningful to you

A. And the kind of person you want to be.

iii. And so over the next year as you dedicate yourself to your classes

1. Take a minute to find the person in our community who is hurting the most ...

2. And comfort them

- iv. Seek the person in our community
with a heavy heart
 - 1. And listen to them
 - v. And learn the name of the person in
our community who is the most lonely
 - 1. And befriend them.
4. In doing so you will learn about empathy
- a. You will learn about yourself
 - b. And you will make Adrian College a much
better place to spend four years of your life.

Thank you. (PRESIDENT returns to seat.)

Caldwell: Thank you. Next to welcome you is the faculty president, Professor Nancy VanOver.

12:06 FACULTY PRESIDENT (Vanover): [Welcome speech]

Good Afternoon, I am Nancy VanOver, the President of the Adrian College Faculty. On behalf of the Faculty, it is my pleasure to welcome back all of our students, faculty and staff for another amazing academic year.

This year Adrian College will be celebrating the Ribbons of Excellence ribbon, *Thinking Critically*. As today's convocation progresses, you will be introduced to several of our faculty who will be recognized for their outstanding accomplishments. These will take the form of promotion to a new rank, tenure and two Faculty Awards acknowledging the recipient's teaching and research. One reason these specific professors as well as all of our professors here at Adrian College are so accomplished is because each and every one of us incorporates some form of "Thinking Critically" into our mindset and curriculum.

I am so proud of this faculty before you, and honored to be a part of them. When you see a professor on campus over the next couple of weeks, stop them and ask, "What did you do this past summer?" I guarantee you will be told about conferences they presented at or conferences they attended. Foreign lands they traveled to not only for enjoyment but for research or to be a guest professor. Many of us revised our courses to include state of the art technologies and scientific

research. Others wrote books, researched new trends in our fields or worked with Alumni to set up networking opportunities.

All of us contemplated on how we could bring to our classrooms the excitement that we experience when we learn something new. We thought about how to teach the understanding and patience of the process of dissecting, analyzing and synthesizing a new concept, idea or problem? (Especially those that make us feel uncomfortable for whatever reason.) And we hoped that our end results would be helping to graduate students who may not agree with, but can appreciate different views of our society because they have learned to look at the whole picture, through thinking critically and a liberal arts education.

The faculty is only one segment of Adrian College. Today we convene with everyone that makes up the Adrian College Community, from the **Board of Trustees, to President Docking and the administrative staff** who run the day to day operations of the college. **From the plant** staff and personnel to our students, both returning and new to the college. No segment of this body is more important than the other. Without one we have none. As a whole we have a community, a family, and an experience to last a lifetime.

On behalf of the Faculty, I would also like to welcome Mr. Daniel Coyle as our convocation speaker and look forward to his address as we learn to ‘unlock our new talents’ for this academic year.

Thank you

FACULTY PRESIDENT returns to seat.

12:08 Caldwell: Thank you, Dr. VanOver. Tyler Romo, SGA President will now welcome the students and faculty back to campus.

12:08 Romo: Thank you, Dr. Caldwell. To start off, I wanted to address the Class of 2020. I hope that you are all adjusting to life here at Adrian College because I know it’s a big jump from being dependent on your family members when you were still in High School to now having to be independent adults at College. Though it may be difficult at times, just know that most freshmen survive their first years. Emphasis on MOST, and on that note, I am going to be moving on to everybody else... Welcome back students, staff, and teachers, hopefully you are all having a school year that is starting off on high notes and then continue to get better and better. Throughout the years, I have noticed how this school keeps improving in terms of appearance and opportunities available, which brings me to the point that if you are a student here, you should try to become more involved

with all that Adrian has to offer. To all the seniors out there, all I have to say is “Keep Calm, We’re the Class of 2017!” Thank you for your time, have a great day!

STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRESIDENT returns to seat.

12:09 Caldwell: At this time in the proceedings, the new faculty, newly promoted, tenured faculty and are recognized. Adrian College continues to grow the faculty and invest in academic endeavors, adding over 30 positions in the past ten years. This year, we welcome 13 new faculty members, moving our faculty and librarians to a near an all-time high of 102.

As I introduce our new faculty please hold your applause until all names have been read. Professors, please rise and remain standing as I read your name.

New Faculty Name	Department
Dr. Tim Clark	Department of Mathematics
Professor Jody DiMarco	Department of Social Work
Dr. Kristen Eder Boggs	Department of Music
Dr. John Goetschius	Exercise Science and Athletic Training
Dr. Scott Hill	Department of Physics
Dr. Christine Knaggs	Department of Teacher Education
Dr. Zavin Nazaretian	Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice
Professor Cheryl Nutter	Business, Accountancy, and Economics
Professor Jill Ouellette	Business, Accountancy, and Economics
Dr. Benjamin Pawlich	Department of Biology
Dr. Katie Rasmussen	Department of CORE
Professor Amanda Sepanski	Department of Art and Design
Professor Michelle Stansley	Department of Teacher Ed.
Dr. Ahmet Tuncez	Business, Accountancy, and Economics

It is now my pleasure to introduce faculty who have achieved one of the highest honors in the academy...promotion and tenure. Would the faculty please rise as your name is called, again please hold your applause until all the names are read.

Faculty newly promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure:

- Dr. Keith Christy, Dept. of Accounting and Business

Promoted to the rank of Full Professor with tenure is:

- Dr. Phil Howe, Dept. of Political Science
- Dr. Marty Marks, Dept. of Music
- Dr. James Spence, Dept. of Philosophy and Religion

Finally, I would like to welcome any faculty emeriti in the audience today. Prior to convocation it was wonderful to see you at the Emeritus faculty reception sponsored by my office and that of Alumni Affairs. We thank you for your dedication to Adrian College and our students!

On behalf of President Docking, the Administration and the entire Adrian College community, congratulations on your promotions and for our new faculty, welcome to the family! [Applause]. Now, I will announce this year's Teaching Award recipients.

[President moves to center stage. Stefanie Mineff brings plaque to him.]

12:15 Caldwell: The first award is the Ross Newsom Award for Outstanding Teaching which honors the memory of Ross Newsom, Class of 1936, and is sponsored by his son Don, and the late Ron Newsome.

This year's Ross Newsom Award for Outstanding Teaching is presented to Dr. Jennifer Ellsworth. Dr. Ellsworth if you would please join the President on the stage.

[Applause] [Ellsworth comes up on stage as Caldwell talks of her achievements and meets President].

Jennifer Ellsworth was raised in Michigan. She earned her PhD at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. She has held 3 executive level positions: first Marketing Director at American Girl; VP of Design, Production, QC, and Catalogue at Patagonia; and Senior VP of the Hold Everything Division at Williams-Sonoma. She has started three profitable entrepreneurial businesses. Upon arriving at AC she immediately begin engaging marketing students in applying concepts and theories to a service learning project- an annual auction benefitting the Adrian Symphony Orchestra. The students market, solicit, and run the entire auction. To date, that project has made \$ [REDACTED] for the ASO, the Adrian College orchestra in residence. Her courses and students can also be found contributing and learning at the local Humane Society and Habitat for Humanity. In other words, she is the embodiment of many of our Ribbons of Excellence, but truly Caring for Humanity and the World. Dr. Ellsworth has also served on the Board of Trustees, the Board of Directors for Adrian Symphony Orchestra, and the Board of Directors for Adrian's Habitat for Humanity. She has two children, Eric and Alison. Students praise Dr. Ellsworth in course evaluations noting:

- She is an inspiration as a person and businesswoman
- I love her enthusiasm for each and every class
- Appreciate that she gives real world experience in courses

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Jennifer Ellsworth, an excellent educator, and colleague.

[APPLAUSE]

PRESIDENT ***PRESENTS** award and shakes hand of Recipient.*

The second award is the The Exemplary Teaching Excellence Award and is sponsored by the Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The United Methodist Church. This award was first given to Dr. George Somers in 1992—over twenty years ago. Celebrating the achievements of many, we now celebrate the achievement of the 2016 recipient. This year’s Teaching Excellence Award goes to... Professor Carissa Massey from the Department of Art and Design. Professor Massey please join the President on stage [applause].

Professor Massey joins President on stage.

Dr. Massey earned her Bachelor’s degree in Art from Bethany College, a Masters of art in Art History from Marshall University, and a PhD in Interdisciplinary Arts: Art History, Aesthetics, and Theory from Ohio University. She teaches a wide range of art history courses, including global art history, modern and contemporary art, and courses about critical theory and art. Since she began teaching in 2000, Dr. Massey has taught thirty different courses in art history, philosophy, theory, and interdisciplinary studies. Classroom experiences frequently use service learning methods, including a fall 2015 architecture course that traveled to the coalfields of southern West Virginia to rebuild homes damaged by flooding.

Dr. Massey’s research is also interdisciplinary and follows two tracks: gender and class in visual culture and museology. She has an article entitled: “The Rhetoric of the Real in Rural America: Stereotypes of Children and Adolescents in Reality Television and Stock Photography” appearing in 2017 in the international journal *Discourse: Studies in the Cultural Politics of Education*. She has an article

under review by *Feminist Formations* called: Photographic “Truth”: The Visual and Cultural Rhetoric of Stereotypes Surrounding the Abu Ghraib Prison Torture Photographs”. Her current project is in collaboration with the architecture editor at the University of Illinois Press and is a study of the relationship between class, art, and culture in Appalachian architecture.

Students praise Professor Massey in course evaluations noting:

- I like how you push students to their limits with carefully prepared lectures, discussions and projects.
- The reason I chose this 8 am course is because Dr Massey teaches it.
- She is hands down the BEST professor at AC!

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Carissa Massey, an excellent educator, scholar and colleague.

[APPLAUSE]

PRESIDENT PRESENTS award and shakes hand of Recipient.

In spring 2012, two faculty proposed the creation of a new recognition for faculty-one focused on outstanding scholarly accomplishments. Rest assured, Adrian College’s focus on outstanding teaching and strong student learning outcomes, will not change, as the proposal said. However, research shows that the best teachers are also active and productive scholars. I was persuaded by the importance of recognizing outstanding scholarly achievement as consistent with what we do, but as an extension for recognizing those who excel in BOTH teaching and research. A peer reviewed process ensued leading to today’s recipient. Professor Nathan

Goetting, Dept. of Criminal Justice and Jurisprudence. [Goetting comes to center of alter].

Professor Goetting was raised in Michigan and graduated from Aquinas College in Grand Rapids. He has a Master of Arts in Philosophy from Western Michigan University, where he was studied under renowned critical theorist and philosopher, Rudolf J. Siebert.

He earned his *juris doctor* with a concentration in constitutional law and civil rights from Cooley Law School in Lansing, where he worked as an assistant to Philip J. Prygoski, author of one of the nation's leading constitutional law study guides. He also worked on eight rape and murder cases as an intern with the Innocence Project, a national criminal law and civil rights movement that seeks to use the latest forms of DNA analysis to exonerate those wrongfully imprisoned. It was his scholarly training under Professor Prygoski and practical experience at the Innocence Project that convinced him to pursue a career teaching constitutional and criminal law.

Professor Goetting has previously taught at three law schools—The University of Toledo College of Law, The University of Detroit School of Law, and Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. He has been teaching courses on law and the courts as a member of the Adrian College faculty since 2008. He lives here in Adrian with his wife Amanda and his sons Lucas and

Samuel.

Since 2009 he has served as Editor-in-Chief of *National Lawyers Guild Review*, which in 2013 was ranked the #4 constitutional law review in the country in the prestigious ExpressO Law Review Submission Guide. Professor Goetting's scholarship has been cited in the *University of Colorado Law Review* and the *Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law & Justice* among other scholarly publications.

In 2013, as the Supreme Court geared up for its landmark ruling on same-sex marriage, Professor Goetting began focusing his research on how the Court would resolve the issue. He presided over a team who edited a law review theme issue on the rights of gay and transgendered Americans and published two articles on the constitutionality of same-sex marriage as part of this effort. One of these articles formed the basis of a constitution day address he delivered at Cooley Law School.

His research in this area has been cited in the *Harvard Law and Policy Review* and has been the subject of term papers written by college students around the country. His most recent work, an article titled “More than Just the Last Gay Marriage Case,” was published in *National Lawyers Guild Review* last year.

Please join me in congratulating this year’s recipient of the Creative Activity, Research and Scholarship Award.

[APPLAUSE]

PRESIDENT PRESENTS award and shakes hand of Recipient.

Caldwell: Before I introduce our guest speaker, we request that you refrain from any photography during the convocation address.

Daniel Coyle is the bestselling author of *The Little Book of Talent* and *The Talent Code*, two books that explain how to unlock talent and build skills in any discipline. Daniel has covered outstanding performers for years as senior editor and now contributing editor for *Outside* magazine.

Daniel's book, the best-selling *Little Book of Talent*, is a user's manual for improving skills through 52 scientifically-proven, field-tested methods. Whether you're in business, an athlete, or an artist, there are specific steps you can take to build your skills, your organization's skills, or even your kids' skills. *The Little Book* builds on five years Daniel spent researching for *The Talent Code*, visiting the world's greatest hotbeds of talent and interviewing master coaches.

While *The Little Book of Talent* offers practical instruction for skill-building, *The Talent Code* takes a deeper look at the neuroscience behind learning. Certain habits of practice, coaching, and motivation most promote the growth of myelin, the microscopic brain fibers that speed up neural pathways. Both *The Talent Code* and *The Little Book of Talent* explain how to make these practices part of your life and become better at what matters most to you.

Please welcome Mr. Dan Coyle

12:22 Dan Coyle

Mr. Coyle presents his speech

12:55 Caldwell

Thank you very much Mr. Coyle. We are very pleased that you joined us today. We will now open the floor up for questions to Mr. Coyle.

[Stefanie and Melissa have microphones for Q & A's]

Now, for a few housekeeping notes. Students don't forget to vote for your favorite entry into the build a bulldog contest. Winners will be announced tomorrow via email and twitter. Classes resume at 1:40 today allowing for a break between convocation. Adjusted class times remain in effect until classes beginning at 5:00 when the regular schedule begins again. We will sing the alma mater followed by the benediction. Then the platform party and faculty will recess.

Now, will the audience please rise as Dr. Kristin Boggs Clark leads us in the singing of the Alma Mater. Found inside your program.

[ORGANIST plays the Alma Mater as the audience sings.]

[LIGHTS: At the beginning of the Alma Mater, turn on house lights #12, 13 and 14 .]

1:05 MOMANY: [The benediction]

[SOUND: Immediately after the benediction, organ starts the recessional.]

[Replace caps.]

1:10 [RECESSIONAL: The Faculty marshals will follow behind the platform party, and lead faculty, out of the Chapel As the faculty leaves the Chapel, the carillon will play a medley of peals and Adrian College songs from 1:00 PM until 1:10 PM.]