

NEWS RELEASE

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Lt. Gen. William Caldwell, IV, to Keynote University of Saint Mary 11th Annual Lincoln Lecture *7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009* *Xavier Theatre*

(Leavenworth, Kan.)— As a new president takes the reins of a country facing economic woe at home and military challenges overseas, the University of Saint Mary presents “Leadership in a Time of Crisis,” the 11th Annual Lincoln Lecture, at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12, with a keynote address by Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell, IV, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth.

This year’s Lincoln Lecture, to be held on the 200th anniversary of Lincoln’s birth, will be in Xavier Theatre at the University of Saint Mary, 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan. The event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and will be available on a first come, first serve basis.

Lt. Gen. Caldwell previously served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Effects, spokesperson for the Multi-National Force—Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Commanding General of the storied 82nd Airborne Division. He’s been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Bronze Star among his many decorations. Lt. Gen. Caldwell is the second Fort Leavenworth Commanding General to speak the USM Lincoln Lecture. Lt. Gen. William M. Steele gave the second Lincoln Lecture. Other past speakers have included two Kansas governors, Lincoln scholars, Negro Baseball League Hall of Famer Buck O’Neil, and Missouri Congressman Emanuel Cleaver.

Dr. Bryan Le Beau, USM vice president for academic affairs, notes that the lecture topic is exceedingly timely considering the recent inauguration of President Barack Obama.

“Not only do we have a crisis situation internationally with the war in Iraq, President Obama faces one domestically with the economy,” Le Beau said. “That closely tracks with the conditions Lincoln faced when he assumed the presidency.”

President Obama, Dr. Le Beau noted, has also used his distant predecessor as a touchstone throughout his campaign and election, even being sworn into office on the same Bible used by Lincoln.

The University of Saint Mary started the Lincoln Lecture series in 1999 to acknowledge the university’s Bernard Hall Lincoln Collection, which includes extensive and unique Lincoln memorabilia. USM’s De Paul Library houses the collection, which includes a rare, original copy of the 13th Amendment — the document that abolished slavery — signed by Lincoln.

Saint Mary's copy of the amendment and a "life mask" of Lincoln from the collection have been loaned to Union Station's "*The Tsar and The President*" exhibit, which examines the lives of Abraham Lincoln and Tsar Alexander II through their personal memorabilia. USM Lincoln Lecture attendees have the chance to win passes to the Union Station event.

MidAmerican Bank & Trust Company is the benefactor of the Lincoln Lecture series. This year's Lincoln Lecture is co-sponsored by the De Paul Library Lincoln Collection and the university's Lawrence D. Starr Global Studies Institute.

Call 913-758-6165 or visit www.stmary.edu for more information.

The University of Saint Mary is a private, co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations in Overland Park, Shawnee, and Kansas City, Kan. Visit www.stmary.edu for more information.

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