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Award-Winning War Novelist to Visit IWU, ISU

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Award-Winning War Novelist to Visit IWU, ISU

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – The Seventh Annual Ames/Milner Visiting Author Program will welcome novelist Tim O'Brien on Thursday, Oct. 23.

Hailed as “the best American writer of his generation” by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, O'Brien is the author of eight books, most notably *The Things They Carried*, a collection of related stories about a platoon of American soldiers in the Vietnam War. He received much acclaim following the novel's 1990 publication and subsequent nomination for the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Critics Circle Award. The book won the *Chicago Tribune* Heartland Award in fiction, the *New York Times* named it one of the 20 best books of the last quarter century and noted author John Updike selected the title story for inclusion in *The Best American Short Stories of the Century*.

O'Brien's first novel, *Going After Cacciato*, won the National Book Award in Fiction in 1979. His novel *In the Lake of the Woods* was chosen by *Time* magazine as the best novel of 1994, was named one of the 10 best books of the year by the *New York Times* and received the James Fenimore Cooper Prize from the Society of American Historians.

His most recent novel, *July, July* was released in 2002 and was a best-seller. O'Brien's other works include *If I Die in a Combat Zone*, *Northern Lights*, *The Nuclear Age*, *Tomcat in Love* and several short stories which have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Atlantic*, *Esquire*, *Playboy* and *Harper's*.

O'Brien holds the Roy F. and Joann Cole Mitte Endowed Chair in Creative Writing at Texas State University.

Following is the schedule for the Visiting Author program on Oct. 23:

- 2 p.m.-3 p.m.: Presentation followed by a question and answer session at the Center Court of the Hansen Student Center (300 Beecher St., Bloomington), Illinois Wesleyan University
- 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.: Presentation followed by a question and answer session at Braden Auditorium of the Bone Student Center (100 University St., Normal), Illinois State

University. A book signing will follow in the Barnes and Noble College Bookstore, also in the Bone Student Center.

For additional information, contact Lynda Duke, IWU academic outreach librarian and associate professor, at (309) 556-3220.

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