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24 New Scholarships Announced

Oct. 9, 2015

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Nearly 200 scholarship benefactors and their student recipients came together Oct. 8 on the Illinois Wesleyan campus to celebrate the establishment of 24 new named scholarships, at the 19th annual Scholarship Benefactors Dinner.

The event brings together, often for the first time, named scholarship recipients and their donors. Nearly 400 students benefit from named scholarships, which are typically directed to students with high financial need. Named scholarships along with other financial support from alumni and friends enable Illinois Wesleyan to provide more than \$36 million in financial aid each year to more than nine in 10 Wesleyan students.

“Thank you donors (and especially mine) for believing in this awesome institution, its faculty, and staff,” said Ashley Spain, a senior first-generation elementary education major from Chicago’s West Side, who spoke on behalf of student recipients. “Thank you for believing that it is better to give than receive. Thank you for giving the gift of opportunity to so many deserving students.”

When retiring president Dick Wilson took the podium, he remarked: “I have been asked frequently in recent weeks what I will miss most about serving as President of Illinois Wesleyan. This night and this event are on that list. Over the course of the academic year, I derive no greater satisfaction than occurs on this occasion when we bring together talented and grateful students with loyal and generous alumni and friends.”

The tradition of naming scholarships at Illinois Wesleyan dates back to 1893 when the Board of Trustees chose to honor those contributing \$1,000 or more. In 1895 the first named scholarships were designated honoring William W. Anderson of Taylorville and Martha Elzina Cameron of Greenville.

To learn more about the named scholarship program, contact the Advancement Office 1-800-689-9743 or advancement@iwu.edu.



Among the students meeting their benefactors, Sajedah Al-Khzaleh '19, recipient of the Prendergast Class of '19 Promise Scholarship, with Professor Emeritus Chris Prendergast and Susan Prendergast.