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Spring 2018

## Volume 27, Issue 1, Spring 2018

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SPRING 2018

# ILLINOIS WESLEYAN

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE



## The Shape of Success

RICHARD '69 AND SHARON JENKINS '69





**B. Charles "Chuck" Ames '50** poses with **Joyce "Jay" Eichhorn Ames '49** at the dedication of the Joyce Eichhorn Ames School of Art Building. Chuck Ames died Sept. 22, 2017. Chuck was a generous supporter of Illinois Wesleyan throughout his lifetime, playing leading roles in many campaigns and building projects. See tribute, page 38.





# INSIDE THIS ISSUE

VOLUME 27 | NUMBER 1 | SPRING 2018

## ON OUR COVER:

**Richard '69** and **Sharon Jenkins '69** walk the red carpet at the 90th Academy Awards at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles on March 4, 2018. Richard Jenkins was nominated for Best Supporting Actor for his role in *The Shape of Water*, which won Best Picture.

## FEATURES

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Much has changed since, but **Richard '69** and **Sharon Jenkins '69** are the same people who went on a first date as Illinois Wesleyan students 50 years ago.

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**Amanda Toney-Logan '74** benefitted from assistance when she attended IWU. Now she's returning the favor.

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**William Murphy '98** leads a team researching regenerative medicine and bioinspired materials tasked with solving challenging biomedical problems.



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COMMENCEMENT 2018

Sunday, May 6, 2018

[www.iwu.edu/commencement](http://www.iwu.edu/commencement)



## From the President's Desk

Universities are about continuity and change. Though at first glance, one may seem at odds with the other, combining both, in the right proportion, is the recipe for a thriving institution. We've always done that, at some level. Through careful construction of a community of talented faculty, bright students, and committed staff, we have a long and ongoing tradition of delivering an exceptional education, accomplished through personal attention on a small enough scale to enable deep communication. While our underlying purpose persists through the decades, the actual campus community is ever-changing, as we lose some individuals each year, to graduation or retirement, and replenish those losses with admissions and hiring.

The modern higher education landscape forces us to think about continuity and change in larger ways. How, in a world characterized by dizzying variation in the experiences, expectations and opportunities facing our potential students, do we continue to provide the exceptional education for which we are known? How, in an increasingly difficult competitive environment, do we make our strengths clear to students? Our answers must rely on strengths that we already have in place, but must also point us toward particular areas that need further development.

Toward that end, new provost Mark Brodl and the faculty are hard at work on creative offerings that play to our historic strength of close faculty-student engagement. These include distinctive First-Year Experiences, which are yearlong, multidisciplinary exposures to related issues; and Signature Experiences, which are distinctive, individualized projects done by seniors. Examples of First-Year Experiences include "Animal Studies Scholars," in which faculty from a variety of disciplines will help students explore questions related to animals and do

**The concept that students have "broken through" to discover new capabilities and scale new heights is the firm foundation upon which most of what we do here is built, but the new design is the means through which we will convey this to a 21st century audience of prospective students and their families.**

fieldwork at a zoo; and "Humanities Scholars," where students with a passion for literature, philosophy, religion, and languages cap their studies with a trip to the Chicago Humanities Festival. Signature Experiences can range across too wide a spectrum of possibilities to list.

This issue is filled with examples of the juxtaposition of continuity and change. It is the 100th in the modern history of *IWU Magazine*, but the first produced by its new editor, Matt Wing. It showcases the new "Be Breakthrough" design. The concept that students have "broken through" to discover new capabilities and scale new heights is the firm foundation upon which most of what we do here is built, but the new design is the means through which we will convey this to a 21st century audience of prospective students and their families. And sadly, this issue has an obituary for Chuck Ames. Chuck and Jay Ames' vision for Illinois Wesleyan helped set it on its modern course, and the legacies of that vision – including the Ames Library, the Joyce Eichhorn Ames School of Art, and the Ames Professorships – help both to define our present institution and to provide a foundation for its vibrant future.

That future will involve the entire Illinois Wesleyan community. Ours is a supportive community, fiercely proud of its history and eagerly awaiting what is to come. Thank you for all you've done to support continuity, as students, alumni, and parents. And thank you for all that you may do in the future to support change.

Go Titans!





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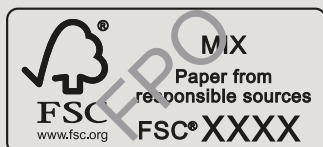
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# Inside IWU

FEATURED NEWS, EVENTS AND VIEWS FROM THE IWU CAMPUS

## McLean County High School Grads Guaranteed \$27,000 in Annual Scholarships to Attend Illinois Wesleyan

Students who graduate from a McLean County High School this spring and are admitted to attend Illinois Wesleyan University are now guaranteed no less than \$27,000 in annual scholarships – for a total of \$108,000 over four years – thanks to the McLean County Scholarship.

Illinois Wesleyan **President Eric Jensen** officially established the McLean County Scholarship, made possible by the Illinois Wesleyan Associates, with an announcement Feb. 7, 2018, in the Niepagen Room at Illinois Wesleyan's Shirk Center.

"The Illinois Wesleyan Associates' support of the McLean County Scholarship will ensure access to local students who may not otherwise have considered Illinois Wesleyan University, raising awareness of how donors contribute to make such a high-quality education affordable," Jensen said. "Both Illinois Wesleyan and the Associates recognize the importance of recruiting remarkable students with a connection to the local community. We believe the McLean County Scholarship will entice more high-achieving local students to choose Illinois Wesleyan, a national gem right here in their backyard."

Jensen was joined at the announcement event by **Willie Brown**, President of the Illinois Wesleyan Associates and Vice-Chair of the Illinois Wesleyan Board of Trustees, State Representative **Dan Brady**, McLean County Board Chairman **John McIntyre**, City of Bloomington Mayor **Tari Renner** and Town of Normal Mayor **Chris Koos**.

"This significant financial incentive offered through Illinois Wesleyan University is an example of the sort of collaboration and community partnership essential to meeting the needs of our workforce," said **Robert S. Miller**, chair of the Workforce Development Committee, BN Advantage. "Investments in the youth of McLean County align well with our strategy to keep our talented future leaders within our region to innovate, lead change, and grow businesses resulting in further economic diversification."

Students from the following high schools are eligible for the McLean County Scholarship: Bloomington, Bloomington Central Catholic, Calvary Christian, Cornerstone Christian, Heyworth, LeRoy, Lexington, Normal Community, Normal West, Olympia, Ridgeview, Tri-Valley and University High School.

The McLean County Scholarship Fund was established by the Illinois Wesleyan Associates, a group of local business and community leaders committed to local education. A four-year campaign sets out to raise \$2 million (\$500,000 per year) for the McLean County Scholarship Fund, which will provide support that guarantees future McLean County admitted students no less than \$27,000 in scholarship support in their financial aid packages awarded. The Associates were formed in 1953 by **Adlai Rust**, former president and chairman of State Farm Insurance Company, in order to strengthen the ties between the McLean County community and Illinois Wesleyan faculty, staff and students.

More information about the Illinois Wesleyan Associates can be found by navigating to: [www.iwu.edu/associates](http://www.iwu.edu/associates). More information about the McLean County Scholarship can be found by visiting: [www.iwu.edu/mclean](http://www.iwu.edu/mclean).



(Above) President Eric Jensen announces the scholarship at a press event held in the Niepagen Room at Illinois Wesleyan's Shirk Center.



## Ames Library Additions Highlight Social Justice



(Above) Books to Benefit representatives (from left) **Ginny Schmult**, **Mary Ryder** and **Jackie Langhoff**, and IWU archivist **Meg Miner**, pose with *A Letter on the Abolition of the Slave Trade*.

**T**wo new additions to The Ames Library collection were unveiled in a dedication Feb. 14, 2018, in conjunction with Black History Month.

Illinois Wesleyan University officials unveiled a bust of Martin Luther King, Jr., donated by renowned sculptors **Jeffrey** and **Anna Koh Varilla**, and a first edition of *A Letter on the Abolition of the Slave Trade*, written in 1807 by British politician and abolitionist William Wilberforce, purchased at a generous discount from local non-for-profit organization Books to Benefit.

University Librarian **Karen Schmidt** expressed gratitude for both additions to The Ames Library. “The Martin Luther King, Jr. bust is an exceptional rendering of Dr. King. We are very honored to share this with the IWU community, as it reflects Dr. King’s connection to IWU and celebrates his vision,” she said. “The Wilberforce first edition is a significant contribution to the library’s Tate Archives and Special Collections. It connects directly with our University’s long-standing commitment to social justice, and will be an important centerpiece in our students’ research on historical struggles with slavery.”

The Martin Luther King, Jr. bust will be permanently displayed in The Ames Library First Floor Rotunda. The sculptors, Jeffrey and Anna Koh Varilla, are a husband-and-wife team that has worked on public monuments for nearly 30 years. They are the parents of a current IWU student **Adam Varilla ’18**.

The dedication coincided with the anniversary of King’s first of two speeches on Illinois Wesleyan’s campus. King’s first speech, to 500 attendees of the Religious Emphasis Banquet, took place Feb. 14, 1961.

“Our son will be graduating from Illinois Wesleyan this spring and we’ve been very grateful for the support and academic scholarships

the University has provided him. We have been impressed with the progressive direction Illinois Wesleyan has displayed for many years, especially given the fact it welcomed Dr. Martin Luther King twice during the 1960s,” Jeffrey Varilla said. “As sculptors, we want to express our appreciation to Illinois Wesleyan in the best way we know how by donating a life-size portrait bust of Dr. King we created based on our over-life-size full figure Dr. King monument on the University of Texas campus in Austin. Thank you, Illinois Wesleyan, for accepting our gesture of appreciation.”

*A Letter on the Abolition of the Slave Trade* will be kept in Ames’ Tate Archives and Special Collections along with other prominent abolitionist texts, including a first-edition copy of Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *A Key to Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.

The book was acquired from Books to Benefit, a Normal, Illinois-based non-for-profit that collects and resells books to support local literacy programs. Representing the organization at the dedication were **Jackie Langhoff**, **Ginny Schmult** and **Mary Ryder**.

“Wilberforce’s book played an important part in influencing American history. Finding a local home at Ames Library ensures its preservation for future generations,” said Langhoff, president of Books to Benefit. “We are passionate about literacy and preserving scholarly works like this one that have such significant historical content.”

Opened in 2002, The Ames Library features five levels and 103,000 square feet of space. The library is named in honor of **B. Charles Ames ’50** and **Joyce Eichhorn Ames ’49**. Special spaces within the building include the Bates & Merwin Reading Room, Beckman Auditorium, John Wesley Powell Rotunda, Thorpe Center, Tate Archives and Special Collections, along with stained glass windows from Pembroke College, Oxford.

The Ames Library is open to all students, alumni, faculty, staff, visiting scholars and retirees. For more information, visit The Ames Library online at: [www.iwu.edu/library](http://www.iwu.edu/library).

(Below) Sculptors **Jeffrey** and **Anna Koh Varilla** pose with a bust of Martin Luther King, Jr. they donated to The Ames Library.





## Illinois Wesleyan Launches First-Year Experience Program

**I**ncoming Illinois Wesleyan University students who are excited about exploring ideas – and their implications – have the opportunity to participate in IWU’s new First-Year Experience (FYE) program, which is set to launch in the fall of 2018.

Approximately 150 incoming Illinois Wesleyan students will become a First-Year Experience Fellow, Scholar, Partner or Titan through the FYE program, which offers nine distinct fellowships related to the University’s academic mission.

“This is Illinois Wesleyan at its best,” said Provost and Dean of the Faculty **Mark Brodl**. “It demonstrates our commitment to enhance learning with distinctive cross-disciplinary experiences that directly prepare our students for success after IWU.”

The FYE fellowship topics include: Animal Studies Scholars, Citizen Scholars, Creativity Scholars, First-Year Humanities Fellows, Global Titans, Innovation Fellows, Policy and Ethics Partners, Scholars for Youth Advocacy, and Titans for Change.

During the fall semester, students will be enrolled as a cohort in a First-Year Experience course that provides extended opportunities to engage with FYE professors and classmates both inside and well beyond the classroom. Engagement examples include participating in field research or meetings with authors, or visits to state-of-the-art design studios. FYEs emphasize learning by experiencing and doing.

In the spring, the FYE will become more project-based and even less classroom-bound. Students will travel with FYE professors over Spring Break or over extended weekends to elevate learning through visits to conferences or sites relating to the course topics. There is no cost to participate, as the trips are funded through a fellowship. The semester will conclude with presentations at IWU’s John Wesley Powell Research Conference in a culmination of the FYE program which Brodl describes as a “breakthrough” opportunity for first-year students.

“Unlike typical first-year seminar courses, Illinois Wesleyan’s FYE program builds very strong academic relationships among faculty and students from the get-go, by extending the learning experience well beyond the classroom and keeping the work engagingly project-based,” Brodl said. “Close academic relationships with faculty across all disciplines are foundational to the excellent education that students receive at Illinois Wesleyan. With FYE, our students don’t need to figure out how to build those relationships for themselves – they don’t skip a beat.”



(Above and right) First-Year Humanities Fellows visited the Garfield Park Conservatory March 14, 2018, on their Spring Break immersion trip to Chicago.



Admission to the FYE program is based upon materials submitted to Illinois Wesleyan during the admissions process along with a brief response by incoming students to a question specific to each program’s application.

FYE applications are due by April 15, 2018, and students will be notified if they are selected for the program beginning June 1, 2018. For more information, visit: [www.iwu.edu/first-year-experience](http://www.iwu.edu/first-year-experience).

## SCHOLARSHIP BENEFACTOR DINNER

(Right) **Eljio “Isaiah” McBride Rosales ’19** addressed a record 268 attendees at the Scholarship Benefactor Dinner on Oct. 12, 2017. See related story on page 19.



## Digital Commons @ IWU Exceeds Three Million Downloads

Research conducted primarily by Illinois Wesleyan University students has been downloaded more than three million times over the past decade – by scholars around the world – from the Digital Commons @ IWU (DC@IWU).

“Reaching the three-million download mark is a true testament to the quality of student work at Illinois Wesleyan University, and it clearly demonstrates the high standards our faculty have for our students’ work,” said IWU Scholarly Communications Librarian and Professor **Stephanie Davis-Kahl**.

Launched in January 2008, the DC@IWU exceeded three million downloads in September 2017. Its top-10 downloads of all time primarily consist of student honors research across diverse disciplines.

“The variety of materials included in DC@IWU – including honors papers from all disciplines and majors, performances and artwork from our annual John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference, and peer-reviewed, open access undergraduate journals – speak to the opportunities students have at IWU to engage in independent research and establish themselves as scholars, artists and performers,” Davis-Kahl said.

The DC@IWU is a unique resource because of its focus on undergraduate work in all forms. Not only is DC@IWU a platform for sharing student work, but it is also utilized as a tool for teaching students about publishing, peer review and open access.

“I’m especially proud that support for DC@IWU comes not only from The Ames Library, but also from the Mellon Center, the Office of the Provost, and the Office of the President,” Davis-Kahl said. “Our partnership sends a clear message that undergraduate research is valued at IWU.”

Illinois Wesleyan faculty research and scholarship is also available for download via DC@IWU, including the WGLT Collection, which complements articles, book chapters and links to faculty publications by featuring interviews with IWU faculty on the local National Public Radio affiliate in partnership with Illinois State University.

The DC@IWU can be accessed at: [digitalcommons.iwu.edu](http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu).



## Illinois Wesleyan Moves Up in Kiplinger's Best College Values

Illinois Wesleyan University elevated five places to 50th among the nation's liberal arts colleges in *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* “Best Value Rankings.”

This marks the 11th-consecutive year that Illinois Wesleyan has been included among the national leaders in Kiplinger's ranking of academic quality and affordability. In an overall comparison of nearly 1,200 U.S. colleges and universities, Illinois Wesleyan ranks 97th nationally (top eight percent), according to Kiplinger.

Illinois Wesleyan is also ranked among the nation's best in recently released college rankings including *U.S. News & World Report's* “America's Best Colleges” (71st among U.S. liberal arts colleges and 89th among “Best Value Schools”), *Forbes* “America's Top Colleges” (33rd in the midwest and 75th among U.S. liberal arts universities), *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* “College Rankings” (27th in the midwest and 141st nationally) and *WalletHub* “Best Colleges” (21st among colleges nationally).

Additionally, Illinois Wesleyan is on the *Princeton Review's* nationwide, unranked list of “Colleges That Pay You Back: The 200 Schools That Give You the Best Bang for Your Tuition Buck.” The University has also been included in the *Princeton Review's* annual listing of “Best Colleges” every year since the list's inception in 1989.

The 2018 *Princeton Review* recognizes Illinois Wesleyan among the top schools for Best Career Services (No. 9) and Best College Library (No. 10). Students surveyed describe Illinois Wesleyan as “a small school that oozes big opportunities,” where they feel confident about getting a job straight out of college.

**Kiplinger's**  
PERSONAL FINANCE

## DECEMBER GRADUATES



(Right) **Kirstyn Petersen '18** helps **Emily Dunlap '18** straighten her mortarboard and tassel at the December Graduates Dinner on Dec. 14, 2017. Thirty-five students earning their degrees were invited.



## Football, Volleyball, Women's Soccer Teams Compete in NCAA Tournaments

Three teams represented Illinois Wesleyan in NCAA Division III championships during the 2017 fall season. IWU ranked 39th (out of 190 schools) in the final Division III fall rankings of the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup Standings, announced by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics.

The IWU football team won a share of the school's 15th College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin championship and first since 2009. The Titans, who finished with a 9-2 record, played in the NCAA playoffs for the sixth time overall and the first time since 2013.

Linebacker **Jordan Hassan '18** and defensive back **Trevor Staley '19** were named to the first- and second-teams, respectively, of the 2017 Associated Press Little All-America Division III football squads.

Hassan was chosen to the first team of the American Football Coaches Association All-American team and was the D3football.com North Region Defensive Player of the Year in addition to being the CCIW Defensive Player of the Year. He recorded 108 total tackles, 76 of them solos, breaking the school's season record of 72 set by **Sean Garvey '17** in 2014.

Staley was also a D3football.com first team all-North Region selection as he finished third on the Titans with 56 total tackles and a team-leading three interceptions.

Head coach **Norm Eash '75** won his 200th career game in a 31-6 victory over Millikin at Tucci Stadium on Nov. 11, 2017. The winningest coach in school history, Eash has a career record of 200-103-1 and a career CCIW mark of 142-81-1. He is tied for the most wins in league history with his former head coach, **Don "Swede" Larson '54** (142-89-6 in 33 seasons).

Illinois Wesleyan volleyball had a 23-8 record and played in the national tournament for the second time in three seasons. During the season, the Titans achieved their highest national ranking ever when the team was No. 11 in the American Volleyball Coaches Association poll of Oct. 31, 2017.

Outside hitter **Tyler Brown '19**, the daughter of head coach **Kim Nelson-Brown**, was chosen as a first team AVCA Division III All-American for the second-straight year as she led IWU in kills and digs. After three seasons, she ranks seventh all-time at IWU in kills and attack attempts, and eighth in digs.

**Maddie Williams '19**, who led the Titans in blocks, was one of 98 players in the country to earn honorable mention on the AVCA All-American squads.

Making its fifth-consecutive and 10th overall appearance in the NCAA Division III tournament in 2017 was the Illinois Wesleyan women's soccer team, which finished with a 17-5 record. IWU's past four seasons have been four of the best in school history. Each year, the program won the conference title or finished as the runner-up, and concluded the season with a trip to the NCAA tournament.

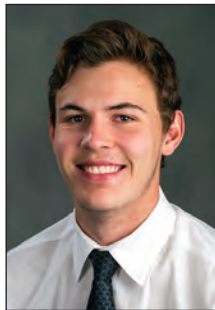
Defender **Ellie Crabtree '20** was elected to the second team of the 2017 United Soccer Coaches NCAA Division III All-American Women's Soccer Team, was named to the first



Norm Eash '75



Jordan Hassan '18



Trevor Staley '19



Tyler Brown '19



Ellie Crabtree '20

team of the USC all-Central Region Team and was a first team all-CCIW selection for the second-straight season.

After the season, **Dave Barrett** announced he was leaving to become the head women's soccer coach at Division I Fairfield (Conn.) University. In 17 years at Illinois Wesleyan, Barrett's teams had an overall record of 234-85-35. He was named the CCIW women's soccer coach of the year five times.

### Women's golf wins third-straight CCIW title

The Illinois Wesleyan women's golf team won their third-straight and 14th overall CCIW championship, claiming a 20-shot win in a tournament shortened to two rounds due to rain at Prairie Landing Golf Club in West Chicago, Illinois.

Five Titans earned individual all-conference honors by virtue of their top 10 finishes, led by **Jordan Koehler '19** in second place.

### Four earn academic all-district honors

Academically, four Illinois Wesleyan student-athletes were elected to their sport's respective Academic All-District teams and were on the ballots for the Academic All-America Team, selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America. To be nominated, a student-athlete must be a starter or important reserve with at least a 3.30 cumulative grade-point average.

From football, Hassan has a 3.55 grade-point average as a business marketing major and defensive lineman **Justin Krzeczowski '18** has a 3.51 grade-point average as an accounting major.

Volleyball middle hitter **Maisy Bowden '18** has a 3.97 grade-point average as a psychology and French major and, from women's soccer, Crabtree has a 3.87 grade-point average as a biology (pre-med) major.

## BOOKS

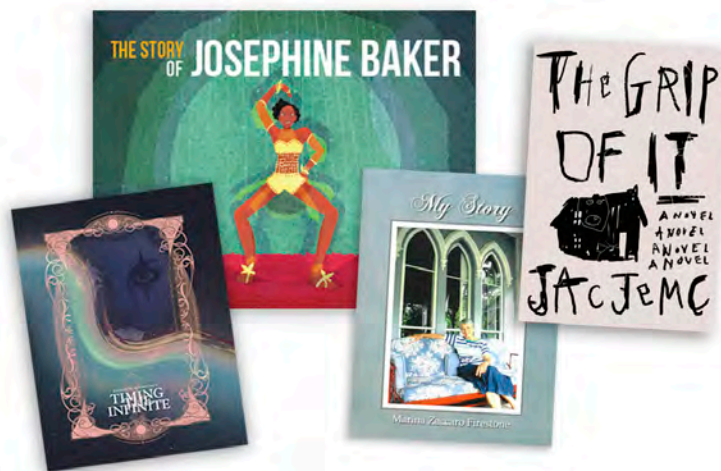
**Marina Zaccaro Firestone '49** has written a memoir, *My Story*, chronicling her journey from Italy to Illinois Wesleyan and beyond.

**Patrick Drazen '74** recently had his third book published by Hamilton Press. *Holy Anime! Japan's View of Christianity* examines Christianity's status as a minority religion in Japan and the liberties that are taken in portraying it in manga (comic books) and anime (cartoons). It is widely available.

**Randy Sharer '81** has published a biography of Craig Virgin, an Illinois native who became a world cross country champion and three-time Olympian, titled *Virgin Territory: The Story of Craig Virgin, America's Renaissance Runner*. Randy was a distance runner at Illinois Wesleyan and has worked at *The Pantagraph* as a sports-writer since 1981. The book is available at [craigvirginbook.com](http://craigvirginbook.com).

**Lindsey Fitzharris '04** has received critical acclaim for her debut nonfiction book *The Butchering Art: Joseph Lister's Quest to Transform the Grisly World of Victorian Medicine*. Lindsey won the PEN America/E.O. Wilson Prize for Literary Science Writing at the 2018 PEN America Literary Awards Ceremony at NYU's Skirball Center for the Performing Arts on Feb. 20, 2018. The award was accompanied by a \$10,000 prize. *The Butchering Art* was also named one of NPR's Best Books of 2017 and was most recently

## Authors and the Arts

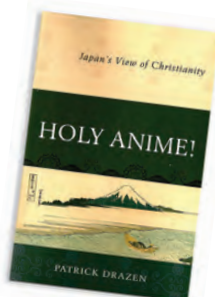
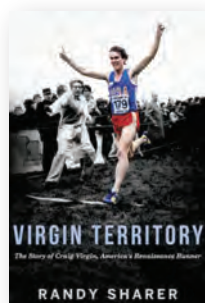
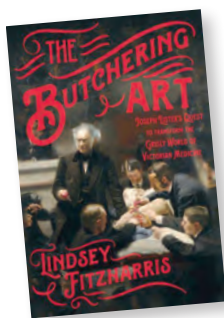


shortlisted for a Wellcome Book Prize. The book follows Lister on his quest to transform the brutal and bloody world of Victorian surgery through antiseptics. It is widely available.

A novel from **Jac Jemc '05**, *The Grip of It*, was a finalist for the Chicago Review of Books Fiction Award. The horror novel follows a young Chicago couple who discover their new home in small-town Wisconsin isn't quite what they expected. Jac embarked on a 12-city, nationwide book tour, starting in August 2017. The book is widely available.

**Nathan Schmeling '15** has published his book, *Timing the Infinite*. It is available at [timingtheinfinite.com](http://timingtheinfinite.com).

**Sneha Subramanian '15** and **Sen Wang '15** are part of the founding team for TiffinTown Books, a line of illustrated children's books featuring tenacious women, brought to life with augmented reality technology. The group finished its first book, *The Story of Josephine Baker*, in 2017. Nine more books, along with two interactive magazines, are planned for 2018.



## FILM

**Dane Brinkmeier '12** completed and premiered his film, *Silent Composition*, at a number of prominent film festivals in 2017. The film was shot during Dane's senior year at Illinois Wesleyan and completed last year. It features IWU alumni.

## POETRY

**Korey Williams '12** was a finalist for the 2017 National Poetry Series book prize for his work, *Bound*.

Poetry by **Jacqui Zeng '13** was nominated by Nightjar Review for a 2017 Pushcart Prize. Jacqui is an MFA candidate at Southern Illinois University.

## ARTICLE

**A.J. Hutson '69** had his article, "Hidden Perspectives on Health Insurance," published on the daily internet publication *American Thinker* in July 2017.

## MUSIC

**Jean (Wideroe) Berkenstock '55** (A) is one of two featured performers on a CD set released by Midsummer's Music Festival in Door County, Wisconsin. In addition to being a founder of and flutist in Midsummer's Music over the past 27 years, Jean served for 43 years as principal flute with the Lyric Opera of Chicago. The two-CD set, *A Bel Canto Summer*, features recordings of live performances by Midsummer's Music

over the past 12 years in a variety of intimate settings throughout the Door County Peninsula. *A Bel Canto Summer* is available at [www.midsummersmusic.com](http://www.midsummersmusic.com).

**David Wilkes '61** continues to manage Sultans of String, an instrumental group based in Toronto. The group recorded and released a video, "A Django Christmas," with the Prague Symphony in December 2017.

## ART

**James Hennessey '58** (B) held an art exhibition titled *Enduring Concerns: 50 Years of Painting in Baltimore* from Dec. 9, 2017 to Jan. 13, 2018. The gallery was on display at the Creative Alliance at The Patterson in Baltimore. A reception was held Dec. 9, 2017, and a gallery talk was held Jan. 6, 2018.



**Barbara Thomas '61** (C) hosted a one-night showing of her series of paintings, titled *Journey of the Heart*, inspired by photographs of missionary Carol Polley. The showing was held Nov. 11, 2017, at Grace Assembly of God in New Whiteland, Indiana.

**Emily Stedman '69** (D) had her latest exhibit, titled *A Place to Remember*, displayed at the Oresman Gallery at Larchmont (N.Y.) Public Library, Sept. 6-29, 2017. A reception was held at the gallery Sept. 9, 2017.

**Meda Rives Smith '81** and **Veda Rives Aukerman '81** displayed their work, *Inner Circles 2018*, at Illinois State University's Faculty Biennial exhibit in February 2018.

**Renee McGinnis '84** (E) showcased a collection of works Sept. 1 through Oct. 3, 2017, as part of North Central College's Schoenherr Gallery in Naperville, Illinois. Her exhibit, titled *Of Rust and Men*, was displayed Jan. 5 through Feb. 24, 2018, at Chicago's ZG Gallery. McGinnis has exhibited in Los Angeles, New York, Germany, and throughout the Midwest.

## PERFORMANCES

**Marilyn Keiser '63** performed a concert at First Presbyterian Church in Alton, Illinois, Dec. 15, 2017. Marilyn is the Chancellor's Professor of Music at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University.

**Kirsten Weingartner-Weiss '90** performs regularly as part of the Queen City Quintet in Willow Springs, Missouri, and as the principal violist of the Springfield (Mo.) Symphony and concertmaster of the Springfield (Mo.) Drury Civic Orchestra.



**Karen (Manley) Kahler '91** was featured as a soprano in the DeKalb Municipal Band's *A Star Gazing Event* Aug. 15, 2017.

Three IWU alumni (F) were featured in the Quincy (Ill.) Community Theatre production of Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* in September 2017. **Doris (Spencer) Sanders '91** portrayed Mrs. Webb, while **J.T. Dozier '78** and **Tom Gooding '11** played the roles of Professor Higgins and George Gibbs, respectively.

**Moshe Adams '95** (G) is in his second season with the Congressional Chorus in Washington, D.C. The chorus performed *We Will Rise: The Search for Equality, Justice & Freedom in Song, Poetry & Dance* Nov. 19, 2017, at Church of the Epiphany in Washington. Moshe was featured in the *Washington Blade* in a preview for the performance.

**Heather Olt '96** (H) has a recurring role in the Hulu original series *Runaways*. Heather's other recent credits include roles on *American Horror Story: Cult*, *Jane The Virgin*, *Justified* and *Baskets*.

**Jenilee Houghton '05** directed and choreographed a production of *The Wizard of Oz* that ran Jan. 13-28, 2018, at the Big Noise Theatre in Des Plaines, Illinois.

**Bryonha Marie Parham '07** (I) performed at New York's Highline Ballroom March 26, 2018, in *Broadway Sings Rihanna*. The performance was part of the acclaimed concert series *Broadway Sings*, that takes a pop icon and flips their music to create brand-new, unique arrangements and orchestrations.

(continued on next page)



## Arts and Authors (continued)

**Kate Tombaugh '07** performed as a soloist in the Streator (Ill.) Community production of *Messiah*, presented Dec. 3, 2017, at St. Michael the Archangel Church.

**Sarah Bockel '10** is playing the lead in the national tour of *Beautiful – The Carole King Musical*. The musical made a recent stop at the Cadillac Theater in Sarah's hometown of Chicago.

**Max Briggs '12** performed as part of the Chicago-based brass quintet Temperance Brass, Jan. 28, 2018, at an IWU School of Music concert in Presser Hall's Westbrook Auditorium.

**Ian Coulter-Buford '12** (inset) starred in the Broadway tour of *After Midnight* on the Norwegian Escape, directed and choreographed by Tony Award winner Warren Carlyle, through February 2018. He released his debut EP, *Live 4 Now*, available now on all music platforms, in 2017.



**Eric Novak '15, Ayethaw Tun '15, Braden Poole '16, Ryan Donlin '17 and Robby Kuntz '18** (below) are members of the band Red Scarves. The group formed at IWU five years ago. The Chicago-based band released its debut album, *Sort of Scarlet*, Oct. 20, 2017. A Spring 2018 tour is planned, with a show May 29, 2018, in Bloomington, Illinois, at Nightshop.

**Sam Mullooly '16** and his father Tom Mullooly collaborated on an opera titled *American Spring*. The opera is set in April 1865, during the final month of the Civil War. It was performed Aug. 12-13, 2017, at Pius XI High School's Black Box Theatre in Milwaukee.



(Above and right) New banners featuring IWU students, like Sarah O' Rourke '18, are part of the new University branding. (Inset above) The bold design and colors are reflected in the materials handed out by admissions staff.



## IWU Introduces "Be Breakthrough" Branding

In an effort to tell the Illinois Wesleyan story in an authentic, flexible way that resonates with a new generation of prospective students, the University launched a new branding campaign in Fall 2017, which will serve as the foundation of enrollment and communication efforts.

The "Be Breakthrough" concept was conceived with consultation and feedback from current and prospective students, alumni, faculty, staff and trustees, who shared their perspectives about the Illinois Wesleyan experience. Members of the IWU community are being encouraged to live the brand by "being breakthrough," and surpassing self-imposed limits and expectations. Stories of breakthrough moments from members of the campus community have been collected to better tell the greater Illinois Wesleyan story.

"The need to tell our story in a clear and authentic way that not only resonates with students, but demonstrates our value and the benefits of an IWU education, is critical to our success in a competitive higher education space," said IWU Vice President of Enrollment and Marketing **LeAnn Hughes**. "We are pleased that the new brand is resonating with prospective students and how well-received it is been from our students, faculty and staff."

The "Breakthrough" brand is built around a core value proposition that "Illinois Wesleyan is a focused, academic community devoted to sparking the curiosity within every learner, so that students can discover, refine and live out their passion." An accompanying message map articulates three pillars of Illinois Wesleyan's strength: academic quality, rich experiences and a supportive environment.

The new branding guidelines utilize the Illinois Wesleyan University wordmark as its primary signature, reserving the seal for the most formal communications.

"We are excited to introduce an updated color palette, typography, and guidelines for design and use of photography, which will help foster a strong and recognizable brand," said IWU's first-ever Director of Marketing **Andy Kreiss '86**.

Prospective students are seeing "Be Breakthrough" branding examples in a new viewbook, visit folders, acceptance packets and travel pieces. On campus, "Be Breakthrough" branding can be seen on Quad banners and other displays. An upcoming redesign of [www.iwu.edu](http://www.iwu.edu), led by **Robert Frank III '14** and **Michael Gorman '10**, will have a new look. So will *Illinois Wesleyan University Magazine*, beginning with this Spring 2018 issue, thanks to longtime graphic designer **Gary Schwartz** and editor **Matt Wing**.





We are watching for your  
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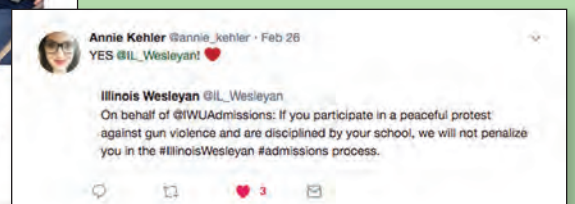
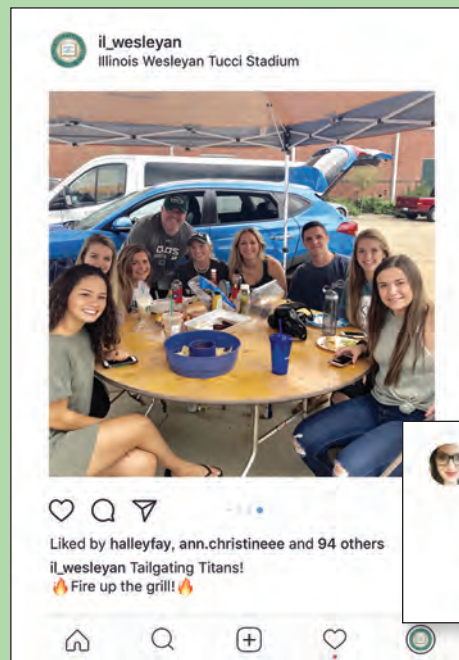
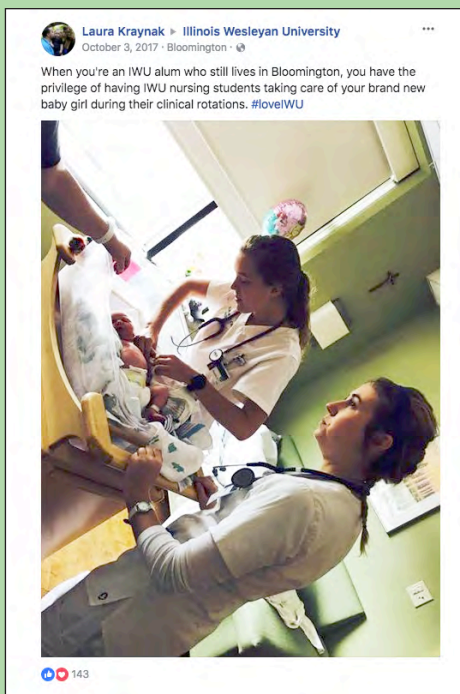


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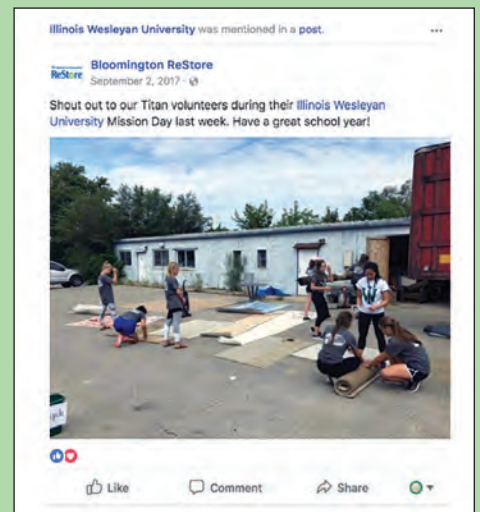


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# #IllinoisWesleyan SOCIAL LIGHTS



## #IllinoisWesleyan Social Lights





MEMORIES FROM

# HOMECOMING 2017



(Left) Members of the **Class of 1967** gathered for their 50-year reunion at Homecoming.

(Above) Members of the **Class of 1987** gathered for a 30-year reunion photo at Homecoming.

(Below) Members of the **1996 Titan football team** posed for a quick photo at the Homecoming football game.



(Above) The Homecoming theme was ***Titans Around The World***. IWU has 22,576 alumni worldwide including 214 living outside the United States.





(Right) "Titans Around the World" included a drumming demonstration led by professor **Rebecca Gearhart Mafazy**, during which **Dilyetna Gebru '20** (left) and **Nitsueh Kebere '19** (right) shared a laugh.



(Above) President **Eric Jensen** (second from left) poses with the three major alumni award winners, (from left) **Ivan Birrer**, accepting for his late wife **Betty (Stoutenborough) Ritchie-Birrer '47**, **Charlene Carruthers '07** and **Wayne Messmer '72**.



(Above) Distinguished Alumnus **Wayne Messmer '72** sings the national anthem before the Titan football team's 30-0 Homecoming victory over Carroll University at Tucci Field.



(Above) IWU alumni gather at Club Tommy.

(Lower right) **Tyler Lovell '18** and **Grace McGovern '18** were crowned Homecoming King and Queen.




(Above) IWU's past two Distinguished Alumni award winners, **Wayne Messmer '72** and **Denny Matthews '66**, compare World Series rings.



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**IWU HOMECOMING 2018**  
**OCTOBER 5-7, 2018**





Standing on a crowded stage at the conclusion of the 90th Academy Awards with the award-winning cast and crew of *The Shape of Water*, the Oscar-nominated and Emmy-winning Illinois Wesleyan University alum could still spot his date amongst the sea of glittering dresses and tuxedos in the crowd at the Dolby Theatre.

She was the same woman he had asked on a first date 50 years earlier when the two were junior theatre majors at Illinois Wesleyan. Though they had been acquainted from the beginning of their college days, it wasn't until that first date Richard '69 and Sharon Jenkins '69 became a couple.

And they've been one ever since. The Jenkinses will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary next August.

"That was it for me," Richard said, recalling that first date. "I came back to the dorm and Craig Mahlstedt '69 and Larry Shue '69 – two friends and wonderful actors in the drama department – were in Larry's room and I said, 'I'm going to marry her ... if she'll have me.'"

Although he had stated his intentions with a huge qualifier, it wasn't necessary. Sharon knew, too.

"I was actually in a long-distance relationship with another guy, going to another college. I think he called me that night, and I think I kind of broke up with him on the phone," Sharon remembered. "I knew then who I needed to be with, and it was Richard."

Thus began the union of two of the most successful and revered IWU theatre alums. Richard has forged a highly successful acting career – highlighted over the past decade by Academy Award nominations for *The Visitor* and *The Shape of Water* – while Sharon has compiled a long list of credits and job titles, having served as a dancer, teacher, director and choreographer. The two have even collaborated in recent years, serving as co-directors for productions of *Oliver!* and *Oklahoma!* at Trinity Repertory Company in Providence, Rhode Island – the Jenkinses' unofficial home away from home.

Yet those who knew them during their time at Illinois Wesleyan insist they are the same people they were before going on to wildly successful careers.

"That's the kind of people they are," said longtime IWU theatre department

# THE SHAPE OF SUCCESS

Much has changed since, but Richard '69 and Sharon Jenkins '69 are the same people who went on a first date as Illinois Wesleyan students 50 years ago.

Story by MATT WING





“He was a nurturer, he encouraged us. He made it seem like it was a possible career – that you should pursue it. He really was a supporter of that and I am forever grateful to him.”

RICHARD JENKINS '69

on mentor and former IWU theatre department chair John Ficca



(Above) A group of students is pictured in front of McPherson Hall, including **Richard '69** and **Sharon Jenkins '69** (third and fourth from right), and theatre chair **John Ficca** (far right).



**Sharon Friedrick and Richard Jenkins** (*Wesleyana*)

chair John Ficca. “They have not forgotten their friends or their alma mater.”



Richard and Sharon Jenkins grew up a mere hour’s drive from one another, though in vastly different surroundings. Sharon was raised in Chicago, in the city. Richard spent his childhood in the more rural setting of DeKalb, Illinois.

But both knew early on the types of careers they wanted to pursue. Weekend pilgrimages to the local movie theater and participation in a junior high play convinced Richard he wanted to be an actor. Sharon declared her intentions in her high school yearbook. When seniors were asked their future plans, Sharon needed just one word. *Choreographer*.

Both found their way to Bloomington, Illinois, in the late summer of 1965 and enrolled in Illinois Wesleyan’s highly regarded theatre program. Each found at IWU like-minded peers with similar

ambitions and faculty mentors who helped nurture their passions.

For Richard, that mentor came in the form of Ficca, the sometimes intimidating but well-respected head of the theatre department.

At the conclusion of his freshman year in which he was more an observer than a participant, Ficca requested a meeting with Richard. For the wide-eyed 19-year-old from DeKalb, it felt like being summoned to the principal’s office.

“He called me into his office and said, ‘Who are you? I know you’re in my class but you haven’t auditioned for anything. You haven’t signed up for anything. You’re supposed to audition and sign up for every play,’” Richard recalled Ficca stating bluntly. “And I hadn’t. I was terrified. I was so afraid of him.”

Ficca instructed his pupil to return for summer stock, a series of stage productions during the summer months using stock scenery and costumes, featuring talent pulled primarily from college theatre programs.

“He said, ‘Come to summer stock and let’s see if you want to participate, if you want to do this. But if you decide after you come that you’re not serious about it, you have got to make way for somebody who is,’” Richard continued, recounting a meeting many of Ficca’s students experienced at the end of

their first year. “I said OK, and that’s what I did.”

While also influenced by Ficca, Sharon had no plans of becoming an actress. Intent on pursuing a career in dance and choreography, she was inspired by a young faculty member who arrived on campus around the same time she did.

“She was a modern dancer and she started bringing dance into the PE program,” Sharon said. “She started a dance group, and I auditioned for it and became one of the first members.”

The faculty member, Janet Boeh, formed the Illinois Wesleyan dance group “Orchesis.” She took her students to modern dance performances and brought dancers to campus to teach master classes. Boeh inspired her dance students by providing the out-of-the-classroom, experiential learning opportunities emblematic of an Illinois Wesleyan education.

“I had come from a pretty standard ballet, jazz, tap kind of background at my studio in Chicago,” Sharon said. “So she kind of opened the world of modern dance to me, and I thought that was really incredible.”

Faculty members and fellow classmates and cast members in IWU productions all played roles in molding and inspiring Richard and Sharon Jenkins, but none had greater impact

## THE SHAPE OF SUCCESS

than those seminal mentors. John Ficca. Janet Boeh.

"He was a nurturer, he encouraged us. He made it seem like it was a possible career – that you should pursue it," Richard said of Ficca. "He really was a supporter of that and I am forever grateful to him."

The decision to attend Illinois Wesleyan is one both Richard and Sharon are thankful they made.

"It was an incredibly important time in my life," Richard said. "It was the right place at the right time for me and I am so happy that I went there."



Richard and Sharon graduated in the late spring of 1969 and were married two months later. Richard spent a year in graduate school at Indiana University before his first paid acting gig came in an offer from Trinity Rep.

The chance to join the company through an apprenticeship program as an "acting fellow" couldn't be passed up, even if it took them far from home. The Jenkinses quickly packed and made the 16-hour drive to Rhode Island.

"We thought we'd be there for about a year, two years maybe," Richard said, laughing. "They made me a member of the acting company, and we've stayed for 48 years."

Richard appeared in productions of *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Sherlock Holmes*, *A Man for All Seasons* and a dozen other classics in his first few years at Trinity Rep. Later, during the planning of another production, then-artistic director Adrian Hall stated the need to have someone choreograph a dance.

And while the thought of suggesting his wife quickly crossed his mind, a friend and castmate, Timothy Crowe, beat him to the punch. Crowe exclaimed, "His wife is a choreographer!" motioning to Richard.

No one could have forecast it then, but Crowe's referral had a lasting impact. Sharon has gone on to 58 credited productions at Trinity Rep. Her first, during the 1973-74 season, was as a "dance supervisor" for *Aimee*, a production that also featured her husband in the cast.

"She came in, did the dance, choreographed it, and Adrian fell in love with her," Richard said. "Every time they



(Above and left) **Richard and Sharon Jenkins** discovered their passions at Illinois Wesleyan. The Jenkinses credit their IWU experiences as serving as springboards to successful careers.

"(Janet Boeh) kind of opened the world of modern dance to me, and I thought that was really incredible." — SHARON JENKINS '69

needed a choreographer after that, Sharon was it."

But Sharon hasn't let her husband forget that it was their friend – and not him – who had endorsed her for the job at Trinity Rep.

"Sharon said to me, 'Thanks a lot. Your friend had to mention it!'" Richard recalled, laughing at the memory.

The time marked the beginning of long – and enduring – tenures for the Jenkinses at Trinity Rep. Richard was cast in nearly every production, while Sharon essentially became the resident choreographer.

Richard became a full-fledged member of the acting company, and the Jenkinses settled in Rhode Island, without ever consciously making the decision. In addition to her work at Trinity Rep, Sharon was a dancer in the Rhode Island Dance Rep, the dance director at Hope Arts Magnet School in Providence, and a dance specialist with the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts. Richard supplemented his work at Trinity Rep by acting in productions at other local and regional theatres.

But even after working away from Trinity Rep, the Jenkinses have always

come back. Even while pursuing roles as a screen actor, Richard returned to Trinity as artistic director, from 1990-94. And even with multiple roles as dancer, dance director and teacher, Sharon has repeatedly returned to Trinity to provide choreography when needed.

"It's home for both of us," Richard said. "It's where we grew up together."



Though they had built a comfortable life in Rhode Island and started raising a family there – the Jenkinses have two children, Andrew and IWU alum Sarah '97 – Richard still had the itch to act in movies.

"I had made that decision when I was 12 years old, but I couldn't get into movies," he said. "I didn't figure that opportunity would come along."

Opportunity knocked, however, one night after a production of *Holiday* at the Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven, Connecticut. At the conclusion of the play, Richard was approached by a man who, much to his surprise, offered to become his manager.



"He said, 'What do you want to do?' and I said, 'I want to be in movies,'" Richard recalled. "I was 35 or 36 at the time, and that's how it started."

The screen success was far from instantaneous. Richard landed minor roles in films and TV series, including the feature film *Silverado* in 1985 and a pair of appearances on the TV series *Miami Vice*. A role in 1987's *The Witches of Eastwick*, where he shared the screen with Jack Nicholson, Cher, Susan Sarandon and Michelle Pfeiffer, was "the first nice part I had in a big, commercial film," he said.

Richard continued to pile up screen credits and built a reputation as an up-and-coming character actor. In 1991, he starred in the TV movie *The Perfect Tribute*, written by friend and fellow IWU alum Dennis Brown '67 and co-starring another friend and former classmate in James Sutorius '67.

"The casting director recommended Richard and, of course, I was thrilled," Brown recalled. "I don't think Richard would have accepted it if it hadn't had

been written by me, because it wasn't a very big part, but we had a wonderful Wesleyan reunion in Atlanta on the set of that film."

*The Perfect Tribute* was a Civil War period piece centered on and culminating with Abraham Lincoln's writing of the Gettysburg Address. Lincoln was played by legendary actor Jason Robards, by then already a two-time Academy Award winner. Richard had no scenes with Robards in the film, but the two were introduced on set. Afterward, Robards shared his opinion of Richard with the film's screenwriter.

"He told me, 'That guy is the real thing,'" Brown said. "Jason Robards spent just a few minutes talking with Richard, and he ended up later going to Trinity and doing a weeklong benefit there, and that all happened because Richard met Jason on the set of my movie."

What Robards surmised after only a brief meeting has been increasingly recognized by Hollywood decision-makers over the years by way of higher-profile

roles. Richard received critical acclaim and was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Actor for 2007's *The Visitor*. He earned glowing reviews for his roles in the TV drama *Six Feet Under* (2001-05) and miniseries *Olive Kitteridge* (2014), the latter for which he won a Primetime Emmy. But he's perhaps most often recognized for his role as the father figure in the Will Ferrell comedy *Step Brothers* (2008), in which he showcased one of his best traits.

"He's one of the funniest people on earth," his IWU classmate Brown said. "And his humor is what I think has gotten him so far, because on a film set, he's just a fun person to be around."

Richard's most recent role in *The Shape of Water* has been hailed by many to be his best performance yet. He received nominations for Golden Globe, Screen Actors Guild and Academy awards for his role in the film that was named the year's best at the March 4, 2018 Academy Awards.

"I've been doing this a long time and there was a time when I thought I'd never get the opportunity to do it," Richard said. "So I'm incredibly grateful and humbled by the fact that I've been able to make a living doing it."



For the many film credits Richard accumulated, Sharon matched the count with a variety of job titles and family responsibilities. Her work as a dancer and choreographer and teacher was often supplemented by work at other regional theatres.

She had a Hollywood experience of her own when she choreographed the 1992 Paramount Pictures film *School Ties*, featuring Brendan Fraser, Matt Damon and Ben Affleck.

But all her jobs and side work were secondary to her most important role of mom. Balancing her schedule with Richard's, while raising two children, wasn't easy.

"It was challenging at times," Sharon said. "But you just do what you have to do to get the day done and get through it."

Her role was challenging when Richard was stationed in Rhode Island full-time. It was even more difficult when he pursued screen acting.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES



(Left) Richard Jenkins received his second Oscar nomination for his supporting role in the Best Picture award winner, *The Shape of Water*.



CONSTANCE BROWN



(Above and right) At Trinity Rep, Richard acted in (*Of Mice and Men*) and directed (*Twelfth Night*) several productions.

MARK MORELLI





(Above) Richard and Sharon Jenkins have collaborated on works in recent years, co-directing classic musicals (pictured below), *Oklahoma!* and *Oliver!* (Above right) In 2014, the Jenkinses received Trinity Rep's Pell Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts.

ABOVE PHOTOS COURTESY OF TRINITY REPERTORY COMPANY



MARK TUREK



MARK TUREK

"When I started movies, you could be gone for 12 weeks sometimes," Richard said. "But Sharon was there, and teaching at the time ... she had both kids there and I was off doing movies, and it was hard."

Being nearly a thousand miles away from their nearest relative meant the Jenkinses had no built-in support system to stay home with a sick kid or pick one

up if soccer practice ended at the same time as piano lessons.

And with Richard often away filming his next movie, Sharon was on her own.

"It's not unlike what a lot of young families have to do today to juggle it all," Sharon said. "When you say it, it sounds really hard, but it didn't seem that hard when we went through it."



These days, life is easier for Richard and Sharon Jenkins. While many of their friends have retired, they haven't considered retirement in the traditional sense. They do what they want, when they want.

Richard continues to take on new roles, though he's more selective and only accepts the ones that truly interest him. Sharon has continued in her role as the "go-to" any time choreography is needed in a production at Trinity Rep.

Richard and Sharon are now working together, co-directing recent Trinity Rep productions of *Oliver!* and *Oklahoma!* In 2014, they were awarded Trinity Rep's Pell Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts, a distinction previously bestowed upon household names like Robert Redford, Liza Minnelli, and Jason Robards, the guy who recognized Richard's talent before most did, after only a five-minute meeting.

The Jenkinses make it back to Illinois Wesleyan's campus from time to time, too. And they visit old friends. And old

friends come to visit them. Ficca came to visit in Providence not long ago. Brown visited them in Florida last winter.

And their marriage is stronger than ever. "I've heard that you really have to work at a relationship, but I always thought, 'Wow, if you have to work that hard, it wouldn't be that much fun,'" Sharon said, laughing at the notion. "But I think it's a lot of luck and it's choosing to be in the foxhole with the right person."

Though their lives and the world around them has changed, the Jenkinses have essentially remained the same people who went on that first date 50 years ago.

Brown likes to tell the story of Richard visiting his film class at Webster University in St. Louis. He once informed Richard that he was teaching *The Visitor* as part of the curriculum. A few days later, Richard emailed his friend and asked if it would be a disruption if he attended the class.

"I emailed him back and said, 'Of course it will disrupt the class! But please come!'" Brown said. "And he did come, at his own expense, and stayed here in my guest room. And he came and did the movie, and gave us a live actor's commentary like you'd see on a DVD, and it was an incredible class."

"No student who was there will ever forget having been in that class. That was a great gift he gave me."

Brown continues to teach *The Visitor* in his film class. He recorded and transcribed Richard's remarks from that day and has presented his friend's commentary to subsequent classes. On occasion, a student will pose a thought-provoking question about the film. Brown will forward it on to Richard. Most of the time, he'll get an email reply with a thoughtful answer.

To think a person, having attained a certain amount of fame and success, would be willing or have time to do such a thing, might seem unlikely. But to friends of Richard and Sharon Jenkins, it's no surprise.

"That's a remarkable thing to be able to say, because we all change, but Richard is the same person and Sharon is the same person," Brown said. "They are the same admirable people they were when we first met them, and that's why you still want to be around them." ♦



Quickly approaching her high school graduation and unsure of what to do next, Amanda Toney-Logan '74 needed help. She needed guidance. She needed direction.

She found it all in Silas Purnell.

A leader in Chicago's black community, Purnell helped thousands of city high school students find paths to higher education. Purnell dedicated his life to helping young people, tirelessly pursuing scholarships and grant money for those who wanted to attend college but did not have the financial means to do so. In the Chicago neighborhood where Toney-Logan grew up, it was common knowledge that if a student wanted to go to college and was willing to work hard, Purnell would find the money.

"One of my high school classmates, who had already been accepted to Illinois Wesleyan, her mother told me

about Silas Purnell," Toney-Logan said. "She said if you wanted to go to school, he could find the money to help you."

Like thousands of others from her hometown aided by Purnell, Toney-Logan graduated with a bachelor's degree four years later.

A history major at Illinois Wesleyan, Toney-Logan was a founding member of IWU's chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, which had to navigate a demanding application process to establish a local chapter. Toney-Logan was active in Illinois Wesleyan's Historical and French societies, and even had a brief stint as a DJ at the student radio station.

"It was one of the best times of my life," she said of her time at IWU. "And I didn't really realize it until after I left."

Toney-Logan also maintained a campus job in the library to help pay her way through school. Combined with

grants and scholarships secured with the assistance of Purnell, she was able to graduate with little student debt.

"If you got \$500 here or \$1,000 there, or you put in earnings from your student job – it all added up," she said.

After graduation, Toney-Logan started at Illinois Bell as an assistant manager and was quickly promoted to a manager role. Meanwhile, she explored another career path. Starting with night classes, Toney-Logan slowly worked her way through law school. After graduating from DePaul University's College of Law, she served as a law clerk for the Honorable Illinois Appellate Court Justice R. Eugene Pincham. She eventually started her own practice, specializing in employment discrimination and probate law.

Toney-Logan eventually campaigned for the position of circuit court judge, winning an election in 1994. She was

Amanda Toney-Logan '74 benefitted from assistance when she attended IWU. Now she's returning the favor.

Story by MATT WING

(Right) Caleb Green '20 (left) was the guest of Amanda Toney-Logan '74 (right) at the Scholarship Benefactor Dinner on Oct. 12, 2017, along with Green's parents, Cornelius and Anne (center). Green is the 2017-18 recipient of the Honorable Judge Amanda Toney-Logan Endowed Scholarship for African-Americans.



# PAYING IT FORWARD



## DELTA SIGMA THETA

(Left) Toney-Logan (front left) is pictured with the Delta Sigma Theta sorority in the 1972 *Wesleyana*. (Above) Toney-Logan (right) attended the 2011 Scholarship Benefactor Dinner with (from left) **Myrtis Sullivan '74**, **Ann Harding** and scholarship recipient **Jarrod Hill '13**.

retained for the position three times before retiring in 2009.

Financially stable and wanting to provide the same opportunity to attend Illinois Wesleyan she received a quarter century earlier, Toney-Logan founded The Honorable Judge Amanda Toney-Logan Endowed Scholarship for African-American Students in 2000. The scholarship was first awarded in the 2003-04 academic year and has since provided an annual scholarship to a qualified recipient for each of the past 15 years.

"I just wanted to give back to the school that gave to me and I've never forgotten that, because it was so important to me," Toney-Logan said. "Every little bit counts and I don't know if people understand that. If they can't give a lot and can't do this or can't do that, then they don't do it. But if you do what you can do, it will be appreciated. And it feels good when you see that someone cares."

Toney-Logan has had occasion to meet the beneficiaries of the scholarship she funds each year at Illinois Wesleyan's Scholarship Benefactor Dinner. At this past fall's dinner, which featured a record number of scholarship recipients and attendees, she met for the first time Caleb Green '20, this year's recipient.

Green, a sophomore, is a double major in entrepreneurship and marketing from Parker, Colorado, a suburb of Denver. He's a member of the IWU men's lacrosse team and has been involved in student activities, notably the social media promotion of comedian Adam Devine's campus visit in February 2017.

But unlike any other scholarship recipient Toney-Logan had met previously at the Scholarship Benefactor Dinner, Green brought unique company: his parents.

Previously informed her scholarship recipient's parents would be in town from nearly 1,000 miles away, Toney-Logan was quick to invite the Greens to join their son at the Scholarship Benefactor Dinner. The extra company made for a unique meeting, which Toney-Logan counts among her most pleasant visits at the annual event.

"I loved all of them – the dad, the mom, Caleb – they were all great," she said. "Caleb's a young man who is discovering everything and trying to find out things on his own. And his parents were typical parents. His mother was how mothers are, concerned and worried about what her child should and shouldn't do. They were just typical parents and it was great to meet them, too."

Toney-Logan and the Greens spent the evening talking about Illinois Wesleyan, lacrosse and Caleb's recently-launched social media marketing consulting agency, which he hopes to grow while pursuing his degree at Illinois Wesleyan, and eventually expand to become his full-time job.

Toney-Logan left the Scholarship Benefactor Dinner, as she usually does, impressed with the young person her scholarship benefits. Before returning to Chicago, she stopped by the University bookstore to pick up an IWU Lacrosse T-shirt.

"I bought it for Caleb, in his honor," Toney-Logan said. "If I could have put his name and number on the back of it, I would have!"

While he made an exceptional first impression on his benefactor, Green was akin to so many of the IWU students that filled the Memorial Center's Joslin Atrium the night of Scholarship Benefactor Dinner, in that his education at Illinois Wesleyan depended largely on a financial aid package.

"I really liked it here when I came on my visit, but we weren't sure we could afford it," Green said. "I knew about the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and that scholarships were possible, but



Illinois Wesleyan was really good about helping me find everything I could to help me be able to come to school here.”

During his freshman year at IWU, he learned of The Honorable Judge Amanda Toney-Logan Endowed Scholarship for African-American Students. “I decided then that I was going to go for it,” Green recalled. “It’s helped tremendously and I might not be here right now if not for that scholarship. It’s been really important for me and my family.”

The scholarship has been equally important to previous recipients. Count Raven Stubbs ’13 among those who depended on opportunities like the one Toney-Logan’s scholarship provided.

After receiving the scholarship as a senior and graduating from IWU in 2013, Stubbs was accepted into Harvard Graduate School of Education, where she earned her master’s degree in education policy and management.

Stubbs is now a campus director at a middle school in the Boston area. She also leads an anti-oppression consulting project, working with not-for-profits and communities to help create sustainable models of equity and intentional cultures of equity through workshop training, using Theatre of the Oppressed techniques.

Reflecting on how far she had come, from a modest upbringing in Detroit to Illinois Wesleyan to Harvard, Stubbs decided she needed to send some thank-you notes to those who had helped her along the way.

One was for Amanda Toney-Logan.

“I just really wanted her to know that her decision had such a huge impact on me, for her to pay it forward in that way,” Stubbs said. “It was very important to acknowledge that and it was important for me to let her know the significance it had for me.”

Toney-Logan said that knowing former scholarship recipients go on to successful careers after their time at IWU is the most gratifying part of funding the scholarship. Among the previous recipients are a lawyer, two human resource specialists and enough education professionals to run a small school. Nearly half of the previous recipients of Toney-Logan’s scholarship have gone on to receive higher academic degrees after leaving Illinois Wesleyan’s campus.

So getting a note like the one she received from Stubbs simply reaffirmed Toney-Logan’s commitment to providing access to an IWU education through her scholarship.

“I felt so good reading that note,” she said. “For her to tell me how important it was to receive the money she received and how hard it was for her and what it meant for someone to care and to understand ... she was just so gracious in writing that note and it was so nice to read it.”

In addition to providing access and affordability to remarkable students, Toney-Logan has the corresponding goal of enlisting the next generation of scholarship supporters.

“I’ll continue to do it as long as I have money to make it possible,” she said of her scholarship endowment. “I’m just honoring what others did for me and trying to do the same for someone else, and I can only hope that others do the same.”

Just as Silas Purnell had inspired her, Toney-Logan hopes to inspire someone who can one day fill her shoes.

And she may have found one such person in her youngest scholarship recipient.

“I hope to be in a position where I can do that, too, someday,” Green said. “For all the people who have invested money and time into you and helped you become the person that you are, I feel like you have to give back in some way, and I would love to help future students the same way.” ♦



(Above) A former recipient of the Toney-Logan Scholarship, **Raven Stubbs '13** went on to Harvard to receive a degree from the Graduate School of Education.

Toney-Logan said that knowing former scholarship recipients go on to successful careers after their time at IWU is the most gratifying part of funding the scholarship.

(Right) Current scholarship recipient **Caleb Green '20** is a double major in entrepreneurship and marketing. He is also a member of the Titan men’s lacrosse team.



# Building the Future *of* MEDICINE

(Right) William Murphy '98 discusses research projects in his laboratory at the University of Wisconsin. Pictured are (from left) William Daly, Peyton Uhl and Gaurav Kaushik.



## *Could a sprig of parsley repair your organs, heal your bones and rebuild muscle?*

Story by STEVEN BARCUS

William Murphy '98 thinks so.

In fact, he is finding that the keys to unlocking the future of regenerative medicine might be all around us. Murphy, director of the Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Center ([www.stemcells.wisc.edu](http://www.stemcells.wisc.edu)) at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, is drawing inspiration from plants, minerals and other materials to solve some of the most challenging biomedical problems.

The root of Murphy's work is in creating bioinspired materials – regenerative medicine technologies based on materials already present in nature. These technologies are opening the door to new ways to administer cell therapies and create models to better understand the effects of drugs on patients – ideas he first began

to explore as a physics and math double major at Illinois Wesleyan University.

"The most interesting materials on earth are present in nature," says Murphy, who is also the Harvey D. Spangler Professor of Biomedical Engineering, professor of orthopedics and rehabilitation, and director of the Human MAPs Center ([hmap.wisc.edu](http://hmap.wisc.edu)) at UW–Madison. "Much of what we do starts with watching how materials are formed and used in nature, and then mimicking that to create new strategies in regenerative medicine."

### **Drawing Inspiration from Plants**

While stem cells are highly capable of regenerating damaged tissues and organs, it is necessary for a structure to



be present to facilitate the generation and delivery of stem cells. This structure also needs to be highly porous to ensure the constant movement of nutrients and oxygen to the cells, while also allowing for waste to be removed.

Many researchers have been using advanced manufacturing strategies in the attempt to create materials that have complex features ideal for cell cultivation. However, Murphy believes that rather than build completely new structures, scientists should work on adapting already existing structures such as plants, which have been evolving for 700 million years.

With this idea in mind, Murphy is utilizing plants as 3-D scaffolds to generate and deliver cells.

“Plants can be useful in human cell manufacturing,” Murphy says. “Plants can create a scaffold that has a high surface area, giving cells lots of space to grow. Plus, they are very porous, which enables them to easily move nutrients and waste in and out.”

Murphy said these and many other characteristics allow scaffolds derived from plants to generate large numbers of human cells, which can be used in

therapies. He also noted that the wide variety of plants available can be readily engineered to create even more variations – making plants an obvious choice as a material to be used for biomedical applications.

In time, Murphy and his team hope that these scaffolds might one day be used to rebuild tissue for organs, muscle, and even bone.

### Human Tissue on a Chip

Alongside his work with plants, Murphy is creating environments where human brain tissue can be grown outside the human body.

The Tissue Chip for Drug Screening Program, an initiative of the National Institutes of Health, is challenging researchers at 11 universities to develop microscale human tissue on a chip that can serve as mimics for human organs and tissues.

Murphy explains that there are many benefits for using actual human tissues to identify new drug candidates and understand the effects of environmental toxins. Animal tissues, which would normally be used in such tests, are often ineffective for testing given differences from human

tissues in terms of development, immune systems and other factors.

The differences between animal and human tissues are especially problematic considering the time and financial resources that might go into developing a drug, only for researchers to find it ineffective or harmful when finally approved for human testing. Being able to test on human tissues sooner provides greater insight into whether a drug will ultimately succeed or fail.

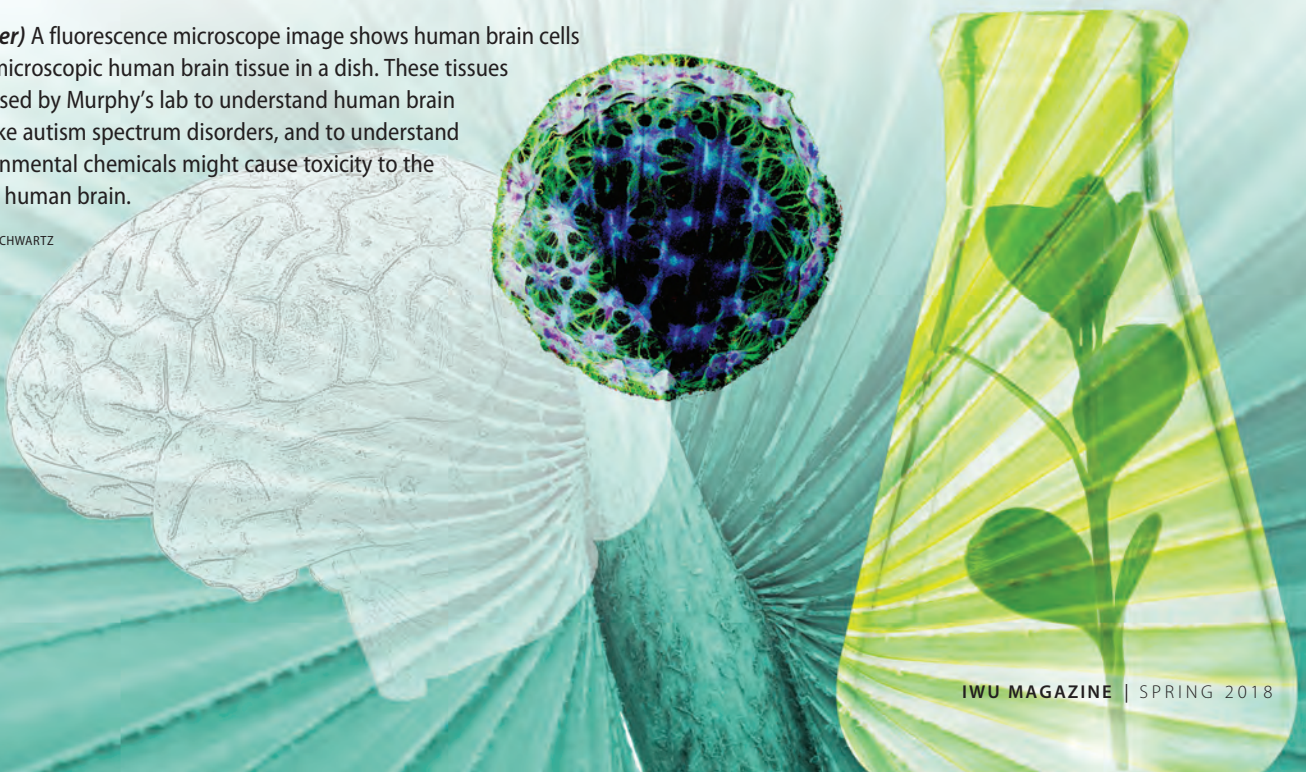
Murphy’s human tissue on a chip, developed in collaboration with UW–Madison colleagues David Page and James Thomson, allows real tissues to be cultivated in a 3-D hydrogel environment. The tissues Murphy and his colleagues created simulate the structure and functions of the developing brain and can then be exposed to various compounds for a more accurate understanding of how the brain might be affected.

Along with the tissue on a chip, Murphy and his colleagues have developed computer models that can quickly and accurately analyze the tissues and collect data on any changes that might have occurred. So far, the computer model

“Much of what we do starts with watching how materials are formed and used in nature, and then mimicking that to create new strategies in regenerative medicine.” — WILLIAM MURPHY '98

*(Right center)* A fluorescence microscope image shows human brain cells forming a microscopic human brain tissue in a dish. These tissues are being used by Murphy’s lab to understand human brain disorders like autism spectrum disorders, and to understand how environmental chemicals might cause toxicity to the developing human brain.

PHOTO/ MICHAEL SCHWARTZ







(Left and below) Murphy displays a prototype of a 3-D printed scaffold for bone regeneration, which was developed by Tissue Regeneration Systems, Inc., a company he co-founded. (Inset) Murphy oversees stem cell culture in his laboratory at the University of Wisconsin. Pictured are (from left) **Travelle Franklin-Ford** and **Jae-Sung Lee**.



PHOTO/JIM BEAL

“The physics department at Illinois Wesleyan is one of the best educational environments I’ve observed at any academic institution I’ve attended or visited. Even as an undergraduate I was treated as a graduate researcher from moment one.”

WILLIAM MURPHY '98 (pictured above)

has had a high success rate in detecting whether substances were toxic or nontoxic to the tissues.

The implications of being able to test research drugs via human tissue on a chip are especially significant for conditions such as autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

“Autism spectrum disorders are very difficult to understand or develop treatments for because there aren’t good animal models for these behavioral disorders,” Murphy said. “That makes it difficult to come up with effective therapies to prevent, treat or cure ASD. Brain tissue on a chip allows us to take tissue from individual brains and then research and test therapies.”

### Bioinspiration at Illinois Wesleyan

Murphy first delved into the world of bioinspired materials at Illinois Wesleyan.

Murphy was drawn to IWU by a newly built Center for Natural Science and the chance to play college baseball. However, he soon discovered the greatest benefit to attending IWU was a culture that empowered students to grow their interests through one-on-one interactions with faculty and hands-on learning opportunities.

“The physics department at Illinois Wesleyan is one of the best educational environments I’ve observed at any academic institution I’ve attended or visited,” Murphy said. “Even as an undergraduate I was treated as a graduate researcher from moment one. That was an invaluable experience and resulted in exponential growth in my capabilities and interest in science.”

Murphy found a mentor in Gabe Spalding, now the B. Charles and Joyce Eichhorn Ames Professor of Physics.

Murphy, who was already a junior at IWU when Spalding joined the faculty, vividly remembers the “energy and passion for fundamental scientific research” Spalding brought to IWU.

Spalding remembers challenging Murphy and his peers from day one, setting them to task assembling and installing an atomic force microscope. Spalding gave them their goal and then left the students to their task. By the time their professor checked in later, the students already made progress well beyond his expectations.

“Bill stepped forward in a way that was striking,” Spalding recalls. “At that age students don’t always have the confidence to demonstrate so much initiative in the way that he did. IWU, with its strong emphasis upon student engagement, was a good match for Bill.”

Murphy continued to work alongside Spalding in his lab until graduation, studying the fundamentals of materials. According to Murphy, the responsibilities that Spalding entrusted him with ensured that by the time he graduated from IWU in 1998, he had already engaged in projects that many seasoned graduate students had yet to encounter.

Spalding said that instilling students with the confidence and initiative to pursue their interests is a primary goal of the physics department, and one of





**(Above)** Murphy discusses engineered human tissues-on-a-chip in his laboratory with **Gaurav Kaushik**.

the most rewarding aspects of serving as a teacher and mentor.

“When you’re giving students permission and expecting them to engage with their interests without constraining them too much, you’re guaranteed good things are going to happen,” Spalding says. “It was thrilling to see Bill launch and take off.”

Murphy continued to play baseball as a senior, along with fellow physics majors James Rinne ’99 and Dylan Morgan ’98, giving IWU baseball an outfield comprised solely of physics majors. “It’s the sort of thing that could only happen at Illinois Wesleyan,” Murphy says. “Coach (Dennis) Martel always ensured that we were truly student-athletes, and we were able to pursue our goals both on and off the field.”

### Beyond IWU

Following graduation from IWU, Murphy enrolled at the University of Michigan–Ann Arbor to work on his M.S. and Ph.D. in biomedical engineering. While at the University of Michigan, Murphy continued his research under the mentorship of David Mooney, who is lauded as one of the fathers of tissue engineering. Working in Mooney’s lab gave Murphy the opportunity to explore the science and applications of tissue engineering.

“Being a part of David Mooney’s lab gave me the chance to apply a lot of what I learned in material science to this rapidly emerging field,” Murphy says. “Once again I was fortunate to have an incredible mentor.”

Murphy received his M.S. in 2000 and his Ph.D. in 2002, after which he joined the University of Chicago as a post-doctoral fellow in chemistry.

Since his arrival at University of Wisconsin–Madison in 2004, Murphy has been making a name for himself as a prolific researcher. To date, Murphy has filed more than 40 patents and has founded four companies. He continues to innovate in the field of bioinspired materials and regenerative medicine, exploring ideas such as using mineral-based materials that can deliver proteins, DNA and RNA to potentially combat a range of human diseases.

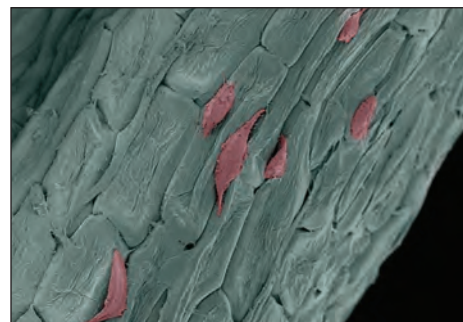
His lab, the Bioinspired Materials Lab, is comprised of more than 20 individuals – students, researchers, and scientists with academic backgrounds ranging from biomedical engineering and medicine to biotechnology and toxicology. The cross-disciplinary perspectives of the members of his lab, as well as collaborations with colleagues from departments across the UW–Madison campus, help him continue his search for some of the most challenging problems in regenerative medicine.

**(Above)** An electron microscope image shows human fibroblast cells (red) forming a human tissue on a parsley leaf scaffold. Murphy’s lab has recently pioneered the use of plants as versatile “scaffold” for human tissue engineering.

PHOTO/ GIANLUCA FONTANA

**(Below)**

Human fibroblast cells grow on decellularized parsley.



PHOTO/ GIANLUCA FONTANA

In addition, he is furthering the tradition of inspiration and mentorship that started at IWU by sharing his passions with the next generation through teaching and offering opportunities in his lab. He has even established a legacy at Illinois Wesleyan by creating the Bill and Katie Murphy Research Fellowship. He hopes that through these actions he can ignite the passions of future scientists and scholars.

“Sometimes the tendency is to dip your toes into multiple areas and see how it feels, but I think you should find what you are most passionate about and completely immerse yourself in it,” Murphy says. “My career path has been driven by what I was passionate about and tangible goals for discovering new ways to treat patients and understand nature and the world. That has brought me to some exciting places.” ❖

# Alumni Update

NEWS, WORKS AND CELEBRATIONS OF IWU ALUMNI & FRIENDS

## 1952

**Bob Byler** has been a lifelong journalist and photographer with avocational passions for jazz and other music, travel and home remodeling. After his time at IWU, Bob received a master's in journalism at the University of Missouri and a doctorate in communications at Bowling Green State University. Bob headed the journalism division at the University of Evansville from 1958-73. He returned to Bowling Green from 1973-90. During his time at IWU, Bob was a member of a student vocal group, The Three Twins, that sang "jazzy tunes" in a Tau Kappa Epsilon chorus that serenaded at sorority houses. Bob is now a promoter of jazz music and archivist. His intention is to preserve and share the jazz culture that has been such an inspiration in his own life.

## 1953

**Elmer A. Dickson** made an 18-day trip to Europe in August 2017. The centerpiece of the journey was a week of classes at Oxford University and three days in London. The courses were "C.S. Lewis and the Christian Imagination" and "The Protestant Reformation and the Scientific Revolution." Elmer also spent three days in Wittenberg, Germany, for the 500-year anniversary of the Reformation sparked by Martin Luther. The homeward trip included two days in Lisbon, Portugal.

## 1958

Since his retirement as a psychiatric social worker, it has been the goal of **Harlan Dalluge** to visit all 59 national parks. To date, Harlan and his wife Jeannine have visited and toured 29 national parks. Their favorites to date include: Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Sequoia, Redwood and several parks in Utah. In August, Harlan and Jeannine visited and toured Crater Lake in Oregon.

**Inis (Adams) King** was featured in a Galesburg (Ill.) *Register-Mail* profile, highlighting her lifetime of playing and teaching music.

## 1959

**Delores (Worazek) Colton**, a pioneer in women's athletics at The Benjamin School in Palm Beach, Florida, has retired. She became the first female coach at Benjamin when she was hired in 1974 and has coached volleyball, girls' soccer, cheerleading, and girls' and boys' tennis. The volleyball team won 411 games under her direction. Her teams have won a combined 43 district titles and 18 regional championships, and made many final four and state championship appearances. Six of her tennis athletes won individual state championships.

## 1963

**Dave Kindred** earned the 2018 PEN/ESPN Lifetime Achievement Award for Literary Sports Writing. The award is presented annually to a living sports writer for their literary merit and dedication to sports writing with keen knowledge, insight and a literary voice.

**Paula Woods** continues to volunteer at the Old Lincoln Courtroom & Museum in Beardstown, Illinois. The courtroom is where Lincoln defended Duff Armstrong in the famous Almanac Trial and is the only courtroom where Lincoln practiced that is still actively used today.

## 1967

**Robert Fred Kern** was presented a Lifetime Achievement Award at the biennial meeting of the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy. The conference was held in Lombard, Illinois, July 24-29, 2017.

## 1968

**Jim Dorsey** completed his 17th "Escape from the Rock," a 1.5-mile swim from Alcatraz to San Francisco in August 2017, repeating a first-place finish in his age group.

**Durrie Monsma** has retired as publisher of Connecticut daily newspapers. His newspapers were twice named the New England Newspaper of the Year during his tenure. Durrie previously served as a member of IWU's Board of Trustees for



Paul Pedersen '73 and wife, Ginny (see note)

five years. He and his wife Robbie celebrated retirement with a trip around the world.

**Steve Vogel** discussed the credibility of journalism in today's society with current members of IWU's Ethics Bowl team in a visit to campus in November 2017.

## 1969

After 26 years with the United States Department of Justice's U.S. Trustee Program, **Guy Gebhardt** retired Jan. 6, 2018. He had most recently served as acting United States trustee for Region 21, covering Florida, Georgia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Guy's impending retirement was announced by U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions Nov. 29, 2017.

**Ruth (Klecka) Schroeter** has retired after a 40-year career in public, private and Christian education in Illinois. Her retirement plans are to become a certified master gardener, travel with her husband and visit her granddaughter in Vermont.

**Howard McNier** has retired as a member of the California State University College of Business faculty and since dedicated his life to aiding the less fortunate. He is a member of the board of directors of the Living Water Center in Bangkok, Thailand.

## 1970

**Mark Sheldon** played the role of the town crier as the progressive group Bloomington-Normal Voices of Reason reminded citizens



to sign up for the Affordable Care Act Nov. 2, 2017, in Normal, Illinois.

Kankakee County Circuit Clerk Judge **Susan Sumner-Tungate** has announced she will retire in November 2018. She has been on the bench for 19 years. She was selected as an associate judge in 1998. She previously won election as circuit court judge in 2002.

## 1971

**Russ Hagen**, longtime CEO of Chestnut Health Systems, retired Jan. 7, 2018. Russ had worked for the not-for-profit drug treatment program for 43 years, the past 36 as its CEO.

## 1973

**Paul Pedersen**, chief medical officer at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center in Bloomington, Illinois, received the St. Joseph Worker Award at the 28th annual OSF HealthCare Foundation Crystal Ball Nov. 4, 2017, at Bloomington Country Club.

## 1976

**Charles Thatcher** was presented the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice medal from Pope Francis in November 2017. It is considered the highest medal a layperson in the Roman Catholic Church can receive.

**Gary Vicini** was inducted into the Ottawa (Ill.) High School Educational Foundation's Hall of Fame as one of its Class of 2018 inductees, Feb. 9, 2018. Gary was a standout athlete at OHS and IWU before beginning a successful teaching and coaching career at Hall High School in Spring Valley, Illinois. He was previously elected to the Illinois High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame, in 2004, and the inaugural Hall High School Hall of Fame, in 2010.

**Marianne Wolf-Astrauskas** was named the National Federation of Press Women (NFPW) President during the organization's 80th anniversary communications conference in Birmingham, Alabama, Sept. 7, 2017. Wolf-Astrauskas earned the NFPW's 2013 Communicator of Achievement award, and has served the group as both first and second vice president, and secretary.

## 1977

**Herb and Susan (Guenzler) Getz** have continued to fund the Getz Scholarship, a \$5,000 scholarship awarded annually to an Illinois Wesleyan student who performs well in the classroom, shows demonstrated need, and lives in northwestern Illinois, preferably from Jo Daviess, Carroll, White-side or Stephenson counties. Herb also gives back to his alma mater by serving as vice chair on the IWU Board of Trustees.

## 1979

**Marilynn (Woodson) Graves'** consulting group, MJGInsights, has partnered with Genos International to offer organizations powerful emotional intelligence presentations, assessments and coaching programs.

**Patty Johansen** is the lead pastor at Vermont Street United Methodist Church in Quincy, Illinois. Rev. Johansen is the first woman to serve in the role at that church, and has been the first female lead pastor at five of the eight churches in which she has served during her career.

**Pamela Page** is in her 39th year of teaching instrumental music and chorus. After graduating from IWU, she taught in Edwardsville, Illinois, and Danville, Illinois. She has taught in the San Francisco Bay Area since 1986, with a full load of string lessons. She has continued her

education at teachers' conferences held at Stanford and throughout California. Pamela also continues to work as a concert strolling violinist for parties, weddings and other events around the Bay Area.

## 1980

**Bill Reichle** was inducted into the Iowa Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in September 2017 as a member of the band Hampton Road.

**Sharon (Sieberns) Stanford** was among the recipients of the American National Standards Institute's 2017 Leadership and Service Awards Oct. 18, 2017. As the American Dental Association's Director of Standards, Sharon received the Howard Coonley Medal, recognizing an executive who has benefited the national economy through voluntary standardization and conformity, and has given outstanding support to standardization as a management tool.

**Carl Teichman** was named the Normal (Ill.) Citizen of the Year by Mayor Chris Koos July 27, 2017, at the annual Town of Normal Appreciation Reception. Carl has served as president of the McLean County Regional Planning Commission and the McLean County Chamber of Commerce board, and as a member of the Ecology Action Center board. He is IWU's director of government and community relations.

## 1982

**Jesse Hsieh** is CEO of Renasance Health, a management and consulting firm specializing in the direct application of change transformation through innovation of the delivery of health care to companies and individuals, and President of Michiana VIP MD, a concierge medicine primary care practice. He is also the principal in Smart Medicine Solutions Consultants. Since 1989, Dr. Hsieh has seen over 125,000 patient encounters, specializing in the primary care of families, from newborns to geriatrics. As a clinical associate professor of family medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine over the past two decades, teaching third- and fourth-year medical students, he has experienced the evolution of technological and economic change at the most intimate physician-patient level. He has been married for over 30 years to a pediatrician, has three sons, and has five physicians in his family. He received his bachelor of arts in biology from Illinois Wesleyan, where he was president of Theta Chi fraternity. He earned his

(continued on page 28)

**{SEND}** your news to *IWU Magazine*, P.O. Box 2900, Bloomington, IL 61702, [iwumag@iwu.edu](mailto:iwumag@iwu.edu), or via our website, at: [www.iwu.edu/magazine](http://www.iwu.edu/magazine).



Robert Fred Kern '67



Marianne Wolf-Astrauskas '76



Herb '77 and Susan (Guenzler) Getz '77

*Alumni Notes* (continued from page 27)

medical degree from Southern Illinois University of Medicine and did his family medicine residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

## 1984

**Edie (Hook) Yakutis** has retired from Microsoft after 22 years in various management positions. She has been accepted to Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion as a rabbinical student in their five-year educational program. She will begin her first year in Israel in June.

## 1985

GO Riteway Transportation Group has announced the appointment of **Bob Zanotti** as its president. Bob is the first non-company leader since the company was founded in 1957. The company celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2017 and today has over 1,300 employees and 1,090 vehicles, operating out of 18 Wisconsin locations.

## 1986

**Bill Damaschke** is the new president of animation and family entertainment for Skydance Media. Bill formerly served as the chief creative officer at DreamWorks Animation.

**Ron Ekstrand** was recently named the interim CEO for Easterseals' national office in Chicago. After eight years of working as president and COO of Easterseals Midwest, Ron moved to Chicago and joined the national office team in March 2016.

## 1987

**Cheryl (Wallace) Reinking** is the chief nursing officer of El Camino Hospital in Los Gatos, California. She was honored with the Illinois Wesleyan School of Nursing Distinguished Alumna Award for Excellence in Nursing during Homecoming 2017.

## 1988

**Julie (Riddell) Holliday** has started a senior move management company called Beautiful Life Senior Relocation Services. The service helps seniors with a personalized plan and assistance as they downsize into a new home. The goal is to bring peace of mind and less stress to a challenging situation by partnering with the senior and

their family to create a smooth transition. Julie is a member of the National Association of Senior Move Managers.

**Daniel Parod** has been appointed president of Ascension St. Vincent's Southwest Region, the health care provider announced July 25, 2017. Daniel is responsible for advancing St. Vincent's mission of service in Evansville, Indiana, and the Warrick County Tri-State area, as well as providing leadership and guidance to the more than 750 physicians and 3,500 associates on staff at St. Vincent Evansville and St. Vincent Warrick.

## 1992

**Laura Randolph** received a nomination for a YWCA McLean County Woman of Distinction Award. Forty-eight women were nominated in eight categories, including: business; creative arts and entertainment; education; professions; STEM (science, technology, engineering, math); social services; volunteer service and young professional.

**David Wilken** is the program coordinator for MusicWorks Asheville (N.C.), an El Sistema-inspired music program.

## 1993

**Mark Denzler** was inducted into the Samuel K. Gove Illinois Legislative Internship Hall of Fame at the University of Illinois Springfield March 12, 2018. The hall of fame recognizes former interns of the Illinois Legislative Staff Intern Program whose careers have exemplified distinguished public service. Mark is the vice president and chief operating officer of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association.

**Jennifer (Dohren) McClure** was recently promoted to senior information analyst with Walt Disney Attractions Tech-

nology. She is responsible for managing data for resorts, room types, tickets, restaurants, and dining products at Walt Disney World and Disneyland. She also participates in technology projects designed to enhance Disney guest experiences.

## 1994

For the fourth-consecutive year in 2017, a project spearheaded by **Justin Ahrens** raised money and awareness for water projects in Africa. In September 2017, Wheels4Water participants rode their bikes across the United States to help Ugandans get access to clean water. In four years, W4W has raised over \$430,000 and served over 10,000 people in need.

**Jennifer (Frahm) Jones** has been appointed director of global sales for Rosewood Hotel Group. Jennifer is responsible for identifying and developing innovative sales opportunities and initiatives for driving revenue through corporate and group bookings in the Eastern United States and Canadian markets. Jennifer has over 20 years of comprehensive sales experience in the luxury hospitality industry. Most recently, she served as the group sales manager for Four Seasons Resort & Residences Anguilla, where she was a member of the opening team and oversaw group business for the Midwest and Northeast markets.

## 1995

**Rod Adams**, U.S. talent acquisition leader for PwC, visited campus in December 2017, meeting with a group of current IWU students who will soon join him at the firm as interns and staff members.

**David Taylor** is now the associate dean of students for the Institute for Molecular Engineering at the University of Chicago.



Justin Ahrens '94 (center)



Junaid Ahmed '96



## 1996

**Junaid Ahmed** is a senior broadcast journalist at the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), one of the world's leading providers of news. He is currently the co-editor of a radio show called *Weekend*, which is broadcast around the globe, on *The World Service*. It is the BBC's international news channel and has a weekly audience of more than 75 million people across the globe. Junaid presented a "Back to College" class during IWU's Homecoming 2017.

**Jerry Chang** has been named to SCBIO's board of directors, where he will serve South Carolina's investor-driven economic development organization exclusively focused on building, advancing and growing the life sciences industry in the state. Jerry has been vice president of business development at BioD, LLC, since 2014.

**Faizal Chaudhury**, vice president of internal audit at Sallie Mae, has also joined the University of Delaware's Alfred Learner College of Business & Economics as an adjunct professor.

**Adam Kramer**, band director at Fort Worth ISD's Southwest High School and Wedgwood Middle School, has been selected as the 2017-18 Bayard H. Friedman Chair for Teaching Excellence in Performing Arts. Kramer was chosen following a rigorous three-part evaluation process based on a written application and narrative, a recording of classroom instruction and an interview session with a distinguished panel of judges.

**Robert Rave** married David Anson Forrest Nov. 8, 2017, in Beverly Hills, California. Robert is the executive creative director overseeing digital social media at Concept Arts, an entertainment marketing agency in Los Angeles. He has written two novels, *Spin* (2009) and *Waxed* (2011), and also wrote with his mother, Jane Rave, a memoir, *Conversations and Cosmopolitans* (2006), all published by St. Martin's Press.

## 1997

**Matt Mikulcik** was promoted to vice president of product marketing at CNO Financial Group Inc., May 8, 2017. Matt joined CNO, based in Carmel, Indiana, as director of direct marketing and analytics in 2012.



Andrew Baldock '99

## 1998

**Carrie (Greeter) Jost** was promoted to vice president of communications at CNO Financial Group, Inc., Feb. 5, 2018. She is now responsible for CNO's corporate communications, public relations, sponsorship, philanthropy, enterprise branding and event marketing. Carrie joined CNO in 2005 and most recently served as director of brand marketing.

## 1999

**Andrew Baldock** summited Russia's Mount Elbrus in July 2017. With an elevation of 18,510 feet, Mount Elbrus is the highest mountain peak in Europe, ranking it as one of the famed "Seven Summits." Andrew's next planned summit is North America's highest peak, Denali, in his home state of Alaska.

**Jaynanne Calaway-Habeck** is vice president of people ops at Panera Bread. Jaynanne returned to campus Jan. 16, 2018, as a guest alumni presenter at "Breakthrough: Discover Career Success," a networking event sponsored by the Hart Career Center, at Hansen Student Center.

**Jeremie M. Davis** has been appointed executive director of GreeneHouse Ministries. GreeneHouse Ministries exists to assist churches and individuals in the worship arts, specifically through music and theological training. They provide consulting services, worship leading teams, and individual musicians to churches.

**Ethan Karolczak** has been named athletic director at Elgin (Ill.) Larkin High School.

**Michael Oesch** won the 2018 Shellie Award for outstanding lighting design of a musical for the Contra Costa Musical Theatre's production of *Grease*. The Shellie Awards were presented Jan. 13, 2018, at



Lynne Hanley '01

Leshner Center for the Arts at Hofmann Theatre in Walnut Creek, California.

## 2001

**Lynne Hanley** studied emerging models in conservation and education, and spiritual connections to nature, in Thailand in Summer 2017. A social studies teacher at Naperville (Ill.) Central High School, Lynne made the trip as part of a graduate course as she pursues a master's degree from Miami University.

## 2002

**Rebecca Bernard** married Christopher Hollenbeck Sept. 10, 2016.

## 2003

**Sarah (Slater-Sturtevant) Blabolil** and **Kory Blumer** were promoted to partners at Ernst & Young LLP, July 11, 2017. Sarah is a member of the firm's assurance practice, focusing on professional services, consumer products and industrial products clients. Kory is a member of the firm's transaction advisory services practice, and focuses on health sector clients.

**Dan Bucek** served as sports medicine and chiropractic provider for *Cirque du Soleil's* show *Crystal*, during its run in Chicago. Dan also works with U.S. Soccer and serves as a rotating chiropractic sports physician for Team USA at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado. His private practice is located in Batavia, Illinois.

**Krista (Vogel) Cardona** and IWU professor **Daynali Flores-Rodriguez** participated in a teach-in Jan. 19, 2018, in the Jaime Escalante Room of Hewett and Manchester residence halls at Illinois State University. The panel detailed facts about

(continued on page 31)

# Alumni Association News



(Above) **Scott Huch '86** participated in Thank a Giver Day on campus Feb. 19, 2018.



## Dear Fellow IWU Alumni,

What's your favorite memory as a student at Illinois Wesleyan? Who were you with? Where did it happen? Does it still make you smile? Or maybe even laugh out loud?

For me, now 32 years after graduation from IWU, I think my favorite memory may be ... well, just the entire four years. Sure, I still recall specific people, places, and events fondly. Sometimes, I'm lucky enough to relive those memories, visiting with old friends at Homecoming.

But, looking back – especially when I consider the impact on my life all these years later – the entire experience is one big, favorite memory. From the first time I met then-admissions director **Jim Ruoti '61** as a high school sophomore attending a college fair at SIU in Carbondale, to the rainy day I walked across the platform in Fred Young Fieldhouse to collect my diploma (almost ... but that's another story).

I've been involved with the IWU Alumni Association, serving on its Board of Directors, since it was relaunched in 2001. I recently started a two-year term as its president. The best part of my "job" is meeting our fellow alumni and showing you ways to get re-engaged with IWU in support of its terrific students.

Whatever your interest, we could use your help. Admissions is our biggest push right now. Please visit [www.titanpride.org](http://www.titanpride.org) to see other activities that might interest you. Please help us put the "YOU" in IWU – volunteer today!

See you on campus,

**Scott E. Huch '86, President**  
Alumni Association Board of Directors

## Alumni Association Teams Up for Admissions Push

The Alumni Association Board of Directors often hears from our alumni and friends, "How can I help Illinois Wesleyan?" Directors are always looking for valuable opportunities to engage our alumni. Due to the challenging climate of student recruitment, the Office of Admissions has initiated a new and exciting effort to increase the number of admitted students that commit to enroll at Illinois Wesleyan University. Instead of relying solely on the efforts of the IWU Admissions Counselors, the new admissions constituency relations liaison, **Molly Munson-Dryer**, has recruited alumni, trustees, faculty and student volunteers to assist in the outreach. Admitted students this year can expect to be contacted by four different individuals during the decision-making phase.

Admissions counselors first reach out to students to share the good news that they have been admitted into the University. Alumni and trustee volunteers are then matched with admitted students by geography, major area or other interest; they initiate a second contact to share their stories and enthusiasm about Illinois Wesleyan and to answer any questions. The third contact comes from faculty members who share additional information about the major program the admitted student is interested in. Finally, current students contact admitted students for one final push.

By mid-February, 149 alumni volunteers made 1,424 contacts with admitted students. About half of the University's 45 trustees also participated. In addition, 82 faculty members reached out for a total of 1,361 interactions with admitted students. Although it is early in the process, these contacts seem to be making a difference. Of the deposits received to date, 93 percent of the students were contacted by volunteers.

The help from our alumni volunteers is having a significant impact on the success of Illinois Wesleyan. If you would like to be a part of this initiative, please contact Molly Munson-Dryer at (309) 556-3648 or [mmunsond@iwu.edu](mailto:mmunsond@iwu.edu).



(Above) The Alumni Association Board poses for a group photo during Homecoming 2017 weekend.





(Above) Trustee and founding member of the Minority Alumni Network **Phyllis Barker '73** and former IWU staff member **Yvonne Jones** visit at the Network's 25th anniversary celebration at Homecoming 2017.



(Above) IWU alumni were in attendance at the Pride Summit on Feb. 17, 2017. They included (from left): **Molly Rollings '99**, **Adriane Powell**, **David Shields '81**, **Ryan Siemers '98**, **Josie Linman '15**, **Derrick Tillman-Kelly '09**, **Jim Richter '93** and **Venus Evans Winters**. (PHOTO: CARLOS MIRANDA)

## Upcoming Alumni Connections

- ◆ **FRIDAY, APRIL 13:**  
Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting, Illinois Wesleyan
- ◆ **TUESDAY, MAY 15:**  
Peoria Connection
- ◆ **WEDNESDAY, MAY 16:**  
Chicago Networking Event
- ◆ **SUNDAY, JUNE 3:**  
Minneapolis Connection
- ◆ **SATURDAY, JUNE 9:**  
Young Alumni, Pirates vs. Cubs at Wrigley Field

### ALSO THIS SUMMER:

Connections in Washington, D.C., Champaign, St. Louis, Denver and more!

For more information, call (888) IWU-ALUM or visit [www.titanpride.org](http://www.titanpride.org).

## Alumni Notes (continued from page 29)

the the devastation of Hurricane Maria on Puerto Rico and personal stories of survival and anger of the federal government's response. Krista is assistant director of alumni engagement at IWU.

**Michelle (Dionne) Ertel** recently completed work on her doctorate of nurse anesthesia practice degree at Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia. She currently serves as the interim assistant director of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's Nurse Anesthesia Program, while maintaining clinical practice at Belleville (Ill.) Memorial Hospital.

Naper Settlement, an outdoor history museum in Naperville, Illinois, announced **Benjamin Nau** as its director of marketing July 6, 2017. With more than 15 years of experience, Benjamin has worked with numerous clients to create and implement traditional and digital marketing strategies, and most recently served as director of ecommerce for Killerspin, a luxury table tennis brand.

## 2004

**Gianina (Taylor) Baker** was one of two individuals to be named Decatur (Ill.) *Herald & Review* Outstanding Decatur Public Schools Alumni in October 2017. Gianina earned a doctorate in education organization and leadership, with a higher education concentration, from the University of Illinois in 2016, and currently works for the university's National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment. She was honored at the Decatur Public Schools Foundation Legacy of Learning Banquet Nov. 11, 2017, at Millikin University.

**Laine Twanow** participated in a psychology career alumni panel Feb. 6, 2018, at IWU's Welcome Center. Laine is a GAIN assistant projects manager at Chestnut Health Systems in Bloomington, Illinois.

## 2005

IWU Assistant Professor of Nursing **Lydia Bertschi** has been selected as a recipient of the "40 Under 40 Emerging Leaders Award" from the Illinois Nurses Foundation. Lydia is the third member of the IWU School of Nursing faculty to be chosen for this honor, now in its third year. Previous IWU faculty receiving the distinction were **Amanda Hopkins** and

**Ann Eckhardt**, who earned the honors in 2015 and 2016, respectively.

**Erin Boente** married Aaron Robertson July 9, 2016.

**J.R. Glenn** has been named a trustee on the Lincoln College board. James is a Chicago-based litigation and trial attorney. He concentrates on employment and traditional labor litigation, compliance, training and counseling.

**David Milligan** is a pediatrician at Advocate Medical Group in Bloomington, Illinois.

## 2006

**Kyle Brigham** is director of client relations at Marcel Digital. He offered advice on the value of digital marketing in a recent *Forbes* online article.

**Mary (Carson) Gilliam** is co-owner and administrator for Monarch Senior Solutions, a full-circle concierge company comprised of local experts serving seniors and their families in the Dallas and North Texas Area.

**Blair Hannah** and **Jeff Meador** founded their graphic design firm, Concentric Design, as seniors at IWU. Their Chicago-based firm serves a wide variety of clients across multiple industries. Blair and Jeff were featured in an interview with *VoyageChicago* on Aug. 1, 2017.

## 2007

**Brian Baxter** has been appointed executive director of the Quad Cities Symphony Orchestra. Brian had previously served as chief operating officer for Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras.

## 2008

**Andy Nelson** has been appointed director of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center International Research Office in London. He most recently served as the Energy Branch chief at the Construction Engineering Research Laboratory in Champaign, Illinois.

**Ryan J. Vaughan** is director and leader of the Chicago tax practice for Mazars USA LLP, an international accounting, audit, tax and advisory services organization. He offered thoughts on the recently passed Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and its implications for business and business owners in *Crain's Chicago Business*.

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## Alumni Notes (continued from page 31)

**Bridget Wall** was promoted to senior scientific communications specialist at Medtronic, a medical device company, in July 2017. Medtronic operates out of Fridley, Minnesota, and Bridget helps physicians publish and present clinical trial data. Her work took her on trips all over the country in 2017, including: New York, Miami, Washington D.C., New Orleans, Chicago, Las Vegas and Denver.

## 2009

**David Barlow** has completed the Chartered Financial Analyst program. He works in wealth management at the Barlow Group at Morgan Stanley, in Plano, Texas, alongside his father **Todd Barlow '79**.

**Reggie Lara** was named the boys' soccer coach at (Glenview, Ill.) Glenbrook South High School, where he also teaches social studies.

## 2010

**Babawande Afolabi** is the founder and CEO of Green Africa Airways. The start-up airline based in Lagos, Nigeria, has secured its air transport license.

**Coco Bassey** is the founder and editor-in-chief of *Millennielle*, a digital lifestyle and fashion publication, created in 2013 by and for millennial women. Alongside her blog, she also works as a product marketing manager for Wolters Kluwer Tax & Accounting North America in the metro Atlanta area. IWU welcomed Coco as an alumni speaker for a "Back to College" class at Homecoming 2017.

## 2011

On Nov. 19, 2017, **Emily Jones** completed a nine-year quest to run a marathon in all 50 states and Washington, D.C., along with her father Terry. Emily and her father raised funds for Simmons Cancer Institute in Springfield, Illinois, as part of their journey. Emily is pursuing her dream to become a physician and is currently in her second year at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

**Terry Joria** is in his first year as head strength and conditioning coach at Princeton University, where he works with the football team. Terry has been a member of the football staff at Princeton since 2014.

## 2012

**Sammi Grant** is a professional dialect coach and recently worked with the cast of *Billy Elliot the Musical*, which played at Chicago's Porchlight Music Theatre in December 2017.

**Steve Lessaris** joined commercial real estate firm NelsonHill in Chicago. He will focus on industrial and adaptive reuse properties.

**Annie Tillmann** was one of 50 individuals selected to participate in the American Library Association's 2017 Class of Emerging Leaders.

**Bryan Wellner** is an associate attorney at Mahoney, Silverman & Cross, LLC in the Chicago area.

## 2013

**Ted Delicath** was among 12 scholarship recipients in the 2019 class of George J. Mitchell Scholars, the organization announced Nov. 18, 2017. Ted was selected from a record 326 applicants for the scholarship, named in honor of Senator Mitchell's contributions to the Northern Ireland peace process. Recipients are chosen on the basis of academic distinction, leadership, and service, and spend a year of postgraduate study at institutions of higher learning in Ireland. While at IWU, Ted served as the student senate's vice president, helped rewrite the senate's constitution and increased the number of student seats in the body. He also served as co-campaign manager for a local mayoral candidate who ultimately became mayor of Bloomington, Illinois. After graduating from IWU, he received a CORO Fellowship, a nine-month leadership training program for public affairs professionals. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2014 and currently serves as a Ranger-qualified platoon leader at Fort

Drum, New York. He will study international security and conflict studies at Dublin City University.

**Tara Gracer** is now the national water resource database administrator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Natural Resource Program Center, in Fort Collins, Colorado.

**Justyn Jost** has been accepted into a two-year graduate program at Illinois State University, where he will study orchestral conducting. Justyn was additionally granted an assistantship position within the orchestra department.

**Nathaniel P. Murphy** has been awarded a National Research Service Award of \$200,000 over five years from the National Institutes of Health, to support his research project, "Defining Novel Mechanisms Underlying Human Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy." He is completing a medical scientist training program at Ohio State University. Nathaniel did undergraduate research in chemistry with professors **Ram Mohan** and **James House** while a student at IWU.

**Joe Musso** has joined KOVR, a CBS affiliate in Sacramento, California, as a sports reporter. A former member of the IWU football team, Joe most recently worked for KOLN, the CBS affiliate in Lincoln, Nebraska. He previously worked for Comcast Sportsnet Chicago while earning a master's degree from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism.

**Annie Nord** and **Dan Milligan '73** are practicing together at the Nord-Milligan Dental Center in Bloomington, Illinois. Annie, who graduated from Southern Illinois School of Dental Medicine in June 2017, purchased Dan's practice in September 2017. Dan has been practicing since 1976. Annie shadowed Dan during her time at IWU and formerly served as an assistant in his practice.



Emily Jones '11



Dan Milligan '73



Annie Nord '13





Makenzie Kelley '17

**Rachel Paturi** has been named an associate mobile developer at CoStar Group, a commercial real estate information and marketing provider.

## 2014

**Chase Hundman** joined Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC in December 2017. Chase concentrates his practice in commercial litigation and will practice out of the firm's Chicago office. He began his career with Howard & Howard as a summer associate in 2016, and was previously a judicial extern for Judge Jon DeGuilio at the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana. After graduating from IWU *cum laude* in 2014, he earned his juris doctor degree from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 2017.

## 2015

**Clara Ehrhart** was recently included in the Quincy (Ill.) *Herald-Whig* "20 Under 40" series. Clara is a trust officer at Mercantile Bank and is active in a multitude of community efforts, including volunteer work with Quincy High School's Music Department, the Quincy Symphony Orchestra's volunteer council, Quincy Community Theatre and United Way of Adams County.

**Brexton Isaacs** is serving as campaign manager for Betsy Rader, who is running for congress in Ohio's 14th Congressional District.

## 2017

**Makenzie Kelley** won a Spartan Race in Richmond, Virginia, in May 2017. Makenzie topped a women's field of 1,107 to win the eight-plus-mile obstacle course race. Makenzie is currently in law school at the University of Illinois.

**Vic Lugg** is a resident nurse at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

# Tiny Titans

**Naomi Muirhead '93** and Walter Olsen; Sebastian Grey, born Nov. 12, 2017  
**Erin (Luke) Rosas '98** and Daniel; Raven Seraphina and Phoenix Aurora, Aug. 8, 2017  
**Alisa (Conley) Keniger '00** and Adam; Garrett Edwin, born Oct. 11, 2017  
**Paul Vranas '00** and Diane; Melina Joy, born Sept. 5, 2017

**Lora Nickels '02** and **Tom Tague '03**; Scarlett, born Sept. 30, 2017

**Karen (Bleck) Banick '03** and David; Josephine Kelly, born Feb. 11, 2017

**Samantha (Janci) Buccini '03** and Daniel; Henry Lyndon, born June 26, 2017

**Brette (Bower) Gallagher '04** and Patrick; Pacenn Michael, born Jan. 8, 2018

**Katherine (Meister) Cheng '04** and Jerry; Henry Dean, born April 11, 2017

**Michael Durkin '04** and **Julianne Ruppel '04**; Isla Audrey, born Aug. 10, 2016

**Amy Frymark Flores '04** and Leo; Elena Grace born Sept. 12, 2017

**Ashley (Patten) Amelianovich '05** and **Keelan '06**; Miles Patten, born Feb. 15, 2016

**Dominique (Forte) Byrnes '05** and Bill; Ruby Amelia John, born Dec. 16, 2017

**Zach Clow '05** and Emily; Jarrett Joseph, born Sept. 30, 2017

**Laura Kammes-Bumm '05** and Jason; Calvin Leo, born Oct. 5, 2016

**Chris Schultz '05** and Rachael; Charles Matthew, born Aug. 24, 2017

**Jennifer (Byrne) Bland '06** and **Daniel '07**; Bella Eileen, born Jan. 17, 2018

**Katie (Elwood) Bragg '06** and **Mike '05**; Dean Michael, born Aug. 21, 2017

**Kevin Daken '06** and Marcie; Emma Grace, born March 20, 2017; Claire Marie, born April 1, 2015

**Lauren (Eigenbrode) Greenberg '06** and Dan; Maya Lily, born Sept. 29, 2017

**Ashley (Whittington) Barnish '06** and **Justin '06**; Ainsley Jean, born Jan. 8, 2018

**John Haugen '06** and Elizabeth; Benjamin, born Aug. 20, 2017

**Debbie (Bartell) Hochdörffer '06** and Jan; Annina Lynn, born Sept. 25, 2017

**Erin (Fleck) Lett '06** and **Brian '05**; Kaitlyn Ann, born July 25, 2017

**Patrick Beary '07** and Amalia; Fergus, born Oct. 2, 2017

**Brandy (Blackwell) Ford '07** and **Kristopher '07**; Ryan Kristopher, born July 31, 2017

**Sarah (Zeller) Julian '07** and Adam; Sylvia Rose, born Aug. 7, 2017

**Laura (Curtis) Kraynak '07** and Michael; Evelyn Rose, born Oct. 2, 2017

**Julie (Croxtton) Lee '07** and Jonathan; Jackson Daryl, born Oct. 25, 2017

**Elizabeth (Huffstutler) Majernik '07** and **Matthew '07**; Emmerson Hope, born July 31, 2017

**Dino Mendez '07** and Astrid; Penelope Ella, born Feb. 2, 2018

**Lauren Metz '07** and Chris; Theo Steven, born April 19, 2016

**Dorothy (Wawrzak) Rossi '07** and **David '07**; Stuart Joseph, born July 31, 2017

**Erik Schuessler '07** and Alissa; Evan Mitchell, born Aug. 3, 2017

**Scott Simons '07** and Eric; Parker, born July 20, 2017

**Jackie (Wickham) Smith '07** and Matt; Alexandra Jane, born Aug. 27, 2017

**Susie Walter '07** and Abraham Cervantes; Sophia Joy, born June 5, 2017

**Kelly (Krause) Arroyo '08** and **Angel '06**; Samuel Lucas, born July 26, 2017

**Mackenzie (Gebhardt) Fleming '08** and Brandon; Ryann Allison, born Aug. 13, 2017

**Lindsey (Miller) Marks '08** and **Chris '08**; Ava Jane and Graham Donald, born May 9, 2017

**Kerry Sindewald Senesac '08** and Gordon Wayne; Gordon Bruce, born March 24, 2017

**Victoria (Beata) Ward '08** and Brian; Samantha Lynn, born Sept. 12, 2016

**Kathryn (Yeager) Bent '09** and Kris; Theodore Clifford, born Nov. 10, 2017

**Samantha (Ketchum) Schoenecke '09** and Bryan; Liberty Praise, born June 20, 2017

**Krissy (Siegfried) Ballenger '09** and **Matt '09**; Maddox Jack, born Oct. 6, 2017

**Evan Tammen '09** and Angela; Wren Marie, born Aug. 6, 2017

**Jerry Watkins '09** and Sequenna; Sienna Janiece, born June 24, 2017

**Erin Bradley '10** and **Luke Broholm '10**; Emilia (Lia), born Aug. 29, 2017

**Emily (Cellini) Henson '10** and Daniel; Gemma Sue, born April 17, 2017

**Amanda (Potter) Kirchhofer '10** and **Patrick '10**; Emerson Jane, born Dec. 16, 2016

**Ben Dombroski '11** and Alison; Quinn Olivia, born Jan. 13, 2018

**Hope (Schulte) Pankau '11** and **Jason '11**; Gavin Michael, born July 18, 2017

**Samantha (Ford) Mitchell '12** and Bryce; Walter Clyde, born Nov. 8, 2017

**Lauren Martin '13**; Wilhelmina (Willa), adopted Dec. 22, 2017



## ALUMNI UPDATE



**IWU Magazine** considers for publication photos of IWU people at celebrations and reunions of alumni. Please send your Titan Celebration photos to *IWU Magazine*, P.O. Box 2900, Bloomington, IL 61702, [iwumag@iwu.edu](mailto:iwumag@iwu.edu), or via our website, at: [www.iwu.edu/magazine](http://www.iwu.edu/magazine).



(Above) **Megan (Lee) Bennett '09** married Edward Bennett Sept. 3, 2017, in Schaumburg, Illinois, with many classmates attending.



(Above) **Erick Henderson '12** married Erin Keim on Aug. 12, 2017. The bride and groom were joined by friends and family, including several IWU alumni.



(Above) **Kelsey Buerger '15** married **Daniel Truesdale '15** Oct. 14, 2017, with many classmates attending.



(Below) **Heather (Geeser) Huftalin '06** married Andy Huftalin Sept. 23, 2017, in Winnebago, Illinois, with several alumni in attendance, including (from left): **Ricky Taranda '05**, **Katie (da Ponte) Taranda '06**, **Tod Moore '06**, **Karli (Wiseman) Moore '06**, **Heather (Geeser) Huftalin '06**, **Andy Huftalin**, **Kelsey (Gerber) Layton '06**, **Rebekah (Clark) Munch '99** and **John Munch '98**.

(Below) **Tove (Bichel) Thomas '70** has been elected as Kappa Delta Sorority National Vice President-Alumnae. She was elected at the organization's convention in summer 2017, where she was joined by **Julie (Blackwood) Totten '95**, who volunteers as an accounting specialist for the Kappa Delta National Leadership Team, as well as **Halley Shanley '18**, IWU's current chapter president.



(Above) Theta Chi alumni gathered for their annual golf outing over the summer. The group included (from left): **Ed Mulrow '80**, **John Griffin '80**, **Bob Aucutt '80**, **Bob Hollar '80**, **Craig Tower '79**, **Paul Nordstrom '80**, **Ira Mirochnick '80**, **Bruce Cather '80**, **Doug Apple '82**, **Ron Cobb '80** and **Chris Murray '91**.



## Titan Celebrations



(Above) While in Memphis, Tennessee, in November 2017 for the Rhodes College Thanksgiving Classic, the Titan men's basketball team had the opportunity to tour the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The visit was made possible with the help of Illinois Wesleyan alum **James Ingold '85**, a Bloomington accountant who has served as chair for several years of the Bloomington St. Jude Telethon.

(Below) **Jamie Vilos '02** married Jorge Garrido Oct. 17, 2017, in Orland Park, Illinois. The bride's brother **Aggelos Vilos '04** (second from right) served as a groomsman.



(Above) **Shannon O'Rourke '07** married Baraka Kasali Sept. 30, 2017, in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



(Above) **Jack Sikma '77** (center) was inducted into the Small College Basketball Hall of Fame Nov. 2, 2017, in Evansville, Indiana. Joining him for the induction were (from left) coach **Dennie Bridges '61** and teammates **Bill Molinari '75**, **Al Black '79** and **Chris Eldredge '78**.



(Above) **Lisa (Hoelle) Portilla '05** and Ben Portilla were married June 24, 2017, in LaSalle, Illinois. Lisa's bridesmaids included **Ayumi Kunihiro '05**, **Sonya Hochevar '05** and **Ashley (Locke) Gosselar '05**. The Portillas live in Longmont, Colorado. Lisa is a Ph.D. candidate in the Graduate Division of Religion at Emory University.

(Below) **Stephanie (Gossman) Rode '12** married Devin Rode July 2, 2017. **Marnie (Gebhardt) Wright '12** and **Carly Speidel '12** served as matron and maid of honor, respectively.





## In Memory

## Faculty and Staff

**Patricia Rosenbaum**, of Bloomington, Illinois, died Feb. 2, 2018. She was 71. Pat served as an administrative specialist for the dean of students and spent more than 17 years in student affairs at Illinois Wesleyan. She attended Holy Trinity Catholic Church. She enjoyed singing and belonged to several choir groups. She is survived by many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, and her best friend.

**Colette Sicks**, of Normal, Illinois, died Dec. 17, 2017. She was 94. Colette served as IWU's director of publications for more than 20 years, writing, editing and producing almost all of the University's newsletters, admissions and development materials, and other promotional pieces. She also served as a speechwriter for the University president and senior staff, worked with faculty to promote achievements in scholarship, and composed the text cast on the bronze plaque made for the dedication of Evelyn Chapel. She is survived by her three children, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Lynn (Bertholf) Westcot** died July 31, 2017, in Bloomington, Illinois. She was 94. She was a faculty member in Illinois Wesleyan's School of Nursing from 1969-78 and was the daughter of former Illinois Wesleyan University President Lloyd Bertholf. She is survived by a daughter, brother, grandson, and several nieces and nephews.

## Alumni

**Mary (DuBois) Jorgensen '41** died Nov. 26, 2016, in Bloomington, Illinois. She was 98. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Robert Jorgensen '41**. The Jorgensens lived in Lewistown, Illinois, and Urbana, Illinois, before settling in Monticello, Illinois, after Robert's retirement. Mary raised four children. She was active in Monticello United Methodist Church and frequently volunteered her time for worthy causes. She is survived by three children and six grandchildren.

**Carolyn (Potter) Szabo '44** died Sept. 27, 2017, in Danville, Illinois. She was 94. After studying music at Illinois Wesleyan, she became the first student to earn a degree in music therapy at Michigan State University. She worked as a music therapist at Detroit Medical Hospital until the birth of her children, but later returned to work as a vocal music teacher. She retired in 1983 and returned to Danville, but music continued to play an important role in her life. She is survived by three children and one grandson.

**Robert Goff '45** died Aug. 17, 2017. He was 96. He was a longtime resident of Wheaton, Illinois; Muncie, Indiana; and Bloomington, Illinois. He was an employee of J.C. Penney his entire working career. He was preceded in death by his wife **Wilma (Schausten) Goff '45**. He is survived by two daughters, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Editor's Note:** *IWU Magazine* runs obituaries of alumni based on information received from our readers. Please include full name of deceased; IWU class year; date and place of death; essential biographical information; and survivors, including name of surviving spouse and names of relatives of the deceased who are IWU alumni. Send to *IWU Magazine*, P.O. Box 2900, Bloomington, IL 61702, iwumag@iwu.edu, or via our website, at: [www.iwu.edu/magazine](http://www.iwu.edu/magazine).

**William "Bill" Bringham, Sr. '46** of Wilmette, Illinois, died Oct. 3, 2017. He was 92. He joined the U.S. Navy during his time at IWU and was stationed on Palmyra Naval Air Station, in the Pacific theater, in World War II. After graduating from IWU, Bill and his wife **Ruth (Jaeger) Bringham '42** moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where he earned a law degree from Vanderbilt University. The Bringhams also lived in Falls Church, Virginia, where Bill served in the FBI, and Chicago, where he started a 36-year career with Sigma Chi Fraternity and Sigma Chi Foundation. He is survived by a son and four grandchildren.

**Betty (Stoutenborough) Ritchie-Birrer '47** of Springfield, Illinois, died Sept. 27, 2017. She was 92. Betty gave back to her alma mater as a generous supporter of the *Transforming Lives* campaign, with gifts that included a classroom in State Farm Hall, an endowed professorship that was awarded to Professor William Munro, an endowed student scholarship and the first endowed scholarship for study abroad. Betty was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta and supported the sorority throughout her lifetime. Betty and her husband Ivan were friends of the University and regularly attended the annual Springfield Alumni Connection. She was awarded the Alumni Loyalty Award at Homecoming 2017, which was accepted by her husband. Betty is survived by her husband, son, daughter, two step-brothers and several grandchildren, including **Jonathan Musch '00**.

**Rose (Schoenheider) Wilkinson '48** died June 14, 2017, in Metamora, Illinois. She was 91. Rose was voted the "most outstanding music person" in her class and directed the IWU Collegiate Choir. She instilled her love of music in her children and taught piano lessons in her home. She is survived by two sons, eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

**LeRoy "Lee" Weiskopf '49** died July 25, 2017, at his home in Beaumont, California. He was 92. Lee enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1943 and, as a bombardier on B29s, flew 35 missions over Japan from Tinian Island in the Pacific. He graduated from IWU after his service and began a successful career as an insurance brokerage owner. He is survived by his wife, four children, four grandchildren, brother and sister.

**John Wolf '49** died Sept. 19, 2017, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was 92. Rev. Wolf authored the book *The Gift of Doubt* and was the senior minister of All Souls Church in Tulsa for 35 years before becoming the minister emeritus in 1995. Under his leadership, All Souls grew to become one of the largest Unitarian Universalist churches in the country. He preached about civil rights, reforming the funeral home industry, the importance of public education and the arts. An impassioned speaker, Rev. Wolf condemned racial prejudice and championed the rights of minorities, women, gays and lesbians, and was an advocate for women's reproductive rights. He is survived by his wife, son, daughter, grandson and great-granddaughter.

**Marilyn (Hubble) Ryan '50** died Jan. 8, 2018, in Birmingham, Michigan. She was 89. During her time at IWU, Marilyn was an active member of Kappa Delta, where she forged many lifetime friendships. She later taught home economics before starting her own family. She is survived by three children and five grandchildren.

**Robert Erdman '51** died July 8, 2017, in Sunnyvale, California. He was 88. Robert studied engineering at IWU and served in the



U.S. Army before continuing his education at the University of Illinois. He worked as an engineer with UNIVAC and Control Data in Minnesota, and later worked in marketing and sales with Memorex and Verbatim corporations in California. He is survived by his wife, two children and two grandchildren.

**Rose (Stock) Lundquist '52** of Arthur, Illinois, died Dec. 2, 2017, at her beloved family home. She was 87. Rose was active in music, playing oboe in the University orchestra and concert band at IWU, and for the Bloomington-Normal Symphony. She was also active in Sigma Alpha Iota, serving as president. She additionally served as chair of the Student Welfare Commission. She served as a teacher for 34 years, retiring in 1991. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Robert "Lundy" Lundquist '50**. She is survived by two children and five grandchildren.

**Richard Chrisman '53** of Danville, Illinois, died Jan. 13, 2017. He was 85. Rev. Chrisman was a minister for the United Methodist Church and served in several communities in Illinois, including: Ludlow, Flanagan, Deselm, Ellsworth, Woodhull, Hanna City, Streator, Chrisman and Mason City. He also served the Central Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church as conference secretary and conference historian for many years. He is survived by his wife **Anna Marie (Schlorff) Chrisman '55**, four children, including **Paul Chrisman '76**, **Gregory Chrisman '77** and **Stephen Chrisman '82**, as well as seven grandchildren, including **Erick Henderson '12**, and one great-grandchild.

**Howard Berggren '54** died Sept. 1, 2017, in Aurora, Illinois. He was 85. Howard was a standout athlete at IWU as an all-conference member of the Titan baseball and basketball teams. He attended many Illinois Wesleyan events after his time on campus and served as co-chair of several of his class reunions. He is survived by his wife and four children.

**Donald Smucker '58** of Bloomington, Illinois, died Nov. 24, 2017. He was 82. He was a member of Second Presbyterian Church in Bloomington, where he served as a deacon, and was a member of Golden K Kiwanis Club of Bloomington-Normal. He worked for Paul Beich Candy Company for 28 years and later worked and retired from the American Pest Control Company after 20 years of service. He is survived by his wife, five children, 14 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one sister.

**Joseph Corsello '59** of Morris, Illinois, died Jan. 26, 2018. He was 85. Joe left Illinois Wesleyan to serve in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict, but returned to finish work on his degree after an honorable discharge. Joe was active in Phi Gamma Delta during his time at IWU. After graduation, he married **Norma (Fisher) Corsello '59** and began his teaching career. Known as "Mr. C." by his students, Joe taught at Morris and Immaculate Conception schools. He was named the Illinois State Board of Education Teacher of the Year in 1978. Joe received numerous awards for his service and generosity to his community. He played Santa Claus for 45 years, often bringing joy to the less fortunate. He is survived by his three children, including **Trudy (Corsello) Des Lauriers '84**, and five grandchildren.

**Charles Marvin '59** died Oct. 29, 2017, in Peterborough, New Hampshire. He was 79. Charlie studied philosophy at IWU. He

## Deaths Reported

**James Freda '40**; April 27, 2017  
**Fred Reed, III '40**; Jan. 1, 2016  
**Dean Izatt '41**; Dec. 5, 2017  
**Bert Bigham '42**; April 4, 2017  
**David Simpson '42**; Feb. 24, 2016  
**Roger Rasmussen '44**; May 4, 2017  
**Alice (Kraft) Williams '44**; Dec. 7, 2016  
**Doris (Haynes) Chiado '45**; June 1, 2016  
**John Miller '45**; Jan. 29, 2017  
**Gladwyn (Rudicil) Waters '45**; Jan. 19, 2018  
**Norman Geary '46**; April 28, 2017  
**Helen (Zick) Olson '47**; July 21, 2017  
**Constance (Sigler) Coomer '48**; Aug. 6, 2017  
**Robert Dinius '49**; July 27, 2012  
**Edgar King '49**; Feb. 4, 2017  
**Mary (Sargent) Thoele '49**; Sept. 28, 2017  
**Frank Zern '49**; June 25, 2016  
**Robert Gipson, Sr. '50**; May 8, 2017  
**Harry Mehl '50**; Aug. 22, 2017  
**Barbara (Scott) Price '50**; Sept. 18, 2017  
**George Allison '51**; Dec. 30, 2017  
**Robert Banta '51**; Aug. 25, 2016  
**Franklyn Davis '51**; Nov. 20, 2017  
**Catherine (Carson) Sherrard '51**; Oct. 16, 2016  
**Thomas Mohr '51**; April 16, 2017  
**William "Bill" Whiteside '51**; June 8, 2017  
**Raymond Lotz '52**; Dec. 23, 2014  
**J. Roderick Myshrahl '52**; Feb. 2, 2013  
**Carol (King) Preikschat '52**; May 11, 2017  
**Earl Ehresman '53**; Aug. 9, 2017  
**Leonard Kesi '53**; Nov. 24, 2012  
**James Swinney '53**; Sept. 12, 2017  
**Donald Buell '54**; March 3, 2016  
**Nancy Carroll '54**; Dec. 27, 2016  
**Elizabeth (Halfyard) McIntosh '54**; Dec. 15, 2017  
**Henry Mendenhall '54**; Aug. 14, 2017  
**Bissessarnat Ramcharan '54**; March 3, 2015  
**Joyce (Rieg) Luciani '55**; Nov. 18, 2016  
**Kenneth Single '55**; Nov. 30, 2016  
**Lyle Smith '56**; July 5, 2017

**Ronald Weeden '56**; Sept. 22, 2016  
**Chester Garrison '57**; May 9, 2017  
**James Schroeck '57**; Jan. 21, 2015  
**Mary (Logan) Siders '57**; May 6, 2017  
**Donald Forkner '58**; Dec. 27, 2017  
**Kenneth Keene '58**; March 12, 2017  
**Gordon Leinwand '59**; Aug. 15, 2017  
**Patricia (Haner) Macdonald '59**; Sept. 29, 2014  
**S. Linda (Wulff) Norton '59**; Oct. 27, 2017  
**Virginia (Petersen) Rebmann '59**; June 22, 2017  
**Frank Rorabach '59**; Feb. 16, 2015  
**Terry Adreon '60**; Aug. 15, 2017  
**Joan (Kroutil) Stein '60**; March 26, 2017  
**Wallace Malmberg '60**; April 3, 2015  
**Charles Williams '60**; Oct. 28, 2017  
**Anne (Hadaway) Andruczk '61**; Jan. 15, 2016  
**Cyril Frevert '61**; Dec. 16, 2017  
**Gene Cousins '62**; May 10, 2017  
**Barbara Douglas '62**; March 4, 2015  
**John Unger '62**; April 28, 2017  
**Dennis Gustavson '65**; Sept. 10, 2017  
**Judith (Schulze) Jaeger '66**; Oct. 15, 2016  
**Michael Neal '66**; Jan. 10, 1995  
**Stanley Grubb '67**; March 3, 2017  
**Robert Enkey '68**; May 28, 2017  
**Douglas Holman '68**; May 28, 2017  
**Norm De Graff '69**; July 7, 2017  
**Steven Reeser '69**; Aug. 30, 2017  
**David Taft '69**; May 5, 2017  
**Steven Rockwell '70**; Sept. 9, 2017  
**Linda Koenigsberg-Holmer '71**  
 July 19, 2017  
**Linda Cwynar '72**; Aug. 4, 2014  
**Susan (Erkkila) Vacca '72**; Aug. 5, 2008  
**Joyce Ann Henderson '73**; May 1, 2017  
**Kevin Rustemeyer '73**; Aug. 28, 2017  
**Bradley Slocum '75**; Dec. 6, 2009  
**Kathie Hostetter '76**; Sept. 11, 2017  
**Victor Franklin '81**; June 2, 2016  
**Douglas Volker '91**; May 23, 2017

enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1959, attended intensive Russian language classes at Syracuse University, and was stationed in Pakistan and Germany. Guided by his Air Force experiences in intelligence analysis, he was accepted into the Central Intelligence Agency training program in 1966. He stayed in the intelligence business for the rest of his career, except for a brief stint as a real estate broker. He is survived by his wife, daughter, grandchildren and two sisters.

**Fred Raufeisen '61** died Nov. 22, 2017, in Wild Rose, Wisconsin. He was 79. He was known as "Al" by his business associates and "Fred" by his family and friends. He was part-owner of Henneman and Raufeisen Associates, Inc., an engineering consultant in Peoria, Illinois, and worked with many clients on state-of-the-art projects. He also served as an adjunct professor, working with students studying architecture and engineering. He is survived by his wife, daughter, son, brother, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

(continued on page 38)

*In Memory* (continued from page 37)

**William Short, Jr. '62** of Bloomington, Illinois, and Englewood, Florida, died Oct. 29, 2017, in Bloomington. He was 82. Bill was active in Sigma Chi at IWU. He served in the U.S. Army following his sophomore year. After college, he worked for Eaton Asphalt and Rowe Construction. He served as the vice president of the latter, until he retired in 2000. He is survived by his wife, **Sherron (Auman) Short '60**, two sons, including IWU Assistant Provost and Chief Technology Officer **Trey Short**, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

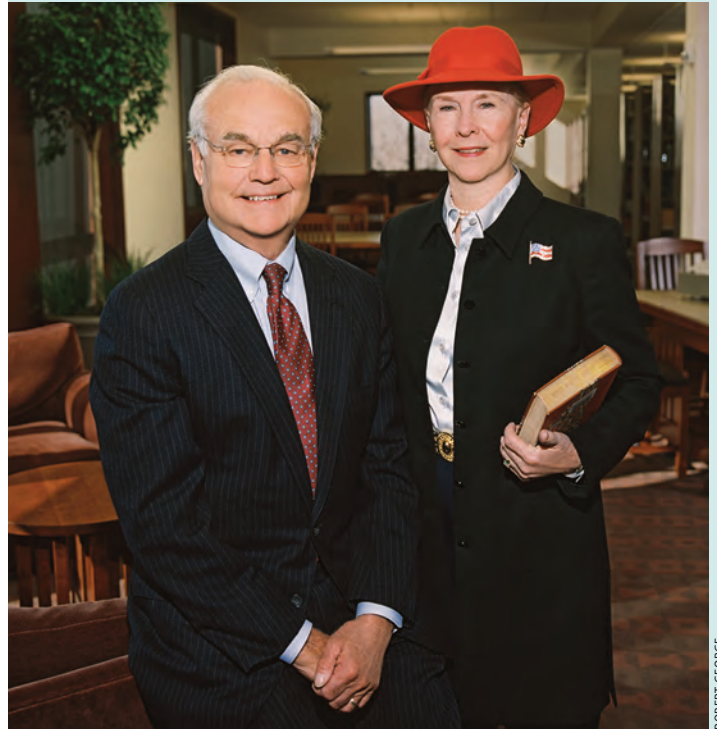
**Daniel Sullivan '62** of Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, died Feb. 18, 2017. He was 77. Daniel was a longtime opera singer, stage director and teacher. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was a proud member and soloist in the U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own," and regularly performed at the White House for President Lyndon B. Johnson and other dignitaries. He made his operatic debut in 1970 at the San Francisco Opera and went on to sing principal roles with many major American companies. He worked with several notable singers, directors, composers and conductors throughout his career. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, three daughters and three granddaughters.

**Donald Dowling '67** of Gulf Shores, Alabama, died June 8, 2017. He was 72. Donald was active in the Apollo Quartet during his time at IWU. He was also a member of Phi Mu Alpha, Blue Key and the Titan tennis team. Donald later was the founding conductor/executive director of the Peoria Area Civic Chorale. Previous work included serving as the music director at Arcadia Avenue Presbyterian Church in Peoria, Illinois; director of band, orchestra and chorus at East Peoria (Ill.) Community High School; and as band director at Morton (Ill.) High School. He is survived by his wife, two sons, five grandchildren and two sisters.

**Donald Wright '73** of Arvada, Colorado, died Nov. 23, 2017, at his home. He was 66. Wright was a four-year member of the IWU basketball team and continued his lifelong love of sports as a coach and organizer of sports camps. At last count, he had instructed over 50,000 kids, with many return campers over the years. In order to fund the camps over and above the registration fee, he sold a coupon card door-to-door for \$3. He became known as "The Coupon Man" and he developed friendships with many people who continued to buy the coupon cards to support his camps year after year. He is survived by his wife and four sons.

**William Tweedell '76** of Circleville, Ohio, died May 4, 2017, in Cincinnati. He was 62. Bill worked in accounting, most recently as controller at Grand Products in Des Plaines, Illinois. He is survived by his wife **Cynthia (Benn) Tweedell '76**, two siblings and two children.

**Sam Mitchell '12** of Tucson, Arizona, and formerly of Peoria, Illinois, died Oct. 3, 2017. He was 27. Sam was a four-year letterwinner for the IWU swimming team and an academic all-conference selection. He also served as vice president of the student body. He stayed active after his time at IWU in triathlons and ironman competitions. He was also a rock-climbing enthusiast. Sam volunteered as a camp counselor at Deer Valley YMCA summer camp. He valued healthy food and locally-grown produce, and spent six months traveling from Illinois to Washington state working with Worldwide Opportunities on Organic Farms. He was also active in his community, often writing his local state political officials. Most recently, he volunteered at a hospital in Tucson. He is survived by his parents, sister and niece, as well as many aunts, uncles and cousins.



ROBERT GEORGE

## B. Charles (Chuck) Ames '50 1925-2017

By Ben Rhodes '69

*"Chuck, what do you want to do when you grow up?" asked dad.*

*"I want to get out of Polo, Illinois," responded Chuck.*

Direct and to the point with a dash of humor was the trademark of Bruce Charles "Chuck" Ames, the fourth son of Daniel Franklin Ames. Born in Elgin, Illinois, in 1925, four years before the Stock Market Crash, he was mentored by his father and mother, Ruth Maud Wright Ames. Chuck's drive in life was marked with fairness to all and a personal ambition to succeed. He lived his life and developed a personal code of honor he stressed to his family, friends, colleagues, and in his business dealings.

*A few of his core values and sayings were:*

*Life's not fair, so get used to it.*

*Risk and opportunity, risk and reward, and risk and failure always go hand and hand. If you don't take some risks, you will probably miss some opportunities or rewards.*

*Limitations are something we place on ourselves.*

*Helping someone who is less gifted or less fortunate than yourself is a fundamental and never-ending responsibility of all of us.*

*Physical health is just as important as mental health. If it tastes good, spit it out.*

*Never compromise your values for anything.*

*Be the kind of person who can always be trusted. Trust is an asset that you should cherish. Never lie, cheat, steal or shade the truth in any way that causes others to question whether they can trust you.*

*And, maybe his favorite, from Winston Churchill: Never Give Up. Never Give Up.*

Chuck grew up for the most part in Polo. World War II broke out as he graduated from high school and he enlisted. Prior to leaving for the Army, his father gave him some sage advice:



“Never speak first. Keep your mouth shut. That way no one will know how dumb you are.” Chuck admired his father and took to heart his mentoring and his humor.

Chuck served his country well and returned from the Pacific. He enrolled at Illinois Wesleyan and joined Theta Chi, eventually serving as its president. While in school he met his future wife, Joyce “Jay” Eichhorn ’49, and asked her on a date. She accepted thinking she would hear the stories of fighting the enemy during the war. Chuck picked her up at the Kappa Kappa Gamma house in his Model A and off they went to Boylan’s Ice Cream shop for the famous Funny Sundae. Chuck asked her for another date and she said, “OK, but no more ice cream. Let’s go have a beer and you tell me your stories of the war.”

Upon graduation, Chuck took a job with Illinois Bell. He enjoyed his work but did not love his job. He had made friends with a fellow IWU alum and graduate of Harvard Business School, Eldon Bock ’48 of LeRoy, Illinois, and decided that he wanted to pursue an MBA. Chuck applied and was accepted. Packing up their Plymouth convertible, Chuck and his pregnant wife Jay traveled to Cambridge. After graduation, Chuck accepted a job with General Telephone Company, a government-regulated utility company during the 1950s. His task given to him by the president of the company was to figure out a way to grow the company within the regulated territories.

Research and skillful personal observation began churning in Chuck’s mind. The solution came and the presentation to the board was prepared. Most people had one phone in their home, usually located on the first floor in the center of the house, so Chuck recommended the development of stylized phones: yellow wall-hanging phone for the kitchen, pink phone for the daughter, blue phone for the son, a bedroom phone for the parents, etc.

With the presentation made, the president of the company said, “I never heard of such a silly idea.” And Chuck knew it was time to move on from that business. (But we all know what eventually happened years later...)

While riding the train to his job, in the *Wall Street Journal* was an article on a new type of consulting company, McKinsey & Company. The article piqued his curiosity and he decided to apply for a position. After an extensive interview, he was hired by the founder, Marvin Bower.

(Below left) Chuck Ames speaks at the groundbreaking for The Ames Library, with (from left) Joyce Eichhorn Ames and former IWU President Minor Myers, Jr. on Nov. 6, 1999. The Ames family provided the leading gift to fund library construction.



While being a successful consultant and a principal at McKinsey, Chuck realized he enjoyed being “in the action” of active management. Reliance Electric recruited him as president and CEO. He accepted the challenge and was very successful running a tight ship and building a reputation as a successful executive. Acme-Cleveland, Uniroyal and others sought him out. He entered into discussion with Clayton Dubilier & Rice, a very successful buyout fund company, which arranged the merger between B.F. Goodrich and Uniroyal, and later sold the new company to Michelin. Clayton Dubilier & Rice asked Chuck to join them and the rest is history, as they say, with Chuck eventually becoming vice chairman of CD&R.

Chuck was quick to get to the bottom line of any business dealing and often used the technique of asking a question and wanting an answer of yes, no, or a number. This strategy saved a lot of time and maneuvering by colleagues to explain situations that did not have a clear business plan. There is a family story that Chuck once tried to use this technique with Jay, but it is reported that it only happened once! Ever the student, he was a quick learner, too.

In a company meeting Chuck stressed commitment to the business plan. A younger executive asked Chuck exactly what was his definition of commitment. Chuck asked everyone in the room who had eggs and bacon for breakfast? Most hands went up. Chuck said, “the chicken was only involved in making the breakfast egg, whereas the pig was totally committed to making the bacon.”

After his retirement from a very successful business career that included writing respected articles for *Harvard Business Review*, authoring six financial management books and serving on numerous Fortune 500 boards, Chuck wrote a personal memoir, *Lucky Breaks*, dedicated to his family – wife Jay, and children Cindy, Dick and Paula – and his many friends. It’s available in The Ames Library Archives and other locations. There are many personal stories of family, friends, values and thoughts, as well as selected stories of business dealings.

*Lucky Breaks* is well worth the read. Chuck was very successful in business but maybe more successful in having a life well lived. ❖

About the Author: **Ben Rhodes ’69** is a former IWU associate vice president for advancement and longtime friend of Chuck Ames.



(Above) Ames visits with **Ben Rhodes** at the dedication of the Joyce Eichhorn Ames School of Art Building in 2012. Construction of a new entry rotunda, and studio and office renovations, were made possible by a gift from the Ames family.



*In Memory* (continued from page 39)

## Mariann Mayberry '87 1965-2017

By Frank Vlastnik '87

The first time the Illinois Wesleyan theatre department sat up and took collective notice, Mariann Mayberry was sitting on a tin roof of a shack, banging a drum and letting loose a feral howl to announce the approach of the Catholic Army as the doomed mute Katrin in *Mother Courage and Her Children*, directed by Clair Myers. She was raw, she was real, she was otherworldly, and nobody ever looked at her the same way again, so bold and deeply rooted were her acting choices.

Before that moment in the fall of 1984, Mariann had successfully flown under the radar at IWU. A deeply intense yet hilariously quirky 18-year-old with a low, soulful speaking voice completely at odds with her fragile beauty, I at first assumed she was primarily a dancer, she was so effortlessly graceful in our freshman-year dance concert.

For the next 30 years, I watched Mariann grow into one of the most fearless stage actresses of our generation, both in Chicago and New York, diving into a bottomless imagination and curiosity for the human condition. After I saw her on Broadway as middle sister Karen in Tracey Letts' play *August: Osage County*, I told her how much I admired a hilarious moment in Act 2 of the Pulitzer Prize winner, where she placed olives on all 10 fingers and ate them, one by one. Asking her if that bit of unforgettable stage "business" was written into the action of the play itself or a directorial touch, she replied, "Writing?!?! Directing?!?! That was MY idea, honey! Who else would do something so totally nutty?!?! I used to do it growing up in Missouri!"

Mariann was lovably unpredictable, and could swerve from somber to pixilated in a flash, 50 percent nerve and 50 percent naïveté; perhaps only she would march into the offices of the Steppenwolf Theatre Company after graduation and plead for a job, doing ... anything. Starting by answering phones and emptying trash cans, in the fall of 1987 she became actress Joan Allen's wardrobe assistant in the pre-Broadway Chicago engagement of Lanford Wilson's *Burn This*, starring John Malkovich, while doing readings and workshops of new plays. By 1993, she was a company member. By 1996, she was starring opposite Malkovich in *The Libertine*.

In her 30 years as an actress, she often gravitated toward playing working-class characters, from Christine Baseleon's *Tourists* at IWU in 1986, to Li'l Bit in Paula Vogel's *How I Learned to Drive*, to an ex-nun now working in a Bronx soup kitchen in her final performance before retiring due to illness, in 2015's *Grand Concourse*. The characters she played were often downtrodden but always hopeful, and Mariann drew upon her hardscrabble childhood in Missouri and northern Illinois to connect to her roles.

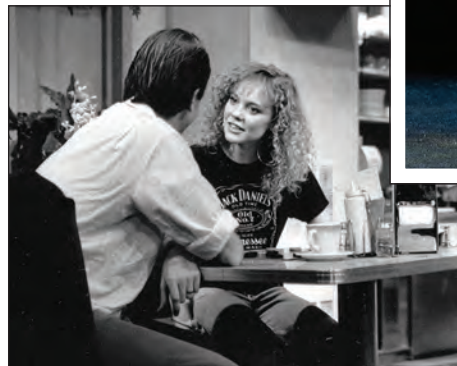
Her life and her craft dovetailed perfectly in the role of luckless, bingo-playing Boston "Southie" Margie in David Lindsay-Abaire's *Good People*, for which she won the Joseph Jefferson Award, Chicago theatre's highest honor, in 2012.

Although she racked up numerous credits, film and television proved unfulfilling for her; perhaps the lack of immediacy or a connection with a live audience made it less rewarding. Cast in a featured role in Steven Spielberg's *War of the Worlds*, she saw her big scene with Tom Cruise cut to nothing after the child actor



(Above) Mariann Mayberry appeared in Frank Galati's *The March* at Steppenwolf Theatre in 2012.

(Below) Mayberry appeared in *Tourists* by Christine Baseleon in 1986 at Illinois Wesleyan.



(Inset) Mayberry appeared in David Lindsay-Abaire's *Good People* at Steppenwolf Theatre in 2012.

PHOTOS: MICHAEL BROSILOW  
AND THE IWU ARCHIVES

playing her son resolutely refused to say his lines. Her response? "And you know what? They paid me just as though I actually got to say my dialogue!" Vintage Mariann.

So many memories; laughs and dreams shared, loves that came and went, career frustrations over drinks. Life.

But most of all, the thing I'll remember Mariann most for was her resilience, perseverance and her unflagging passion for the pure joy of the work. Until she finally married her beloved husband Scott Jaeck, she led a rather vagabond existence, bouncing from one sublet to another, even while appearing in shows on Broadway, at Steppenwolf, or The Goodman and Lookingglass theatres. I once told her, "for one of the most gainfully employed actresses in Chicago, you sleep on an awful lot of inflatable air mattresses in someone's dining room..."

But she never seemed to mind the itinerant aspect of the business, as long as she found a role or a play was nourishing her soul or stretching her emotionally. From that final moment in *Mother Courage* in 1984 to her tragically premature passing on Aug. 1, Mariann always, always marched to the beat of her own drum. ❖

*About the Author:* **Frank Vlastnik '87** is a successful actor in New York and has co-authored the books *Broadway Musicals* and *Sitcoms*, both published by Black Dog & Leventhal/Hachette.





On April 3, 2018, alumni, parents, and friends of Illinois Wesleyan came together to make a big difference on campus and in the lives of our students during our sixth annual All In For Wesleyan. Gifts made during the 24-hour giving campaign had an even greater impact due to the generosity of challenge donors who put forth participation and matching gift challenges.

Competitions among sports teams, Greek houses, class years and others encouraged overall participation throughout the day. Titans took to social media to reminisce and spread the word using **#AllInForWesleyan**.

The challenge continues year-round, not just during All In For Wesleyan. IWU needs your help to provide students with the financial assistance they need to take part in the life-changing experience of an Illinois Wesleyan education.

***Be All In For Wesleyan, All the Time!***

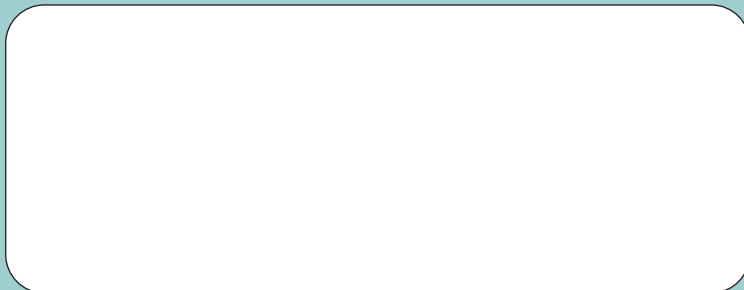
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WESLEYAN**

Make your gift today at  
**[www.iwu.edu/give!](http://www.iwu.edu/give!)**



# ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

P.O. Box 2900, Bloomington, IL 61702-2900



*campus in color*

A sure sign that spring has arrived on Illinois Wesleyan's campus is when the Japanese flowering crabapple trees bloom outside The Ames Library.

PHOTO FINISH