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## The Network 25th Anniversary

MAN/The Network, Illinois Wesleyan University

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The Illinois Wesleyan University Minority Alumni Network (MAN/The Network) was formed by several minority alumni from the Chicagoland area in on August 2, 1992. These alumni volunteered to create a network that would:

- 1) Showcase the accomplishments of alumni of color
- 2) Provide the conduit to support incoming and current MALANA students and alumni
- 3) Assist the University in achieving a student and faculty population that is racially and ethnically diverse.

At the time of its chartering, members of The Network developed six committees to address the organization's areas of foci. These committees were chaired by the following alumni:

Phyllis Barker '73- General Chair  
Debra Burt-Frazier '75- Networking/Career Development  
Gene Burwell '74- Scholarship/Fund Raising  
Samuel Hall, III '91- Recruitment and Admissions  
Dr. Ansel Johnson '81- Mentorship Program  
Rosemaria Shelby '73- Social Activities/Homecoming  
Danita Bragg '72- Branding/Communications

In the years following its inception, The Network has stayed true to its mission of providing a space for MALANA alumni to fellowship, give back and connect with current and prospective students. During this time, The Network has continued to benefit from the service and leadership of many alumni, including long time chair, Deon Hornsby '97, and former co-chairs Tony Gray '98 and Muneerah Maalik Rogers '00.

Currently co-chaired by Cecilia Mendoza '13 and Dr. Qiana Cryer-Coupet '06, The Network is continuing its legacy of engagement with MALANA alumni and the University community. Drawing on the strengths of the inaugural charter, members of The Network are focused on the following signature programs:

**Titan to Titan Connections (TTC)**- A mentoring program that matches current students with alumni mentors based on preferences identified by students. Set to enter its third year this fall, the TTC matching system was developed by Josefina Banales '14 and has matched 69 student-alum pairs.

**MALANA Graduation**- In efforts to increase new alumni awareness of the Alumni Association and affinity groups such as The Network, members have committed to attending this annual recognition ceremony hosted by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion to celebrate the achievements of MALANA graduates.

**Annual Network Picnic**- Since the inception of The Network, this annual event has been hosted at the home of a network member to welcome incoming students, and to connect with current

students and alumni. Recipients of scholarships that are funded by the Monica Taylor '88 Giving Circle are also awarded at this event.

We have planned several events to commemorate The Network's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and look forward to celebrating with current students, alumni, faculty, staff, family and friends!

#### **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events**

- **The Network Picnic- Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> (see Titanpride.org )**
- **Homecoming Events**
  - **Tailgate (11-1pm)**
    - **Join us for food, drinks, and games in the parking lot of Shirk. We are also making a special call for all MALANA Greeks (ex: NPHC, NALFO) to represent your organizations!**
  - **Annual Post-Game Networking (4pm)**
  - **25<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Reception (8pm)**

**Connect with The Network on Facebook (Illinois Wesleyan University Minority Alumni Network) or via email at [man-alumni@iwu.edu](mailto:man-alumni@iwu.edu)**