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Wesleyan Welcomes Highest Number of International Students

Aug. 9, 2013

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— This year Illinois Wesleyan University is set to welcome its largest group of international students, about 50 from 14 countries, making total enrollment of international students over 100 from 21 countries. The University welcomed 25 last year, and the previous record high for enrollment was 35 students in 2008-09.

IWU's association with the international community is growing stronger as more international students enroll and graduate. According to International Student and Scholar Advisor Reenie Bradley, with the increasing number of international students, the alumni networks outside the United States are also growing stronger in cities like Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Beijing, China; and London, U.K.

Among the new international students this year, IWU welcomes three legacy students, the highest number of legacy students in one class.

The three students are Shristi Sinha from India, sister of Tuhin Abner '09; Minh Nguyen from Vietnam, cousin of current student Hy Nguyen '16 and Moyoninuoluwa Ajayi from Nigeria, whose sister Iyinogooluwa Ajayi '14 and cousins, Adelana Olaosebikan '16, Gdebowale Olaosebikan '06 and Bukola Olaosebikan '09 are also alumni.

As a way of welcoming the new international students, Bradley, along with current international students, undertook a project of handcrafting owl-shaped pillows as a surprise. The new international students will be greeted with these colorful pillows upon their arrival on campus.

International Student Orientation begins Friday, Aug. 16.

For additional information, contact Sherry Wallace, director for news and media relations at (309) 556-3181.

Iyinogooluwa Ajayi '14 will welcome her sister, who is part of the incoming Class of 2017, with an owl pillow



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