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Students “Thank a Giver” for Financial Support

Feb. 21, 2017

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Tommy Titan was one of the many Illinois Wesleyan University personalities grabbing postcards and pens on President’s Day to personally thank alumni and friends whose gifts make an IWU education possible.

Feb. 19 marks the symbolic point in the academic year – about 70 percent of the way through – when tuition dollars run out. “Thank A Giver (TAG) Day gives our campus community the opportunity to celebrate Illinois Wesleyan’s donors and the impact they have,” said Carly Wilson ’12, assistant director of annual giving. TAG Day, celebrated this year on President’s Day, also makes it easy for students and others to write a quick note of thanks – about 1,900 of them this year – to donors and celebrate the positive impact those donations have made on the University.

At tables set up in locations around campus, students wrote heartfelt notes and messages. “I wanted to thank you for letting me fight for my dream!” wrote one. A first-year student from the Chicagoland area penned: “IWU has always appealed to me and I feel I am getting a strong education here, and all of this would not be possible without your generous support. Thank you so much!” One student even wrote: “Bless you” and adorned her message with a smiley face emoji.

Faculty, staff and young alumni also expressed their appreciation on social media. “I was the student who needed mountains of financial assistance,” Lavon Robinson ’09 said on the Wesleyan Fund Facebook page. “I would not have made it through college without the support of alumni giving their hard-earned dollars to support my education. I donate to support future Titans reach their goals.” Sherff Endowed Professor of Botany David Bollivar, a member of the class of 1989, said giving to IWU is an opportunity to provide support for the students he teaches. “We have students that come from a diversity of backgrounds and my hope is that the gift I give can in small part make it possible for a student that might not otherwise be able to attend IWU to be given that opportunity.”

IWU depends on the generosity of donors to bridge the gap between tuition dollars received and the cost of an Illinois Wesleyan education. To make your gift today, visit iwu.edu/giving or call 1-800-689-9743.

