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## For Immediate Release

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April 21, 1994

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Forty-two students and two faculty members from Illinois Wesleyan University will journey to Chicago's Cabrini Green neighborhood Saturday, April 23 to spur awareness of race and poverty issues in America's big cities. Students from the Cabrini Green neighborhood will later visit IWU as part of the exchange.

Dan Bassill, a 1968 IWU graduate, helped originate the idea of a student exchange with Michael Seeborg, economics chairperson. Bassill heads *Cabrini Connections*, a special tutoring program for students ages 12 to 17 who live in Cabrini Green and are interested in going to college.

While in Chicago the students and faculty will meet with IWU alumni who are social workers, attorneys, and health care workers to discuss the major issues affecting poverty.

The class will meet at *Cabrini Connections*, which is located on the 16th floor of the Montgomery Ward Building, 535 West Chicago Avenue.

Seeborg will take an economics class on the trip, while James Sikora, sociology chairperson, will take a sociology class.

Seeborg says, "This is our most effective way to get a first-hand look at what some of the problems of poverty are. By going there and seeing what is really going on, we can come up with realistic solutions to those problems."

Brandon Maddox, a freshman biology major from Springfield, Ill., who is taking the economics class says, "In biology you can look at organisms under a microscope, but with economics and the poverty issue in particular, you have to see for yourself what it is like to live in poverty to really understand it."

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 1,800 students in a College of Liberal Arts, College of Fine Arts, and a four-year professional School of Nursing. For five consecutive years, *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked IWU No. 1 in the Midwest among regional colleges and universities in its annual "America's Best Colleges" edition. *U.S. News* also rated IWU as a "best buy" in higher education in its first survey, "Paying for College," published in October, 1993.

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