

# Titan Transport offers safety in sticky situations

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STAFF WRITER

One of the major benefits of going to a small school like Illinois Wesleyan University is that everything is within walking distance.

On average, a reasonably-paced walker can walk from The Ames Library to the Shirk Athletic Center in under seven minutes, while many people can do it in even less.

What happens, though, when you find yourself leaving Ames at 1:00 a.m. and you need to get back safely to your dorm, or when winter hits and you have to get back to your off-campus house? Titan Transport is the solution.

Titan Transport is IWU's shuttle service, which provides free transportation for any student in need. Funded by student tuition, Titan Transport is intended to be a safe and easy method of transportation.

The service runs between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday, excluding Thanksgiving, Winter, Summer and Spring Break. The service is run out of the Security Office.

Being an Illinois Wesleyan service, Titan Transport serves the needs of the IWU community. The community includes students who live off-campus, but many students don't know how far off campus Titan Transport will go.

Junior Joanna Balcerzak, who has worked for Titan Transport for three years, said, "The boundaries

for Titan Transport are not a perfect rectangle. We go as far north as Virginia Avenue, as far south as Locust Street, as far east as Fell Street and as far west as Roosevelt Avenue."

Balcerzak helped to clear up other misunderstandings some people may have about Titan Transport.

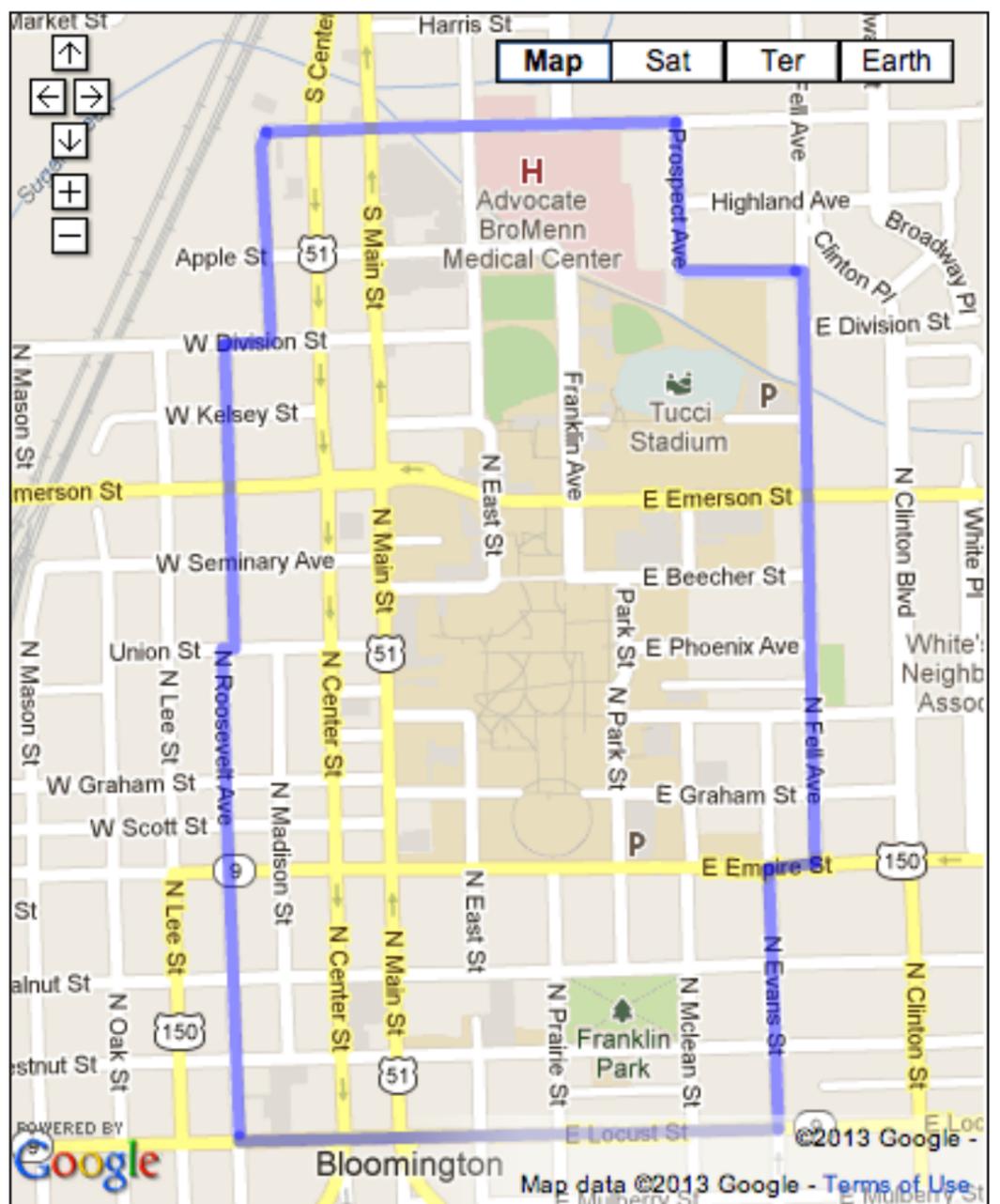
"I don't understand why some people say that they never get picked up," Balcerzak said. "We have a ride sheet where we record the call order. If students take longer than five minutes to come outside, we drive to the next destination."

She also mentioned that because only one car is being used at a time, only five people can take advantage of Titan Transport at any given moment. Sometimes people need to wait, but they are never forgotten.

Titan Transport is also safe, as the car used to pick students up is operated by two student drivers. Though they generally pick students up upon request, they can turn down students who are not fit to be in a vehicle.

"We have the right to deny anyone a ride. If someone is too inebriated, we can deny them," Balcerzak said.

If a student ever needs safe and convenient transportation, Titan Transport is always around. For walking home alone in the dark, getting to or from Ames in the cold or even for late night runs to Kroger, Titan Transport is a great method of transportation for Illinois Wesleyan students.



Above is a map of the range of Titan Transport, for you unaware, carless unsavvy street folk.

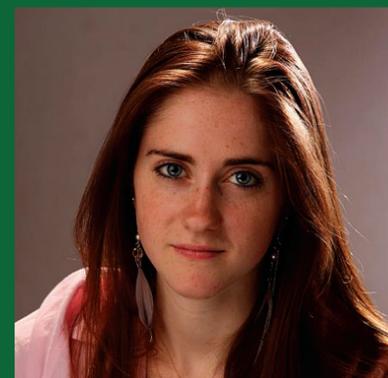
## Get to know your drivers

We asked the Titan Transport drivers what was on their bucket lists. Here are their responses:



**JOEY BALCERZAK**

"I want to learn how to shoot a gun, and not one of those whippy ones. I eventually want to get a gun license."



**ABIGAIL DRYDEN**

"I want to swim with sharks, cuddle with a lion and hold a monkey like a baby."



**ROB DIEHL**

"Going to continental Asia is on my bucket list. I've been within sight of it from both sides, but I've never actually set foot on it."



**KELSEY KOTERLA**

"I want to ride an elephant and visit the pyramids of Giza."



**TYLER SILL**

"I'd like to become a professional driver at some point. We're talkin' limos for famous people and stuff. Titan Transport is a great resume builder."