Helping transform lives is something that has become a passion for Sam Porritt III ’84, ever since he suffered a spinal cord injury while traveling in Italy in 2011. More than two years and countless hours of rehabilitation later, he is now walking with just a cane, working and enjoying a full life. He is also working to provide others with the opportunity to fully recover from similar injuries through the Falling Forward Foundation, a not-for-profit organization he founded in August.

Sam, who has been a consistent supporter of the Wesleyan Fund over the years, decided to establish a Promise Scholarship after learning about the importance of this program to students with significant financial need.

“I was drawn to the Promise Scholarship concept because it’s another way that I can provide financial opportunity to those who need it: in this case deserving students,” noted Sam, who came back to campus for the first time in many years to attend the Scholarship Benefactor Dinner and meet his first award recipient. “I really wanted to meet Alyssa, our first student recipient, and witness the opportunity that the Promise Scholarship makes possible.”

Barschdorf Scholarship
A Gift of Love

Upon graduating from Illinois Wesleyan in 1967, Gloria Barschdorf moved to Denver, Colo., where she pursued a career in technology and fell in love with the mountains and Colorado. In addition to her Wesleyan education, where she majored in mathematics, Gloria earned an MBA from the University of Phoenix. After a long career, she retired as a systems analyst at US West Communications in Denver.

The Gloria Barschdorf ’67 Scholarship Fund will be awarded annually to a female student from Colorado who has demonstrated financial need. As a student who grew up on a family farm in Dwight, Ill., Gloria knows the struggles students and families have paying for an education. This, combined with her love for the West, motivated her to establish this scholarship.

Gloria, who visited campus the week before the Scholarship Benefactor Dinner, met with the first recipient of her scholarship, Jennifer Lang ’16, a biology major from Wellington, Colo. “It’s not often that I am able to return to campus, and I was so happy to be able to meet Jennifer, my first scholarship recipient,” said Gloria. “My Illinois Wesleyan education was such an important part of my life and development. There really aren’t many liberal arts colleges in the western states, which is why I wanted to provide this scholarship opportunity. I hope this scholarship helps to attract more students from Colorado and other western states to the University.”

Gloria wants her scholarship to reflect her passion for the liberal arts and through the students whose lives it touches a legacy of her love for Illinois Wesleyan and Colorado.
Academic Enrichment Fund Honors Memory of Professor Jerry Stone

The Jerry H. Stone Academic Enrichment Fund was established in May to honor the memory of this popular professor of religion whose nearly 40-year career touched the lives of so many Illinois Wesleyan graduates.

Professor Stone, who was the first to hold the McFee Professorship in Religion, took students on biennial trips over a 20-year period to study 12th-century European religious art and architecture during what was then the January Short Term. The Academic Enrichment Fund that he requested be established will serve as a legacy to his memory and will provide support to faculty so that they can, in their own way, enrich the educational experiences of their students. The Fund will be administered by the Provost’s Office and a committee of faculty will review proposals from their colleagues and make awards.

“Upon graduating from Garrett Theological Seminary, Jerry received a fellowship that provided the financial means for our family to travel to Switzerland, where Jerry wrote his dissertation and attended Basel University,” said Judy Stone, wife of the late professor. “This experience had such an impact on our lives that Jerry wanted to enrich his students’ lives by taking them on those European trips during the January Short Term. Our hope for the Academic Enrichment Fund is that it will enrich the lives and experiences of faculty and students in the future.”

Those wishing to contribute to the Jerry H. Stone Academic Enrichment Fund can give online at www.iwu.edu/giving or send a check to the Advancement Office, designating their gift to the fund.

Zoellick Fellowship in Social Entrepreneurship Established

Todd Zoellick ’00 has created a fellowship in social entrepreneurship to engage students in solving social issues facing our communities, nation and the world. The Action Research Center will administer the fellowship program, which calls for students to present business plans to a panel of judges who will decide which plans warrant awards, much like ABC television’s business-themed show Shark Tank.

“I really believe in what the Action Research Center is doing to engage Illinois Wesleyan students in solving problems in our communities,” said Todd in explaining why he is funding this program. “The business plan competition, playing off of the Shark Tank television program, should help to generate student interest and also provide a real-world component, which I believe is important.”

A history and political science double major at Wesleyan, Todd went on to earn a law degree from the Chicago-Kent College of Law. He is currently president of TransitPro Logistics, a company providing a full range of management services to ensure that school districts provide safe and cost-effective transportation solutions. He is also president of an education advocacy organization bearing his name. Todd has held a number of governmental positions, including serving as one of former U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings’ top officials for Region V, which encompasses Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Promised Scholarship—continued from page 1

Sam, who lives and works in Lawrence, Kan., has spent much of his professional career as a consumer marketing executive and consultant. In addition to the Falling Forward Foundation, he is also the founder of Full Circle Branding, a marketing consultancy; both are located in Lawrence.

To learn more about the Falling Forward Foundation, visit www.fallingforward.org/

Titans All In For Wesleyan

The All In For Wesleyan one-day of giving event, which took place on July 17, succeeded beyond expectations, raising about $480,000 in scholarship support from nearly 2,500 alumni and friends.

A big reason for the success of this one-day giving event was a $100,000 scholarship challenge gift made by John ’82 and Joann Horton. The Horton challenge was promoted via social media, email and telephone appeals and created quite a bit of the initial enthusiasm for the event among alumni and friends.

Once alumni heard of this scholarship fundraiser, others offered their own challenges. Shortly after the Horton gift was announced, Howard ’60 and Sharon ’60 Fricke pledged a $10,000 gift if 600 additional gifts were made. That challenge was met before 1 p.m.

Ed ’62 and Lin Phelps were next to offer a challenge: $25,000 if gifts reached 1,000 on this day of giving. More alumni and friends answered the call and the 1,000 gift mark was reached before 3 p.m.

Continuing throughout the day, as one challenge was met, another was made. Korye ’00 and Heidi Coon offered the next challenge of $15,000 if the number of donors reached 1,200.

The next challenge came through after 5 p.m. when Dr. Mike Sombeck ’83 offered a gift of $25,000 if the number of donors climbed to 1,500.

Two more families, energized by the overwhelming response they had witnessed during the day, made their own challenges that ended the one-day of giving on a high note. Dr. Randy ’73 and Jodie Reed offered $25,000 and Ed ’62 and Lin Phelps added $10,000 more to match every new gift, dollar for dollar up to a total of $35,000 for gifts received before midnight.

To see a video about the All In For Wesleyan event, go to www.iwu.edu/allin
Connects the dots. Aims to answer the question "What is the main focus of the text?" Here is the text:

The annual Scholarship Benefactor Dinner, which brings together donors and scholarship recipients, has been moved to Thursday of Homecoming week. That scheduling change resulted in record attendance with more than 200 donors joining student scholarship recipients. The dinner, which takes place in the Young Main Lounge of the Memorial Center, honors the nearly 250 scholarships and other awards that are named for alumni and friends of Illinois Wesleyan.

“We hold this annual dinner to recognize those alumni and friends whose generous support makes it possible for so many of our students to attend Illinois Wesleyan,” said President Wilson. “An added incentive for many in attendance was scheduling the dinner during Homecoming week, which enabled them to make one trip to campus for both events.”

Among those introduced at the dinner were 11 of the 28 new scholarships and awards that were established in 2012-13. Many of the named scholarships and awards were established as part of the University’s $125 million Transforming Lives fundraising campaign, which is entering its final year. A key priority of the campaign and focus during the 2013-14 year will be student scholarship support.

The tradition of naming scholarships dates back to 1893 when the Illinois Wesleyan Board of Trustees established named scholarships for those contributing $1,000 or more to the scholarship fund. In 1895, the first named scholarships were designated, honoring William W. Anderson of Taylorville and Martha Elzina Cameron of Greenville.

President Wilson is extending an invitation to all alumni and friends to consider funding a Promise Scholarship for students enrolling at Illinois Wesleyan next fall. The commitment would be $5,000 per year for four years for a total commitment of $20,000.

Wilson notes that, “By funding a Promise Scholarship, you would be creating a pathway for a talented student with limited means to become a Titan, thus sustaining an important value embraced by previous generations of alumni and friends.”

Campbell Adds 28 New Scholarships in 2013

Each year of the Transforming Lives campaign has attracted more support for student scholarships than the previous year, and 2013 was no exception, with the addition of 28 new scholarships, including eight new Promise Scholarships. While the progress made over the first four years of the campaign has been a credit to the hundreds of alumni and friends who have established new student scholarships, the campaign’s final year will focus even more attention on new student scholarships, the campaign’s alumni and friends who have established campaign has been a credit to the hundreds of student scholarships, especially the final year will focus even more attention on new student scholarships, the campaign’s alumni and friends who have established campaign has been a credit to the hundreds of student scholarships, especially the final year will focus even more attention on new student scholarships, the campaign’s alumni and friends who have established campaign has been a credit to the hundreds of student scholarships, especially the final year will focus even more attention on new student scholarships, the campaign’s alumni and friends who have established campaign has been a credit to the hundreds of student 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How can you get involved?

Co-chairs Steve Wannemacher ’73 and Jean Baird ’80 invite you to join the Transforming Lives campaign.

Find out how by contacting the Advancement Office

Call: (309) 556-3091 or (800) 689-9743

Email: advancement@iwu.edu

Go online: www.iwu.edu/campaign/

Scholarship Support, Campaign Focus in Final Year

The most important Transforming Lives priority in the final year of the campaign will be increasing student scholarship support. Given the increasing size of the “gap” that exists between what families can afford to pay and what Wesleyan can provide in financial assistance, building our endowed and annual student scholarship funds is our most critical need as an institution. In what has become an increasingly competitive and cost-conscious market, the amount of financial aid we can give to talented and deserving students has a direct impact on providing those students with a life-changing Illinois Wesleyan education. Your support of student scholarships can make a real difference.

2014 Goal — $125 Million

October 2013 total $118.3 Million