DIVERSITY & Inclusion

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
"Since our earliest days, Illinois Wesleyan has been committed to diversity and social justice issues. We opened our doors to African American students in 1867, women were admitted in 1870 and our first international students came from Japan in 1889. Today our commitment to diversity, inclusion and social justice can be found in the University mission statement, strategic plan, our curriculum and, most importantly, wherever Titans gather."

—President Eric R. Jensen
First graduate in 1880

Gus A. Hill became Illinois Wesleyan’s first African American graduate, earning a law degree in 1880. In 1927, the law school closed its doors. Since then, Wesleyan graduates have gone on to study at many of the nation’s most prestigious schools of law.

EMBRACING DIVERSITY

AT ILLINOIS WESLEYAN

With students coming from across the nation and around the globe, Illinois Wesleyan embraces diversity in people, ideas and experiences. We strongly believe that diversity must extend to our academic offerings, co-curricular programming, student organizations and engagement with the community.

More than one in four students at Illinois Wesleyan are students of color or international students, while diversity among faculty and staff is comparable. Graduation rates for students of color at 80 percent are nearly identical to other students and higher than most other liberal arts colleges in Illinois and nationally.

On the pages that follow you’ll see the many facets of diversity at Illinois Wesleyan.
Recognizing that diversity encapsulates more than race and ethnicity, emphasis is placed on supporting our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ), First Generation, and Women communities in addition to racially underrepresented students including Multiracial, Latino/a, African American, Asian American and Native American students. We strive to ensure that all students meet their academic and personal goals.

THE OFFICE OF Diversity AND Inclusion

“

We encourage dialogue, learning, involvement and leadership. The Office of Diversity and Inclusion brings people from a wide spectrum together to enrich their understanding and appreciation for one another.”

Brandon Common (above)
Assistant Dean of Students for Campus Life

A Partial Listing of Programs

MALANA Orientation

MALANA Orientation is a three-day event which provides incoming MALANA students the opportunity to meet current students, faculty, and staff. The purpose of MALANA Orientation is to provide critical tools and resources to students that will assist them in achieving a successful and productive first year experience.

Summer Enrichment Program

A summer-long program that focuses on three major areas: academic, professional, and personal growth. Students take part in activities designed to enhance team building and leadership skills. In addition, a scholarship is awarded to those who successfully complete the program.

Diversity, Dialogue, and Dignity Series (3D)

The 3D series addresses diversity and invites dialogue in ways that emphasize the importance of dignity for all people. This programmatic series coordinated by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion places diversity and difference at the center of discourse with the overall goal of addressing these tough issues with the highest regard of dignity for everyone in our community.
DIVERSITY Inside and Outside

Illinois Wesleyan and its student organizations sponsor a wide range of events recognizing the importance of diversity and multiculturalism.

**University Sponsored Events**
- Black History Month Celebrations
- American Indian / Native American Heritage Month Celebrations
- Chanukah / Hanukkah Celebration
- LGBTQ History Month Celebrations
- Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrations
- International Carnival
- International Film Series
- IWU Safe Zone Trainings
- Kwanzaa Celebration
- Lunar New Year Celebration
- MLK Teach In
- National Coming Out Day Celebration
- Trans Day of Remembrance

**Student Organizations**
- African Student Association (ASA)
- Asia Club
- Asian Pacific Student Association (APSA)
- Black Student Union (BSU)
- International Society of IWU
- IWU Pride Alliance
- National Association of Black Accountants
- Shringana Theatre
- Sisters Actively Visualizing Vitality and Intellect (SAVVI)
- Spanish and Latino Student Association (SALSA)
- Southeast Asian Student Association (SASA)
- White Students Interested in Self-growth and Eradicating Racism (WISER)
- Faith-based student organizations include Collegiate Black Christians, Titan Catholic, Hillel, Muslim Student Association, Hindu and other Christian and non-religious groups.
Engaging Diversity

The Engaging Diversity program provides an opportunity for incoming Caucasian students to understand more about the importance of diversity and interact with incoming MALANA and international students during orientation.

The University Council for Diversity

The University Council for Diversity is a campus-wide council in charge of supporting and guiding IWU with achieving all community goals with respect to diversity.

DIVERSITY IN THE Curriculum

Illinois Wesleyan enhances diversity through its liberal arts curriculum and general education requirements with coursework in global and U.S. diversity.

Mauricio Parra
Professor of Hispanic Studies

“A really felt my competitive spirit coming out at IWU. It provided me the perfect opportunity to challenge myself. I think that drive is what really differentiates people.”
Marcus Dunlop ’08
Hedge Fund Analyst, HG Vora Capital Management
Paul Bushnell and Bob Bray were my principal professors in the American Studies program, and they were also wonderful coaches and friends. I could have easily seen myself pursuing an academic career, modeled after these two characters.

David Wilkins ’74, Retired Director Ethics and Compliance, Dow Chemical

Not only was Dr. Michael Young my favorite teacher, but without his inspiration and guidance, I doubt I would have made it into law school!

Carlina Tapia-Ruano ’77
Founding Partner, Tapia-Ruano & Gunn, immigration law

Illinois Wesleyan maintains lasting ties with its alumni—who are a valuable source of support to current students.

Rod Adams ’95 (above left)
National Director Diversity Recruiting, PriceWaterhouse-Coopers (PWC)

Megan Lee ’09 (above right)
Business Development Director, Salo LLC

Mike Mason ’80 (above left)
Chief Security Officer, Verizon, and former Assistant Director Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sung Jin Hong ’97 (above right)
Artistic Director and Conductor New York City’s One World Symphony

Denise Canton ’74 (above left)
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy and Second Director in the U.S. Office of Public Health and Science

Sundeep Mullangi ’97 (above middle)
Vice President, Investment Management PPM American

Thomas C. McKinney ’76 (above right)
Physician and Executive Committee, St. Louis Pediatric Association

You never know where the work you do will take you. You just have to stay grounded and do something for which you have a passion. I had no idea what urban planning was, but Dr. Seeborg and Dr. Chapman explained what I could do.”

Juan Salgado ’91
Recipient of the MacArthur Foundation Award
Chief Executive Officer, Instituto del Progreso Latino

The Network

Our students of color graduate at the same rates as our Caucasian students and have every bit as much success in their careers. The Network keeps graduates connected with each other and the University.
LEARN MORE ABOUT

Diversity AT Illinois Wesleyan

Diversity and Inclusion Visit Program

Diversity and Inclusion Visit Program (DIVP) is an event offered each semester designed especially for prospective students who want to explore the diverse community at Illinois Wesleyan University. During the visit you will have the opportunity to sit in on classes, meet with professors, interview with an admissions counselor, participate in clubs and activities, meet student leaders and stay the night in a residence hall.

¡Tu Universidad!

¡Tu Universidad!, a spring semester event, is designed to help Latino/a students and their families learn more about the University campus community, receive admissions assistance, begin the financial aid process through a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Workshop, and meet current students, faculty and staff. Preference will be given to seniors who have applied but juniors are also welcome to attend.

Diversity and Inclusion Visit Program and ¡Tu Universidad! are free. Bus transportation from the Chicago area is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Travel vouchers for airfare are available for out-of-state students.

Contact Illinois Wesleyan University
To schedule a campus visit or for additional information, contact:

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Se habla Español: Contact Admissions Counselor Melissa Ramirez at mramirez@iwu.edu

International student email: international@iwu.edu

www.iwu.edu/diversity