July, 2015

Prefname LastName
Addr line 1
City, State Zip

Dear Prefname,

Greetings! I hope your summer is going well and that you are finding time to rest and recharge for another productive year at Illinois Wesleyan. We are expecting about 500 new students on campus August 18 for orientation. Faculty and staff are working together to arrange class schedules and housing for the newest members of the IWU community, in addition to preparing for your return and the first day of classes on August 24.

As your third year begins, you may want to consider the following:

- **Internships:** It is time to start preparing for internships for your junior year and for Summer 2016. If you wish to have an internship this fall, you will need to complete arrangements very early this fall. There are two ways you can get “credit” for internships: academic course credit and resume notation/non-credit. Please explore your options so we can best meet your needs. The Hart Career Center can help with this.

- **Post-Baccalaureate Scholarships:** this is the year for you to begin giving serious thought to applying for Post-Baccalaureate Scholarships such as the Rhodes, Marshall, and Fulbright Scholarships, and many others. If you want to find out more about these opportunities, including deadlines criteria, and faculty liaisons, please contact Associate Provost, Dr. Frank Boyd, fboyd@iwu.edu, 556-3255.

- **Study Abroad:** As you plan for your time at IWU, there is still time to study abroad. The International office sponsors a Study Abroad Fair early in the Fall semester, and it’s a great place to learn more about semester, yearlong, and summer programs. In October, the May Term Office holds its annual Travel Fair, where you can learn about short-term programs available for next May. At any time, you can explore the International Office website (www.iwu.edu/studyabroad/) to learn more about the world of study abroad. Feel free to contact the International Office at abroad@iwu.edu or 309-556-2770.

- **IWU Community Read:** An Unlikely Disciple by Kevin Roose is the summer reading selection for new students and the campus community. In addition, the author will be on-campus on September 9 for the President’s Convocation, 11am. This book embodies IWU’s 2015-16 intellectual theme Nations Divided? as it unpacks the simplistic assumption that America is experiencing a two-side culture war between forces of inclusion and exclusion. For more information, visit http://www.iwu.edu/advising/reading/.

When you return to campus, you will notice a few exciting things.

**Campus Diversity:** This past year was an exciting year for our commitment to educating for diversity. Over 70 programs were sponsored throughout the year to help all students prepare to live and work in a diverse, global society. If you missed 3D Thursday, the International Film series, ReligioiTEA, the Human Rights workshop or other opportunities, I encourage you to make this part of your education a priority this year. Please do all you can to develop global friendships, be inclusive in your class work and student organization leadership, and learn to lead in a global society.

**Intellectual Theme:** The campus intellectual theme for this year is Nation(s) Divided? https://www.iwu.edu/nations-divided/ Within the world, global conversations are taking place around: immigration and emigration, environment and human impact, threats and risks to global health, economic and political instability, freedom of expression as it intersects with faith and religion, and constructions of human identity and self-understanding, just to name a few. These conversations have the potential to unite or to divide us as nations and as individuals, but we have an opportunity to achieve mutual and holistic understanding through nuanced, thoughtful exploration in the best tradition of the liberal arts.

**Hart Career Center:** As the economy continues to improve, we consistently monitor career trends to ensure that we are able to assist you in meeting your career goals. The Hart Career Center embraces a service-delivery model that emphasizes career development, career engagement/experiences, and career technologies. Our staff are also developing career field specialties to maximize our network of alumni to your benefit. Please visit Warren Kistner,
Laurie Diekhoff, or our new Assistant Director of Career Development, Abby Reel, this fall to help you plan your next career steps.

Campus grounds and facilities projects:

- **Shirk Center Addition**: Construction began this Spring on a two-story addition to the Shirk Center that will double the size of our fitness facilities, provide multipurpose rooms for fitness classes and team use, and add team locker room space. Thanks to the Shirk family and other supporters this $6.5 million project will be funded entirely with private funds.

- **Egbers Quad**: The North Quad area behind State Farm Hall was officially dedicated as the Egbers Quad thanks to a generous donation by the Egbers family. The Egbers Quad features a new water sculpture named "Aspiration". This contemporary sculpture was designed by Giles Raynor, leading international water designer and sculptor.

- **Inter-faith prayer space**: Thanks to the Merwin family, on August 27, we will celebrate our commitment to faith development and inclusion by dedicating a renovated Inter-faith prayer space in the Memorial Center. Please plan to join us for the dedication and think about how you might make greater use of this reflective, meditative, prayerful space.

- **Residence halls**: Dodds will get a new roof this summer. ITS is installing additional wireless equipment in several residence halls to increase wireless coverage as a result of student feedback.

Technology updates: ITS Help Desk will move to Ames third floor. In-person support or service for personal equipment can be received at the Help Desk in the Thorpe Center (Ames 300). Phone support at (309)556-3900, and online support at [http://help.iwu.edu](http://help.iwu.edu), is available as always. ITS is implementing a new authentication system to improve security and simplify signing-on to multiple systems. Part of the project requires everyone to change their password used to access IWU services. You will receive details on when to change and improve your password security this summer.

Presidential Search: As you know, President Wilson announced his retirement in December, 2014 and agreed to stay with us through this Fall. The Presidential Search committee continues their work in selecting our next president. For more information, [www.iwu.edu/presidentialsearch/](http://www.iwu.edu/presidentialsearch/).

Nuts and Bolts:

- **Vehicle Registration/Parking permit**: Please complete the form and stop by Security to pick up your decal.

- **Health Insurance**: In June, you received a reminder about the mandatory health insurance and the process for waiving the insurance. Please make sure you either verify existing coverage no later than August 28 or be prepared to have the $1584 bill added to your IWU account.

- **Off Campus contact information**: If you are living off-campus, please log into MyHo using and update your off-campus address so that important information can be sent to you by mail. The student planner and a collection of off-campus resources and supports are available for you to pick up in the Dean of Students Office (Holmes 103).

Two items for your calendar: First, Titan Carnival, Saturday, August 22 will kick-off some fun “welcome week” programming. Welcome Week will include the RSO Fair, Epic Rap Battles and an Improv Comedy group. And … before you forget it, ask your parents, brothers, sisters, and other family members to mark September 18-20 on their calendars and make plans to visit you at Illinois Wesleyan for **Family Weekend**. We are planning fun activities for everyone. For more details, visit [http://www.iwu.edu/activities/FamilyWeekend.html](http://www.iwu.edu/activities/FamilyWeekend.html).

Sincerely,

Karla C. Carney-Hall, PhD
Vice President of Student Affairs/Dean of Students

PS: This letter was sent based on your entry year to IWU, not by your credit hour class status (unless you were a transfer student). If you are ahead in credits and would like to see the letter sent to seniors, you can find other cohort letters at [www.iwu.edu/studentaffairs/dean/](http://www.iwu.edu/studentaffairs/dean/)