Who can find the most promising scholars, scientists, artists, and activists? Who can inspire them to become the leaders they always dreamed they could be? Who can foster a community of learning, innovation, and service for our university and our world?

We can. Together.

Honoring Indiana University’s most beloved chancellor, Herman B Wells, the Wells Scholars Program enables IU’s most talented students to fulfill their promise as innovators, problem solvers, humanitarians, and pioneers in their chosen fields. Our program embodies IU’s long tradition of discovering the best in students and inspiring them to grow into the greatest thinkers, leaders, and citizens they can be.

We believe the benefits of an IU education – and the graduates it produces – rival those of any university in the world. With your help, we will continue this tradition of excellence, and we will attract and develop the very best undergraduates from within the state and beyond.
Our world needs visionary leaders now, more than ever.

For All: The Indiana University Bicentennial Campaign presents an opportunity to expand the legacy of the Wells Scholars Program — one of the most prestigious of its kind nationwide. To sustain its success, the program must offset rising tuition and travel costs through support for student scholarships, extracurricular learning, and overseas study. And to remain vital, the program will need to transform outdated learning spaces, enhance extracurricular experiences, and acquire cutting-edge technology.

As this groundbreaking program enters its 25th year, we envision a future in which IU attracts and shapes the finest scholars and leaders from across the state, the nation, and the world. They, in turn, will shape each other, IU, and society for generations to come.

“The curiosity, leadership, and enthusiasm of these students are contagious. They raise the level of education for everyone at Indiana University.”

—Christoph Irmscher
Wells Scholars Program Director
Chancellor Herman B. Wells was a champion of broad-based education, academic freedom, international outreach, and intellectual curiosity. This singularly effective combination of values is instilled in the students of the Wells Scholars Program—students who are drawn to the opportunity to learn in a community of exceptionally gifted peers.

The Wells Scholars Program and its educational model have proven to be a resounding success. By providing its scholars with full tuition, opportunities for international study, and a generous living stipend, the program has sustained a track record of attracting and developing top students who otherwise may have been recruited by Princeton, Stanford, Harvard, or Yale. In just 25 years, the Wells Scholars Program has produced winners of more than 80 of the most prestigious graduate scholarships worldwide—including Rhodes, Marshall, Churchill, Mitchell, Truman, Goldwater, Fulbright, and many more—a fitting tribute to Herman B. Wells’ legacy.

“In the quality and spirit of these youngsters is found the future of the state and nation.”

—Herman B. Wells
Beyond their academic achievements, Wells Scholars make diverse contributions to university culture and student experience, leaving their own legacies at IU. Wells Scholars have served in a wide range of leadership positions, including: the IU Board of Trustees, Board of Aeons president, IUSA president, IUSA chief justice, IDS editor, Union Board director, Ethics Bowl captain, and student commencement speaker. Fifteen Wells Scholars have also received the Wells Distinguished Senior Award, IU’s most prestigious distinction for outstanding senior students.
Support for student scholarships enables the Wells Scholars Program to continue attracting the best and brightest students for years to come.

SUPPORTING A COLLABORATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

At the heart of a scholarship community is a space where students can commune, debate, and share ideas. Gifted to the university by Cecil and Inez Harlos, Harlos House has provided essential infrastructure for the program throughout its 25-year history. Over time, maintenance improvements and technological updates have become critical to the continued function of this unique learning space. With your help, our students can continue to use Harlos House for collaboration, interdisciplinary learning, and the cross-pollination of ideas.

“After four years in this program, we see students doing things they never dreamed of as freshmen.”

—Breon Mitchell
Founding Director of the Wells Scholars Program

Wells Scholars have naturally risen to the role of ambassadors for IU. It’s not unusual for Wells Scholars to collaborate with faculty to author publications in academic and research journals. Through their interactions with community leaders and distinguished lecturers (including Supreme Court justices, heads of state, and Nobel Laureates) these exceptional students have earned praise and esteem without exception.

To enable Wells Scholars to engage with their campus and community while delivering outstanding academic achievements, they are supported by a tuition and cost-of-living package. Over the years, the program’s budget has been stretched thin to keep pace with the cost of a first-rate education, forcing a reduction in the number of students accepted each year. With added support for student scholarships, we can reverse this trend. With each scholar we are able to admit, we will enrich IU’s academics, student life, and reputation.

Support for facilities improvement at Harlos House will enable our vibrant scholarship community to continue flourishing.

“For all the minds we’ll open”
"Through this experience, I feel that I learned about the aspects of life that really matter. If I am the best physician I can be, and the best brother, best son, best father, best friend, best husband, etc., then it will be a successful life."

— Aaditya Shah
Wells Scholar

In addition to course work, each Wells Scholar has the opportunity to spend part of his or her undergraduate education studying at universities around the world. The program also includes a one-time summer experience grant to support an internship, a research project, or a service learning program.

Through these activities, students learn new languages, customs, and cultural perspectives. They study at top-tier schools around the world. They create global networks of friends and future colleagues and bring those connections home to IU. Yet, rising costs of travel have created a critical need for financial support.

Through support for summer experiences and international study, Wells Scholars will continue to broaden their cultural awareness, conduct cutting-edge research, teach children, establish civic outreach programs, and access any other formative learning experiences they wish to pursue. With your help, our students will continue to play a transformative role in how IU is perceived on the global stage.

Support for summer experiences and international study enables students to grow as leaders, as human beings, and as citizens of the world.
GENEROUS IU SUPPORTERS

ENDOWED A STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE WELLS SCHOLARS PROGRAM

TO DISCOVER HER INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ENABLING KATE SCHNIPPEL

PROPELLING HER TO A TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP

FOR RESEARCH IN EPIDEMIOLOGY

AND ENABLING HER TO FUND AND LAUNCH NEW HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMS

TO DISCOVER HER INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

THAT DELIVER HIV TREATMENTS

TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN THROUGHOUT AFRICA
“The encouragement I received from the faculty of the Wells program opened a lifelong career passion. I strive to be more generous, thoughtful, and confident as a result of the example they set.”

— Marion Werkheiser
Wells Alum

Essential to the development of student leaders is a scholarship community, fueled by rich intellectual and extracurricular programming. Frequent seminars and workshops encourage students to engage with broad topics, such as humanitarian interventions, freedom of religion, genetics research, energy, and climate change. Inspired by their extracurricular experiences, our students have been moved to explore new interests, collaborate on special projects, and launch their own volunteering and activism initiatives.

Through the continued achievements and contributions of Wells Scholars alums, support for this program extends far beyond the classrooms and campuses of IU. It leaves enduring legacies of leadership across the state, the nation, and the world.

Support for extracurricular programs helps students discover life-changing interests and opportunities.

GRADUATES OF THE WELLS SCHOLARS PROGRAM HAVE GONE ON TO...

• Work at the White House and in Congress
• Practice emergency medicine
• Write a New York Times best-selling book
• Develop environmental legislation and research climate change
• Support victims of domestic violence
• Advocate for Native American rights
• Influence rural health policy
• Fight childhood poverty
• Research treatments for cancer and diabetes
• Lead others in the fields of business, law, politics, and the arts
• Teach the next generation of young leaders in the state of Indiana

(opposite: bottom left): Wells alum Noah Bendix-Balgley is the youngest concertmaster in the history of the internationally acclaimed Berliner Philharmoniker. Through the Wells Scholars Program, Noah studied with a community of intellectuals who enriched his university experience beyond the practice room.

(opposite: bottom right): Wells alum Marion Werkheiser is co-founder and managing partner of Cultural Heritage Partners, a Washington, D.C., based firm that protects artistic and cultural heritage from looting and destruction. In 2014 IU honored Marion with its Outstanding Young Alumni Award.

IT STARTS WITH YOU
Following the example of Herman B Wells, our remarkable students continue to prove that the potential of just one talented person can ripple out and become a force of good in the world.

The Wells Scholars Program has empowered a generation of leaders to emerge from IU and mark our university as a destination for the finest minds in the state, nation, and world.

But our work is not finished. The next generations of leaders have yet to fulfill their promise. The next advances in science have yet to be realized. The next great symphonies have yet to be composed. Your support can help us write the next chapter in our story.

Together, we can continue the remarkable legacy of the Wells Scholars Program for generations to come.