Who Is the First-Year IUPUI Undergraduate?

- Completed a High School Honors Diploma = 51%
- Received some form of Advanced Placement Credit, including from the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) = 10%
- <25 years of age = 99%
- Female = 59%
- Average course load = 13.82 hours

Important to graduate from college = 99%
Plans to earn at least a four-year degree = 94%
Reported some or major concerns about ability to finance their college education = 73%
Plans to work while attending school = 88%
Plans to work more than 20 hours per week off-campus for pay = 19%
Plans to spend an average of 5.85 hours per week doing volunteer/service work = (from average of total responses)

Eight years ago, my family hosted two visiting scholars from China who were working as professionals in the Ministry of Finance. They had come to Indianapolis to develop skills in English while learning about American culture through the Committee on Institutional Cooperation at IUPUI. At the time, I was very involved in a number of fundraising activities – we raised money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation because our best friends’ son was diagnosed with CF, and we gave to organizations benefiting orphans in China because our daughter was adopted from an orphanage in China. We “raced for the cure” to honor survivors and loved ones that had died of breast cancer, and when disasters struck, we donated blood or sent money (sometimes raised by our children’s lemonade stand ventures) to the American Red Cross. Our Chinese friends were very surprised by these activities and commented that there were few organizations in China at that time that had philanthropic missions. As is often the case, it was through explaining to our Chinese friends why we did these things that I gained deeper insight as to why my husband and I felt obligated to engage in philanthropic giving.

Donors Impact Lives

IUPUI University College Scholarships

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE FUND 033P021051
The University College Fund supports many of the activities we benefit from as employees of University College.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS UNRESTRICTED 033P021119
The University College Scholarships Unrestricted fund is often used for new scholarships, before they are large enough to be separately endowed.

YALE FRATT MENTORING FUND 037P021019
The Yale Pratt Mentoring Fund provides scholarships to non-traditional age students (25-35), with preference for scholarships given to those who also suffer from a handicap, such as blindness, deafness, or cerebral palsy, as well as African-American students.

EMERGING GENERATIONS SCHOLARSHIP 038P021025
The Emerging Generations Scholarship helps students who are the first in their families to attend college.

When we give, I believe that we commit a piece of ourselves to causes or issues that matter deeply to us. For me, the decision is empowering, and can bring great satisfaction. I remember when I was thirteen years old, I sponsored a young girl in Honduras so that she could attend school. Although my contributions were meager as a result of my income being fueled only by babysitting, I felt this incredible connection to her – and to her country – that was brought about by sharing what I had earned. I also became aware of how fortunate we were in the United States – that giving is so commonplace and resources sufficiently plentiful that even a teenager could make a difference to a younger child from a corner of the world where everyday life could be very hard.

IUPUI is a public university, and I think many of us in University College are drawn to its mission to serve a diverse array of students that historically may not have had access to higher education. This mission creates a wide variety of opportunities for giving that I hope you will consider. While we give of ourselves every day to the students that we serve, there is always more that can be done – through scholarships, transforming our physical space to promote learning, or providing students with opportunities to study abroad or engage in international experiences on campus through the power of technology. Even a small gift connects us in a deeper way to this mission that we value, as well as to each other. Thank you in advance for considering making a contribution to the future of our college, and to our students.