

*Standing on the Shoulders of Giants:*

AN INTRODUCTION TO  
THE HISTORY, TRADITIONS, AND CULTURE  
OF WABASH COLLEGE





# WABASH --- COLLEGE

WABASH COLLEGE EDUCATES MEN  
TO THINK CRITICALLY, ACT RESPONSIBLY,  
LEAD EFFECTIVELY, AND LIVE HUMANELY.

# The Founding

October 1, 1833 – Trustees set tuition at \$4 to \$6 per term; board with unfurnished room in Forest Hall at \$1 per week.

The first College term was fall 1833/ spring 1834. The first president was Elihu Baldwin.

“Manual Labor” was removed from College Seal in 1839 and it became simply Wabash College.

Wabash College founders met a block east of Barr Street at the home of James Thomson just a few blocks west of where the campus now sits.

The nine founders were James Thomson, John Steele Thomson, James A. Carnahan, Edmund O. Hovey, John M. Ellis, John Gilliland, John McConnell, Hezekiah Robinson, and Bradford King.

Wabash College was conceived in the minds of nine men whose mission was “to found a college somewhere in the Wabash country.” They held their first meeting in a small brick house in Crawfordsville that belonged to Presbyterian pastor James Thomson. They planned for Wabash to begin as a classical and English high school, rising into a college as soon as the “wants of the country demand.”

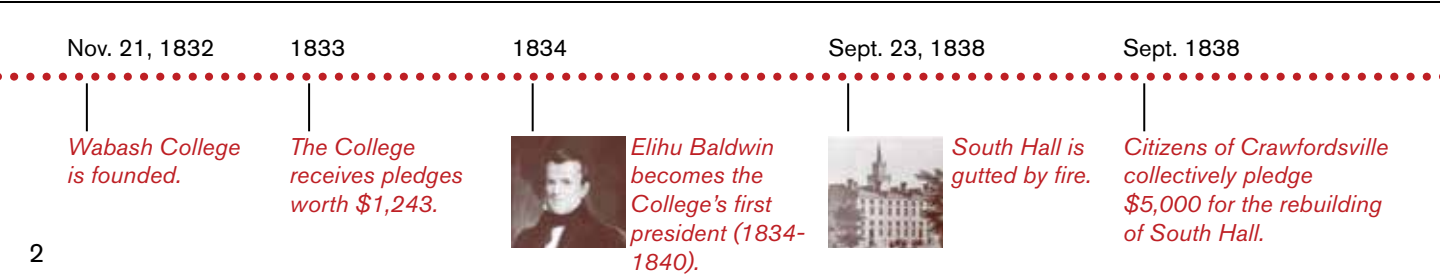
The next day, five of the ministers went to the site of the new school, a piece of land donated by Williamson Dunn. They agreed that the place would serve their purpose, and with what has become the symbolic act of the founding, they knelt in the snow to dedicate the grounds.

James Thomson was appointed to solicit funds for the College. The first funds were received that same day at a meeting at the local Presbyterian Church, at which the plans for the College were submitted to the citizens of

Crawfordsville and people in the surrounding area. Supporters pledged \$1,243 in the first year and \$2,514 in the second.

The College received its charter from the Indiana Legislature during the 1833-34 winter session as the Wabash Teachers’ Seminary and Manual Labor College. The first building, Forest Hall, was completed in 1834. On December 3, 1833 Professor Caleb Mills taught the first class at the Crawfordsville English and Classical High School in the incomplete Forest Hall with 12 students enrolled. Elihu Baldwin was chosen as the first president, and he traveled the country to tell interested parties about the hope of Wabash College and to solicit their support.

The founders who attended the dedication were all under 32 years old, except for John Ellis, who was 41, when their dream of Wabash was realized.








1. The current Wabash College Seal.
2. The first president of Wabash College, Elihu Baldwin.
3. Forest Hall was the first building on campus and was completed in March of 1834. More than 2,000 alumni made Annual Fund gifts to build the brick terrace outside Forest Hall.
4. An early financial ledger from Center Hall.
5. Depicted here, Kneeling in the Snow became the symbolic act of the College's founding.

1841



Charles White becomes the second president (1841-1861).


1846

Beta Theta Pi fraternity comes to campus.

1850


Phi Delta Theta fraternity comes to campus.

1857



Center Hall is dedicated.

1862



Joseph Tuttle becomes the third president (1862-1892).

# Wabash through the Years



Simon Yandes gave \$150,000 to the College over his lifetime - Yandes Library (pictured above) and the Yandes Chair of English Language and Literature are both named after him.

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Crawfordsville alumnus, artist, and friend of Wabash College, Lee Detchon, gave \$3 million for the renovation and expansion of Yandes, which became Detchon Center (pictured below). Many of Detchon's original works of art can be seen hanging in International Hall inside Detchon Center.



When President Baldwin died in 1840, the campus was 70 acres. There were a few dozen students, even fewer professors, and there were only two buildings, Forest Hall and South Hall. The College fund totaled \$4,500, and the College bolstered its finances with about 400 acres of land parcels throughout Indiana and Illinois. In the early days, land was donated to the College, which was in turn sold to generate income.

Today, approximately 900 students are enrolled with about 80 professors and 100 members of the staff. There are dozens of buildings, including academic buildings, athletic facilities, dormitories, and fraternities. And the College possesses an endowment of around \$345 million, one of the highest per-student endowments in the country.

The growth over time can be attributed to many factors: advances in communication, academic and merit scholarships, an increase in course diversity within the liberal arts curriculum, and the students' embrace of

greater academic challenges. The most consistent factor contributing to the College's growth has been its loyal alumni and friends, who for more than 175 years have believed in the College's mission to educate men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely. In 2014, Wabash received more than \$3.2 million in unrestricted Annual Fund gifts by more than 4,700 alumni and friends.

Events like the Senior Gift Campaign and organizations like Sons of Wabash exist to educate students about how the contributions of alumni and friends have grown over time. Contributors like Eli Lilly, who never attended the College but admired it, have made large donations of both time and money to see that Wabash thrives and that future generations have far greater opportunities than previous generations. Students of Wabash College are *standing on the shoulders of the giants* who have preceded them.

1866

Phi Gamma Delta fraternity comes to campus.

Nov. 4, 1866

Wabash competes in the first Intercollegiate baseball contest in the country against Asbury (now DePauw) and won by a score of 45-32.

1870

Phi Kappa Psi fraternity comes to campus.

1872

Delta Tau Delta fraternity comes to campus.

1879

Theta Delta Chi fraternity comes to campus.



# Living and Learning

As alumni of various generations will attest, the physical landscape of campus has changed throughout time. From the erection of Forest Hall, the College's first building, to the construction of the new fraternity houses, the places where Wabash men have lived and learned are ever-changing.

The historic campus of 1898 shares a noticeable resemblance to at least part of the campus today. Originally, the College was built to face Grant Avenue, not the Mall as it currently does. Center Hall, the oldest continuously used classroom building, now more than 150 years old, was built in three parts over more than 25 years. Center Hall was built to face Grant Avenue, as was the old science building, Peck Hall. Today the \$30 million Hays Science Hall faces west to the Mall.

Detchon Center — formerly Yandes Hall — has two faces. The old Yandes Library opens up to the

Fuller Arboretum, while its addition, Detchon Center, opens on the northeast corner of the Mall.

One can quickly notice and feel the history of philanthropy at Wabash. Just look at the names of the buildings that surround the Mall — Goodrich Hall, Trippet Hall, Detchon Center, Sparks Center, Baxter Hall, Lilly Library, and Hays Science Hall. The names honor kind benefactors, including alumni, longtime trustees, presidents, and affectionate friends of the College, all of whom chose to use their time, energy, and resources to build a stronger Wabash for future generations.

As for residences, the campus has grown to support nine fraternities and five independent residence halls, with additional housing currently underway. Fraternities have come and gone over the years, but some have been on campus for more than 150 years.



## Generosity Paved the Way

Tuition, fees, and room and board at Wabash College are approximately \$40,500 annually.

Students at Wabash pay on average \$17,600 annually for their education after merit-based awards, financial aid grants, and scholarships.

The actual annual cost of a Wabash College education is approximately \$45,600.

The difference is made up by generous donations from alumni and friends of the College. Each year over \$3,000,000 in gifts are made to ensure no student is turned away because he can not afford to attend.

1880                      1884                      Late 1880s                      1890                      1892

*Sigma Chi fraternity comes to campus.*

*Wabash plays its first football game, beating Franklin 4-0, in the first college football game in Indiana.*

*Intercollegiate track is introduced.*



*Yandes Library is completed.*



*George Burroughs becomes the fourth president (1892-1899).*

# "Old Wabash"

Words by Edwin Meade

Robinson, 1900

Music by Carroll Ragan, 1901

From the hills of Maine to  
the western plain, or where  
the cotton is blowing;  
From the gloomy shade of  
the northern pine, to the  
light of the southern seas;  
There's a name held dear  
and a color we cheer  
wherever we find it glowing;  
And the tears will rise to our  
longing eyes as it floats on  
the evening breeze.

When the day is done and  
the western sun is painting  
in flashing glory;  
Across the skies with  
gorgeous dyes the color we  
love so well;  
We love to sit as the  
shadows flit and praise it in  
song and story;  
We love to shout as the  
light dies out a good Old  
Wabash yell.

Our prayers are always  
thine, our voices and hearts  
combine,  
To sing thy praise when  
future days shall bring thy  
name before us.  
When college days are past,  
as long as life shall last,  
Our greatest joy will be to  
shout the chorus.

Dear Old Wabash, thy loyal  
sons shall ever love thee,  
And o'er thy classic halls,  
the Scarlet flag shall proudly  
flash.

Long in our hearts, we'll  
bear the sweetest mem'ries  
of thee,  
Long shall we sing thy  
praises, Old Wabash!

## The College for Men

Perhaps the most unique characteristic of the College is its all-male student body. Wabash is one of only three traditionally male four-year undergraduate institutions in the country, along with Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia and Morehouse College in Georgia.

Wabash's all-male status has helped forge an identity that connects alumni and students in a bond of shared experiences and struggles.

As early as 1835, three years after the College's founding, the Board of Trustees explored "the expedience of adopting a plan for a female department under the direction of the Board." While such a plan was ultimately deemed "inexpedient" at the time, the movement for coeducation grew. After the Civil War, men's colleges all around

the country gradually loosened restrictions on female enrollment. Indiana University led the coeducation movement in Indiana, and the influence eventually reached Crawfordsville.

In 1868, 23 young women asked the Board of Trustees to enroll at Wabash. They were allowed to attend classes but could not enroll. A group of women again tried to enroll in 1880 and 1881 but were unsuccessful. In 1897, the Board of Trustees affirmed a resolution that Wabash would "continue in the future as in the past as a College for young men only." This hard-line position increasingly put Wabash in the minority of schools as time progressed. Even the local townspeople put pressure on the College administration to accept



1895

Kappa Sigma  
fraternity comes to  
campus.

1896

The first basketball  
team begins  
competing.

1899



William Kane  
becomes the  
fifth president  
(1899-1906).

1906

Wabash College football  
beats Purdue University for  
the first time with a score  
of 11-0.

1907



George  
Mackintosh  
becomes the  
sixth president  
(1907-1926).





women. Enrollment dwindled dramatically — bottoming out in 1901 when fewer than 200 students attended the College, the fewest since the Civil War.

However, with the emergence of Wabash football, a school song (“Old Wabash”), a chant, an official color (Scarlet), and the scrappy mascot (Little Giants), the College’s spirit and confidence returned and enrollment eventually increased. Although there

were thorough coeducation re-evaluations in both the early 1970s and early 1990s, Wabash remains a college for men. This aspect of the College is integral to the Wabash approach and educational experience, and similar experiences are what link alumni and students of the past and present to those of the future.



## The Bachelor 100 Years

Debuting in 1908, even the name of the student-run newspaper, *The Bachelor*, depicts the importance of Wabash College as a college for men to its students.

Known as “the voice of Wabash since 1908,” the award-winning student newspaper of the College. The paper brings together students with various academic backgrounds who collaborate to create a weekly chronicle of Wabash life.



1908

The Bachelor, the student newspaper, publishes its first issue.

1911

Tennis is offered as an intercollegiate sport.

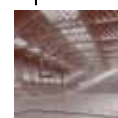
1913

Thomas Riley Marshall, Class of 1873, begins serving as US Vice President under Woodrow Wilson.

1918

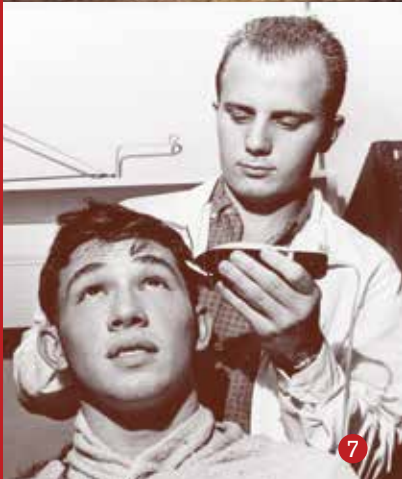
Lambda Chi fraternity comes to campus.

1918



Armory and Gymnasium building is dedicated.

1. A student cleans the senior bench prior to giving it a fresh coat of paint.
2. Senior Study Camp at Turkey Run State Park.
3. A former tradition known as the Pole Fight. The greased pole fight helped determine when freshmen could stop wearing "pots."
4. Painting the senior bench is an old tradition that continues to this day.
5. Yell leaders cheer for the Little Giants at a home football game in the 1940s.
6. Today's "yell leaders" and keepers of tradition are known as the Sphinx Club.
7. "W" haircuts were popular for students who did not know the words to "Old Wabash."
8. Today students receive spray-painted "W"s if they forget the words to "Old Wabash."



1926

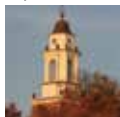


*Louis Hopkins becomes the seventh president (1926-1940).*

1927

*Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) fraternity comes to campus.*

1929



*Pioneer Chapel is dedicated.*

1939



*Goodrich Hall is dedicated.*

1941



*Frank Sparks becomes the eighth president (1941-1956).*



# Uniquely Wabash: Culture and Traditions

The Wabash experience is a distinctive immersion into a community whose present customs and atmosphere share a real and powerful connection to culture and traditions passed down from generation to generation. Some traditions have vanished completely, others have reemerged in recent years, and new traditions develop and evolve with each new generation. All Wabash Men join together for their role in fostering a unique identity that is visible to the larger community outside of Wabash and unifying to members of the community within it.

Organized in 1921 as an inter-fraternity organization, the Sphinx Club is a group of Wabash Men who pass a rigorous pledgeship process to earn the responsibility of being guardians of the College and her traditions. They wear red and white-striped overalls and white beanies, or pots, with a black button on top. They organize weekly Chapel Talks, where the community comes together for speeches by students, faculty, staff, or alumni.

They lead cheers at sporting events, host all-campus cookouts, volunteer for nonprofit causes, and build community in the process.

One of the paramount campus traditions is Chapel Sing. Each year on the Thursday before Homecoming, freshmen fraternity pledges and independent men who choose to participate, assemble on the Mall to sing the school song, “Old Wabash,” continually for close to an hour. While intentionally trying to distract the singers, Sphinx Club members listen for accuracy. If students make mistakes, they receive a red “W” spray-painted on the white T-shirts they wear.

This is a great example of a tradition that has evolved over time. Originally, freshmen sang the song and received “W” haircuts if they didn’t know the words. Years later, fraternity men painted faces, locked arms, and grunted loudly — the words to the song largely unrecognizable. Today’s version is closer to the original tradition, but without the haircuts!

## The Gentleman’s Rule

No conversation about Wabash culture can begin without mentioning the Gentleman’s Rule. The biggest statement about Wabash culture is summed up in the College’s supreme — yet simple — code of conduct: the Gentleman’s Rule, which states, “The student is expected to conduct himself at all times, both on and off campus, as a gentleman and a responsible citizen.” This directive pervades the Wabash psyche and is the standard that the administration, staff, and faculty expect from students and students expect of themselves and each other.

1943

*The College begins administering a unit of the Navy College Training Program (V-12) to prepare students for military service during WWII.*

1946



*Eli Lilly joins the Board of Trustees.*

1954



*Sparks Center is dedicated.*

1955

*Intercollegiate wrestling begins at Wabash.*

1956



*Byron Trippet becomes the ninth president (1956-1965).*

# Faculty & Academics

## Faculty Facts

Wabash has 80 faculty and approximately 100 additional staff.

More than 97% of Wabash professors have a Ph.D. or terminal degree in their fields.

The student/faculty ratio is 11:1. The average class size is 13.

Wabash College offers 24 academic majors: Art, Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Classics, Economics, English, Financial Economics, French, German, Greek, Hispanic Studies, History, Latin, Mathematics, Music, Philosophy, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Religion, Rhetoric, Spanish, and Theater.

Wabash College seeks to educate its students broadly in the traditional curriculum of the liberal arts, while also requiring them to pursue concentrated study in one or more disciplines. With a diverse faculty and student body, the College provides an encouraging environment for learning both in and outside the classroom. Special courses like Freshman Tutorials, Enduring Questions, Special Topics, and Senior Seminars are examples of the value the College places on inquiry, dialogue, group discussion, and critical thinking.

A student's Wabash education becomes complete when he passes written and oral comprehensive exams. Taken just before the spring semester of the senior year, "Comps" illustrate for faculty that students have grasped

the specifics of their major areas of study in the context of the liberal arts. Wabash men for generations have said that passing comps was the most rewarding experience of their lives — and a traditional rite of passage for all Wabash alumni.

A hallmark of Wabash is the high level of student engagement with their professors and their subject matter, which is fostered by small class sizes and the faculty's willingness to be active in all aspects of students' lives. In fact, Wabash sets benchmarks in the National Survey of Student Engagement.

Each year about 100 students will travel around the world with faculty on uniquely designed Immersion Learning trips, which exponentially supplement their classroom



1959



*Lilly Library is dedicated.*

1960

*Ground is broken on new dormitory, Martindale Hall.*

Fall 1961

*Wabash is one of eight colleges to receive the Ford Foundation Challenge Grant worth \$2,000,000.*

1964



*Baxter Hall is dedicated.*

1965

*Intercollegiate Soccer comes to campus.*



work. When students are immersed in cultures and experiences different from their own — with faculty — the learning is intense and enduring, and the engagement is unparalleled.

Immersion Learning opportunities have included trips to Germany, Spain, Mexico, Israel, the Galapagos Islands, Panama, Greece, Alaska, California, New York, Chicago, and Washington, D.C., among many other destinations.

Most faculty members choose to serve as freshman advisors, which allows them to mentor 15 or so students each year. They start by helping the students register for their first classes, but the relationships that grow over time are, indeed, Wabash’s greatest traditions.

Students and faculty are frequently seen dining together in Sparks Center, at the Scarlet Inn, or at faculty/staff dinners at the fraternities. Impromptu conversations are common when faculty and students pass on the Mall. Faculty and staff even provide finals week study breaks at Midnight Munch each semester.



# High Achievement Comes Standard

One in four Wabash students studies off campus or abroad during his junior year.

Thirty-eight percent of Wabash graduates have earned advanced degrees and 27 percent have earned the highest degree attainable in their fields.

Nearly eighty percent of Wabash students who apply to law school are accepted.

Eighty-four percent of Wabash students who apply to medical school are accepted.

One in eight Wabash alumni holds the title of President, Owner, Chairman, or Chief Executive Officer.



1966



Paul Cook becomes the tenth president (1966-1968).

1968

Varsity swimming returns to Wabash College.

1968



Humanities Center is dedicated.

1969



Thaddeus Seymour becomes the 11th president (1969-1978).

# Wabash Always Fights



## From Housing to Hitting, It's Always been Mud

During World War II, temporary Navy barracks were built on Mud Hollow for Navy V-12 officers. The barracks served as housing for married students and their families through the 1950s before it was turned into athletic fields.



At a time when Wabash was under fire for its all-male status and enrollment was very low because of it, the energy that radiated from the College's athletic program helped revitalize campus spirit. Wabash men won the first intercollegiate baseball (1866), football (1884), and basketball (1896) games ever played in the state of Indiana. It is believed that the first game of basketball played outside the state of Massachusetts was played right here in Crawfordsville.

Over time, Wabash developed a sports culture that led students to create an athletic motto "Wabash Always Fights!" and an official color scarlet. At an early football rally, fans tackled the issue of the official color. One fan suggested heliotrope, to which another responded, "Heliotrope hell! We want blood!" So scarlet became the color.

Out of this sports culture came an exciting football rivalry with DePauw

University and a treasured tradition for the Wabash community. The most profound aspect of the rivalry is its closeness — in competition and geography. The two schools are separated by a mere 27 miles and, in the early days, were connected only by the Monon Railroad. The first football contest came in 1890, and the rivalry grew fierce and famous.

To honor the growing feud, the Monon Railroad donated a 350-pound cast iron bell that would become the victory prize in 1932. More than 120 games later, no school has ever boasted a significant edge in the win column, although Wabash has won the last five Monon Bell games.

Today, the Monon Bell Classic is televised nationally by networks like ESPN and HDNet. Crowds for the games often exceed 11,000 fans.



1970



*Malcolm X Institute is dedicated.*

1978



*Lewis Salter becomes the 12th president (1978-1988).*

1982



*Basketball team wins NCAA Division III Championship.*

1984



*Melissa Butler H'85 is first woman to earn tenure.*



Alumni unable to return to campus for the game gather at telecast parties all over the country to celebrate the biggest game of the season.


Wabash’s basketball tradition is every bit as rich and deep. While invented in Massachusetts, the game evolved in Crawfordsville, with the local high school and Wabash driving the effort. Wabash registered a perfect 24-0 season and national championship in 1907-08, and Crawfordsville High School won the first Indiana state championship in what would later become known as “Hoosier Hysteria.”

Wabash College won the NCAA Division III national basketball championship in 1982 led by All-American Pete Metzelaars, who later set an NFL record for most games played at tight end. Metzelaars played in four Super Bowls with the Buffalo Bills, scoring a touchdown in Super Bowl XXVI.




Photos: top to bottom, 1907-08 National Champion basketball team; the first Wabash football team known as “Little Giants” (1904); the 1982 National Div. III Champions; the Monon Bell game is one of the most spirited college rivalries in the country.

1889




Sheldon Wettack becomes the 13th president (1989-1993).

1993



Andrew Ford becomes the 14th president (1993-2006).

1993



Fine Arts Center is rededicated.

1996

Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion is founded.



## WABASH Day

**Wabash Alumni  
Benefiting And Serving  
Humanity**

Held annually, **WABASH Day** is the National Association of Wabash Men's annual, national day of community service. It is tied to the core values of the College encouraging men to be responsible citizens and to be effective, thoughtful leaders to make our communities more humane.



# The Moments that Define Us

In the early years, the College dedicated its newest building, South Hall, at the cost of \$13,250 to construct — almost all of the College's funds at the time. The four-story building functioned as a 100-person dormitory and temporarily as the chapel and library.

Although still unfinished, South Hall was already being used to house students and course materials in mid-1838, the year Wabash graduated its first class. On September 23, 1838 the building caught fire. The students all escaped, but the objects in the makeshift library were completely destroyed. Leaders of the College were determined to rebuild. Founder John Thomson took the appeal to the people of Crawfordsville the next Sunday at the Presbyterian Church. On Monday at a town meeting, the citizens gave their full support to the rebuilding effort, pledging \$5,000 to the College. Not only did the community give their money, classes were held in downtown buildings. Local

citizens housed students and faculty helped find aid for students who had lost everything in the fire.



Just as the local community responded to a domestic crisis, the Wabash community united in the 1940s to respond to international threats during World War II. The war and the draft drained Wabash enrollment, so President Frank Sparks negotiated to bring a Navy training unit to campus, known as the Navy V-12 Program. Enlistees were educated academically and received physical and military training at the College. Six of the seven fraternity houses at the time were converted to navy barracks.

1998

Wabash launches record \$136 million Campaign for Leadership with a \$10 million gift from former AT&T President, Chairman, and CEO Robert Allen '57.

2000

Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts is founded with \$20.8 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc.

2000

First Immersion Learning trip to Germany.

2001



The 170,000 sq. ft Allen Athletics and Recreation Center is dedicated.



Nearly 900 Wabash men served in the war and 49 lost their lives. The financial boost brought to Wabash by the V-12 Program ultimately sustained the College during its biggest threat of the century.

In times of uncertainty or tragedy, the Wabash community has rallied together to rebuild and recommit to the College. In normal times as well, the loyal sons of Wabash — current students and alumni — are beneficiaries and benefactors of that tradition. It is seen in the community service of freshmen during orientation, and of alumni during WABASH Day. It is seen in the gifts made to the Annual Fund that provide students with scholarships and financial aid. And it is present in more than 175 years of Wabash history.

Wabash men, and many people who have been affected by them, know the importance of giving back.



2002



*Byron K. Trippet Hall is dedicated.*

2004



*Hays Hall, home of the biology and chemistry departments is dedicated.*

2005

*Center of Inquiry receives \$12.5 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. to continue the Wabash National Study of Liberal Arts Education.*

2006



*Patrick White is inaugurated as the 15th president (2006-2013).*

# Coming and Going: The Caleb Mills Bell

## Wabash College Presidents

**Elihu Baldwin**

1834 - 1840

**Charles White**

1841 - 1861

**Joseph Tuttle**

1862 - 1892

**George Burroughs**

1892 - 1899

**William Kane**

1899 - 1906

**George Mackintosh**

1907 - 1926

**Louis Hopkins**

1926 - 1940

**George Kendall**

1940 - 1941 (interim)

**Frank Sparks**

1941 - 1956

**Byron Trippet**

1956 - 1965

**Warren Shearer**

1965 - 1966 (interim)

**Paul Cook**

1966 - 1968

**Francis Misch**

1968 - 1969 (interim)

**Thaddeus Seymour**

1969 - 1978

**Lewis Salter**

1978 - 1988

**Victor Powell**

1988 - 1989 (interim)

**Sheldon Wettack**

1989 - 1993

**Andrew Ford**

1993 - 2006

**Patrick White**

2006 - 2013

**Gregory Hess**

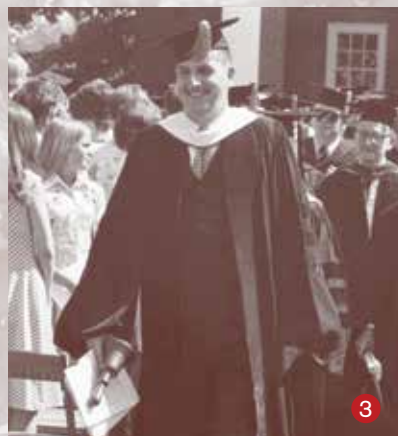
2013 - present

When new students arrive on Freshman Saturday, the President welcomes them in the Chapel and officially calls them to the College by ringing a hand bell used by Caleb Mills when he called the first students to class in the 1830s. Standing at the podium, the President welcomes students to the Wabash “band of brothers” and challenges them to uphold the traditions and reputation of the College and its graduates. The “Ringing In Ceremony” is a tradition that binds generations of Wabash men together.

Four years later in a ceremony every bit as deeply rooted in tradition and symbolic in spirit, the President stands before the graduating class of seniors at Commencement and uses the same bell to “ring them out.” It’s an event that traditionally takes place on the Mall in the shadow of the Chapel where the students were rung in four years earlier. And it is a ceremony that symbolizes the growth

and accomplishments of the students. At Commencement, the President issues a similarly lofty challenge for the graduates to go forth and be good Wabash men — in their families, communities, and workplaces.

Commencement is also the time when students must redefine their relationship with the College. No longer are they primary beneficiaries of the gifts of Wabash alumni; graduates discover that they are now the benefactors who will give back to the College their time, talents, treasures, and reputations through their deeds and actions.



2008

*Annual fund tops \$3.1 million in gifts from alumni and friends of the College.*

2010



*Sewell Field dedicated.*

2010



*\$60 million Challenge of Excellence launched.*

2010



*47-0 Monon Bell rout.*





1



2



4

1. President Gregory Hess rings in his first class in the fall of 2013 at Freshman Saturday.
2. President Gregory Hess rings out his first class in the spring of 2014.
3. President Thaddeus Seymour leads the Commencement Processional in 1975 carrying the Caleb Mills Bell.
4. A crowd of proud parents, faculty and staff watch the seniors of 1968.
5. (Background) The stage is set for another beautiful Commencement afternoon on the Mall.

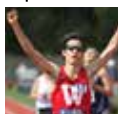
5

2011



*Wabash Ballpark dedicated.*

2011



*11 men earn All-America honors in 8 sports*

2011



*Mud Hollow Stadium dedicated.*

2013



*Gregory Hess is inaugurated as the 16th president (2013-present).*



- 1. Alumni return for Big Bash Reunion Weekend each summer. One of the event's highlights is the Alumni Chapel Sing.
- 2. Students have dozens of opportunities to participate in musical and theatrical performances throughout the year.
- 3. Wabash football Saturdays always draw a huge crowd of students, alumni, and friends of the College.
- 4. The Wabash calendar is full of visiting speakers, authors, performers, and workshops designed to entertain, challenge, and get students thinking.
- 5. The International Students Association hosts several events highlighting cultures and traditions from around the globe.



2013

2014

2014



*Wabash captures its fifth straight Monon Bell victory.*

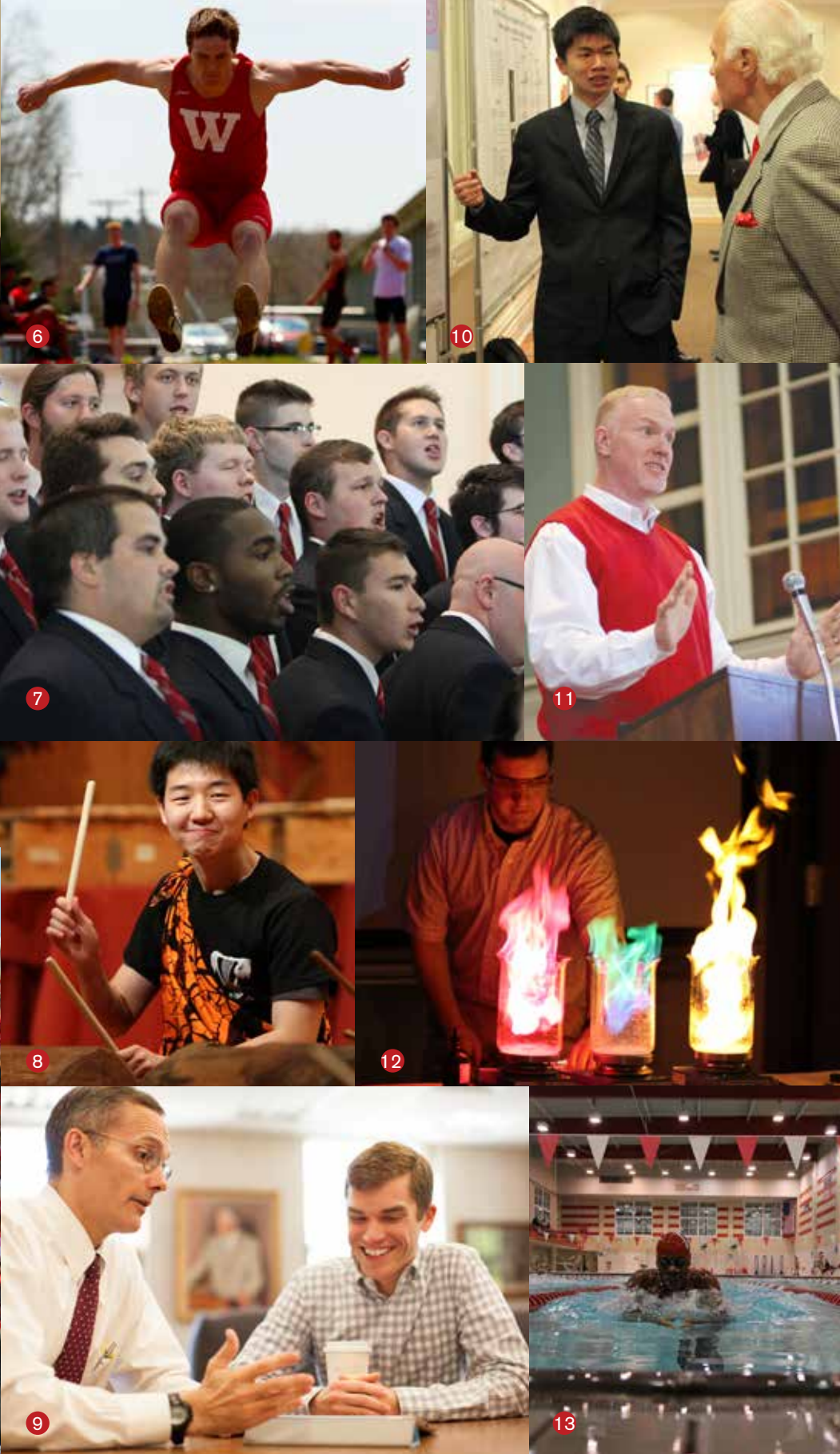


*Freshman becomes Wabash Wrestling's first ever National Champion.*



*The Bachelor was named Newspaper of the Year by the Indiana Collegiate Press Association for the third time in six years.*





6. Track and Field, one of 11 intercollegiate sports offered at Wabash, won eight straight indoor and outdoor conference Championships.
7. The Glee Club performs one of its many concerts.
8. Students, faculty, staff, and community members participate in the Wamidan concert.
9. Faculty, staff, and students have many opportunities to interact at casual and formal gatherings throughout the academic year.
10. Classes are canceled one afternoon every year in January to allow students to present their creativity and research at the Celebration of Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work.
11. The Sphinx Club hosts Chapel Talks each Thursday morning.
12. The Chemistry and Physics departments host annual demonstrations.
13. Athletes train and compete in the top-notch facilities of the Allen Center.

2014



More than 2,300 Wabash alumni and friends raise \$465,000 in the 430 on 4/30 Single Day Giving Challenge

2014



Construction begins on a new student housing complex.

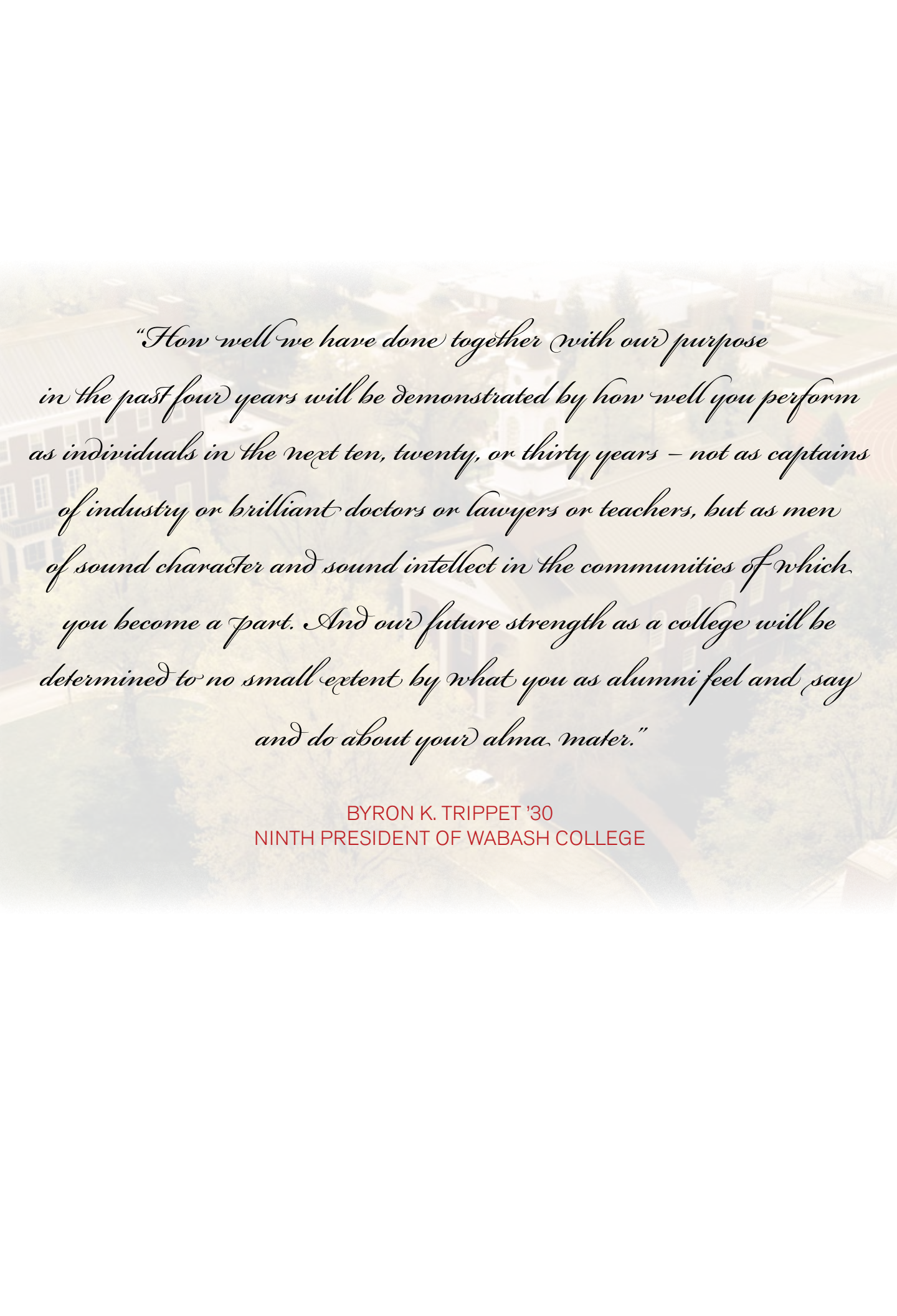
2014



Lacrosse begins its first season as a varsity sport at Wabash.

2014

The Class of 2018 is rung in.



*"How well we have done together with our purpose  
in the past four years will be demonstrated by how well you perform  
as individuals in the next ten, twenty, or thirty years – not as captains  
of industry or brilliant doctors or lawyers or teachers, but as men  
of sound character and sound intellect in the communities of which  
you become a part. And our future strength as a college will be  
determined to no small extent by what you as alumni feel and say  
and do about your alma mater."*

BYRON K. TRIPPET '30  
NINTH PRESIDENT OF WABASH COLLEGE