

Spring 2007

Honor Scholarship/Fine Arts Weekend Reflections

Chip Timmons, Associate Director of Admissions

After every Honor Scholarship Weekend, I'm always left with a strange feeling. Our staff and other members of the community spend what feels like an eternity carefully planning and preparing for this weekend. The past two years, we have folded our Fine Arts Scholarship Celebration into the activities which added another layer of complexity.

The last 5 days have been the busiest, most hectic days of the year for our staff, but it didn't really feel like it. Perhaps we were too busy to realize all of what was happening around us. Sure, we're tired, but that's part of it. Frankly, if we didn't have the help of so many others on campus, it would be impossible to pull off these two events. We have so many people to thank. Let's start with our Fine Arts Scholarship Celebration.



This year's celebration brought the largest group of students to campus for this event in my ten years at Wabash. In order to bring such a large group to campus, members of the Art, English, Music, and Theater departments had to adjust their schedules to accommodate scholarship interviews and Thursday night's workshops. They didn't adjust because they "had" to, but because they wanted to. We're grateful for their help.

I also can't forget to mention our students. Students like Brett Gann '07, Desmond Risper '07, Haris Amin '08, Steve Hernandez '08, Bernard Meyer '07, Kevin Pazour '07, Will Clarke '07, Dustin Beck '07 and the rest of our students who represented those departments at Thursday's workshops. Desmond and Haris led a jam session in the green room with some aspiring musicians. (continued on Page 2)



Wally says: "Let's Keep Breaking Records in 2007!"

Referrals on Record Pace

It's been well-documented that the Admissions Office had a record number of applications this year, but we're on the cusp of breaking another.

Through April 6, we have received 1068 referrals for the year. The current record is 1330 from 2003-04 and that's well within reach. We track referrals number from July 1 through June 30, so we have 12 weeks left. It's not a question of if we'll break the record, but when.

Referrals remain our best source for applications and with a record number of referrals, the new application record may not stand very long.

March 10, 2007: Kickoff to the College Search

This is day is the when the college search gets started for many students. March 10 was the first SAT date date high school juniors, and some sophomores, will take the SAT.

Why is this important to you? It's a potential source of referrals! If you know of any high school sophomores or juniors gearing up for or taking the SAT, send us their information. Odds are they're gearing up for the college search, too. Might as well help them get started by pointing them in our direction.

www.wabash.edu/alumni/student/refer

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Brett Gann discussed directing and set design with students. If one didn't know Brett was a student, he could have easily been mistaken for a professor. He really knew the material and seemed completely at ease in the role of instructor.

Last, but not least I need to recognize George Belmore who supervises the technical operations of the Fine Arts Center. He made certain everything was primed and ready by "showtime" on Thursday.

Now to Honor Scholarship Weekend. Where do I begin? When a school the size of Wabash brings over 300 students to campus, houses them overnight, feeds them, and are left with over 1200 exams to grade, everybody gets a piece of the action.

Again, the faculty do an amazing job. They proctor exams and grade them all week long. They take breaks to join us for meals with our guests, host academic interest sessions on Saturday afternoon, and then head back to class on Monday. Our coaches are just as dedicated.

Wabash coaches spend hours on the phone encouraging their recruits to attend. Once those recruits arrive on campus, our teams host get-togethers throughout the weekend, even if their teams are in season.

How about our volunteers?

Wabash alumni came from as far away as Texas and Mississippi to be a part of Honor Scholarship Weekend. Several alumni joined us for Friday's banquet.

Pete Allen '73, Greg Birk '77, Aus Brooks '60, Lee Cline '66, Steve Gollither '67, Craig Green '59, Herm Haffner '77, Tom Lutz '91,

Greg Miller '83, Dale Milligan '49, Dale Petrie '75, and James Style '96 dined with prospective students and made themselves available to answer any questions our guests may have had. Many of these alumni are "regulars" at our events and we appreciate their support.



We had other volunteers step up on Friday as well. During Friday morning's activities fair, we held a Parents' Reception and current Wabash parents acted as our hosts for this event. I would like to thank Barb and Dave Knott '68, Jan Koehler (mother of Clay '08), Rex and Robin McKinney (parents of Ross '09), Brad Mullendore '69 (father of Nate '07), Jeff and Kim Owens (parents of Josh '07), Linda and Dale Petrie '75 (parents of Daniel '07), Chris Smith (mother of Patrick '08), and Tracy Haddad (mother of Chandler Troy '08) for spending time with the parents of prospective students on Friday morning. Tracy Haddad and Jeff and Kim Owens participated in a parents panel discussion as well. They shared some of the anxieties they had as parents during the college search and explained how their sons have changed for the better during their time at Wabash.

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Wabash students played the most important role this weekend...hosts. It didn't matter if they belonged to a fraternity or were an independent, our students opened up their houses and rooms to any and all prospective students. Colleagues of mine from other colleges and universities marvel at our students' willingness to host so many students at one time. I don't want our students to get any ideas, but at some schools student hosts are paid for the inconvenience of hosting prospective. Wabash men do it out of pride in their school.

I'm sure I overlooked a few people, but I don't think they'll mind. Heck, the people I mentioned here don't need a pat on the back from me. They know how important this weekend is to the College and they love being a part of it.

So we'll all catch our breath, catch up on work/homework, and get ready for the final month of the recruiting year. Thanks again to everyone who made this year's Honor Scholarship Weekend a success.

Spring Visit Day—May 19

High school sophomores and juniors can visit campus and get an early start on the college search process. Interested students can register at www.wabash.edu/springvisit.



Staff Changes

Turnover is commonplace in most Admissions Offices, but it's rare occurrence at Wabash...until this year.

In December, Nick Collins '03, Assistant Director of Admissions left the College to accept a position with Eli Lilly. The search for a permanent replacement will begin this Spring.

A job posting now appears on the website later this semester and interested candidates will find that posting at www.wabash.edu/aboutwabash/employment.cfm.

Just before the holidays, Associate Director of Admissions Rachelle Merkel announced she had accepted a position with Sigma Kappa sorority. Rachelle's responsibilities included coordinating our on-campus visit programs and international student recruitment.

The College hired Jamie Watson to the position of Senior Assistant Director of Admissions to assume many of Rachelle's responsibilities. Jamie has also assisted with the recruitment efforts in Nick's former territory and will continue to do so for the remainder of the recruiting cycle. Jamie worked for the College for 11 years with the Bridge and LIFE programs, both of which relate to her duties and our mission. Jamie's husband, Dwight, is a Professor of Theater at Wabash.

February Double-header

It happened a few weeks before the start of spring training, but that didn't stop the Admissions Office from hosting a double-header on February 17-19. During President's Day Weekend, the Admission Office hosted two separate visit programs that together brought over 150 prospective students to campus.

The African-American/Hispanic Latino Visit Weekend began on Saturday afternoon when over 60 students, representing 12 different states arrived on campus. Despite cold temperatures and heavy snowfall from earlier in the week, the students had a busy weekend on campus.

Several alumni played prominent roles in the weekend. Alonzo Weems '92, Scott Mimms '95, Adan Garcia '04, Cleo Washington '85, and Bert Salinas '97 (not pictured) participated in an alumni panel moderated by Daryl Johnson '82. Willyerd Collier '75, Keith Veal '92, and Adam Price '88 visited with prospective students prior to the panel and at lunch earlier in the day.



While the African-American/Hispanic-Latino program was winding down, 92 students arrived on campus for the Top Twenty Scholarship Visit Day. Similar to our Top Ten Visit Day in the fall, Top Twenty is for students ranking in the top twenty percent of the class and students attending the visit day qualified for a substantial merit scholarship.

The visit day began with a welcome from President White and a keynote address from Chris Denari '83. Students also attended panels on The Gentleman's Rule, The Liberal Arts, and Career Services at Wabash.

While the students dined in fraternity houses at lunch, their parents dined with local alumni. The Admissions Office would like to thank the following alumni who joined us for lunch: Pete Allen '73, Aus Brooks '60, Roger Busch '96, Rick Cavanaugh '76, Joe Emmick '92, Jack Foos '73, Steve Gollher '67, Craig Green '59, Herm Haffner '77, Steve Hoffman '85, Joe Klen '97, Tom Lutz '91, Jon Pactor '71, Mike Raters '85, Tom Runge '71, Mark Shreve '04, Bob Snodgrass '77, Brian Tucker '98, Stan Walker '66, and Brad Weaver '91.