



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1980

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Greetings Classmates!

On a beautiful Mother's Day just five weeks ago, 191 joined our ranks as alumni of Wabash College. President Pat White presided over his seventh and final Wabash Commencement. As you may know, Pat White resigned prior to the past school year and will assume the interim presidency of Millikin University in Illinois.

Wabash's 175th Commencement hearkens back to our ceremonies that took place on the College mall on an equally pristine spring day in central Indiana. It's truly hard to believe that occurred 33 years ago. So much has happened in all of our lives since that fateful day.

In two years – in early June 2015 – our class will celebrate its 35th reunion at the annual Big Bash. Planning for the 2015 Big Bash can't start early enough, especially since the results of our recent reunions fell far short of expectations. If any of you are interested in helping plan our 35th reunion, please let the College alumni office or me know. Any volunteer help would be greatly appreciated.

Class Giving

Another College fiscal year is about to end. If you haven't already given to Wabash in 2012-13, please do so by June 30th. Alumni giving can be done in three easy ways:

Online at www.wabash.edu/egift

By phone at 877.743.4545; or

By mail to: Wabash College

Annual Giving

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I dropped my annual gift to Wabash in the mail yesterday, and hope you will consider doing as well.

Our class is doing slightly better in giving than the previous fiscal year, although just 22.4% of our 179 class members have donated to Wabash thus far. Thanks go out to the following who've contributed to the College's Annual Fund so far: *Paul Atkenson, Bernard Black, Dan Bohn, Bob Cebul, Bruce Cook, Bill Goebel, Bubba Goodman, Mike Gullifor, Tom Hastings, Herbie Highsmith, Joe Impicicche, Curt Keller, Dennis Kennedy, Tim Kennedy, Larry Klee, Alex Klefeker, Mike Lambert, Mike Maddox, Dick McLennan, Mark Merkle, Jim Miller, Todd Moore, Gene Mszar, Mark Oetting, Larry Palmer, John Pea, Dave Reed, Jim Renshaw, Dave Repking, Greg Rose, Charles Routh, Ron Rychlak, Jud Scott, Max Simison, Ross Strodel, Bob Vogt, Lee Wertman, Clay Whitney, Mike Wilcox and John Wittler.*

It is worth noting that the vast majority of our Class donors are members of the various giving clubs (*i.e.*, Little Giant Club, Caleb Mills Circle, *etc.*), so while our percentage may be relatively low; our gifts are significant in value.

Class News

Ken Turchi has been in the news recently, with his recently-released book entitled *L.S. Ayres and Company: The Store at the Crossroads of America*. Ken wrote the book based on his fascination with the former Indiana-based department store chain that began in the late 1800s. Ayres had stores throughout Indiana, and Ken actually worked at one during his college years. The book is available through the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center in Indianapolis. A graduate of Wabash and the Indiana University School of Law, Ken is an assistant dean at the I.U. law school and resides in Indianapolis.

Another lawyer, **Ken Williams**, who resides with his wife, Tina, near Valparaiso, Indiana, is engaged in the commercial real estate in northwest Indiana. Ken and I occasionally have lunch when he's in Indianapolis for a quarterly board meeting for a commercial real estate association. Ken reported recently that the market is still tough but steadily improving.

Recently, I had the honor of participating in the College's first-ever Healthcare Immersion Program – designed to help Wabash students understand various aspects of the healthcare industry. I met with a dozen undergraduates who are on a variety of career paths involving healthcare. One of those students, Kasey Oetting, is the son of our classmate **Mark Oetting**. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree: Kasey Oetting is a huge, strapping – yet gentle and articulate – student-athlete from Fort Wayne who played forward on the Little Giants' basketball team this winter. It was truly enjoyable to meet one of my classmates' sons and recall some hoops stories from our era.

Other Alumni News

The Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men will host its annual Mitchum Crock on July 25th at Plum Creek Golf Club in Carmel, Indiana. The IAWM is honoring Professor Emeritus David Hadley H'76 for his long and distinguished career as a political science teacher and dean at Wabash. The Crock will also feature an introduction to Dr. Greg Hess, who takes office as Wabash's 16th President on July 1st. A distinguished economist, Dr. Hess comes to the Crawfordsville campus after most recently serving as Dean of the Faculty and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Claremont McKenna College in Claremont, California. Previously, Dr. Hess held teaching positions at Carnegie Mellon, Kansas, St.

John's College (Cambridge), the University of Cambridge, London Business School and Oberlin. If you're interested in attending the Mitchum Crock, register at <http://www.mitchumcrock.com>.

The National Association of Wabash Men is launching career alliances to allow networking among alumni and current students. Career alliances will begin over the next year in healthcare, finance, sales/marketing, information technology, telecommunications and law enforcement. If you're interested in learning more about these alliances, contact Alumni Director Tom Runge at runget@wabash.edu.

As always, if you'd like to share some news or just say hello, please call me (317.769.4857) or drop me an e-mail at jmiller44@indy.rr.com. I'd enjoy hearing from you. Until then . . .

Yours in Wabash,

JIM

James E. (Jim) Miller, Class Agent
Wabash College Class of 1980