



## WABASH COLLEGE

### *Class Agents Letter*

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## Class of 2000

### Class Agents

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Late June 2015

Hello Gentlemen,

Summer is in full gear down here in Bloomington and I don't have a single complaint about the warmer weather. Lots of great things happening at Wabash so let's jump right into it!

Our 15-year reunion was earlier this month! Below is a pic from Saturday night's dinner. L-R is Doug McMeyer, Ryan Mills, Jeremiah Crouch, Mike Dickerson, Chad Cleaver, Joe Klen '97 (our pledge trainer - these folks are all Phi Psi's), Pat East, and Louie Cogswell. Other attendees were: Todd Barton, Sokol Cano, Tim Craft, and Bastian Wonschik. It was so good to see everyone, I forgot how much I missed these guys. Crouch owns a home about 20 mins from campus and we ended up telling stories by the campfire until two in the morning. I hope even more folks are able to attend in 2020.



### **Carl '03 and Kriech '00 Open Brewery:**

These two men along with two other co-owners opened a nano-brewery allowing for customers to design their own beer and purchase batches ranging from 5 to 45 gallons. Although the location is in Indianapolis, IN the significance of “Wabash” in Indiana inspired the name of their business as well as the names of the beers they offer. Both Matt and Damon were chemistry majors at Wabash who went on to earn PhD’s, which they plan to use with analytical testing to come up with the perfect brew.



### **New Exhibition of Prints Opened at The Eric Dean Gallery:**

“This sort of collaboration is one of the very best things about teaching at a liberal arts college,” Associate Professor of Art Elizabeth Morton said as she welcomed guests to the opening of “¡Revolución!” This exhibit features historic linocut prints donated to the College by Kathy and Michael Atwell, as well as contemporary prints from the Jestseeds Artists’ Cooperative.



This gift makes Wabash one of the few institutions to house a complete collection, and gives professors here a wonderfully rich tool to help students explore Mexican art, politics, and history. This exhibit was open and free to view through February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

### **Barton '00 Speaks at Crawfordsville Middle School:**

Mayor Todd Barton spoke with 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys at Crawfordsville Middle School this week as part of a developmental program called “Man Up!” The program is designed to teach middle school boys how to be responsible young adults. Topics include but are not limited to teaching the boys to try not to become discouraged during life when they do not “get it” on a first attempt. Todd has been the mayor of Crawfordsville since 2011 where he was previously a Fire Chief in Crawfordsville.



### **Fulbright Scholarship Recipients:**

Three Wabash College students have earned Fulbright Scholarships as English Teaching Assistants. This program places each Fulbright winner in a classroom abroad, ranging from kindergarten to university level, to provide assistance to teachers of English to non-native English speakers. The three recipients Ben Finley '15, David Gunderman '15, and Patrick Rezek '15 plan to serve assistantships in Argentina, Germany, and Poland. This marks the second consecutive year in which Wabash has had three Fulbright recipients.

### **Wabash Welcomes First-ever Electronic Music Minor:**

"Wabash has served me well," Walker said. "The promises have held up. I've studied abroad, created a minor, and that's not bad. You can't do things like this everywhere." Walker has taken every electronic music class available: history, theory, composition, and performance. All that was left was an independent study to cover the ensemble requirement and approval from the Academic Policy Committee. With the support of Hulen, Walker's advisors, economics professor Christie Byun and mathematics professor Will Turner, and professors from computer science, that approval came through.



Electronic music first hit Wabash four decades ago, dating back to a University of Illinois Experimental Music Studio performance in 1970, and the College has enjoyed a dedicated electronic music studio in the Fine Arts Center for 20 years. The minor continues to develop as new courses are offered and new equipment and technologies added to support the pursuit. It is great to see Wabash expanding horizons and developing new areas of study!

### **Mellon Grant Aids Retention Program:**

Wabash College has received an \$800,000 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for the implementation of the Wabash Liberal Arts Program.

"We are very excited about this new program and the benefits it will provide for Wabash students and their families," said Wabash President Gregory Hess. "We are grateful to The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for its belief and investment in Wabash College and the important work we are doing to educate young men in the liberal arts. We know that the key elements of this program will pay dividends for

our students, and will provide a model for other colleges and universities and their efforts to retain and graduate students of all socio-economic means.”

Part of the three-year grant will support a four-week, summer program on campus aimed at improving the retention and graduation rates at Wabash College. All program expenses will be covered for the participants, and students will also receive a stipend to offset wages potentially earned through summer employment. Students will be connected early to the faculty on campus as well as the academic support network such as the Writing Center, the Qualitative Skills Center, the Student Health Center, and the Counseling Center.

### **A Well Deserving Thompson Award Recipient:**

Professor of chemistry and Dean of the College Scott E. Feller was named the 2015 winner of the Thomas E. Thompson Award. This award is given to someone who has provided contributions and excellence in research in the field of membrane structure and assembly.

Feller joined the Wabash facility as an assistant professor of chemistry in 1998 and claims the Membrane Structure and Assembly group as his scientific home for the past twenty years. Feller is the second recipient of this award.



### **New Dean for Enrollment Management:**

Michael R. Thorp has been named the Dean for Enrollment Management at Wabash College. Thorp has more than 25 years of experience in admissions and financial aid, including at Millsaps College, where he was Dean of Enrollment Management, and was credited for increasing out-of-state enrollment by 50% and first-year retention by 12%.



Thorp is a 1986 graduate of Wabash and earned a master's degree in English literature at the University of Louisville. "While the College has changed a great deal in the last 30 years, it remains unchanged in preparing young men for lives of meaning and purpose," said Thorp. "I look forward to working with the faculty, staff, students, and alumni as we continue to change the lives of young men who enroll at Wabash College."



### **Wabash Grads Expected to Earn More:**

Wabash graduates can expect to earn more than \$597,000 more than a high school graduate over a 20-year period following degree completion. That figure placed Wabash in the top four percent nationally of the 1,223 schools ranked for providing the best monetary return through a combination of low cost of attendance and a high earnings potential for alumni.

“For generations, Wabash has offered young men a rich liberal arts education that is both attainable and respected in the marketplace,” said Preston Bost, professor of psychology and director of institutional research. “The return-on-investment analysis by PayScale is a rigorously quantitative way of representing the stories we hear every day from graduates who credit Wabash with helping them succeed.”

### **Wabash Students Choose a Different Spring Break Adventure:**

Some Wabash students spent their spring break participating in a class immersion trip, which offers a unique, out of classroom experience to students. Dr. Jeremy Hartnett accompanied 16 students for a third time to Rome, Italy where they were able to experience everything from the Vatican to a recreational soccer game.

“These trips create lasting memories that people want to share with loved ones in the future,” Hartnett said. Experiencing an event in reality adds an element that cannot be taught in the classroom.



This is not the only type of spring break trip that Wabash students have been taking. Since 2007, Wabash men have joined forces with members of the First Christian Church to help hurricane victims located around the Gulf Coast. In 2007 40 Wabash College students traveled to New Orleans to assist with anything they could after the destruction. Students have been raising money to cover the cost of expenses and spending a week giving back each year ever since.

### **Wabash Announces New Dean for Professional Development:**

Alan P. Hill has accepted an offer to become Dean for Professional Development at Wabash. With joining the senior staff Alan will take on responsibilities at the Schroeder Center for Career Development and the Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship. He will also maintain his previous duties of the Director of

the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies. Alan is a 1981 graduate of DePauw University and has over 30 years of experience in higher education. This is yet another great mind welcomed into the Wabash community!

**Dates To Remember:**

- Hampden-Sydney Game - September 5, 2015
- Homecoming 2015 - October 3, 2015
- Wabash Day - October 10-11, 2015

**Another Great Effort for Wabash Track and Field:**



The Wabash track and field competed in two different events last weekend in a continued effort to prepare for the 2015 North Coast Athletic Conference Outdoor Championships. Friday night a group of the Little Giant team competed in the Rose-Hulman Twilight meet where they placed fourth out of nine teams overall. Another group of athletes competed at the Al Owens Classic in Michigan on Saturday and placed fifth out of twenty-three teams. There were multiple top finishes by Wabash track and field athletes over the weekend.

**Individuals From Cross Country Team Named All-Academics:**

The Wabash College cross country team was recognized for its outstanding work in the classroom and in competition by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. The Little Giants were named an All-Academic Team by the organization while six of the seven individuals who competed for Wabash at the regionals earned All-Academic honors, as well. Individuals named to the All-Academic Team are Mason McKinney, Adam Togami, Nick Boyce, Fabian House, Colin Rinne, and Billy McManus.

Wabash won its second consecutive regional title in 2014 with a total of 46 points, outdistancing Mount Union in second with 135 points. The Little Giants were one of five men's programs that featured six or seven individuals who earned All-Academic honors. The Little Giants finished the fall semester with a cumulative team GPA of 3.50.

Yours in Wabash,

Pat, Jeff, Tim, and Trevor

P.S. In case you missed them, here are our last six letters:

[http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class of 2000 Early February 2015 Letter.pdf](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class%20of%202000%20Early%20February%202015%20Letter.pdf)  
[http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class of 2000 January 2015 Letter.pdf](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class%20of%202000%20January%202015%20Letter.pdf)  
[http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class of 2000 December 2014 Letter.pdf](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class%20of%202000%20December%202014%20Letter.pdf)  
[http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class of 2000 Late August 2014 Letter.pdf](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class%20of%202000%20Late%20August%202014%20Letter.pdf)  
[http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class of 2000 July 2014 Letter.pdf](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class%20of%202000%20July%202014%20Letter.pdf)  
[http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class of 2000 June 2014 Letter.pdf](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Class%20of%202000%20June%202014%20Letter.pdf)