

LGBTQ+ at Wabash: A History

ALEX ROTARU '22 | OPINION EDITOR • October is LGBTQ+ History Month, a time to reflect on that community’s culture and evolution, on how far American society has come in embracing them, and on what work society still needs to do in order to eliminate discrimination against the group. Wabash College has a rich history with its LGBTQ+ community --a tapestry of support and humane living woven with homophobia and general xenophobia. However, few know this history, and even fewer celebrate it.

The story begins in the 1970s with now Emeritus Professors of Psychology Brenda and Charles Bankart, who created a phone line for gay and questioning Wabash students to reach out and have conversations on the matter.

“They were strongly harrassed for this,” Warren Rosenberg, Emeritus Professor of English said. Rosenberg taught the first Wabash courses in what was to become Gender Studies. “They had people throw eggs at their house and threaten them, and they suffered quite a bit, because they wanted to do this. And this gives you a sense of homophobia and how strong it was.”

Rosenberg came on the faculty in the 1980s to teach American literature, as well as Ethnic literature - which was a precursor to the modern-day Multicultural American literature. At that time, Gender Studies was barely a concept, and the Feminist movement was still in its infancy. “And so I started teaching American literature,” Rosenberg said. “And when you think about books like Moby Dick and Huckleberry Finn, you could think about gender, but it wasn’t the way we were thinking about things at the time, particularly, so it really kind of developed over time.”

One of the first courses Rosenberg taught at the college was a Freshman Tutorial on Violence in America. “I was interested in the topic of violence, and didn’t really realize so strongly at that point how connected to gender that was,” Rosenberg said. Rosenberg also taught a course on Images of Women in Literature and Film, as well as a Freshman Tutorial on Men and Masculinities.

In recent times, Queer Theory scholars shifted their focus from studying the particular category and how it deviates from the norm to how the norm is constructed and used to oppress said categories.

“[Queer Theory, for instance,] used to be about what is normal and what is deviant; they used to be about just gender and sex,” Elan Pavlinich, BKT Assistant Professor of English, said. “But now, Queer Theory looks at things like the ways in which society constructs norms in order to exclude and marginalize people of color, people who are differently abled, sex workers - all kinds of people.” Rosenberg’s Images of Women in Literature and Film course was no exception. “Maybe the second or third time I taught it

in the early ‘80s, a student raised his hand and asked, ‘Why are we only looking at images of women? Shouldn’t we also look at images of men in these films and novels?’” Rosenberg said. “What it revealed was that studying men was invisible. Masculinity itself is invisible, and that’s the way that gender dynamics operate, especially power dynamics. Usually, the people in power don’t label themselves and name themselves.”

This inquiry prompted Rosenberg to explore how Masculinity is constructed, and to teach about the Images of Gender in Literature and Film instead.

The 1990s were a tumultuous and eventful decade for gender and sexual identity at Wabash. It started with the co-education debates, where 85 percent of the faculty supported co-education, but the Board of Trustees overturned the decision.

“So, at that point, I said, ‘Well, if we’re going to be an all-male college, we’d really need to take studying masculinity seriously; we can’t assume it anymore,’” Rosenberg said. Wabash did start taking masculinity seriously in the 1990s, and Rosenberg used to take students to the GLCA Women’s Studies Conference to talk about Men’s Studies. “We would talk about Men’s Studies at a conference that was predominantly female,” Rosenberg said.

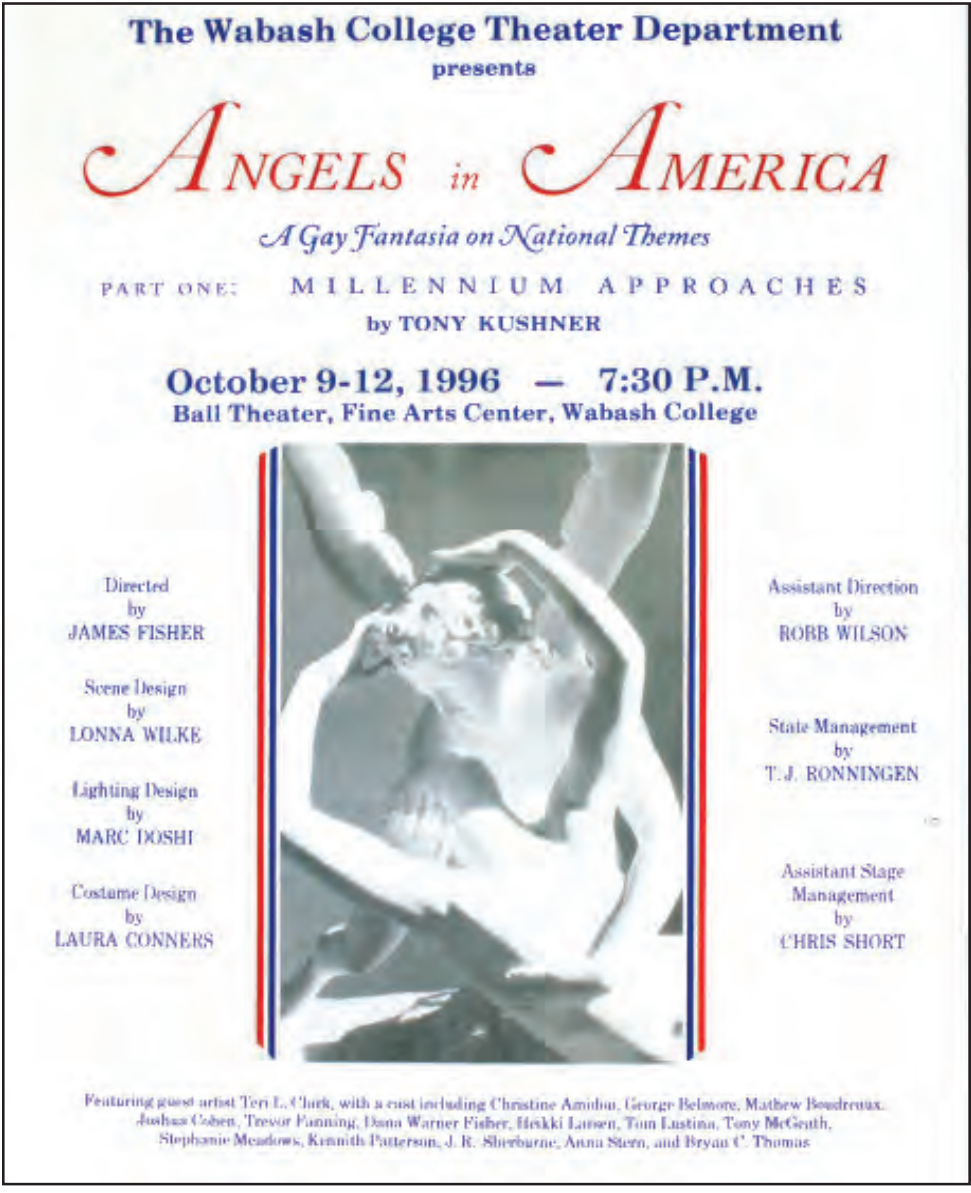
Up until 1996, homophobia was rampant on campus; students being teased in their home communities because they attended an all-male school only reinforced these feelings.

“Over time, [students] were made fun of by their friends at high-school, ‘Why are you going to an all-male school? You must be gay,’” Rosenberg said. “So, there was almost an overcompensation response, ‘Oh, no, we’re not gay. We’re just going to this all-male, traditional school.”

In the Fall of 1996, Wabash ran the first production in the Midwest of Angels in America - subtitled A Gay Fantasia on National Themes. “I’m not saying that there was a big welcoming atmosphere, but it wasn’t universally negative,” Rosenberg said. “The truth of the matter is that, at the time, the President of the College was more concerned about the image of the college, showing that play.” Regardless, “It was a watershed moment in the history of the college. [...] Two Wabash students kissing on stage was a breakthrough for the college.”

The final key change in the 1990s was Student Senate recognizing and giving funds to ‘shOUT, the campus’ gay-straight alliance. It took three different attempts throughout the decade to get recognition, and, in the early days, the organization had some difficulties securing funding.

Within the last five years, Wabash has seen another set of shifts towards better inclusion of LGBTQ+ students. The first



COURTESY OF RAMSAY ARCHIVES

The poster for *Angels in America*. The Tony Kushner proved to be the most controversial production in Wabash College history.

would be the introduction of a Gender Studies minor, where students can explore systems of oppression and hegemony relating to gender and sexuality, and explore Queer Theory.

“Queer Theory is in constant flux,” Pavlinich said. “If you ask any Queer Theorists to define Queer Theory, everyone’s going to do it differently. So, the definition is constantly changing because that’s the goal: Queer Theory is not something that’s supposed to be still and stabilized.” And much of LGBTQ+ culture revolves on change and challenging norms.

Two alumni/ae that challenged the norms and advocated for the LGBTQ+ community are Andrea James ’96 and Reggie Steele ’12. James is the first transgender Wabash

alumna. Steele is better known by their stage name, Silky Nutmeg Ganache -- a drag queen who competed in RuPaul’s Drag Race.

Even today, we are still living through milestone moments for our LGBTQ community. For instance, last week, with the help of Professor Pavlinich, ‘shOUT students decorated the walkway between Lilly Library and Hays Hall with rainbow flags.

Also, just this Monday, Student Senate passed a petition to denounce all acts of homophobia on campus, and all students are able to sign it until Monday, October 26 at 7 p.m. ET. Feel free to use the QR Code on this page, or visit <https://wabash.presence.io/form/student-senate-anti-homophobia-resolution> to access it.

Staff Editorial: Homophobia has No Place Here

We at Wabash cherish our long, triumphant history. It is one filled with moral dignity and great strides in social progress. Beyond a shadow of a doubt, a great many members of the Wabash Community have distinguished themselves as stewards of the College’s mission to educate men to live humanely.

Yet it is equally important to recognize that our history has not always been rosy. On top of longstanding struggles with discrimination in general, Wabash has long battled the ethical disease of homophobia. Many veteran members of the faculty, along with alumni, will readily tell that not too long ago it was dangerous to be openly LGBTQ+ on this campus. The 1990s featured a vitriolic battle over the acceptance of gay, bisexual, and questioning men on this campus, including a fierce fight over the Student Senate’s recognition of ‘shOUT. Even well into the 21st century, opinion articles lambasting homosexuality regrettably appeared frequently in the pages of this publication.

In light of this history, the editorial staff of The Bachelor was, frankly, appalled by the homophobic comments that appeared in widely circulated emails written by both students and faculty. Allow us to make something very clear: homophobia, and any other form of intolerance, is fundamentally incompatible with the ethos and mission of Wabash College. The history of that attitude on our campus is a tremendous stain on this institution -- and we refuse to backslide. Homophobia has no place here.

We commend the efforts of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, both in response to recent events and more generally. In addition to providing educational and cultural events on campus, the committee drafted and worked with the Student Senate to ratify an Anti-Homophobia resolution. President Estreline forwarded a link to the signable petition to the entire student body. We at The Bachelor agree wholeheartedly with the text of the petition:

Let us be abundantly clear, there is no place for homophobia at Wabash

College; students of every sexual orientation are welcome here. Yet, we recognize that, like racism and other forms of bigotry, homophobia can take many forms, not just readily-apparent acts of open harassment.... Sexual orientation is not a choice. Nor is race, color, or any other attribute listed in the campus’s non-discrimination policy.... A Wabash man does not seek to cause harm by marginalizing people or by making them feel ‘less than’; he stands T.A.L.L. against discrimination in all its forms.

On the first page of this issue, we have included a QR code that links to the digital petition. We encourage all members of the Wabash Community to sign it in support of our LGBTQ+ brothers, friends, and neighbors.

We wish to express our disapprobation of recent hurtful comments. Sexual orientation is not a political ideology. It is not a preference. We strongly condemn such divisive, dismissive, and hateful comments -- whether from students or faculty. Sexual orientation is not a preference, and it is not a lifestyle

choice. This should be the end of the discussion, but, in light of recent hurtful rhetoric, we feel the need to respond. As the U.S. Supreme Court wrote in the 2015 landmark case Obergefell v. Hodges, “sexual orientation is both a normal expression of human sexuality and immutable.” We concur with our nation’s highest court; we commend our fellow LGBTQ+ students’ long struggle for equality in law and in fact.

Make no mistake, we cherish dissent on this campus. After all, The Bachelor has a long history of fostering, often contentious dialogue, between students on deeply-held beliefs. As the Voice of the Student Body, we will continue to make sure that many diverse and conflicting opinions will be heard on any number of issues. However, the inherent worth and dignity of all people is not a subject on which there should be debate. Informed, vigorous discussion can only occur in an environment in which all students feel safe. All Wabash men -- regardless of identity -- are welcome here.

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The Bachelor

THE STUDENT VOICE OF WABASH COLLEGE SINCE 1908

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Haydn Calls For Rest

IO MAEDA '24 | STAFF WRITER • We have just survived over seventy percent of the semester this week! Unfortunately, we do not have an equivalent to Thanksgiving break this year because Wabash College decided to start and finish the semester early. While we appreciate that the college is open, we look forward to much needed rest. We are tired because we have been working for months. Throughout this semester, we have not had the chance to refresh our bodies and minds. Everyone needs a break.

The importance of having a break has mattered throughout history. Even Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) demanded it too. He is one of the great Austrian composers whose music influenced Mozart and Beethoven. He is also known as the composer of Germany's national anthem. Although the lyrics changed from the time of the Holy Roman Empire, the German people still sing its melody.

Haydn worked for Nikolaus I Prince Esterházy, who was the head of the Esterházy family. Their family was known as the greatest landowner and noble of the Kingdom of Hungary. They were a great patron of Haydn and contributed to establishing Western classical music. Prince Nikolaus built a beautiful palace at Eszterháza in rural Hungary. It is known as "Hungarian Versailles" for its gorgeousness (it still exists!). They did not build it for their main house, but as a villa during the summer.

In 1766, the prince and all accompanied musicians stayed there as an annual custom. Most musicians went alone and missed their families. Haydn was an exception because he was the conductor of the Esterházy's orchestra. Since he had an unhappy marriage with his wife (they did not have children), he might not have enjoyed that privilege of being the conductor to a prestigious orchestra. That year was terrible for musicians because the prince stayed longer than usual. Although they felt desperate, they could not do anything because they had to obey the prince since they were part of the prince's court, not different from the cooks and maids. Also, most musicians were dependent financially on the employer (noble or church), so they had to stay at Eszterháza for their survival. As their boss, Haydn felt sorry for them. He decided to answer to their demand to leave, but he did so through music. He composed his Symphony No. 45, which later was nicknamed "Farewell Symphony."

The reason why it is called "Farewell" is that in the last movement, each musician had to blow the candlelight and leave the stage while the music begins to fade. Without directly talking to the prince, Haydn conveyed the message by having performance within the music. It is an unusual action because normally musicians play music (even now too at a very formal place). However, it is not quite surprising for him to compose such music because of his personality. For example, he later composed Symphony No. 94, which is known as "Surprise Symphony." Usually, the second movement of the symphony is quiet and calm. However, its second movement makes loud sounds to make the audience, some of whom sleep during the concert (mainly the nobles), are surprised to awake and make them listen. It can imply that he liked joking. Therefore, the "Farewell Symphony" was not a piece to give sarcastic remarks to the prince through music looking at his other unique pieces. After the performance, the prince understood Haydn's message. Fortunately, all the musicians were given a break from the next day and spent time with their families.

The fourth movement can be divided into two parts: the minor and fast part (presto) and the major and slow part (adagio). It has a very unusual style, including two different "movements" within the fourth movement. The prince might have been surprised and thought that something important other than music was happening in the orchestra.

It begins with the desperate minor as if it metaphors the musicians' homesickness and stress. There is a contrast between the volume of sounds. After the melody is played on the piano, then the full orchestra responds by playing it together in forte. It is like everyone starts mumbling once a person starts to complain. The staccato of chords played by the strings is like shrieks, as it is a discomfort to listen to. The rising notes express they are freaking out, and the decreasing sounds depict that they are depressed. Its fast tempo is well delivered to get the image that they are in a panic.

Suddenly, the atmosphere dramatically changes into a happy tune from the latter part. The oboe and the horn play important roles to sound it like being in a paradise as if they were finally relieved by Haydn's help. Those notes covering the entire orchestra made us feel at peace and relaxed. However, its blissful moment does not last long. The instruments start to disappear while the music goes on repeating the same melody. The unexpected action of leaving the stage begins with one horn and one oboe leaving during the first variation. It does not affect the entire music because there is still another set of horns and oboe. However, the bassoon stops playing in the middle of the second variation. In the end, both horn and oboe echo as if they say goodbye to the audience.

After the wind disappears, the contrabass plays the sub-melody in sixteenth notes, which is very detailed. It is also unusual because the role of the contrabass at this period is just playing a simple bass line. Its oddness turns out to be expected by the contrabass disappearing during the transition to the third variation. After the cello disappears during the third variation, the violin solo plays the melody one octave higher than before, supported by a few viola and violin. Its high and clear melody makes the audience sad by feeling lonely. The viola goes away, and just two violins remain and play the end part. They have a small dialogue in which both act as accompaniment and melody alternately. The music ends with a very small sound as the final candlelight blows out.

Musicians in Haydn's orchestra did get their break, and we hope that we will have enough breaks next semester. What we can do right now is to endure the last month of this semester. After that, we can enjoy a longer winter vacation than usual.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA.ORG

Joseph Haydn was a composer during the classical period. He was known for being a friend and mentor of Mozart.

From The Ramsay Archives

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No. 18

Turkey Run-Bound



J. J. PATERSON, director of student activities helps Bob Allen load luggage before departure for Senior Study Camp Monday. George Seidensticker and Al Schuster (see reports, page 2) were in the crowd—and maybe the Phantom (see page 3). —(Chuck Goddard Photo)

Letter to the Editor

Karen Quandt, BKT Assistant Professor of French

A recent widely circulated email thread included the phrase “condom-clad bananas.” I know it’s just me, but what really raised my eyebrows were words like French Club, Racine, and nineteenth century. I ran to my laptop faster than you can say “narcissistic bad manners.” The subject of nineteenth-century literary icons and French authors led me to Victor Hugo’s “Préface to Cromwell” (1828), a romantic manifesto written under the tight grip of a reactionary and ultra-conservative monarchy in which free expression was readily censored and the pursuit of republican ideals effectively squelched. I know what my students are saying. Vraiment? Hugo? Encore? (they speak French, remember). To which my response is a resounding, “Mais, oui!”. And here’s why: if Hugo were to join a call-out meeting

hosted by the French Club, I’m afraid it would not be to discuss the 17th-century dramatist Racine. Though admirable in form, his tragedies, in Hugo’s view, suffer in content due to Racine’s acquiescent subservience to Louis XIV’s absolute regime, a regime infamous for its oppressive rule and official sanctioning of intolerance. Censorship, in other words, loomed large in Racine’s imaginary as a psychological trauma that surfaces everywhere in his inflexible verse, his mercilessly sparse lexicon, and in stifled characters cloaked in ancient costumes. Hugo would prefer Molière, a dramatist of Racine’s time and place, but who, no matter what the odds or threats, aimed for “the free expression of all that is true,” “a free, outspoken, sincere verse, which dares say everything without prudery [...] which passes naturally from comedy

to tragedy, from the sublime to the grotesque [...] both artistic and inspired, profound and impulsive, of wide range and true.” Molière does not shy away from making us face our prejudices and our hypocrisies – his comical, yet “real” modern-day characters are religious imposters, misers, hucksters, misogynists, womanizers, hacks, and wannabes – and that is the very stuff of poetry. Hugo’s declaration of free expression in poetry via Molière would serve as the essential root of his fierce commitment to social justice throughout most of this long career. As he put it: “Je hais l’oppression d’une haine profonde” (ask a French student to translate!). I mean, have you ever heard of Les Mis? But enough about male white heterosexual French authors from centuries past. Consider Helen Macdonald’s H Is for Hawk, which I

had the pleasure of reading with my freshman tutorial students. By weaving her story with that of Terence Hanbury White, a 20th-century writer and falconer, Macdonald relates his failed attempts to train a goshawk through the lens of a British society still steeped in Victorian mores. If the goshawk suffers terribly, it is not due to White’s cruelty or ignorance, but it is because he was a gay man who only ever knew self-loathing. This brings Macdonald to realize “how many of our classic books on animals were by gay writers who wrote of their relationships with animals in lieu of human loves of which they could not speak.” So, yes, read Racine. But read Molière, too. It’s bananas.

You can reply to this column at quandtkt@wabash.edu

Conservatives Must Lead on Climate Solutions



Bryce McCullough '23

Reply to this editorial at abmccull23@wabash.edu

As a college student involved in Indiana politics, and as a young person in today’s society, I can understand how easy it is for some to become disaffected with our system of government. However, there are international conservation programs that work, while offering critical national security and economic benefits. These ideas give us hope for a government that passes solutions for the betterment of all. As the Chairman of the Wabash College Republicans, I understand that climate change and clean energy development are issues that matter to young conservatives. Conservationist President Theodore Roosevelt would be appalled by his party’s current carelessness and inaction

on environmental issues. If Indiana Republicans—and conservative leaders nationwide—want to continue winning elections, they need to listen to the voices of the party’s future. Bad actors across the world have taken to exploiting natural resources for financial gain, a troubling reality for U.S. national security interests. Practices like illegal logging and overfishing undermine law-abiding producers here in America by flooding the global marketplace with artificially cheap products. And they financially support criminal organizations who seek to harm U.S. troops and civilians. Programs supported by the U.S. that prevent illegal natural resource harvesting constitute a long-term investment in the future of our country’s security. I can also appreciate the alignment of international conservation programs with Republicans’ belief in smart government investments in high-return-on-investment programs. For an extremely modest investment in conservation efforts abroad the U.S. can reap significant returns – whether in the form of protections for American farmers and employers or support for our troops abroad. Today’s multinational criminal

organizations use any number of methods to fund their operations and exploit vulnerable communities. And that requires the U.S. government to leverage perhaps unexpected avenues to stamp out this activity, including conservation efforts abroad. The connection is clear – if criminals aim to profit off of natural resource exploitation, the U.S. must take the necessary steps through international conservation to prevent such activity. I hope that Indiana’s representatives in Congress, most especially Senators Young and Braun, will consider my perspective on this important issue as they continue leading for Hoosiers in Congress. Fortunately, Indiana has Senator Mike Braun representing the interests of Hoosiers in Washington. Senator Braun has brought more Republicans to the table when it comes to climate change, helping form the first bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus in the Senate. With a bipartisan coalition of senators this summer, Senator Braun also introduced the Growing Climate Solutions Act. The legislation would make private, carbon credit markets more accessible to farmers, ranchers, and foresters in Indiana and across the country. If passed, this bill

would help incentivize the adoption of climate-friendly agricultural techniques and practices, giving farmers access to new revenue streams while letting them be part of the climate change solution. More so, agriculture.senate.gov includes widespread support for the act ranging from Fortune 500 companies to leading environmental groups. This kind of approach is exactly how we need to be attacking the problem of climate change—through pro-growth, market-based solutions that not only allow America to continue lowering carbon emissions, but do so in a way that creates new economic opportunities for hardworking families and individuals nationwide. It’s time for Republicans to lead on this issue. It’s time to listen to reputable scientists and offer smart solutions that consider both the environment and hardworking individuals. Climate change and clean energy are issues that more young conservatives are paying close attention to. Conservative leadership on these issues, like Senator Braun has demonstrated, will not only help strengthen the Republican Party, but will help secure a better future for all Americans.

Between Two Worlds



Alex Rotaru '22

Reply to this editorial at arotaru22@wabash.edu

If you were to meet me today, you would think I’m just your average Wabash student, looking to study science, follow his life passion, and enjoy life in the process. You would be right about all things but one – I’m not American. To some, realizing that I am an international student was quite the shock. I guess I blend in rather well. That doesn’t mean I’m necessarily in the clear, though: I still face some of the same struggles as other international students. However, I think I might have blended in a little too well, as I have also struggled to become a part of the international community here, at Wabash. As a result, I am stuck between two worlds, not feeling fully embraced by any of them. Notice how I used the past tense when

talking about struggling to become a part of the international community. That’s no coincidence: I’ve had such a hard time trying to find my place within the international community that I have decided to re-invest most of my efforts elsewhere as a freshman, and sever most ties with the International Student Association this year, as a junior. It was mostly because of incompatibilities between myself and most of the international students - basically, I struggled to get along with people, oftentimes feeling left out of conversations. This has left me without a support group, in a place where identity is key, and where minorities need to stick together to survive and thrive. Believe me when I say that I had a massive identity crisis as a freshman when I felt rejected by the international community. I never got a bid into a fraternity despite rushing for two years, and got rejected by the Sphinx Club twice, and those rejections did not hurt as bad as being left out of the very community that was supposed to help me transition to Wabash as a freshman. And so, when that failed, I tried finding my place among the domestic students, with varying degrees of success. There were quite a few people I managed to get

along with very well and spend quality time with - and I’m beyond grateful for those friendships. However, more often than not, I felt out of place. There were some places that felt way too out of tune with my intense personality, and I started spending less time there consequentially. Then, there were places where I felt out of place – to put it gentlemanly; if this were a private conversation, I would use a much stronger, less appropriate word – for various reasons – sometimes because of even the pettiest of things, like vampire jokes and being told to speak only English. Granted, I genuinely like those people and being around them, but people behaving like I am not your average student really takes its toll on my inner peace – especially with the fiery temper I have. Surprisingly, even though I’m calm most, if not all the time, I actually work hard to stay that way. Given that I have had success with some domestic students, I decided to attempt to create my own place where I can belong, choosing the people I best connected with on campus as my “identity group.” This way, I can be whomever I want, and the members of my group can also do the same much more easily. Granted, it’s all still a work in progress, since many of the people

I resonate with have no time for anything. Fingers crossed, what can I say... Even so, I shouldn’t have to go through this entire ordeal just to find a group of people where I can belong. I see everyone else find said groups so easily: fraternities, sports, leisure clubs, living units, identity clubs, and the like. The only places I feel like I’m an integral part of the community are generally work-heavy clubs - and it’s generally for the work I do. While I’ve been able to maintain that workload for the past two years, this year I’m feeling the burnout hard. What I am trying to say here, with my story, is that, even though having people stick together based on their identity is a huge boon for minorities, minority students who cannot get along with the people in those communities, as well as those who get rejected by their own group for various reasons, generally have nowhere to go, particularly at small institutions like this. That, gentlemen, is what it means to be stuck between two worlds. And, trust me, miserable is an understatement. I just hope there will be some way for future generations of minority students to not have to jump through these hoops just so that they can find a place where they belong.

Tablets are the Best Medium for Note-Taking



Matthew Brooks '24

Reply to this editorial at mjb Brooks24@wabash.edu

Tablets offer a note-taking experience for students and workers alike that is unparalleled to any other device or medium of work. In recent years, the tablet industry has been growing rapidly, both in terms of market size and technical specs. We are seeing the gap between laptops and tablets grow smaller every year as tablets become more powerful and laptop grade software becomes available on today’s tablets. But, why is a tablet the best medium of note-taking? I asked myself this question when I was trying to justify buying an iPad for this semester. I had watched all the Youtube videos online of students using an iPad as their primary school

device, and I had looked into dozens of articles on what the best methods for note-taking were. I broke down why tablets are the best for two main reasons; they provide the best of both worlds, and they have increased functionality. A tablet provides the best of both worlds. Those worlds being handwriting notes and typed notes. Handwriting notes allow one to be abstract with their note-taking, draw arrows and lines to connect or divide two or more thoughts. Handwriting notes provide the best means of note retention. Physically writing one’s notes creates muscle memory of what one is writing and forces the note taker to focus on the main points/key ideas. However, handwritten notes can be lost, damaged, and messy. You can misplace a paper, spill your coffee on your notebook, or erase your page so many times that your writing becomes illegible. This is where typed notes thrive: being able to save your notes to the cloud, so they last forever, open your notes on any device, and have your notes looking legible no matter how many mistakes you made. However, typed notes, objectively, is one of the worst ways to take notes for revision. Most

note-takers tend to record everything the lecturer says and copy everything written on a set of presented slides, not focusing on the key topics and main ideas. A tablet is the best of both worlds: it has all the pros of handwriting notes and typed notes without their setbacks. The note taker has freedom with how they take their notes, plus the added retention benefits that go along with physically writing notes. While having the protection of stored note backups in the cloud, giving one access to their notes from any device. To further increase a tablet’s note-taking experience, they have an expanded functionality for handwriting notes, and typed notes cannot offer or at least not to the same level. Tablets are a device; they are a computer, so they have similar functionalities that computers have. You can split your screen, having your textbook on one side and your note app on another. You can copy text, take screenshots, upload videos, and photos, import PDF’s, resize/relocate text, and so much more. However, when note-taking, tablets are more intuitive than computers — allowing the note taker to focus their energy on their topic of study and not

waste time finding a hidden setting. Tablets offer a wide range of possibilities and advantages. However, their most significant drawback is their price. Unlike pencil and paper, which cost next to nothing, tablet prices can range anywhere from \$300 to over \$1000. For most who already have a laptop, a tablet isn’t financially suitable for them. However, with the rate at which tablets are evolving the newer generations are continuing to become more cost-effective. The ability for the average consumer to afford a tablet for school, work, pleasure is becoming more and more attainable. Tablets are the best medium for note-takers. Tablets offer an experience and functionality that other forms of note-taking cannot. They do so by taking the best attributes of handwritten notes and typed notes without their faults. Besides, everyone wants to write their notes out without the fear of losing or damaging them. As tablet technologies continue to grow, and tablets continue to become more cost-effective, the ability for average consumers is becoming more attainable - making tablets not only a suitable medium for note-taking but possibly the best.

Hoosiers Prep for Elections

JAKE VERMEULEN '21 | MANAGING EDITOR • As Election Day closes in, there are a number of interesting, hotly contested elections going on around Indiana. In addition to the challenges posed by the pandemic, candidates all over the state are also facing the usual challenges to convince voters to vote for them and then get those voters to turnout to vote on election day. The Presidential campaign gets plenty of ink, so this article will talk about some of the elections that are going on at a more local level which have just as important impacts on people's lives.

What originally looked like an easy race to reelection for Governor Eric Holcomb has quickly become one of the most interesting races in the country. The race was recently profiled in an article on Politico and the truth is that very few people know exactly what to expect. One thing that seems clear is that Democratic nominee Woody Myers – a former Indiana Health Commissioner who played a central role in Ryan White's AIDS case in the 1980s – will not prove to be a serious threat to Governor Holcomb's reelection. The Myers campaign has struggled to gain any traction in the race.

The more interesting question actually turns out to be whether Libertarian nominee Donald Rainwater can mount a serious challenge. Rainwater's campaign appears to have seized on some of the dissatisfaction with the Governor's pandemic response from within the Republican base. Rainwater has been a vocal opponent of the mask mandate which has been in place for the last couple of months and has gained a vocal following on social media. Though polling in the race is sparse, a September poll from Indy Politics and Change Research showed Rainwater surging to 24 percent, with Holcomb at 36 percent and Meyers at 30. Rainwater could conceivably finish anywhere from first to third in the race, depending on whether that support stays with him through election day, or if the Republican base comes home to Holcomb. The Governor still has a massive financial advantage (pulling in more than \$6 million over



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Victoria Spartz (Pictured Left) and Christina Hale (Pictured Right). With four-term Congresswoman, Susan Brooks (R) stepping down, Indiana's fifth district will be competitive for the time for many voters.

the course of the campaign) but Politico reported that Rainwater does have more cash on hand at the moment than the Myers campaign, which is unprecedented in Indiana politics.

A poll from SurveyUSA, however, showed the Governor's lead as being much more secure, with a 45 point gap to Rainwater and a 30 point lead over Myers, but this campaign has certainly become more interesting over the past few months.

Indiana also has two House seats where the incumbent has retired. Democratic Congressman Pete Visclosky is retiring from his seat in the 1st District, which he has occupied since 1985, and Republican Congresswoman Susan Brooks is retiring from her seat in the 5th District after four terms in Congress. Visclosky's seat does not appear to be in any danger of changing parties. Democrats have occupied the seat, which includes most of Northeastern Indiana,

since 1931 and that does not appear likely to change this year. Brooks' seat, meanwhile, is one of the most hotly contested races in the country. Democrat Christina Hale is facing off against Republican Victoria Spartz. The 5th District includes most of the Northern suburbs of Indianapolis and was seen as a prime target for Democrats. Many of the Democratic House pickups in 2018 came from similar suburban districts, and this race may follow a similar path. The most recent public poll available, according to FiveThirtyEight, came back in August and showed Hale with a 7 point lead. Losing the race would be a huge blow to any Republican hopes to win back the House majority, since it was a seat they carried by 13 points in 2018.

In another race, Todd Rokita '92 appears to be set to return to public office in the Attorney General's race. Rokita beat incumbent Attorney General Curtis Hill in the state Republican

convention after Hill faced allegations of sexual misconduct. Rokita most recently ran for Senate, losing an ugly three-way primary to now-Senator Mike Braun '76.

In the race to represent Indiana's 4th Congressional District, which includes Wabash College, Republican Congressman Jim Baird appears likely to secure a second term in office by beating Democrat Joe Mackey. Congressman Baird won his first election by 28 points, and there is very little to suggest this election will be different.

This year's election for President will get a lot of attention over the next couple of weeks – and rightly so. But there are plenty of other races which deserve attention down the ballot. This article has touched on just a few. If you want to learn more about candidates running in your area, please go to Vote411.org to find out more information about who is on your ballot. Don't forget to vote on November 3rd!

Review of Bryan Caplan's "Poverty: Who's to Blame"



COURTESY OF OZY.COM

Bryan Caplan is a Professor of Economics at George Mason University. The economist delivered two lectures via the PPE program this week.

COOPER SMITH '23 | ONLINE EDITOR • On Monday, Dr. Bryan Caplan, an economics professor at George Mason University, delivered a PPE Lecture, titled "Poverty: Who's to Blame." Caplan, a NYT bestseller, used moral philosophy and social science to argue that governments – and the poor themselves – are responsible for poverty. Some professors and students pushed back on his arguments.

Caplan argued that third-world countries promote poverty via bad development policies. He said, "When you go to poor countries, you see that many of them are just nests of nepotism and incompetence.... What third-world countries need is to have first-world country business."

Caplan also argued that the poor themselves should be blamed for poverty. He pointed to what he deemed to be irresponsible behavior, arguing that the poor could escape poverty by avoiding impulsive sex. These sexual tendencies, he argued, are in many ways the root cause of poverty. Caplan provided additional advice to those in poverty – namely spending less. He said, "Look – do not be a smoker when you are poor. Do not drink alcohol when you are poor. Those are luxuries."

Dr. Joyce Burnette, John H. Schroeder Interdisciplinary Chair in Economics, attended Caplan's talk but expressed doubt in his conclusions. Burnette said, "It doesn't come close to the complexity of the whole phenomenon.... He was talking about global and local poverty at the same time. I think they're completely different phenomena, and he should've made a clearer distinction there." In response to Caplan's claim that the poor should immigrate into a country with higher-paying jobs, Burnette said, "I didn't think he had a lot of depth in his analysis of poverty. Does the fact that some countries are rich mean that everyone in those countries can get rich?"

Caplan also claimed that one way to evade poverty is simply to get a job. He said, "Work full-time, even if the best job you can get isn't fun." Caplan pointed to low unemployment rates in the United States, arguing that those in poverty can get a job if they have the sheer willpower.

Dr. Burnette, simply was not convinced by his claim. She said, "He didn't ask, 'Well why aren't you employed?' The assumption was that you could be employed if you wanted to -- and it had nothing to do with the opportunities available."

Caplan was asked how historical colonization plays a role in his argument of blame. Caplan challenged the premise of the question. While he

agreed that stealing would warrant repayment, he attempted to explain why colonization should not be equated to theft. He said, "That [argument] would require that you actually go and look at what happened under colonization. It wasn't actually a looting expedition." He claimed that colonizers actually lost resources – colonization was not the profit scheme they were searching for over the years. So, to Caplan, colonization was not responsible for global poverty.

Caplan admitted that he expected pushback on his conclusions, acknowledging that his argument may come off as victim-blaming. However, he attempted to distance himself from those attacks, saying, "Think long and hard about who the victim is." He provided a hypothetical, in which a poor father purchased alcohol instead of mosquito nets for his children. Caplan argued that the father should not be considered a victim, but a victimizer. As Caplan expected, several in the audience challenged his argument – and attempted defense – as blaming the victim.

Caplan is an anarcho-capitalist, a right-wing form of anarchism that relies on private property and the abolition of the state. On his website, under "Anarchist FAQ," Caplan explains how such an anarcho-capitalist state could be achieved in the United States. "Anarcho-capitalists generally see every reduction in government power and activity as a step in the right direction. In consequence, they usually support any measure to deregulate, repeal laws, and cut taxation and spending (naturally with the caveat that the cuts do not go nearly far enough). Similarly, they can only hail the spread of the underground economy or "black market," tax evasion, and other acts of defiance against unjust laws."

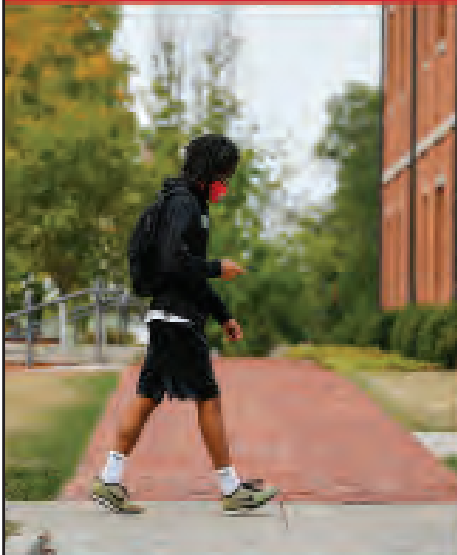

According to Dr. Burnette, anarcho-capitalism is an outlier ideology. "It's pretty fringe. Even the most free-marketeers think you need some government in order to provide laws and the rules of the game." Yet Caplan argues otherwise. These anarcho-capitalist beliefs help to explain some of Caplan's more extreme comments from Tuesday. During the lunch talk, he said, "Government firms are bad – this is science."

Caplan's arguments engaged professors and students in the audience, prompting a discussion of the root causes of poverty. And the answer to such discussion – whether government policies, the poor themselves, or structural racism – inevitably shapes our understanding of what it means to lead effectively and live humanely.

IAWM

The Indianapolis Association of Wabash Men

Wabash Always Fights COVID-19!

IndyWabash.org
@IndyWabash

The **Wabash College Republicans** stand united against racism and homophobia. There is absolutely no room for prejudice in our world. As torchbearers of small government and individual freedoms, young conservatives know that we must always be welcoming of all individuals.

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The purpose of *The Bachelor* is to serve the school audience, including but not limited to administrators, faculty and staff, parents, alumni, community members and most importantly, the students. Because this is a school paper, the content and character within will cater to the student body's interests, ideas, and issues. Further, this publication will serve as a medium and forum for student opinions and ideas. Although an individual newspaper, the Board of Publications publishes *The Bachelor*. *The Bachelor* and BOP receive funding from the Wabash College Student Senate, which derives its funds from the Wabash College student body.

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Wabash College Professors Receive \$600,000 NSF Grant



COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Dr. Laura Wysocki and Dr. Sara Drury are pictured giving respective lectures. The grant will allow opportunities for students to be involved, through the WDPD, Chemistry, or summer internships.

KIHYUN KIM '24 | STAFF WRITER

• “I am very humbled to have the opportunity to work on this grant,” Sara Drury, an Associate Professor of Rhetoric, said. “It is very humbling because it is such an incredible opportunity.” Laura Wysocki, an Associate Professor of Chemistry, also made similar remarks. “We have had a lot of good resources, we’ve had some good ideas, we’ve had some good expertise weigh in on this. And I think that was convincing to NSF. But it’s still one of those, sort of, maybe once in a career moments. We’ve just been really excited.”

In late September, the news that a team of researchers, including Sara Drury and Laura Wysocki, faculty members of Wabash College, won a roughly \$600,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) arrived in Crawfordsville. They will conduct research on ‘Developing Deliberative Pedagogy for Use in Chemistry Classrooms’ for the next few years. According to Wysocki, the motivation of this research is to find a way to facilitate communication between scientists and the public. Through this research, researchers will apply deliberative pedagogy in chemistry classes through facilitated discussion that makes students deal with real-world issues. There are multiple goals for this research. “One goal is to learn more about using deliberation in the classroom,” Drury said. Researchers want to know how deliberation helps students learn or express their ideas. Also, inviting students to be a part of finding approaches and managing real-world problems is another goal.

National Science Foundation, also known as NSF, is the institution that supports Drury and Wysocki’s research. Drury and Wysocki’s research is very interdisciplinary. Science plays an important role in this research, but it is obvious that rhetoric also plays a crucial role. Fortunately, the National Science Foundation has a place for this type of interdisciplinary work. Although several Wabash College faculty members have gotten support from NSF, it is really competitive to get the grant from NSF. “In order to award a grant, you typically have to be rejected several times beforehand,” Wysocki said. “So, Dr. Drury and I are very lucky.” This is not the first time they got a grant from the NSF. They conducted research about using a deliberation in the chemistry classroom that is supported by NSF.

Wabash College students will get a chance to participate in this research in a variety of ways in the near future. “There are lots of exciting ways to get involved,” Wysocki said. Some students are going to participate in this research in their chemistry classes. For example, researchers are going to have some research being done in the Chemistry 101 course for non-majors. Also, students from the Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse (WDPD) and students majoring in Chemistry are going to consistently stay involved through this research for facilitation of deliberations. There are also a couple of summer internship opportunities available through the research. These internships are part of the grant, and students who get this internship position will do several things, including looking at the results of deliberation.

HI-FIVES

FIVE THINGS WORTHY
OF A HI-FIVE THIS WEEK

THE WHOLE ‘NO PANTS ON ZOOM’ THING HAS GONE TOO FAR

Lo-Five to New Yorker staff writer Jeffery Toobin for accidentally flashing his funny bits during a Zoom meeting last week. Just in case there's any question here: The Bachelor stands firmly opposed to mixing work and worm burping.

BREAKING NEWS: WHITE SOX WIN WORLD SERIES

Hi-Five to the Justice Department for filing an anti-trust suit against Google. Also, congratulations to Kanye West for winning the Grammy award for album of the year for “The College Dropout.” Oh wait, Google's actually being sued and we're not just hi-fiving things that should've happened fifteen years ago?

IS NOTHING SACRED?

Lo-Five to Apple for pulling the Peanuts holiday specials off the air and putting them on their streaming services. Look, if for whatever reason you weren't quite convinced we live in a dystopia, this should send you over the edge.

BARON-COHEN FOR PULITZER?

Hi-Five to Borat for continuing his reputation of journalistic excellence and breaking the most obvious news story of the last decade: Gulianni is a confirmed creep.

IN WHAT UNIVERSE IS THAT A GOOD GAME PLAN?

Hi-Five to email listservs for being the most effective way of outting homophobes. They're basically ant traps for bigotry.

SPORTS

Strike It! Throw It! Boot It!



BENJAMIN HIGH '22 / PHOTO

The Wabash Strike It! Throw It! Boot It! competition took place last Friday, October 16. Participants competed at Mud Hollow Stadium for the top combined score between punting, place kicking, and passing.



BENJAMIN HIGH '22 / PHOTO

Derek O'Connor '21, Clayton McPeck '24, and Solomon Davis '22 were the top-three finishers. The top eight will compete in the championship round next Friday, October 30 at 4:45 p.m.



BENJAMIN HIGH '22 / PHOTO

Students were able to view the event, making this the first athletic event to hold fans this semester. Food trucks were also available for students to partake in.