13 December 2003

Dear Classmates:

First of all, Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for a New Year to you and all of your family.

Wabash News

• Wabash College remained in the top tier in U.S. News & World Report’s annual rankings, marking the third straight year Wabash has been ranked among the top 50 national liberal arts colleges. Wabash ranked 50th in this year’s U.S. News & World Report College Guide and is one of two Indiana colleges ranked in the top tier.

• Wabash also shines brightly in this year’s Princeton Review’s Best 351 Colleges rankings, earning top-20 rankings in seven categories. The Princeton Review rankings are based on student survey responses from more than 125,000 college students nationwide.

• September 19 and 20 were two busy days on the Wabash Campus. It all began Friday afternoon with a luncheon and ribbon cutting ceremony to start the events surrounding the dedication of the new science building. The afternoon continued with more events tied to the dedication culminating in a Chapel convocation awarding honorary degrees to Charles A. Miller ’49, Stephen H. Randak ’67, and Thomas M. Roberts ’70. Read full stories about the dedication events at http://www.wabash.edu/news/showstory.cfm?news_ID=434 and http://www.wabash.edu/news/showstory.cfm?news_ID=435.

On a personal note, I had occasion to be back at Wabash on September 19th and 20th. It was a great (but short) weekend. I ran into Dr. John Fischer at the end of our class agent meetings on Friday and he encouraged me to go over to the Chapel convocation ceremony mentioned above. It was a wonderful event, and a good reminder about what a great job Wabash does in training young men to become leaders in their fields. If you have a moment, go to the stories referenced above and read about these three alums.

I also had a chance to go through the new science building, the new Malcolm X Institute, the new Trippet Hall that accommodates the Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts, the Admissions Office and Financial Aid Office. All of these buildings are well designed and beautifully executed. I was very proud to be associated with a college that is clearly doing a good job in planning and building for its future. It was also a bit unnerving to see Goodrich Hall completely gutted. However, in time, it will be completed modernized - brand new on the inside and looking like its old self on the outside.

I also had a chance to go through the new Sigma Chi house. Very nice. The old Sigma Chi house is being used as “swing space” as other housing facilities undergo renovation.

• The Bell returned home to Crawfordsville for the third straight year as the Little Giants beat DePauw 37-20.
Fraternity Partnerships. Three houses (Beta Theta Pi, Lambda Chi Alpha, and Sigma Chi) have now completed construction and all are continuing their fundraising efforts. I probably have not communicated this fact very effectively: the current capital campaign which ends June 30, 2004, includes these Fraternity Partnerships. Translation: you can give to these fraternity partnership fundraising efforts and have those contributions counted toward the capital campaign.

Here are where the other houses are in the process.

**Phi Delta Theta** is exploring building a new house on the same site where they are currently located with a capacity of fifty-two men. Mark Dill ’75, Scott Smalstig ’88 and Hugh Vandivier ’91 are coordinating fund-raising efforts. Bill Leppert ’94 and King Lumpkin ’88 are co-chairing the facility committee. **Project cost: Estimate $3.9M.**

At the **Phi Gamma Delta** House Corporation meeting on September 13, 2003 it was decided to build a new house on the two lots south of the existing chapter house. The Phi Gams will remain in the old house while the new one is built, and will then let the College use the old house as “swing space” for the other fraternities as they renovate or build new. John Keith ’91, Craig Green ’59 and Randy Berta ’76 chair the fund-raising committee. Greg Miller ’83 is working with Jim Riddle ’86 on the facility committee. **Project cost: Estimate $4.1M.**

The **Phi Kappa Psi** project will be a renovation of the existing facility and there will not be an addition to the house. No date has been set for the start of construction. Larry Landis ’67 and Terry Hamilton ’89 chair the fund-raising committee. Joe Klen ’97 and Dick Regnier ’51 chair the facilities committee. **Project cost: Estimate $2.3M.**

**Kappa Sigma** hopes to renovate their existing chapter house. The preliminary schematic designs are complete, and the Kappa Sigs met with the Facility Subcommittee on August 20, 2003 to disclose their renovation plans. Their fundraising plan is currently being developed. Mark Maddox ’83 chairs the fund-raising committee and Wes Zirkle ’98 chairs the facility committee. **Project cost: Estimate $4.0M.**

**Delta Tau Delta** has prepared a Program Document and selected architects. On November 5, the Delts and the architects presented their first set of schematic designs to the Facility Subcommittee of the Ad Hoc Committee on Fraternity Partnerships. They were to have completed their fund-raising plan by December 1, 2003. Chris Baker ’74, Don Caplinger ’57, Jim Dimos ’83 and Steve Hoffman ’85 are coordinating the facility and fundraising committees. **Project cost: TBD.**

**Tau Kappa Epsilon** was advised this fall that they should consider building a new house with a smaller capacity. On October 28 the Tekes interviewed three architectural firms and are in the process of selecting one of the three firms. Brad Johnson ’71, Jon Pactor ’71 and Ken Schild ’66 will lead the Tekes’ effort as they explore building a new chapter house. **Project cost: TBD.**

**Class News**

Close to 43% of the freshmen rung in this fall by President Ford were referred by an alumnus of the College. This is truly a remarkable statistic setting Wabash alumni apart from any other school. Our own classmates have been involved in making referrals for this year’s applicant pool. Brian Bowerman and Michael Leagre have each made a referral. Mark McGrady has made five referrals (great work, Mark!)

You, too, can make referrals. Please send us the contact information of any young man you would like Wabash to contact. It is not imperative that you have a close relationship with a young man in order to refer him. Simply gather his name, address, high school, phone number and class year, and send it to the college. The prospective student will receive a letter from the Dean of Admissions and begin receiving
mail from the College. Refer a young man to Wabash today at [www.wabash.edu/alumni/referform.shtm](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/referform.shtm), or call 800-345-5385, or send a note to P.O. Box 352, Crawfordsville IN 47933.

- Honorary 1981 Class Member (and Head Librarian) Larry Frye gets the award for the most frequent giving. Larry writes out a check monthly to Wabash. Larry writes: "I should give back to this college that I love and has been so good to me." Thanks Larry for choosing to be part of the Class of 1981.

- I heard from Pete Klovanish recently. "I have been married to my beloved wife, Shelly, for almost 22 years. We have two children, Joelle, who is 20 and Kyle who is 18." Pete wrote more, but made me swear I wouldn't pass it on verbatim. Not that anything was bad - it was all very good. Pete's just a bit shy, I guess. (I bet this gets me in trouble, doesn't it Pete?)

- Kevin Trewartha has a new address: 1605 Cricklewood Way, Zionsville, IN 46077. You can reach Kevin at ktrewartha@ameritech.net.

- Keep personal notes coming to me and to the Wabash Magazine. Let me hear from you at spavy@vom.com. Let me know what is happening to you and your family. And let me know what you want passed on to classmates and what you want held back.

**Alumni eServices**

- Wabash’s Alumni Affairs and Advancement offices have a new look...a new website look that is. Take a look for yourself at [http://www.wabash.edu/alumni](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni) or [http://www.wabash.edu/giving](http://www.wabash.edu/giving).

- At our fall Class Agents meeting, a goal was set to try and get every alumnus's current e-mail address. If you haven't taken advantage of one of the greatest tools on the Wabash website, please don’t wait any longer. Login to Alumni eServices at [http://web2.wabash.edu/alumni/secure/login.cfm](http://web2.wabash.edu/alumni/secure/login.cfm) and search the online directory, submit a class note (engagement, marriage, birth of a child, new job, etc.), or update your personal information. If you do not have a username and password, send an email to alumni@wabash.edu or contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 765-361-6369.

**Financial Update**

- The Class of 1981 finished fiscal year 2003 (ended June 30th) with a total of 77 alumni giving a total of $31,807 for a 37% giving rate. We ended below the target giving rate that the College had set for us for FY 2003. 😞 Thanks to all who did contribute. Please consider increasing your gift this year and before the campaign ends. For all of those who did not contribute: come on, guys - we can do better than this.

- Reminder: make a gift before December 31 to take advantage of tax deductions. For Indiana residents, keep in mind that you get a state tax CREDIT for 50% of your gift up to $200 if filing jointly. Also, don't forget to check if you qualify for any company sponsored matching gift program.

- With just over 7 months left in the Campaign for Leadership, the total raised so far has risen above the $123 million mark leaving approximately $9 million to reach the goal. You have until June 30, 2004 to make a contribution to the GWF for FY 2004 and to the capital campaign.

- GWF..... It's About Students!

There is no better way to support our students than with a gift to the GWF. Among other things, the GWF:

- Provides students with generous financial aid and scholarship packages;
- Enables us to recruit the best and brightest young men;
• Offers students opportunities to join dozens of clubs, a half-dozen musical ensembles, and 10 intercollegiate sports teams;
• Allows the College to recruit and retain excellent faculty; and
• Assists students with round-the-world study experiences.

Please consider making a gift to the GWF now. Remember, It’s About Students!

One final reminder: here are the Wabash Giving Societies (all gifts $100 or larger qualify for membership in the Greater Wabash Foundation):

Little Giant Club $100-$249
Scarlet Flag Club $250-$499
Old Wabash Club $500-$999
Caleb Mills Circle $1,000-$2,499
Byron K. Trippet Circle $2,500-$4,999
Elihu W. Baldwin Circle $5,000-$9,999
Frank H. Sparks Circle $10,000-$24,999
Edmund O. Hovey Circle $25,000+

Take care, and hope to hear from you. Yours in Wabash,

Stephen