June 2005

Dear Classmates:

I hope this letter finds all of you in good health and enjoying the prospects of summer, barbecues, swimming pools and vacations. Jim, John and I have found that life has each of us going full force and our schedules sometimes keeps us from our duties as Class Agents. Therefore I have numerous news items to report to you both for the Class of 1984 and for the College.

The big news has probably already reached your doorstep. On May 14th the Board of Trustees accepted President Andy Ford’s request to resign as President of Wabash College effective after the 2005-2006 school year. After that, he will actually be on sabbatical from Wabash while the new president and the Board think of ways that Andy can continue to be associated with Wabash in some way. You can read a full story at www.wabash.edu/news/. The College, students, faculty and alumni can all consider themselves benefactors of Andy’s tenure as President. The campus has undergone an amazing renaissance, and we have seen accomplishments in capital fundraising, alumni participation, faculty development and many other areas. On behalf of the Class of 1984, we give hearty thanks for everything, President Andy---you are some Little Giant!

The Class of 84 is also going through some changes. John Ohmer has elected to resign his position as Class Agent, and has just begun a sabbatical from his position as Priest with St. James East in Leesburg, Virginia. During his sabbatical, John is looking forward to spending time here and elsewhere on research and renewal, and we all wish him the very best in his endeavors. John brought some renewed energy and vigor into our Class and Jim and I very much value and appreciate what he was willing to do. Jim and I also continue to believe that the Class of 1984 is best served with three class agents, so watch your emails and mailboxes for another announcement very soon.

I don’t have much in the way to report on updates from classmates, but I do have a few items. The man about town in Indianapolis these days appears to be Jeff Scripture. Jeff is a partner with the reputable law firm of Harrison & Moberly, LLP, but has more recently been active outside the firm. Jeff was just elected chairman Board of Directors of Carmel-Clay Chamber of Commerce, and is very active with the Board of Directors of the Indiana Builders Association and the Builders Association of Greater Indianapolis.

How many of you caught our very own Tim Padgett on The O’Reilly Factor on the Fox Channel about a month ago? Tim did our Class and our Alma Mater proud as he engaged O’Reilly in an analysis of administration of Mexican President Vicente Fox. Tim remains
Miami Bureau Chief for Time Magazine, and has continued to be very supportive of Wabash College. Thanks for what you do, Tim, and continued good luck in Mexico City!

Chris Williams and his wife, Beth, are in the midst of raising two teenagers, Jordan (age 16) and Sarah (age 14), while maintaining active careers. Beth is a school psychologist. Chris spent 19 years with Allison Gas Turbine Division of GM, but in his spare time obtained an MBA degree and then even a law degree! Chris has moved over to Ingersoll-Rand where he is a Senior Contracts Specialist in their Security Technologies Sector. Thanks for staying in touch, Chris.

(For those of you with teenagers—hang in there!! I have a 6 year old and a 1½ year old….having teenagers sounds like an eternity from now for me! You guys with teenagers may be lamenting the woes of parenthood right now, but remember the teen years won’t last forever. You could be in my shoes--I’ll be eligible for distributions from my 401K and using them for college graduation presents!!)

News from the College. Wow—a lot is going on at Wabash. Here is just a taste, and you can find much more on the College website:

- Monmouth College in Monmouth, IL has chosen Mauri Ditzler ’75 to be its 13th President. Mauri will be leaving Wabash after spending six years as Dean of the College, which will be assumed on an interim basis by emeritus religion professor Raymond Williams H’68.

- At the 167th Commencement Ceremony in May, one hundred and sixty-three men were rung out by President Ford and joined the ranks as Wabash alumni.

- A lot is going on in the world of Wabash sports, too. Check out the Wabash sports webpage at www.wabash.edu/sports to catch the latest news on Little Giant athletics.

- The Wabash Admissions Office nears the conclusion of another recruitment year and as of early June they had 256 commitments for the Class of 2009. Looking ahead, alumni play a vital role in telling the College about the great students, the Eagle Scouts, the grandsons, the nephews, the sons of clients or colleagues, and the young man next door. Perhaps he isn't considering Wabash, but Wabash could be the perfect fit. Please introduce him to Wabash College!

You may refer students quickly and easily to Wabash by (a) clicking on http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/alumni/refer, or (b) calling Admissions at 800-345-5385, or (c) sending a note to Steve Klein, Dean of Admissions, at PO Box 352, Crawfordsville, IN 47933.

- If you are looking for some information to share with prospective students, did you know Wabash is:
1. Rated as a top tier National Liberal Arts College by U.S. News & World Report;
2. Ranked in the Princeton Review for the following categories: Best Overall Academic Experience for Undergraduates; Schools Where Their Students Never Stop Studying; Professors Bring Material to Life; Professors Make Themselves Accessible; Best Bargains (ranked 2nd for private schools) and Everyone Plays Intramural Sports (ranked 3rd);
3. One of the 40 colleges and universities featured in Loren Pope’s Colleges That Change Lives;
4. 97% of our faculty hold a Ph.D. or equivalent terminal degree and there are no teaching assistants at Wabash;
5. 50% of our students participate in an off-campus study program;
6. Currently have an 85% acceptance rate into medical school;
7. Currently have a 95% acceptance rate into law school;
8. 1 out of every 8 of our graduates hold the title of CEO, president or chairman;
9. 44% of our students participate in a varsity sport; and
10. 13% of our graduates have earned a Ph.D.

- This is interesting. In the 2005 Student Technology Survey, we learn these things about current Wabash Students. More info is at on the technology web page at www.wabash.edu/technology/:
  - 94.1% of students report that they have their own computer at Wabash.
  - 51.4% of those computers are laptops (this is the first year that the number of laptops exceeded the number of desktops).
  - 94.8% of student computers run Microsoft Windows, 4.7% Apple Macintosh, and 0.5% Linux.
  - 49.5% of students have a digital camera, 40.4% an iPod or other MP3 music player, and 25.2% have a scanner.
  - 98.2% of students check their Wabash email account at least daily (90.3% report several times each day).

- This upcoming September 24, 2005, The National Association of Wabash Men Board of Directors honorary alumnus status will be bestowed upon head basketball coach Mac Petty and retired faculty member Robert Cooley. In addition, Mike Dill ’71, Don Kerner ’62, and Jack Meng ’66 will each be given the Alumni Award of Merit while Dick Daniels ’52 and John Goodrich ’68 will receive the Alumni Admissions Fellow award.

- The inaugural Wabash Day (national day of community service) will be held on the weekend of October 28-29. Wabash Day: Wabash Alumni Benefiting And Serving Humanity; is a specified day (actually a weekend - you choose which day) for Wabash regional associations and other alumni to organize and perform acts of community service under the auspices of the NAWM. Please mark these dates on your calendar and think how you might be able to assist your regional alumni association with this project.

Participate in the Greater Wabash Foundation by June 30th! Thank you to those classmates who have made a gift to the Annual Fund so far this fiscal year. There are still over 1,500 alumni and friends who have yet to renew their gift from last fiscal year to this fiscal year, and several of us are on that list.
If you have yet to make a gift to Wabash this year, then please consider making your gift online today https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/egift or by calling 877-743-4545. TIME IS RUNNING OUT—PLEASE HURRY!

Yours in Wabash,

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