

Class of 1981

Class Agents

Peter Wright

Mike Robak

Alumni and Parent Relations Office

301 W. Wabash Ave.

Crawfordsville, IN 47933

765-361-6360

alumni@wabash.edu

wabash.edu

December 2022

2022 is almost at an end and we hope that it has been a good year for you and your family. We are looking forward to 2023.

The Wabash Fall semester is wrapping up with much good news to share with you.

Many of you recall taking chemistry classes from “Dr. Z,” John Zimmerman. He started teaching at Wabash in 1963, retired in 2004, and still helps with tech in Hays Science Hall and photographing events. So when a group of alumni, including our classmate Bryan Daniels, came together to take a Giant Step and endow a scholarship in his name, Major Gift Officer Susan Dyer devised a plan to surprise such a deserving honoree. Convening some of the donors under the guise of a “Careers in Chemistry Panel,” they asked Dr. Z to photograph the event. Waiting in the wings were his family and President Feller. President Feller began his Wabash career working under Dr. Z’s leadership in the Chemistry Department under him. Thanks to the generosity of Bryan Daniels as well as Russ Bostick ’79, Chris Halkides ’83, Ray Knight ’69, Frank Kolisek ’82, Brad Maxwell ’83, Scott Rathgaber ’84, Tom Roberts ’70, Mark Simmons ’73, and John Van Drie ’74, the Dr. John F. Zimmerman H’67 Fund for Innovative Teaching and Technology starts with \$400,000 in initial gifts and commitments. Alumni and friends benefitting from Dr. Z’s tutelage can add theirs to this Fund and its impact in the classroom. https://giantsteps.wabash.edu/?pagetype=news&news_ID=13014

Graduates in the Class of 2022 have had a lot of good news all of this year. Six months after graduation, 95% of the Class of 2022 have settled into a first destination: employment, graduate school, or service. It marks the sixth consecutive year in which Wabash graduates have claimed their first destinations following graduation at rates among the highest in the nation. Over those six years, Wabash graduates have secured first destinations within six months at a rate of 98.4%, well above the 84.1% Career Outcomes Rate as reported by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, which is the best current measure for national comparison.

<https://www.wabash.edu/news/story/13025>

An outstanding senior, who will graduate in May, recently received some very good news. Cooper Smith, who has already earned a Truman Scholarship and been accepted into Yale Law School just learned that he won a Marshall Scholarship. This Scholarship is one of the most coveted competitive international fellowships. He’s the fifth Wabash student to win one and the first since Thomas Halverson ’87 was selected in 1989. Typically, fewer than 50 Americans receive the award annually, selected from nearly 1,200 nominated students.

<https://www.wabash.edu/news/story/13024>

You can interact virtually with Wabash by checking out Whenever. Wherever. Wabash. Just go to wabash.edu/www/ to explore. You can watch the recent Chapel Talk recording of our classmate and Trustee Chris Braun, challenge yourself to 's a fairly tough campus photo quiz, watch an After the Bell session on poker with Dr. Eric Dunaway or on a talk on running with Dr. Adriel Trott. If you enjoy listening to podcasts there is the Wabash On My Mind podcast. A recent episode features Head Basketball Coach Kyle Brumett, who earlier this year returned the Little Giant basketball team to the Division III final four.

The replacement for Honors Scholars weekend in March, Scarlet Honors Weekend returned on December 2-3 with more than 250 high school seniors and their families attending and 190 prospective students staying overnight. With a change in the financial aid reporting system, Wabash needed to move the time much earlier than March for providing prospective students (and their parents) with financial aid packages. It is great to have had some many students and parents on campus at the beginning of the month.

It would not be an end of the year letter if we did not include information about how to make a donation for those of you who are calendar year donors. If you plan to make a gift before the end of the calendar year, check out these ways you can support Wabash and gain some nice tax benefits: <https://www.wabash.edu/news/story/13017>. Every gift directly supports Wabash students and adds to the momentum of the Giant Steps Campaign. The Honor Roll of those who have donated since the beginning of the Wabash fiscal year (July 1, 2022) is below.

Speaking of Giant Steps, we're less than 200 days to the conclusion of the campaign, which to date has raised over \$237 million from more than 11,225 donors.

Wishing you and yours all the best for the Holiday Season and for a Very Happy New Year.

Peter Wright & Mike Robak
Class Agents for the Class of 1981

Honor Roll

Bryan and Catherine Daniels 1832
Eric and Debbie Faires
Kevin and Lisa Hall
Steve and Sandra Hartenstein
Dan Heiser
Cris and Amy Johnston 1832
Scott and Sally Jones
W. Terry Jones and Susan Hoffman 1832
Chris Keele 1832
James R. Kipp, Jr. and Susan Paul
Mike and Molly Kraus FACP
Mark and Monica Lazar
Mike and Sandra Leagre
David and Lynn Lewis 1832
Jerry Lodder

Rolf Loescher and Donnamarie Darcy-Loescher
Mark and Misty McGrady
Carl and Cheryl Myers O.D.
Jon and Sarah Myers
Bill and Kris Myers
Bill Nesbitt
Kurt and Kathy Rupenthal
Frank and Julie Smaron
Stan and Janet Thompson 1832
Ron and Julia Vogel
Monty and Lisa Woolsey
Peter Wright and Nicki Bauer
Daniel and Kathleen Zajac
Randy and Jo Ellen Zromkoski