



Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1966

Class Agents

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Dear 1966 Classmate:

Welcome to December. It is cold and snowy (have I said cold?) here in Michigan ... so I thought I would pen a class letter to warm my arthritic fingers. OK ... what have the Little Giants been up to? Some bullet points as of this writing:

1. **SPORTS:** Football ended the year 9-1 and in first place in the Conference and nationally ranked #18. Basketball is undefeated at 7-0 and in first place in the conference and is nationally ranked #22 (having defeated then #14 national ranked Wooster in the process.) Wrestling is ranked nationally in #5 slot.
2. **STATUS OF GRADUATING CLASS OF 2018:** 100% of our most recent graduating class (199 graduating in May 2018) report that --- 6 months out of graduation --- **100% have secured their first destination. 100% !!!** On the date of the Wabash graduation in May of 2018, **the number stood at 86%**. (I bolded, italicized, and underlined because this is ... to me ... **AN AMAZING WABASH ACCOMPLISHMENT!**)
 - a. The Wabash breakdown of this 100% is: 148 employed, 44 continuing on to graduate and professional education, and 7 in military service.
 - b. In comparison with the other fine schools in our conference (Denison, Oberlin, Wooster, Ohio Wesleyan, DePauw, Hiram, Allegheny and Witt) the report is that, 6 months after graduation, 74% have secured a first destination. The 6-month National Average is 64%.
3. **WABASH STUDENT BODY:** Presently numbering 900:
 - a. From 33 states and 20 countries.
 - b. 50% participate in varsity sports.
 - c. 10 to 1 student to faculty ratio.
 - d. Average class size is 13.

4. HOW THEY DO THIS AT WABASH: Alumni, ALUMNI, **ALUMNI** support ... coupled with outstanding and accomplishing professors and administration ... coupled with outstanding facilities ... **ALL OF WHICH RESULT IN THE FOLLOWING: Wabash Ranks Nationally**

- a.** # 2 in Alumni Network (#1 last year was Dartmouth and #1 this year is Penn State).
- b.** #6 in Best Career Services.
- c.** #4 in Most Accessible Professors (65% of the undergrads report at least weekly contact with professors outside of class).
- d.** #2 in top internship opportunities (78% of the undergrads have a summer internship.)
- e.** Every Major at Wabash ranks among the top 17% of the nearly 1,400 four-year colleges, with several ranking in the top 1%. (Obviously, with ... OUT ... OUT ... OUT STANDING PROFESSORS at the lead.)
- f.** THUS the results:
 - i.** 84% Med School Acceptance.
 - ii.** 80% Law School Acceptance.
 - iii.** 13 Fulbrights since 2014
 - iv.** 9 Rhodes Scholars. (NOTE: Butler, Purdue, DePauw, Earlham, and Hanover have a total combined of 8 ... total combined)
 - v.** 428 All-American Athletes, 30 Academic All-Americans, 20 NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships.
 - vi.** Fortune 500, Silicon Valley, Hollywood, NFL are homes to Wabash grads.

5. OK ... what does it cost ... REALLY?:

- a.** Tuition is \$43,870 Room & Board \$10,300, Fees \$850 All Totaling: \$55,020. (Estimated additional costs of books: \$1,200 Personal & Travel \$2,350.) A bunch. **But look closer:** 98% of students receive assistance in the form of scholarships or aid so the actual cost number is reduced. And Wabash will work hard to accomplish the goal that the student who qualifies and wants the Wabash opportunity CAN HAVE IT. At Wabash, the "Wabash Plan" is that you graduate in 4 years (not the 5 or 6 or even 7 years ... an inconvenient truth [with all the attendant unreported costs] other schools often fail to reveal as a part of their everyday operation (or non operation as the case may be). At Wabash you GET INTO the classes you need for your career path so you stay on your career path ... not "wait till the needed class becomes available next year" and the added (hidden?) costs that entails.
- b.** Wabash has "partnerships" with Purdue, Columbia, Wash U (all ... Engineering Dual Degree programs); IU Kelly School of Business; IU McKinney Law School; IU Maurer School of Law; University of Notre Dame College of Business.

6. **So ... sign you up?** Wabash needs to have you “sign up” to help in every way you can.
- a. **Help recruit students.** Send Admissions (phone, or email) names of students you know during your daily life who might fit into Wabash. Whatever you may know about them ... high school, personal info, where they are looking, whatever. Wabash will do the rest. Send your student recruit a copy of this class letter, if you want to. As a parent, I would love to know the information contained here as opposed to what someone somewhere might be “just sayin” about Wabash.
 - b. **Help with financial contributions** to the Annual Fund **or do more** if you are interested and able. Remember, lots of us were able to become Wabash Men through the generosity of our predecessors. Pass it on.
 - c. **PERSONAL EXPERIENCE ... which I suspect you also have:** I know I was one of those financial aid recipients ... and able to come to Wabash because of it. That financial aid was available BECAUSE SOMEONE BEFORE ME CARED. I also learned of Wabash from a hometown alumnus and also from the Head of the Wabash English Department (whose mother in law lived next door to my parents and took the time to stop over and discuss Wabash with my father and with me). Both the alumnus and the Professor were responsible for my interest and follow through. **YOU CAN AND DO HAVE THE IMPACT OF A TELEGRAM** (man ... that dates me).

SO ... have a Merry Christmas and a Great 2019!!! Come back and visit the College. This positively impacts students, faculty, and administration; ... and it is fun. Watch the Wabash sports teams perform on your computer ... Wabash broadcasts them on its web site, just go to the SPORTS site. Come back for the Big Bash the first of June. If I can, I just drive down for Saturday ... about 5-hour drive from where I live in Michigan. Seems like a long way ... but I am always glad I came and dropped in. Come back for a football weekend. AND ... newsflash ... while I have not yet experienced it and don't know the extent or hours or offerings, I understand Wabash now has a pub/social center located in the Sparks Center. Students do not have to leave campus (a good thing).

OOOOOoooo WWWWWaaaaa WWWWWaaaaaaa!!

Jay