

Class of 1969

Class Agent
Ken Crawford

December 1, 2020

Alumni and Parent Relations Office
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Gentlemen of the Class of 69,

This year has gone by all too quickly and my letter to you is long overdue. My apologies for not writing to you sooner. It has been a tough year for everyone with the pandemic, but wherever you are I sincerely hope you and your family are doing well and staying safe. Things will get better.



As like all schools, Wabash College has had to confront major hurdles with the COVID virus. After suspending in-person classes following spring semester break students did remote learning from home. It was a real challenge for the faculty to develop remote learning lessons but the students and faculty adapted well and completed the spring semester on schedule.

The Wabash 182nd commencement on 17 May was done virtually with all 178 graduating students at home. This was President Hess's last graduating class. He left Wabash mid-June for his new position as CEO of IES Abroad in Chicago. On 1 July Scott Feller became Wabash College's 17th President, having served as Dean of the College since 2014, and Professor of Chemistry since 1998. Dr. Feller is the first Wabash President to rise directly from the ranks of the faculty and administration since Byron K. Trippet, the College's ninth president, who served from 1956 to 1965.

The new President faced a complex set of issues to deal with the COVID virus and to provide in-person teaching on campus this fall. A Healthy Campus Task force was set up in July, led by Prof. Ann Taylor, consisting of the Academic Policy Committee, the COVID Response Team, a Virtual Events Taskforce, and others to provide safe on campus residence and in-class teaching. In August the student pre-arrival

testing had a positivity rate of 2.6%. The semester averaged a 1.6% positivity rate for asymptomatic students. For a random sample of 100 students the last week in October the positivity rate was 0.9%. For positive students isolation and contact tracing kept rates low. The entire College COVID response effort was like a large science project, with students, faculty, and staff all working closely together for a safe environment and to maintain a low transmission rate. Their efforts were successful.

To quote the words of President Feller: *“Wabash has had an incredibly successful fall semester thus far, and we have remained in residence due to the vigilance and cooperation of the entire community. We know it has not been easy, but we have enjoyed the benefits of residential education while at a safe physical distance and in masks. We are grateful to have students, staff, and faculty committed to the discipline and sacrifices required to maintain operations on our campus”...*

For the way forward the College will review experiences with staff and faculty across campus, compile a report on lessons learned, update mitigation tactics, and make procedural changes for the spring semester. The Healthy Campus Task Force will continue to investigate ways to improve and streamline COVID operations and to provide a safe learning environment for students.

Class of 2024 The fall semester began 9 August with President Feller ringing in 255 freshmen who hailed from 23 states and 8 countries, with an average GPA of 3.75. Chapel Sing for “Old Wabash” was held 8 September on the mall with everyone well separated. Lambda Chi Alpha won the chapel sing. The freshman class is a remarkable group of young men. We wish them well in their academic journey through Wabash over the next four years. The total student enrollment for Wabash this fall semester was 868, one more than the 867 last fall. The Registrar census on 26 August indicated 247 freshmen.

Wabash Sports In a news release 13 July 20, Wabash College placed 68 students competing in varsity athletics for the Little Giants on the 2019-2020 North Coast Athletic Conference Academic Honor Roll. As you have heard the North Coast Atlantic Conference cancelled all fall sports through the end of December 2020, and thus no football, soccer, cross country, basketball, or wrestling. This means DePauw will keep the Monon Bell for another year, with no game this fall. Wabash was able to conduct some virtual swim meets this fall with other schools.

The major addition this year to our Wabash campus is completion of the new stadium with a new football field and track. The stadium is truly a grand and beautiful structure. The stadium provides Wabash with a first-rate NCAA Division III facility for Wabash student-athletes and their football, track and field teams, as well as for Wabash fans and the surrounding community. Depending on NCAC policy and Wabash conditions in the spring semester some track and field events may take place in the new facility. Wabash has no clear picture yet on spring sports. Much will depend on a process for rapid COVID testing and control of transmission rates.



Dean Moore Scholarship As in past years our Dean Moore Scholarship has again been awarded this fall to students of need. Four students, one in each of the four classes, received our scholarship. We do not yet have information on the amount awarded nor the value of our Dean Moore Scholarship Fund as of 1 July 2020. We should have that information in January. The names of our four recipients this year are : Lukios Stefan '21, Cody Snook '22, Joseph Mullin '23, Avery Beaver '24. This is Stefan's third year for our DM Scholarship, and Mullin's second year.

Last year there were also four recipients for our Dean Moore Scholarship. Letters were received in the spring from three of the four recipients and are attached to this class letter. Our Dean Moore Scholarship continues to impact Wabash students of need. We extend a very special thank you to all who have given and continue to give to our Dean Moore Scholarship Fund.

Class News We received word that John C. and Diane Schroeder were recently honored by Evansville Rotary as Civic Award recipients as a husband and wife team for their many years of community service. We congratulate John and Diane for their outstanding award.

On a sadder note I need to inform you we have lost two of our classmates in the past several months. John Trefz, Phi Gamma Delta, passed away October 25, in the San Francisco General Hospital, following a head injury from a fall.

Phillip Lee Allen, 73, Independent, passed away at his home in South Bend, IN, on October 30, after a long struggle with Parkinson's. We last saw Phil at our 45th reunion in 2014. Phil rewrote Wabash and Little State record books in track. Phil still holds the Wabash records in the 100 and 220 yard sprints and the 440 relay, and the equivalent 100m, 200m, and 400m relay records. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa. He is a member of the Wabash College Athletic Hall of Fame and was honored in 2014 when Wabash named the Phil Allen Freshman Newcomer of the Year Award to be given annually. **Some Little Giant!**

We will miss Phil and John and our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

Annual Giving The generous philanthropy of the Class of 69 continues to be remarkable. We set new records on the Wabash Day of Giving in April, and finished the 2019-20 fiscal year with 77 class donors. On behalf of David Pancost, Jack Brown, our unit representatives, and myself, we sincerely thank all of you who gave to Wabash this past year. Your continued thoughts for Wabash and your generosity go far to help Wabash College and the fine young men working hard for a liberal arts degree.

As we near the end of the year and you have not yet given to Wabash I encourage you to consider a gift to the College to take advantage of the 2020 tax deduction. As always you may give at www.wabash.edu/give, call 877-743-4545, or mail a check to Wabash College-Annual Fund, 301 W Wabash Ave, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Any gift, small or large, is more than appreciated and goes a long way to helping the students at Wabash.

Spring Semester The senior leadership team, Healthy Campus Task Force, and Academic Policy Committee are continuing to examine how to best approach the spring semester. Wabash will delay the start of the spring semester by one week. Seniors return to campus 18 Jan for comprehensive exams. Classes begin 25 Jan, ending 4 May. With no spring break three scheduled off days are scattered across the semester. Commencement for the classes of 2020 and 2021 remains scheduled for May 16. **Big Bash** is scheduled on campus 4-6 June 2021.

In summary we need to pause a moment to commend Wabash College, President Feller, the Healthy Campus Task Force, faculty, staff, and the students for their outstanding work to provide exceptional in-residence learning and controlling the COVID virus on campus. They got it right!

November 21, 2020 marks the 188th anniversary of Wabash College. Happy Birthday Wabash!!...

I hope all had a safe and Happy Thanksgiving. December will pass quickly and the Holiday Season is with us all too soon. I sincerely want to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, a Happy Kwanzaa, and a very Happy New Year, with best wishes for a healthy, happy, and successful 2021.

Keep **Wabash** on your mind! ...and stay Safe!!..

Thank You!!! ..for all You do for **Wabash College**!

WABASH ALWAYS FIGHTS!!!

My **Best Happy Holiday Wishes** to all,

Ken

W69

ps...in the future I will try to write you more oftenmaybe with letters a bit shorter...

Joseph R. Mullin
Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, Room 217
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

February 20, 2020

Mr. Kenneth C. Crawford
1273 S. Barnes Drive
Bloomington IN 47401-8632

Dear Mr. Crawford,

My name is Joseph Mullin, I am currently a freshman attending Wabash College and I hope that this letter finds you doing well. I am originally from Greenwood, Indiana and I am a graduate of Roncalli High School. I currently play for the Wabash football team as an offensive lineman, and I am a member of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity here at Wabash. When I came to Wabash, I did so in hopes of receiving a phenomenal education, taking part in the historic traditions that the college has to offer, and build on the tightly connected relationships that derive from the Wabash brotherhood. I plan to study English and Religion during my academic career here at school and ultimately intend to make the most of the abundant resources that have been graciously provided to me by the college.

I would like to thank you for your generosity and sacrifice through the means of your donation to the Class of 1969 Dean Moore Scholarship fund. Truly, no words can describe to the full extent how thankful I am for being the beneficiary of your donation. Because of your contributions, I have been afforded the ability to not only attend Wabash but to learn, and grow at Wabash. Through your gift, I am inspired to continue to pursue excellence during my remaining academic career, and into the rest of my life in hopes that I will one day, like you, give back to this prestigious institution.

Thank you again for supporting Wabash.

Sincerely,

Joseph R. Mullin '23

Andrew Denning
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February 17, 2020

Mr. Kenneth C. Crawford
1273 S. Barnes Drive
Bloomington IN 47401-8632

Dear Mr. Crawford:

Hello! My name is Andrew, and I am a second-semester senior at Wabash college. At this point, I have found out that I passed comps and can take a sigh of relief. I don't believe we have met each other, or traded emails, so I'll tell you a little bit about myself. I am originally from Indianapolis, IN, and I went to Perry Meridian High School. I came to Wabash to play tennis, but after three years on varsity, the team dwindled away, and we got a new coach. Nevertheless, I am working an internship for the company I will work for after college, so things are awesome!

I wanted to write to you today to thank you for the scholarship this semester. This money goes a very long way to helping me complete my education. Also, it makes it easier to go back if I want to. Currently, I am finishing up my last semester, and I could not have done it without support, such as this scholarship. I said it once, and I'll say it again, thank you so much! God Bless

Sincerely,

Andrew Denning

February 21, 2020

Mr. Kenneth C. Crawford
1273 S. Barnes Drive
Bloomington IN 47401-8632

Dear Mr. Crawford,

Thank you for your generous scholarship that sustains my education at Wabash College. I wanted to briefly introduce myself and to explain how you have significantly impacted my life.

On March 1st, 1999, I was born in a small suburb of La Canada, California, as the second youngest of four children. From preschool to tenth grade, my father educated me through a rigorous curriculum of homeschooling for a classical, Christian education. Following intense days of studying ancient Latin, mathematics, history, and science, I excelled in water polo, where for ten years, I thrived as a sprinter and offensive attacker. Junior year, I enrolled in La Canada High School to adjust socially and academically to regular schooling and to compete in a competitive water polo arena. Both years, I served as captain for varsity water polo and men's swim team.

Three years ago, I embarked on my collegiate journey at Wabash College, where I will double major in Philosophy and Classical Civilizations. Fortunately, I have been able to serve as my fraternity treasurer at Delta Tau Delta, tutor fellow students in argumentative writing, and casually enjoy club rugby and tennis. Furthermore, the Classical Civilizations department unlocked my enthusiasm for international travel through an immersion trip, where I explored the origins of Mediterranean religion in Greece. However, my ultimate goal is to attend law school to pursue my interest in forming political and legislative policy. Although my education has always been slightly peculiar, I am continuously grateful for my numerous opportunities to excel, and I anticipate more fruitful experiences to come.

Again, your generosity has greatly impacted my life and allowed me to explore academic and professional opportunities rarely afforded to the typical undergraduate. Thus, your service has continued the mission for maintaining the Wabash tradition and serves as an exemplary model of kindness.

Thank you!

With warm regards,
Lukios Stefan, Class of 2021