



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1969

Class Agent

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Our 50th Reunion: 31 May - 2 June 2019

Gentlemen of the Class of 69,

Where has time gone? Big Bash 2018 has just completed, the 179th Wabash graduation took place on a beautiful Mother's Day on Sunday, 13 May, and the campus has settled into its quiet summer solitude awaiting the first class bell (rung 186 years ago!) on 23 August. I wanted to get this letter to you in April, but as always, I delayed, and we are now well into June. Here are a few thoughts and notes I would like to share with you.

Class of 69 50th Reunion: We are now on a timeline to begin thinking about and preparing for our 50th reunion next June, less than 12 months away. Therefore, I have volunteered to step aside as class agent (for a while...) and fill in as your reunion chair to get things rolling. As your class agent I never did that much anyway. Since I was your reunion chair for our 40th and 45th reunions I would like to fill the role for our 50th (at least initially). If someone would like to be our co-reunion chair, please email me. My first task is to form a reunion committee which will be responsible for identifying reunion tasks and timelines and keeping progress on track. If you would like to be on the committee please let me know. Dave Pancost is our gift chair. Dave Sadler has volunteered to organize our chapel sing. We will win!

We need to decide if we want to do a memory book (College pays the printing costs) and then have someone compile and edit the book. I have the book and work binder from the Class of '61 to help us get started. It will take some work but a class memory book is worth the effort.

The goal of our reunion is to have as many classmates as possible to return to Wabash next June. Our unit representatives will be our major communication link to fraternity brothers and independents. In the coming weeks I will be working with our unit representatives to begin contacting individuals. Please be sure your contact data with Wabash is up to date.

Be sure to SAVE the DATES for our 50th Reunion: 31 May – 2 June 2019

Wabash College Highlights:

The 179th Wabash College graduation took place on a beautiful (but warm) Sunday on 13 May, with 199 gentlemen receiving their hard-earned sheep skins. The Class of 2018 is truly amazing. By early June 88% had secured a final destination with 122 employed, 7 going into the military, and 41 in continuing education: 4 law, 13 medical, 3 PhD, 3 engineering, and 18 in a graduate program.

Wabash Day of Giving: As you have heard the 4.18 Day of Giving was a success, with over 5,100 gifts from 3,700 donors for \$1.020 million, a new record. There were 81 affinity challenges. The Class of '69 had two: One for the Kappa Sigs and one for our Dean Moore Scholarship. Both did well. The Dean Moore challenge had 74 gifts for \$27,145. We had a gift matching pledge pool from eleven donors and were able to match the 74 gifts with an additional \$16,400, bringing a total of \$43,545 into our Dean Moore Scholarship fund. It was a good day! I wish to thank all who gave on 4.18 to the College and to our two affinity challenges.

The one gift to our Dean Moore fund, which I thought is special, was the \$5 given by senior Azlan Munir. He graduated cum laude with a major in mathematics and a minor in computer science. During his senior year he petitioned the College to have computer science as a major, currently only a minor. The math department is all in, but there is some opposition from Div II, saying it is not liberal arts. In fact, computer science is a mathematical tool having wide applications in all three Divisions. The Curriculum Committee will consider a major for computer science this fall. It was a good effort by Azlan. His home is Lahore, Pakistan. Azlan is this year's recipient of our Dear Moore Scholarship. I was able to meet and talk with him (picture). He is greatly appreciative of our scholarship and thanks the members of the Class of '69 who made the scholarship possible. He said he would not have been able to finish Wabash without the scholarship. He is now employed by Charles Schwab in Denver.

Outstanding Graduate: Upon a request from Roland Morin, Director of Professional Development, I worked this spring with another senior, Jody Cochran (picture), Beta Theta Pi, who is interested in aviation. I was able to share with him my work experience with the Air Force and NASA and advancements in aviation. Jody graduated magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, with a major in physics, and was winner of the Hugh Sparks Award. He was also a pitcher on the baseball team, pitching two winning games in the NCAA Div III regional playoffs, after winning the NACA championship against Wooster. Wabash had an outstanding baseball team this year. He applied to a number of schools in aeronautical engineering and ended up receiving a PhD scholarship in mechanical and aeronautical engineering at Notre Dame. He begins his 5-year PhD program in August. We wish him well with his future in aviation! Some Little Giant!

It is interesting to note Wabash is producing many outstanding graduates. This is made possible, in part, by your donations and gifts and all you do for the College. Over the years the Class of '69, with its generous philanthropy, has played an important role in making the College what it is today in educating young men in the liberal arts and preparing them to deal with the challenges of an increasingly complex world.

Big Bash 2018: The Class of 1968 returned with 80 classmates, tying last year's record, and managed to win a majority of the awards, including the 1928 Attendance Award, the 1909 Trophy Cup, the Robinson-Reagan Award for Chapel Sing, and the Edmund O. Hovey Award for giving. Class Agents Jim Roper '68 and Jim Millikin '68 were awarded the Dorman Hughes award for outstanding class agents. The Class of '68 gave the College a gift of \$10.677 million.

At the conclusion of Big Bash 2018, President Gregory Hess reminded the remaining reunion attendees of three gifts the College gave them: 1. an exceptional, student-focused liberal arts education, 2. outstanding teacher scholars in the classroom, and 3. the gift of each other - the friends and family made at Wabash. Hess promised to continue to make Wabash a leader and pioneer in providing a timeless education in the liberal arts and timely opportunities for students

and alumni to flourish in the world around them. President Hess is fond of reminding all alumni Wabash College is their home, and are always welcome at any time back on campus.

Wabash Fall Schedule: There many great events and games this fall at the College. If you are within reasonable driving distance, or flying over, I encourage you to come back to Wabash. Homecoming and the 125th Monon Bell Classic are two games worth seeing!

Freshman Saturday - 18 August (285 deposits received – hopefully they all show up!)

Classes start – 23 August

First home football game – 8 September Wabash vs Wisconsin Stevens-Point

Homecoming - 29 September Wabash vs Wooster

Entrepreneurship Summit – 22 October Focus on Start Ups

Wabash Day – Saturday and Sunday, 6-7 October

125th Monon Bell Classic – 10 November at Wabash. Will be a great game!

Class News: At the 179th graduation ceremony our classmate John Schroeder received an honorary degree in Doctor of Humanities for his lifelong achievements in his career and for his work and dedication to the College. We congratulate John for his outstanding achievement.

Harry Hanson announced his retirement at the end of 2017, after 45 plus years, from his law firm, saying it was hard to leave. He was awarded the 2017 “Partner in Progress” award for work on economic development in Daviess County. We wish Harry the best in his retirement.

On a sad note I have to inform you Dr. Robert Bruce, 70, passed away unexpectedly on April 17, in Bonita Springs, Fl. He was Beta Theta Pi and played football and tennis at Wabash. He specialized in complex diseases of the eye. He is survived by his wife Toni and his daughters and their families.

End of Fiscal Year Giving: As June draws to a close I encourage those of you who have not yet made a gift to the College to consider donating a dollar or two, in the hours remaining after you receive this letter!

As always you can give by going on line to www.wabash.edu/egift , phone in a gift at 877-743-4545, or mail a check to Wabash College-Annual Fund, 301 W Wabash Ave, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Operators (someone) are always standing by!

On behalf of Wabash College and our Class of '69 I wish to extend a very special Thank You to all in the class who gave this past year. Your thoughts and gifts and all you do for the College mean a lot to the young men studying a hard four years in liberal arts. The return on your investment in the College is seen each year in the outstanding men graduating from Wabash College.

Again, my apologies for taking so long to get this letter out. I have added a couple pictures from this spring and graduation. Let's begin to think about on our 50th reunion. We will make it a memorable Big Bash in 2019!!

I wish all a wonderful and safe summer!!... Stay in touch...

and remember... **Wabash Always Fights!!..**

with Best Regards,

Ken

W69



Senior Azlan Munir



Senior Jody Cochran



Campus with April flowers



Center Hall with magnolia trees in full bloom (Beautiful!)



The tulips of spring!



Class of 2018



Schroeder receiving honorary degree



Ring out the Class of 2018