April 8, 2006

Very belated greetings to the Class of 1973! Sorry for the large expanse of time since the last newsletter. I (John) have spent the last few months touring as an acrobat with Cirque du Soleil, so free time has been scarce. Stop and see us if you get to Vegas.

WHAT’S NEW ON CAMPUS

New President. As you have probably heard, the Board of Trustees recently unanimously elected Patrick E. White as the 15th President of Wabash. Dr. White is currently VP and Dean of Faculty at St. Mary’s College, Notre Dame, IN. He will take over for Andy Ford on July 1. Beyond the Search Committee, the students of Wabash were very involved in the selection process. The Bachelor provided the following: “Dr. White has proved to us that his humble demeanor, genuine concern, and utter humility with respect for this great institution will guide him in his tenure as President…” “We are excited about the great enthusiasm White has for the Wabash student body and his desire to know even more what makes a great Wabash man.” White graduated from the University of Chicago in 1971 and received his master’s and Ph.D. in English from the University of Iowa.

New Dean of the College. Dr. Gary A. Phillips was recently appointed Dean of the College, effective July 1. Phillips is currently Professor of Religion and Chair of the Religion Department at the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. Phillips is a 1971 magna cum laude graduate of both Lynchburg College and Vanderbilt Divinity School. His Ph.D. was earned in New Testament Studies with a focus on linguistics. Newly elected President White assisted in the national search for the new Dean, who replaces Dean Raymond B. Williams.

New MXI Director. Dr. Tim Lake, the Owen Duston Visiting Assistant Professor, will become the new director of the Malcolm X Institute this summer, replacing Horace Turner, H’76, who is retiring. One of Lake’s initiatives is to promote the academic profile of MXI, intending for it to become a place where outside scholars come to study the impact of African-Americans on the Midwest and the Midwest on them. Lake received his undergraduate degree from Ball State, master’s degrees from Howard University and Notre Dame, and his Ph.D. from Bowling Green. He has taught courses in the English, rhetoric, philosophy and religion departments, and will continue to teach.

New Librarian. John Lamborn has been selected to replace the retiring Larry Frye as Wabash librarian. Frye has been the librarian since 1980. Lamborn has most recently served as assistant dean for public services at Ohio University Libraries. He earned his bachelor’s degree from Idaho, master’s degree in history from Utah State, and a master’s degree in library science from University of Arizona.
Alumni/Student Career Services. The Schroeder Center for Career Development has created a structured, protected Online Alumni Career Network, called The Exchange, allowing networking opportunities between alumni and students, on a protected basis. Please take time to visit www.wabash.edu/careers to see how you can become involved in their efforts or how their services can assist you. For questions, contact Toni McKinney at 765-361-6414 or Scott Crawford at Crawfors@wabash.edu.

Blix granted tenure. President Ford recently granted Dave Blix ’70, whom many of you will remember as the Chapel organist during our rook year, tenure. Dave joins Bill Placher, also ’70, as the two tenured professors in the Religion and Philosophy department.

New Soccer Coach. Roberto Giannini, a native of Italy and current assistant men’s soccer coach at Valpo will become the new soccer coach. Giannini replaces Director of Athletics Vernon Mummert, who served as interim coach for the 2005 season.

Fraternity Partnerships Update. Phi Psi construction has begun on renovating their house on Wabash Avenue (the house was new when we were there). Current students are living there for the remainder of this semester and will move into the old Fiji house next fall, when the Fijis will move into their new house. The Delts continue discussions on renovation project costs and are working toward a final design. The TKE’s are now considering a new building where the old Sig Chi house was, instead of renovating the existing TKE house.

Spring Visit Day. Spring Visit Day is Saturday, May 20, and is designed specifically for high school underclassmen. Visit day includes a campus tour, opportunities to meet with Wabash students, faculty and staff, and a session on Wabash financial aid and merit-based scholarship programs. If you know any high school sophomores or juniors who would be a good fit at Wabash, please encourage them to attend. Students can register online at www.wabash.edu/admissions/visit/springvisit. You can also refer young men to Wabash at www.wabash.edu/alumni/student/refer.

NEWS FROM CLASSMATES

Sorry, no new news. Please send to lalao@aol.com. Thanks.

ANNUAL GIVING

To date, more than 2,850 alumni have made a gift to the Wabash Annual Fund during the 2005-2006 fiscal year for more than $1,889,000. Gifts to the Annual Fund help complete the Wabash experience for 850 current students. If you have yet to make a gift to Wabash, please consider doing so today at www.wabash.edu/alumni/egift. Your gifts enable Wabash to invest in student areas with the greatest need, including:

- Scholarship and financial aid
- Academic programming including learning immersion trips
- Technology upgrades
- Upkeep of campus facilities.
Thanks to the members of the class of ’73 who have contributed to date. Collectively, 64 of our classmates (32.7%) have gifted $50,648, for an average of a little under $800/person. Please consider adding your name to the following list of donors today. Sincere thanks to the following:

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Thanks again to all of you. Let us hear from you.

Regards,
John & Gary