



Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1977

Class Agents

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What a Year!

By any measure, 2018-2019 is shaping up to be an exceptionally great academic year for Wabash.

Here are just a few of the many highlights:

TOP FULBRIGHT FELLOW COLLEGE: Five Wabash students received Fulbright English Teaching Assistant awards for 2018-19. Wabash students are studying and teaching in Germany, Mexico and Paraguay. This number, combined with other and recent Fellowships, places Wabash among the 40 top Fulbright-producing baccalaureate institutions nationally. Here's a link to the story: [Fulbright Fellows](#)

OUTSTANDING RESEARCH: There aren't a lot of places in the world where one can hear the topics of Andy Warhol, pirates, and second-harmonic generation microscopy being broached in the same conversation. One Friday in January at Wabash, there was one such place: Detchon Center's International Hall, during the 19th annual Celebration of Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work. This year 87 students presented 39 talks and 28 posters. Here's a link with details: [Student Research](#)

GLOBAL HEALTH: Seven Wabash students were chosen at Global Health Fellows as part of the college's GHI, or Global Health Initiative. The seven were chosen as Fellows because of their commitment to the Global Health Initiative and public health, their leadership potential, and investment in the community. As Fellows, they will support the Global Health Initiative through continued participation in programming, provide feedback on current GHI activities, communicate the mission of the initiative to stakeholders, and represent the GHI to prospective students, current students, and alumni. Here are details about the GHI: <https://www.wabash.edu/plus/health>

NATIONAL CHAMPION: Wrestler Darden Schurg became an All American and a national champion in wrestling at the 174-lb. weight class for Wabash, which also placed in the Top 10 once again at the NCAA Division III national championships. Here's the story: [Wrestling Champion](#)

CAMPUS MASTER PLAN: The College has been working with a firm on a campus master plan that will provide guidance as we move forward on any changes to the physical campus. Want some input on these and other issues? Now is the time to get involved. Connect with Herm if you are interested. You can e-mail him at: hermhaffner@yahoo.com.

Of course, Greg and Herm and I all encourage you to follow news and events at the college. Technology makes it easier than ever to do so. Below are links to stories in the student newspaper, *The Bachelor*, and the college's YouTube channel, which gets multiple updates weekly!

[The Bachelor](#)

[Wabash You Tube](#)

Some Classmate News

Least surprising: Who in our class could have guessed that DAVID HERZOG would have been named one of Indiana's top attorneys? *Just about everyone*, but a story in *Super Lawyers Indiana* magazine also makes it official. A partner with Faegre Baker Daniels in Indianapolis, David knew by the time he completed his law studies at Vanderbilt University Law School in 1980 that he wanted to focus on business litigation, saying "There are few things more exhilarating than squaring off against a smart, civil adversary in a courtroom." Here is a link to a story in the magazine: [David K Herzog story](#)

NEWS FROM CO-CLASS AGENT GREG: Our classmate, Coach ROB JOHNSON, will receive an honorary doctorate at commencement on May 12. I have organized a reception for Rob post commencement at the Malcolm X Institute. I've sent an e-mail blast out to the track and CC guys since '72, and a number of guys have said they are coming back to honor Rob. (John K will be there too.) If you were a competitor for Rob in track or cross country, consider coming to the college on May 12.

CONDOLENCES: Greg's dad, Herbert Birk, passed away earlier this month after a brief illness.

Giant Steps, Day of Giving

You won't see a pitch here about the college's "Giant Steps" comprehensive campaign, as Wabash has done a significant amount of communication about it already. We'll cover it in more depth and detail at the next opportunity.

Wabash will hold its annual "Day of Giving" at some point in the near future. The exact date is a "closely guarded" secret, it is safe to announce that, as part of my role on the National Association of Wabash Men board, I (John) plan to be in Crawfordsville that day and making calls to hundreds of alumni. It would be great if, perhaps, Wabash was able to raise its "Day of Giving" percentage of alumni to or above the 50 percent mark. We were at about the 45 percent in 2018, so -- at least in this writer's mind -- the "halfway" number of 50 percent is certainly achievable. Watch for this communication soon, and (if you haven't given lately) expect me to be calling you soon as well.

and finally ...

Some personal news. I was "laid low" for a while in January after minor surgery, but am back, doing fine, and have resumed my duties as a professor at Cuyahoga Community College and also speech and debate coach at Revere High School near Akron, where we've had seven Academic All Americans in the past two seasons. If you're curious about the speech and debate program, here's a link to a blog I keep for the program: [Revere speech and debate](#)

I don't do as much with it, but I also keep a professional blog with information about journalism and related fields. Earlier this week I wrote a post about fallout from the Mueller special prosecutor report. You can find that linked here: [John Kerezy commentary](#)

Finally, (saving the best for last) I try to do "sidebar stories" about Wabash. Mainly these are athletic in nature, but I had 1,000 people read my blog last October about whether college-age students today can get excited about something like an old locomotive bell (the Monon Bell, to be precise). I began the blog after publishing *Glory Reborn* back in 2017. You will most certainly see another post to this site by mid-May, a feature on Rob Johnson. Here is a link to that site: [Wabash blog](#)

Hope some of you can get back to Wabash for either the commencement and Coach Rob Johnson event on May 12, or the annual BIG BASH (which is open to all classes) on May 31-June 2.

When college days are past, as long as life shall last

John

John Kerezy '77