



## **WABASH COLLEGE**

### ***Class Agents Letter***

Alumni and Parent Relations

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## **Class of 1980**

### **Class Agent**

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Greetings Classmates!

As the summer nears its mid-point, with another school year completed and another one on the horizon, we have been saddened by the loss of two giants on the Wabash College campus. Horace Turner and Don Herring recently passed away within a few days of each other.

Horace Turner (H'76) was without question the father of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies. It was Horace Turner's leadership, determination and passion for Wabash that guided MXI to its current prominence that enriches the entire Wabash community. Horace had a tremendous influence on hundreds of alumni by his ongoing self-less support and counseling of all students – of all colors. His services and burial took place in early July in the Philadelphia area.

Don Herring was a long-time Professor of English, who served Wabash with extended stints as English Department chairman and Dean of the College. A native of North Carolina, Dr. Herring was a fixture on the Wabash campus and the Crawfordsville community for six decades. A memorial service for Dr. Herring is set for Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> (2 p.m.) in the Pioneer Chapel.

For me personally, it's ironic that Dr. Herring and Horace Turner – such influential forces in their respective educational homes – should pass on in such close proximity.

My very first class at Wabash was English 7 – History of the Drama – in that sun-drenched, corner classroom on Center Hall's second floor. As a wide-eyed freshman, I met a wild-haired, extra-long-cigarette-smoking professor with a distinctive southern accent who introduced me to playwrights such as Pirandello and Bertolt Brecht, while often uttering his famous euphemism of “a turd in the punch bowl.”

And, my very last class at Wabash was in the Malcolm X Institute -- Afro-American History 2, taught by Pete Frederick -- in my final semester as a senior. Regrettably, that was my only class I had in the old Institute, literally “housed” on Wabash Avenue, but it remains perhaps my all-time favorite course during my four years at Wabash.

### ***News from Wabash***

A total of 196 alumni joined our ranks during the College’s 178<sup>th</sup> Commencement on May 15. Honorary degrees were conferred upon Tom Broecker ('84), a multiple Emmy Award winner and long-time costume designer for Saturday Night Live, and Congresswoman Susan Brooks (R-Ind), who is seeking the Republican gubernatorial nomination for Indiana, now that Indiana Governor Mike Pence is Donald Trump’s vice presidential nominee.

*LiberalArtsColleges.com* recently recognized the Wabash faculty as the “most accessible and approachable faculty for students” among the nation’s more than 500 liberal arts colleges.

The new independent housing on Crawford Street opened for residency in the Spring of 2016. The \$15 million housing addition includes two 38-bed halls, two 16-bed lodges, and two duplex-style townhouses with 12 beds each. I’ve not toured the sites, but I’ve heard they are state-of-the-art facilities that are receiving rave reviews from students and staff alike.

In sports, Wabash finished third in the men’s standings for the 2015-2016 North Coast Athletic Conference all-sports trophy. The Little Giants were NCAC champions in football and runners-up in cross country, and both indoor and outdoor track. Denison College, with five team sports titles, captured the overall NCAC all-sports crown for a record 15<sup>th</sup> time.

Earlier this spring, Don Morel was hired as the College’s 33<sup>rd</sup> football coach. Morel, who joined the Wabash football staff in 2011 and served the past five seasons as offensive coordinator, has previous head coaching experience at the University of LaVerne (Cal.). Morel succeeds Erik Raeburn who took the head coaching job at Division I FCS Savannah State after guiding Wabash to 77 wins in eight seasons, including victories in the past seven Monon Bell games.

The Little Giants open their 2016 football campaign at long-time foe Albion College on September 3<sup>rd</sup> (6 p.m.). As you may recall, Wabash knocked off Albion, 35-14, in the 1st round of last year’s Division III playoffs during a freak November snowstorm in Crawfordsville. Other noteworthy games on the 2016 schedule include Allegheny College (the home opener on September 12), at Wittenberg in a key NCAC showdown (September 24), Oberlin (Homecoming on October 8), and DePauw for the 123<sup>rd</sup> Monon Bell Classic in Crawfordsville (November 12).

## **Wabash Giving News**

The second Wabash Annual Day of Giving on April 27 was hugely successful again, with over 3,500 alumni gifts totaling more than \$550,000.

The College's fiscal year for alumni gifts ended on June 30. A total of 46 members of the Class of 1980 donated to the Annual Fund for 2016. The Class of 1980's Honor Roll for Giving includes: *Paul Atkenson, Don Bohn, Tom Brandes, Randy Braze, Bob Cebul, Rich Clark, Terry Fox, Brent Fulton, Dave Galloway, Bill Goebel, Mike Gullifor, Herbie Highsmith, Joe Impicciche, Curt Keller, Tim Kennedy, Larry Klee, Alex Klefeker, Mike Lambert, Chris Lanane, Mike Maddox, Emmett McAuliffe, Mark Merkle, Jim Miller, Gene Mszar, Duane Murphy, Mario Obejas, Mark Oetting, Larry Palmer, John Pea, Mike Perkins, Brad Petit, Charlie Pockras, Jim Renshaw, John Reuter, Doug Rogers, Greg Rose, Charles Routh, Ron Rychlak, Jud Scott, Dave Stein, Brad Sterrenberg, Ross Strodel, Ken Turchi, Bill Tutwiler, Bob Vogt and Clay Whitney.*

A tip of the Wabash beanie to all of you for your generosity to the College!

And, even though the Annual Day of Giving has passed and it's early on in the College's current fiscal year, your donation to Wabash is always encouraged and welcomed. There's three easy ways to give:

Online at [www.wabash.edu/egift](http://www.wabash.edu/egift)  
By phone at 877.743.4545; or  
By mail to: Wabash College  
Annual Giving  
P.O. Box 352  
Crawfordsville, In 47933

That's all for now . . . As I've stated on numerous occasions, the best part of serving as your class agent is hearing from you. Please share news of your family and other important aspects of your life. I'd love to hear from you and will forward that news on to the College.

Until our next *communiqué*' . . .

Yours in Wabash,

**JIM**

James E. Miller, Class Agent  
Wabash College Class of 1980