WABASH COLLEGE
CLASS OF 1981

20 August 2008

Gentlemen of the Class of 1981:

Here is the first letter of the new fiscal year. I have some Wabash News, some Class of 1981 news, the final stats for the 07-08 fiscal year that ended on June 30th, 2008, and the Honor Roll for this fiscal year that just ended.

Wabash News

- You have been hearing all kinds of rankings and ratings since we graduated: "Top 50 Liberal Arts College", "Best Buy", "One of the Colleges that Changes Peoples Lives", "Top College as measured by the National Survey of Student Engagement".

**Hang on to your hats - it keeps getting better!**

*Forbes.com* has just ranked Wabash the 12th best college in the United States! The ranking include 569 undergraduate institutions. This puts Wabash ahead of all other Indiana institutions but also above all other "peer institutions" in the Midwest. In fact, here are the top 12, in order:

- Princeton University
- California Institute of Technology
- Harvard University
- Swarthmore College
- Williams College
- United States Military Academy (West Point)
- Amherst College
- Wellesley College
- Yale University
- Columbia University
- Northwestern University
- Wabash College!!
A brief excerpt: "Wabash College, a tiny, all-male school located in Crawfordsville, Ind., ranks 12th on our list…With an entering class of just 250 freshmen, Wabash benefits from both high student satisfaction with their courses and lots of graduates who received distinctions in their post collegiate careers.” Read the entire article at: http://www.wabash.edu/news/6070 and follow the link in the Wabash article to the Forbes.com website for more information.

Bottom line: your diploma just increased in value!

» Additionally Wabash was ranked 52nd in the 2008 U.S. News and World Report rankings. And in the recent Princeton Review Wabash was one of the "Best 368 Colleges". Follow this link for the Princeton Review article: http://www.wabash.edu/news/6050

» Visit www.wabash.edu for up-to-date information about the College.

» Little Giants Near Top of NCAC Football Polls: http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/news.cfm?news_ID=6063

» Tom Bambrey ’68 was named Director of Athletics replacing Vernon Mummert. Mike Raters '85 has been promoted to Dean of Students replacing Bambrey. See the link below to the Wabash website announcement: http://www.wabash.edu/news/5909

Class of 1981 News

» Indianapolis attorney Chris Braun, a senior partner at Plews Shadley Racher & Braun LLP, has been selected by the American College of Environmental Lawyers (“ACOEL”) as the leading environmental lawyer in the State of Indiana. Membership to the ACOEL, a professional association of distinguished private sector lawyers from across the United States who practice environmental law, is limited to one environmental attorney per State and is by invitation only.

Braun is the only attorney practicing in Indiana to be accorded this honor and will be inducted at the ACOEL’s annual conference in San Francisco on September 25-26. Braun has developed an extensive environmental and complex commercial litigation practice at the Indianapolis-based law firm of Plews Shadley Racher & Braun LLP, where he has been a partner since 1994. You can reach Chris at: cbraun6@aol.com.

» Do you have class notes to share? Send them to spavy@vom.com.

Financial News and Wrap-Up of Fiscal Year 2007-2008

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
Wabash had the biggest year ever for the Annual Fund: $3,104,200, was raised, a 12% increase in dollars from 2006-2007. That is great news. This allowed the College to meet the Hays Challenge of $3 million in annual gifts, so Tom Hays ’55 will kick in an additional $1 million to the Wabash College Scholarship Endowment.

Here is the Honor Role of the Class of 1981 members who contributed to the Annual Fund in 2007-2008 (July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008). THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Walter Alfred   Dr. Kevin Altman   Mark Antreasian
John Ashworth III   Dr. Gregg Balis   Dr. Dean Beckman
Jeffrey Been   Kevin Benefiel   Michael Bettice
Rev. Joseph Boomhower   Christopher Braun   Rev. Jeffery Buck
Allan Clauser Jr.   J. Cooper   Dr. Douglas Coplen
Shawn Crane   C. Daniels   David Dingley
Kirk Dixon   David Downey   Dr. Thomas Elliott
Louis Fenoglio   Joseph Fistrovich Jr.   Anthony Flesch
Larry Frye   Dr. Gustavo Galante   Melvin Gore
Dr. Randall Grimes   Kevin Hall   Dr. Steven Hartenstein
John Helm   John Hilbrich   Christopher Johnston
Dr. W. Terry Jones   Carl Kipp III   James Kipp Jr.
Dr. Michael Kraus   Douglas Kvachkoff   Dr. Mark Lazar
Michael Leagre   David Lewis   Dennis Lindauer
Mark Lindsay   William Macon Jr.   Mark McGrady
Douglas McKay   Donald Miller   Dr. Carl Myers
Jon Myers   Dr. William Myers   David Neal Jr.
Billy Nesbitt   Dr. Jerome Noll   David Paul
Stephen Pavy   Stephen Pruett   Philip Purcell
Steven Riggs   Michael Robak   John Ruddy III
Edward Segelken   Richard Skertic   Frank Smaron
David Steiner   Rolland Strasser   Dr. Jeffery Struewing
Stanley Thompson   Dr. Paul Thomson   Ronald Vogel
Dr. Jay Want   John Weaver   Thomas Weber
Monty Woolsey   Peter Wright   LTCOL Brian Wyneken
Kevin Young   Michael Zurawski

We raised a total of $49,126.25. $36,455.28 was unrestricted and went to the Annual Fund.

The Class of 1981 had a 37.93% giving rate for this fiscal year versus 34.48% for last year. **We improved!** 77 alums contributed this year as compared to 70 last year out of a total class of 203. I am pleased we increased our level this past year, but I feel we could do better.

Unfortunately (a small downside) we were not successful in meeting the "Danny Challenge" of 40% participation. The Danny's met their goal of 39% and edged out the Little Giants who mustered only a 37.68%.

**I have one more 'statistic'**. I want to pursue this thought in future letters. If everyone from the Class of 1981 gave this year **who has given to Wabash in the past 5 years**, our
total giving percentage for this new fiscal year would be 52.7%. We had 30 alums who didn't give this past year who had given to Wabash in the past five years.

**If every Class of 1981 alum who has given in the past five years gave this year, we would have a total of 107 alums giving, for that 52.7% goal.** I think that should be our goal this year. I won't name names, but if you have given to Wabash in the past five years, please give this year. Be consistent. Be dedicated. (And Peter, Phil, or I will be contacting you to help out this year.)

I'll find out what our numbers would be if everyone who has given to Wabash since we graduated gave this year. It probably doesn't go up too much more: if someone has never given to Wabash, they probably won't start this year….but we'll try anyway.

Remember gifts can be made in three easy ways:

- By phone: 877-743-4545
- On the web: www.wabash.edu/alumni/egift
- By mail: Wabash Annual Fund / PO Box 352 / Crawfordsville, IN 47933 (checks payable to Wabash College)

For questions about making gifts of stock, please call 877-743-4545.

Yours in Wabash,

Stephen

Think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely…and give to Wabash College this year. Don't let the Team down!