

Class of 1981

Class Agent
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There are not many days left in 2020 which I am sure for all of us seems like the longest year of our lives. I will not venture to predict all of what 2021 will bring, but I can very gladly report one event that we can all look forward to in 2021. In 2021 we will celebrate our 40th year from graduation. Wabash will be holding a Big Bash celebration from June 4 - 6, for our class, the other five year reunion cycle classes plus the classes on the 00 and 05 reunion cycle (Big Bash this year was postponed). Wabash will find a way to hold Big Bash June of next year.

Our 40th celebration and reunion at Big Bash is the reunion we all need. So much has been canceled and postponed over the past year that will seem especially good and meaningful to see one another. I hope that this is in person and I have great confidence if any entity can figure out how to put on an event under whatever conditions exist in June it is Wabash.

For probably all of us, returning to campus in June will be the first opportunity to see the new football stadium in person. As you can see in the photos below the new stadium has only one set of stands for Wabash and the visiting team. The elimination of the old visitors stands allows for a sweeping vista from the stadium to the rest of campus.





If you have not been back in a few years (or a lot of years) you see many other changes to campus and the area around the campus. The campus has been both transformed and at the same time retained the core elements that continue to make it familiar and welcoming. Your support of the College over the years has made the physical transformation and your support has financially supported students and their families to keep the College competitive and thriving. If you haven't yet this fiscal year, you can make a gift to Wabash at wabash.edu/give.

The Fall Semester at Wabash has already concluded just ahead of Thanksgiving. Students began the semester earlier in August than in the past. Students will return to campus on January. While Fall sports were canceled, the College has thoughtfully and carefully managed the Covid-19 pandemic. The shared sense of community and responsibility to one another that Wabash men have for one another has been the foundation.

The College is ranked highly in many categories including #1 in Best Internship Opportunities, #1 Best Alumni Network, #4 Most Accessible Professors and #7 Best Career Services as well as being highly ranked in many other categories of particular importance to young men and their families considering college choices.

As we look forward to next year's Big Bash, I invite and encourage you to consider being a living unit representative to help our planning for our 40th. Consider this an opportunity and excuse to reach out and reconnect to the guys who lived in your fraternity house or dorm. We can use the College's assistance to schedule a Zoom call so that groups can connect and look forward together getting together in person in June. If you would like to help out with the 40th Reunion planning in any other way, please let me know.

I close by thinking that all of us were born about 40 years after the Pandemic of 1918. I recall learning about it in high school history, but it seems to me that it was subject that was treated as little more than a footnote to what occurred in towards the end of World War I. It is difficult to imagine what the world will be like in 2021 no less 40 years from now. My hope for 2021 is to see you in June at Wabash, when we can catch up, reflect on what we have done and talk about what we can and will do in the years ahead.

My best wishes to you and yours this holiday season that is likely to be unlike any other one we have experienced.

Peter Wright