



Class of 1985
Class Agent Letter
November 2020

Class of 1985:

The other day I was trying to remember if it was May or June that I sent my previous letter. I see from my computer files that it was actually April! This must mean that it is hard to keep track of time while hiding from a pandemic.

1. Class of 1985 updates:

- a) We lost one of our honorary alumna in July. Jasmine Robinson was a Wabash Computer Center employee, a WNDY DJ and a past president of the local NAACP chapter. Beyond all that, (to quote the 1991 Bachelor about her retirement, “Many students know her as a caring woman more than willing to spend time discussing students’ problems ... and a natural confidante.”
- b) Dave Hassett passed away unexpectedly on October 8. Dave worked as a digital marketing specialist with Hibu for many years before recently starting his own online marketing consulting company in Auburn IN.
- c) What’s new with you? Let Kyle (kcarrl@mhc.net) and/or me know what your up to so we can give our classmates the information! Also, be sure to notify us or the Alumni Office (at alumni@wabash.edu or at 765-361-6360) of any changes to your contact information).
- c) More Class news is available on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/206066189687/>

2. Wabash news:

- a) Big Bash 2020/2021 will be **June 4-6, 2021**. In-person, on-line, whatever it takes! It will be an opportunity for our class to get together and party not only with the other 5’s and 0’s classes, but with the 6’s and 1’s classes like our little brothers in the class of 1986. The exact details are yet to be determined, based on the status of the pandemic, but we’ll be partying one way or the other. Mark your calendars now and contact Kyle or me if you would like to help spread the word. As somebody said recently, most folks have already had that weekend cleared of other commitments, so we should have some openings.
- b) This summer, Scott Feller became the college’s 17th president. Once the Search Committee determined that the ideal candidate would be “somebody a lot like Dean Feller,” they realized that the best place to search was Center Hall.
- c) “C” is for COVID adaptations:
 - The calendar was shifted a couple weeks so that Fall Finals can be completed prior to Thanksgiving. The Spring semester will start later than usual, but Career Services has helped many students secure internships for the extended Christmas break.

- Almost all of the students are back on-campus this semester (very unique among GLCA schools), but classroom seating and living-unit beds are rearranged so that 6-foot distances can be maintained. A trick that would be more difficult at larger colleges.
- About 2/3 of classes are meeting in-person (with masks). About 11% are conducted completely online. The rest are a mixture of in-person and online.
- To keep germs away, travel away from campus during the semester is discouraged and *no* visitors are allowed. Our “red brick monastery” has become a “cloistered monastery.” President Feller reports that even with the lack of freedom of movement, the students are happy to be on-campus as opposed to taking their classes online “from their parents basement, like last April.”
- “Chapel Sing” this year was converted into “Mall Sing” so that the freshmen could spread out. It made for a different experience, but it is good to see traditions maintained in some form. A video is posted here (scroll down to September 17): <https://www.facebook.com/WabashCollegeNews> .
- Fall sports seasons were cancelled. Winter sports will happen to various degrees with revised schedules. Spring sports will (hopefully) be able to play more complete seasons so that those teams do not have to skip 2 years.
- The College posts weekly updates on the COVID situation to this webpage: <https://www.wabash.edu/covid/documents>

d) In a more positive sports note, Coach Petty gave a Chapel Talk in October about the basketball team’s championship season during our freshman year. You can find the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkby7sqDJxk> It is a nice trip down memory lane.

W.A.F. (at a healthy distance, with clean hands, while *properly* wearing a mask!)

Mike Gilvary, 1985

414-486-9011 home
milgils@sbcglobal.net

p.s. Even in a crazy year like this one, Wabash still needs to recruit the students of the future. If you know a good candidate, please pass along his contact information to the Admissions Office here: <https://www.wabash.edu/refer>