



Class Agents Letter

Class of 1991

Class Agents

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Dear Classmates,

With the Thanksgiving holiday behind us, and the Holiday season ahead of us, this is an opportune time to reflect upon what we are thankful for, despite a raging pandemic that affects every aspect of our lives either directly or indirectly. One thing I'm thankful for is my time at Wabash – the relationships built, and the lessons learned. I lean on those lessons and all of my relationships to persevere through the challenges we face and help others do the same.

I'm not sure if you've glanced at the calendar yet, but 2021 will mark 30 years since we've graduated from those hallowed halls. Good God, are we that old? We're now the old alums we would see rummaging through the bookstore on football Saturdays. Our 30th reunion will be a nice time to rekindle our love for Dear Old Wabash, share some stories (even though they get hazier with each passing day), and to see one another again. So, please save the date of the Big Bash weekend for our 30th Reunion:

June 4-6, 2021

Now, please keep in mind that we have no idea what that weekend will look like. Will we be able to gather in person? In large groups? Travel? Nobody knows at this early stage, but the hope is obviously that we can all gather together on campus like a typical Big Bash weekend. If that's not possible, Big Bash will look different, but there will be some type of celebration, even if it's not in person.

Next item – volunteers. We need people from every house and living unit to get their pledge brothers/dormmates to attend. So, if you're interested in helping, please let us know. We'll recruit you even if you don't volunteer, so you might as well step up. Let's make this the best reunion yet! **If you're interested in helping please let any of the class agents know.**

In closing, I wanted to include a few Wabash related updates:

- Teaching and learning continue as students, faculty, staff, and administration worked together to keep Wabash 97% residential this semester.



- The school year started two weeks early, there was no Fall Break, and the last day of Finals was the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Students are using the extended break to take advantage of internships and professional immersion and certification opportunities.
- Cheers to classmate Roland Morin, whose Career Services Office helped 97% of the Class of 2020 reach their first destination six months after graduation in the midst of this recession.
- Wabash will delay the start of the spring semester by one week, allowing the return to campus by seniors for comprehensive exams to be two full weeks after the New Year's holiday. The faculty will conduct senior oral comprehensive exams virtually prior to a return to campus. There will be no spring break, but instead three scheduled off days scattered across the semester. This plan allows Commencement for the classes of 2020 and 2021 to remain on the previously scheduled date (May 16, 2021).
- New President Scott Feller rang in the Class of 2024 on the Mall on Sunday, August 9. You can learn more about the class here: <https://www.wabash.edu/giving/class2024>
- The North Coast Athletic Conference suspended all sports through Dec. 31. Athletic teams have been holding modified practices, and the Allen Center is open with new restrictions. Wabash College will join with members of the North Coast Athletic Conference in suspending athletics practices and related activities from Wednesday, November 25, 2020 through January 1, 2021. The NCAC also announced the cancelation of officially sanctioned competition and championships in winter sports. This decision also encompasses varsity sport programs that do not officially participate in the NCAC (wrestling and volleyball). AD Matt Tanney and his staff will begin to create plans for how to reinstate structured, sport-specific workouts, practices, and related activities in January. They will also work to develop competitive schedules for winter and fall sports teams with schools who share Wabash's commitment to sound, data-driven COVID prevention and testing measures.
- Though we had no Homecoming game this fall, the Sphinx Club in coordination with the Student Affairs Office held the annual Chapel Sing on Sept. 17. Lambda Chi won for the second year in a row. Oct. 3 saw judging of Homecoming floats with Phi Gamma Delta taking first.
- The Princeton Review #7-ranked *Bachelor* is publishing online this semester.
- The Princeton Review #11-ranked Wabash Theater Department staged its fall production *The Race* online in September.
- Wabash has taken possession of the new Little Giant Stadium.
- Dean for Enrollment Management and Director of Admissions Chip Timmons '96 was quoted in a Sept. 25 *New York Times* story on colleges using merit over test scores in admissions.
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/25/your-money/merit-aid-SAT-optional.html>
- Wabash recently announced a freeze in tuition for the 2021-22 school year.
https://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=11635

Hugh Vandivier reports that 1991 topped all other classes with the highest number of donors in the last fiscal year (94). He also says that because of the CARES Act, you can add up to \$300 of your Wabash gift to your standard deduction on your 2020 household's federal taxes, even when you choose not to itemize. You can make a gift online at wabash.edu/give.



Resources

Refer a high school student: <https://apply.wabash.edu/register/refer>

For more information on how the Wabash campus continues residential teaching and learning through the pandemic: <https://www.wabash.edu/covid/>.

For documents, including weekly updates from President Feller and Ann Taylor: <https://www.wabash.edu/covid/documents>.

For the latest in events on campus, many of which you can join virtually: <https://www.wabash.edu/calendar/>.

The Bachelor: <https://www.wabash.edu/bachelor/>

News: <https://www.wabash.edu/news/>

Yours in Wabash,

Kip