

Wabash College
Class of 2013 Update
Fall 2019

MONEY

THY LOYAL SONS

Dear Class of 2013,

This letter focuses on the positive impact that money and charitable donations have had on Wabash. Hopefully, you receive letters in the mail and/or telephone calls asking you to make charitable contributions to the college. If not, please update your current address and/or phone number in the college's database. Thanks to generous donations and the advancement office, the college has made some important announcements recently. Please enjoy this short update and let us know if you have any announcements or news for our next letter.

Wabash welcomed 235 men from the class of 2023. Below are a few pictures from the festivities.



President Hess rings-in the new class



The next generation of Wabash Men wait anxiously



Parents crowd the first floor of the Chapel



Last minute cramming

With help from generous donations, the college created two new academic majors. Now, Wabash students can major in Computer Science or Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (“PPE”). According to inside sources, many current students and incoming freshmen requested the addition of computer science as a major. Budding computer scientists can now augment their love of software and microchips with a well-rounded liberal arts education. Long the favorite degree of British politicians, PPE combines the study of multiple academic disciplines into one major. By adding PPE to the academic curriculum, Wabash joins the ranks of the some of the world’s most prestigious colleges and universities. For more information on the new PPE degree, follow the link below.

https://giantsteps.wabash.edu/?pagetype=news&news_ID=11446

Wabash continues its ascendance in the college ranking tables. Many prominent rankings featured Wabash such as Forbes, Princeton Review, and U.S. News & World Report. Wabash finished well in categories such as “Alumni Network,” “Best Value Colleges,” and Most Accessible Professors.” Follow the link below for more information.

https://wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=11461

Homecoming – Homecoming is September 28. The Little Giants will take on Denison (the only team we lost to last year). Please come and show your support for the Wabash Football Team.

Monon Bell – The Monon Bell is at Depauw this year on November 16. Please make sure to buy your tickets early.

VOUCHESAFE THY CARE BENIGN

We caught up with Eric Statler on his nationwide tour promoting the college. Eric has worked in Wabash's advancement office for nearly two years. Originally born in Australia, Eric grew up outside Ann Arbor, MI. After graduating with a political science degree from Western Michigan, Eric worked for a few years in the Detroit area before becoming a financial advisor. After eight years as a financial advisor Eric joined the Wabash family. Here are some highlights from our interview with Eric.

Bicentennial and Giant Steps Campaign – Eric talked at length about the college's long-term plan for the upcoming bicentennial in 2032. "The college is currently promoting the Giant Steps Campaign with a goal of raising \$225 million. Currently, we've raised over \$165 million. It is our hope that the vast majority of the donations go toward adding to the college's endowment. Our goal is to bring down the draw rate on the endowment. Currently, we draw on the endowment at a rate of roughly 5.5% a year. This is roughly 1% lower than the draw rate when President Hess took office."

Talent – Eric says that if President Hess could sum up the college's goal into one word it would be *talent*. That means finding the most talented students and the most talented professors.

Annual Fund – Another key to strengthening the college's financial position is growing the annual fund. Eric stressed that EVERY gift matters.

Number of Students – Wabash has a goal to reach an enrollment of 1,000 students in the near future.

Renovations – After years of showering the independents with love, the college is discussing the possibility of making "improvements" to some of the fraternities. It's possible you might see improvements to Λ XA and Fiji in the next few years. Though far short of a renovation, some of these improvements might include changes to the existing structure of the fraternity's building.

The college has shortlisted three prominent buildings for renovation. First, the college plans to remodel parts of the Lilly Library. "A large number of the students use the library every day," Eric said. "However, they aren't using it for books. The plan is to move a large number of the books into the basement and increase the number of study rooms. That way even more students can use the library for studying."

Next up for a potential facelift is Sparks Center. Though plans for the potential renovation remain nebulous, Eric stated that changes to the building might include an addition to the existing structure. The new addition would house a completely new dining hall. The existing dining hall would be converted into some sort of common area. Eric said, “The college doesn’t currently have a common area. Right now, that’s sort of what many people use the library for. These changes to Sparks would allow students from different living units to have a mutual, common space to meet.”

Finally, and most controversial, are the college’s ideas for renovating Centre Hall. “Centre Hall is the iconic academic building at Wabash. However, the first floor of the building doesn’t contain any classrooms. It’s possible that we might move those offices, including the president’s office, somewhere else.”

Upon noticing my extreme discomfort at the idea of renovating Centre Hall, Eric added, “Don’t worry. They won’t touch the stairs.” Let’s hope Eric is correct.

Ascendant - When asked to describe the direction of Wabash in one word, Eric answered, “Ascendant.”



Rendering of the new entrance to the college. See last quarter's letter for details.

O'ER THY CLASSIC HALLS

Many of the college's most prominent buildings bear the names of alumni and philanthropists. Here's a quick rundown of the basic information about some of Wabash's iconic structures and the people who helped finance them.

Allen Center - The complex was dedicated on January 26, 2001 in honor of Betty and Robert E. Allen W'1957. Robert Allen was a member of the Board of Trustees for 27 years. Allen famously served as president of AT&T between 1985 and 1988 and as CEO and chairman from 1988 to 1997.

Goodrich Hall – The building opened in 1939 and was a gift from James Putnam Goodrich, trustee (1904 - 1940), president of the board (1924 - 1940) and Governor of Indiana (1917 - 1921). Architect Jens Frederick Larson designed the building and the structure's neighbor, the Pioneer Chapel.

Hays Hall - The building is named in honor of Thomas A. Hays W'1955, long-time trustee and chair of the capital campaign which raised the money for its construction. Hays Hall is the fourth building to occupy this site.

Baxter Hall - Opened in 1964, the building is named in honor of Arthur R. Baxter, a prominent business and civic leader in Indianapolis during the first half of the twentieth century. Members of Baxter's family attended Wabash and served the college in various capacities.

Detchon Hall - In 1993 Yandes Hall was renamed after Irwin Lee Detchon W'1923. Detchon's gift made the renovation and enlargement of the building possible.

Lilly Library - Designed by Eric Gugler and opened in 1959, the building is named in honor of Eli Lilly, trustee (1944 – 1977) and the college's most generous benefactor.

Sparks Center – The building opened in 1954 as Campus Center. The college rededicated the building in 1976 in memory of Frank Hugh Sparks, the college's eighth president (1941 - 1956).

Trippet Hall - Opened in 2002, the building is named for Byron K. Trippet W'1930, brilliant student, charismatic professor, iconic dean, and revered president.

HONORS WON

The 2019-2020 online honor roll recognizes alumni, parents, and friends who have made gifts to the College between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. The online honor roll lists gifts received and processed through the previous business day. The complete 2019-2020 Honor Roll of Donors will be available on or around October 1, 2020.

As of the writing of this letter, these are the members of the class of 2013 have donated. They are:

Kenny Harris
Nick Hurt
Bryan Hutchens
Jake Kersey
Arjun Kumar
Kyle McLaughlin
Michael Jon Mondovics
Carl Rivera
Zack Thompson

We know that many of you wait until the Annual Day of Giving to donate to the college. However, it's great to see these members of the Class of 2013 be proactive and donate early. Donating to the college is like voting in Cook County – Donate Early and Donate Often.

Alumni Group

Becoming part of your local Wabash Alumni organization is a great way to stay connected. Make sure to join a Wabash Alumni organization: <http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/eservices>

Student Referrals

Interested in helping Wabash recruit the next generation of Wabash men? Referring prospective high school students is a great way to help. Follow the link below to refer a student <https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/student/refer>

Annual Campaign

Make sure to continue donating to the Wabash College Annual Fund. Wabash gave us a wonderful education and it's important to pay it forward to future generations of Wabash men.

Interested in announcing an engagement, marriage, or event? Put it in the next letter! Please forward you request to Rudy or me.

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