



## **WABASH COLLEGE**

### ***Class Agents Letter***

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### **Class of 2016**

#### **Class Agents**

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June 2017

Members of the Class of 2016 –

It's hard to believe the month of May has come and gone. May has always been symbolic of the beginning of summer in my mind. That's typically revolved around the school year – of course, this is the first time in about 18 years that a “school year” really hasn't meant anything to me. Certainly, growing up in Indianapolis, the month of May is always one of tradition and excitement surrounding the Indianapolis 500. I would have to call this past May a “surreal” one in the sense that – to keep the racing metaphor going – we're coming up for our second lap. No longer are we the most recent graduates of Wabash College, neither are we the first year students of our graduate programs, the new kids in the office, and so on. When I think of myself, I laugh at the fact that last summer I wanted nothing more than to shake the “new guy” moniker, yet now there's anxiety thinking that I'll be a veteran relatively speaking to the next round of new hires.

Though summer 2017 through spring 2018 may provide less “firsts” than the last 12 months did, I have no doubt that the near-term future holds many exciting ways in which we will be impacted and be able to impact others and our surroundings.

Reflecting on the recent Day of Giving last April 19<sup>th</sup>, we as #OneWabash gave more than \$800,000 across more than 4,000 individual gifts. Though that certainly speaks to the dedication of our alumni (and, yes, we count ourselves among that alumni body), it also speaks first and foremost to the experience on campus that we and generations before us have had. Thank you on behalf of Jake and the other class agents for the support you have shown our alma mater. We are unique among the alumni body that we experienced the Day of Giving on-campus as undergraduates. I enjoyed those days because they were among the days that I felt our campus unity was at its strongest. I hope those memories were one of the many reasons you were compelled to give.

Two Saturdays ago I returned to campus for the Big Bash reunion. Although traditionally those reunions are reserved for those classes celebrating milestone (multiples of 5) reunion years, the Big Bash festivities are open to all alumni. What I'll say is having one more attendee next year will be a 100% increase over our representation this year. It was a lot of fun. The day included Alumni Chapel Sing on Saturday morning, a great lunch in Knowling Fieldhouse and a couple of really interesting afternoon colloquium sessions – one by a forensic pathologist from the class of 1967 and another by archivist Beth Swift. Please consider attending next year's Big Bash. If there's anything I can do to help you register and make those arrangements, please don't hesitate to contact me and I'll be happy to help.

The last couple of months, I've had the pleasure to run into a few of my fellow '16 alums. The evening of the Day of Giving I saw Marcus Kammrath and Nathan Bode at the IAWM after-work event in Broad Ripple and at May's after work event at The Koelsch I ran into Adam Alexander, working in Indianapolis after his first year at Northwestern's law school. Several Sundays ago I enjoyed the company of Brent Tomb and Sam Hanes sitting high above turn one for Pole Day qualifications at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Finally, this past Friday I enjoyed visiting with Tyler Trepton as we both went to see a Cubs game at Wrigley Field on the NAWM annual MLB Bus Trip. Lots of great opportunities to reconnect with Wabash and classmates. I hope you've found opportunities like these!

Jake and I would love to hear from you and what's new – I think equally the readers of these letters would like updates. Please share them with us and we'll be sure they make it into these letters.

Look forward to continuing to run into and hear from all of you. All my best and yours  
sincerely in Wabash –

Patrick Bryant '16