



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 2016

Class Agents

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Dear members of the class of 2016 –

I hope this letter finds you well – it's sure starting to get cold here in central Indiana! Homecoming, the Glee Club Reunion, and Wabash Day are behind us and a much-anticipated Monon Bell Game in Greencastle is just around the corner. Did you see Wabash in the headlines this past week? More to come on that!

I want to share with you a couple highlights from the Class Agents Forum during Homecoming weekend and share some details on next month's Monon Bell festivities.

Last month, in addition to the exciting triumph over Hiram, the Class Agents listened to several presentations from members of the Enrollment Management, Advancement, and Communications teams. Here's a couple takeaways I had regarding alumni giving:

- During the #OneWabash Day of Giving in April, the class of 2016 was the number one giving alumni class – let's take that pride to get the rest of those 2016 guys who didn't give into our brotherhood of giving back.
- In fiscal year 2017 (ending June 30th), our class had 106 men donate to the Annual Fund. Comparatively, we were fourth behind the classes of 2017, 2015, and 1967. It's "crowded" among the recent years and certainly those celebrating a 50th reunion will see a "bump" in giving. Again, think of those couple of guys that might not be giving and let's embrace them and remind them of all Wabash has done for us. Reach out to me or Jake if we can help.

Consider this – our participation rate grows 1% for every 117 alumni donors that give. With an annual fund goal this year of \$3.3M – every little bit we give goes a long way and sharing that among more and more alumni donors makes the goal all the more attainable!

President Hess mentioned in his state of the College address the fine line that's walked by him and other liberal arts college presidents who must draw on an endowment for operating expenses. Although the

value of our endowment (a tick over \$321M) may seem impressive, and it certainly is, there's still much that can be done to put Wabash on a more solid footing for the next generation. Let's not be the ones that held our College from growing and harming its ability to deliver that tradition we inherited!

Next, a couple comments about the Monon Bell game.

- Jake and I hope to see all of you in Greencastle on Saturday, November 11th. Tickets, other game info, as well as locations of viewing parties, can be found at www.wabash.edu/alumni/mononbell.
- Also, please try to attend the 2017 Rally for the Monon Bell in downtown Indianapolis on Thursday, November 9th. This event is a lot of fun and one I've enjoyed for the camaraderie and excitement it generates for the game. RSVP by November 3rd at <http://iawmrsvp.com/event-registration/>

Finally, I would be remiss to not point out a fun, harmless prank that brought Wabash into the spotlight locally. Hoping to go down in lore with the likes of Operation Frijoles, a group of Wabash men attempted to "borrow" the Monon Bell until we take it for good on November 11th – that plan was unfortunately thwarted by the highly technical trophy case the Dannies utilized. Local media has some funny stories on the details and I encourage you to check it out on those sites.

Thanks for your continued support of Wabash and participation, including reading my and Jake's letters. Please reach out to us with news about you and other classmates. We look forward to opportunities to meet up and reconnect and otherwise we look forward to seeing you in Greencastle in a few weeks!

Sincerely yours in Wabash –

Patrick Bryant '16