

**CONSTITUTION  
OF  
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WABASH MEN**

**Article I: Name**

The Name of this organization shall be the National Association of Wabash Men.

**Article II: Membership**

The membership of the Association shall be composed of:

1. All Alumni as defined by the College. The word “alumnus,” as used throughout this act, means any person holding a degree in course from the College, any person who has been in residence at the College one (1) year or more, or a person who has been designated as an Honorary Alumnus by the Association. The word “alumnus,” does not include any person actively on the rolls of the College as an undergraduate at the time of any annual election of trustees, or any person without a degree who entered the College with a class which has not yet graduated at the time of any annual election. The word “alumni,” as used throughout this document, means the plural of the word “alumnus” as herein above defined;
2. Tenured members of the faculty while employed by the College, Faculty *Emeriti*, members of the Board of Trustees during their tenure on the board, and Trustees *Emeriti*; and

Any individuals who have rendered service to Wabash College, and whose names are accepted for membership by the Board of Directors of the Association.

**Article III: Missions and Goals**

1. The Mission of the National Association of Wabash Men (NAWM) is to support the interests of Wabash College through encouragement and development of relationships which will help the College achieve its mission of "educating men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely."
2. The Mission of the Board of Directors is to help facilitate integration of the College's alumni, students, administration, parents, faculty, and friends in order to help the Association achieve its goals. Further, the Board serves to advise and assist the College's administration, when needed or desired, to help in successfully achieving the College's Mission.
3. The Goals of the Association shall be:
  - a. To advance the interest in the College through the support and participation by members of the Association;

- b. To cultivate and maintain support and participation through the organization of graduating classes and alumni in geographical areas; and
- c. To encourage and guide support of the College, to:
  - 1. "Spread the fame of her honored name..."
  - 2. Assist in bringing young men of high promise to the College as students;
  - 3. Promote vigorously the program of annual giving to the College;
  - 4. Ensure the flow of Wabash information to Wabash men;
  - 5. Critically support the standards of the College's operation;
  - 6. Render service to the Board of Trustees, Administration, or Faculty as needed; and
  - 7. Assist students in the planning and establishment of careers.

#### **Article IV: Officers and Board of Directors**

- 1. The business and affairs of the Association shall be directed by its Board of Directors.
- 2. Officers and Directors, with the exception of *ex officio* Directors and the Faculty Representative, shall be Alumni as defined by the College.
- 3. The Officers of the Board consist of:
  - a. A President, who shall serve for a term of two (2) years. The President will preside at all Board meetings, have the right to vote on all questions, appoint committee chairmen and co-chairmen, determine the composition of Board Committees, and otherwise serve as spokesman for the Board. The President shall serve as an *ex-officio* member of all standing committees of the Board and have other duties as the Board may prescribe from time to time;
  - b. A Vice-President, who shall serve for a term of two (2) years; and who shall be the President-elect. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall assume the President's roles and responsibilities as outlined above. The Vice-President will also serve as Chairman, or Co-Chairman, of the Board's Nominating Committee; and
  - c. A Recorder, who shall serve for a term of two (2) years.
- 4. The Board of Directors consists of:
  - a. Officers of the Board as defined in Article IV.2;

- b. Two (2) Class Agent Representatives, one (1) to be elected in an even-numbered year and one (1) to be elected in an odd-numbered year by the Class Agents of the College. Each Representative shall serve for a term of three (3) years;
- c. Two (2) Regional Alumni Association representatives. Each Representative shall serve for a term of three (3) years, with one (1) to be appointed in an even-numbered year and one (1) to be appointed in an odd-numbered year by the Board of Directors of the National Association of Wabash Men from names tendered by the Director of Alumni Affairs for the College;
- d. One (1) member of the faculty to be appointed by the President of the College for a term of three years;
- e. The chief advancement officer for the College, *ex-officio*;
- f. The Director of Alumni Affairs of the College, *ex-officio*;
- g. The immediate Past President of the Association, who shall serve for a term of two (2) years. Should the immediate Past President of the Association be unable to serve, the Board of Directors of the National Association of Wabash Men may appoint a director to fill the unexpired portion of the two year term;
- h. Fifteen (15) Directors-at-large:
  - 1) Candidates for election or appointment as Directors-at-large shall be nominated by a Nominating Committee of five (5) directors appointed by the President of the Association. Members of the Association shall have the opportunity, through appropriate means, to recommend qualified and available members for consideration by the Nominating Committee.
  - 2) Directors-at-large shall serve terms of three (3) years in groups so designated that one-third (1/3) of the total, or five (5), may be chosen each year.
  - 3) Three Directors-at-large shall be elected each year by the alumni membership of the Association. Ballots shall be counted on the fourth Tuesday of April. Authorization is hereby granted to insert the appropriate ballot in the pertinent issue of a regularly scheduled alumni publication for the convenience of all alumni, or by any other appropriate means.
  - 4) Two Directors-at-large shall be appointed each year by the Board of Directors of the National Association of Wabash Men. Appointed Directors-at-large shall be selected at the Spring meeting of the Board, after the results of the elections of Directors-at-large are known to the Board.

- i. One (1) student representative, *ex-officio*, who shall be the currently serving Vice-President of the Student Body of Wabash College. His duties shall be to provide student input into the affairs of the NAWM.
5. A Director shall not be able to succeed himself after serving two (2) full terms, but shall be eligible for re-election or re-appointment as a Director after a lapse of a period of one year from the expiration of his last term of service, save that nothing in this provision shall prevent any officer of the Board from serving as Director even though his term of office as Director shall have terminated.
6. The terms of office of the Officers and Directors as prescribed above shall commence at adjournment of the Spring meeting and run through the Spring meeting in the year in which the term expires.
7. The Officers of the Association shall be elected by the Board. Interim vacancies among the Officers or Directors shall be filled by a majority vote of the members of the Board.
8. All Directors serve at the pleasure of the Board. A Director may be removed from office by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Directors then in office.
9. Each Director shall have one (1) vote.

#### **Article V: Committees**

1. The Board shall establish such standing and *ad hoc* committees as it deems appropriate to accomplish Association and Board goals. Each committee will have a written statement of purpose, role, and scope to be reviewed annually by each committee and the Board.
2. The Executive Committee of the Board consists of all Committee Chairmen, Officers of the Board, the immediate Past President of the Association, and the Director of Alumni Affairs of the College, *ex officio*. The Executive Committee will convene from time to time at the request of the Board's President to help address issues facing the Board and to offer advice and counsel on general matters related to the business of the Board.

#### **Article VI: Class Agents**

1. A Class Agent or Agents shall be chosen from each graduating class, as shall be determined by the Office of Alumni Affairs of the College in consultation with the Board.
2. The purpose of the Society of Wabash Class Agents is as follows:
  - a. Perpetuate the personal relationship developed during the alumnus's years at the College;

- b. Lend that personal touch to the development and/or maintenance of this continuing relationship between the College and its alumni; and
  - c. Stimulate alumni participation in the affairs of the Association and/or support of the College.
3. This involvement or support can take many avenues among which are:
- a. Stimulating new admissions;
  - b. Communicating directly with the College or the Class Agent; and
  - c. Contributing financial support through current and deferred giving.

### **Article VII: Meetings**

1. The National Association of Wabash Men shall hold one (1) stated general membership meeting annually at the College, the date and hour to be set by the Board President. Twenty-five (25) members, representing at least three (3) states shall constitute a quorum.
2. The Board shall meet at least three (3) times each year at the College; once in the Fall, once in the Winter, and once in the Spring. Seven (7) members of the Board from at least two (2) states at a meeting duly called by the Board President shall constitute a quorum.
3. Special meetings may be called by the Board President or Directors constituting twenty (20) percent of the Board's membership provided that all members of the Association are given notice in writing at least thirty (30) days before date set for the meeting.

### **Article VIII: Alumni Awards of Merit**

1. The Association is hereby empowered to award three classifications of Alumni Awards of Merit as follows:
  - a. **The Frank W. Misch Alumni Distinguished Service Award** which shall be presented to a Wabash alumnus who has distinguished himself by devoted service to Wabash College;
  - b. **The Fredrick J. Urbaska Distinguished Civic Service Award** which shall be presented to a Wabash alumnus who has distinguished himself by outstanding contributions to the community in which he makes his home;
  - c. **The Clarence A. Jackson Distinguished Career Achievement Award** which shall be presented to a Wabash alumnus who has distinguished himself by outstanding contribution to his chosen vocation and;

- d. **The Jeremy R. Wright Young Alumnus Distinguished Service Award** which shall be presented to a Wabash alumnus within fifteen years of his graduation who has distinguished himself by devoted service to Wabash College, outstanding contributions to the community in which he makes his home, or outstanding contribution to his chosen vocation.
2. The Directors shall select the recipient(s) of the Award at the Spring meeting of the Board.

#### **Article IX. Honorary Alumnus**

1. The Association is hereby empowered to honor and recognize individuals who are not alumni of Wabash College by designating them Honorary Alumnus of Wabash College. This honor is given to a man or woman who truly personifies the spirit and commitment that sets Wabash, its students and the Wabash community apart from all others. It is the highest honor the Association can give to a non-alumnus.
2. The Directors shall select the recipients of the Award at the Spring meeting of the Board.

#### **Article X: Athletics Hall of Fame**

The Association is hereby empowered to honor and recognize individuals who, by outstanding athletic achievement and service, have made a lasting and significant contributions to the cause of sports at Wabash College, the state of Indiana, and the nation. The process for selecting these Hall of Fame inductees is contained in the Constitution of the Wabash College Athletic Hall of Fame.

#### **Article XI: Admissions and Career Services Fellows**

1. The Association is hereby empowered to honor and recognize individuals who, by outstanding service to the student recruitment and admissions or the career services efforts, have made a lasting and significant contribution to Wabash College.
2. The Directors shall select the recipients of these Awards at the Spring meeting of the Board.

#### **Article XII: The Butler-Turner Student-Alumni Engagement Award**

1. The Association is hereby empowered to honor and recognize members of the Wabash faculty and staff who have made an outstanding contribution to Wabash College by distinguishing themselves through the investment of personal time and resources resulting in a significant impact on Wabash students and/or alumni.

2. The Directors shall select the recipient(s) of this Award at the Winter meeting of the Board.

### **Article XIII: Alumni Trustees**

1. The National Association of Wabash men shall be represented on the Board of Trustees by individuals designated as “alumni trustees.” Two (2) trustees in each even-numbered year and one (1) trustee in each odd-numbered year shall be chosen by the alumni of the College by the process outlined below.
  - a. The alumni trustees shall be selected in the following manner: At the Fall meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association, immediately prior to the calendar year that the alumni trustee or trustees are to be elected, the Board shall nominate at least four (4) persons in even-numbered years (the calendar year of the election) and at least three (3) persons in odd-numbered years, all of such persons to be alumni of the College, as its choice of candidates for the position or positions of alumni trustee to be voted for by the alumni in the election.
  - b. On the fourth Tuesday of February in each year, the Registrar shall mail from Crawfordsville, Indiana to each alumnus of the College a ballot which lists the names of the candidates, selected by the Board of Directors of the Association, along with spaces for two (2) “write-in” candidates in even-numbered years and a space for a “write-in” candidate in odd-numbered years. The ballot shall also contain information and instructions concerning the time and manner of voting. Each alumnus is entitled to vote for two (2) candidates in even-numbered years, and for one (1) candidate in odd-numbered years. Each alumnus, having designated on his ballot his two (2) choices or his one (1) choice for the position of alumni trustee, as the case may be, shall sign this ballot and mail it to the Registrar’s office, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana. Alternatively, each alumnus may vote for the alumnus’ choice or choices of candidates by use of a secure electronic agent that creates an electronic record with the capability of including an electronic signature, consistent with the definitions provided in IC 26-2-8-102, as established by the registrar and identical in substance to the mailed ballot. On the fourth Tuesday of April in each year, the ballots shall be opened and canvassed by a group of three alumni (known as “canvassers”) from the Montgomery County area chosen by the Office of Alumni Affairs. Within three (3) days thereafter the committee shall certify to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees the names of the two (2) candidates in even-numbered years and the name of the one (1) candidate in odd-numbered years, receiving the highest number of votes. At its next meeting following the fourth Tuesday in April of each year, the Board of Trustees shall elect to its membership the two (2) candidates or the (1) candidate, as the case may be, whose names or name has been so certified to the board’s secretary by the committee of canvassers.
  - c. If, in any year, for any cause, the alumni fail to select the alumni trustee or trustees as provided in subdivision (a), the Board of Trustees shall elect, by a majority vote of the trustees in office present and voting at the election meeting two (2) alumni in even-numbered years or one (1) alumnus in odd-numbered years, as the case may be, to serve as alumni trustees of Wabash College. Subject to the provisions of this act, the Trustees shall, by majority vote of their number present and voting at the time of such election,

elect successor trustees in the event of the death or resignation of any of their number. Any vacancies so filled shall be for the unexpired term of the trustee whose death or resignation has caused such vacancy.

- d. An Alumni Trustee shall serve a four (4) year term and may be re-elected and succeed himself for an additional four (4) year term. The Alumni Trustee shall not be able to succeed himself after serving two (2) terms but shall be eligible for re-election as an Alumni Trustee after a lapse of a period of one (1) year from the expiration of his last term of service as Alumni Trustee.

#### **Article XIV: Authority**

This constitution supercedes all other heretofore adopted to govern the Association.

#### **Article XV: Amendments**

Amendments to the constitution may be adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Directors then in office.

May 1978  
Revised October 1984  
Amended January 1999  
Amended May 1999  
Amended October 1999  
Amended January 2002  
Amended May 2003  
Amended January 2005  
Amended October 2006  
Amended January 2007  
Amended January 2010  
Amended September 2012  
Amended May 2013  
Amended September 2013  
Amended January 2016  
Amended May 2018