

Wabash

magazine

the
wabash
way







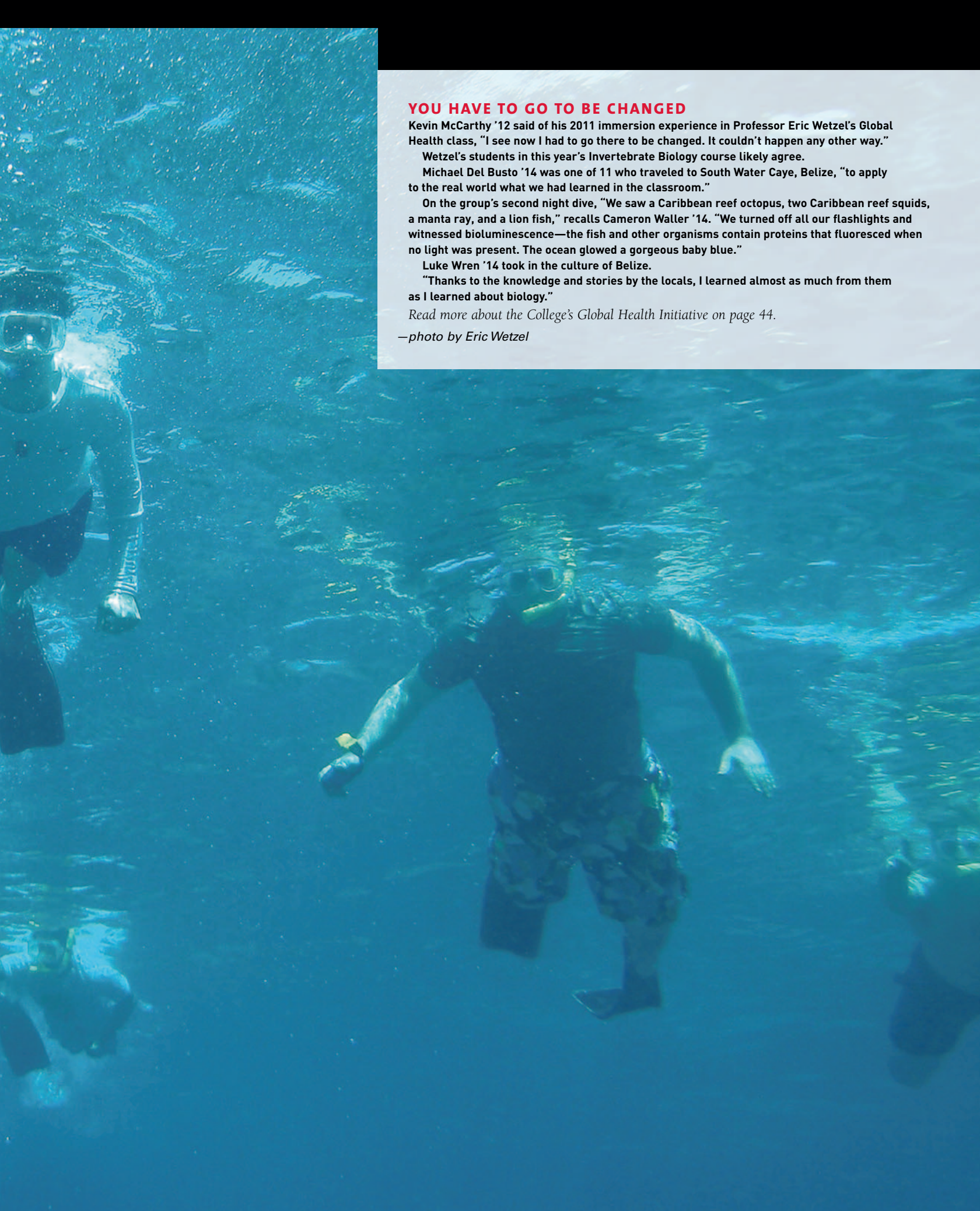
ALWAYS MEANS ALWAYS

"Each week we've not been sure he was going to be able to play, but on Saturdays he guts it out and does a great job for us."

—Coach Eric Raeburn, of running back Tyler Holmes '14, who earned Wabash's first 1,000-yard rushing season since 2003, including 169 yards in the Little Giants' 23-0 victory over DePauw in the 2012 Monon Bell Game.

—photo by Howard Hewitt



A full-page background image showing two divers underwater. The diver on the left is in the foreground, wearing a black wetsuit and a diving mask, swimming towards the camera. The diver on the right is further back, also in a wetsuit and mask, swimming away from the camera. The water is a deep, clear blue with some light rays visible.

YOU HAVE TO GO TO BE CHANGED

Kevin McCarthy '12 said of his 2011 immersion experience in Professor Eric Wetzel's Global Health class, "I see now I had to go there to be changed. It couldn't happen any other way."

Wetzel's students in this year's Invertebrate Biology course likely agree.

Michael Del Busto '14 was one of 11 who traveled to South Water Caye, Belize, "to apply to the real world what we had learned in the classroom."

On the group's second night dive, "We saw a Caribbean reef octopus, two Caribbean reef squids, a manta ray, and a lion fish," recalls Cameron Waller '14. "We turned off all our flashlights and witnessed bioluminescence—the fish and other organisms contain proteins that fluoresced when no light was present. The ocean glowed a gorgeous baby blue."

Luke Wren '14 took in the culture of Belize.

"Thanks to the knowledge and stories by the locals, I learned almost as much from them as I learned about biology."

Read more about the College's Global Health Initiative on page 44.

—photo by Eric Wetzel

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"I'm so much more passionate after my experience here," says Anton Crepinsek '13 (pictured with chemistry and mathematics double major Edward Evans '13) of his time at Wabash. "I want to contribute to something that will make a difference in people's lives."

Read more in this issue's Works in Progress, "As Far as You Want to Go," page 53.

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Wabash

magazine

Wabash College educates men to think critically,
act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely.

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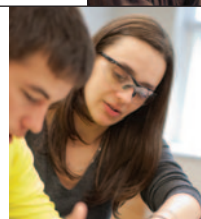
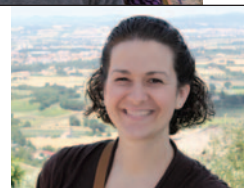
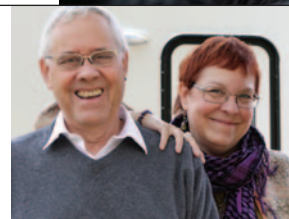
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WABASH
COLLEGE



Contributors

“We are story catchers.” That’s what writer and *Portland Magazine* Editor **Brian Doyle** told Wabash student writers during his visit and reading in February, co-sponsored by the English Department and WM. He urged them to pay attention, listen to others, and to tell those stories. He shows how it’s done in “My Dear Son,” this issue’s A Man’s Life.

Photographer **Joni Jeffries** did so well stepping in at the last minute to photograph Mark Miles ’76 in Indianapolis for us that we sent her on a longer road trip—to New Harmony, IN—to interview professor-turned-furniture maker Curt Schmitt ’81. Read “A Fulfilling Life” on page 38.

One of the assignments in Professor Crystal Benedicks’ Advanced Composition class calls for students to write a story for WM about a moment they never want to forget. **Matt Hudson ’10** wrote “Safe Haven” as a senior, and though it has taken us three years to publish, it’s truly an unforgettable story—and a perfect fit for an issue themed “The Wabash Way.” Thanks for your patience, Matt.

Eric Farber ’65 and his wife, Kay, have done a lot of traveling since they moved to Istanbul, Turkey, in 2004. Eric’s travel writing took us to Vietnam in WM Fall 2011. But last year they took “The Big Trip,” returning to the U.S. for a four-month drive across the country in a rented motorhome, including a stop at Wabash (where we shared a brief but enjoyable lunch in the Scarlet Inn) and in the Delta Blues country of Mississippi. Read about their “Evening at the Bluesberry Café” in this issue’s Voices.

Although **Kim Johnson’s** photography has graced WM’s pages for several years now, we wanted her eye and expertise on more than just her own photographs. Those do appear throughout this issue, most strikingly in our feature on Bob Bowers ’91, but she’s also now the magazine’s photo editor. Watch for the images to get even better and more prominent in future issues.

The tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School raised concerned voices once again not only about guns, but about violence in video games, and we wondered if Professor of Theater **Mike Abbott ’88** might have commented about the issue on his popular blog *Brainy Gamer: Thoughtful Conversation About Video Games*. Read his reflections from off the grid in “Notes from the Wild” in this edition’s Voices.

WM readers may recall Professor **Laura Wysocki** from last issue’s article about her trip with her Wabash student research assistants to the Howard Hughes Medical Institute’s Janelia Farm campus. Now, as they say, comes “the rest of the story.” Laura’s personal narrative, told in one of the year’s most surprising and moving Chapel Talks, is this issue’s End Notes. Reading it should give you a sense of why students and veteran professors are so excited about this new generation of Wabash faculty.

Wabash Ways

There are great things happening at Wabash, but we have
a hard time looking at ourselves in a self-critical but loving way.

—Wabash Professor Charlie Blaich, Director, Center of Inquiry of the Liberal Arts

 A FEW OF MY FRIENDS HERE, including President Pat White and Director of Alumni Affairs Tom Runge '71, cast a questioning look my way when I told them the title that would appear on the cover of this edition of WM. Was I suggesting that there was ONE Wabash Way?

They seemed relieved when I explained this was actually the headline for our feature about the Center of Inquiry's work—data from its Wabash National Study is giving us a great story to tell.

But as you read about the alumni, students, and teachers in this issue, you may notice some common denominators, some Wabash ways.

2012 Obama National Field Director Jeremy Bird '00 and Mark Miles '76 may not line up politically, but Bird got into organizing to “work hard, get in, and do something,” and Miles finds his adrenaline rush “getting something done.”

Is that a Wabash Way?

Soliant Consulting co-founder Bob Bowers '91 says he's proud “creating a great place to work,” while ICANN Director of Security Patrick Jones '96 works to keep the Internet a place where “my kids will be able to interact in a world where there's a free exchange of ideas.” Is the desire to build a creative community a Wabash Way?

Anton Crepinsek '13 had to learn how to fail and pick himself up, and Professor Chad Westphal builds “lots of little failures” into his NSF research so students can learn to do just that. Is resilience a Wabash Way?

Bowers promises his clients that he'll “tell the truth” about their businesses, and Charlie Blaich does the same with the 50 schools he works with. Is an unblinking pursuit of the truth a Wabash way?

Professor Eric Wetzel says he wants “to disturb” his students in the Global Health Initiative, while Bird says one of the greatest lessons he learned here was, “Don't ever get comfortable, don't ever think you know everything, and always be striving to learn.” Is discomfort with the status quo a Wabash Way?

If you read the many letters from alumni in From Our Readers in response to the last issue of WM, you might think that a sense of humor coupled with a deep capacity for respect and love are Wabash ways.

Professor Laura Wysocki calls the determination behind the motto Wabash Always Fights “an attitude and a way of life,” while Professor Eric Olofson brings equal determination to his efforts to forgive.

Can forgiveness be a Wabash way?

WHAT WE'RE REALLY TALKING about when we describe Wabash ways is this: What does it mean to be a man, and how can Wabash be the most positive catalyst for our students becoming good men? That is the work we have taken on every time President White has said, “We take young men seriously” and called them to “a higher imagination of themselves,” what the College has done since its founding.

The good men of Wabash and their teachers have been my source of lifelong learning for 18 years. If some of their stories in this issue resonate with you, I invite you to share your own with us—the fond memories, and those you'd like to forget, what worked and what didn't—from your time at Wabash and after.

Join us in this ongoing conversation as we strive to reflect upon our lives and this place in a “self critical but loving way.”

That may be the wisest of all Wabash ways. ■

Thanks for writing, and thanks for reading.

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A Knockout

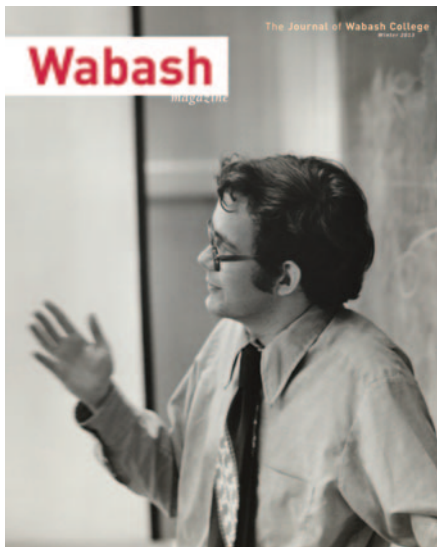
Your just published journal [WM Winter 2013] is a knockout in tone and capturing the tradition of Wabash without getting maudlin or hackneyed.

Congratulations for a sterling product.

It could be that I am prejudiced. Many of the professors cited in your magazine—Petty, Johnson, Cole, Charles, Baker, Rogge, Peebles, Harvey, Henry, Mitchum, Strawn, O'Rourke, and Salter—taught me and held me accountable. And, of course, Trippet was president during my four years, 1957–1961.

I am sure every graduate of Wabash reflects on his four years as the golden era of the College. When I read this issue, I sure do, and no one can convince me otherwise.

—**Tim Conlon '61**, Bend, OR



“Utterly Without Guile”

The picture of Bill Placher on the cover [of WM Winter 2013] was a wonderful memory prod for me, as I'm sure it will be for all who were lucky enough to meet him. The entire issue was marvelously evocative of very happy times.

I write to thank you and [Professor] Derek Nelson '99 for the absolutely magical story “To Be Known Better Than You Know Yourself.” I have sent a copy to my own children, all either currently attending or graduates of small, liberal

arts colleges, as well as my wife and brothers. I plan to send it to as many people as I can think of in the future.

I live in a state whose recently elected governor spent some time on Bill Bennett's radio show lamenting taxpayer dollars wasted on the liberal arts at the large (partially) state-supported universities. Your article should be mandatory reading for those two worthies, as well as for the many other educational troglodytes whose voices are increasingly heard in these parlous financial times.

Thank you very much for the magazine and particularly this article. I cannot remember the last time I was so moved by something.

Editor's Note: Dr. Jaquiss sent the following note (excerpted below) to his family along with “To Be Known Better Than You Know Yourself”:

I think it would be worth your time to read this article. The professor referred to in the story was William “Bill” Placher, a professor from whom I took two philosophy classes. These were among the most popular classes at the College during my time there. The draw was Bill Placher, who was absolutely brilliant. He could not have possibly existed outside a college campus—too absentminded, too cerebral, too disorganized, too sincere, and utterly without guile. He was incredibly generous and completely devoted to making the often incomprehensibly dense philosophical underpinnings of modern Western thought accessible to Indiana farm boys.

The story recounted in the article may seem a bit apocryphal, but it is absolutely consistent with the man a generation of Wabash students knew and loved. As liberal arts colleges come under attack, it is worth remembering that some (many?) of them are made up of people like Bill Placher. All students should have the opportunity to know someone like him.

—**Jake Jaquiss '82**, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC

With Gratitude

I never would have completed Wabash if it weren't for Dr. Placher. After my father died, Dr. Placher lent me money and even let me stay in his spare bedroom for part of one summer. I owe him a large part of who I've become as a man.

—**Scott Brannon '01**, Indianapolis, IN

The photo of Bill Placher brought back a memory that I'll never forget.

With 10 minutes remaining of an hour-long lecture that he was obviously very passionate about, Professor Placher had written something on the chalkboard and was walking back toward the students while still making his point. He may have been glancing upward when he walked off that foot-high stage that his desk was on. He didn't fall—he somersaulted right back onto his feet, all the while keeping his stride and his point.

I don't think he ever realized he had done it, but he amazed all of us.

—**Steve Pettinga '79**, Indianapolis, IN

The photograph of Bill Placher brought back wonderful memories of him as a student and colleague, although I was away the first year he taught. He was my sabbatical replacement for the year because Eric Dean had discovered that Yale PhD students could get some credit for teaching a year in the middle of their program and called Bill back to Wabash.

After that year, Eric wrote for Bill's file a wonderful letter of recommendation, concluding with the statement that, if Bill decided he wanted to teach undergraduates, we would want to bring him back to Wabash. Eric called him back as soon as he finished his doctorate.

During the years I chaired the Philosophy and Religion Department, I thought that my greatest contribution to Wabash College would be to keep Bill Placher happy and here!

—**Raymond Williams H'68**, LaFollette Professor Emeritus of the Humanities

"The Old Guys"

Professor Jack Charles [pictured in WM Winter 2013] taught me history in 1954. I have never ceased being grateful to him as I have explored the historical treasures of the world.

He was a stickler on the chronology of events—if you didn't know when and why it happened, how would you ever remember it? I will never forget him nibbling his chalk when he was especially engrossed in the subject.

—**George Heiland '57**, Phoenix, AZ

Dillinger Day

Ian Grant '13 was the co-editor of WM Winter 2013, and in that edition he asked alumni to tell him the stories behind the photos we published there. So many responded that we are beginning a new feature, "The Story Behind the Photo," in the Fall 2013 issue of WM. Here's the sort of story you'll find there:

Imagine my surprise when I opened my latest issue of *Wabash Magazine* and found myself prominently displayed on page 54 "abducting" Dean Norman Moore.



Here is the story behind that photo:

During the late '70s, the Tekes did a community service project called "Dillinger Day," and this is a scene from the inaugural one in 1978. We made arrangements with prominent members of the Crawfordsville and Wabash communities prior to the event; we would "kidnap" them and hold them for a ransom of canned goods to be donated

to FISH, a local community organization that ran a food bank.

We dressed as 1930s gangsters and borrowed a 1935 Ford coupe from a local auto repairman. Among the people whom we abducted that day were Mayor Glenn Knecht and President Lewis Salter.

We abducted Dean Moore and Professor Bob Henry on the Mall in front of the Chapel. I'm the guy who has Dean Moore's right arm; **Ray Mitsch '80** has his other arm. (**Clark Thorne '81** is partially obscured behind Dean Moore).

As we loaded Dean Moore and Professor Henry into the back of the car, we were met by other Tekes dressed as police officers, and we held a "shootout" with them (armed with cap guns) for the benefit of the photographer and a Lafayette television crew that was recording the whole thing for the evening news. The photos ended up on the front page of the *Journal Review*.

As I recall, we raised over \$400 in canned goods that day—quite a haul for the 1970s.

—**Ken Williams '80**, Valparaiso, IN

Arch Lore

I read with pleasure the latest WM. Unfortunately, most of the pictures are well before my time, but I can definitely confirm that there used to be a wall between Goodrich and Sparks. The wall was taken down about 10 years ago when Goodrich was rebuilt during my time.

When I was a student, there was a tradition that students should never walk under the arch in that wall. They would always use one of the doorways instead. I was told that students didn't walk through the arch because one winter ice had built up on the carriage lamp until one day it came crashing down, killing a student.

Of course the story is a work of fiction, but it was popular with the guys who gave campus tours.

—**Jonathan Galliher '04**, Chicago, IL

Volleyball Not on the Mall

The "On the Mall" photograph in the WM Winter 2013 appears actually to have been from the early 1990s (rather than 1980s). The two individuals on the left are **Derek Tatman '94** (white shirt) and **Craig Stark '94** (blue shirt), both fraternity brothers of mine at Lambda Chi Alpha.

—**Damon Leichty '94**, South Bend, IN

Editor's Note: And, as several readers pointed out, the game was not on the Mall, but in the Lambda Chi's side yard. As far as sports played on the Mall, Stan Vogel '66, Topeka, KS, offered this one: "Byron Kemper '65 and I used to shag flyballs on the Mall on summer evenings, until the groundskeeper ran us off—does too much damage to the lawn."

From the Archives

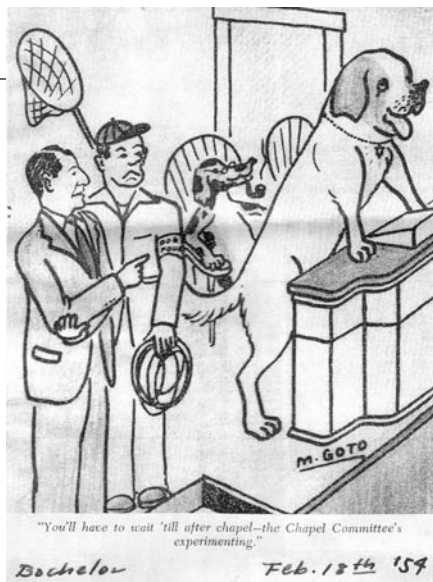
I enjoyed WM Winter 2013 with its focus on archival photos.

On page 54, the three students in their room are **Sean Sharma '98** (now a family MD in Williamsport, IN; his partner, Kent Walters, is a visiting professor in biology at Wabash); **John Jefferson '97** (now a contractor for the government working as a translator and intelligence expert after finishing his commission in the Army, where he was the 2007 Linguist of the Year); and **Mike Miller '96** (who works as a chemist for Lilly, right now in Ireland).

I spent a lot of time in that room, which was called "Northeast" in the Lambda Chi house.

—**Jeremy Hartnett '96**, Associate Professor of Classics





TO THE ARCHIVES When Trustee Emeritus Mitsuya Goto '55 forwarded to Phil Coons '67 this cartoon Goto drew for the February 18, 1954 edition of *The Bachelor*, Phil was kind enough to pass it along to us. Chapel Talks seem to have improved over time!
The caption reads: "You'll have to wait 'till after Chapel—the Chapel Committee's experimenting."

A Sign for the Times

Here's some detail and story to go with the photo of the DePauw sign reassembled on the Chapel steps.

That picture is from the fall of 1979. **Herbert Marshall Greene '80**, then a junior and a presiding spirit in the Phi Psi house, came up with the inspired plan to "appropriate" the DePauw sign that stood along I-70.

During that time, many smaller, similarly shaped white signs, which were made of wood and served as directional markers all over the DePauw campus, were regular fixtures in Wabash rooms. Herb had the idea to get the mother of all DPU signs and to assemble it on the Chapel steps the morning of the Bell Game.

So, on Thursday night before the game, a good number of us from the Phi Psi house drove down to get the interstate sign. An earlier crew had been dispatched to loosen the sign from its telephone pole-sized moorings.

Although the Phi Psi house maintained a pretty strict study table, we pledges were free that night to duck out a little early to participate.

The main memory I have of that night is—after an endless drive down countless country roads—helping to carry off the huge sections of the sign through what seemed to be an unending, dark Putnam County cornfield to the three waiting cars into which the signs were placed. Had our neighbor, Professor Hall Peebles of the religion department, been there, I am sure he

would have drawn parallels to the Philistines spiriting away the Ark of the Covenant.

The sign sat in the Great Hall of the Phi Psi house as its interim resting place before it was reassembled in the early hours Saturday morning on the Chapel steps for the game.

Your title says, "Now that's ingenuity!" That was the genius of Herb, who later ingeniously talked his way out of major consequences for himself and the house with Dean Moore, who equitably demanded that we pay the cost of relocating and restoring the sign to its original location.

Since it was Dean Moore's request, needless to say, payment was prompt and in full.

—**John Van Nuys '83**, *Crawfordsville, IN*

I do not believe the fraternity paid any restitution for the damage to the sign, and here's why: The sign theft was in retaliation for the Dannies stealing the Monon Bell from Wabash earlier that fall. When the thieves tried to lower the bell, their rope broke and the Bell crashed to the floor, breaking the terrazzo floor and damaging the yoke around the Bell. The Bell was returned to Wabash in exchange for Greek composites which some Wabash guys had stolen from DePauw.

After we stole the sign, my memory is that DePauw sent a

bill to Wabash for the cost to repair their sign. In response, Dean Moore prepared a bill for DePauw to pay for damage to the Bell and the floor. He inflated the

bill to \$6,827.31, but then gave DePauw a professional discount of 88.81623%, leaving a total bill due of \$763.55, which was exactly what DePauw was billing Wabash for the sign.

I am not making these figures up. I was editor of *The Bachelor* that semester, and I still have a copy of the bill from Wabash to DePauw dated November 7, 1979.

—**Mark McGrady '81**, *Franklin, TN*

Read more details of the great sign caper from Rev. Van Nuys' fraternity brothers at WM Online.

Reflecting on the adventurous activities during my undergraduate days, seeing the photo of the DPU sign on the Chapel steps evoked a profound sense of irony, knowing it was "relocated" from my farm property!

Some Little Giants!

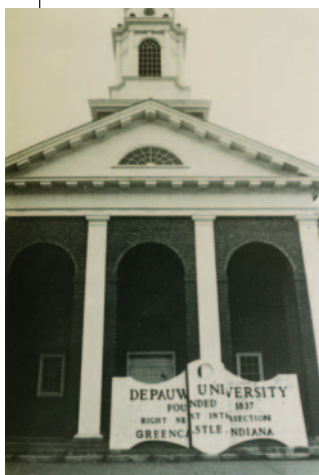
—**J.B. Michael '69**, *Greencastle, IN*



Caption Correction

What a great issue. I could not put it down.

However, the caption for the "Yesterday" picture on the back cover needs some cleaning up. It lists Stan Huntsman as quarterback, but the quarterback was actually my brother, Jerry. I am at the right-hand side playing halfback in my sophomore year, while **Joe Dooley '52** appears to be about to catch the ball from Jerry. Lew Jones is in the background. And an unidentified Little Giant seems to be committing a holding



violation on the left side of the picture. The referee in the picture is Dick Tiernan from Richmond, IN.

—**Stan Huntsman '54**, Austin, TX

Not One to Take Credit

While the College's archives do contain a goodly number of photographs and movies that I took during my student years (1963–67), I can't take credit for either of those pictures attributed to me in WM Winter 2013. When my father, Bob Henry, was imaging the February 1979 solar eclipse, I was viewing that event at the University of Iowa. The great classroom photo of Bob Harvey is familiar from my era but not from my negatives.



I suspect that the Harvey photo was taken by **Dave Herkner '64**, who mentored me during my freshman year shooting for *The Bachelor* and Wabash

yearbook. Another possibility would be **Steve Wehrly '65**, who, along with **Mike Curry '67** and **Doug Smith '68**, captured images for College publications. —**Dennis Henry '67**, *Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN*

The Call to Moscow

*Not all the stories inspired by the Winter edition were prompted by photos. Witness this tale of Wabash students in dogged (and expensive) pursuit of the truth at the dawn of the Space Age. Thanks to **Len Loker '59** for passing it along:*

The very first artificial Earth satellite, Sputnik, was launched by the USSR in the fall of 1957, but a few months earlier, while I was treasurer of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, rumors were flying that it had already happened. A couple of my fraternity brothers must have heard the rumors on late-night TV and were inspired to find out if the rumor was true.

Ernie Lewis '58 decided to call the shoe-pounding Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev in Moscow and ask him directly.

This call to Moscow was a more far-out idea at that time than one might imagine today. The only telephone we had in the fraternity house was coin-operated. It was in a built-in phone booth in the foyer. With more than fifty college-age men calling girls for dates and calling home for money, it was heavily used during most times of day, but this call was made about 2 a.m. in Crawfordsville (day-time in Moscow).

Ernie used a nickel to call the operator and asked how much it would cost to phone Moscow.

She was probably bored late at night, intrigued by Ernie's idea of calling Khrushchev, and did her best to accommodate him. However, Ernie had nowhere near the amount

of pocket change the call would cost, even with the pooled resources of the handful of "brothers" who were in on the caper with him. That is where I got involved. Someone remembered that the treasurer's safe had piles of dimes from the Coke machine and ran to the top-floor dorm to roust me out of bed. I was the only one who knew how to open the safe.

I was groggy from being roused from a sound sleep, but I got up and joined in Ernie's project with many rolls of dimes from the safe. Incredibly, the operator managed to reach Khrushchev's office and asked that the coins be deposited. Dime after dime poured into the telephone's coin slot, each one ringing a little bell and falling into the coin box. The phone wouldn't take the whole amount because the coin box filled up before even half the toll was paid. The cooperative operator agreed to charge the remainder to Ernie's parents' phone in Lebanon, IN.

Ernie was connected to Nikita Khrushchev's English-speaking secretary. He was told the premier would speak to them, but only in Russian. Ernie needed a Russian interpreter quick. It turns out we had a fraternity brother, Byron Walter, who was studying Russian, but he was a Crawfordsville "townie" who lived at home. The operator agreed to call him and patch him into the conversation with Moscow. However, Byron was not so amused at being awakened at 2:30 a.m., decided it was a prank call, and hung up on Ernie. At that point, I went back to bed and heard the rest of the story the next morning.

Khrushchev wouldn't talk, but Ernie had paid for a call to Moscow, and he wanted to know whether a satellite had been launched. Somehow the Crawfordsville operator, in talking with another operator in Moscow, discovered he could talk with the *New York Times* correspondent in Moscow. The connection was made and Ernie asked, "We've heard the rumor that Russia has launched an artificial satellite:

Is that true?" *The Times* reporter replied, "We've heard the same rumor, but we, too, don't know if it's true."

That ended the phone call, but there was an aftermath.

Another brother, **Bill Brantley '55**, had landed a job working for the Crawfordsville daily newspaper. Bill wrote up the story of the call to Moscow and broadcast it over the Associated Press teletype. Ernie got phone calls from people all over the country, some of them from radio talk show hosts. He was a minor celebrity for a few days.

—**Ron Stoner '59**, Bowling Green, OH,
Forwarded by Len Loker

No Need for the Bulldog

Like most alumni I take interest in things that relate to me and my time at Wabash. I used to block for **Dave Harvey** and **Ed Jones '76** back in the last century, circa 1975, and I believe that either **Toni Barrick '80** bears an uncanny resemblance to how I remember **Ed Jones '76**, or this caption is in error. Dave was the quarterback and Ed was an end.

If only Ed's bulldog were in the photo I could be sure.

—**Dana R. Kolter '76**, Louisville, KY

Editor's Note: Several of your teammates contacted us about this, Dana, and all of them say you're right: That's Ed Jones with Dave. Don't even need Ed's bulldog to confirm it.



Wrong Dilley

In the photo and story on page 64 of WM Winter 2013, we got the wrong Jon Dilley. The student walking with **Ethan Olberding '99** and **Jared Hall '99** is **Jonathan C. Dilley '99** of Indianapolis, yet the biographical information we provided was that of **Jonathan O. Dilley '03**. Our apologies to both, and thanks to Jonathan O. for letting us know.

HOCKEY AT WABASH While looking through photo albums with Professor Emeritus Bernie Manker for the WM Winter 2013, we came across this snapshot of the Wabash hockey team. Coached by Professor Manker, hockey was a club sport in 1969, throughout the 1970s, 1980s, and the early 1990s. Manker recalls that some of the practices were held on the frozen-over pond of the local Sportsman's Club.

Can you tell us who is in this photo with Professor Manker, and what year it was taken?



Send your comments on and suggestions for the magazine, as well as your Wabash stories, to WM editor Steve Charles: charless@wabash.edu
Letters may be edited for length or content.

From Center Hall



The Courage to Wonder and the Commitment to Heroic Change

Wabash is a great college not because we are rushing to do what everyone else does faster or cheaper, but because we dig deeply into the lives of Wabash men and transform their sense of themselves and their understanding of the world around them.

□ THROUGHOUT THE NATION and around the world we hear calls for higher education to redefine itself, to rethink and reimagine what we do and how we do it. Writers and politicians, critics of liberal arts education and even its advocates are issuing calls for smarter, leaner, stronger delivery of education. Wise heads bemoan the seemingly inexorable rise in the cost of college, even as we ask higher education to do more to address social and cultural problems.

Clearly, the nation and the world need more college-educated citizens. (India alone has more than 13.6 million university and college students currently, but will need to serve 40 million by the end of this decade.) Voices inside and outside the academy call for a three-year degree, urge the establishment of MOOCs (massive open online courses), praise conventional online education, urge credit for experience, look to develop joint high-school and college courses, and advocate for a stronger connection between higher education and the world of work. All of these innovations, some of which have been around in less fancy dress for a long time, will, proponents claim, help students “get through” college faster and “complete” their education more efficiently.

We must not reject these ideas out of hand. Wabash is a great college because at all levels we continue to be a community of learners, ready to follow good models from others and develop our own innovations. Indeed, Wabash faculty have been innovators in using technology-assisted instruction and leaders in pedagogy designed to enrich student experience inside and outside the classroom. We are pioneering new approaches to meaningful work study, internships, and summer research projects; shaping our students’ understanding of vocation through our Callings program; and continually enhancing the Schroeder Career Center programming to help Wabash men move smoothly

into meaningful work. The increased support from the Challenge of Excellence campaign has helped in developing new interdisciplinary collaborations, immersion experiences, and partnerships.

The Commitment to Heroic Change

AS WE WELCOME A NEW PRESIDENT, it is a good time to remind ourselves of the special qualities that flow through a Wabash education. In this time of transition, we recall that Wabash, for all of our commitment to tradition, is always about the business of change. Every year over one-quarter of our community changes: Men graduate and move on, and a new cadre of fresh faces join the entering class.

Yet in this community awash in constant change, Wabash is a great college not because we are rushing to do what everyone else does faster or cheaper or with less time on campus. Wabash is a great college because with every aspect of our skill, experience, and practice, we transform the lives of young men and teach them to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely. We dig deeply into the lives of Wabash men and transform their sense of themselves and their understanding of the world around them.

We can do this only because Wabash freshmen accept the *challenge* in the invitation to join our community. We explicitly call young men to a life-changing experience. We promise that we will not simply deliver information or skills to their waiting minds. Wabash men do not come to us as empty vessels: They come ready for change in this place that will draw out their best imagination of themselves as characters in a story that will be greater than they ever thought imaginable—as heroes in their own lives.

We take young men and, through four years of Wabash, create leaders, self-actualized young men who know themselves, their brothers, and their world with a clarity that

gives them power to achieve the next step in their lives.

The 18-year-old Wabash men are raw and in some ways unsophisticated, but they are ripe and ready. As I have had the pleasure of watching Wabash men in action for seven years, I have come to fondly characterize their readiness and alertness with a simple image—as meerkats at the edge of the burrow, standing tall and proud, alert and ready to learn and grow. It may seem an amusing image, but in this readiness lie enormous possibilities as Wabash men look around and seem to say:

What can I see? What can I become?

How do I live and move and have my being in this world?

How can I not only get a job, but build a life that will call me to the highest imagination of myself?

How do I, as Thoreau urged, live the life I imagine and go in the direction of my dreams?

How do I become the man I dream to be?

Which path will lead me to my heroic quest?

WABASH DID NOT INVENT THESE QUESTIONS IN 2013, or even in 1832. These important questions have stirred in the hearts of young people, and young men in particular, throughout history. They have found their answers in religious vocation, in the military, in dedication to careers, in ancient rites of passage in cultures around the world, and in the education of elites in the days when only a small fraction of young people attended college.

Yet today, few in American higher education are talking about inspiring young men and women to take themselves seriously, to be heroes in their own lives.

There is much in our national discourse that seems to imply that we cannot afford the time and the effort to think about these matters. As a nation we find it easy to speak of skills and talents and uncomfortable to address dispositions and habits of the mind and heart. Surely there are many institutions that do a fine job of teaching a young person of reasonable capabilities how to be competent in the skills of the scientist or the English teacher or the businessman, but at Wabash we teach those skills by helping our students unlock their ambition, their avidity for learning, their curiosity about the world.

Anyone can teach students to know history. But how do you make young people so hungry that they go beyond where you take them, seeking not only to know what is known but to discover what is not known, and even more, to not just know history, but to *make* it—to be the movers and the shakers in the country and the world.

That is what we promise at Wabash; that is what we do.

The Courage to Wonder

Many colleges would say these questions are no longer relevant or that they are too personal or too immeasurable. I could not disagree more.

In the last paragraphs of *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's narrator Nick Carraway muses on the Dutch sailors who were the first Europeans to set eyes on Long Island thinking:

...man must have held his breath in the presence of this continent, compelled into an aesthetic contemplation he neither understood nor desired, face to face for the last time in history with something commensurate to his capacity for wonder.

Where Wabash stands distinctively strong in American higher education is in our recognition that the capacity to wonder about the world—about the self, about the future—is not something only of one moment in American life or in Western civilization, but is a quality bound in our deepest dreams and our highest aspirations for ourselves, for our communities, for our brothers and sisters. At Wabash we continue to have the courage and the wisdom to see our students as young men awake to the capacity of wonder embodied in the heroic questions within, as men ready to take themselves and their highest ambitions seriously.

THIS SPRING, 12 Wabash students have taken up *The Great Gatsby* as a voluntary reading group, meeting weekly to discuss the novel and its meaning in their lives. They do this not for grade or credit, but for fun and for what they might learn. I sat in on one of their sessions and, though I have taught the book many times, I had nothing to say; there was more than enough teaching and learning going on already.

I was schooled again more recently after speaking at an alumni dinner in Pittsburgh, where I brought up that image of Wabash men as meerkats. The next morning, I was a bit surprised when Bruce Baker '65, distinguished alumnus and honorary degree recipient, told me he was deeply moved by the image.

"I was one of those meerkats, you know," Bruce said. Awake and ready at the edge of his life when he started at Wabash, Bruce went on to become a teacher, linguist, inventor, businessman, entrepreneur, and pioneer in designing communicative devices for the speaking impaired. Equipped and inspired here to wonder, he found his own way to a heroic life.

In the gentlemen from across campus talking about *Gatsby* in the echoing depths of the Goodrich Room of the library, in Bruce Baker and thousands of other alumni who found in Wabash the hope, the inspiration, and the challenge to take themselves and their highest ambitions seriously, we find the future of Wabash burning bright before us.

As I leave Wabash, I am confident we will change and grow as a College responsive to the challenges of our times, and we will never give up on our highest imagination of what a Wabash education can be, nor ever lose faith in our students' capacity for wonder and their dream of their own greatness and that of the College they love so well.

Wabash Always Wonders. Wabash Always Dreams. Wabash Always Fights. ■



Contact President White at president@wabash.edu

An ongoing conversation about what it means to be a man in the 21st century

My Dear Son

He left this letter for me. His lawyer delivered it by hand.
Traveled all this way to hand it to me. —by Brian Doyle

Visiting a friend, I see a framed letter on his wall—not an unusual thing, for there are several framed letters there; but this letter is handwritten, whereas the others are typed, some on renowned letterhead.

I lean in closer to the handwritten letter and see that it is signed by his father. I cannot make out the scrawl well, other than the salutation (“My Dear Son”), and I turn and ask my friend about it, and he tells me it is his father’s suicide note.

□ I HUNG IT THERE for many and complicated reasons, says my friend. For one thing it’s the last missive I ever got from Dad, and for another it’s a real sweet note. He poured more of himself and his feelings into that note than he did in all the other letters I ever got from him combined. Not that there were many letters from Dad. He wasn’t the kind of guy who wrote letters. Or said much about how he felt. Even his compliments were stern and gruff. But you knew he was inside there somewhere. When I was younger I was angry that he couldn’t or wouldn’t come out of himself, but when I got older I realized he was who he was and I ought to either appreciate that or leave him alone. I tried to appreciate it. We were never close but we got to be respectful with each other. That sounds cold but it was a lot better than the beginning. And he finally wrote down that he loved me and liked me and was proud of me and thought of me every day, *he wrote that down*, and it means the world to me. I read that letter every day. It’s like a window for me or something. My mom died years ago and they never had any other kids so it was me and dad, and to have him finally say how he really felt, even in this context, it means the world to me. He was real old and real sick and he wanted to leave with a shred of dignity intact, so he did. But he left this letter for me. His lawyer delivered it by hand. Traveled all this

way to hand it to me. Remarkable. He said he suspected that my dad had something substantive to say and he didn’t feel he could trust a letter like that to the post.

For a while I kept the letter in a bible, said my friend, but after a while I wanted to see it every day, and protect it, and celebrate it, you know? Salute it or something. I know it seems weird to have your dad’s suicide note hanging on the wall but who’s to say what’s weird with anyone else’s complicated life, you know what I mean? To me it’s a love letter that took a real long time to arrive. I waited all my life for that letter. That’s the greatest letter I ever got, by far. Sure, you wish you didn’t have to wait your whole life for it, you wish it wasn’t necessary, you wish it wasn’t a big deal, but that’s the dad I had, and the fact that he finally sat down and wrote out how he felt in his soul, that means the world to me. I know people who see it think the context is weird or sad or macabre but I guess I prefer to think of it as a terrific love letter. And every time I read it and cry I walk away thinking, *Why the hell do we not say how we feel to the people we love, every day? Why the hell not? Why do we let ourselves get trapped inside the prison of our dignity?* We ought to be speaking and mailing love letters all day every day, that’s what I think. I try to do that now, for which I have to thank my dad, you know?

I DO KNOW, I SAY, and we turn away to other matters, but I went home that day and told my lovely bride that I loved her, and I told our sweet tumultuous daughter and our wild and surly and hilarious sons that I loved them, and they made jokes and were uncomfortable and slid off to pretend to do their homework, but when I told my lovely bride about that letter on the wall, she said it would be a prayer to tell you all about it, so I have. ■

Brian Doyle was the College’s visiting writer this past winter and is the editor of *Portland*, the magazine of the University of Portland. His most recent books are the novel *Mink River*, the short story collection *Osama bin Laden’s Bald Spot & Other Stories*, and *Grace Notes*, a book of essays.

Saluting President White

From Chicago to Indianapolis to Washington DC and beyond, alumni across the country celebrated President Pat White and First Lady Chris White's leadership of Wabash for the past seven years, while on campus the Glee Club put it all to music in a tribute to the Whites during the singers' final concert of the year.



He spoke of fond dreams and sure purpose,
of brothers, a faithful band;
He urged us to question, to live, and to learn...

—from “We Salute President White,” the Glee Club’s vocal tribute to the College’s 15th president

**LIVING WITH THESE WORKS HAS BEEN
A GREAT PLEASURE. TO SHARE THEM WITH
OTHERS IS AN EVEN GREATER DELIGHT.**

—President Pat White, at a dinner in October honoring David and Betty Givens (below) and their gifts of paintings by Hoosier impressionist painter J. Ottis Adams, including the first painting Adams ever sold: “The highest ideals of the College shine in these paintings and in the generosity of David ’56 and Betty Givens.”



Jon Pactor and Chris White

“Whatever you do and wherever you do it, you exude endless energy and bring together people with differing thoughts and make something good happen. You are a First Lady for all seasons.”

—Jon Pactor ’71, introducing Chris White after she and Pat White were named the Indianapolis Association’s Man and Woman of the Year in February.

David and Betty Givens



Moments



Derek Rowe



Evening of Discourse co-organizers
Tyler Griffin '13 and Jeremy Wentzel '14



Pat White and Francisco Huerta

YOUR INPUT IS HIGHLY VALUED Derek Rowe '13 served as emcee for "An Evening of Discourse," which brought together more than 70 students, faculty, and staff from diverse backgrounds for candid discussion on challenging topics.

While we share a unique identity through Wabash, we are from different places and come from different backgrounds. The Senior

Council is deeply committed to campus unity among students, faculty, and staff. Your input is highly valued and needed.

—from the program for the Senior Council's "Evening of Discourse" in the Knowing Fieldhouse



Jerry Bowie '04

We've all benefited from Jerry's unique abilities to manage all aspects of five simultaneous immersion trips while running the lights and sound in the Fine Arts Center while dealing with the logistics of any number of other events on campus. But most of all we'll miss Jerry's friendship. He's someone who always seems to know when you're having a rough day, then pops in the door with a Coke or take-out from China Inn. He's been a dear friend to all of us.

—Senior Director of Communications and Marketing Jim Amidon '87, at a reception in February for departing Center for Academic Enrichment Coordinator Jerry Bowie '04



Deborah Woods

"No doubt [conductor] Alfred Abel programmed this piece, in part, because Deb could showcase what is among its finest moments so beautifully and capably."

—Professor of Music Peter Hulen, after the Wabash Chamber Orchestra's performance of Dvorak's "New World Symphony," featuring oboist and Wabash Grants Coordinator Deborah Woods.

Read more at WM Online.

Wally at the Movies || A Liberal Arts Symposium on Movies in Our Culture || February 15, 2013

STARRING

President Pat White: *What Ripley, Thelma and Louise, Norma Rae, and Jewell Ivy Teach Us about What It Means to Be a Man*

Production Designer Michael Bricker '04: *How to Create a Fake World in the Real World*

Professors Crystal Benedicks and Jim Cherry: *Screening the Unimaginable*

Director Russell Harbaugh '06: *My First Feature*

Professor Lexie Hoerl: *Codes of Chivalry in Film*

Associate Dean Will Oprisko: *I'm Batman: How the Dark Knight Inspires Us*

Keith Nelson '71: *D.W. Griffith's Birth of a Nation: Marketing Racism or Marketing Art?*

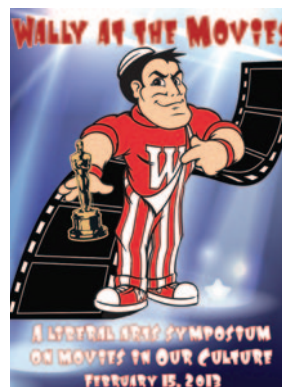
Professor Warren Rosenberg: *Wonder Boys: (White Male) English Professors in Film*

Steve Badger '87 and Robert Meitus '88: *How Globalization Threatens Intellectual Property and Freedom of Expression*

Coach Aaron Selby '06: *Film as a Teaching and Analytical Tool in Football*

Archivist Beth Swift: *Will Hays '00: More Than a Censor*

Jo Throckmorton '87: *Block, Light, Prop, and Shoot*



Jo Throckmorton

Jo Throckmorton '87 gave the keynote address about his work in film, television, documentaries, and commercials.

Our brothers would have taken great delight in this collection.

—Tom Stocks '73, who, with his wife Marie, donated 31 limited-edition prints from the estate of Ken Nahan, including work by the first artists to display abstract art in China. The gift honors the Stocks' brothers, Tim Stocks and Peter Green.



Tom Stocks



Alison Kothe

“THE GREATEST GIFT”

As Director of Development Alison Kothe prepared to retire last December, she recalled the way she came to Wabash 12 years ago. She said Wabash Professor of Classics John Fischer

gave her “the greatest gift” of her working life: Alison had just left an unsatisfying job with a bank in 1999 when she sat down with Fischer, who had been her brother Jim’s faculty advisor at Wabash and had become a family friend. Fischer told her about an opening in development at Wabash. He suggested she “try something completely new.”

“John said with a sweep of the arm, ‘Child, come to Wabash,’” Alison recalled. “So I did.”

And for 11 years as a major gifts officer then director of development, Alison, as Director of Alumni Affairs Tom Runge said, “modeled dedicated, over-the-top performance.

“It was Alison’s vision, leadership, drive, and personal dedication that motivated the staff to achieve.”

She doesn’t like public attention. Alison didn’t want a fuss made about her retirement, doesn’t trust gushing sentimentality, so she slyly dodged any efforts at a reception.

And that’s fitting, as her best work was always behind the scenes. It came alive in hundreds of face-to-face conversations and emails and phone calls with alumni, students, and faculty; in unexpected kindnesses; in the creative ways she found to connect alumni with the College; in being an advocate for what alumni cared about and finding who at today’s Wabash they would benefit from knowing; in mending fences and listening when alumni were disappointed with their alma mater, then finding a way to begin healing that relationship.

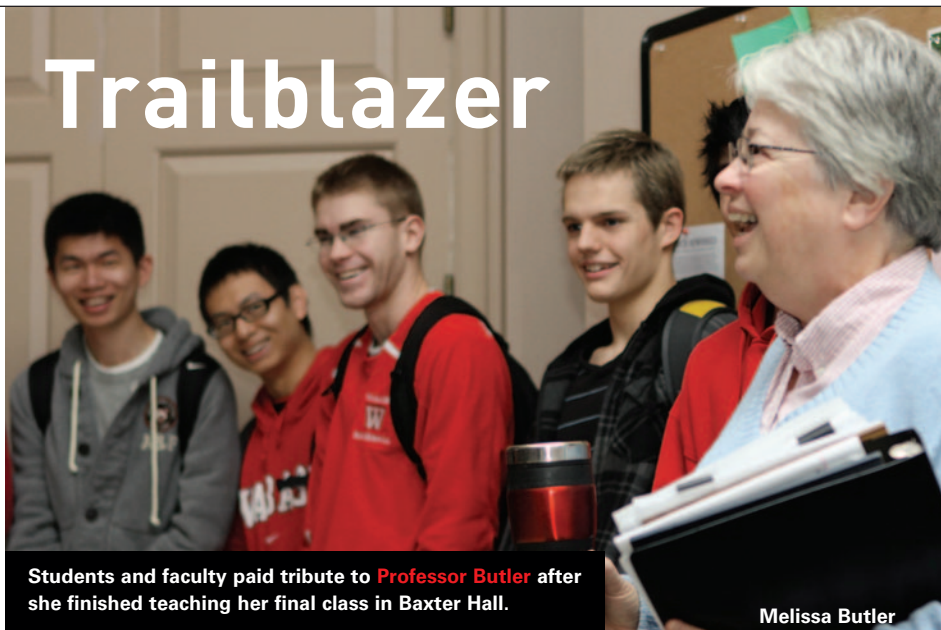
John Fischer gave Alison Kothe the greatest gift of her professional life, but Alison’s insight, lived out in her 11 years at Wabash, is a greater gift to us: a deep understanding that advancement work is ultimately about honoring relationships—honest, heartfelt, mutually beneficial relationships. That’s a legacy that will continue long past her tenure here.—*Steve Charles*

You try to trust that you have an impact, whether they learn everything, or just some things.

—Daniel Ranschaert ’12, quoted in “Brothers and Sisters of the 21st Century,” an article in the New York Times about Ranschaert’s teaching with the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE). The Times continues: “Devoting themselves to society’s overlooked and left-behind, voluntarily accepting a wage of \$1,000 a month, the teachers...have formed the 21st-century equivalent of the sisters and brothers of the Catholic religious orders whose sacrifices sustained the American parochial school system.” Sam Glowinski ’12 also teaches in the program.

Read the article at WM Online.

Trailblazer



Students and faculty paid tribute to Professor Butler after she finished teaching her final class in Baxter Hall.

Melissa Butler

Students, faculty, and staff crowded into the Rogge Lounge in December to offer their best wishes to Professor Melissa Butler, the first woman to earn tenure at the College, who retired last winter after 37 years serving the Wabash community.

“I knew we had the right candidate for the job; she had the moxie it was going to take for a woman to join a faculty that had infinitely more Davids on the faculty than it did women.” —Professor Emeritus of Political Science David Hadley, recalling Melissa Butler’s job interview at Wabash

“I can’t say enough about her way with students, her ability to make every kind of experience into a learning experience for the students, and her ability to cope with just about anything.” —Professor of Economics Kay Widdows

Read more on page



Bonnie Jo Campbell

Writing fiction and doing higher-level mathematics are not completely different. In mathematics, you prove theorems using absolutely rigorous mathematical logic. In a story you move through a situation with a sort of emotional logic. In mathematics it has to be logical, and fiction needs to be plausible, and interesting enough that people won’t put it down.

—Visiting writer Bonnie Jo Campbell (who has a master’s in mathematics), during a question-and-answer session following a reading from her best-selling novel, *Once Upon a River*.

Humans do two things that no other animal does.
The first is cooking. The second is telling stories.

—Food writer, author of 19 books, and Iron Chef judge Michael Ruhlman, from his talk, “The Cooking Animal,” in Baxter Hall in October. Ruhlman also met with student writers, and the culinary highlight of his visit was a meal prepared by Bon Appetit Chef Jordan Hall. Of finding his vocation as writer and chef, Ruhlman said, “The best things in life happen when you get carried away.”



Brotherhood

I came back, as I have nearly every year since I graduated, to celebrate 20 years of brotherhood. We put a lot of hard work into the foundation of the Theta Delta Chi—it’s a good feeling to see its continued success.

—Jim Saunders ’92, joining 40-plus fraternity brothers to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the group’s reemergence on campus. “The pride the international takes in this charge is tremendous,” former Grand Lodge President Rick Work told the gathering, organized by Jim Leuck ’09.

Read more at WM Online.

The kids I grew up with are the first that get sent to war. The families I grew up with are the first to have one thing go wrong and they need public assistance—one health crisis, one plant closing, one piece of bad luck. That’s the lens that I see public policy through. I want the people in government thinking about the people who sit around the table in a trailer park worrying about healthcare costs.

—Jeremy Bird ’00, former National Field Director for Obama 2012, from the Harvard Divinity School Web site.

Read more on page

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FOR THE 12TH YEAR IN A ROW, CLASSES WERE CANCELLED ON THE LAST FRIDAY AFTERNOON OF JANUARY SO THE ENTIRE WABASH COMMUNITY COULD SHARE IN THE WORK OF STUDENTS AT THE CELEBRATION OF STUDENT RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP, AND CREATIVE WORK.



Father and son and entrepreneurial partners and Sun King Brewery founders Omar '60 and Clay Robinson '97 talked about creating a winning business plan and facing the competition.



“Our idea was to make it really simple to find things to do,” said Squarejive founder Charlie Kelly ’11 (shown here talking with students Jared Herbert and Michael Riddering) whose smartphone app provides location-based suggestions of events and activities.



GIVE ME A
W

Hall-of-Famer Mike Crnkovich '93 gets a cheer from his daughter during a break in the action at February's Alumni Basketball Game.

Hall-of-Famers

In November the College recognized the extraordinary accomplishments and honors of these outstanding scholar-athletes and special contributors to Wabash athletics with induction into the Wabash College Athletics Hall of Fame.

- Chris Morris '04, **Football**
All-Time Leading Rusher
- Glenn Pride '63, **Track and Field**
All-American, Record-Setting Hurdler
- Tom Puschak '89, **Track and Field**
National Champion Hammer Thrower
- Tom Quackenbush '88, **Baseball**
Two-Time MVP, ICAC Co-MVP
- Jonathan Turk '93, **Swimming**
Four-time All-American, NCAA Postgraduate Scholar Academic All-American
- Steve Turk '91, **Swimming**
Two-Time MVP, Four-Time All-American
- Jim Wadkins '84, **Wrestling**
MVP and three-time Little State Champion
- Andy Ford H'03, **President of Wabash College**
Ushered Wabash into North Coast Athletic Conference, built Allen Athletics Center



“A Great Conference”

More than 200 participants—alumni, faculty, staff, guests, and students from six Indiana colleges and universities—attended the Third Annual Entrepreneur Summit at Wabash in February. The day-long conference included sessions on funding models, bootstrapped business development, startup structure, building brands, working with venture capital, legal issues for entrepreneurs, working with manufacturers, and a pitch critique panel.

“It was a great conference. We didn’t talk about entrepreneurial stuff when I was in school; it just was not on the radar. I’d love to see it become a more important part of the College and this education that equips you to be an entrepreneur in a real way.” —Jim Ray '95, who presented “Revelations from the Entrepreneur Battlefield”

WABASH COLLEGE'S RANK ON LIST OF TOP 25 SCHOOLS WITH THE BEST PROFESSORS.

WABASH WAS THE ONLY INDIANA SCHOOL ON THE LIST, BUT THREE OTHER SINGLE SEX COLLEGES—ALL-FEMALE INSTITUTIONS BRYN MAWR, WELLESLEY, AND HOLLINS UNIVERSITY—ALSO MADE THE CUT.

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An Impressive Record

He brings an impressive record of achievement as an economist, teacher, scholar, and administrator, and we look forward to working closely with him to help Wabash College achieve its mission.

—Board of Trustees Chair Stephen Bowen '68, announcing the selection of Claremont McKenna College Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean of the Faculty, and Professor of Economics Greg Hess as the 16th President of Wabash College, beginning July 1, 2013.



Greg Hess



John Fischer



Jeremy Hartnett and Mitch Brown

Teachers and Students

Professor Emeritus of Classics John Fischer H'70 made a rare return to campus in October to hear former student Jeremy Hartnett '96 present the annual LaFollette Lecture in the Humanities, while Hartnett's former student Mitch Brown '10 was also in attendance, having delivered a lecture on campus earlier in the day. Said Brown: "It's so cliché and every alum says it, but when I come back to Wabash I feel like I'm coming home."

Read about Hartnett's talk on page 89.

I wanted a show that would focus on Wabash seniors with interesting stories.

—Devan Young '13, whose show "Senior Seminar" interviewed nearly a dozen Wabash seniors this past academic year. Watch Devan's show—plus Chapel Talks, video from the Archives, Commencement, and special guests from the College Lecture Series on the College's YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/WabashCollege

If Wabash teaches you nothing else, it should teach you this:

We live in a world that needs saving...Your voice can and should be a weapon against so much that ails us.

—Marc Nichols '92, from his November 15 Chapel Talk, "Voice to the Voiceless."

At colleges and universities across the country, Wabash has become synonymous with the best practices in liberal arts teaching and learning.

Here's how the College's Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts is "spreading the fame of her honored name."

the Wabash Way

—by Jim Amidon '87



photo by Kim Johnson

Charlie Blaich

**“Their success is due
to their humility.”**

the Wabash Way



DEBORAH GROSSMAN-GARBER
felt isolated and alone.

As Director of the Office of Student Learning at the University of Rhode Island, her job was to improve the experiences of undergraduate students using assessment data. But she kept running into roadblocks, finding little support from faculty and administrators.

“We had rooms full of expensive survey data on our students, but I had almost nothing specific to the student experience,” she recalls. “It was as if we were afraid of what the data might tell us.”

Professors didn’t have time to study and fully understand the reams of data, and administrators and faculty alike were reluctant to discuss potential weaknesses in the curriculum and classroom experience.

That’s when Charlie Blaich and the Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts (CILA) stepped in and introduced the Wabash National Study of Liberal Arts Education.

Rhode Island was among the first university to participate in the Wabash National Study, a longitudinal study to investigate critical factors that affect the outcomes of liberal arts education. But unlike many similar surveys, the Wabash Study was designed to help more than 50 participating colleges and universities to improve student learning and bring about action-oriented change based on evidence.

“Charlie’s work threw a lifeline to those of us in higher education who are involved with student learning outcomes assessment and who struggle to improve the outcomes and ensure success,” says Grossman-Garber, now Assistant Commissioner for Higher Education for the State of Rhode Island. “The Center has created a national learning community

of professionals, faculty, and administrators—campus leaders, who are outspoken, well-read, and well-connected on campuses. The Center has molded us into a pretty tightknit group.”

It’s a group with one goal in mind: to strengthen liberal arts education for the students.

“Over time we have found a unique way to enact the original mission of the Center of Inquiry, which was to be of benefit to students,” says Blaich, CILA’s director and professor of psychology at Wabash, where the Center is housed in the College’s Byron K. Trippet Hall.

“What the Center does best is to support the change agents on campuses who want to improve liberal arts colleges using data and evidence. We facilitate the change agents within their own peculiar institutional cultures to help them provide a better education for their students.”

A “Gentlemanly Way” of Building Trust

The success of the Center of Inquiry has been hard earned.

Blaich and his team of researchers had to get a handle on national issues, which meant travel to conferences near and far while simultaneously developing a keen yet flexible understanding of individual institutional cultures. “There is no one-size-fits-all approach to the work we’re doing,” Blaich says. “Every college has its own culture.”

The Center staff also had to convince administrators to open up the data banks and address the findings.

“If you want a sense of the success of the Center of Inquiry, look at the number of institutions involved in the National Study—that alone should turn heads,” says Jillian Kinzie, who directs the NSSE (National Survey of Student Engagement) Institute at Indiana University. “Institutions are going into this work knowing that it will be difficult, they’ll find out things they don’t want to know, and then they’re going to have to do something about it.”

“[Administrators] realized quickly that if you participate in this, your work will be respected, the Center staff will work with you, you will not be exposed, and you can trust them. They have garnered people’s trust, and that’s both remarkable and important.”

BUILDING THAT TRUST WAS CRITICAL. Center staff kept a low profile and chose not to shine a bright light on themselves, Wabash College, or even the Center of Inquiry. They approached the work as scholars from the same side of the desk, and they applied the values inherent in each institution to the work that would be done.

Vice President at the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems Peter Ewell consults with scores of institutions seeking reaccreditation and is well versed in virtually every national survey or study. He says the trust that institutions place in the Center is a direct reflection of Wabash College values: “I think it’s the hallmark of the Center’s work to do this—in the Wabash context—in a gentlemanly way. The Center’s work is done with the real and true values of the liberal arts personally embodied in Charlie and the Center—as the most important thing. So much of what we do in assessment is around workforce, meeting social demands, access and mobility, and the values part of this gets lost. And the Center’s work keeps the values of the liberal arts front and center.”

The Center has welcomed hundreds of guests to its home on the Wabash College campus—presidents, deans, provosts, faculty members, institutional researchers, and students—to workshops designed to help them understand how to read data and develop an actionable narrative from it. Today, no visitors to the Center of Inquiry leave without a plan of action and a promise backed by their own institution’s financial support to implement it.

Michael Reder directs the Center for Teaching and Learning at Connecticut

AT A GLANCE

The Wabash National Study

Method > student surveys, follow-up questions, meetings and workshops with faculty, staff, and administrators

2006–2009

49 colleges and universities investigate critical factors that affect the outcomes of liberal arts education and, with CILA’s help, improve student learning.

2010–2013

29 colleges and universities are using evidence to identify an area of student experience they want to improve, then are creating, implementing, and assessing changes made.

Funded by Lilly Endowment, Inc. and the Teagle Foundation

College, an early participant in the Wabash National Study. He says that working on the Wabash Study not only shaped his professional agenda but shaped the school’s agenda as a whole. “It’s made us better,” he said. “We’re making decisions based on evidence.”

An Unprecedented Study

Starting with 19 institutions in the fall of 2006, the National Study of Liberal Arts Education expanded to 26 schools the following year and 26 more joined the study in 2008. In 2010, the Center launched a second version known simply

The Center helps us to be more intentional about better teaching by showing us what actually works in the classroom. These best practices have been here for years, but the Center's work is making sure they are reaching increasing numbers of faculty and students. That's especially important for young faculty. We have created an expectation of excellence in teaching here, and the Center and its work are an essential part of how we can help our new colleagues fulfill those expectations.

—Wabash Professor Warren Rosenberg

as “the Wabash Study.” What made the first National Study different was the scope of the inquiry—measuring how much time students spend studying outside of class, levels of intellectual curiosity, growth or change, moral reasoning, and openness to diversity.

Teagle Foundation President Rich Morill says the impact of the study and its measures is driving a national discussion.

“The Wabash National Study is widely seen as the ‘gold standard’ for studies that have a bearing on the wider goals of liberal education, and it is one of the few approaches to assessment that has taken on broader aims like diversity, moral reasoning, curiosity, etc.”

And it's benefiting students, even in those areas once thought difficult to measure. When one of the most diverse institutions in the country received Wabash National Study evidence that

its students' feelings about tolerance and diverse interactions actually plummeted during the first year of college, it developed a series of courses and programs in response.

When data showed that the critical thinking skills of students at one private liberal arts college fell sharply during the first year, administrators blew up the orientation program and the required freshman curriculum.

Another institution with a strict adherence to an honor code discovered its first-year students showed a decline in moral reasoning.

“The Center's findings are important. Higher education needs a truth-ometer—accessible metrics to determine outcomes,” says Carol Geary Schneider, president of the American Association of Colleges and Universities. “Wabash College has the potential to give us

a much more informed narrative of what we're doing well and not well, and hold our feet to the fire.”

The Wabash Way

The methodical approach of Blaich and CILA Associate Director of Inquiries Kathy Wise has been trusted and well received by faculty and administrators alike. Proceeding with care and concern for institutional cultures while acknowledging the presumably slow pace of change in higher education has paid huge dividends for the work of the Center and the growth of the National Study.

“Their success is due to their humility,” says Grossman-Garber. “They allow others to own the process; they allow faculty to own the data.”

Across the country, that process is known as the “Wabash Way.”

“The ‘Wabash Way’ is a unique methodological approach of presenting data about students' undergraduate experiences and engaging the academic community to interpret and make sense of the information,” says Scott Simkins, Director of the Academy for Teaching and Learning at North Carolina A&T State University. “This deliberative, nonprescriptive technique entices students and educators into a collaborative venture of improving student learning outcomes and the overall learning environment for our students.”

The Multiplier Effect

Blaich discovered early on that CILA simply wasn't staffed to meet the increasing demand for the work, nor could it be. Partnering with the Teagle Foundation, CILA created Teagle Assessment Scholars, a program designed to identify, train, and develop leaders who can work independently on their own campuses. They also team with other Teagle Scholars to travel the country teaching administrators, faculty members, and students how to work with the data to bring change designed to deliver better education.

► P28



photo by Jack Parker

BRIDGING THE GAP

Coaches often see the most vulnerable side of Wabash.

"I'll bet well over half of my students have cried in my office over some personal problem that has nothing to do with running," Cross Country Coach Roger Busch '96 told a meeting of the Wabash faculty last fall, remembering occasions when he'd wept in the office of his own coach, Rob Johnson H'77.

Track Coach Clyde Morgan told the professors that he considers

and Learning Committee (TLC), was an eye-opener.

"I'd love to be able to motivate all my students the way you do," theater professor Jim Cherry told the coaches. He got the chance to learn when coaches and faculty met for a second session in April.

It's just the most recent of many ways CILA and data from the Wabash National Study (WNS) are driving and informing even more effective teaching at the College, which already scores among the highest in the nation

CILA uses the term "college teachers" to include faculty and staff, citing data that shows the learning environment on the entire campus drives the positive outcomes at Wabash.

himself "a life coach." Baseball Coach Cory Stevens described leadership training that's required for his players.

The session, sponsored by the College's Teaching

and Learning Committee (TLC), was an eye-opener.

for its levels of student engagement. Professor Crystal Benedicks chairs the TLC and sees the sessions as emblematic of how CILA brings the College's teachers together.

"Data from the WNS showed that Wabash students report feeling immensely engaged by faculty, and even more so by staff and coaches. That led our planning with [Director of Athletics] Joe Haklin '73 these sessions on coaching. Here CILA data has helped bridge what is often an unfortunate chasm between athletics and academics, staff and faculty."

In fact, Blaich and his colleagues use the term "college teachers" to include both, citing data that shows the learning environment on the entire campus—in and out of the classroom—drives the positive outcomes at Wabash.

Which is no surprise to Benedicks.

"We are all in the business of engaging students." ■

POINTS OF IMPACT: SOME WAYS CILA ENRICHES LEARNING AT WABASH

> CILA funded Professors Bobby Horton and Tobey Herzog's study of the freshman-year experience, which led to a revamping and improvements in freshman orientation and a focus on "developmental advising" for "the whole student."

> When WNS data showed lower graduation rates for African-American and Latino students, the College applied for and received a grant from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundation and developed an early alert system and improvements in advising, peer and alumni mentoring, and faculty development.



> Writing Across the Curriculum Coordinator Crystal Benedicks used CILA and WNS data to assess writing at Wabash, which led to the creation of Writing with Power and Grace, a popular English course that draws students from across the college. Science majors have proven to be among its strongest writers.

Another result of Benedicks' work with CILA was the Wabash Writing Statement, an affirmation of the College's shared values

about the importance of student writing now part of the faculty handbook.

But the professor says the Center enriched her teaching far beyond one course or statement: "Charlie pulled everything he could for me from the National Study and other relevant studies about writing, but most important was the ethos of careful, intentional assessment-gathering that he shared with me. I learned how to listen." ■

If you really want to help a school get better, it's not enough to push information at them. You have to work with them to contextualize that information, make it fit their students, their faculty, their history, and the culture of the place.

—CILA Director Charlie Blach

Following the lead of a pilot program at Wabash developed by Kyle Long '07, NC A&T created a program that develops cadres of student researchers. Working with Wabash students and CILA staff, the NC A&T Wabash Provost Scholars were taught how to lead focus groups, ask questions, and conduct further research. Then the NC A&T students trained students from Connecticut College, where participants are called Wabash Student Research Scholars.

Grossman-Garber says the "multiplier effect" is stunning.

"As a Teagle Scholar, I'm asked to go out to other schools, and I've discovered the same issues everywhere I go," she says. "It's a people problem—a human problem where we don't want to hear bad news, we don't want to be told that we're not meeting our goals. And then we don't know how to dig ourselves out of the bad news. The Center at Wabash has now provided a way for us to do that."

Embracing Data for Students

"The Study has or will do more to shape our understanding of student learning in the 21st century than any other study has to date," says Reder. "It's the gold standard for understanding student experiences and student learning."

Reder says that the faculty and administration response to this cultural sea change—embracing the data to benefit the students—is going viral on his campus. Pulling metrics from the Wabash National Study, Reder devised course-specific surveys that students at Connecticut take at the end of terms. To date, nearly 60 teachers have administered surveys to more than 1,000 students, and the faculty are busy analyzing the data to determine how to improve the courses. "They want to be good teachers and they want their students to learn," said Reder.

"It's a wonderful study," he continued. "The data coming out of it are driving the ways people are thinking about allocating resources to improve learning based on evidence. Wabash is a name that is known by hundreds of schools and thousands of scholars around the country—based on the Study. Wabash wasn't on the radar, certainly in New England, but it is today."

Geary Schneider, who leads the nation's largest association of liberal arts colleges and universities, puts the Center's work into perspective: "It has taken a long time for the Center to build the infrastructure, develop the longitudinal database, and to create the interest in higher education. Now that we've found the data, the story is so arresting that you can't stop telling it."

"Wabash is host to one of the most important centers in the country that knows the most about providing the most powerful form of education possible, and that should be a point of pride for the institution." ■

TEACHING BY LISTENING



Kyle Long

No one knows better than Kyle Long '07 the impact CILA has on Wabash students.

The Director of Communications and Institutional Development at The American University of

Iraq in Sulaimani (AUIS), Long was mentored by Charlie Blaich as an undergrad, hired by CILA after Commencement, and is inspired by Blaich today as AUIS tries to "offer liberal arts education in an illiberal environment."

"It was the most important relationship I formed at the College," says Long. "Over my last year and a half at Wabash, I spent more time talking with Charlie than anyone. He never kicked me out; he would listen, help me learn to put together arguments that I couldn't do myself. He didn't do it for me, but gave me the tools to do so."

"He listens better than anyone I know, and that's how you learn how to teach—by truly listening."

Long taught others to listen. At CILA he trained a group of Wabash men to be student researchers, asking good questions of their classmates and helping CILA understand the truth behind the data the Center was gathering.

"We learned so much from doing interviews with the students. We were able to articulate simple changes that faculty could make in the classroom to help their students learn more."

Read more about Long's work in Iraq in WM Fall 2013. And check out some of his work as Director of Communications, AUIS's Web site: <http://auis.edu.iq>

A TURN FOR THE BETTER?

Among the most troubling findings of the WNS nationally was this: Moral reasoning seems to plateau or even drop off during college years. WNS data suggests that Wabash freshmen in the Classes of 2010 to 2012 were actually becoming less interested in volunteering, promoting racial understanding, and helping others in difficulty.

Enter Enduring Questions (EQ), an all-college course for second-semester freshmen first taught in 2010. Professor of Religion Bob Royalty, who developed a plan for assessing the course, thinks the efforts may have caused a turn for the better.

Freshmen from the Class of 2014, the first to take EQ, showed increased interest in social and political involvement, developing a meaningful philosophy of life, volunteering, helping others, and promoting racial understanding. The Class of 2015 showed even stronger results.

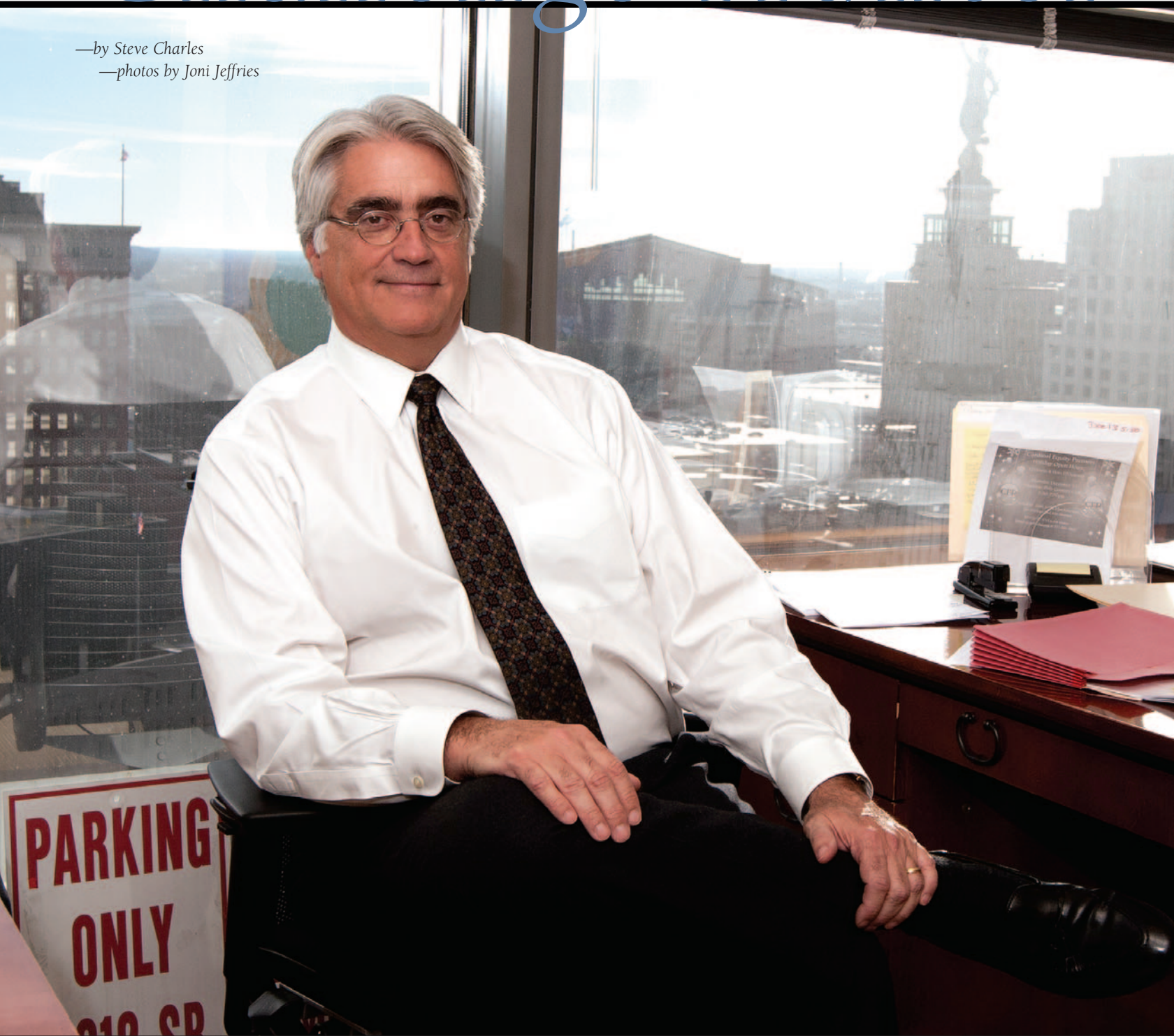
Of course, correlation does not prove causation. But it's an encouraging result for a College whose mission is to educate young men to "live humanely."

“There was a new crisis all the time,” says Mark Miles ’76 about almost every job he’s taken. “Man, it was a lot of fun.”

Challenge Hunter

—by Steve Charles

—photos by Joni Jeffries



 TWELVE DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS 2012 Mark Miles' office on the 18th floor of the Chase Tower in Indianapolis is in boxes. Longtime executive assistant Linda Whitaker packs up awards and artwork while her boss stands in front of a colorful if quirky contemporary painting.

"My wife's mother says she raised her to know better than to buy art like this," he jokes with our photographer, who presses the shutter and asks him to move behind what remains of his desk. A large sign



reading PARKING FOR SB 2012—a souvenir from the 2012 Super Bowl Miles led to the city—leans against the glass and his view of Lucas Oil Stadium.

At 59 Miles is on the brink of perhaps the most challenging work he's faced, leaving his post as CEO of the Central Indiana Corporate Partnership [CICP] to lead the Hulman Corporation. In two days he moves from a visionary group of Indiana leaders getting things done and work he's called "the most rewarding of my life" to 16th Street and Georgetown and a company whose recent history is more about being torn apart.

But the day before taking the career equivalent of a jump out this 18th floor window to see if he can fly, Miles is welcoming and impeccably groomed, a professorial brown tweed sport jacket over his white shirt and print tie. He radiates calm, seeming to listen carefully, as if the interview is a project we're working on together.

"I try to deal with people straight, and candid, and relaxed," he says.

"But doesn't the pressure ever get to you?" I ask the man who worked on Richard Lugar's campaign as a Wabash sophomore, ran Dan Quayle's legendary defeat of Democrat Birch Bayh for the Senate, helped transform Indianapolis into the "amateur sports capital of the world" when he organized the Pan Am Games for the city in 1987, corralled the hot tempers and big egos of professional tennis as CEO of the Association of Tennis Professionals, and now steps into the hornet's nest that is the Hulman Corporation and the Indy Racing League.

He smiles.

"If you can't handle lots of balls in the air at the same time and pressure and crisis, you ought not to do this. It's not like I go home and I'm a mess because of a problem. I work a lot—I'll probably go home today and do email until 11 at night. But I sleep like a baby."

STRIPPING OFF THE INSULATION

"It was great. There was a new crisis all the time. Man, it was a lot of fun."

Miles is talking about his stint as Eli Lilly and Company's executive director of corporate relations, but the words fit almost every job he's taken.

"For me, adrenaline is getting things done," he says.

The Wabash classroom wasn't exactly his cup of Red Bull.

"I was a relatively unmotivated college student at Wabash," Miles told the *Indianapolis Business Journal* in 2011.

His Wabash years were formative, but much of that formation occurred way off campus. He had planned to become a lawyer—an aspiration he's sidetracked for 40 years.

“Sometimes I’ll be in a room with people who are clearly much brighter and I’ll be amazed at how they don’t connect dots and see where that’s going to go.”

“I had thought it would be the best path to the civic engagement I was interested in.”

That interest had surfaced when Miles was in grade school.

“I was mesmerized by President Kennedy. A friend of mine and I took a bus from School 70 downtown to stuff envelopes for Birch Bayh. Even at an early age, I thought things like that were cool.”

But at Wabash, the College’s “raucous community spirit” took center stage.

“Some of us at Wabash, including me, overdid it on the social side, but that’s not all bad. Stripping off the insulation—living life to the fullest. In a way, that’s the Wabash message.

“The pitch that I remember when I was a student was, ‘Work hard, play hard.’ I was, ‘Play hard, then catch up fast.’”

The exception: Professor Ed McLean’s Constitutional Law class.

“I actually did fairly well there. I remember him saying, ‘God, I wish I could make you work harder.’ And he did make me work harder.”

So did the summer of 1973. Miles’ father worked at Eli Lilly and helped him score a summer job cleaning floors, vats, and equipment in the liquid and ointment manufacturing plant. Good money to help pay for his Wabash education.

“I didn’t mind the work; it was just mind-numbingly boring.”

When he complained to his older sister, she mentioned him to her friend, Deborah Daniels, who told Miles, “Go see my brother. He’ll give you something to do.”

So he approached former Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels, then a recent Princeton grad and working on Richard Lugar’s first campaign for the U.S. Senate in 1974.

“Give me something interesting to do and don’t worry about paying me,” Miles told him. “I can live at home.”

Miles was named director of the Youth for Lugar Campaign for central Indiana, but he had some explaining to do to his father.

“I was going to quit this plum job that he had gotten me, and he wasn’t very happy about that. He asked me, ‘How are you going to pay for school?’ It was one of the very few things I ever quit.

“But that summer was fun. A blank slate. You’d find college kids, figure out if they liked Lugar or if they could be persuaded, get them registered, then get them to register others. Just start the snowballs rolling. The work was seven days a week from the time you could get yourself up until 10 or 11 at night.”

Miles and Daniels finished the day talking over beers and playing pool at Indianapolis hangouts like The Mousetrap, Sam’s Subway, and The Speakeasy.

“I’d get in at 1 or 2 in the morning, then get up about 5:30. I was 20 years old and surrounded by really bright, high-energy driven people in a time-and-labor-intensive effort that was just very invigorating.”

So invigorating that Miles missed a semester at Wabash. When he did return to the College, the varsity tennis player lived at the home of his coach, Professor Bernie Manker, and helped out with Manker’s campaign for mayor.

He graduated without a plan. When state Republicans asked him to be second-in-command for congressional candidate Larry Buell, Miles jumped at it. And lost.

“Some unfortunate moments from that campaign are still part of the lore in Republican operative circles,” say Miles. “But campaigns teach you how to solve complicated problems, how to bring people together around issues, coordinate various functions integral to the campaign. It was great training.”

It also introduced Miles to the Republican hierarchy throughout the state, which led his being hired as chief of staff for Dr. Ned Lamkin, majority leader of the Indiana House of Representatives. And it was the last campaign that Miles would lose.

He ran Bill Hudnut’s first mayoral reelection campaign in Indianapolis, (“The most charismatic man I’ve worked for, with an unbelievable ability to lead a charge.”) In 1980 he led Dan Quayle’s bid to take Birch Bayh’s seat in the U.S. Senate. When the TV networks announced Quayle’s victory, the senator-elect asked Miles to be his chief of staff.

“I said, ‘I don’t want to do that,’” Miles recalls.

“Think about it and tell me tomorrow,” Quayle pleaded. Miles took the job the next day, renting Daniels’ house in DC.

“Reagan had just been elected and it was a time of real energy for us. On behalf of the senators, Mitch and I were basically running the process

to appoint U.S. attorneys, marshals, and district judges.”

But after the new wore off, the job didn’t fit.

“I’d always rather do local or state than national, because of one’s ability to get stuff done. And governance of any sort is so slow.”

So he returned to Indianapolis, helped found Compucom, a direct marketing agency, then took on the leadership of the city’s professional tennis tournament, at the same time working full time to bring in the most successful Pan Am Games ever. (“We had 36,000 volunteers—that’s mind-boggling.”)

“Mine’s not really been what you would call a career. You take lefts and rights, see where the journey takes you. It’s the journey, not the destination.”

Then Hamilton Jordan called.

PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER’S former chief of staff, Jordan had just pulled off “a revolution to wrest control of the men’s professional tennis circuit to the governance of the players.” Thanks to Miles’ successful transformation of the Indy Hardcourt Championships, tournament directors trusted him to represent them, and he helped negotiate a partnership between the tournaments and the players.

“Then Hamilton tells me, ‘I hate tennis, and the sooner I get out of here, the better. You should do this.’”

But Miles was happy in Indy, not interested in moving to the Association of Tennis Professionals Florida headquarters. He and his wife, Helen, had been married during the Quayle campaign and had started a family.

“For over a year I told Hamilton, ‘I love it here. I’m not going to move.’ Then one day Helen and I were shopping for a book for our oldest son and we picked up Dr. Seuss’s *Oh the Places You’ll Go*.”

Among its memorable lines: “You’re off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting, so get on your way!”

“I’m trying to buy a kids’ book, and I read this, and realize, sh*t, I’m going to have to take this tennis job.”

NEVER JUST ONE SOLUTION

Miles’ decision process is rarely so whimsical.

“Mark does a masterful job inviting, encouraging, developing, testing, and improving input from others



and integrating all of that into an improved approach,” Chris Cotterill ’99, former chief of staff for Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard, recalls from working closely with Miles during the lead-up to the Super Bowl.

“You try to never let yourself fall into any one pattern of thinking or acting,” Miles explains. “You break problems down to their elements, figure out what to do first and compartmentalize the things you’re working on. There’s never just one set of solutions for a problem.”

His ability to read a room is legendary.

“I’ve always been open, interested, and tried to have an awareness beyond myself about people and conditions. I could go into any bar or any part of town and have friends from any background. I knew more about what other people’s lives were like.

“Sometimes I’ll be in a room with people who are clearly much brighter and I’ll be amazed at how they don’t connect dots and see where that’s going to go. It’s like chess.”

Is that something one can teach?

“It can be learned. I don’t know if you can teach it. You can absorb it.”

Miles absorbed a lot from current Indiana Pacers President Jim Morris.

“He was president of the Lilly Endowment when I started to work on the Pan Am Games, and Ted Boehm told me to go see him. I think we’re going to talk about the Games, but he starts telling me about the canal that we’re going to try to get developed, and what we’re going to do in terms of housing at Lockefield Gardens. Twenty things. My head was swimming!

“He has this ability to think about all the irons in the fire and how we could connect them and how they might have a greater relevance in a bigger context. He has extraordinary vision.”

Miles hopes to provide similar mentoring for the next generation of Indiana leaders, and Cotterill believes he is succeeding.

“I work a lot...but I sleep like a baby.”

“I learned a lot just from working with him,” Cotterill says. “He took time to help me see things differently and to improve.”

“I hope I’ve gotten better over the years at being a coach,” Miles says. “During my tennis days I was too demanding, probably too critical. There’s a better way.”

At Hulman, mentoring the next generation will also be a focus.

“One of the first things I did on the day of the announcement of me taking the position was to meet with the next generation,” Miles told the *Indianapolis Star*. “And I’m going to meet with them regularly for two reasons: to see how I can help them and aid in their development.”

He sees the move to Hulman as a great opportunity.

“I want to get it to the level of its former glory and beyond—the 500-mile race, the Speedway, the series, Clabber Girl, and the production company. They’re all just things to sink your teeth into, and it’s worth trying to make them all work.”

THE HOUR ALLOTTED FOR OUR INTERVIEW comes and goes without Miles rushing us out the door, despite the work he has left to do at CICP. He’ll continue to be involved with the group’s signature effort, the passage of a mass transit bill for central Indiana.

“These seven years at CICP have been so satisfying because it was a license to work on things that we thought others weren’t doing and that needed to be done, things that made a difference to the community.”

He talks about the Monon Bell Game party he threw in downtown Indy for 400 people last year. He has two sons at DePauw and is a member of the university’s board of visitors, but he smiles as he recalls, “My boys didn’t know what a Danny was; it was great fun telling them.”

For student or alumni readers who were, like Miles, “unmotivated college students,” he suggests a headline for this article: “There’s Hope!”

I mention the College’s new Callings program and ask what he thinks his vocation is.

“I can give you the common denominators: I’ve just thrived in things that are intense—opportunities to make change and to do something that you thought had impact.”

But a calling?

“I don’t know: Challenge hunter? Afraid of boredom? I think boredom would be a destructive place for me.”

WHEN FORMER INDIANAPOLIS MAYOR BILL HUDNUT returned to Indianapolis in January 2012 for the Super Bowl, he dropped by to see Miles, who many credit for expanding Hudnut’s work and legacy.

“Mark decided not to run for office, though I think he would be terrific,” Hudnut says. “But he feels he can be more effective behind the scenes, in a more private manner, which I think is true.

“Mark is modest. He doesn’t emphasize the I words—individual, isolation, independence. He’s not the great ‘I am.’ He emphasizes the C words—collaborate, consensus, cooperation, collegiality.”

Hudnut quotes a favorite Bible verse from Genesis: “Come let us build ourselves a city.”

“Whether he acknowledges religious motivation or not, what drives Mark is what motivates us both: the desire to build a better community.”

Hudnut says Miles’ greatest achievement is not the Super Bowl or any other event he led or campaign he organized, but “the highly regarded person he’s become,” a man “who can not only solve problems, but who can create a vision and attain it.”

Or, as Miles’ muse Dr. Seuss once put it: “You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You’re on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who’ll decide where to go...” ■

THE WABASH WAY TO RUN A PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

Jeremy Bird '00 got the political world's attention with a key hand in several of President Barack Obama's primary wins in 2008, then rose to National Field Director for the 2012 campaign, working at Obama's National Headquarters in Chicago.

Between Obama's wins in 2008 and 2012, he was Deputy Director of Obama for America, helping to pass the Affordable Care Act in 2010.

Wabash Director of New Media Howard Hewitt visited Bird at the campaign headquarters to talk about his career, the election, and his future plans. Some excerpts from their conversation:

Talk about your path to the work you're doing now.

How I got here? I went to divinity school!

I think everybody who gets involved in politics and leadership of a presidential campaign came through a circuitous way to get there.

This is not, "Go to law school and become a lawyer." This is not, "Go to medical school and become a doctor."

You go out there and say, "I believe in this candidate, or this issue," and you take whatever opportunities are open, knock on doors, work hard, get in and do something.

And you have to work for someone you believe

in. In campaigns you have to be willing to work 20 hours a day. If you're going to put on that T-shirt, put that bumper sticker on your car, you better believe in that person. You're going to put all of yourself into it.

When I first worked for Howard Dean in 2004 I took a 50 percent pay cut because I believed in him. It was a dumb professional decision to take a pay cut for a job that ended nine months later. But I met people along the way who I worked hard for and with, and they went on and did something else, and they brought me with them because they thought I was good.

You began as a community organizer...

Being an organizer is the best job in all politics. You go out to the community and meet incredible Americans who want a better life for their kids, have interesting stories. You go to small towns, you go to big cities, you learn about America, and you learn about yourself and become better at interacting with people.

WABASH WAYS: JEREMY BIRD

Wabash Major: Religion

Post-Grad: MTS in conflict resolution and community organizing, Harvard Divinity School; Harvard Law School Program on Negotiation

Work:

- Staff, Physicians for Human Rights
- Howard Dean Presidential Campaign
- John Kerry Presidential Campaign
- Wake-Up Walmart South Carolina and Ohio Field
- Director, 2008 Obama Campaign
- Deputy Director, Organizing for America
- National Field Director, 2012
- Obama Campaign
- Co-Founded 270 Strategies consulting

After the 2008 election, you continued working for Obama.

The 2008 election was just the beginning. The hardest part comes after you get elected, trying to get legislation passed in a place where a lot of people don't want that to happen.

I believed it was important to keep our grass-roots people engaged with that struggle. Organizing for America was a big reason we got healthcare passed, a big reason we got Wall Street reform passed, and a big reason we kept our people engaged and involved.

Then comes the 2012 campaign...

Because of the organizing we did in the states in 2008, [Obama Battleground States Director] Mitch [Stewart] and I believed we could bring that from the states to the national headquarters. We could make decisions based on what was best for the neighborhood team leader out there, as opposed to the easiest decision based on what DC was telling us was important.

We made a big commitment in 2011 that we would not just run the 2008 campaign again—that we would take what was best from that, learn from it, adapt, move. Part of our focus on analytics was to make sure we were being the best stewards of our grassroots fundraisers' money—to make sure we were spending it on the right things.

This sort of analytical thinking is part of what Wabash is about. What I learned at Wabash was this: Don't ever get comfortable, don't ever think you know everything, and always be striving to learn, re-learn, use your experience. That philosophy was part of our campaign.

Many political observers were surprised by the election results.

They were surprised because they thought a different electorate would turn out than we did. We were validated on election day. Many who said people weren't going to turn out were wrong.

It's not because I'm a genius, it's not because our campaign didn't make mistakes—we had a great candidate, a great team, and we executed. We did all those things that no one paid attention to and made sure we turned those people out. And we had great analytics—we knew who these people were, and we engaged them in many ways.

A victory to savor?

The day after the election the President came and addressed our folks. It was moving. I think in 2008 we had the wind at our backs, but this time was a grind, much harder, and he knew the people in this room had been a big part of it. It was his last race, the last time he was going to stand in front of his campaign staff and address them.

He talked about being an organizer when he came to Chicago years ago. Then he walked around the office and hugged each person individually, hugged everybody. It was cool.

And your own future?

I want to keep doing political work for people and causes I believe in. I want to change the world in big ways, and I'll figure out how to do that in my own way. ■

In January 2013, Bird and Mitch Stewart founded the consulting firm 270 Strategies "to bring the empowering Obama grass-roots model to your campaign." Among their first projects is Battleground Texas, which aims to make the state competitive for Democrats within a decade by organizing around voter registration drives, redistricting efforts, and local political races. That got Stephen Colbert's attention, and Bird appeared on The Colbert Report in February.

See the clip at WM Online.



“This sort of analytical thinking is what Wabash is all about.”

—Jeremy Bird '00, National Field Director, Obama reelection campaign





a fulfillin life

"I'm not going to save the world making furniture, but I've been able to make a living at it, to fulfill a need for creativity, to please the people I make furniture for."



Maypole

 CURT SCHMITT '81, maker of fine furniture and cabinetry, works out of his studio, just a few steps from his house in New Harmony, IN.

"I think I do what Wabash does," Schmitt says. "It doesn't really matter what you do, as long as you do it in a fulfilling way. Not just fulfilling for me personally, but that contributes somehow to something bigger. Once you begin to live that, then you're living a fulfilling life."

The studio—a remodeled 1930s barn—is located on a five-acre wooded lot that Schmitt and his wife, Paula, call home. The original house couldn't be salvaged so he built his own.

"I laid every piece of wood in that house," Schmitt says.

He grew up in rural Greenfield, IN. "If we wanted something, we made it. My dad always said: 'Either do it right or don't do it at all.' It's cliché, but it sank in, and has been a guiding factor in my life."

A quick tour of the showroom highlights Schmitt's eclectic mix of classic and avant-garde furniture with clean lines and intricate handwork. He designs furniture one can imagine fitting as comfortably in a kitchen as in an art gallery. In the center of the room leans an imposing Maypole recently featured at the International Labyrinth Society Convention. On closer inspection, the fine details of the pieces come to life. The wood appears in places to have been molded by bare hands, curves dug out by fingers instead of knives.

Schmitt describes his style as "Asian, Shaker-Inspired, contemporary." His studio was recently part of the Tri-State Artisans Studio Tour and his work was showcased at the Arts in Harmony festival and the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art.

You can find Schmitt's furniture in homes and businesses across the country, but his focus is local. He and Paula chose this small Indiana town, once the site of two Utopian experiments, because it is rich in culture and history. Schmitt uses nearly all local wood for his furniture and is an active member of the community, serving on the local school board.

It seems a settled and well-grounded way of living, but the move to New Harmony came after a seismic shift in Schmitt's life. He's been a full-time furniture maker, his second career, for fewer than seven years.

"I'VE NEVER BEEN GOAL-ORIENTED. I hope, at Wabash, students still study for the sake of learning. Too many people are going to college to learn business and not any context to put that into. It's affecting the values of our entire society, instilling in the culture that money is the highest value."

Schmitt came to Wabash in 1977 to study things he was interested in. Beginning as a pre-med student, Schmitt quickly learned that wasn't the path for him.

"The fact that Wabash students have to take a range of classes early on gets them thinking about subjects they may never have thought of."

His freshman tutorial with Professor Bill Placher '70 left him wanting more. He enrolled in Placher's *Images of Jesus* class, which "brought together my interests in philosophy, religion, and literature."

By second semester of his sophomore year he was a religion major, English minor.

"If I wasn't outside building something, I was inside reading. Wabash instilled in me the science of studying oneself in the context of greater concerns. Wabash opened up a whole new world to me."

He was also influenced by Professors Eric Dean, David Greene, Don Herring, and Don Baker.

"Wabash offered rigorous academics while instilling an interest in study. A love of studying."

While working his senior year in the development office he met Paula. The first piece of furniture he sold he built in his basement apartment of married student housing at Yale.

At 23 the Yale graduate was offered the department chair of religion and philosophy at a college-preparatory school for boys. Schmitt had hoped to find an atmosphere and personality similar to Wabash.

"Turned out it wasn't, exactly," he says.

Schmitt taught in a style similar to his Wabash and Yale mentors.

"Wabash, and more than anyone else, Bill Placher, really opened up the study of religion to me."

These were insights he hoped to share with his own students. But Schmitt's objective approach to religious studies wasn't embraced by everyone at a school that still called its religious studies courses "Bible class."

"One of the problems with institutional religion today is that they don't do enough to teach people how to really read the Bible. That's what I was trying to do and that's threatening to people who have only learned to read a certain way rather than been taught to read on their own."

"I taught school for 23 years, so, obviously, there were a lot of things I enjoyed about it." But steady opposition to his approach took its toll. "It caused me to re-examine my effectiveness as a teacher. Gradually I gave up teaching religion completely and started teaching art full time."

"Teaching a new subject kept me engaged with my students and re-energized me in the classroom. Once I began teaching art, I had more time for woodworking and sculpting. During the last four years of teaching it developed into a business."

Today, that business is thriving. He has the largest back-order he's ever had and his reputation as a fine craftsman of furniture is well-established in the region.

"Life is change," Schmitt says. "I think life is a lot easier and more enjoyable when you embrace that fact." ■

g
—story and
photos by
Joni Jeffries

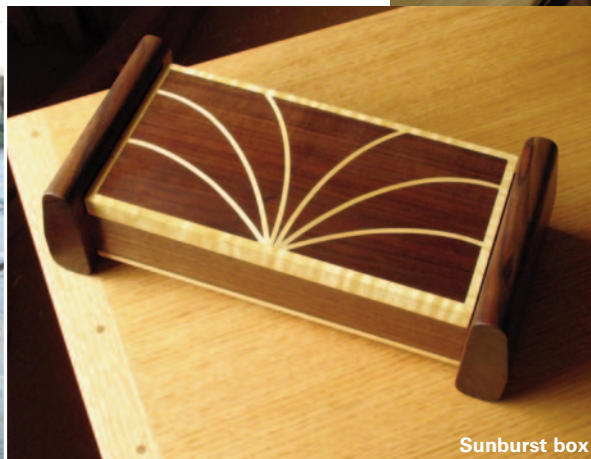
Useful Beauty—

“Wabash instilled in me the science of studying oneself in the context of greater concerns,” Curt Schmitt ’81 says, and it shows on his Web site. This from his “statement about my work.”

“High-tech” has defined 21st century life, and our thirst for the new is outpaced only by our dispensing with the old. By contrast, there seems a solid place in this increasingly high-tech world for lasting objects, hand made from organic materials.

Furniture is meant to be used and it should therefore be solid yet comfortable—and comforting. A cabinet, though essentially practical, doesn’t have to be common.

Like sculpture, fine furniture and cabinetry crave visual appeal and creative expression. For me, successfully building a piece of furniture means discovering just the right combination of materials, purpose, and imagination, resulting in an object both useful and beautiful. ■



Sunburst box



Cherry and maple bench



Maple and walnut chairs



Secretary cabinet



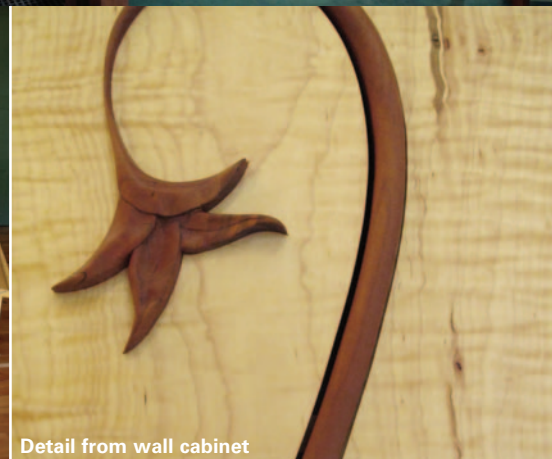
Contemporary Celtic cross



Cherry wardrobe



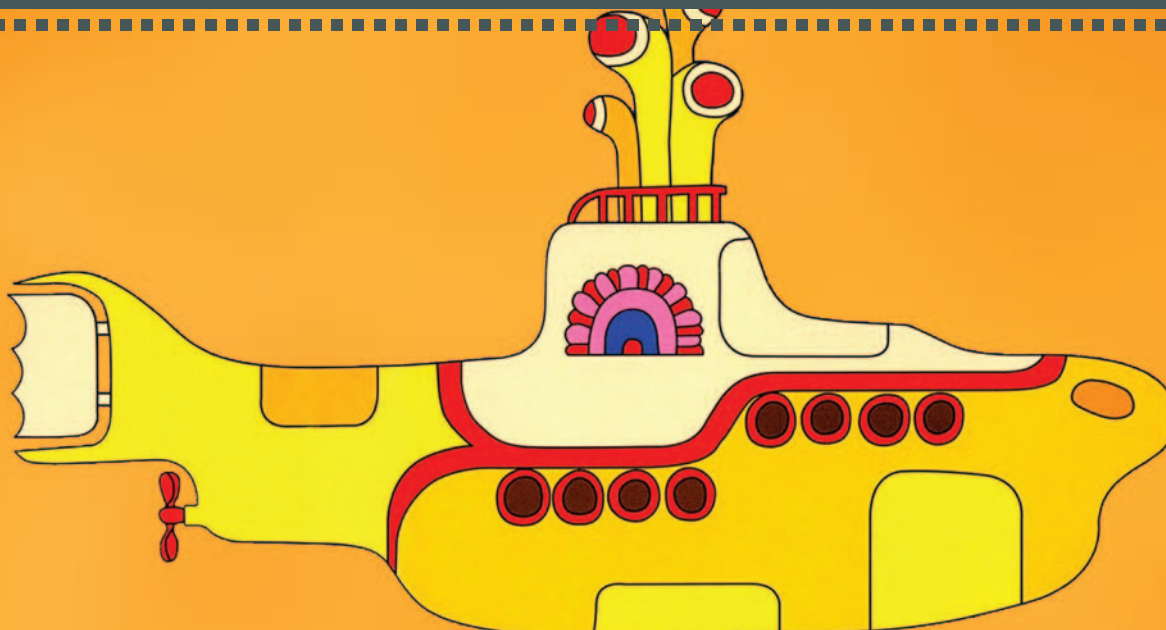
Poplar trestle table



Detail from wall cabinet



To see more of Schmitt's work, visit his
Web site: www.curtschmittcabinetry.com



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Working on the YELLOW SUBMARINE

—by Steve Charles

 PATRICK JONES' TYPICAL DAYS at the office are never typical, and rarely in an office.

As senior director of security for the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), Jones supports the private nonprofit group's work assigning and coordinating all Internet addresses around the world.

"It's not a 9-to-5 day," Jones said in November during a visit to the Wabash campus. "Sometimes I'm on the road, or I take the kids to school and come home and do calls. I may have calls with our headquarters in Los Angeles, or with a working group chair in Mexico City, or with staff in Egypt or some other part of the world."

"Last week, our group met in Toronto, in April were in Beijing, in July we'll be in Durban, South Africa."

Working for the organization that decides which Web addresses get seen on the Internet and being the gateway to the money and power that implies sometimes rouses controversy.

"It's not necessarily easy—there are many hard-fought discussions and international challenges that have little to do with the Internet but that often reflect themselves in the conversations," Jones said. "Politics, legal and law-enforcement challenges, business interests, concerns about terrorism: These things come up, and this is a forum where people can work through those issues the best that they can."

"We try to be this platform where people of diverse interests can come together and work through big problems."

ICANN was created in 1998 by a mandate from the U.S. government, and Jones' interest in the organization and its work began soon after. In 2001 he was working as a law clerk at the NCAA headquarters in Indianapolis when, on his own, he created The Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy legal information site, one of the first Web sites to provide legal information about domain name disputes.

"I would write up little stories about these cases and attorneys would find them and ask questions," Jones said. He ran the site for six years, and his work caught the attention of ICANN.

"Once I got the job at ICANN, I sold the site off so it wouldn't be a conflict of interest. After nearly seven years I'm now part of this growing executive team. I've been able to work my way up."

Jones calls 2013 an exciting and challenging time to work for ICANN.

"The organization is working through a multiyear effort to grow the name-space from 315 top-level domains on the Internet to a point where, two years from now, we may have 700, 800, even 900 new top-level domains on the Internet."

"We are going from a dot.com world online to a world where addresses will include different languages, characters, and generic terms."

Businesses will have a huge choice of domain names to use for their Web sites—.music, .hotel, .doctor, practically anything. In expanding the name choices,



“I think of the Internet as this thing that is full of wonder and opportunity. I want my kids to be able to interact in a world where there’s a free exchange of ideas.” —Patrick Jones ’96

ICANN hopes to increase choice and competition in the marketplace, open opportunities for investment, and increase the number of online cultural, geographic, and linguistic communities.

“Because the Internet is global and everybody uses it, so many diverse interests rely on it to share information. It’s not something that can be government driven.”

Jones speaks passionately about the work.

“I’m very fortunate in that I can do what I love, do something that I feel has a higher purpose,” he said. “This

is more of a life we lead because we want things to be better.

“I have two young kids. I want them to be able to interact in a world where there’s a free exchange of ideas.

“My three-year-old’s favorite song is [the Beatles’] ‘Yellow Submarine.’”

Jones sang the chorus—“*We all live in a yellow submarine.*”

“I think of the Internet as that yellow submarine, this thing that is full of wonder and opportunity. For them, it’s just there, but in reality it’s only there because people work hard and work together.”

Jones feels glad and called to be one of those people.

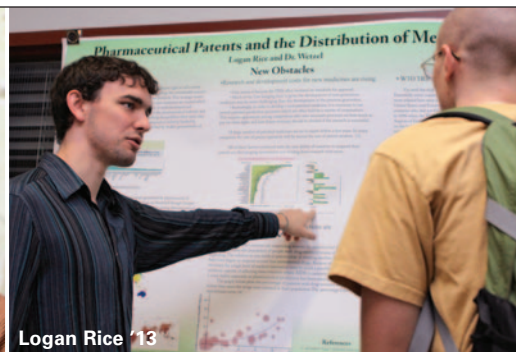
“I get to work with others from different cultures, see the world through a new lens. Each time you go to a new place, it changes you. The experiences I’ve had reinforce the beauty of a liberal arts education, because I feel like I’m open and just taking the world as it comes, applying what I learn to the work I do, and living a fascinating life.” ■



Jason Farbstein '13 explains his research to Steve Hoffman '85



Professor Eric Wetzel



Logan Rice '13



“When Will My Eyes SEE YOU AGAIN?”

 ERIC WETZEL WANTS THE College’s Global Health Initiative to disturb his students.

“One common result of an ecological disturbance is that it tends to open up an area, allowing one to see much further,” Wetzel told students during a Chapel Talk this semester. “As you look over the field of the education that you have the opportunity to take hold of here, how far can you see? What do you see? A well-paying job at the end? A comfortable life, one with lots of rest and recreation?”

“Or do you see, and even desire, a healthy dose of disturbance in your life? I really hope so. I hope you are learning to see past the surface to what it really means to live humanely.

“I tell my students in Global Health, ‘Your experience here should knock you off the rails of your life.’”

That was all I could do, and it wasn’t much or enough. But it left me as a future professional hungry and unsatisfied in leaving.

With the initiative about to enter its third year, Wetzel wanted to know if that was happening. What impact were the Global Health course, immersion experiences and service work in Peru’s Pamplona Alta slum and impoverished rural areas having on students and their Wabash education? So he wrote to alumni who had participated in the initiative and asked.

Many told him their lives had been changed by the experience, but Wetzel was especially encouraged by this response from biology major, NCAA champion and postgraduate scholar Kevin McCarthy ’12:

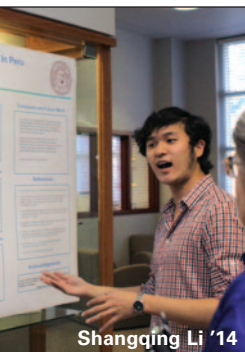
THIS TRIP WASN’T ABOUT THE TRAVEL, but the people you allowed us to see. We saw the cutting edge of everything, from the top all the way to the terrible bottom. And there were so many slots to fill—people in need, places to work, and people to aspire to be like. You didn’t just show the worst conditions, you showed people actually doing work and having success in combating these problems.

It affects me still today. Here in France where I live there are Romanian and Bulgarian gypsies who cannot work. They beg in the streets, and when I see them and their dirty hands and unwashed faces, I see the people we met at Pamplona Alta. Without that experience in Peru, I might have been able to ignore them, just as everyone else does. But I have to turn and look at them, have to say something to them and recognize them for the human beings they are.

I think back on the days that I actually did something worth my weight for the people we met in Peru, days I was out talking to them, filling out paperwork, explaining problems. I remember the day at the bottom of Pamplona Alta being surrounded by flocks of women and explaining the symptoms of anemia, and why their children were sick, that they needed to be fed better. Or the days in Tarapoto filling out personal histories and interviewing people one by one. That was all I could do, and it wasn’t much or enough. But it left me as a future professional hungry and unsatisfied in leaving.

My most lasting memory is of the day a man named Theoberto pulled me aside into a doorway of one of the classrooms and looked me in the eyes and asked me something I could not understand at first. Then he repeated slowly, “With my eyes, I see you now. When will my eyes see you again?”

Looking into those eyes all I could say was, “Yo no sé. [I don’t know].” And with that, my purpose in life turned a corner.



"Multidisciplinary global health issues are liberal arts issues. Formalizing a global health initiative provides students with a particular framework in which they can think, lead, act, and live as responsible global citizens." —Professor of Biology Eric Wetzel

Students present posters from their work.

I see now I had to go there to be changed. It couldn't happen any other way. You can't really see another human in such a space with a photograph. You can't feel another human in such a space with a presentation. You can't hear another person place confidence in you without first doing something to earn that confidence.

I had never had such an experience as this one before in my life, gone on a trip designed to disturb our places in life, to leave us unsatisfied and showing us both our unfinished work and the bountiful potential to influence many people.

Yes, our lives are changed. I'm very interested to see where all of us from this first group end up. We have a lot of potential there. ■

If you'd like to help provide for an immersion experience for Wabash students, give Steve Hoffman in the Advancement Office a call at 765-361-6236.

Indiana University/Kenya Partnership Co-Founder **Dr. Robert Einterz '77** talks with students about his work with AMPATH in Kenya.



BRINGING THE LIBERAL ARTS TO LIFE

Dr. Jay Herrmann '87 knows well the impact serving others in the developing world can have.

For the past decade the Wheaton, IL, dermatologist has volunteered his skills to severely underserved people in Bolivia. Often he'll set up in the open in a small village. He sees an average of 400 patients per week and all types of dermatological conditions.

"There is no real health-care insurance structure there, so for the majority of people, if they can't afford to pay someone, they won't get care," Herrmann says. "We see those who can't afford care."

Herrmann also brings along colleagues and employees from his office.

"On these trips you're with people who are very like-minded and altruistic," Herrmann says. "There's a sense of community, and that's wonderful to be part of."

Herrmann wants Wabash students to be a part of it, too. He and his wife, also a doctor, have endowed the

"It's an opportunity that few college students will ever get."

Jay and Maureen Herrmann Internship "to support one or more student internships affiliated with the Global Health Initiative."

"This initiative gives students at Wabash a chance to experience firsthand what life and medical care in a third world country is like," Herrmann says. "It's an opportunity that few college students will ever get. With medical care for the poor so limited in the countries of Central and South America, our students not only learn, but can offer these people necessary education about public health issues. It is through education and empowerment that people can improve the quality of their lives."

Herrmann sees the Global Health Initiative as a good fit for the College.

"One of the great things about a Wabash liberal arts education is that students learn about all aspects of the world and life around them. We learn about nature, religion, politics, cultures and traditions that shape our lives. To travel to another country and immerse in someone else's culture and traditions makes the liberal arts education come to life." ■

TRUSTED advisor

—by Steve Charles
—photos by Kim Johnson

INTEGRATING WORK AND LIFE

“People talk about work/life balance, but I think that’s a bit of a misnomer,” Bob Bowers ’91 says.

“You can’t balance them—it’s more of an integration.

“That means sometimes during work hours, I’m doing personal stuff, and sometimes at home I’m doing work stuff.”

Bowers and his family recently moved from Chicago, where Soliant Consulting is headquartered, to North Carolina, which may prove to be the ultimate experiment in Soliant’s work-life integration.

Bob Bowers '91 found his voice at Wabash and his career in software consulting, but he's proudest of creating a great place to work and bringing wise counsel to his clients.



□ IT'S TALENT NIGHT IN SANTA CRUZ, CA, at the annual offsite meeting of Bob Bowers' Chicago-based Soliant Consulting. Bowers may pick up his Stelling banjo, or play Steve Howe's "Mood for a Day," or sing a duet with a colleague from Washington. A co-worker recites a poem she has written. A mixologist takes the stage and stirs drinks for the house before an opera singer performs.

One year a fire dancer demonstrated her skills.

"It was great," Bowers smiles. "But that's the last time we're doing anything with fire!"

"The first year we had no expectations, and everyone was amazed at the range of talent in the room. I've been amazed at how willing people have been to share that side of themselves, and at the support they give each other."

What began on a whim has become a staple of the offsite.

"One of the things I'm most proud of is creating a great place to work," Bowers says in a promotional video on Soliant's Web site. The custom software developer and consulting service is a particularly good place to work for liberal arts grads like Bowers, a musicologist turned entrepreneur who carries his passion for music alongside his penchant for problem solving and a deep commitment to family.

"We solve problems by creating custom software applications for all kinds of businesses, so you need many other skills beside the technical," Bowers says. "In fact, I find it easier to teach those than the 'soft' skills. We've done well with people who come from the liberal arts. We've taken those people with little programming experience and turned them into great consultants."

FOR BOWERS, THE TECHNICAL SKILLS CAME FIRST. The son of a Northbrook, IL, programmer and consultant grew up watching his father work at the computer.

"I knew how to program in Microsoft Basic when I was 10 years old, so that always came easily for me."

But as a career choice, "it was also the last thing I wanted to do!"

He arrived at Wabash as an Honor Scholar in math and history, but his path veered toward English and music.

"My freshman year I took a 20th century experimental fiction class with Bert Stern, and that and the music class I was taking were so much more fun than the multi-variable calculus class."

He plunged into the College's small but growing music department.

"I wanted to do everything, so I ended up joining the Glee Club, the first choir I ever sang in. I would never have had the temerity to join a choir any place else."

The experience ignited a life-long love of singing even as the guitar player stretched himself to learn clarinet and violin from friends and joined the College's band and orchestra.

"At a larger school I wouldn't have got into any of those ensembles, but at Wabash they were happy for anyone who wanted to give it a try."

Inspired by stories from FIJI fraternity brother Jeff Qualkinbush's studies in Austria, Bowers spent his junior year in Vienna.

"I went a little native there; I redefined myself. It was an opportunity to start over. And the experience made me think I wanted to study music academically."

He was studying for his PhD in musicology at the University of Chicago when he took a part-time job with

“At some point I realized that my goal wasn’t to learn how to be a better programmer: What I needed to do was learn how to make a company grow.”

The reception desk at Soliant’s Chicago headquarters.



Cambridge Educational Services. There he was handed a stack of files for the schools he was supposed to contact for GRE, GMAT, and LSAT test preparation workshops.

“I thought, *There’s really got to be a better way than using all this paper.* I had just bought a new Mac from the campus computer store, and it had this program on it called FileMaker Pro. I started dabbling around in it and built my first database.”

Within two years he had converted virtually everything the company did into a database.

“It was a puzzle to solve for me, and it was a creative endeavor.”

About the time Bowers’ funding for grad school ran out, he was reading advice about Filemaker from Chicago consultant Chris Moyer on an online forum.

“Out of the blue one day I emailed him and said, ‘Hey, I’m curious: Can people actually make a living doing this FileMaker thing?’” Moyer responded and the subsequent conversation led to a job offer and the genesis of Bowers’ first entrepreneurial venture.

His first client was Apple Computer’s office in Chicago.

“Chris was starting on a project with them, so I drove out with him, thinking the whole time, *What could I possibly have to offer Apple Computer about technology, and how can I credibly put myself in there as a consultant?*

“Chris was very comfortable and confident. He told me, ‘As long as you know more about something than the client does, then you’re fine. You just have to stay one step ahead of them.’” Bowers laughs. “That was my first lesson in consulting.

“From there it just evolved one step at a time. For me, I guess it’s been more of following the path as it evolves as opposed to trying to make the path. There’s some shaping as you go, but it’s been more of an adventure to see where the path takes me.”

BOWERS SAYS HE AND Moyer knew next to nothing about running a business.

“Early on, I studied our clients, and as we turned into a real company, I tried to learn from them and emulate them,” he recalls. “I was just fascinated by the variety of businesses that were out there.”

He read books on leadership and management, including the Darden School’s *The Portable MBA*, a gift from his lawyer.

“He gave copies to both of us. I think he realized that Chris and I were not very good at this.”

Bowers learned the basics from his own accountant.

“Over lunch he would explain to me why I couldn’t do what I was naively trying to do and how accounting worked. I probably had the most expensive business school education that one can have, considering all the mistakes we made.”

After he and Moyer dissolved their partnership in 2004, Bowers co-founded Soliant with former *MacWEEK* managing editor Scott Love and software developer Steve Lane. The company employs more than 50 with offices in Chicago, San Francisco, and Philadelphia and a wide-ranging client list that includes Apple, Citibank, Volvo, the University of Chicago, the State of Nebraska, the Old Town School of Folk Music, Wabash College, and The Gap.

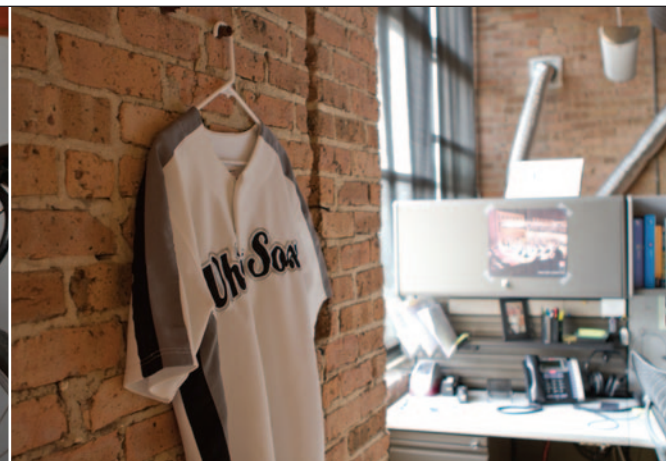
Along the way, Bowers also became an expert Filemaker Pro developer; he’s written seven books and trained thousands on the program.

And the learning continues, most recently at the world’s largest producer of baked goods, Grupo Bimbo, in Mexico City.

“I love going out and having the initial conversation with somebody and learning about their business.

“It’s just fascinating the things you learn, the systems you see. But at some point, you realize that there are many similarities between these things as well. The things that I’ve learned from 100 projects in the past, I can apply to this project.”





VISIT SOLIANT'S HEADQUARTERS on the second floor of a seven-story red-brick building in Chicago's Greektown neighborhood to get an idea of Bowers' management style. The inviting open-concept loft was renovated for

Soliant's purposes. Many interior walls are transparent, including Bowers' decidedly nonexecutive office that looks out on the rest of the workspace. The corner office with a view went to the Controller.

KITCHEN CONVERSATION: Demetrius Balentine, Tomasz Samczynski, Bowers, and Bill Bennett take a break in Soliant's kitchen.



“We strive to be more than just a vendor; we’d like to become trusted advisors.”

“I like seeing people coming and going,” says Bowers, an introvert happier practicing guitar or focusing on programming than leading a company meeting. “If I’m not careful, I could sit in front of the computer all day and not remember my real responsibility. But at some point I realized that my goal wasn’t to learn how to be a better programmer: What I needed to do was learn how to make a company grow.”

That turning point came soon after his marriage.

“Until then it was fine to have it be just a fun thing here. But I married Rebecca, and our first child, Nate, was born in 2003, and I realized that if I fail at this, it’s not just me who fails. There are people who are counting on me and they’ve put their trust in me. Their mortgages and their kids’ college educations are dependent upon me, and I owe it to them to make sure that I was doing the best job I could, that I would learn as much as I could, and be as successful as we could.

“You’ll hear the term ‘servant leadership model.’ I like that responsibility. It’s also one very rewarding: I’m able to provide not only for my own family, but to create an environment where our employees have a nice place to work and a good living.

“There’s not any particular philosophy behind all this, other than trying to be genuine. I try to figure out what’s the right thing to do and what’s the right way to do it.”

Bowers slides a book across the table: *The Trusted Advisor*, by David Maister and Charles Green. Every new employee gets a copy.

“We all have examples of trusted advisors in our lives, whether it’s a mechanic, an accountant—that person that you can go to and say, “Hey, I’m thinking about this. What do you think about it?”

Inducted into the University of Illinois at Chicago’s Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame in 2008, Bowers offers his own list of trusted advisors: At Wabash, it was music professor Nina Gilbert. UBS advisor Bernie DelGiorno helped him make the transition from grad school to the business world (“He’s half stock broker, half father to me”). Brother-in-law David Moore introduced him to an executive forum that’s been a wellspring, and his energy and focus inspires Bowers.

“With every new employee I try to follow up with a conversation about the book over a cup of coffee, just to see what they got out of it, because it has become a blueprint of what I want the business to be. We strive to be more than just a vendor; we’d like to become trusted advisors.”

FLY BACK TO THIS YEAR’S offsite in Santa Cruz, after a team building scavenger-hunt and the talent show, when a day of community service became part of the event.

Senior Developer Martha Zink’s recollection would bring a smile to a Bowers, whose motivations boil down to “telling the truth” and “doing the right thing.”

“I love my work,” Zink writes on the company’s blog. “I help clients solve work problems, which leads to a happier work life for them. It doesn’t get much better than that. That is, until I realized that I work with some of the most amazing people out there.

“We had a blast getting to know each other better. These aren’t just my co-workers. These are the best in the industry, these are my friends. And we get to do a little good in the world together.” ■

IF WE DON'T KNOW SOMETHING...

What to expect when you work with us:

- We'll provide options, never dead-ends.
- If we don't know something, we'll say so.
- We'll provide reasoning with our conclusions.
- We'll be curious about you and your business.
- We'll tell the truth.

—from Soliant's Web site

WHAT DID YOU LEARN AT WABASH?

Confidence and persistence, how to work hard. Going through double comps and a year abroad in a foreign country, you learn to adapt, how to work well with all kinds of people.

A lot of my curiosity about people and businesses comes from those experiences. Wabash certainly strengthened that.

A man with short brown hair, glasses, and a goatee is smiling and looking off to the side. He is wearing a dark blue zip-up jacket over a dark grey t-shirt. Behind him is a bookshelf filled with books of various colors. The lighting is soft and indoor.

**“What we do at Wabash—
and in my experience is done
best at schools like Wabash—
is to get undergraduates really
plugged into the research process,
to make them real ‘boots on the
ground’ where they’re
working on open-
ended problems.”**

**“Collaborative
Exploration”**

“Collaborative Exploration”



 MATH AND COMPUTER SCIENCE Professor Chad Westphal says he’s learned a lot from Wabash science colleagues Scott Feller, Jim Brown, Dennis Krause, and Lon Porter.

“They have this magic touch with students. From them I’ve picked up how to make good things happen on this campus.”

The \$113,000 research grant Westphal received last fall from the National Science Foundation is going to make even better things happen in the mathematics department. Won in competition with top-flight research universities, it involves developing new techniques in computational mathematics, but it’s also a template for how the liberal arts can enrich science, how science can inform the liberal arts, and how students can learn “the human element” of research from scientists as committed to teaching as they are to discovery.

Westphal calls it “collaborative exploration.”

That’s not the subject of his grant, *Adaptively Weighted Finite Element Methods for PDEs and Optimal Least-Squared Metrics*. But Westphal says students will learn that human element—“what it’s like to be a professional”—as they engage in an experience most current faculty didn’t have until grad school.

He says Wabash students are well prepared for the work.

“Big research institutions focus on training graduate students and postdocs, and they do a very good job at that. That’s how I learned this stuff. But at a place like Wabash, the undergraduates are at the top of the totem pole. They’re used to close interaction with faculty.

“My challenge is to give them exposure to research while also discovering something meaningful in the field in computational mathematics. I treat them like graduate students, and we work on that level.”

Westphal says that although the human element of research can’t simply be taught in the classroom, it can be observed and absorbed.

It begins with focus.

“In research, you’re focusing on this one project. You’ve got to do it today and tomorrow and the next day for weeks on end. You’ve got one problem that you’ve got your mind wrapped around.

“Most undergraduates have never had that scale of project before.”

There’s failure.

“When you’re on the front lines of doing things for the first time, the process is really slow. You hit a lot of dead ends. You ask a lot of dumb questions that you eventually find out were dumb questions but that you had to ask.

“And there are lots of little failures. You’ve got to hit a wall. You’ve got to back up and move again, hit another wall. You almost blindly work your way around a lot of things. Every once in a while, you step out into the light, your eyes dilate, and it’s scary, but then you realize you’ve found something important.”

Westphal says it’s best for students to experience such failure in the relatively safe environment of Wabash. Most important, he says, they must learn that “science is a team sport.

“You have to be able to concentrate alone, but you’ve also got to be able to work in groups and communicate. The process works the best when you have two or three people working together. You talk through ideas. You get confused. You say, ‘What did we do last time we had something like this?’ You feed off of each other.”

Working with Westphal, students learn that “there are people behind all this stuff.

“We’ll go to conferences, meet other scientists, or we’ll go through journals and I’ll say, ‘This guy here, he’s a big player.’ It sounds like gossip, but you’ve got to know these things. You’ve got to know how to navigate, to know what research groups are putting out good work we need to be paying attention to and understanding.

“What we do at Wabash—and in my experience is done best at schools like Wabash—is to get undergraduates really plugged into the research process, to make them real ‘boots on the ground’ where they’re working on open-ended problems.”

Westphal’s open-ended problem is in computational math.

He and his students aim to design a new class of robust adaptive algorithms with potential applications in fluid mechanics and weather and climate modeling, among many others.

“What drives me is finding the reason why things often don’t work the way that they’re supposed to, and then figuring out what the problems are and how to solve those in an elegant way,” Westphal says.

For the next three years, thanks to the NSF grant, two students for each of the next three summers will be figuring out problems with him, solving them in an elegant way, and learning how to be scientists in the best liberal arts tradition. ■



Anton Crepinsek '13 has heard his calling at Wabash—and in Nicaragua and Ecuador, in the labs and hospitals, and in the offices of his professors, mentors, and friends.

“As Far as You Want to Go”

□ THIS IS the story of Anton Crepinsek. The boy was 16 years old and had been home-schooled his whole life. In his middle school years, he started taking the same classes as his big sister, and his dad, the doctor, took days off to work with them on their scientific technique.

So when his big sister went off to college, the boy sat down to talk to his father, who gave him two choices: Go to the big public high school for two years or go to college.

While his mind was ready for college, his body wanted to run. He dreamed of becoming a big-time distance runner who would wow the major college recruiters with his feet, not his mind. He went to the big public high school. He didn't need to study. He ran. He fell in love. He had a good time.

Then the young man had to decide where to go to college. He could pursue biomedical engineering at Purdue. Or, to satisfy the old man, he could take a look at the little liberal arts college in Crawfordsville where his father's physician partners went to school.

HE VISITED WABASH and told his mother he wouldn't go there: “Too quiet, too dead, nobody around.”

Then came the injury in his senior year

and the dreams of the D-1 running scholarship vanished. Busch, the Wabash coach, called one night and spoke the truth to the kid who had been coasting since home school: “If you are serious about running, if you are serious about science, come to Wabash and you can go as far as you want to go.”

Begrudgingly, the young man attended Honor Scholarship Weekend and because he was a math and science whiz-kid, he aced the exam, won the top award, and sent in his \$250 deposit. A week later, a scholarship offer from a D-I program came, but he remembered the words of his future coach: “You can go as far as you want to go.”

He went from being “a big fish in a pretty big pond” at the big public high school to, haltingly, “a small fish in a really small pond at Wabash.” There were brilliant students—O'Donnell, Drake, and Coggins. There were the All-American runners—Einterz, McCarthy, and Waterman. He was overwhelmed and missed his home. He didn't think he could cut it at Wabash, didn't think he belonged. He survived his first fall.

In March he got the call that no young man wants to get: “Your father's in the hospital.” The doctor who had only ever been beside the hospital bed was now in it.

—by Jim Amidon '87

A radiologist missed the obstruction on the MRI, but the surgeon caught the mistake. The surgeon sensed the young man's fear and pulled him aside. His calm manner and the precision of his words were a turning point in the young man's life: “Not only could I understand what the surgeon was going to do to my father, I could see the surgeon working hard to understand my fears. That's why he will always be a hero to me.”

The young man loaded up with pre-med classes. He began to notice how smart, how driven all the other pre-med guys were, and he began to feel the intense academic pressure to excel. Then he failed.

It was the second-semester organic chemistry course with the infamous Professor Olsen, famous for rooting out the students not smart enough or not willing to work hard enough to cut med school. The exam score was 57, but it might as well have been a zero. Olsen, who has tracked the success and failure of a generation of organic chemistry students, handed him data—data that never lies—that showed it would be nearly impossible to pass the class.

Then, because he was a student senator,

he attended a meeting of the faculty's Academic Policy Committee and heard Dean Phillips say this: "At Wabash, we want every student to fail at least once. We want them to fail so that they can learn to pick themselves up and get better and stronger."

HAVING EXPERIENCED FAILURE for the very first time in his 20-year-old life, the young man did what the Dean said all Wabash students must learn to do: He picked himself up. He went to the infamous organic professor, who told him he needed to ace the final to have a prayer. He aced the final. He got an A-minus in the class.

HE BEGAN TO SOAR. He took a medical mission trip to Nicaragua over spring break. He spent a month in Ecuador meeting the locals, eating new foods, and walking the beaches of a tiny fishing village that faces the "poor man's Galapagos." He walked high atop the canopy in the rainforest, where he was warned to avoid the potent sting of the bullet ant. When he told his teachers that he wanted to know what it would be like, one teacher said, "It's a good sign that you want to know what it would be like—means you'll be a good scientist." Then the professor told him *not* to let the bullet ant sting him.

The professors he traveled, laughed, learned, dined, walked, and ached with—Hardy, Porter, Rogers, McColgin—became his mentors. He got to know his faculty differently. He was inspired.

That summer he returned to campus to conduct research that will one day allow tiny microchips to deliver medicines within the body. He traveled to San Diego to present the research. He began to develop confidence. He came to realize that he could cut Wabash; that he could be as great as the great scientists he admired his freshman year; that he could go as far as he wanted to go.

He would need that confidence in his junior year: Three lab sciences in a single semester and a 400-level English course. Dallinger and the intricate, detailed work of analytical chemistry made him focus. Lamberton and the writing course helped him release the stress of the lab work and become more introspective.

But the young scientist failed again. The

Pre-Med advisor began giving practice exams for the Medical College Admissions Test and he scored only a 23. He was told it was nearly impossible to improve by more than five points. He remembered a conversation with his father at the dinner table earlier in the year when he realized for the first time that "physicians don't have the luxury of not getting 4.0 GPAs; they have to get a 4.0 each and every day or someone dies."

He dug in and worked hard. That May, for the first time at Wabash, he scored a perfect 4.0, and he studied for the MCAT for six, seven, eight hours a day for three weeks. When he took the test he scored a 34, putting the Wabash man in the 94th percentile of every single student who wanted to go to medical school as badly as he did.

That summer before his senior year he interned at a hospital in South Bend with a scientist trying to discover how traumatic brain injuries affect the way blood cells clot. The young man's job was to fact-check the statistical values of the project, but there didn't seem to be much point, as the paper had already been accepted for publication in the journal *Neurocritical Care*. Still, the statistics in the research paper didn't make sense to the young man trained by Dallinger's dogged "attention to detail" lectures. So he went to the project leader and said, "Wait a minute." The project leader took a look, laid a hand on his shoulder, and said, "Thank you. You just saved us from public embarrassment in a major medical journal."

Feeling his confidence and soaring from his 34 on the MCAT and his work on porous silicon microchips in the lab and from his stunning discovery in the near-fiasco blood-clotting project, he applied to the loftiest of medical schools. And he planned his marriage to Bailey, the high-school sweetheart, for the following summer.

THROUGH THE FALL of his final semester at Wabash, he was rejected by all of the big name schools, and he was disappointed because having a big name on his medical degree really mattered to him.

So he had to decide whether he would go to Indiana, even though the name "Indiana" on his medical degree made him feel as though he was not good enough to

succeed. And then came another conversation with a professor, Novak, whose advice reminded him of the Wabash coach he'd listened to when he decided to come to Wabash: "You can go as far as you want to go at IU. When you save someone's life, they will not care where you went to medical school."

And once again he saw medicine as a beautiful calling and that the only way he would fail was if he did not use his own life to save others. The pre-med advisor who had coached him from the dismal 23 to the 94th percentile on the MCAT spoke the words that ring most clearly to him today: "A normal day in the life of a doctor is almost always a life-changing day for the patient."

His last act on the Wabash campus came in early January when he received distinction on his comprehensive exams in chemistry.

NOW THE WABASH ALUMNUS has rented an apartment in Lafayette, where he will live with his bride and they will make their home while she finishes her degree at Purdue and he begins medical school in August at the IU campus in West Lafayette. He needs a job for six months, but no one will hire him—not to do work in the research park, or even to mop floors at the nearby hospital.

So he decides to substitute teach. And he gets a call from the principal at Happy Hollow Elementary School, but his only student is not happy. He is 11 and he has beaten up boys and girls. He says he knows how to make an acid bomb. He uses the Happy Hollow computers to read about Columbine. The State says the boy must be in school and the principal says the boy cannot be around other students. So the soon-to-be medical student spends six weeks with the boy, whose father is in prison and whose mother is unemployed and who doesn't get to eat when the food stamps run out.

The Wabash man recalls his conversations with his father at the dinner table and with Novak, Dallinger, and Porter in the Hays Hall labs, and with Rogers and Hardy in the rain forest, and with Olofson, the child psychologist who teaches a fatherhood class at Wabash. And he tells the troubled boy: "I have decided to devote

my entire life to helping other people and that's what I am trying to do with you. You do not intimidate me."

Together they learn about Dr. Ben Carson, once a violent, troubled child but who went on to become a renowned neurosurgeon and whose life is the story of the movie *Gifted Hands*. And the boy can see himself in the *Gifted Hands* doctor and the boy looks up at his teacher and says, "I'm going to write that doctor an email."

THROUGH TEARS BOTH TEACHER and troubled child realize there has been a turning point; progress has been made. The boy is learning how to pick himself up and work harder and be stronger.

Five days later, the boy and his mother, each with a single suitcase, board a Greyhound bus for South Dakota, and the Wabash man is once again devastated.

But this time he is not overwhelmed. Even in his frustration, he begins to see his future taking shape. His empathy and his love for children and his desire to give himself to others have him researching pediatric surgery as a potential career path. His father, the doctor, tells him: "If you want to operate on babies, you have to understand that you will see a lot of babies die."

And he thinks about that long and hard: He imagines his wedding day this spring and he sees Bailey having their babies as he is working through medical school and residencies and fellowships in pediatric surgery. And he is emboldened by the notion that his own experiences as a father might help him better understand the fears of parents whose own babies will lie on his operating table.

WHILE HIS CLASSMATES toil through the spring semester before graduation, the young man reflects about how much he has changed since he was 16 years old and chose to spend two years in high school to become a D-I distance runner. Through the encouragement of his professors, he now understands that he was meant to be at this college. And while reluctant to use a word like "transformation," he has heard his calling at Wabash—and in Nicaragua and Ecuador, in the labs and hospitals, and in the offices of his professors, mentors, and friends: "I'm so much more passionate after my experience here, and I want to contribute to something that will make a difference in people's lives."

And he will. ■

"I like to disassemble this idea of success into small versions of happiness."

Gabe

□ GABE WATSON SEEMS TO BE the typical Wabash College alpha male. He had an impressive grade-point average, was a collegiate athlete, and held leadership positions.

But the Columbus, IN, native is far too introspective and reserved to be pigeonholed. An accomplished athlete, Watson is physically impressive, but his reserved nature and introspection drive him toward the arts as well. He doodles, sculpts, and writes poetry, but few people know that side.

His GPA, his work as a resident assistant [RA], and a semester as editor of *The Bachelor* position Watson for big things. His definition of success is driven by helping others, leadership by example, and taking a thoughtful approach to problem solving.

"Wabash has allowed me to do what I think it is I want to do. If it turns out it's

not what I want to do, then I feel equipped to find something else."

What he wants to do is teach high-school English.

Watson's definition of English has little to do with grammar or writing construction; instead, he likes talking about critical thinking and logic.

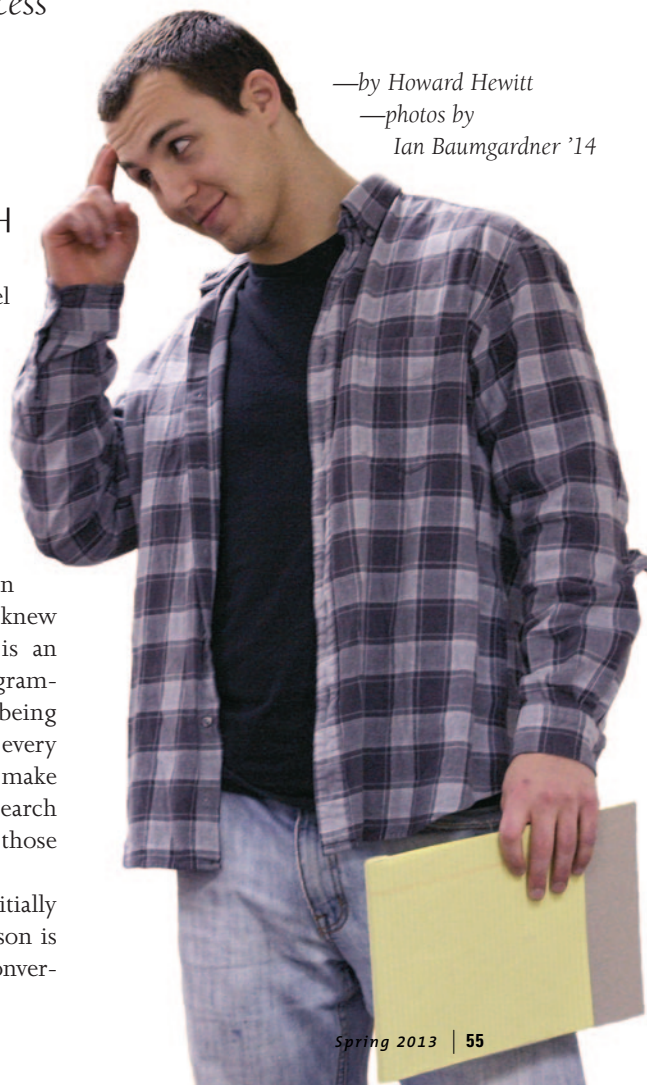
"For me, English has always been connected to education because I knew I wanted to teach English. There is an ancient trivium—rhetoric, logic, grammar—about formulating ideas and being able to express them. It's inherent to every other subject because when you make some finding—say, in biological research—you have to be able to encode those ideas and translate them to others."

Translating ideas to others was initially a challenge. A wrestler at heart, Watson is far more direct on the mat than in conver-

—by Howard Hewitt

—photos by

Ian Baumgardner '14





role. But when you decide to be a good one, it takes a lot more energy. You have to step out. I've always claimed to lead by example, and I think that's still true.

"I like to disassemble things," Watson says. "I like to disassemble this idea of success into small versions of happiness. I'm happiest when I can make other people happy and comfortable."

He took his standard of happiness and applied it by becoming a leader in independent housing. Watson served three years as an RA and was lead RA as a senior.

"I have known all along I want to teach, and when you're teaching in high school, part of that is also being a coach. Being an RA allows me to show I'm up to the task. I knew it would help me get better at working with people."

"I DON'T LIKE the business world because there people are stuck with the need to be the alpha male or female," Watson says. "Everything has to be progress, and we stop worrying about whether we can make life comfortable and enjoyable for people other than ourselves."

Watson will student teach in the fall at Franklin Community High School, south of Indianapolis. He wanted a rural community because it's his background and he often finds cities and society to be too intense. He is interested in coaching wrestling or track and working in a high school journalism program.

"[High school English] is where I was shown things about life that I thought were impossible. I want to show other people those things."

sation. He is a self-described "reserved kid," somewhat of a Hoosier stereotype from Columbus with parents who work for Cummins Engine. He had great grades and looked at several schools before deciding Wabash felt just right. He's not a "rah-rah" kind of guy but realized getting involved was necessary to complete his collegiate experience.

After he enjoyed an outstanding freshman year with wrestling and a 3.9 GPA in hand, a serious staph infection and injuries to both shoulders took him away from the sport he loved. The injuries compromised his future.

"It doesn't hurt every day now, but I can't sleep in some positions. It's the reason I'm not going to the Peace Corps after graduation. If they put me someplace where I had to sleep on a reed mat, I can't do that."

His career as a wrestler essentially over, Watson began taking on leadership roles off the mat. He quickly learned that there is nothing romantic about leadership. Plenty of time is devoted to record-keeping and administrative tasks.

"It's really easy to be an okay leader, and it's really hard to be an exceptional one. As a sophomore I was just playing the

He might be the first to suggest his personality can be a bit of a riddle. But he keeps searching for answers and how he'll guide high-school students to do the same.

"That's where I was shown things about life that I thought were impossible. I want to show other people those things." ■

Life COACH

—by Brent Harris H'03
Director of Sports Information



Coach Morgan

Meet the man behind MOWNBU— “Men of Wabash, Nothing Breaks Us”

□ WHEN CLYDE MORGAN TOOK OVER THE WABASH TRACK and field program following the retirement of legendary and beloved Coach Rob Johnson H'77, he had a lot more to do than work with runners to develop speed and endurance.

“Coach Johnson was an excellent track and field coach, but he was also a great people person,” says Morgan, now a six-time North Coast Athletic Conference Coach of the Year. “I had to follow someone who cared a lot about everyone around him.”

For Morgan, that wasn't an obstacle.

“It was one of the reasons I came here,” he says.

“I really think of myself as a life coach, not a track coach,” Morgan says. “It's great that guys get to train to become All-Conference or All-American athletes. But what's important to me is that a guy feels that if he has something going on in his life, he can call me. I'll go around and ask that question of the guys at practice and I'll look them in the eye and make sure I believe them when they say yes.”

The life-coach role that Morgan cherishes shows in the slogans and sayings he's plastered on the walls of the Knowling Field House. The 8½ x 11 sheets of paper with these phrases are available for anyone to see and take to heart:

Talent is nothing without toughness.

Attitudes are contagious...is yours worth catching?

Luck is what you have left over after you give 100 percent.

JOHNSON SINGS THE PRAISES of his replacement to anyone who will listen: “Wabash College is lucky to have Clyde Morgan. He came in and hit the ground running. He looks like Ray Lewis from the Baltimore Ravens, but he cares for his athletes like Mike Tomlin from the Pittsburgh Steelers.

“I came out of a high-school situation, so it took me a couple of years to get adjusted to both Wabash and to coaching college athletes. Clyde was a very successful college coach at Thiel College. He came in and upgraded the program; he's bringing in big numbers of quality kids who are good students, good people, and good athletes.”

WABASH WAS FORTUNATE TO LAND MORGAN. It took a phone call from a fellow coach to set the wheels in motion.

Morgan, who was recently inducted into the Thiel Athletics Hall of Fame for his accomplishments as a student-athlete and coach, was ready to move on in 2009. He ran every head coaching position by his friend and mentor, Bill Ross, who was then track and field coach

at NCAC cross country and track powerhouse Allegheny College. And every time, Ross replied the choice was not the right fit.

Then came the Wabash job.

“When I first mentioned Wabash to Bill, he told me ‘No, you don't want to go there,’ but he chuckled after he said it,” Morgan says. “I asked him what the deal with Wabash was. His answer was simple: ‘I don't want to deal with you at another conference school.’ Then he got serious and said, ‘I've been telling you what to do since 1995. I'm telling you now to go after this one. It's the right place for you.’ When your mentor tells you that, you have to go after it hard.”

Morgan did just that. A few weeks after applying for the position he was on campus interviewing. Midway through the day, he felt the match was ideal.

“I snuck away just before lunch to eat an energy bar and get ready for the rest of the process,” Morgan says. “While I did that I called [my wife] Jen and told her ‘You'd better be ready to move, because if they offer me the job, we're coming here. This is the right fit.’”

THE MOMENT THE MORGAN FAMILY arrived in Crawfordsville, the new coach's predecessor became one of his biggest supporters.

“I had a lot of people telling me, ‘You have some big shoes to fill,’” Morgan says. “Coach Johnson was the first person defending me, telling everyone ‘This is the right guy.’”

“I already knew I had huge shoes to fill. I was excited by the idea Johnson would still be around. He's a springboard. Johnson will help anyone, and that's the kind of person I strive to be. And if need be, he'll be that guy who puts his foot down and pushes someone to be better, to do the right thing.”

Morgan dovetailed his style and philosophy to the previous success of Johnson. One of the things that came out of that merger was the now-familiar slogan that guides the program—Men of Wabash, Nothing Breaks Us (MOWNBU).

“I loved the phrase Coach Johnson always used—‘I am a Wabash Man!’” Morgan explains. “The ‘nothing breaks us’ portion was actually created around 2004 at Thiel. Things come to me when I run, and that phrase popped into my head during a run at a time when so many people I was around were going through struggles and adversity in their lives. I cut the workout short, ran back to the office, and wrote it down.

“When I got to Wabash, I really thought the two ideals fit perfectly, so our team combined them to create MOWNBU. The two phrases



“J. Owen Huntsman was a very good coach, I think I was a pretty good coach, but Morgan and Busch are great coaches.”

—Coach Emeritus Rob Johnson H'77

Billy Rosson '13, Coach Clyde Morgan, Jake Waterman '13

photo by Jack Parker

matched up so well; my mom tells me it's just another sign that says this was meant to be.

“Those six letters go beyond this program. Other people on campus—students, men and women on the staff, faculty, administration, parents, alumni—it works for anyone.

“We made up cards with NBU on one side and a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King on the other—‘The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.’ I pass those cards out to people I meet who may be going through challenges in life.

“It really hits home when I get a letter from someone who talks about MOWNBU getting them through their problems. They're using that simple program philosophy on other levels.”

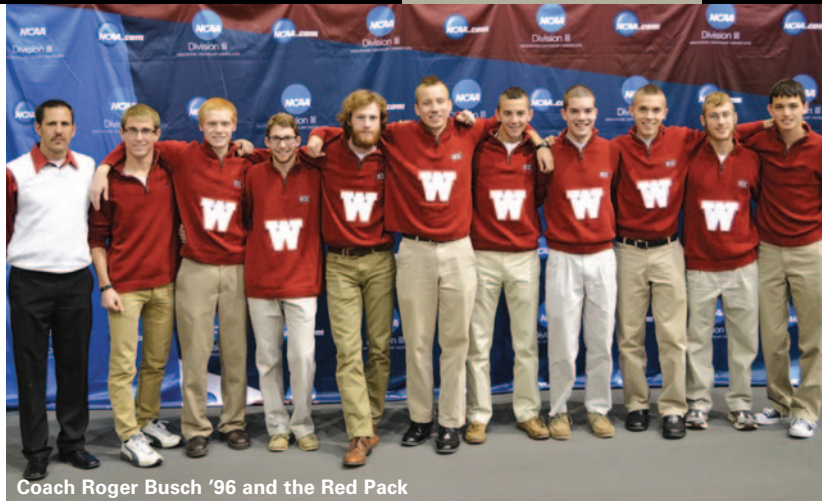
Johnson believes Wabash is in a golden age of track and field, with much of the credit going to its current stable of coaches.

“Wabash is fortunate,” Johnson says. “It has what I refer to as the Dynamic Duo in Coach Morgan and Coach Roger Busch. Those two are great—I don't mean good, I mean great—young coaches. J. Owen Huntsman was a very good coach, I think I was a pretty good coach, but Morgan and Busch are great coaches.” ■

Clyde Morgan



Coach Morgan jogs to the finish line while waiting for the Little Giants' times to be posted on the scoreboard in Knowling Fieldhouse.



Coach Roger Busch '96 and the Red Pack

“BACKBONE AND SPIRIT”

Weston Kitley '13 has been the heart of the Little Giants' offensive line and “the backbone and spirit” of chemistry Professor Laura Wysocki's research laboratory, and that combination of athletic and academic prowess has earned the Wabash senior a prestigious NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship.

The scholarship, a prize of \$7,500, is given to 29 male fall athletes throughout Divisions

I, II, and III who excel on the field, in the classroom, and in the community.

The First Team Academic All-American posted a 3.73 cumulative grade point average, conducted research on the Wabash campus that has been presented nationally, and traveled to Peru, El Salvador, and Nicaragua to study health practices. He plans to attend medical school at Indiana University.

“Weston has the intelligence and drive to reach any goal he sets for himself, but he also has the heart that will make him an excellent physician that patients will connect with and trust,” says Professor Wysocki. “I am truly excited to see what the future holds for him.”

RED PACK RETURNS TO NATIONALS

Coach Roger Busch's Red Pack was back at the NCAA National Championship meet for the third straight season, marking the second-longest consecutive appearance streak for Wabash since a run from 1991 to 1996.

The Little Giants used team depth to extend their national meet appearances, thanks to All-Regional individual performances by Shane Hoerbert '15, Dalton Boyer '14, Billy McManus '15, and Nick Boyce '15. All four were also honored in December for their classroom work as US Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic individuals. Wabash was also honored as an entire squad as one of the top All-Academic teams among Division III programs.

The Little Giants finished 28th at nationals.

SPONSLER: NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Look no further for evidence of a young and talented Wabash basketball team than the recipient of the 2013 North Coast Athletic Conference Newcomer of the Year Award, Little Giant freshman guard Ross Sponsler.

The first-year player led Wabash in scoring with a 12.7 points-per-game average, earning Second Team All-NCAC honors. He earned NCAC Player of the Week honors twice and was named to the D3hoops.com National Team of the Week.

Sponsler is the first Wabash player to garner NCAC Newcomer of the Year honors since the Little Giants joined the conference for the 1999–2000 season. ■

Ross Sponsler '16



Shane Hoerbert '15



Class Notes

49 Dale and Clara Lou **Milligan** have moved to a condo in Crawfordsville. Their new address is 383 Southfork Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933.

■ Our condolences to **Dick Cherry** on the death of his wife, Liz, on December 12. Dick resides in Cranberry Township, PA.

50 Robert "Spud" Hannaford received an honorary degree from Ripon College last May. Professor of Philosophy Hannaford was honored for his "unparalleled contributions to the intellectual and moral growth of students and colleagues." One alumnus who calls Hannaford his favorite professor recalled, "Dr. Hannaford was my professor for ethics, and he always stimulated us to think. He was rigorous and demanding, but with such a gentleness that I never felt any anxiety; I just had an overwhelming passion for philosophy." Hannaford joined the Ripon College philosophy department in 1956.

52 Jim Youngjohn reports that he has skied on seven continents: North and South America, Australia & New Zealand, Antarctica, Morocco in Africa, Europe, and Japan and Turkey in Asia. He continues to reside in Valparaiso, IN.

■ **Bob Mouser** reports that last year he started living in Rittenhouse, an assisted-living retirement community in Indianapolis located on 96th Street between Spring Mill and Ditch Road. ■ **Donald Fisher** reports, "Jeanne and I are both doing fairly well. I had to give up golf because of my eyesight. After cataract surgery, then corneal transplants in both eyes in 2001, I can see well enough but have not regained any enthusiasm for golf. I have audited courses at the University of South Carolina-Aiken every year since 2001. Jeanne and I have enjoyed tournament bridge as intermediate players, and we have created gardens that require considerable time and energy." Fisher retired from surgical practice 20 years ago and lives in Aiken, SC. ■ **Bill Reinke** had heart surgery right after New Year's Day. He is recovering in South Bend, IN with his wife, Liz. ■ **Paul** and Carol **Arnold** have written a book, *Divided by the Light*, that can be ordered at paul.f.arnold@gmail.com or at Amazon. The novel is the story of the spiritual journey in the life of an atheist whose unwelcome enlightenment disrupts not only his own life and threatens his marriage,

but plants seeds of conflict and stirs passions within his larger family. The principle locale is the fictional college-town of Copeland, Indiana, and the plot also unfolds in the Northern Rockies of Montana, Taos, New Mexico, and Paris. The Arnolds' Web site adds: "*Divided by the Light* was written by and for people who occupy the vast middle ground between the extremes of fundamentalism and atheism and who are willing to explore the possibility of the existence of a spiritual realm outside our tangible physical world." ■ **Dick Gooding** reports, "Sue and I are in good health to the best of our knowledge for a couple in their 80s. I stay busy with a group of landowners in the area called the Chama Peak Land Alliance. It's a group of us in southern Colorado and northern New Mexico who are interested in good conservation practices and land stewardship. As chair of this group [I got to the first meeting a few minutes late...and guess what happened?], I don't know what retirement truly is! But at least it keeps me out of the mall." ■ **Tom** and Marilyn

Klingaman report from Carefree, AZ, "We are grateful to be reasonably healthy, though there are few 100-yard dashes any more. Far-flung family adventures include a granddaughter at Queensland University in Brisbane; another at Queens University in Kingston, Ontario; and a son in construction in Traverse City, MI. Last year's travels included a cruise from Quebec City to Portland, ME, and some time in Carmel and Bodega Bay, CA. Plus, of course, the long summer on Glen Lake, MI."

54 Dick Rose took his wife, Kay, to New York in September for her birthday. They were guests at a jazz club where Dick knows the bandleader, who had dinner with them. Dick had composed the lyrics for a song for Kay's special occasion, which the band played and sung for her that evening. The band plays the music for the HBO series, *Boardwalk Empire*, on HBO.

55 Vincent Grogg received the 2012 Living Legacy Award in Covington, IN for his many contributions to that community. Grogg and his wife, Millie, have lived for 54 years in Covington, where he was an attorney and judge in the Fountain County Circuit Court. He was also involved in Little League baseball, junior high school football as a coach, Boy Scouts, Sunday

school teacher, and the local community foundation. "With all of his gifts of time, the greatest gift he has given has been his leadership, his wisdom, and his loyal support to his family, his friends, his faith, and his community," said his son, Ed. More than 200 people packed the banquet hall for the event honoring Grogg.

59 Bob Wedgeworth left a doctoral program in library science at Rutgers University in 1972—to become executive director of the American Library Association and to pursue what became a renowned career in library science—without completing his dissertation. Forty years later, this past December, he successfully defended that dissertation, and in May, graduated as Dr. Robert Wedgeworth Jr., PhD. ■ **Valerie Powell** co-authored a book about medical/dental care, *Integration of Medical and Dental Care and Patient Data*. Powell is professor of computer and information systems at Robert Morris University in Pennsylvania.

61 Ted Todd retired on December 30 as a circuit court judge. Todd served for 24 years in Jefferson and Switzerland counties in Indiana. Todd plans on keeping active as a senior judge and may work as a professional mediator. He told the *Madison Courier*, "When you're a lawyer, you know what should happen in that courtroom. When you're a judge, you have no idea. A lawyer looks at it as a case to win, and a judge looks at it as a problem to solve."

62 Norman Woo retired after teaching mathematics for 39 years at California State University in Fresno. Norman and his wife, Angela, reside in Irvine, CA, with their daughter and son.

63 Crawfordsville's Tom Milligan was honored by the South Montgomery School Corporation at its 21st annual Dollars for Scholars Banquet for contributions to the South Montgomery School Corporation schools and programs. Milligan was honored along with Steve House, who is retired as an assistant football coach and as director of student activities at Wabash. ■ **Phil Mikesell** and his wife, Vina, are active in their new home in northern Michigan. Vina is a board member and advocate for the League of Women Voters of the Grand Traverse area.

The Grunge Report

Phil spoke in January at their local LWV with a talk, "Election 2012—Change or More of the Same?"

64 A. Vincent Buzard became chair of the American Bar Association's Council of Appellate Lawyers at the Appellate Judges Education Institute Summit held in New Orleans in November. Buzard is partner at Harris Beach in Rochester, NY office, and the founder and leader of the Appellate Litigation and Advocacy Practice Group.

■ **Dudley Burgess** completed his 12th hike into the Grand Canyon in November. Dudley has led dozens of family friends and alumni on these hikes, and joining him on the November trip were Dudley's sons, **Andy '90** and **Matt Burgess '92**, and **Tom Runge '71**. **Chris Runge '94** and Tom's youngest son, Jeremy, also joined the trip.

66 Harry and Barb **Elliott** now reside at 300 Cass Plaza Drive, Apt. 327, Logansport, IN 46947.

67 Steve Gollither was re-elected as president of the city of Crawfordsville Redevelopment Commission. The Redevelopment Commission is a five-member board responsible for overseeing the City's tax increment finance (TIF) districts. ■ **Earl Houck** moved to North Carolina in the Pinehurst area in February. ■ Our condolences to **Paul Robinson** on the death of his wife, Carol, on December 28. Paul resides in Surprise, AZ.

70 Jeff Nickloy was recognized with a presidential citation for his good work in the field of law at the annual meeting of the Indiana State Bar Association. Nickloy is an attorney with Campbell Kyle Proffitt in Noblesville, IN. ■ **David Shane** received the 2012 Charles L. Whistler Award, an honor given by the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee and presented annually by the Mayor of Indianapolis. The award recognizes individuals who, outside the regular duties of their chosen profession, have brought together the public and private sectors for civic improvement in Indianapolis. Mayor Greg Ballard presented the award to Shane during a private ceremony on November 15.

THE WABASH WAY: John Horner '59 joins current Sphinx Club members to cheer on the Little Giants in the basketball victory against Wooster.



photo by Tom Runge

Making a Difference the Wabash Way

REFLECTING ON THIS ISSUE'S THEME, "THE WABASH WAY," I think of the walk from the corner of Wabash and Grant through the Arboretum. In many ways the slight elevation change, coupled with the growing darkness of the foliage in the middle, sets the stage for climbing into the light of learning as you approach Detchon Hall.

Or I think of Frost's iconic poem "The Road Not Taken," which in many ways describes our Wabash and the journey each of us has chosen.

But there's another Wabash Way—the way alumni make a difference in this College.

The Wabash Way is to remain linked to this College and her current crop of young men. The Wabash way is to invest in this College and its future. The Wabash Way is to find young men of promise who have what it takes to be Wabash men. The Wabash Way is to add the real world icing on the cake of a liberal arts education by sharing life lessons with our young men. This happens all the time at Wabash.

- It's Terry Hamilton '89 spending time with a Wabash extern at his hospital in Detroit.
- It's Greg Jania '93 in Chicago, hosting a Wabash student for an internship then turning around and offering him a full time position upon graduation.
- It's Rob Shook '83 making a trip back to campus from Texas to tell our guys about protecting their credit.
- It's Ray Jovanovich '84 flying in early from Beijing, China for a Trustee meeting to teach two economics classes and provide a campus-wide lecture about the challenges facing China's next group of leaders.
- It's Greg Castanias '87, the president of the board of directors of the National Association of Wabash Men, leading the effort to reach out to all Wabash men, students and alumni alike, with the single purpose of embracing all and leaving no one out.
- It's Rick Cavanaugh '76, along with his wife, Patti, creating a scholarship to ensure there's always a place at Wabash for a "diamond in the rough."
- It's John "Goody" Goodrich '67 living the Wabash mission statement as he invests his time, talent, and treasure in Wabash College and in his beloved community of Portland, IN.

There are literally hundreds of stories just like these. These are men and women who link to the Wabash community; invest in an even better, ever stronger Wabash of tomorrow; find young men of promise for Wabash and find opportunities for Wabash men to grow and prosper; and join our faculty and staff in preparing these young men to be world changers.

That's the Wabash Way. ■

—Tom Runge '71, Director of Alumni Affairs

71 Joe Cassell continues to practice law in Wichita, KS with the firm, Eron Law, working in the areas of oil, gas, and mineral law.

■ **Skip Adams** was elected chairman of Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana's board of directors. Skip is an attorney and partner with the labor and employment group at

Ice Miller LLP in Indianapolis. ■ **John Ryder** was appointed the new general counsel for the Republican National Committee in February. In announcing the appointment, RNC Chairman Reince Priebus said, "I am confident that John's legal expertise and political experience make him the ideal choice. Ryder has been active

with the RNC since 1996. Ryder is a member of the Memphis, TN, law firm of Harris Shelton Hanover & Walsh. ■ **Steve Weliever** has been "a fulltime RV'er since retiring in October 2004. He writes, "After my wife died, I met a lady from Vermont who had lost her husband. We hit it off and eventually married in October 2009."

"Connecting the Dots"

□ AUSTEN CROWDER '07 RETURNED TO CAMPUS in November to talk about her transition and to help Wabash better understand the transgender community.

In her talk, "Trans Oppression, Trans Community," Crowder cited sobering statistics about transgender individuals: 41% report attempting suicide; 90% report harassment; 27% report being turned away from a care provider because of gender identity; one in three transgender youths report being turned away from shelters because of their transgender identity.

"I'm not an academic; I'm an activist," said Crowder, who was a mentor with the Indiana Youth Group, an LGBT support organization, before moving to Chicago. She hoped her talks at Wabash would help students, faculty, and staff at the College "connect the dots in such a way that you understand my community's issues, what my community needs, and possibly, when you encounter someone who thinks they might be transgender, you can give them the assistance they need." ■

"Take Care of Who You Are"

□ "WE'VE ALL BEEN ASKED, 'What do you want to be when you grow up?'" Nike Golf Global Brand Manager Dan Schenk '95 told visiting high-school seniors and their parents as began his keynote talk at this year's Top 10 Visit Day at the College. "That's not the right question—it's who do you want to be when you grow up?"

"Take care of *who* you are, and the *what* will take care of itself."

Schenk used the analogy to illustrate the benefits of a Wabash liberal arts education. He told the high-school seniors that Wabash is the kind of place that will help them find out who they want to be. He credited his confidence and ability to his Wabash education.

"Some places will just tear you down but Wabash will build you back up," he said. "You can't prepare for a changing world with an education that says take this training and go be an accountant. You have to learn how to learn." ■

"You Can Be Liberated"

□ CURRENTLY FOUNDER AND MANAGING PARTNER OF Option3, a medical device incubator focusing on fast-to-market technologies, Jim Dreher '85 spoke to students as a guest of the College's Callings program before addressing this year's Entrepreneurial Summit in February.

"I learned early on in sales that it wasn't about what I had, but who I was," said the medical device entrepreneur who has founded and helped launch a number of highly valued start-ups. "It was about my integrity, my work ethic, my relationship with the customer."

Dreher learned quickly that he didn't like the constraints of conventional employment and eschewed graduate school. "There's nothing wrong with grad school, but I also think it's important that someone talk with you about not going to grad school," Dreher said.

"In Silicon Valley, the entrepreneurs were working in their garages, not in grad school. If you have to have the PhD or MBA, then you're probably not going to be an entrepreneur. But if you get over this feeling that you need to be recognized, you can be liberated."

"I've wanted to work with people who challenged me, elevated me intellectually," Dreher said of his decision to enter the medical device field. He acknowledged the unpredictability of his vocation, but concluded, "In 18 years, I've never needed to call someone to ask for a job. I basically pay myself." ■



Austen Crowder '07

Elogene and Steve spend close to six months traveling about the USA. He reports that he has visited many of his pledge brothers during his travels, as well as his good friend and classmate **Clark Johnson**. ■ **Steve Wildman** is serving an eight-month appointment as the chief economic advisor to the Federal

Communications Commission in Washington. Wildman will take a short leave from his current position at Michigan State University as director of the Quello Center for Telecommunications Management and Law and Professor of Telecommunications Studies.

BACK ON Campus



Dan Schenk '95



Jim Dreher '85

72 Thomas McShane is the author of "In Search of the Good War: Just War and Realpolitik in Our Time," an article featured in the September/October issue of *Military Review*. The article discusses the question, "Will just war theory influence the use of military force more than international law?"

73 Dennis Dean was named by his peers at Virginia Tech as Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Dean was selected for this honor for "his contributions to the fields of microbiology and bioinorganic chemistry involving the mechanisms of biological nitrogen fixation and the formation of biological iron-sulfur clusters." He was formally honored in February at the 2013 AAAS annual meeting in Boston, MA. Dean is the Stroobants Professor of Biotechnology and director of life sciences at Virginia Tech.

74 William O'Bryan was named leader of the financial services litigation subgroup at Butler Snow O'Mara Stevens & Cannada in Nashville, TN.

75 Mauri Ditzler is one of three newly elected members of the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Division III Presidents Council. Mauri is Monmouth College's 13th president in Monmouth, IL. ■ **Dale Petrie** was re-elected as president of the school board at Crawfordsville High School. ■ **Mark Guenin** practices law at his offices in Wabash and North Manchester, IN with his daughter, Emily Guenin-Hodson. Mark is a member of two elite groups—the Million Dollar Advocates Forum and the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum. To become a member, an attorney must have won million- and multi-million-dollar verdicts, awards, and settlements, and demonstrate ability to accomplish superior results in complex cases. ■ **Keven Forney** retired June 30 after nine years as superintendent at Oakwood Unit 76 school district in Fithian, IL. Keven came to Oakwood from the Pontiac school system, where he had worked since 1978, starting out as a high school science teacher and coach of cross country and track. Keven works with the principal training program at Olivet Nazarene University, and he and his wife, Penny, reside in Oakwood, IL.

76 Mark Miles was named the new CEO of Hulman & Co., which owns Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the IndyCar series. Miles is a board member of Hulman & Co. and a local economic development leader, and currently CEO of the Central Indiana Corporate Partnership. He also served as chairman of the 2012 Super Bowl hosted in Indianapolis. ■ **Larry Pribyl** was named CFO at Trachte Building Systems. Trachte is a company that designs, manufactures, and erects steel self-storage systems and is headquartered in Sun Prairie, WI.

Alumni Connection

Want to refer a student?

➤ www.wabash.edu/alumni/student/refer

Changing careers or on a job search?

➤ www.wabash.edu/careers/alumni/services

Connect with Wabash Alumni Affairs at

➤ www.wabash.edu/alumni/

NEW TO AN AREA?

Find the Wabash alumni association nearest to you at: www.wabash.edu/alumni/ra/list

National Association of Wabash Men Board of Directors

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Term Expires May 2015
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Terry Hamilton '89
Kip Chase '03
Gary Campbell '99
Eriks Janelins '02

Faculty Representative
Dan Rogers

Student Representative
Jeremy Wentzel '14

Send your latest news to:

Class Notes Editor Karen Handley 765-361-6396 handleyk@wabash.edu

■ **Ed Wanamaker** was inducted into the Rockland County Sports Hall of Fame on April 27 in Nanuet, NY. Ed starred in several sports as a high school athlete at Nyack High School and was a four-year letterman in soccer, named MVP, and lettered in baseball at Wabash.

78 Mark Stuaan has received the Pro Bono Publico Award from the Indiana Bar Foundation for his outstanding pro bono services. Stuaan is partner in Indianapolis office of Barnes & Thornburg.

79 Chong Ng was appointed managing director, Greater China at Futurestep, an international recruiting company. Ng joined Futurestep in August 2011 as business development director for the Asia region and has been successfully growing the company's recruitment process outsourcing business and enhancing Futurestep's go-to-market strategy across Asia. Ng will split his time between Shanghai, Beijing, and Hong Kong, where he is currently based.

80 Ken Turchi released his 283-page book, *L.S. Ayres and Company: The Store at the Crossroads of America*. The book was inspired by his long fascination with the Indiana department store. Ken worked at an Ayres store during his college years and began his book in 2007. The book is available through the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center.

82 John Clymer was named executive director of the National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention.

83 Indianapolis attorney and sports agent **Dave Taylor** represents Cincinnati Reds slugger Scott Rolen.

84 Mark Holcomb was awarded the Distinguished Service Award last fall by the Indiana University Maurer School of Law. The award recognizes graduates who have distinguished themselves in service to their communities in ways far exceeding traditional, business, and civic duties. Holcomb was recognized for his work in the Tacoma, WA, area, including the Mary Bridge Children's Foundation, the Boys and Girls Club of South Puget Sound, the Tacoma YWCA, and the Salvation Army. Holcomb is partner at Morton McGoldrick PS in Tacoma. ■ **Tom Jeffers** writes, "I relocated from Batesville, IN, to Alexandria, VA. I'm opening a new Washington office for my employer, Hill-Rom, an Indiana-based medical technology company."

85 Chris Coble will become vice president for religion at Lilly Endowment Inc. in July. Coble has been program director for religion for 16 years. ■ **Tom Denari** is president of Young & Laramore advertising office in Indianapolis.

Some of their work includes advertising for Goodwill, Stanley Steemer, and Steak 'n Shake. A few years ago Y&L moved into an a defunct public school building that dates back to the late 19th century, putting the empty building to good use. *Inc. Magazine* did a feature story, "The World's Coolest Offices," about the move. To read the article, visit www.inc.com/ss/worlds-coolest-offices/facebook-contest-winners##1. ■ **Chris Black** is chief financial officer of Viamedia, based in Lexington, KY. Viamedia is the leading independent cable rep firm and provider of online advertising services.

86 Jeremy Cage is the new CEO at Lighting Science Group, a leader in LED lighting technology that is both environmentally friendly and energy efficient. Jeremy got together with some classmates last September and sailed Long Island Sound. ■ Our condolences to **Mark Hatcher** on the death of his father, Jack Hatcher, on March 13. Jack taught economics at Wabash from August 2011 until December 2012.

87 Steven Badger has joined the Indianapolis law firm Benesch as an attorney in the litigation practice group. Badger's litigation practice focuses on business disputes, frequently those involving competition in regulated and unregulated industries, in which his background in economics is advantageous.

88 Jeff Short received the Charles Christian Leadership Award from the Indiana Chapter of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS). Short is an attorney with the Indianapolis law firm of Hall Render Killian Heath & Lyman and has served two terms as President of the Indiana HIMSS Chapter and remains on its board of directors. ■ Indiana Deputy Attorney General **Rich Bramer** serves as a liaison to members of Congress and federal agencies. He monitors federal government activity that impacts Indiana—at the direction of Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller. Rich was formerly with the U.S. Department of Agriculture as an attorney in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Civil Rights.

89 Sean Blackwell is the new chair of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at University of Texas in Houston. Sean is an associate professor and has been serving as interim chair of the department for the past year.

90 Easley Winery, owned by **Mark Easley**, won a gold medal for its *Traminette* varietal wine at the 2013 *San Francisco Chronicle* Wine Competition. Easley Winery, located in downtown Indianapolis, also garnered a gold medal with its 2010 Michigan Riesling last in 2012. ■ **Brian Shepherd** has been named to the newly created position of executive vice president of TeleTech and president of customer strategy

and technology services for the business processes area. The business is located in Englewood, CO.

91 U.S. Representative **Luke Messer** was sworn in on January 3 after being elected in November in Indiana's 6th Congressional District. Elected president of the freshman class by his peers, Messer serves on the House Committees on Budget, Foreign Affairs, and Education and the Workforce. Luke and his wife, Jennifer, have two daughters and one son. Messer has also served as an elder at his church and is the author of a children's book about Indiana titled *Hoosier Heart*. ■ **Jeff Insko** spoke at the 2012 Pipeline Safety Trust Conference held in November. Insko writes and maintains the Line 6B Citizens' blog <http://grangehallpress.com/Enbridgeblog/>. He and his wife, Katy Bodenmiller, are active with pipeline safety.

93 Sports agent **Scott Smith** is the founder and president of X-A-M Sports & Entertainment LLC in Madison, WI. One of his clients is Super Bowl XLVII quarterback for the San Francisco '49ers Colin Kaepernick. ■ **Greg Jania** has joined APG Asset Management US Inc. in New York as senior portfolio manager, global private equity. APG is an advisor to a pension services provider in the Netherlands, for which it manages close to \$400 billion in pension assets. Greg heads the fund investment team (which they are currently building) and expects to start investing in mid-2013.

94 **Joel Tragesser** married Kirsten Graham on September 14 at Morse Park in Noblesville, IN. Kirsten works at Riley Hospital for Children at IU North, and Joel works at Frost Brown Todd, LLC. They plan to reside in Westfield with their four children. ■ In October 2012, **Jonathan Mellette** successfully defended his thesis and became the first student at the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University to be awarded a Doctor of Ministry degree in preaching and worship. Mellette is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church and currently serves as the pastor of Florence United Methodist Church in Florence, TX. Mellette resides in Florence with his wife, Sheryl, and has two children, Matthew and Grace, and three stepsons, Brennan, Connor, and Dylan.

95 **Roy Sexton** was appointed to the Michigan Mortgage Lenders Association's (MMLA) Southeast Chapter Board of Governors. Roy is vice president of marketing and strategic planning for Trott & Trott PC, in Farmington Hills, MI. ■ **Ernesto Vela** was named director of California's Region 16 office as a specialist in Monterey County's education program. Ernie, who grew up in Salinas and was a migrant student himself, holds a doctorate in education and served

as a grade-school classroom teacher and principal before becoming a migrant education specialist.

96 Our condolences to **Chip Timmons** and his family on the death of his father, Mike Timmons, on December 8. Chip is associate director of admissions at Wabash. ■ **Phillip Gutwein** was named secretary for Easter Seals Crossroads in Indianapolis. Gutwein is an attorney and partner at the Indianapolis firm of Faegre Baker Daniels LLP. ■ **Brent Waltz** won re-election to the Indiana State Senate in November with 53.2% of the vote. Brent was first elected to the Indiana State Senate in 2004. He is chairman and CEO of The Baron Group Inc. and currently serves as director of Indianapolis Diversified Machining Inc. ■ **Klint Krouse** reports, "I completed my doctorate in Clinical Psychology (PsyD) at the Adler School of Professional Psychology in December. My partner, Jason, and I also adopted two rescue dogs: George, a schnauzer mix, and Fritz, an affenpinscher mix, in December."

97 **Reese Hamilton** was named manager of strategic sourcing for Vectren Corporation in Evansville, IN. ■ **Gabe Sowder** returned to his hometown of Jeffersonville, IN, and has opened his first restaurant, Taco Punk, in Louisville's NuLu district. His five-year-old son helped name the restaurant after a nickname for Gabe. Sowder was featured in the winter issue of *Food and Dining* and on *Secrets of Louisville Chefs Live*. To learn more about Gabe's restaurant, visit tacopunk.com ■ **Chris Atkins** was appointed director of the Office of Management and Budget in the new Indiana Governor Mike Pence administration. Chris worked previously for Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels during his terms, as well as several national policy positions at the Tax Foundation and the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC).

98 **Brian** and **Danielle Tucker** are the proud parents of a baby girl, Nina Tucker. She was born January 27. Brian is associate professor of German at Wabash.

99 **Kevin McCurdy** received his architectural license in Indiana. McCurdy is an associate with LWC, Inc., with offices in Richmond, IN, and Dayton, OH. To learn more about LWC, visit lwcinspires.com ■ **Aman Brar** is president of Apparatus, the Indianapolis IT consulting firm founded by **Kelly Pfledderer '96**. Aman was one of six featured panelists at the *Indianapolis Business Journal* Power Breakfast Series/Technology on March 7 at the Marriott in downtown Indianapolis. ■ **Marc** and **Kelli Welch** are the proud parents of a son, Aaron Joseph Welch, born January 28, 2013. Aaron joins his older siblings, Madi (9) and Blake (5). Marc is the Teacher Education Program Coordinator at Wabash. ■ **Jared** and **Nikki Hall** are the

proud parents of a daughter, Julia Marie Hall, born May 11, 2012. She joins her older sibling, Pete. Wabash classmate **Luke Lindsell '99** is her godfather. Julia and Pete are the grandchildren of **Bob Hall '74** and **Chip Olson '76**.

00 Last fall, **Trevor Fanning** gave his graduate recital in choral conducting in partial fulfillment of the master's in music he is pursuing at Butler University. The choir, was made up of 44 singers, including current Butler students, former students, and friends and Trevor's colleagues from local theatre groups and other choirs. Trevor writes, "A student of **Eric Stark '88**, I was humbled and excited to have lots of Wabash friends in the audience that night, including fraternity brothers **Mark Wallis '01** and **Aaron Childress '02**, and other Wabash men **Carl Michaelis '79** and **Zach Sundstrom '05**. One of the highlights of the night was having Professor Emeritus of Music Larry Bennett (director of the Glee Club during my time at Wabash) there to share in such a special night of beautiful music." ■ **Michael** and **Beth Shelbourne** are the proud parents of a daughter, Brynn Elizabeth, born March 15, 2012. The family makes their home in Odenton, MD. ■ **Jason Androff** has completed three combat tours of Iraq and Afghanistan and was awarded the bronze star. He was appointed company commander of the Kankakee Reserve Unit in Kankakee, IL.

01 **Mike Foster** successfully defended his dissertation in June 2012 and graduated in December from the University of Illinois with his PhD in second language acquisition teacher education. He is working as a tenure-track assistant professor of French at William Jewell College in the Kansas City, MO area. ■ **Shawn Whistler** is an instructor in the after-school program where he teaches digital game design and creative movement, a new program at Arts for Learning, an Indiana affiliate of the national Young Audiences nonprofit organization. To learn more about Shawn's program, visit www.yaindy.org/dance/shawnwhistler ■ **Ryan Claxton** was promoted to senior vice president of business development and strategy at Major Health Partners in Shelbyville, IN. He and his wife, Jennifer, have two daughters, Emma and Sophie.

02 **Sonny Bhasker** accepted a position as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of Texas.

03 **Caleb Ishman** writes, "Wishing a very special New Year to all of my Wabash brothers! This is our 10th, and I can't wait to celebrate this anniversary with you all. My wife and I are celebrating our fourth year of marriage this July. We are making beautiful music together at musiSHan.com" ■ **John** and **Kristin Bramfeld** announce the birth of their second

child, Henry Martin Bramfeld, on August 14. Henry joins his big brother, John, and the family resides in Algonquin, IL. ■ **David and Sidni Weglarz** announce the birth of their son, Mason James Weglarz, born February 19. David has launched his own business, Still 630 Distillery, located south of Busch Stadium in downtown St. Louis. Their specialties are whiskeys, bourbon, and rums. To learn more about their distillery, visit their Web site at www.still630.com ■ **Brandon Chuang** was nominated for a James Beard Journalism Award for his profile of St. Louis chef Chris Bork. Brandon writes for *Feast*, the premiere food publication of St. Louis. The James Beard Awards are considered "the Oscars of food writing."

04 Nick Dahl writes, "In February this year I opened my own private family practice clinic in Washington, IN. My wife, Katie, and I live here in Washington, and we have three children, Olivia (8), Dane (3), and Caroline (5 months)." ■ **Mike Reidy H'04** has been selected by the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee to replace a Crawfordsville city council seat vacated by a recent resignation. Mike retired from Wabash in 2010 after 32 years as associate director of admissions.

05 Ryan Feedback has been living and working in Nigeria since August, a long way from his Bluffton, IN, hometown. Ryan earned a master's degree in social work at Columbia University, then moved up to management level in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs after working as an inpatient psychiatric social worker. In spring 2012 he went through a rigorous State Department hiring process to become a diplomat. His first diplomatic assignment in August took him to Nigeria, where he adjudicates visas for entry into the United States and cares for U. S. citizens who are overseas. He is married and has a baby who was born just last spring. Ryan will be on this assignment for two years and then return to the United States to await his next overseas assignment. ■ **Robert Love** has moved back to Indiana and taken a position with the Indiana Department of Education as a policy and research specialist.

06 Bryan Roesler was elected as board of directors vice president of Giving Sum, an Indianapolis not-for-profit organization of next generation leaders working together to improve Indianapolis and central Indiana. Bryan is assistant director of annual giving at Wabash. ■ **Greg Mahoney** joined Mahoney Family Dentistry as their administration practice manager. The office is located in South Bend. In October, Mahoney participated in "Candy Buy-Back Night to Support the Troops," where families returned any unwanted candy from trick-or-treating. Working with the St. Joe

Valley Blue Star Mothers, the candy was sent to troops overseas with messages for the troops.

■ **Barry Tyler** is living in Chicago and working in northwest Indiana at Legacy Foundation, the community foundation for Lake County. ■ **Brian Rooksberry** moved to Mooresville from Indianapolis and is a project manager for Shiel Sexton, a construction management company. ■ **Evan Wagoner** is a manager in shareholder services at American Funds in Carmel, IN.

08 Drew Howk joined Hall Render Killian Heath & Lyman's Indianapolis office. He will be practicing health-care litigation. ■ **Kyle McClammer** joined Wooden & McLaughlin LLP as an associate on its real estate team. He represents finance companies and private developers in commercial lending transactions, acquisitions, and development of commercial and multifamily properties.

09 Clay Gambetti was named a "2012 Up and Comer" in the under-30 category by the *Tampa Bay Business Journal*. Last April Gambetti joined the Tampa Hillsborough Economic Development Corporation. Gambetti is a business analyst who has completed a workforce project, "The Tampa Bay IT Gap Analysis." ■ **John Higgins** graduated magna cum laude from law school in May 2012 and passed the Indiana Bar Exam in July. Higgins now litigates discipline cases for the Indiana Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission. ■ **Brent Kent** was named Indiana State Director of StudentsFirst, a bipartisan grassroots movement of more than 2 million members nationwide working to focus the education system on what's best for students. Brent previously served as StudentsFirst's Midwest outreach director. He was political director for U.S. Rep. Luke Messer's campaign in 2011 and regional director for the education reform group School Choice Indiana, where he was responsible for grassroots organizing.

10 Pat McAlister teaches eighth, ninth, and tenth grade English at the Indiana Math and Science Academy-North in Indianapolis. A letter he wrote about "common core standards" in Indiana was published on the Conversations page of the *Indianapolis Star*. Common Core Standards in Indiana is a state-led process to develop a common core of state standards in English/language arts and mathematics for grades K-12. ■ **Stephen Popovich** and Kaitlin Wegner were married July 8 in Cabos San Lucas, Mexico. Kaitlin earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education at Purdue University and teaches first grade at Pierce Downer Elementary School in Downers Grove, IL. Stephen works at Groupon in Chicago.

Jonathan O'Donnell

and Mari Newlin were married September 1 in North Carolina. Jonathan is a medical student at Duke University and the couple resides in Durham, NC.

11 Chris Beedie was hired as a Spanish teacher at Crawfordsville High School. Chris just returned to the United States in December after studying at the Universidad Nacional de la Plata in Argentina. ■ **Tian Tian** is assistant director of public relations for Louis Vuitton China in Shanghai and writes, "Since I started last May, I have been dealing with more than 30 different fashion media representatives and first-tier celebrities on a daily basis. I do a lot of the personal styling for celebrities with Louis Vuitton products during red carpet debuts and other events. On the fashion magazine side, I have also been getting more and more familiar with the editors of *GQ*, *Esquire*, *Vogue*, *Elle*, and several other big names. I provide content for these media outlets and 'feed' them with the newest trends from the brand and work to get us more coverage."

12 Tyler Buresh and Krista Bussis were married August 4 in Hamilton, MI. Tyler is a management analyst with Axiom Resource Management. The couple makes their home in Arlington, VA. ■ **Tom Schabel** is a query analyst at Yellow Pages Group, Canada. ■ **Neil Burk** was named sport editor at *The Paper of Montgomery County 24-7*. As sports editor, Neil covers local athletics, including Wabash. ■ **Jake Moore** traveled to Cameroon to begin his work with the Peace Corps. ■ **Chris Zabriskie** is coordinator of advancement communications at Marion University in Indianapolis. ■ **C.J. Gum** graduated from the 72nd Indiana State Police Recruit Academy in December. He is now at the Lafayette State Police Post and has been patrolling Montgomery and Fountain counties with field training officers. ■ **Brandon Doeblor** and Jessica Terrell were married September 8. The couple makes their home in Floyd Knobs, IN. ■ **Daniel Ranschaert** is in Arizona teaching in Tucson's Catholic schools in poor neighborhoods with the Alliance for Catholic Education, a program run by The University of Notre Dame. The program trains young college grads to teach in needy schools for a two-year commitment. Classmate Sam Glowinski is teaching in the program in Richmond, VA.

The Wabash Way: Have the Guts to Own It!

 BY THE TIME THIS ISSUE OF WM IS IN YOUR HANDS, my time as an alumni servant of the College will be over. I've served on the national alumni board for 11 of my 26 years as an alumnus, and as a co-founder and leader of the National Capital Association of Wabash Men for another 5 years before that. I'll move on to some other interests, such as service to my law school and to the cause of adoption and family building. I've been fortunate to serve this College, and, at times, to lead in connection with that service. It has been a privilege. Thank you all for that opportunity.

This issue of WM carries the theme "The Wabash Way," and for my final note as president of the NAWM, I'd like to offer a short meditation on what the way forward—the path ahead for Wabash—might be.

After the last Wabash Trustee Newsletter I received a lot of mail about this particular sentence: "If Wabash is to protect its endowment, it must increase its net tuition revenue—by increasing tuition and reducing aid (in part, by recruiting a greater number of students with the ability to pay all or a substantial portion of stated tuition)." My correspondents worried that this would end what they viewed as the "Wabash Way" of educating "diamonds in the rough." In the words of one alumnus, if that decision "had been made in 1984 the likelihood is that this steelworker's son would have a bachelors degree from I.U. hanging on his wall right now."

Since I'm not a trustee, I urged each of my correspondents to write to that board about their concerns. Still, this is a reality that all of us as Wabash alumni have to face in the "new normal" that exists following the extended economic downturn that began in 2008.

But Wabash is one of the richest schools, you may protest. How can this be? True, we have a \$320 million endowment as of last September, "which places Wabash among the highest colleges in

We should never apologize. We should sell the Wabash education as the unique and valuable commodity that it is. We should be the national thought leader in educating young men.

the nation in per-student endowment." Divided by 907 students, that's an endowment of about \$350,000 per student. That probably puts us around 35th in the nation—nowhere near Princeton's \$2.2 million per student (1st), or even Notre Dame's \$521,000 per student (18th), but on a par with Hamilton, Columbia, Haverford, Colby, and Vassar.

Good company to be in? You bet. But Wabash has been fundamentally different from these other institutions in the way it has historically used its endowment income. Vassar has an endowment of \$805 million, has an annual budget of around \$150 million, and gets 52% of its income from tuition (versus 32% from endowment). Wabash's budget for the same 2011-12 period was a more modest \$46 million, with 42% coming from endowment, and only 35% from tuition.

As the economy took its toll on the endowment (it dropped from \$390 to \$230 million between September 2007 and March 2009 before recovering to \$320 million last fall), there has been



Castanias visits with students at the Senior Cookout during one of his regular visits to campus.

less endowment income to drop into the College's operating budget. And the College had to cut costs close to the bone. It's simple math that many of us are used to dealing with in other areas of our professional and personal lives, particularly over these past five years.

HERE IS THE WAY FORWARD: There should be some appreciable number of the 900 men who attend Wabash at any given time who should be willing to pay more for this high-quality education.

For too long now, we have been offering an "apology discount" for the Wabash education—sorry that we're an all-men's school in a small town in Indiana, so here's some extra money. That is unnecessary and unwise. Our graduates believe in the Wabash education when they're here, and after they leave, and the recruitment of Wabash men should reflect that belief as well.

As one of the three all-men's colleges left in the United States, we should not apologize. To the contrary, we should sell it as the unique and valuable commodity that it is. We should create and expand the market for an all-men's education. The "Seriously" campaign is a good start, and I'm grateful to our friend Pat White for leading us to that point. There needs to be a whole lot more of that emphasis upon the two unique virtues of Wabash College—its intimacy and its maleness.

We are alumni of Wabash, where *Scientiae et Virtuti* translates as "Know-how and Guts." We need to have the guts to "own it," to quote another of my friends, Jim Dimos '83. Wabash should be synonymous with "Educating the Twenty-First-Century Man" in every corner of this nation, from the hills of Maine to the Western plain. We should be the national thought leader in educating young men. I should not have to explain Wabash to people in Washington, DC; they should know EXACTLY what "Wabash College" means.

And if they know what Wabash College means, then young men and their families who can pay more for college should and will want to come here. And that, in turn, will leave plenty of seats for those steelworkers' sons who cannot. (And further, it should go without saying, alumni gifts need to not just keep pace, but increase, in order to make certain that that can still happen.)

Wabash should not be undersold because it is an all-male college in a small Midwestern town. Wabash is worth more. We know that this is a unique education and experience, as well as a life's foundation, that a young man can't get anywhere else. Let's make that case. Loud and long. Let's find the know-how and the guts to "own it" in a big way. ■

—Gregory A. Castanias '87, President,
National Association of Wabash Men

Dr. John Sterry Long '42 delivered more than 10,000 babies over five decades.

42 Robert A. "Bob" Denk, 92, died September 19, 2012, in Tallahassee, FL.

Born October 14, 1920, in Waveland, IN, he was a member of the Glee Club and Phi Delta Theta while attending Wabash.

He served in the U.S. Navy Air Corps during World War II.

In 1948, he earned his BA in music from the University of Miami [UA] and continued to write and arrange music all his life. He returned to the university to earn his master's degree in education, which he received in 1955.

He retired from Florida's Dade County School System in 1983 after teaching junior high school band for 35 years.

He was a member of Christ Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Jean Denk, 4425 Meandering Way Apt. 324, Tallahassee, FL 32308; sons, Bruce and Brian Denk; and sister, Marjorie.

Leon I. Davis, 93, died October 9, 2012, in Pendleton, IN.

Born December 19, 1918, in Anderson, IN, he was the son of Margaret and Bert Davis. Davis was particularly proud that his father served as the first commander of the Pendleton State Police Post.

Davis was a 1936 graduate of Anderson High School and for two years attended Wabash, where he was a member of Sigma Chi. He later attended Indiana University-Indianapolis.

Davis served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, participating in the North African campaign into Sicily.

He was a self-taught plastics engineer and was past president of the Society of Plastic Engineering and past president of the American Society of Engineers.

Davis was a member of the Pendleton First United Methodist Church and was a past commander of the American Legion.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Albert Davis.

He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Martha Davis, 9757 South State Road 9, Pendleton, IN 46064; son, Bert Davis; and two grandchildren, Allison Davis and Leon Davis.

James A. "Jim" Colvin, 93, died November 14, 2012, in Indianapolis.

Colvin attended Wabash for seven semesters and was a member of the Glee Club and Phi Gamma Delta. He also attended Indiana University and Indiana University School of Law.

Following more than four years of service in the U.S. Army during World War II, Colvin became a special agent for the FBI in the Carolinas and New York City.

He then began a private law practice in Indianapolis and was a part-time employee of the State of Indiana. He also served as a deputy prosecutor for Marion County.

Colvin was named a Sagamore of the Wabash by Indiana Governor Robert Orr in 1984.

In his spare time, Colvin enjoyed writing poetry and essays, photography, and wood-working, including fine furniture. In 1973, he constructed a replica of Noah's Ark for the Indianapolis Zoo.

Colvin was preceded in death by his wife, Jeanne, and daughter, Mary Anne Pethe.

He is survived by his daughter, Catherine Sayre; granddaughters Alyssa Chopin and Priscilla Pethe, and three great-grandchildren.

Haines Boots Lockhart, 90, died March 30, 2011, in Barrington, IL.

Born October 29, 1920, in Crawfordsville, he was the son of Juanita and Lawrence Lockhart.

While attending Wabash he was an independent, and he earned his doctorate at the University of Illinois, Champaign.

A nutritional biochemist for Swift and Company who later retired from Quaker Oats in Barrington, Lockhart's research was instrumental in developing the C-Rations used through World War II through today.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Ruth.

He is survived by his children, **Haines Lockhart Jr. '67** and Anne Lockhart; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Shirl Doyle Wray, 92, died February 10, in Greentown, IN.

Born September 10, 1920, in New Market, IN, he was the son of Chloe and Carl Wray.

Wray was raised on the farm in New Market and while he attended Wabash he was a member of the Glee Club, Concert Band, and was an independent. He participated in the V-12 Program.

He became a high school physics teacher and took a job in Gallup, NM, where he met his wife, Stella. He then moved back to Indiana and taught physics at Kokomo High School.

In 1954, he began working at Delco Electronics and retired from there. His children wrote, "He was always studying and researching something. From developing a new design for a loudspeaker for Delco to a timeline of the Bible, he was always learning, thinking and making sense of the world around him."

Wray was preceded in death by his wife, Stella.

43 Stanley R. "Stan" Abbott, 91, died December 10, 2012, in Danville, IN.

Born February 22, 1921, in Crawfordsville, he was the son of Gladys and Aben Abbott.

Abbott graduated from New Ross (IN) High School and attended Wabash for two semesters. He also attended Purdue University.

He worked for Alcoa in Lafayette, IN, as plant coordinator. In 1952, he purchased and relocated to a small farm south of Pittsboro, IN.

He worked in Indianapolis as a purchasing agent for many years at Armour and Company, Wm. H. Block Company, and M & E. Mfg. Company.

Abbott was also general manager of the C.L. Miley Company and was in charge of the installation of the air handling system when the Indiana State Office Building was built. He then purchased and ran the Champion Mop Company for several years before returning to the farm in Hendricks County.

Abbott grew up in the Mace Methodist Church and attended the Pittsboro Christian Church for many years.

He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Marcille Abbott, 2550 E. County Road 375 N. Danville, IN 46122; son, Jerry Abbott; and one granddaughter.

Robert "Bob" Bracken, 91, died January 6 in Frankfort, IN.

Born April 6, 1921, in Frankfort, he was the son of Margaret and Robert Bracken.

Bracken attended Shortridge High School and graduated from Culver Summer School Naval Academy. While attending Wabash, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta. He completed his education at Harvard Law School in 1949.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1946 as a Second Lieutenant in the Medical Administrative Corps.

Bracken was an attorney in Frankfort from 1952 until his retirement in 1990. He was also prosecuting attorney for one term.

Bracken was a member, deacon, elder and trustee of First Presbyterian Church, Frankfort, where he also taught adult Sunday school for 22 years. He was an Eagle Boy Scout, a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Friends of the Library, a charter member of Frankfort Optimist, and volunteered for Meals on Wheels. He was instrumental in obtaining and maintaining the written history of many area organizations.

Bracken served as attorney for the Frankfort School Board for 22 years and president for one year.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Bracken, 701 Elmwood Drive, Frankfort, IN 46041; children, Robert Bracken and Sarah Porter; and one granddaughter.

James Edward Whitridge, 92, died November 21, 2012, in Templeton, CA.

Whitridge was born October 30, 1920, in Indianapolis. While attending Wabash, he was a psychology major and a member of Sigma Chi.

He served for three years in the U.S. Army Air Corps.

Whitridge joined a division of Standard Oil, where he became marketing development manager.

He loved motor racing—when he was young, he and his brother climbed the fence to watch the Indianapolis 500. He also loved dogs and will be greatly missed by the two he leaves behind, Flora and Blossom.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Iona, and brother, Don.

Whitridge is survived by his wife, Dawn Whitridge, 1305 Bennett Way, Templeton, CA 93465; children, Debera, Davina, Craig, and Roger Whitridge; and six grandchildren.

45 James A. Martindale, 91, died January 30 in Muncie, IN.

Born September 28, 1921, in Richmond, IN, he was the son of Margaretta and Voyle Martindale.

Martindale served in the U.S. Navy from 1945 to 1946. He earned a master's in history and a master's in library science from the University of Michigan.

He had served as an instructor in the history department at Earlham College, as agricultural experiment station librarian at Purdue University, and as periodical service librarian at Ball State University.

He was also an instructor at the Phoenix Memorial Library at the University of Michigan and undergraduate librarian at the University of Michigan.

He was director of libraries for 21 years at DePauw University, retiring in 1983.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Eunice, and his parents.

He is survived by his daughter, Lynn Sullivan; sons, James and John Martindale; and four grandchildren.

46 Hobart Lee Risley, 89, died January 30 in New Castle, IN.

Born December 20, 1923, in Crawfordsville, he was the son of Frances and Leroy Risley.

He was a graduate of Crawfordsville High School. While attending Wabash, Risley was a member of the Glee Club, football team, and was an independent. He also attended Indiana State University and eventually graduated from Indiana University with a master's degree.

Risley retired from teaching in the Henry and Montgomery counties schools.

He was a member of Henry County Indiana Teachers Association, and his love for history led him to memberships in the Indiana, Kentucky, and Henry County historical societies.

Risley enjoyed gardening and raising trees, entering them in several local and state fairs and winning more than 100 ribbons. He had traveled to all 50 states and 14 countries and volunteered with the meteorology program in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II.

He was preceded in death by his brother, **Herbert Risley '38**, and his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Risley, 2915 Chrysler Drive, New Castle, IN 47362; sons, John Risley and David Risley; and one grandson.

47 Dr. John S. Alvey, 91, died January 29 in Fredericksburg, TX.

Born January 28, 1922, in Indiana, he was the son of Sylvia and Harvey Alvey.

After graduation from Wabash, he received a degree from the Illinois College of Optometry. He also served in the U.S. Army.

He married Rosalie Ruth Stine in 1943 and was married for more than 64 years.

Alvey practiced optometry in Marion, IN, until moving to Bryan, TX, in 1982.

He was an avid runner and ran more than 20 marathons and over 3,500 miles.

Alvey was a member of the Mississinewa Chapter of Eastern Star, Indiana Free Masons, and First Baptist Church of Bryan.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Rosalie; and infant son, Harvey.

He is survived by his daughter, Rosalie Kahanek.

George Edward Dyslin, 95, died December 6, 2012, in Jay, NY.

Born July 4, 1917, in Chicago, IL, he was the son of Anna and James Dyslin.

While attending Wabash, he was a member of the football and tennis teams and was an independent.

Dyslin was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and served in the Canadian RAF.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Margery.

49 John Daniel Hull III, 84, died December 27, 2012, in Marco Island, FL.

Born May 17, 1928, in Springfield, MO, he was the son of Alene and J. Dan Hull.

He graduated from Shortridge High School in 1945 and attended Wabash for two semesters. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta.

He graduated in 1949 from DePauw University, where he met Penny Reemer, whom he married in 1950.

During the Korean War, he served in the U.S. Army.

Hull had a 41-year career in sales with Procter & Gamble. When P&G purchased the Charmin Paper Company in 1959, Hull played a key role in leading the integration of Charmin into P&G. He stayed in the paper division for the rest of his career in several executive roles, and he trained, coached, and mentored many P&G employees during his tenure. He was known for his unpretentious management style and willingness to share his knowledge with others.

A sportsman who loved lakes and the sea, he was a dedicated fisherman and was especially enthusiastic about fishing trips to Central America, Alaska, and lakes and streams in the United States where smallmouth bass ran. He enjoyed golf and was an avid tennis player.

His family wrote, "John Hull was known to everyone he met as a larger-than-life personality, curious about the world he lived in, and an engaging storyteller."

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Arlene "Penny" Hull, 8355 Beacon Hill Road, Cincinnati, OH 45243; children, J. Daniel Hull, David Hull, and Rebecca Gorman; seven grandchildren; and sister, Nancy McCracken.

50 Thomas J. "Tom" Connelly Jr., 86, died January 25 in Willoughby, OH.

Born May 15, 1926, in Peoria, IL, he was the son of Marie and Thomas Connelly Sr.

He was a member the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II.

While attending Wabash, he was a member of the golf team, Sphinx Club, Pre-Law Society, and Phi Delta Theta.

Connelly was a marketing manager for the large lamp division of General Electric at Nela Park, OH, for 32 years. He then served as a licensing inspector for the Ohio Department of Education's preschool special education section for 12 years.

Connelly was one of the founding members of Lake Catholic High School in Mentor, OH, and a member of the school's Hall of Excellence. He was an avid golfer and was a teaching pro and coach.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Dorothy "Dottie" Connelly, 36500 Euclid Avenue, Apt. 378, Willoughby, OH 44094; children, Tom Connelly III, Joan Nelson, Jean Schonauer, Mark Connelly, Tim Connelly, and Kelly Brancel; 10 grand-children; and one great-granddaughter.

Guy E. Greene, 89, died January 21 in Grand Rapids, MI.

He attended Wabash for three semesters and was a member of Kappa Sigma.

Greene was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps 95th Bomb Group Europe during World War II.

Greene was executive vice president at ProAction Corporation in Wyoming, MI.

He was preceded in death by his son, Guy Greene.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Jacqueline Greene, 2096 Cranbrook Drive NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505; and daughter, Susan Greene.

Leslie Warner, 84, died October 4, 2012, in Naples, FL.

Born March 1, 1928, in Indiana, he was the son of Jenny and Edgar Warner.

He graduated in 1946 from Ladoga High School. While at Wabash, he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

Warner served as a second lieutenant in the medical division of the U.S. Air Force for four years after graduation.

He joined the Equitable Life Assurance Society in Lafayette, IN, as an agent and a district manager. He was promoted to agency manager in Peoria, IL, in 1965. While working for Equitable he obtained his C.L.U. (Chartered Life Underwriter) designation from The American College. He retired in 1985.

Warner became very involved with the opening of the Seacrest School, where two of his children were enrolled.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Maurine Reed; daughter, Sheryl Murwin; and brother-in-law, **Donald DeVoto '39**.

He is survived by his wife, Berniece Warner, 1583 Foxfire Lane, Naples, FL 34104; children, Robert, Shawn, and Leslie Warner; sister, Madonna DeVoto; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Robert W. "Bob" Whalen, 85, died February 12 in Crawfordsville.

Born August 7, 1927, in Goshen, IN, he was the son of Edna and W. W. Whalen.

He was a 1945 graduate of Crawfordsville High School and attended Wabash College for one year. He was an independent. ► P73

500 Strong: Wabash Men in the Civil War

A new book explores the College's unusual contribution—the blood and genius of its own men—to the northern cause in the War Between the States.

—by Nancy Niblack Baxter

AS THE WIFE OF A WABASH MAN I have come to view the Wabash College experience with respect, affection, and what might be some envy. I've learned all the words to *Alma Mater* because I've heard it so often, admired the stately processions at the graduations and the presidents' portraits in the Chapel. I had never, however, fully understood what it was all about until I got closely acquainted with 500 students of an earlier era.

I met them as I helped edit *500 Strong: Wabash College Students in the Civil War*, the new book Hawthorne Publishing which explores the College's unusual contribution—the blood and genius of its own men—to the northern cause in the War Between the States. The book is the final product of an historical research project of 25 years by the College's seniors, history majors of Wabash Professor Jim Barnes H'91, who edited the book with his wife, Patience.

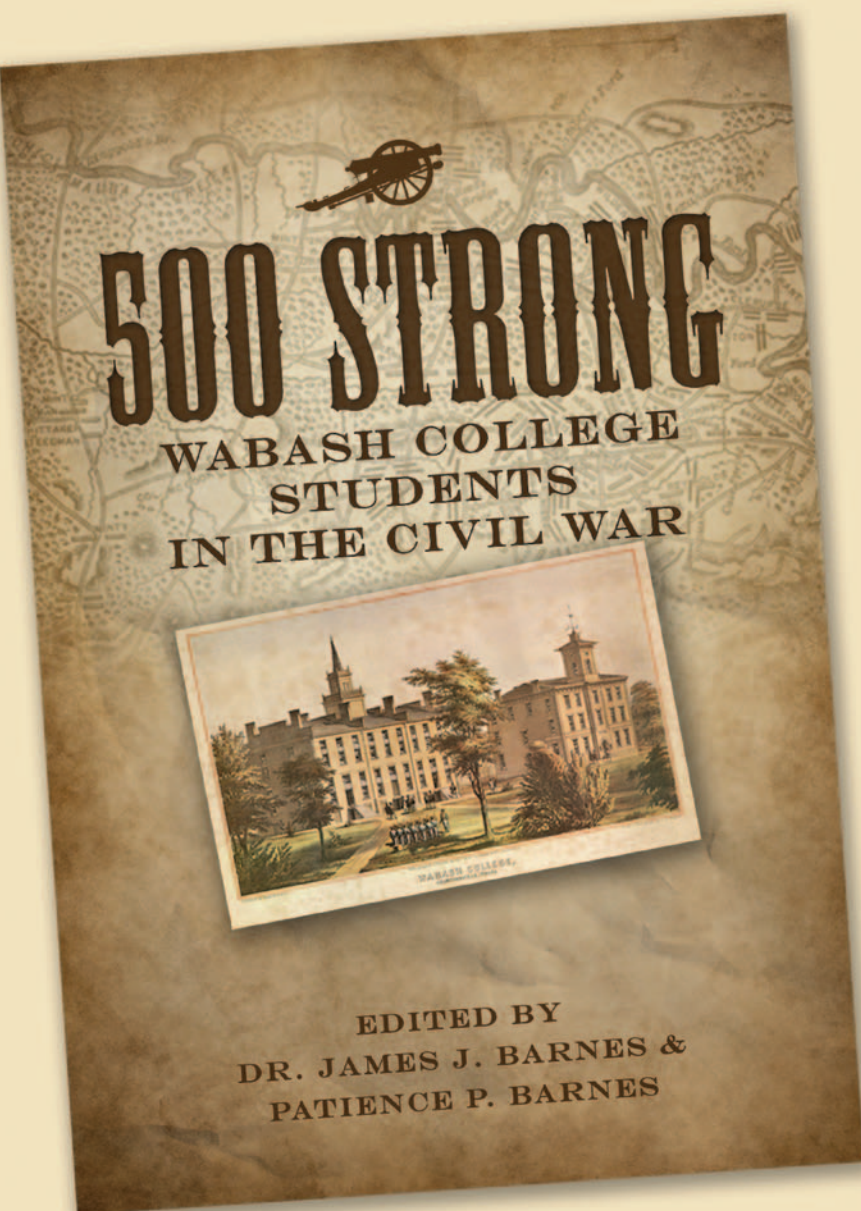
I was publishing editor for the project, which has been for me a journey of fresh insights about both the war and Wabash.

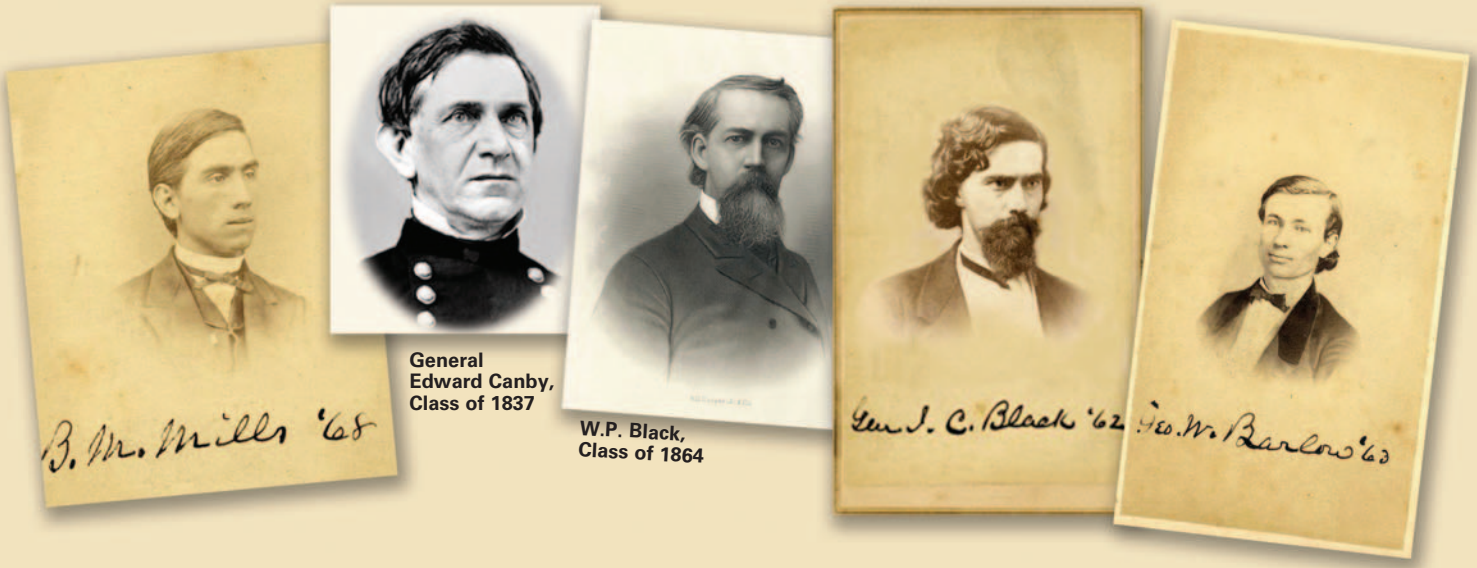
AT FIRST IT WAS DIFFICULT for me to see how a small college in the Midwest could have sent 500 men to the Civil War. Harvard sent about 700, Yale only 500. How did Wabash College, in the middle of a farming area drawing some students who grew up in log cabins, equal the venerable Eastern institutions of learning, sending half an entire regiment? It seemed implausible.

The answer: Wabash had a preparatory school in those days as well as a four-year college. This group of 500 includes all the men who served in the war and ever attended the College, which could be for a half-a-year or full terms through the years of the 1840s on to the 1870s after they returned from war. Still, it is impressive, even more so considering the surprising and highly varied nature of their service and lives both before and after the war.

I've lived in 1863 for much of my life as a writer with my subject often the Civil War, but nothing prepared me for this collection of short, pithy yet highly personal biographies. Or for the absolute dismay and shock of the stories of young men who should never have died at such an early age in swamps and mountain-side battlefields but, in all honesty, seemed usually (not always) to do so willingly "for their country."

I wasn't prepared for the overwhelming distillation of the essence of the war in human terms found in these 500 biographies assembled by Wabash College history majors under Professor Barnes from 1981 to 2005. As they visited libraries, dug into county histories, gazed at stones in country cemeteries and contacted descendants of the soldiers, these students must have found themselves pausing to consider, if only briefly, what their subjects' lives were like. And they must have seen how the Civil War experience was different from theirs—and also the same.





THE PROJECT ALTERED my own understanding of this cataclysmic war. I was surprised that the College produced so many true leaders from among its students, men who went on to find fame during the war and whose names are known to “buffs” around the nation. These were generals I’d heard of, but I didn’t realize they had in their student days trod the halls of Forest and Center Halls.

I found out I knew very little about the campaigns in the Great West. Consider Colonel (later General) Edward Canby, commander of the federal forces in New Mexico. While not scoring decisive victories, his leadership at the Battles of Val Verde and Glorieta Pass saved the area from annexation by the Confederacy early in the war.

There was Colonel John Coburn, who at Wabash founded Beta Theta Pi fraternity. Surrounded in March of 1863 at Thompson’s Station in Tennessee with a bunch of other Wabash men, Coburn surrendered to save his men’s lives and went with them to prison camp. Then the unit, some of them Wabash dorm-mates, redeemed itself later in the war.

There was Brevet Major Valentine Stone, who commanded Fort Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas, where the John Wilkes Booth conspirators were housed. He and his wife died after caring for yellow fever patients during an epidemic out there.

Of course we have all heard of General Lew Wallace, and he is a major name in the collection.

Finding Eloquence in Death

□ A STUDENT AT WABASH FROM 1857 TO 1859, James Pratt kept a diary while at the College and told of his experiences in one of the two literary organizations, The Calliopean Society.

“I was in the debate. The question was, Resolved that Learning diminishes the power of Eloquence. I was on the affirmative and was one of the last speakers. I managed to get through pretty well without breaking down.”

Pratt became a first lieutenant in the 19th Regiment of the United States Army and saw action at Chancellorsville. He also wrote of his Iron Brigade’s performance July 2, 1863 at Gettysburg:

“950 strong charged the army and came back 319 strong. My company, four officers and 57 men came back from the charge with 22 men and one officer, myself.”

He wrote to his father again from an encampment near the Antietam River later that July of 1863: “I fear that the letters on the march were not very edifying, if they were received. There was a touch of whining about them, not manly nor soldier-like. But the truth was, we suffered a great deal, marching 25 and 30 miles a day, lying down in roads, and sleeping a few hours, and before daybreak on our way again, sore feet and stiff joints, empty stomachs, horrible mud, driving rain and roaring streams, never checking our tremendous pace.”

Late in the afternoon of May 29, 1864 in the thick of battle at Bethesda Church, VA, Pratt was killed by a bullet to his heart and was buried in a blanket nearby. Two weeks before he died, he had written to his father, “It looks dark. We have been fighting seven days now. God grant we may win. If I am killed, do get my body and bury it decently.”

After his death his father was able to fulfill his request. His son’s body was brought to Logansport, IN, for burial in Mt. Hope Cemetery, placed next to his mother, who had died two years before. ■

But there's also Brevet Brigadier General John Charles Black, who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for leading his regiment against fortified Confederate positions for a last stand at the Battle of Prairie Grove, AR. His brother, William Perkins Black, was also a Civil War Medal of Honor recipient, and was after the war the lawyer for defendants in the notorious Chicago Haymarket trials.

THERE ARE ODD campaigns, strange anomalies. The Second Indian Brigade was commanded by a Wabash man and entered battles shouting with wild whoops. A handful of Confederate soldiers from Wabash also fought determinedly for their side. Several "Colored Regiments" were commanded by officers who had attended the College.

Yet the vast preponderance of average students went on to be average soldiers, living just to survive in camp and on the field. A sizeable number of the 500 evidently signed up for a few months or even days to help "save the state" when Morgan's Raiders swept through southern counties in '63. These summer soldiers served for a couple of weeks and then got their names added to the veterans' roles.

There were Wabash officers and men who were alcoholics and ruined their careers, the dishonorably discharged, those who committed suicide, either in the midst of the war or later, the soldiers driven insane or sent to prison. They were, of course, a minority, but they are in the collection, sad fates and all.

Too many very young men are dead here. There are more than 130 battles represented in this collection of war biographies. Wabash men experienced the shock of seeing their comrades falling by their sides, too, because you went to war with your friends and fellow students. They were dying on famous fields like Chickamauga and on the hillsides near Antietam Creek, but also in little known burghs like Halltown, Virginia, or Spanish Fort, Alabama.

But much more often, they died in drafty tents with comrades yelling all around them in anguish as surgeons worked after the battles. Or they lay wasting away in quieter beds tended by angel women in a huge hospital or after being sent home to die of dysentery, malaria and consumption, with their own children around their beds.

THE CONTRAST with the Wabash College of their youth is stark. They describe scenes of pleasant boredom at Chapel, snoozing while some Presbyterian minister droned on as birds sang outside the window, or contending in spirited debates by lamplight, or experiencing the lovely sight of women in pretty hats picking up books in the bookstore downtown. Part of an entire generation who had loved the dignified halls, comradely weekends, and Sunday dinners of Wabash would end up lying face down in the mud, their lives shattered from shrapnel in the face or horses falling on them. Though about 90 Wabash men died officially in the war, at least 200 more probably died of war-related injuries.

Here are many successful civic leaders, attorneys and doctors and bankers and farmers who led their communities. Many mayors, attorneys general, and legislators are included. Not all led, not by any means, some foundered. But most of these Wabash alumni helped build a new, feisty America.

What can we glean about how the College affected wartime performance and the strong success of many of the veterans? How could sitting in the old buildings studying "forensics, ethics and logic" and Xenophon, Demosthenes, Cicero, and Tacitus help anybody when they had to dig trenches amidst the 107-degree heat and mosquitoes and swamps of the Mississippi campaign? Or keep a soldier from turning tail in the Wheatfield at Gettysburg? It was all a matter of comradeship and discipline and some leadership skills, pure and simple. And perhaps some sense of a larger purpose in life. Wabash taught those things to its students before and at the time of the Civil War. And it still does. ■

Editor's Note: 500 Strong: Wabash Students in the Civil War will be released in August 2013 by Hawthorne Publishing as both a print and an e-book. It will be featured at the College's sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War September 27 and 28, near the time of the Battle of Chickamauga, where so many Wabash men fought.

He married Margaret Ann Sherrill on July 25, 1948, in Crawfordsville.

In 1987, Whalen retired from RR Donnelley, where he had been a pressman and had worked in the billing department.

He worked with the Crawfordsville Youth Baseball and Boy Scouts for many years, and he was well known in Montgomery County as a founding member and the first president of the Montgomery County Basketball Hall of Fame. He was also well known as a basketball historian for Crawfordsville, Montgomery County, and Wabash College sports. He had written more than 200 articles, mostly on basketball.

Whalen was a member of the First Christian Church of Crawfordsville, where he served as a deacon.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Margaret; his parents; and brothers, Kenneth and W. Keith Whalen.

He is survived by his children, Jerry Whalen and Linda Goda; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

51 Robert B. "Bob" Clipsham, 83, died February 8 in Lenexa, KS.

Born November 2, 1929, in Ft. Wayne, IN, he was the son of Helene and George Clipsham.

Clipsham attended Hitchin Grammar School in Welwyn City, England. He then attended Howe Military Academy in Howe, IN. While attending Wabash, he was a member of Glee Club and Lambda Chi Alpha.

He moved to Kansas City after graduating from Harvard Business School. In 1959 he formed Fusion Incorporated, a manufacturer's representative agency. Then in 1970 he formed Disposable Instrument Company, a manufacturer of metal surgical components.

Clipsham was a member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

He is survived by his wife, Sandy Clipsham, 12601 West 85th Place, Lenexa, KS 66215; sons, Robert, Sean, Mark, and Caleb Clipsham; daughter, Eden Weber; stepsons, Darin and Brian Chansky; brother, Neil; sister, Jacqueline; and seven grandchildren.

James C. Norris, 85, died December 8, 2012, in Indianapolis.

Born June 30, 1927, in Indianapolis, he was the son of Louise and Frederick Norris.

He attended Park School and was a member of Beta Theta Pi while attending Wabash.

Norris served in the U.S. Navy.

While president of Hoosier Travel Service Inc., Norris had the opportunity to visit many foreign countries. He also served as president of the town board while living in Westfield, IN.

In retirement he became interested in conservation and the returning of land back to its natural state, which he was accomplishing on his tree farm.

Norris is survived by his wife, Virginia Norris, 1751 Creekside Drive, Carmel, IN 46032; son, Steve Norris; daughters, Connie Wernerbach and Carolyn Lawver; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

52 Robert Paul “Bob” Revenaugh, 82, died August 21, 2012, in Elizabeth, IL.

Revenaugh was born March 1, 1930, in Ohio. He was a star boxer at both Lake Forest High School and the University of Wisconsin. He attended Wabash for three semesters, and was a member of the Glee Club and Phi Gamma Delta. He continued his education at Northwestern University.

After graduating, Revenaugh served in the U.S. Army’s ski patrol in post-war Germany and took part in numerous avalanche rescues. In Germany, he met his future wife, Helga, who had been working for the U.S. Army as a translator.

The couple wed in 1956 with ceremonies in Germany and in America.

Revenaugh worked as a consultant for Professional Business Management, a company his father founded in 1932 that provides financial services to healthcare professionals. Revenaugh later took over as president and helped build a client base that eventually become multi-generational.

He also served as president of the Society of Professional Business Consultants and played an instrumental role in forming another group so that employees could get certified with special credentials.

Revenaugh retired in the early 1990s to a 350-acre farm in Elizabeth, IL. With the help of his daughter and his wife, he started something similar to a horse retirement home and also took in abused horses for rehab.

He was a member of St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Massbach.

Bob enjoyed skiing and volunteering at Wilmot Mountain Ski Patrol. He loved music and singing at social events and church. He played the piano and banjo.

He loved the peace of his farm, driving his tractors, and working in his shop.

His son-in-law, Art Garcia, said of Revenaugh, “He was a very intelligent man, but he really loved to work with his hands. He was very active on the farm. Every day he was doing something, fixing a fence, whatever it took. That’s what kept him vibrant for all these years.”

He is survived by his wife, Helga Revenaugh, 11118 South Massbach Road, Elizabeth, IL 61028; daughter, Barbara Garcia; sons, Jim and Mark Revenaugh; and four grandchildren.

53 Robert E. “Bob” Dickinson, 81, died December 8, 2012, in Indianapolis.

Born June 26, 1931, in Indianapolis, he was the son of Eleanor and George Dickinson.

He graduated from Broad Ripple High School and attended Wabash for three semesters. He was a member of the Glee Club and Phi Gamma Delta. He also attended Indiana University.

A trustee at Franklin College for 25 years, he was board chairman for six years and holds an honorary doctorate from the college.

Dickinson joined his father’s business, Mobile Drilling Company, in 1953 and was later named president. He and his brother, Richard, developed the business world wide and enjoyed traveling and developing business in nearly every country in the world. Dickinson served as president of the Diamond Core Drill Manufacturers

Association, Founding Chairman of the International Drilling Federation, and later chairman of the National Drilling Association.

Dickinson served on the board of the United Way of Central Indiana. He was a board member of the YMCA and YMCA Foundation. He also served as chairman on the founding board of the Child Support Center. He once held the office of trustee in the town of Williams Creek and was an emeritus member of the Junto of Indianapolis. He was also a volunteer guardian *ad litem* serving Sarasota County at-risk children. He was a member of the Young President’s Organization and the World President’s Organization, serving as chairman of the Indiana chapter of YPO for two years.

Dickinson spent his retirement winters in Sarasota, FL, and enjoyed summer family gatherings at their Lake Wawasee house, where he served 10 years as a volunteer deputy sheriff, patrolling the lake on a part-time basis.

Dickinson is survived by his wife of 60 years, Dottie Dickinson, 8474 Olde Mill Circle E. Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46260; sons, Douglas and David Dickinson; daughter, Cheryl Sagehorn; brothers, Richard and David Dickinson; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Richard Leighton “Dick” Howell, 80, died October 13, 2012, in Crawfordsville.

Born January 21, 1932, he was the son of Margaret and Forest Howell.

He graduated from Crawfordsville High School in 1949. While attending Wabash, he was a member of Delta Tau Delta.

Howell served in the U.S. Army for two years.

He was the owner of Indiana Printing Company, Indiana Pad and Paper, *The Messenger Crier* newspaper, and Everything For The Office in Crawfordsville.

Howell was a railroad enthusiast and a member of the Elk’s Club, Rotary Club, Lion’s Club, and a Mason. He was a lifetime member of Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Marilyn, and son, **Michael Howell ‘83**.

He is survived by his daughter, Malinda Howell; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

54 John W. Huneke, 80, died August 30, 2012, in Ada, OK.

He was born on August 4, 1932, in Batesville, IN.

While attending Wabash, Huneke was a member of the Glee Club, Concert Band, and Kappa Sigma. Huneke earned his medical degree at Indiana University.

He met Frances Thibodeaux during his internship at Charity Hospital in New Orleans, LA, and later they were married in Pensacola, FL, where he was serving as a flight surgeon in the U.S. Navy.

He moved to Mountain View, CA, where he continued as a flight surgeon for the Navy, then returned to Charity Hospital in New Orleans, LA, where he completed his residency. He completed his education in Hempstead Long Island, NY, where he finished his Fellowship in Ophthalmology.

Huneke practiced as an ophthalmologist for 32 years in Ada.

He is survived by his wife, Frances Huneke, 15690 County Road 1580, Ada, OK 74820; children, Elizabeth Simpson, Susan Brown, Ann Morris, W. Cordt Huneke, and Frances Burr; and seven grandchildren.

55 William E. “Bill” Myers, 79, died September 19, 2012, in Garrett, IN.

Born April 21, 1933, in DeKalb County, he was the son of the Mildred and Voyle Myers.

Myers was a graduate of Auburn High School, where he played on the Red Devil basketball team and was known as “Little Poison.” He attended Wabash for four semesters and was an independent. He later joined the U.S. Army.

He retired from the Dana Corporation and was also a longtime employee and member of Garrett Country Club.

Myers was preceded in death by his wife, Opal Myers.

He is survived by his sons, Edward, Matt, and Joe Myers; daughter, Deborah Hopf; sister, Jeannie Underhill; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Duane R. Neet, 79, died November 13, 2012, in Springfield, IL.

Born February 8, 1933, in Jamestown, IN, he was the son of Berta and Parke Neet.

While attending Wabash, Neet was a member of the Glee Club, football team, and was an independent.

Neet was a veteran of the U.S. Army, where he served as the organist for the post at Fort Hood, TX.

For many years, Neet taught English at Effingham High School and developed the pre-college rhetoric program for gifted students. Upon retirement, he held the position of assistant superintendent in charge of curriculum and development.

He was a member of Centenary United Methodist Church in Effingham, IL, where he served as organist. He was also a member of the Sons American Revolution where he held the office of the secretary treasurer of the state chapter and had received many honors.

He is survived by his wife, Pat Neet, 5 Woodland Drive, Effingham, IL 62401; daughter, Deborah West; son, Bradley Neet; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and sister, Marlene Miller.

57 William F. “Bill” Bird died July 18, 2012, in Glen Ellen, CA.

Bird was born in Fort Wayne, IN, the son of Alice and Frederick Bird.

While attending Wabash, Bird was a member of Phi Gamma Delta.

Bird received his dental degree from Loyola University in 1961 and later attained both a master’s and a doctorate degree in the U.S. Public Health Service.

He served on national and international foundation boards supporting infection control for dental offices and institutions globally. He conducted research, developed, and taught in residency programs and developed many community public health demonstration programs.

Bird served on the faculty of the UCSF School of Dentistry for the past 22 years, six as the

James Kenneson '68 received his MDiv from Yale Divinity School in 1971 and worked as an independent fisherman in Alaska.

associate dean for clinic administration. Since 2002, he served as director of the UCSF Dental Student Clinical Externship Community Based Dental Education Program and developed relationships with more than 24 community clinics to enable dental students to provide care to more than 90,000 underserved patients in California.

For seven years prior to his retirement, Bird served as interim chair of the department of preventive and restorative dental sciences and held the John C. Greene Endowed Chair in Primary Care Dentistry. Following his retirement, he returned on a part-time recall as a health sciences clinical professor emeritus to assist with special projects in the department of preventive and restorative dental sciences. He has twice been awarded Outstanding Dental Faculty.

He was also an accomplished pilot and flight instructor with commercial ratings in single- and multi-engine aircraft and hot air balloons. He served as the assistant director of the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta.

Bird had reached the one-star instructor level in the Parelli Natural Horsemanship program and had planned to begin instructing in the Parelli Program.

He is survived by his wife, Doni Bird, PO Box 1507, Glen Ellen, CA 95442; children, Jennifer, David, Keith, and Jon Bird; nine grandchildren; and sister, Blanche Burroughs.

58 William M. "Bill" Hamer, 76, died December 10, 2012, in Valparaiso, IN.

Born August 22, 1936, in Gary, IN, he was the son of Mable and William Hamer.

Hamer was a 1954 graduate of Emerson High School in Gary, IN.

While attending Wabash, Hamer was a member of the Sphinx Club, baseball and football teams, and Phi Delta Theta.

He was president of the Gary Exchange Club in the 1960s and a retired insurance salesman for John Hancock Company. Hamer had started a transplant awareness group in Lake County, IN. He was a member of the Gary Chamber of Commerce and served as campaign manager for Indiana Senator Bontrager.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Wilma Hamer.

Hamer is survived by his children, Kevin, Kurt, and Kristy Hamer; stepson, Kenny Dixon; four grandchildren; and sister, Shirley Valenti.

60 Charles Cooper Schlereth, 74, died January 9 in Midland, MI.

Born October 9, 1938, in Madison, IN, he was the son of Gertrude and Cooper Schlereth.

He graduated from Madison High School in 1956 and attended Wabash before transferring to Mexico City College, where he received his degree in Spanish and English in 1959. He then received his master's degree from the Universidad Interamericana in Saltillo, Mexico, in 1962. He also studied linguistics and the

Quechua language at the Universidad Central in Quito, Ecuador.

Schlereth taught Spanish in Indiana and Illinois high schools prior to moving to Midland, where he taught English and was foreign student advisor at Northwood University. It was there that he and a friend formed Charles Schlereth & Associates Inc., the first company in the United States devoted to the sale of foreign travel to high school and college groups.

During that period in his life, he spent three to four months each year in Mexico managing his company, and in the 1980s he also worked for seven years as a character actor and extra in movies in Mexico. His first screen appearance came in 1981 in scenes with Jack Lemmon in *Missing* and that was followed by small roles in two other American and numerous Mexican foreign films.

After the sale of his company in 1994 he wrote a Spanish historical/cultural calendar, which appeared in the *Miami Herald* under the title "Today in History" ("Hoy en la historia"). He returned to the classroom in 1999 as an adjunct professor of Spanish at Delta College and later at Davenport University.

While a high school student, he began a pen-pal relationship with Sari Arias, whom he married by civil law in Mexico City in 1959 and again in Mexico City in 1960.

He is survived by his wife, Sari Schlereth, 3213 W. Nelson Street, Midland, MI 48640; sons, Greg, Charles, and Marc Schlereth; and four grandchildren.

62 Robert W. "Bob" Twesten, 72, died December 10, 2012, in Golden Valley, MN.

While attending Wabash, he was a member of the basketball team and Sigma Chi. He was also a graduate of St. Thomas University.

Twesten was retired from the special education department of the Hopkins School District.

He is survived by his wife, Darby Twesten, 6448 Glenwood Avenue, Golden Valley, MN 55427; children, Sue, Les, Jim, and Jon Twesten; seven grandchildren; and brother, Jim Twesten.

63 Ralph Bromley Eddy, 71, died October 29, 2012, in Greenville, NY.

Born October 11, 1941, in Hammond, IN, he was the son of Marguerite and Ralph Holbrook.

While attending Wabash, he was a member of the Glee Club and Phi Gamma Delta. He graduated from Indiana University School of Law and served in the office of special investigations with the U.S. Air Force at Griffiss Air Force Base in Rome, NY.

Upon release from the Air Force, Eddy was an appeals examiner at the civil service commission and senior trial attorney and head of the complaints examining unit of the Office of the Special Counsel in Washington, DC. Following retirement, he was a member of the Potomac Mediation Group in Maryland and a mediator for the U.S. Postal Service.

In 2002, Eddy retired to Greenville, NY, where he became an active member of the Greenville-Norton Hill United Methodist Church, serving on many committees and singing in the choir.

Eddy was a former member of the Catskill Glee Club and a member of the Mendelssohn Club. A highlight of his singing career was performing in a massed chorus at Proctor's Theater with his son, Erik, and grandson, Jackson.

He is survived by his wife, Sandra Eddy, 1012 County Route 403, Greenville, NY 12083; children, Erik Eddy and Elizabeth Smith; and three grandchildren.

Frederick W. "Fritz" Krieg, 71, died September 14, 2012, in Louisville, KY.

Born January 26, 1941, he was the son of Virginia and William Krieg.

While attending Wabash he was an independent.

He was an attorney for regional counsel of the Internal Revenue Service. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

He was a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and active in the Boy Scouts of America.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou Krieg, 4023 St. Germaine Court, Louisville, KY 40207; children, Christopher, William, and Katherine Weiss; and four grandchildren.

James B. Moore, 71, died September 12, 2012, in Crawfordsville, IN.

Born March 3, 1941, in Tolono, IL, he was the son of Aileen and Marion Moore.

He was a graduate of Unity High School in Tolono, IL. He attended Wabash for five semesters and was a member of Sigma Chi. He graduated from University of Illinois.

He was an U.S. Army veteran, having served in Germany.

Moore was the founder and owner for 40 years of Central Indiana Rubber Products in Crawfordsville.

He was a pilot and a member of the American Legion, Crawfordsville Country Club, and Rocky Ridge Golf Club, where he was an avid golfer.

He is survived by his fiancée, Patti Perkins; daughters, Rachael Moore and Rebecca Bengel; sister, Tonna Laketk; and seven grandchildren.

64 Lawrence F. "Larry" Cummings, 70, died January 30 in Dryden, MI.

Born June 7, 1942, in Marshall, IN, he was the son of Susie and John Cummings.

While attending Wabash, Cummings was a member of the Glee Club and Sigma Chi and became active in the U.S. Senate campaign of Birch Bayh.

Upon graduation, he continued a 12-year career in Washington, DC with Senator Bayh. Cummings continued his involvement with the Bayh family and chaired task forces and committees for Indiana Governor Evan Bayh as chairperson of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Nominating Commission and later as a member

of the executive committee of the State of Indiana Economic Development Commission.

After his time in Washington, Cummings came back to Indiana and was the owner of an automobile dealership. During the 22 years of building Larry Cummings OLDS-GMC, Cummings served as president of the Hoosier Olds Family dealer-marketing group and served on numerous regional and national dealer councils.

Cummings was named a Sagamore of the Wabash twice—once by Gov. Evan Bayh, and again by Gov. Frank O'Bannon.

After retirement from the car dealership in 1998, Cummings continued to contribute in many areas of the automotive industry. In 2003, Cummings took on one last major effort with Automotive Youth Educational Systems, as president of AYES in Troy, MI, and retired in 2011.

He is survived by his wife, Nanci Cummings, 5260 Havens Road, Dryden, MI 48428; children, Christine, Elizabeth, and Chase Cummings; and one grandson.

65 Charles S. "Terry" Davis III, died August 13, 2011, in Grosse Point Farms, MI.

Davis was a principal of Goodrich, Davis, Peabody and Co., which provided financial counseling services.

Before Goodrich, Davis served in the administration of former U.S. President Ronald Reagan as chief operating officer of the General Services Administration. He was appointed to the Cabinet Council for Management and Administration, invited to testify before the U.S. Congress on management practices, and served on government panels, including the National Academy of Science. For his service, he was awarded the President's Outstanding Public Service Award by Reagan. In later years, he counseled former Presidents George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush, as well as numerous presidential candidates and other politicians.

He was also a mentor and teacher, including serving as an associate professor of economics and finance at Walsh College.

Davis was a member of the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem and founded the Priory of St. Clair and helped found the first Canadian Priory.

He is survived by his wife, Susan Davis, 43 McKinley Place, Grosse Point Farms, MI 48236; children, **Charles Davis IV '91**, Jonathan Davis, and Susan Kendrick; five grandchildren; and sister, Elizabeth Davis.

66 Tracy "Boot" Hill, 68, died October 14, 2012, in Cary, IL.

Born October 2, 1944, in Evanston IL, he was the son of Elizabeth and David "Kimball" Hill.

He attended Wabash for four semesters and was a member of Beta Theta Pi.

In 1975, Hill formed Property Specialists Inc., a small boutique firm managing only a handful of properties in suburban Cook County. Under Hill's guidance, PSI grew from 10 communities to more than 250. The firm is currently one of only five Illinois firms to have obtained the coveted Accredited Association Management Company (AAMC), the highest designation awarded by Community Association Institute.

A firm believer in continuing education, Hill received his Professional Community

Association Manager (PCAM) designation, the highest designation afforded to an individual property manager by the Community Association Institute (CAI).

He served on the Illinois Board for Epilepsy Research and donated to Harper Community College to establish a center for the hearing disabled, both afflictions suffered by members of his immediate family.

In 2001, then Illinois Governor George Ryan appointed Hill to the Joint Energy Advisor Commission of the Illinois General Assembly, where he reviewed proposed legislation for setting residential and commercial industry standards, while also serving as president of the Home Builders Association of Greater Chicago.

Hill was inducted into the Home Builders National Hall of Fame; 1989–2012 National Alternative and Life Director of the National Association of Home Builders; and was a founding member of the National Housing Credit Certification Board, a member of the Multi-Family Mortgage Finance Committee, as well as numerous other committees.

Through the Home Builders Association of Greater Chicago, Hill served three terms as president; was a past president of the Multi-Family Housing Council of Illinois; was an inductee to the 2003 Court of Honor and remained a life member of the HBAGC.

Hill also served as the director of the Home Builders Association of Illinois for 10 years. In 1996, Hill was appointed to the Legislative Review Committee and concurrently served as a state director for the Home Builders Association of Illinois.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, David.

Hill is survived by his wife, Sandi Hill, 149 Adare Drive, Cary, IL 60013; children, T.K., Andrew, and Morgan Hill; three granddaughters; and sister, Georgia Walter.

67 Thomas Edward "Tom" Burke, 66, died October 25, 2012 in Alexandria, VA.

Born October 31, 1945, in Philadelphia, PA, he was the son of Thelma and Eugene Burke.

While attending Wabash, he was a member of the Pre-Law Society, WNDY Radio Station, and Tau Kappa Epsilon. He received his M.S. degree in oceanography from Texas A&M in 1974.

He served with the U.S. Army at Fort Detrick, MD. He was employed by the U.S. Department of Interior (Bureau of Land Management) from 1972 to 1986.

Burke became an independent contractor as a courier and also enjoyed pet sitting.

Burke was an avid golfer and also enjoyed softball, darts, and many other sports.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Burke is survived by his daughter, Kimberley; mother, Thelma Burke; and sisters, Barbara Berzins, Kathleen Hurley, and Carol Patrick.

Larry W. Sipe, 67, died October 13, 2012, in the Catholic Hospice Center in Miami, FL.

Born March 11, 1945, he was the son of Louise and William Sipe.

Sipe grew up in Speedway, IN, where he graduated from Speedway High School. While attending Wabash, he was a member of the football and wrestling teams and Sigma Chi.

His career in human resources included management positions with Armstrong Industries, Copperweld Corporation, Phillips Petroleum, and Union Texas Oil. His international assignments were in China, Pakistan, and Taiwan.

A resident of Angel Fire, NM, he enjoyed golf, skiing, and scuba diving in the Dominican Republic, where he had a second home. Sipe was a ski instructor for Angel Fire (NM) Resort for more than 10 years.

Sipe was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Gary Sipe.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Becky Sipe, PO Box 922, Angel Fire, NM 87710; sons, Charles and Andrew Sipe; seven grandchildren; and brother, Jeff Sipe.

68 James A. "Jim" Kenneson, 67, died January 1 in Las Vegas, NV.

Born November 9, 1945, in Shelbyville, IN, he was the son of Kathryn and Edwin Kenneson.

While attending Wabash, he was an Honor Scholar and a member of the *Wabash Review* and Lambda Chi Alpha. He received the Robert S. Edwards Award in Creative Writing.

Kenneson received his MDiv from Yale Divinity School in 1971 and worked as an independent fisherman in Alaska after graduating.

He taught English as a second language in Egypt and China before moving to Las Vegas, where he taught creative writing at the United World College. He graduated from New Mexico Highlands University/Luna Community College as an RN in 1988.

He retired in 2006 from the New Mexico Behavioral Health Institute.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine Kenneson, PO Box 2196, Las Vegas, NV 87701; children, Jessica Salinas, Francesca, and Justin; nine grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter; brothers, John, Paul, and Phillip Kenneson; and sister, Carol Tran.

69 Richard M. "Dick" Goldblatt, 66, died November 26, 2012, in Chicago, IL.

While attending Wabash, he was a member of the Sphinx Club, golf and wrestling teams, and was an independent.

Goldblatt was the owner and president of Chicago Spectro Service Laboratory.

He is survived by his son, Geoff Goldblatt; and sisters, Suzi Brenner and Nancy Goldblatt.

70 George John Grcevich, 63, died December 15, 2012 in Valparaiso, IN.

Grcevich was born December 16, 1948, in East Chicago, IN.

While attending Wabash, he was a member of the football and baseball teams and was an independent.

Grcevich continued his education at Indiana University School of Medicine. He furthered his medical studies by completing a fellowship at Rush Medical Center specializing in cardiology.

Grcevich enjoyed golf, camping, hiking, fishing, and cooking for his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Suzy Grcevich, 905 Crabapple Lane, Valparaiso, IN 46383; children, Christine and George; mother, Helen Grcevich; sisters, Cathy May and Marian Robertson; and brother, Mark Grcevich.



Always Innvovating

“Where there is an open mind there will always be a frontier.” —Charles Kettering

□ WHEN THE AMERICAN SOCIETY of Cataract and Refractive Surgery recognized Dr. Paul Honan '43 as one of only two honored guests at its annual symposium in 2010, the group celebrated his invention decades ago of an instrument that made cataract surgery safer and his implantation of lenses in the 1970s.

But Honan's innovative and comprehensive approach to medicine hardly ends there. At 92, Honan is still open-minded, and that's led him to become one of a growing number of traditional physicians who also embrace alternative or complementary therapies.

Exploring new frontiers in medicine has been a lifelong calling for Honan.

In the 1950s that pioneer spirit inspired his invention of Honan Intraocular Pressure Reducer, a balloon-like device that allowed more precise application of pressure prior to cataract surgery.

In 1975 he performed one of the first lens implants in Indiana at Witham Hospital in Lebanon.

And in 1998, after fighting for 10 years a recurrence of the asthma he'd suffered from in childhood and additional life-threatening food allergies, Honan tried a new therapy at the urging of his children.

“At first I rejected Devi Nambudripad's Allergy Elimination Technique (NAET) as quackery,” Honan says. “But my children urged me to go—they gave me a gift of a trip to Florida to receive the treatment. How could I say no?”

After being treated by ophthalmologist Peter Holyk, Honan's asthma improved. He attended Dr. Nambudripad's training course and many of his other allergies went away.

Honan went against the advice of some colleagues and has been offering NAET therapy to his patients for years.

NAET may go against the grain of traditional medicine (although ongoing clinical studies are promising), but orthopaedic surgeon Dr. Barth Conard '74 needs no convincing.

Several years ago he brought his 14-year-old daughter, diagnosed with severe asthma, to Honan's office for treatment. Today she is asthma free.

“Because of Paul Honan and his understanding and experience with traditional and other therapies, you start to see other approaches out there that do work,” Conard says. “He has a unique awareness of all the stuff on both sides of the fence.”

Honan writes in his book, *Eliminate Your Allergies*: “Initially I was turned off by the idea of NAET because of my traditional physician bias against any therapy not presented in medical school or in the medical literature. I nearly missed the boat to a curative therapy that is without harmful effects.”

Dr. Honan's ability to see “on both sides of the fence” is paying off for his patients with food allergies more than 50 years after the invention he was honored for by his professional organization.

“If you approach medicine with an open mind, there's always something to learn,” Honan says. “I'm always learning.” ■

Read more about Dr. Honan's work, as well as a fascinating history of medicine in Indiana, at WM Online.

71 William Michael “Mike” Gephart died July 8, 2012, in Atlanta, GA.

Gephart, a chemistry major, was a member of the football team and Delta Tau Delta while attending Wabash.

He graduated from Carmel High School and earned a DDS from the University of Kentucky School of Dentistry. He left dentistry because of health concerns in 1995.

He is survived by his children, Eric and Angela Gephart; sister, Cathy Field; and brothers, Jay and **Jeff Gephart '73**.

76 Fitzgerald Lewis “Fitz” Booker, 58, died October 25, 2012 in Durham, NC.

Born December 2, 1953, in Dayton, OH, he was the son of the Catherine and Lewis Booker.

He graduated from Oakwood High School. While attending Wabash, he was a member of Beta Theta Pi.

He received a master's in zoology from the University of Vermont, a master's degree in English from the Bread Loaf School of English, Middlebury College, and a PhD in botany from North Carolina State University.

He worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture with a joint appointment in the Department of Crop Science at North Carolina State University. His research was focused on the mechanisms by which air pollution negatively impacts crops.

He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Jessica Booker, 4213 Thetford Road, Durham, NC 27707; children, Sarah, Emily, and William; and sister, Mary Ames Booker.

79 David M. “Dave” Czerny, 54, died October 4, 2012, in Indianapolis.

While attending Wabash, he was a member of the Delta Tau Delta. He went on to earn his master's degree from Indiana University.

He worked for several years at the Marion County Health Department. He loved the outdoors, fishing, and hunting.

Czerny is survived by his wife, Junko Czerny, 11502 East Bloomfield S. Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46259; sons, Dillon and Michael Czerny; parents, Hermine and Rudolf Czerny; and sisters, Brigitte Halvorsen and Sigrid Herrington.

Barry Ellis Dennison, 54, died January 22 in Truth or Consequences, NM.

Born October 2, 1957, in Elwood, IN, he was the son of Lucille and Donald Dennison.

While attending Wabash, Dennison was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha. He pursued his post-graduate studies at the University of Southern Illinois.

Dennison was co-founder and co-editor of WingPosseArt.com.

He is survived by his wife, Wendy Dennison; his daughters, Annie, Grace, and Katy; mother; brother, Gary; and his sister, Dru.

80 Steven John Neumann, 54, died December 12, 2012, in Zionsville, IN.

Born August 11, 1958, in Quincy, IL, he was the son of Delores and John Neumann.

While attending Wabash, Neumann was a member of Phi Kappa Psi and graduated Phi Beta Kappa and *summa cum laude*. He graduated from Indiana University School of Medicine in 1984 and completed his residency in internal medicine at the IU Medical Center.

For 25 years, Neumann practiced medicine at Indiana University Health Physicians-Primary

Care Clinic. Neumann was a member of Zionsville United Methodist Church. He was a scout leader and was known by nearly everyone as the guy who could fix anything.

Neumann is survived by his wife, Jill Neumann, 1112 Indian Pipe Lane, Zionsville, IN 46077; children, Beth, Luke, Zach, and Josh; parents, John and Dolores Neumann; sisters, Teri Wiggins and Linda Sprague; and brothers, Dan and Bill Neumann.

92 Bradley Alan Clouse, 43, died February 25 in West Lafayette, IN.

Born January 8, 1970, in Lafayette, he was the son of Ramona and Richard Clouse.

He graduated from Southmont High School in 1988. While attending Wabash, Clouse was a member of Delta Tau Delta.

Clouse received his PhD in economics at the University of Kentucky.

He worked briefly for the U.S. Treasury Department and then worked in Indianapolis at Eli Lilly. He then went to work in Groton, CT, at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals.

Clouse returned to Indiana and in recent years made his home in Lafayette. He had many interests and enjoyed shooting, snowboarding, biking, and walking.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Howard and Elizabeth Melvin and Raymond and Louise Clouse, and uncle, Larry Clouse.

He is survived by his parents, Rich and Mona Clouse, 33 Copperleaf Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933; sister, Nicole Brann; brother, Lance Clouse; uncles, David Clouse, Joe Melvin, Max Melvin, and Mike Melvin; and several nieces and nephews. ■

ATWOOD “SMITTY” SMITH '34



Atwood Earl Smith died November 5, 2012, in Harrison Township, MI.

Born in Chicago on June 27, 1914, he was the son of Royal and Lillian Kick Smith and grew up in Calumet City, IL.

He graduated from Thornton Fractional High School and attended Wabash for two

years. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon and the football and baseball teams.

After the Depression prematurely ended his college education, he secured a job at the Inland Steel Company. As a star basketball player on the Inland Industrial League team he earned the nickname “Lefty” for his accurate left-handed set shot.

He was foreman in the yard department and in the electric shop, from which he retired in 1980.

After retirement, he exercised regularly at the Hammond Civic Center, and through his eighties excelled at the Senior Games. He served Riverside Community Church as an elder; endowed a scholarship for students from the Calumet Region to attend Wabash College and a book fund for the Indiana Dunes State Park in honor of his wife, Adeline Behnke Smith, and daughter, Bonnie, who preceded him in death. He also was preceded in death by his parents, and sisters Arlite Smith Marquardt and Audrey Smith Ward.

He is survived by his daughters, Barbara Silver Smith and Sherry Smith; son, **Brian Smith '68** 2940 South Seaway Ct. Harrison Township MI 48045; grandchildren Brant Silvers, Brooke Love, Sara Serafinski, and Amanda Jackson; and great grandchildren Abraham and Madeleine Silvers and Jasper Love.

A remembrance

Atwood Smith attended Wabash for only two years, but, fortunately for us, he kept coming

back. And thanks to Atwood, so will many students from the Calumet Region.

Like too many others of his time, Atwood found his college career cut short by the Great Depression. Unlike most, Atwood decided to do something about it. By the time the Depression ended he was working at Inland Steel, was married and had started a family. There would be no returning to school for him.

But much later in life (and after seeing his son, Brian, graduate from Wabash in 1968) he looked back on the two years he missed and decided that shouldn't happen to other young men from his region. So in 1998, in honor of his wife and daughter who shared his love of this place, he endowed the Adeline and Bonnie Smith Scholarship for students from the northwest Indiana/Chicago area. And Adeline has her own place in Wabash history, having worked tirelessly to raise money for the creation of the Grant Street TKE House.

But as generous as Atwood was, his personality, stories, and sense of humor were what endeared him to so many of us on the Wabash staff. When he returned to speak at the dedication of another new TKE house in

2006, he began his talk with that customary self-effacing humor: "I wondered why they asked me to speak. I wasn't a very good student in speech class—you'd be surprised at the grade I got."

Wearing his original pot from 1930, he was the highlight of the event, recalling the kindnesses of those who welcomed him to the house, choking up a bit when he called his decision to pledge there one of the smartest things he'd ever done, getting the biggest laughs of the day as he gave historic details of life in that fraternity during Hell Week.

He came back again in 2009 with his son, Brian, to tell stories for the College's Scarlet Yarns video project, offering us a rare glimpse of the era of President Louis Hopkins. He was as giving of his memories as he was of his finances, and that's no small thing to those of us charged to preserve the history of Wabash.

When he died, his children wrote:

"Atwood Smith was a gentleman in the truest sense of the word. He taught his descendants the value of hard work, the need to treat everyone with respect, the call to service, the use of humor to connect with people, generosity, humility, and above all, love of family."

Now that's a Wabash man.

—Steve Charles H'70

WILLIAM G. "BILL" CONBOY '49

William G. "Bill" Conboy, 87, died September 28, 2012 in Columbus, IN.

Born March 25, 1925, in Damariscotta, ME, he was the son of Priscilla and James Conboy.

While attending Wabash, he was a member of the baseball team and was an independent.

Conboy was a U.S. Army veteran and retired from Arvin Industries in Columbus, IN.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Sara.

A remembrance

Many alumni have interesting stories about how they came to Wabash, but Bill Conboy's was one in a million.

After growing up in Damariscotta, ME, and graduating from high school, Bill was drafted into the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and served as a second lieutenant and bombardier on a B-24. As part of ongoing training operations in Wyoming, he and his crew would routinely fly mock-bombing missions out to California and back. One weekend that Bill asked for leave, his crew flew a training mission enroute to California and the plane went down in the Rocky Mountains, killing everyone on board. Bill was asked by his commanding officer to accompany the body of the pilot of that plane back to the young man's home in Crawfordsville.

During his stay here, Bill met the Winner family. Mr. Winner was apparently so impressed with Bill that he encouraged him to apply to Wabash when he was discharged from the service and offered to provide him with free room and board for a year if he came.

A year later Bill wrote to see whether Mr. Winner's offer was still standing. The man

gladly accepted Bill into his home for the first year, and the GI Bill benefits paid for his tuition and room and board the remaining three years.

After graduating, Bill worked for several companies and retired from Arvin Industries.

I met Bill more than a decade ago during a visit for the College. He welcomed me warmly; he had fond memories of his years at the College. As a gift prior to my departure, I handed him a Wabash College Glee Club CD. Bill said he had a CD player, but had never taken it out of its cellophane wrapper. So I helped him set it up there in his living room and showed him how to run it by putting in the Glee Club CD. It was the first CD he'd ever heard, and Bill was impressed with both the machine and the young men singing. As I got up to leave he thanked me for the conversation.

"It was an educational visit." He smiled.

The Glee Club was still singing when I left.

—David Troutman, Director of Gift Planning

JOHN STERRY LONG '42

Dr. John Sterry Long, 91, died January 3 in Rancho Mirage, CA.

Born November 4, 1921, in Pontiac, IL, he was the son of Helen and Christopher Long.

While attending Wabash, Long was a member of Phi Gamma Delta.

Long served in the U.S. Medical Corps from 1946 to 1948 and graduated from the University of Illinois Medical School in 1950. Later in life he received an Honorary Degree from MacMurray College.

A Chicago physician specializing in obstetrics and gynecology, Long was named Most Valuable Physician in Chicago in 1989. He remained in private practice from 1951 to 1996 when he retired to Rancho Mirage.

Long served on the National Board of UNICEF and was an honorary member of the Japanese Imperial Academy of Gynecology. He served as associate professor of OB-GYN at Rush Presbyterian Saint Luke's Center Medical College and shared his medical skills across the globe from the Cambodian Refugee Camp to the Amazon River Mosquito Abatement Program in Peru. He was a guest surgeon in Kenya as well as a volunteer for the Chorea Carcinoma Project in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Long is survived by his wife, Barbara Vanton Long, PO Box 1445, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270; children, Becky Sung, Patricia, John Jr., Tracy Tuman, Martha Ferris, and Mary Dawson; stepchildren, Laurie Ledford, Julie Wheeler, Charles Rivkin, Robert Rivkin, and Lisa Vanton; 29 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

A remembrance

Dr. John Sterry Long delivered more than 10,000 babies over five decades at what is now Rush University Medical Center in Chicago and once could hardly walk the streets of that city without being recognized by grateful parents.

"He loved delivering babies," his stepson Bob Rivkin recalls. "He said it was the happiest job in medicine."

As a child, Dr. Long realized he wanted to be a doctor after witnessing an animal birth in a barn on his family's farm.

In 1951, Dr. Long embarked on his 45-year career in a private practice at Rush. Over the years, he earned his colleagues' acclaim for approaching every task with zeal.

Dr. Howard Strassner, who began working at Rush in 1980, says Dr. Long made a "lasting contribution" to the hospital's reputation with his sense of humor, warm camaraderie and unconditional respectfulness for colleagues. A yearly speaker series at the medical center now bears Dr. Long's name.

An avid fly fisher whose longtime hobby took him to Siberia and Alaska, Dr. Long's passion was contagious. At his 20-acre ranch in Jackson Hole, WY, he would often round up his children for outdoor adventures—some more improvised than others—after frying grits and fresh fish for breakfast.

An early riser, he sometimes blared marching band music to roust the sleeping children. He regularly went goose hunting with Marshall Field V, his wife said. Dr. Long delivered all of the Chicago philanthropist's children.

Dr. Long had a deep appreciation for storytelling—he belonged to a limerick society—and an outgoing sense of humor that turned any punch line into a stem-winding narrative.

Dr. Long's funny side did not stop at the spoken word. His wife, Vanton Long, says her husband would play practical jokes, such as cooking a hog's head for dinner whenever his daughters brought home a boy he didn't like.

At Rush, Dr. Long went out of his way to befriend residents who would one day fill his shoes. He invited Katz to his Wyoming property and taught her how to fly fish.

He often broke the ice by teasing the young doctors with medical trivia far outside the scope of their studies. The aspiring surgeons would be "frozen with fear that they failed some big test," Rivkin says.

"Even if you didn't know the answer, it didn't matter," Katz says. "He just loved to teach you."

—Patrick Svitek, reprinted from the Chicago Tribune

ROSS N. FAIRES '58



Ross N. Faires, 78, died January 24 in Knoxville, TN.

Faires was a psychology major while attending Wabash and a member of Beta Theta Pi. He served on the Board of Trustees from 1991 through 2004 and was chairman of the buildings and grounds committee. He also received

a degree from Indiana University and served in the U.S. Army.

After graduation, he worked for Cummins Engine Company and was a group president of Arvin Industries, both in Columbus, IN. He moved to East Tennessee in 1976.

A strong supporter of education and the arts, Faires founded a Saturday School in Scott County, TN. He also served as president of the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, and as chairman of the University of Tennessee Chancellor's Associates; was on the Tennessee Board of Regents; and was on the boards of First American National Bank, St. Mary's Hospital, First National Bank-Oneida, Webb School, Knoxville Zoo, Helen Ross McNabb Center, and Knoxville Museum of Art. He was a member of Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church and retired from Tibbals Flooring Company (Hartco).

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Gladly Faires, 71 North Calibogue Cay, Hilton Head Island, SC; sons, Kurt, **Eric '81**, and Jay Faires; and three grandsons.

A remembrance

"One meets few people who make such a positive difference in the lives of others," a friend wrote in the funeral home guest book in the days following Ross Faires's death. "Ross was one of those people."

"Intense about the job but always had time to ask about your family," a former employee wrote. "I was honored to work for him and, more important, to know him as a person."

Another called Ross "a trusted friend and mentor."

"I still live by many of the principles he taught me. Even after years had passed and our paths no longer crossed, when I was in deep despair after the death of my mother, Ross was there to put a comforting hand on my shoulder and offer words of encouragement and condolence."

"Knoxville will be the poorer for his passing," a friend wrote. "His sense of civic duty and involvement should be a lesson to us all in how to be a vital part of the city and how to make it a better place."

"He always had a kind word, an interest in others, and a keen wit."

For those of us who worked with Ross on College matters, the depth of emotion and admiration in these words are moving, but not surprising. They fit well the man we knew, who brought so many helpful ideas to Wabash, including the marketing, graphics standards and the hospitality of way-finding signage. We came to expect him to show up early for board meetings to photograph buildings, grounds, and signs as a way of demonstrating the need for Wabash to present its best public image in every possible way. Ross cared about presentation, in his own impeccable tailoring and how the College appeared to every guest. This concern rose not out of fussiness, and certainly not from vanity, but out of a respect for those around him. He would arrive at a trustee meeting trim and turned out, well dressed in simple elegance, as if to say, "We are here to do the important work of the greatest College in America I present myself at this College's service in the formality and

grace that my colleagues, my College, and the College's business merit."

We knew that this respect for guests was inspired by Gladly and Ross's own wonderful hospitality by his twinkling amusement and attention.

We knew how proud he was of his sons, Kurt, **Eric '81**, and Jay, because he spoke of them frequently whenever he returned to Wabash. Ross exemplified a kind of gentleman's gentlemanliness. His demeanor was always courteous, even courtly and formal though invariably warm, attentive, and caring. Even when Ross expressed his strong political opinions, he did so with civility and respect.

Many of those opinions were shaped by Wabash Professor Ben Rogge and President Frank Sparks. At a trustee dinner just a few days after Ross's death, his friend **Allan Anderson '65** told us how grateful Ross was to have been mentored by Frank and his wife, Abigail.

Allan said Ross was fond of recalling a moment when he was working for the College's food service during his student days. Ross was serving dinner for the Sparkses and special guests at their home in the Caleb Mills House, and as he was walking through the doorway to the dining room with a large ham, it slipped off the platter. Ross was mortified. Without missing a beat, President Sparks said, "Ross, take that ham back in the kitchen and bring out the other one." Ross was quick enough to know what to do—there was, of course, no second ham—so he disappeared into the kitchen and returned a moment later with the "new ham," and the dinner proceeded.

It's a story that speaks to both Ross's resourcefulness and the relationship he had with President and Mrs. Sparks. He remained close and loyal to them throughout their lives, as he was to Wabash throughout his own.

His friends in Knoxville say it well: Ross made "such a positive difference in the lives of others." Just as he did in the life of this College. All who knew Ross learned from him what it meant to steward the College, to truly care for Wabash. We will miss him, and the love he showed for Wabash will be reflected in the efforts and achievements and in the aspirations of Wabash men, now and for many years to come.

Ross Faires—Some Little Giant.
—Pat White, President, Wabash College

MARION LEE "BUTCH" BUTCHER '51

A remembrance

I became friends with Butch for the last 20 years of his life; he was my very first legal client.

I was introduced to him by a law school classmate who was employed where Butch worked for 44 years.

For nearly all of my life I have loved being around old men. I loved listening to my father and his friends on a job site or while they sat drinking Pabst Blue Ribbon beer and listening to Merle Haggard eight-track tapes. Butch was of this ilk.

He was a big man, like me, with a rich, deep voice and a booming, cackling, laugh.

And boy, did he love to laugh.

Our instant friendship was born of our mutual love of laughter and a good story. I was in my early 30s when we met, and for that point in my life he hit all my favorites: dirty jokes, beer, and women. He exuded a love for life and friends.

When I started my private law practice, my office was not far from Butch's home on the south side of Indianapolis. Occasionally, I would stop by his house for a visit. I had no clients, no money, and no future. Butch called me to represent him.

Butch had the most incredible set of wood-working tools. He had built much of the furniture in his house. But a neighbor had complained to the city about the noise from this work and the traffic in and out of Butch's garage. The City had cited him and said he had to shut it down. I found that a hobby didn't require a zoning variance, and the zoning complaint went away.

I told Butch he didn't have to pay me, yet he still made for me the finest bookshelf I have ever seen. It still sits in my chambers at the Courthouse—my first payment as a private lawyer.

But reading in the last edition of *Wabash Magazine* the notice of his passing, I was reminded of one of the few times I ever spoke with Butch in a serious tone. It was years after we met that he mentioned that he, too, had attended Wabash. I was shocked! How could I have missed this important fact? He said it "was long ago." He had been a very good, probably bruising, basketball player "recruited" to play at Wabash—a rarity for a kid from Smithville, IN. He lived with some of the other players, but after two semesters, he couldn't afford to stay, and he left, never to return.

Butch rarely talked about bad things in his life, about how his first wife had died when his two boys were young. Yet as he spoke to me about his time at Wabash, his eyes had both the gleam of an aspiring dreamer and the sheen of heartbreak of dreams lost and redirected.

So, for one of his birthdays and with the help of my friend Jim Amidon at the College, my wife and I made and framed a collage of photos of ol' Butch from his time at Wabash. The big guy cried and just clutched that framed collage when we gave it to him.

Time passed and his health began to fail. His mind began to fail more. Over the course of the last three to five years of his life, Butch would call the house every other month or so. He would ask about the kids, and about my wife, Tessa, and he would still always have a joke (usually sexual in nature) and we would share a good laugh. Whether on our answering machine or over the phone to me, he would always recall that Wabash gift. "Never forget that I love and appreciate you, big fella," he would say over and over, perhaps because it was a symptom of his increasing demise at the hands of Alzheimer's, but perhaps because we had reminded him of a time of his youth, a time of hope and dreams, a time of being forever—Some Little Giant.

—Tim Oakes '86, Marion Superior Court Judge, Indianapolis

Wabash students, alumni, and
faculty engaging the world

SAFE HAVEN

I unknowingly chose Wabash to bring our family together.

—by Matt Hudson '10

EVERYONE I KNOW HAS AN “I didn’t want to go to Wabash story.” And they were right to be skeptical. Most weren’t sure that they wanted to hang out with only men for four years. Others hesitated to commit four years to a town in which going to Walmart is considered a treat. All of my classmates would tell you that at one point, they never thought they would end up here. Yet we all got sucked in.

And though I felt the same at one point, my story is different. Most Wabash students have not seen their lives take such a drastic turn midway through their college experience.

THE FRIDAY NIGHT THAT I CAME HOME for Spring Break my sophomore year, my parents sat me down to tell me that my grandmother had lung cancer. My dad’s eyes welled up with tears I had never seen other than during the post-game hug after a big loss in a football game—tears that were often sadness mixed with pride. But these were different.

Football games became a family reunion...a way for all of us to flee from the pain.

My grandfather, not typically an emotional man, needed all the help he could get. In a span of just weeks, he went from believing that the only woman he had ever loved would outlast him to knowing that she didn’t have much time left. It was up to me to be strong for him, and to provide support for both of them—up to me, because my grandparents live only four miles away from Wabash.

So I spent the summer with my grandparents that year while I interned in Indianapolis. But as the summer drew to a close, things started to change. While I was back at home in late July, we got a call telling us that things had taken a turn for the worse. Within three weeks, she was gone.

My grandfather was a mess. We all were. As I entered the room the first time after she died, he looked up at me with tears in his eyes and said, “It’s just you and me now.”

But, as he and I would soon learn, it was *not* just us. In fact, as the summer drew to a close and the leaves began to fall, we began to have more support around us than ever before.

FOOTBALL GAMES AT WABASH became a sort of family reunion. Each game became a way for us all to flee from the pain, if only for one day. For my grandfather, the weekends became a momentary reprieve from heartache. My family would arrive at Grandpa’s house on Friday night and stay through Sunday. They would tailgate for hours before the game, and as I dealt with my grief on the field for a few hours each weekend, my family dealt with theirs by watching me from the stands.

“Grandpa lived for Wabash football after we lost Mom,” my Aunt Ronda tells me. “Every day when I talked with him on the phone, one of us would end up tearful. But before we got to that point, we were able to talk football stats.” I had no idea that my playing football could mean so much to any one person, let alone my entire family. I can’t even explain how much having family around helped Grandpa and me get through that time. He couldn’t even mention her without crying—and when he did, I followed suit. But those momentary flare-ups of sadness could always be offset by the sun-drenched Saturdays spent with loved ones.

BEFORE THAT FALL, I didn’t know why I had chosen Wabash over other schools. DePauw and Franklin were interested, but after I visited Wabash for the first time, I never gave them a second thought. My father believes “it was God’s plan for you to play for Wabash. It was important to Grandpa to have family close by in those months after Grandma passed away, and you playing for Wabash allowed that to happen.”

I think he’s right. I had unknowingly chosen Wabash for a very specific reason: to bring our family together. Had I attended a school that *wasn’t* located seven minutes away from my grandparents, my family would not have been able to gather every weekend to provide my grandfather support during his time of need. Would my grandpa have been able to make it through his sadness without the weekly support from his family? Probably. He’s a strong man. But would my family be as close as we are right now? No way.

Wabash became a part of who I am today, and I can’t imagine myself having gone anywhere else. I learned a lot, made good friends, but most importantly, I helped my family get through a difficult time. Wabash helped us during our time of need, and it will always hold a special place in my heart, in my grandfather’s, and in the heart of every single person in my family. ■

OF FATHERS, SONS and FORGIVENESS

—by Eric Olofson and Brian Doyle

□ “BE HONEST ABOUT YOUR OWN FAULTS. Embrace the work and the companionship here.”

Associate Professor of Psychology Eric Olofson offered that advice to Wabash freshmen during the third Chapel Talk of the fall semester. Then, after telling his story of being raised by a single mom, Olofson—who teaches a course at Wabash called “Fatherhood”—told students about his own father’s addiction to alcohol.

He concluded:

Finally, I want you to learn to forgive.

Fifteen years ago my dad sobered up, and I’m intensely proud of him and the work that he’s put in. He’s the first to tell you that he’s ashamed of who he was when I was growing up, that we had every right to reject him. He has told me, “You did not need to let me into your lives now, though I’m sure glad you did.”

I had come to realize that holding grudges would serve one thing and one thing only—to make me unhappy and to deprive my children of a grandfather they deserve. It’s more important that we get along and interact than to say, “I’m justified in being angry.”

With my dad, that means allowing him to show me that he is a different man today, a man I’m proud to call grandfather to my children.

Forgiveness may be hardest of all. It’s hard to see that I need to forgive, but I do, simply because that’s what I need in my life.

This winter, students gathering in Korb Classroom for a reading heard this story from visiting writer Brian Doyle:

Committed a sin yesterday, in the hallway, at noon. I roared at my son, I grabbed him by the shirt collar, I frightened him so badly that he cowered and wept, and when he turned to run I grabbed him by the arm so roughly that he flinched, and it was that flicker of fear and pain across his face, the bright eager holy riveting face I have loved for 10 years, that stopped me then and haunts me this morning; for I am the father of his fear, I sent it snarling into his heart, and I can never get it out now, which torments me.

Yes, he was picking on his brother, and yes, he had picked on his brother all morning, and yes, this was the culmination of many edgy incidents already, and no, he hadn’t paid the slightest attention to warnings and remonstrations and fulminations, and yes, he had been snide and supercilious all day, and yes, he had deliberately done exactly the thing he had specifically been warned not to do, for murky reasons, but still, I roared at him and grabbed him and terrified him and made him cower, and now there is a dark evil wriggle between us that makes me sit here with my hands over my face, ashamed to the bottom of my bones.

I do not know how sins can be forgiven. I grasp the concept, I admire the genius of the idea, I suspect it to be the seed of all real peace, I savor the Tutus and Gandhis who have the mad courage to live by it, but I do not understand how foul can be made fair. What is done cannot be undone, and my moment of rage in the hallway is

an indelible scar on his heart and mine, and while my heart is a ragged old bag after nearly half a century of slings and stings, his is still new, eager, open, suggestible, innocent; he has committed only the small sins of a child, the halting first lies, the failed test paper hidden in the closet, the window broken in petulance, the stolen candy bar, the silent witness as a classmate is bullied, the insults flung like bitter knives.

Whereas I am a man and have had many lies squirming in my mouth, and have committed calumny, and far too often evaded the mad ragged Christ, ignored his stink, his rotten teeth, his cloak of soggy newspapers, his voice of broken glass.

No god can forgive what we do to each other; only the injured can summon that extraordinary grace, and where such grace is born we cannot say, for all our fitful genius and miraculous machinery. We use the word *god* so easily, so casually, as if our label for the incomprehensible meant anything at all; and we forget all too easily that the wriggle of holy is born only through the stammer and stumble of

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us, who are always children. So we turn again and again to each other, and bow, and ask forgiveness, and mill what mercy we can muster from the muddle of our hearts.

The instant I let go of my son’s sinewy arm in the hallway he sprinted away and slammed the door and flew off the porch and ran down the street and I stood there simmering in shame. Then I walked down the hill into the laurel thicket as dense and silent as the dawn of the world and found him there huddled and sobbing. We sat in the moist green dark for a long time, not saying anything, the branches burly and patient. Finally I asked quietly for his forgiveness, and he asked for mine, and we walked out of the woods hand in hand, changed men. ■

“A Sin” reprinted from Grace Notes by permission of the author. Doyle was a visiting writer at the College this winter.

Notes From *the Wild*

—by Michael Abbott '85

 THIS HOLIDAY SEASON I went off the grid. No email. No Twitter or Feedly. Notifications disabled. Nothing chirping for my attention except my kid, whose startup sequence deploys at 6:30 a.m.

This wasn't something I planned, but after a few days I decided to stick with it. I expected to feel disconnected, but instead it felt cleansing, liberating...necessary. If you can manage to cut the cord, even for a few days, I recommend giving it a try. You may find yourself noticing things like the UPS man's nifty gloves, the sound of snow crunching under your feet, or your own breathing.

During my time in the analog wild, I thought a lot about my avocation as a student of video and computer games. I made a point of discussing them with anyone willing to chat with me about them. My circumstances in recent weeks brought me into contact with students from all over the world, travelers, family members, and a broad assortment of friendly folks I met between Indianapolis and Los Angeles.

Recently I've begun to reflect on how we think and talk about games and the industry producing them. By "we" I mean developers, critics, enthusiasts.

Lots of smart, open-minded people are genuinely worried about violence in games.

My informal chats and my time off the grid led me to a few conclusions, and this one in particular: Lots of smart, open-minded people are genuinely worried about violence in games.

You and I can debate the question and exchange conflicting scholarly studies, but recent events have sensitized people to the issue of violence in games like never before. We (critics, press, designers) must address this now. Claiming a lack of conclusive data or citing studies that say violent crime has dropped in recent years won't cut it.

Why not? Because those arguments fail the sniff test.

It no longer matters whether or not games contributed to the massacre at Newtown. What matters is that lots of reasonable people have come to believe we're awash in depictions of bloody violence across media, and repeatedly exposing our kids to this stuff is just plain wrong.

In all my years of playing shooters and brawlers-type games, my mother never expressed a shred of concern. But this year at Christmas, she looked me in the eye and asked, "Do you worry that video games make killing seem like fun?"

And for the first time I answered, "Yes." ■

Michael Abbott is professor of theater at Wabash and is the creator of the blog Brainy Gamer: Thoughtful Conversation About Video Games: www.brainygamer.com

Evening at the Bluesberry Café

—by Eric Farber '65

"I had the blues so bad, they put my face in a permanent frown. Now I'm feeling so much better I could cakewalk into town."

 NOVEMBER 28, 2012—A visit to Clarksdale, MS, center of the region known as the Mississippi Delta, has been on my bucket list for a long time because for blues lovers, the Delta is like Mecca.

Clarksdale is an anomaly. Decades ago its downtown must have been bustling. Today, 70 percent of its shops stand empty. Its broad streets are nearly devoid of traffic, and parking is certainly not a problem.

This part of the state along the Mississippi River has always been something of a rural backwater. The flat, rich Delta soil is ideal for growing cotton, and before the advent of mechanized cotton farming in the 1940s, the large plantations that surround Clarksdale needed hundreds of field hands. The African Americans who worked these fields lived on the plantations and, outside of working hours, were left pretty much to themselves. It was in this environment that the music known as the Delta Blues was born.

People from all over the world come to this poor region to visit the land where Robert Johnson, Charlie Patton, Muddy Waters, Howling Wolf, John Lee Hooker, B.B. King, and many other legendary country bluesmen began their lives and learned to play the blues in such distinctive ways. Most later migrated north to Memphis, Chicago, Kansas City, and Detroit, where in the 1960s they finally began to get worldwide attention, which is why we know their music, why we and so many others make the pilgrimage to the Delta.

CLARKSDALE IS NOT NASHVILLE. There is no huge blues industry here. Things here, at least outside of festival season, have a casual, half-improvised quality.

Our first evening there ended in an unheated storefront space called the Bluesberry Café, run by a man who had once worked in recording studios with some of the famous names of the 1960s. Adorned with blues and rock posters, it had a \$5-per person cover charge and served only the King of Beers, Budweiser. The modest drink and surroundings didn't matter because my wife, Kay, and I were there to hear the music provided by Clarksdale native, guitarist and singer Daddy Rich, along with friends, all white, who would accompany him from time to time. An irony is that the blues, once a strictly African-American idiom, now finds its expression more and more by white musicians.

Everything about the evening's sequence was intimate and informal. There were only a few of us in the audience, all regulars except Kay and me and a young man from England.

All the musicians were local and really, really good. One man, a character named Watermelon Slim, thin as a rail and dressed in shabby clothes, wandered around the room talking to others and us. From time to time he would pull a blues harp from his pocket and, without any preliminaries, begin to wail in company with the guitarists on stage, whom he knew well. He would blow his harp so powerfully and so well that the music would stop with applause for his virtuosity.

Kay and I closed the Bluesberry after 10:30 p.m., and Daddy Rich's final number began with the lines, "It's too damn late. Now, it's time to say goodbye. The rooster's drunk, and the hens are high." ■

Dr. Z's Place

 IN THE BASEMENT and hidden behind the front wall of the College's largest lecture hall, Hays Hall 104C is the office no one wanted. But it's just about perfect for Professor Emeritus of Chemistry John Zimmerman H'67.

There's plenty of room for homemade cubbyholes, boxes containing the archives of the Midwestern Association of Chemistry Teachers in Liberal Arts Colleges (MACTLAC), the video and camera equipment he has used to document more than three decades of Wabash history, and the computer station for processing videos of everything from pipetting to Glee Club world tours.

And its two-story tall walls barely contain his collection of photographs—his own award-winning images, some treasured gifts, and portraits of places and people that have shaped and enriched his life.

"My offices have always been filled with personal images and artifacts from my past," says the professor most call Dr. Z. "Every image and every artifact has a story to remember."

Here's one about the painting he's posing next to:

I MET KAIZAAD KOTWAL '91 as a freshman attending the annual Awards Banquet. Two years later he asked me to document *You Can't Take It With You*, a play he was directing for the local theater group. He was a taskmaster. I recorded and photographed the entire play at least five times; it was my introduction to the theater. I have only missed documenting a handful of Wabash plays in the intervening 20 years.

At the end of his senior year, Kaizaad asked me to photograph his paintings. It was a pickup load of work! When I finished I presented a verbal bill for film to Kaizaad. "Sorry, Dr. Z, I don't have any money," he said.

I said, "Then you just sold a painting!" ■

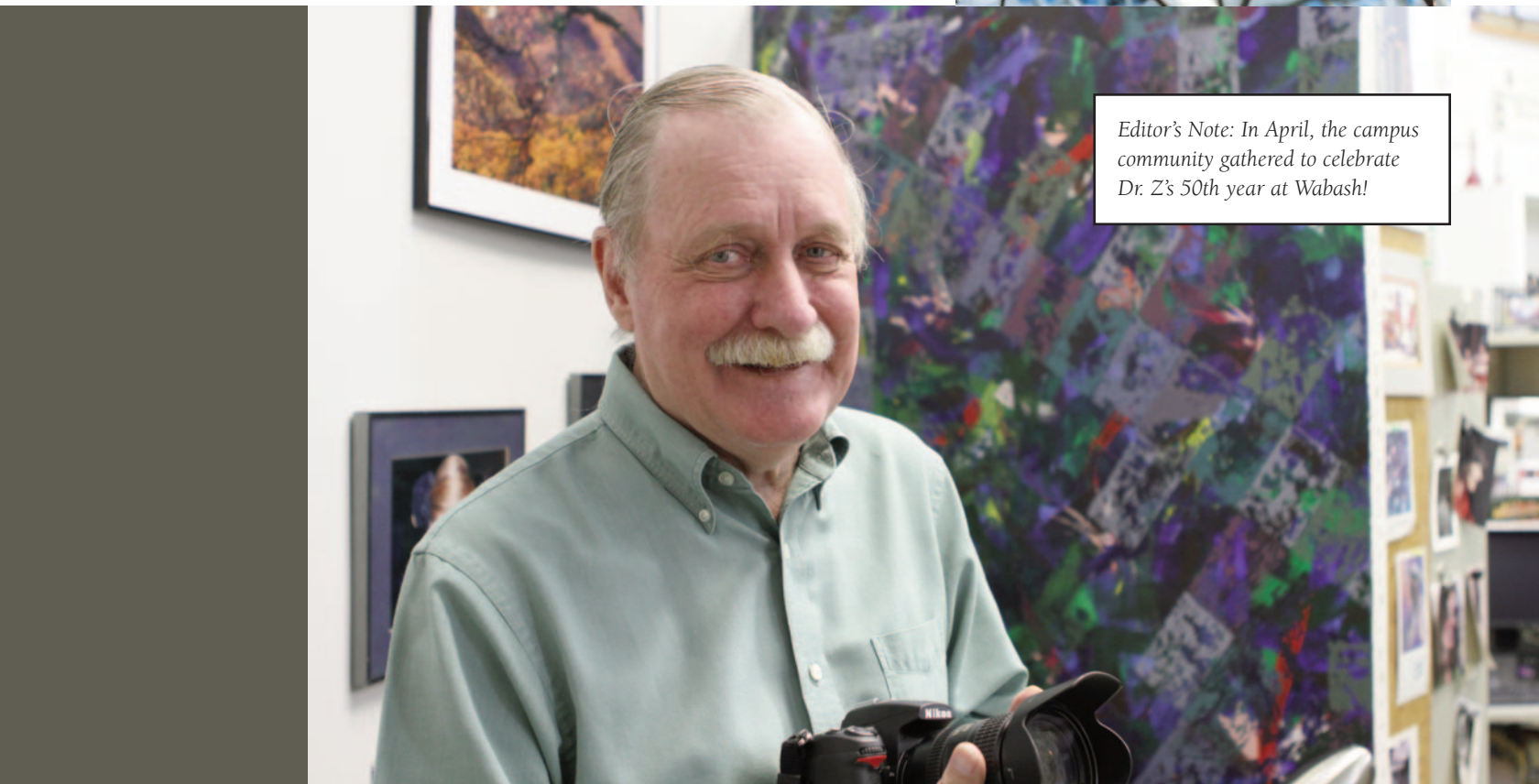
"YOU UNDERSTAND"

Wabash mathematics Professor Paul Mielke '42 walked up to this photograph I created for a Wabash Women's Bazaar exhibit and, as he looked, it was clear he was experiencing a contemplative moment. He turned, put his hand on my shoulder, and said, *You understand. You are a photographer.*

This was a treasured complement from the person I consider to be the greatest of all Wabash photographers. —Dr. Z



Editor's Note: In April, the campus community gathered to celebrate Dr. Z's 50th year at Wabash!



Even the Instruments Tell a Story

We asked Dr. Z to tell us about some of the artifacts in the Hays Science Hall display cases.

1] **PRESIDENTIAL CALCULATOR**

Then-professor Lewis Salter moved this motorized calculator to the former Goodrich Hall attic before he moved to Knox College. He attached a note, *Save for *LS²*, perhaps an indication that he would return. In fact, he did return—as a Wabash College president.

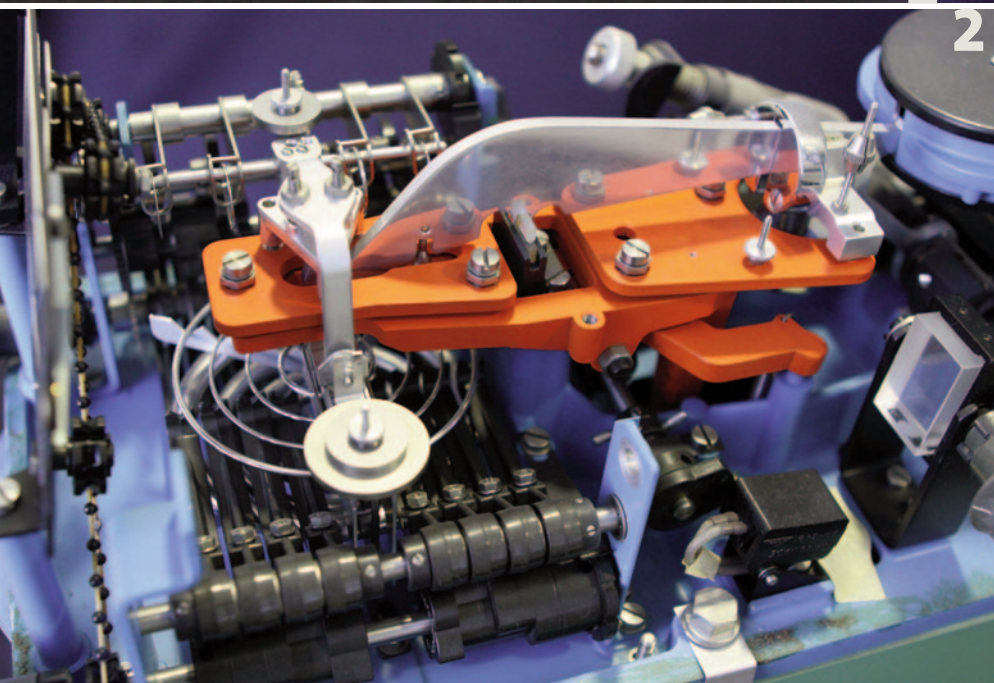
2] **MECHANICAL BEAUTY**

In 1964, Professor of Chemistry Ed Haenisch went to President Byron Trippet to request eight state-of-the-art Mettler single-pan balances (for \$900 each). These balances served the department for more than 20 years. The mechanical beauty of this device is rarely excelled—you could look inside and understand exactly how it worked!

3] **BECKMAN MODEL G pH METER**

Arnold Beckman (Cal Tech professor) created the battery operated pH meter in 1935 to meet the need for a simple measurement of hydrogen ion activity. Wabash purchased the first version, the Beckman Model G, in 1949 for \$245. The instrument is still functional!

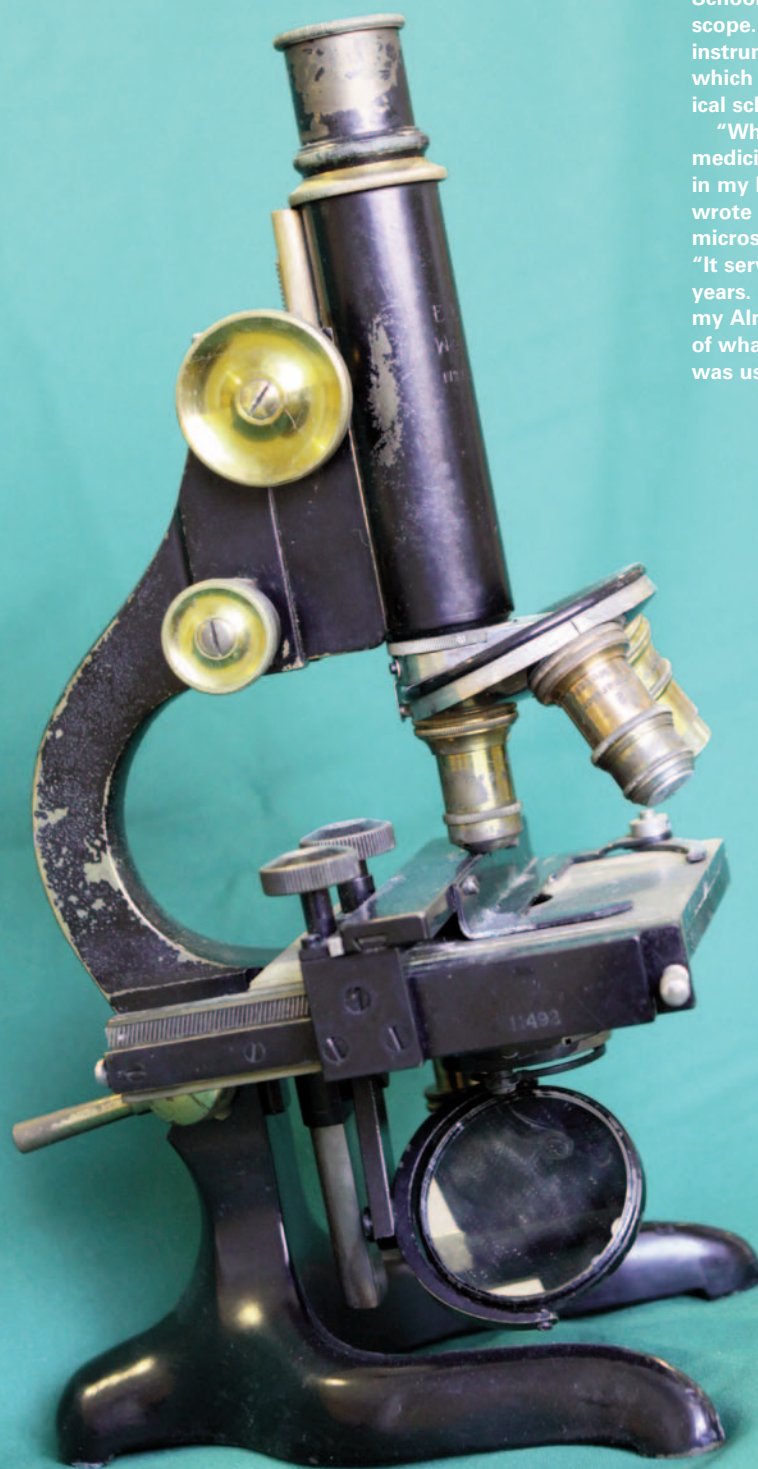
** The president's full name was Lewis Spencer Salter*



DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

SIGN AND RETURN

This sign once designated the location of the chemistry department in Peck Hall before the building was torn down in the late 1940s. One of the last students to leave Peck for the new Goodrich Hall took the sign and carried it with him for 50 years. He returned it to the Department at the "50 years of Chemistry in Goodrich Hall" celebration!



LOYAL SERVANT

Before James M. Kirtley '32 became a prominent physician and citizen in Crawfordsville, he was a Wabash senior accepted into Indiana University Medical School but in need of a microscope. Unable to afford a new instrument, he bought this one, which served him through medical school and for decades more.

"When I began practicing medicine in 1938, it was there in my laboratory," Dr. Kirtley wrote when he donated the microscope to the College. "It served loyally for many years. I am happy to give it to my Alma Mater as an example of what sort of equipment was used so long ago."



Zach Rohrbach '12 goes over one of his lessons before class with co-teacher **Brian White** at Lawrence North High School in Indianapolis.

Co-Teaching: “Doing It Right”

 ZACH ROHRBACH '12 WAS SETTING UP an experiment with science teacher Brian White at Indianapolis's Lawrence North High School last fall when one end of a gas burner suddenly flared up.

Rohrbach's first instinct was to blow out the flame—not the best idea. But together the men found a better way to extinguish the fire. They reset the experiment and continued on.

“It's not a real experiment if you don't singe a little arm hair,” White joked.

Rohrbach smiled nervously.

But the teachers' solution to that potential problem is not a bad metaphor for co-teaching—the new model for student teaching launched last fall by the College's Department of Education Studies.

Co-teaching is itself a creative response to a problem.

“With increased demands on teacher accountability and student performance these days, teachers were increasingly reluctant to host a student teacher,” says Teacher Education Program Coordinator Marc Welch '99. If a student teacher didn't teach the material effectively “flying solo” and students did poorly on standardized tests, the host teacher would take the blame.

“Higher education's remedy for this concern is a co-teaching model,” says Welch.

In co-teaching, the host teacher and the Wabash student plan, instruct, and assess together.

“This new model essentially places two educators in the classroom, so high schools are once again welcoming student teachers,” Welch says.

Lawrence North Principal Brett Crousore '95 thinks the new approach offers the best of both worlds.

“Zach is paired with a master teacher; Brian is one of the best, who cares about his students 24/7,” Crousore says. “And Zach's phenomenal. It's a gift to us: I have two phenomenal teachers in the classroom working with our kids, and one of them is free!”

As he's progressed, Rohrbach has enjoyed solo teaching the class. But his enthusiasm for co-teaching says much for the new program. Offered a paid teaching position at another school while he was at Lawrence North, Rohrbach stuck with his co-teachers, White and fellow science teacher Aaron Logan.

“I was really enjoying my work and didn't want to miss out on the opportunity to learn what I could from Aaron and Brian,” Rohrbach says. “I also had really connected with my students and did not want to cut that short. (It was hard enough leaving at the end of the semester.) In retrospect, I am sure I made the right decision.”

His co-teaching completed, Rohrbach is now teaching chemistry and physics at Noblesville High School. He still calls his former co-teachers for advice and “to bounce off ideas.”

“Aaron, Brian, and I had the sort of collaborative working relationship that I think many teachers hope for, and that has persisted, even though I no longer teach in the same district with them.

“I've been having so much fun this year that I don't think I see myself doing anything else for a career. As Brian says, teaching is one of the best jobs you can have because you basically get paid to play all day. If you're not having fun, you're not doing it right.” ■

Faculty News and Notes

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH Agata Szczeszak-Brewer's short story, "A Comma," was published in the Autumn/Winter 2012 edition of *River Poets Journal*, Volume 6, Issue 3.



Rixa Freeze

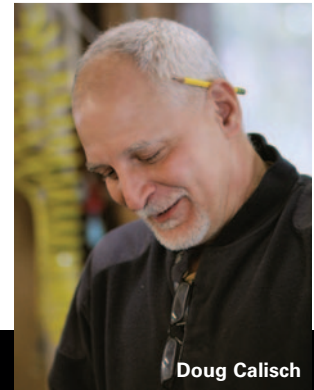
In November, Visiting Assistant Professor of English Rixa Freeze presented "Connecting the Dots: The Future of Birth Advocacy," at Heads Up!, an international multidisciplinary conference on breech birth, in Washington, DC. In April she returned to Washington to participate in the Home Birth Consensus Review Meeting, a follow-up to the 2011 national summit on the status of home birth in the United States maternity care system.

Professor of Art Doug Calisch and Visiting Assistant Professor of Art Stefani Rossi opened a two-person show, "Detritus," at the Low Road Gallery, Greencastle, in December. Their work was also included in the "TINY" exhibit at Gallery 924 in Indianapolis.

Two essays by Associate Professor of Art History Elizabeth Morton appear in *African Art and Agency in the Workshop*, published April 2013 by Indiana University Press.



Agata Szczeszak-Brewer



Doug Calisch

From the Chapel

THE ARTICHOKE

I feel fortunate that when I came to Wabash as a student, a host of people, in ways I did not then understand but to which I must have been open, helped me unlearn some bad habits.

One of those people was John Fischer, Latin professor extraordinaire and gourmet cook.

Now I thought I loved food, but what I really loved was hamburgers. I grew up on a beef farm, so that seemed natural enough. Vegetables in my youth were not cooked so much as punished. So I got in the bad habit of just assuming that I didn't like them and came up with all manner of snide comments about how real men only ate hamburgers: "Vegetables are what food eat."

But student dinners at Professor Fischer's house were an exquisite affair. He had a summer home in Greece and had asked his neighbors to clip off some sprigs of rosemary from the bush in front of his house and FedEx them to him for our dinner! The beef roasts and legs of lamb he made were so scrumptious I decided I could trust his taste and actually try some of the vegetables he served, too. To my shock, I found that I really liked them.

After a lengthy dissertation on the history of edible thistles, including the steamed artichoke sitting on our plates as a first course, Fischer gave us Philistines a lesson in how to pluck one apart, how much butter to use, and how to go after the heart. It was delicious.

This probably sounds like a trivial example, but to me that artichoke was a revelation. How many other fine things had I closed myself off from? What groups of people had I written off? What other stupid biases did I have that were keeping me from becoming a better version of myself?

**I thought I loved food.
What I really loved was hamburgers.**

One important task in college is to learn to differentiate between the cowardice of mere inertia and the nobility of considered tradition. It seems to me particularly important at this College. Wabash has understood its mission for 18 decades as being a place where anyone can learn the habits of critical thinking and just living.

Habits into which we have fallen might not be a rut. But some might be. And small habits of practical action accumulate. They may not determine, but they at least condition your life.

So at some point in your short time at Wabash, I hope you try an artichoke. They're delicious. ■

—Associate Professor of Religion Derek Nelson '99,
from his Chapel Talk "Unlearning and the Artichoke"



Revolutionary

A pioneering woman on the Wabash faculty and the first to earn tenure, Professor of Political Science and Beesley Chair Melissa Butler retires from the College this year after 37 years serving students and the Wabash community. Butler also has been a mentor and advocate for faculty colleagues, and WM asked Assistant Professor of Political Science Lexi Hoerl to share what she's learned from the woman she calls "revolutionary."

 I SPENT MY EARLY YEARS AT WABASH following Melissa Butler around.

I co-taught the Intro to Political Theory class with her during my first semester, and we co-advised her Fall 2010 freshman tutorial. (Understand that "co-advising" meant that *she* actually advised the guys and I only made the occasional interjection.) I followed her lead at receptions,

events, and games as she introduced me to Trustees, board members of the National Association of Wabash Men, retired members of the Wabash community, and numerous alums.

A lot of people in the Wabash community came away with a positive impression of me because of Melissa's skill in setting up situations so that I could impress them: Once a number of Trustees were scheduled to sit in on the Intro to Political Theory class. I was terrified. She suggested that we take turns teaching the hour, which was not our normal procedure. She started off and told jokes about and with the visiting Trustees and had everyone in a fantastic mood. With about 20 minutes left, she tossed the reins to me and let me give a really energetic lecture on something that I knew really well. Some of the Trustees who were there still comment positively on how much they enjoyed that class.

I QUICKLY REALIZED THAT MELISSA was amazing with first-year students. Since I have always clicked better with upperclassmen and didn't have much experience teaching freshmen, I made it my business to observe her very carefully. I remember the dinner at her house during Freshman Weekend: While I had a few sports-related conversations laden with the standard Freshman Weekend awkwardness, she was able to weave together statements of genuine warmth, encouragement, and comfort with gentle teasing that helped the students bond while creating and establishing expectations for what it meant to be at Wabash. That remains one of the more impressive teaching displays I've ever seen. She was superb at balancing the students' (unstated) desire for an authority figure with clear expectations who would stop them from screwing up too badly and the students' (stated) desire to take advantage of their new college freedom.

What I did not so quickly realize was that Melissa was equally good with first-year faculty. She perceived the type of mentoring that was best for me. She respected my desire to exercise my new freedom as a faculty member, but by allowing me to do things with her—which allowed her to observe me in turn—she was able to give me suggestions for improvement that prevented me from screwing up too badly and getting off on the wrong foot.

Melissa and I have a lot in common, but she is much more innovative. (Much to her dismay, I still insist on

hand writing comments on hard copies; she has been using computers to grade for ages.) Her work at Wabash has been revolutionary. I am more cautious by nature, and she picked up on this quickly and has always known when I needed a push. She pushed me to move away from my dissertation and toward my interest in Machiavelli and Italy right away. All the students who have benefitted from traveling to Italy with me—whether as students in my immersion course or as research assistants—have Melissa to thank.

The lessons learned on those Italian adventures have made me a better teacher, researcher, advisor, and colleague. Chief among those lessons was that I needed to loosen up and not be so nervous about going in new directions. As Melissa's "replacement" (to be honest, I hate this phrasing—as I've said, you don't replace a towering figure like Melissa Butler) I often get asked if I will change the way she taught PSC 231 or Senior Seminar. How will I remember her legacy?

I've thought a lot about those questions. My years at Wabash have been filled with nothing but warmth and welcome from students and alumni, and I know that it is because of the work of Melissa and others—women who were not always received with warmth and welcome—that I was able to come to a campus of Wabash men happy to embrace me and make me part of their community.

I am profoundly grateful, but I've never quite found the way to thank Melissa. I hope to do so by making sure that political theory at Wabash is taught in a way that maintains respect for the classics, but also acknowledges the need for new directions and the occasional revolution.

But I think we can *all* honor her legacy by being sensitive to the needs of everyone in the Wabash community, especially our newest members, and by pushing each other to innovate, to evolve, to experience our own mini-revolutions, to always fight, and to never, ever just settle for what has always been *solely* because it has always been. ■

—Alexandra Hoerl, Assistant Professor of Political Science

Seeing History Face to Face

Classics Professor Jeremy Hartnett '96 unwinds with faculty and friends after delivering the 32nd LaFollette Lecture—**"Faces Past: Ancient Imaginations and the Craft of Social History."**



□ CLASSICS PROFESSOR JEREMY HARTNETT '96 says you can learn much about a place's history by looking at faces. That was certainly true in the College's Salter Hall last October as he prepared to deliver the 32nd Annual LaFollette Lecture in the Humanities.

There was the smiling face of his mentor, Professor Emeritus of Classics John Fischer H'70, making a rare return to campus from Louisville to watch his former student deliver the College's most prestigious lecture.

There was Kathe Hartnett, Jeremy's mother—former administrative assistant for another of Jeremy's mentors, Professor Bill Cook '66—beaming alongside her husband, Dale, here from Geneseo, NY, and Jeremy's brother, Dan '99, and his wife, Laura, in from Kenyon College.

There was Mitchell Brown '10, Hartnett's former student, feeling fortunate to have presented a lunch talk on the same day his former teacher received this honor.

As Hartnett stepped to the podium, you could learn something about the bond of teaching and learning just by watching their expressions—not to mention those of the professors in the audience who taught Jeremy when he was a student here.

Then there were the faces on the screen as the archaeologist began his presentation—the portraits of people who lived about 2,000 years ago when the Roman Empire extended to Egypt, where these images were made.

"When we think of the Romans, images of giant buildings and great leaders are easy to conjure in our mind's eye, and you can be sure the Romans intended to leave these impressions. But another type of image, more fragile and more personal, has haunted me over the decades," Hartnett said as faces from antiquity were projected on the screen. "These are the

so-called Fayum portraits, and they shape how I try to do social history of the broader populace.”

“I do not study Roman art because it is seductively gorgeous; with rare exceptions, it is not handsome. But these images of individual Romans I find singularly affecting. The portraits seem to capture the subjects’ personalities...and the way that the subjects’ humanity leaps off the wood panel has led me to choose these paintings as my topic today, even though I don’t study them directly in my research.”

For Hartnett, the portraits—which were painted on wooden panels attached to mummies from the Coptic period at a time when Rome occupied Egypt—demonstrate the complexity and richness art and imagination bring to the study of ancient history.

“The Fayum portraits offer a rich cultural *mélange*,” Hartnett said as he summarized some of the theories concerning the more than 900 portraits. “Their deeply personal portrayals encourage nuanced and textured reading of history. They defy easy categorization.”

“They remind us of the dangers of applying labels when we try to write history. Life is messy; culture is complicated; and all-encompassing explanations rarely satisfy.”

After describing scholars’ interpretations of two of the portraits—theories that have proven flawed—Hartnett asked: “How often do we, in the humanities or in liberal arts endeavors more broadly, shape our inquiries by putting ourselves, our categories, and our attitudes first, rather than reimagining our investigation from the perspective of the people we are studying?”

The task becomes even more difficult when scholars attempt to understand the lives of the less wealthy and powerful in ancient societies. The detailed studies of inscriptions and artifacts have provided stockpiles of data to be analyzed—an approach Hartnett calls “history from 1,000 feet.”



One of the Fayum portraits Hartnett studies, this painting of a small boy was preserved after it was wrapped in a mummy with a body almost 2,000 years ago.

“But there’s something unsatisfying about considering Roman society from 1,000 feet,” Hartnett said. “Such approaches threaten to obscure personal agency and reduce individuals to data points. While we might make out contours of populations and inhabitation patterns from on high, we can’t see discrete and distinct people. We see lots of heads in the crowd, but no faces.”

“We need both analysis and imagination,” Hartnett added. “And that’s why I have the Fayum portraits on my mind when I’m writing about Roman antiquity. They put us face to face with individuals, pushing us to recognize their full humanity and to imagine their lives in all their complexities.”

“When we look at these portraits, we don’t treat Romans as a chorus singing in unison, but

as a seething and somewhat discordant mass of particular personalities, hopes and dreams, loves and losses. Thinking or writing about these individuals sometimes means chocking our claims full of *might*’s and *may*’s, but history written in the subjunctive isn’t all that bad.

“When we give ourselves some latitude, we trigger an empathetic view of our subjects; leaving behind our own world momentarily, we envision theirs with its own rules and struggles; we consider our subject’s sentiments, motivations, and tactics.”

As the screen went dark, the ancient faces disappeared, and the house lights shone on the faces in the Salter Hall audience, Hartnett concluded: “When we reemerge into our own time and place—as when we set down a moving book, step out of a great movie, or clear customs after returning from abroad—we might see our world not as something we’ve always known, but somehow anew.” ■



"The Great Prize"

President Pat White called it "the great prize" when he announced the tenure of Professors Patrick Burton, Eric Freeze, and Karen Gunther, and for these teachers the reward is the promise of a lifetime doing the teaching, research, and creative work they love. Their passion is contagious.



PATRICK BURTON

- Associate Professor of Biology
- Teacher, scientist, collector, cheese connoisseur
- PhD Boston University

Specialty: "Evo-Devo"—the study of how development (the process of developing from a fertilized egg to an adult) has evolved.

Dean of the College Gary Phillips: "Collaborative problem-solving and research with students is a centerpiece of his pedagogy. A collector of first-edition books and fine wines, an advocate for involving underrepresented students in the sciences, Pat models Wabash-style liberal learning to his students and in so doing sets the achievement bar high for all of us."

"The students' love of learning and strong work ethic allows me to challenge them in ways I did not anticipate. I love working one on one with students in the laboratory, which provides an opportunity to help them learn what science is really like."



ERIC FREEZE

- Associate Professor of English
- Teacher, father, writer, home restorer
- PhD Ohio University

Specialty: American literature, creative writing ("I'm thrilled to see our first cohort in the creative writing track graduate this year."), coordinator of the College's Visiting Writer Series. *Dominant Traits*, a short story collection, was published in 2011. A second collection, *Hemingway on a Bike*, has been accepted for publication by the University of Nebraska Press.

Dean Gary Phillips: "Eric's teaching prowess is demonstrated in the classroom, through his prolific creative writing, and, yes, on the mall as an organizer of Wabash Ultimate Frisbee. Across these different teaching and learning venues, students witness a type of engagement with persons and principles that calls on them to craft their own words and lives with precision."

"Every time one of my students tells me he's been fiddling with a scene or a sentence until he was going blind, I'm thrilled. Something clicks. When students start to feel that drive to push themselves to get better, that's when I know that they've become writers and no longer students looking for a grade."



KAREN GUNTHER

- Associate Professor of Psychology
- Teacher, researcher, resident expert of all things color, quilter
- PhD, University of California at San Diego (Cognitive Science Interdisciplinary Program)

Specialty: psychophysics, focusing on color vision

Dean Gary Phillips: "Karen's teaching and scholarship are of a piece as demonstrated by her collaborative research and co-publication with students. Students praise her mentoring strengths: her insistence on carefulness, accuracy, and conscientiousness that motivates students to commit themselves to high academic and personal standards." ■

"I wanted to teach at a liberal arts college because I like the small classes and interaction with students. I really like the research-emphasis we now have in the psychology department, and the ability to do our own research in collaboration with students in the capstone course."

I came to the realization that “fighting” didn’t necessarily mean pushing through every obstacle with brute force. I needed to change my strategy to succeed in the long term—to work smarter, not harder.

—by Laura Wysocki

An Attitude and a Way of Life

 WHEN I WAS LOOKING for jobs a few years ago, I almost didn’t even apply to Wabash. I thought, *A college for men? What would they want with me?*

But as I looked deeper into Wabash I found educational values that I share, great facilities for my research, and, yes—women on the faculty and staff.

I heard the saying “Wabash Always Fights” before I arrived on campus. I thought it was kind of endearing. Like me saying “Go Cats” to my Northwestern friends or “AOT” to my sisters in Kappa Delta. I liked it even more when I heard it at a football game. It was a positive message when the game started to get a little scary, and I was used to fans at larger schools booing their own team when mistakes were made.

I didn’t really get it.

But I knew that there was something about Wabash that I didn’t feel at any other place, and the decision to come here was an easy one. The motivated students and colleagues that I met, along with all the resources I felt I needed to teach effectively in the classroom and the lab—how could I say no?

Two years later, I realize that it was much more than that. Wabash Always Fights isn’t just a motto. It’s an attitude and a way of life that I identify with.

WHEN I WAS 14, I was tall for my age and played almost every sport. My favorite was volleyball, and my mom drove me around the Midwest in the predawn hours so I could play in tournaments with my club team. I had some knee problems, but with a basketball star as a big brother, I always saw him icing his knees for tendinitis, so it seemed perfectly normal.

When I started to sit out practices because my back hurt too much, my coach told my mom I was way too young to be having these problems. We saw doctor after doctor. I underwent a litany of tests. They found nothing to explain the level of widespread pain I was having, and I had to quit sports.



Wabash Always Fights—Little Giants sing *Old Wabash* after their victory over eighth-ranked Wooster at Chadwick Court.

photo by Tom Runge

Eventually, one doctor asked me a simple question: Do you cry when you’re in pain? When I said yes, he diagnosed me with fibromyalgia.

You may have heard of fibromyalgia—it affects nearly six million Americans and although there is no cure, there seems to be an ad for Lyrica or Cymbalta during every TV commercial break. But 16 years ago, more than half the doctors I saw didn’t even recognize it as a real disease. There is a huge range of symptoms, some of which seem to contradict one another. Many doctors just saw it as something to tell patients when they were stumped. But there I was, 15 years

old and faced with a chronic, degenerative disease that no one really understood.

My mom did everything she could to help me cope with the news. She took me to a support group for people with fibromyalgia. It usually affects middle-aged women, so I was definitely out of place. “I lost my job because of fibromyalgia,” one woman said. “My husband left me because of fibromyalgia,” said another. They were bitter, angry, and hopeless, which only scared me more. I decided in that moment that I would never blame anything in my life on fibromyalgia. I would never let it define me.

It was a split-second decision made by a scared little kid, but I stuck by it. I wouldn’t let fibromyalgia stand in the way of anything I knew I could do. I would never be an athlete, but I was pretty smart. I worked hard and got into the Integrated Science Program at Northwestern University. In my freshman year, walking the one-mile distance between classes became too painful, and my mom tirelessly fought with the school to figure out a way to help. But there was no feasible option; my doctor decided that I was legally handicapped.

THAT’S STILL HARD FOR ME TO ADMIT. I wasn’t in a wheelchair. Every time I used my parking pass, I wondered if people were judging me. Sometimes they called me out on it, accusing me of laziness or of stealing a spot from someone who actually needed it. They had no idea that I was mentally counting the steps it took me to get to the door and hoping I’d make it without having to stop for a rest.

The handicapped status was supposed to be temporary, until we could find an effective treatment, but it lasted for the next nine years. Through college, I powered through the pain, hiding it, and only discussing it with those closest to me. Even then, I didn't like to talk about it because it reminded me that there were things I couldn't do.

I tried every treatment in the book, and saw more and more doctors. I got X-rays, CAT scans, and MRIs, changed my diet, took supplements, had acupuncture, massage therapy, physical therapy, aqua therapy, went to chiropractors, rheumatologists, and orthopedic surgeons, got botox shots to stop the muscle spasms, and tried Lyrica, Cymbalta, and a dozen other drugs that were thought to have a chance against fibromyalgia.

Exercise was considered the best treatment for fibromyalgia, but the pain was too much. Even the physical therapists didn't feel comfortable giving me exercises because I couldn't do them without significant pain. I had to take narcotics to curb the pain, an incredibly tough decision because clarity of mind is so important to me. People doubted me and treated me like an addict seeking pills.

MY DREAM WAS ALWAYS TO TEACH, but I wasn't sure I could physically stand long enough to make it through a 50-minute class period. Ten minutes of standing was my maximum. But when I graduated, I called upon that promise I made to myself as a 15-year-old and decided that I was smart enough to get my PhD.

I headed to University of Wisconsin-Madison with a fellowship in hand. I didn't tell my advisor about my health issues because I didn't want him to doubt my abilities or wonder if he could count on me. I just wanted him to see me as a normal, productive, successful graduate student.

**I would never blame anything
in my life on fibromyalgia.
I would never let it define me.**

I wasn't really prepared for the long hours, and most meals happened at the vending machine, my stress level skyrocketed, and the pain increased. I put everything I had into keeping up with my research. I would collapse when I got home. My parents made the trip from Milwaukee to help keep my apartment in order, do my grocery shopping, my laundry, and take care of my dog. I was lucky to find a group of people that I could confide in, and they generously supported me as friends and coworkers. I had to ask for help dozens of times a day and they never hesitated, even though they were dealing with their own issues and time constraints. I would be working some days with tears streaming down my face but I was too stubborn to go home, and my boss never doubted that I would get things done.

Around my fourth year, my doctor told me I had to rearrange my priorities to focus on my health, that graduate school and teaching had to take a back seat. Even my parents suggested that it might be time to face reality and admit I couldn't do it anymore.

I was shocked. I had ignored everything else in my life with the singular goal of getting my PhD so I could become a professor. What other options did I have? Give up on my dreams? Give up on the life

that I knew I wanted? That didn't seem like an option at all. I decided to keep fighting.

I got through grad school with an offer that would change my life. Luke Lavis, a good friend of mine at UW-Madison, asked me to work with him at Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Janelia Farm Research Campus. He knew all about my health issues and promised that my health would be a priority and we would just have fun doing science. We worked collaboratively to foster good discussion and followed interesting leads in a field that still inspires me today.

But here's the difference: Sometimes, I went home to relax, started to cook my own food, and tried to take one day off on the weekend. I realized that "fighting" didn't necessarily mean pushing through every obstacle with brute force. I needed to change my strategy to succeed in the long term—to work smarter, not harder.

In the first year, the lower stress level allowed me to wean off of my pain meds. Then I got on the elliptical machine in the gym. Over the course of a year, I lost 100 pounds. Exercise has become my treatment. When I go to the gym four days a week, I *almost* feel normal. I no longer need to take anything other than the occasional dose of Advil.

The chronic pain will never truly go away, but it becomes easier and easier to ignore. But shortcut that schedule, and I feel it within a week. I will always have to deal with this, but I have learned how to fight the pain effectively and put my stubborn nature to good use. Now when I visit my friends at Janelia, they comment on my transformation from a reserved girl who didn't go out much to the girl who can be located from anywhere in the building by my laugh alone. I don't have to push through the pain to be myself anymore.

WHEN I CAME TO WABASH A YEAR AND A HALF AGO, I think I recognized the same fight that I have always had within myself. I've seen it lived out through everyone on campus: students working at all hours, giving everything they have on the playing field and classroom. I've seen faculty who serve the College in every way imaginable and who aren't happy with the status quo. They're smart people, but from what I can tell, they don't know the meaning of the words "phoning it in." I've seen staff members who lend their support behind the scenes without any expectation for recognition.

And I've had generous offers of help from students, faculty, and staff who probably already have more on their plate than they can handle. I never could have gotten to my dream alone. Everyone, from my parents and family to my friends to my colleagues, has given their love and support so generously to help me with the big and small things in my life.

"WABASH ALWAYS FIGHTS" isn't just something that applies to an individual. It's something we carry as a community. Each Wabash man or woman always fights. And Wabash as a community always fights. It's not just a motto, it's how we live, day in and day out.

"Wabash feels like home to me because I see in you the same fight that I have. Some people choose the easy path and allow their setbacks and circumstances to define them. But others face adversity and choose another option. They decide to define themselves. These are the people I want to surround myself with, and these are the people I've found at Wabash."■

Laura Wysocki is Byron K. Trippet Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Wabash, and this essay is excerpted from her Winter 2013 Chapel Talk.

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Last Glance



MAKING IT LOOK EASY

After the Little Giants won their third straight indoor and outdoor North Coast Athletic Conference track and field titles, three-time NCAC Coach of the Year Clyde Morgan received from his seniors (the first class he recruited at Wabash) a photo of the group and a baton signed by them all. On the plaque the seniors had inscribed "Coach Morgan's Quotes to Live By," including this:

"Success always looks easy to those who weren't around when it was being earned."

(Pictured are seniors Jimmy Kervan, Vann Hunt, Jake Waterman, John Haley, Billy Rosson, Chet Riddle, Matt Knox, Joe Granger, and Evan Groninger.)

—photo by Kim Johnson