



Wabash.

M A G A Z I N E



GIANT THANKS

THE JOURNAL OF WABASH COLLEGE | FALL 2023





Every student here is the recipient of a great gift from Giant Steps. Giant Steps has built new buildings on this campus. It has created countless new scholarship funds. It has generated several new endowed professorships. It has developed entirely new academic programs in philosophy, politics, and economics (PPE) and computer science. It has allowed us to endow the immersion learning program that touches every department on campus. The effect of Giant Steps is impossible to overstate. It has assured the future of Wabash College.

Wabash College President Scott Feller

CONTENTS

FEATURES

34
Giant Finish

42
**The Life-Changing Power
of a Scholarship**
by Allie Northcutt

50
Immersed
by Kim Johnson

56
Embrace
by Kim Johnson

62
**Investing in Today's
Educators**
by Allie Northcutt

66
**Building a Stronger
Wabash**
by Jim Amidon '87

70
**Forward to 2032
and Beyond**
*by Michelle Janssen
and Joe Klen '97*



Wabash.

M A G A Z I N E

**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND EDITOR,
WABASH MAGAZINE**

Kim Johnson | 765-361-6209 | johnsonk@wabash.edu

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND MEDIA RELATIONS
Richard Paige | 765-361-6377 | paiger@wabash.edu

ART DIRECTOR
Becky Wendt | 765-361-6026 | wendtb@wabash.edu

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST
Allie Northcutt | 765-361-6067 | northcua@wabash.edu

CONTENT PRODUCER AND SOCIAL MEDIA SPECIALIST
Julia Moravec | 765-361-6087 | moravecj@wabash.edu

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT AND PROJECT MANAGER
Stephanie Cain | 765-361-6369 | cains@wabash.edu

ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
Brent Harris '03 | 765-361-6165 | harrishb@wabash.edu

DIRECTOR OF CINEMATOGRAPHY AND DIGITAL VIDEO
Andrew Day | 765-361-6390 | daya@wabash.edu

WEBSITE EDITOR AND BROADCAST ENGINEER
Adam Phipps '11 | 765-361-6251 | phippsa@wabash.edu

DEAN FOR COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT
Michelle Janssen | 765-361-6152 | janssenm@wabash.edu

DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI AND AFFINITY GROUP ENGAGEMENT
Ron Dostal | 765-361-6050 | dostalr@wabash.edu

**CHIEF OF STAFF AND DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATIONS**
Jim Amidon '87 | 765-361-6364 | amidonj@wabash.edu

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS Jim Amidon '87,
Jeremy Bitterman, Bowstring, Stephanie Cain, Jeremiah Clayton '26,
Andrew Day, Grayson Dunn '25, Elijah Greene '25, Brent Harris '03,
Kim Johnson, Julia Moravec, Allie Northcutt, Richard Paige,
Anna Tiplick, Becky Wendt, Eric Wetzel

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION 765-361-6405 / 800-345-5385

WABASH ALUMNI CLUBS 765-361-6369

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD
Greg Britton '84, *Editorial Director, Johns Hopkins University Press*;
Tim Padgett '84, *America's Correspondent, WLRN-Miami Herald*;
Eric Freeze, *Associate Professor of English*;
Richard Elson '69, *filmmaker*;
Mark Shreve '04, *Client Development Executive, Educator Advisory Board*

Wabash Magazine is published by the
Communications and Marketing Office,
Hovey Cottage, P.O. Box 352, Crawfordsville, IN 47933-0352.
We welcome your comments, criticisms, and suggestions.
Contact the editor at 765-361-6209 or johnsonk@wabash.edu.

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

wabash.edu/magazine

DEPARTMENTS

- 8 From the Editor**
- 12 From Center Hall**
- 14 Moments**
- 20 Works in Progress** | Joe Barnett '24 | Declan Chhay-Vickers '26
- 26 Speaking of Sports** | Andre Aguilera '25 | Liam Thompson '24
- 74 Class Notes** | Challenge Accepted by Nolan Eller '11
| Now I Get It by Jim Hawksworth '95
| A Giant Step for Jasmine by Ron Dostal '92
- Remembrances** | Dale Milligan '49 | William Irwin Garrard '54
| John Gibbs '63 | John O. Marlowe '79 | John Dimos '85
| Terrance Anthony Pigues '15
- 93 Faculty & Staff Notes** | Collective Giving Honors Wabash Legends
- 100 Last Glance**

ABOUT THE COVER

Hundreds of students came out to say thanks to the donors of the Giant Steps Campaign. Meet a few who have benefited from your generosity.

1. Liam Krueger '27 from Columbus, Indiana, intends to major in rhetoric. He is a member of Beta Theta Pi and involved with the Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship (CIBE).

2. Preston Parker '26 is a history major from Logansport, Indiana. He is a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies (MXIBS), and the Glee Club. In addition, Parker is the comic artist for The Bachelor and a Writing Center consultant. Read about Parker's immersion experience in the Baltics on page 50.

3. Max Rosa '26, a rhetoric major with a passion for business, is a member of Phi Delta Theta, La Alianza, the MXIBS, and the football and track and field teams.

He works as a server for Bon Appetit and at the MXIBS as a junior supervisor. Learn more about the Ridgewood, New York, native on page 42.

4. Don Silas '24 is a chemistry major from Brookville, Indiana. He is a member of Delta Tau Delta and a Public Health Organization fellow. Silas has been part of the live broadcast team for all four years and is currently broadcast director. His work can be seen regularly on wabash.edu/live.

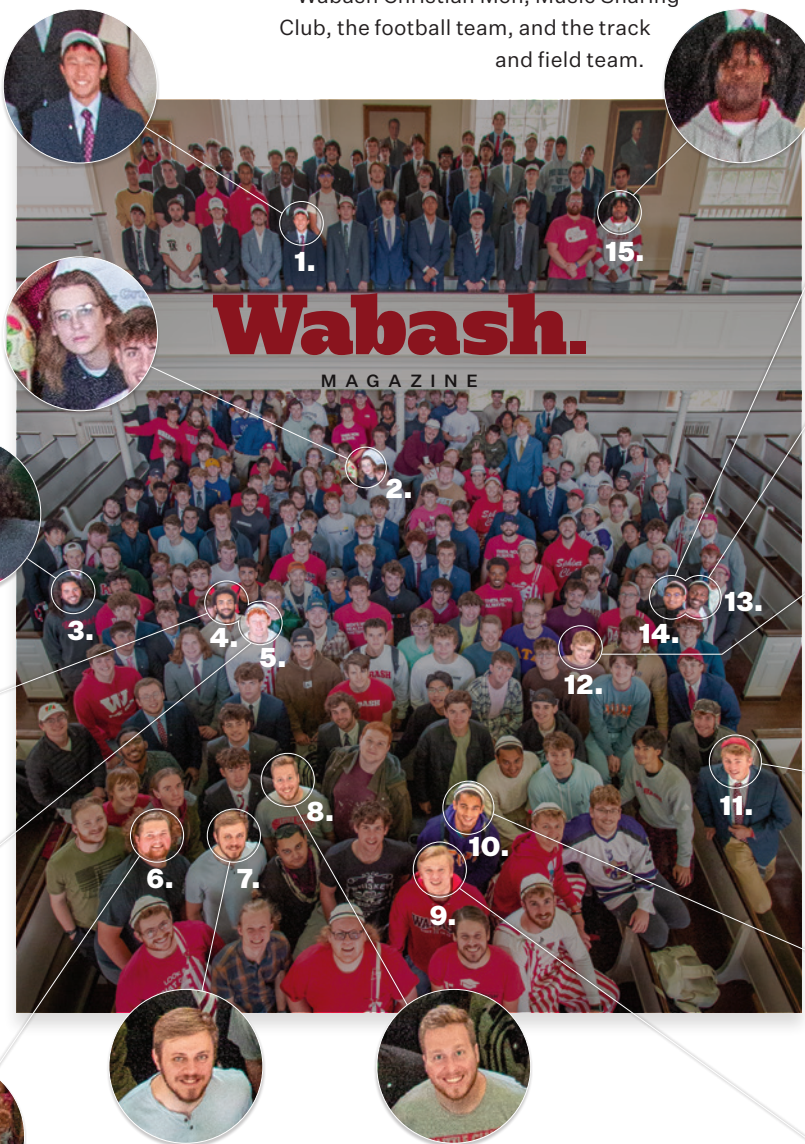
5. Jake Oostman '25, from Crown Point, Indiana, is a member of Delta Tau Delta, the track and field team, and Sphinx Club. He is majoring in financial economics and enjoys fishing.

6. Elijah Greene '25 is from Pine Village, Indiana, and a double major in biology and Classics. He will spend the spring semester studying in Greece. Greene is the photo editor for The Bachelor, and in his second year as a multimedia content creator for Communications and Marketing. Greene's photography and writing can be seen throughout the pages of this and past editions of WM.

7. Logan Weilbaker '25 is a theater and Classics double major. He is managing editor for The Bachelor and a writing fellow. The Scottsburg, Indiana, native is involved in Sons of Wabash and Scarlet Masque and played the lead, Nick Bottom, in the musical "Something Rotten!" Learn more about the entire cast in the next issue of WM.

8. Hayden Kammer '24, from Schererville, Indiana, is a psychology major. He is involved in theater (including a part in the recent musical "Something Rotten!"), Glee Club, Dork Club, the Newman Center, the Independent Men's Association, and Scarlet Masque. Kammer is also a writer for The Bachelor.

15. Quinn Sholar '26, from Indianapolis, is double majoring in economics and art. He is a brother of Delta Tau Delta and is involved with the MXIBS, CIBE, SAAC, L.E.A.D, APPLE Team, Leadership Academy, Wabash Christian Men, Music Sharing Club, the football team, and the track and field team.



14. Jacob Ramirez '25 is a biology major from Alamo, Texas. He is a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, where he serves as the philanthropy and alumni chairs. Ramirez is president of La Alianza,



a Trippet Hall student manager, secretary of the Environmental Concerns Committee, and a member of Sons of Wabash.

13. Alex Ngaba '24, from Indianapolis, is majoring in art. He is a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, Sphinx



Club, African Student Association, Outdoor Club, and former member of the Investment and Boxing clubs. Ngaba was featured on the cover of the Fall 2022 edition of WM.

12. Ayden Lutes '26 is a chemistry and Spanish double major from Naperville, Illinois. He plays the trumpet in the jazz band, is an athletic training aide, and is a



research assistant for Chemistry

Professor Joe Scanlon '03. He is also a member of the wrestling team, where he was one of seven wrestlers from the 2022–23 squad to receive Scholar All-America recognition from the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA). Read more about Lutes on page 42.



11. Evan Neukam '25 is a financial economics major from Carmel, Indiana. He is a member of the baseball team, and Beta

Theta Pi, where he is currently the treasurer. He is also involved with the CIBE, Student Senate, and Sphinx Club.



10. Thomas Joven '24, a member of Phi Gamma Delta from Indianapolis, is majoring in physics. He is a

member of the Sphinx Club and is planning to attend law school after Wabash.



9. Luke Fincher '24 is majoring in history. The Logansport, Indiana, native is a member of Phi Gamma

Delta, is president of the Glee Club, and is involved with the Newman Center and theater. Fincher most recently played Nigel Bottom in the theater department's season opener, "Something Rotten!"

Dudley Miller Remembrance

I was saddened to read in the Spring edition of the passing of Dudley Miller '78. My acquaintance with Dudley was brief, but because he and Wabash took a chance on me, the course of my life was forever changed.

I met Dudley in the fall of 1981 at a college fair in Springfield, Illinois. I stopped by the Wabash booth where Dudley was stationed, and he struck up a conversation. I had never heard of Wabash until that moment, and I certainly had not entertained the idea of attending a men's college. But Dudley's enthusiasm for Wabash and low-key manner struck me. I went home that evening and showed my parents the College's informational material. I felt Wabash might be the college for me. Of course, a campus visit a few months later sold me and my parents on Wabash.

There was, however, a snag in our plans. The Enrollment Office was not sold on me! My high school record suggested I would not flourish taking Division I courses. I remember Dudley calling my parents and me to discuss the concerns and whether I could make it at Wabash. After receiving many letters of reference, Dudley and Wabash took a chance and accepted me. This was a life-altering moment. How I managed to pass Dr. Cole's introductory biology course is still a mystery.

I received an outstanding liberal arts education that prepared me for law school and a 34-year—and counting—legal career. I made lifelong friendships, traveled the world, and met and married the love of my life, Rasha. None would have happened without Dudley and Wabash. For these and many more blessings, I will be forever indebted.

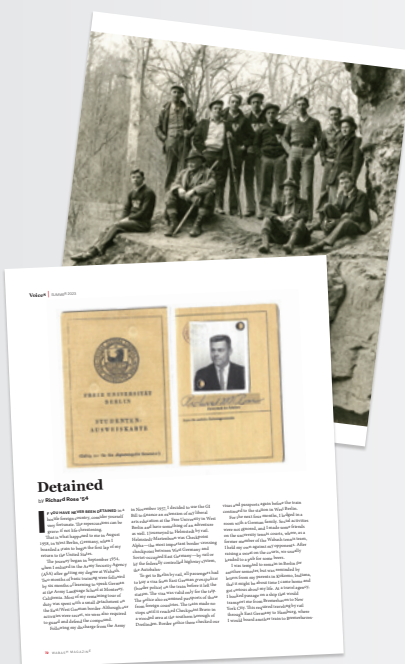
I last saw Dudley on May 18, 1986, at Commencement. I remember that he made a point of finding me, shaking my hand, and congratulating me. He said I had done well. I will always remember his kindness and what he made possible for me and, undoubtedly, many other Wabash men.

Thank you, Dudley. Thank you, Wabash.

H. Allen Yow '86

Study Camp

The Summer 2023 edition included two particularly interesting articles for me, "Detained," the dangerous experience of my fellow classmate, Dick Rose, in East Germany, and "Senior Study Camps," which brought me back to my own Turkey Run study camp.



We studied long and hard for senior comps and at the same time got to know several of our professors. Like Byron Trippet, I, too, remember this study camp as a high point in my total undergraduate experience.

Warren Howe '54

Please Do

GREW UP KNOWING the importance of giving. My parents gave regularly to our church and generously supported school activities. They spent many hours serving on committees and behind the scenes. Every day I discover more and more places and people they have given to and continue to dedicate themselves to.

I try to emulate what they taught me: If you have, you give. If you can, you do.

My husband has spent 20-plus years leading nonprofit organizations in our community. It is hard work. It takes a lot of people giving dollars and time to keep these vital agencies moving forward. And in a period of steep inflation or economic downturn, when individuals have to tighten budgets to keep their families moving forward, nonprofits always feel pinched. People who have less or are spending more often give less to nonprofits. On top of that, when nonprofits have to pay more for supplies, their buying power plummets.

It's easy to see that on a small scale in an organization with a handful of staff and an annual budget of \$500,000. Every penny counts. A raise in someone's salary means fundraising more or serving fewer. And that's when the furnace and plumbing work properly. There is little wiggle room for surprises.

It isn't any different at Wabash. The numbers are simply bigger. Sometimes bigger numbers make it easier to downplay the need or to say, "Look how big the endowment is. They don't need my gift."

I HAD BEEN AT WABASH just a year in 2008 when there was a major economic downturn. There was one particular staff community meeting during that time that was the most formative to my understanding how the College operates.

Then-Chief Financial Officer Larry Griffith walked us through the College's endowment, how tuition is set, and how merely changing the number of students we

admit or "just going after full-pay" students 1.) isn't as easy as it sounds, 2.) ultimately does not work, and 3.) runs counter to the mission of Wabash to admit *all* students who can succeed and thrive, regardless of means.

An endowment is similar to an individual or family's dollars set aside and/or invested in markets to hopefully gain a positive return. A savings account or certificate of deposit is generally stable but has a lower interest yield. Various markets like stocks and bonds or real estate may have a much higher yield but may also involve more risk. Usually less so over a greater amount of time—so there's a lot of risk in putting all my savings in markets and pulling it out in six months versus letting it continue to ebb and flow for the next 60 years.

How do we know where to invest our dollars to ensure the gain outpaces the amount we need to live and offsets inflation? Well, we don't know for absolute sure that inflation won't be 9% or there won't be a pandemic.

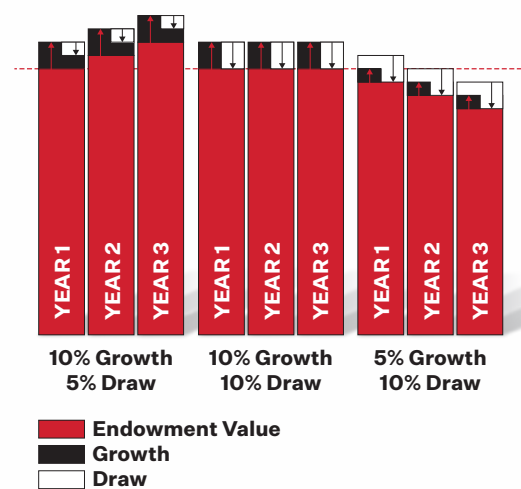
This is where I like to let the experts guide me—just as the College relies on experts like the treasurer, trustees, and the College's outsourced chief investment management firm, Strategic Investment Group, who study and know the trends and warning signs.

The College uses a 12-quarter rolling average to determine how much from the endowment gets allocated to the annual budget (the draw). This means the draw rate is determined by the prior 12 quarters (three years). Using an average value of the endowment over time helps smooth out quarterly blips in either direction in the market.

President Scott Feller goes into more detail in his column on the next pages about the College's work to continue to push down the total draw rate—much of which has been done in my time here. It has required sacrifices from everyone.

Currently, the Wabash College endowment has an approximate value of \$371 million.

Simply put, if through investments, we gain 10% but only spend 5%, our endowment continues to grow year over year. If we gain 10% and spend 10%, our endowment stays the same—assuming no inflation (which we cannot assume). If we spend 10% of our endowment's value after an annual gain of just 5%, the endowment decreases.



Easy, right? There are three ways to grow the endowment: better yield from our investments, decreased draw (by spending less in the annual budget and/or increasing the immediate income to the budget), and increased giving to the endowment.

To increase revenue to fund the annual operating budget, we can apply for more grants (we are), increase tuition (we are, but 98% of our students receive financial assistance), and increase our Annual Fund contributions (you can!!).

Wabash is blessed to have a wonderful network of alumni and friends—48 of whom made gifts of \$1 million or greater during the Giant Steps Campaign, of which \$40 million went directly to growing the endowment.



photo by Anna Tiplick

An additional \$103 million is deferred as part of planned gifts and bequest commitments.

A gift doesn't have to grow the endowment to make a difference. Wabash is also blessed to have a wonderful network of alumni and friends—9,132 of whom made gifts of less than \$1,000 during the Giant Steps Campaign. It takes a \$20,000 investment in the endowment to generate annual income of \$1,000. So, someone who makes an unrestricted gift of \$1,000 to the campaign or Annual Fund is making an impact *today* and allows the College to leave the endowment to grow and increase next year's revenue, and the next year's, in perpetuity.

When it comes down to giving, the big questions a lot of people ask are: do I feel a connection to the organization, and are

my dollars being used wisely? Only you can answer the first question. I will say, however, that I wish I felt even a quarter of the connection to my alma mater that many of you feel toward Wabash—that even I feel toward Wabash.

If you no longer feel connected, how can we change that? Come back—even if you never give a dollar. See for yourself what's happening at this little college with a giant footprint. Let us help you remember what drew you here in the first place.

Are your dollars being used wisely? That's what this issue of Wabash Magazine is all about. The stories introduce you to a few of the people, programs, and places supported by the generous gifts from the Giant Steps Campaign. Regardless of the size of your

gift and the date you give it, you can be sure it will make a difference. We are an institution that educates young men. In turn, they become better sons, spouses, partners, fathers, and citizens, which means we are all recipients of the gifts of a Wabash education.

If you have, please give. If you can, please do.

Kim Johnson | Editor
johnsonk@wabash.edu





I think the biggest thing I would share with Chase Family Scholarship recipients would be for them to not feel like they have to do anything for it other than just what they're doing—keep working hard and keep enjoying their Wabash experience. What we wanted to do is take out the financial burden of being on campus so they can fully experience it and not be stressed when it's not necessary.

Nicole Chase, Wabash Women's Collective member and co-benefactor of the Chase Family Scholarship

The Noble Traditions We Inherit

THIS ISSUE of Wabash Magazine celebrates the incredible generosity of the alumni and friends of our College in the Giant Steps Campaign. These are achievements worth celebrating. Indeed, if we look objectively at our accomplishments, it is appropriate to pause and marvel at what transpired over the past five years. We set an audacious goal to raise \$225 million. We blew past that on the way to \$250 million. And let's not lose sight of the fact that we did all that with a pandemic and presidential leadership shift inserted unexpectedly in the middle of the process.

People ask me all the time what my view is of the impact of Giant Steps on our College. My answer is that it should inspire each of us—during a time when the national conversation about higher education is so negative—to see that Wabash is a college whose best days are ahead of it. We should be rightly proud of the lives transformed in the past, but we should be pushed to move ahead in service of the young men who will become alumni during our third century. We can and must move forward even during difficult times for colleges and universities.

While Giant Steps has had immediate and transformational impact on our campus—from new majors to opportunities for immersion learning to the beautiful Little Giant Stadium—the greater impact will be on the students, faculty, and staff who learn, live, and work at Wabash in

the decades to come. To achieve the full potential of this incredible philanthropy, we must dedicate ourselves to being responsible stewards of these gifts.

Giant Steps has been the focus of our outward-facing engagement and philanthropy, but back on campus we have been working just as hard to improve our operations in ways that contribute to our long-term success and, in particular, our financial position. Perhaps the best example of that work has been our reduction of the endowment draw—the annual withdrawals we take to support the operational costs of the College.

We reduced the endowment draw to 5.5% and have held at that level for several consecutive years. This has the effect of leaving \$3 million to \$4 million annually invested in the endowment that previously was being spent just to run the College. Reducing spending and identifying additional revenue has been challenging work—requiring sacrifice and creativity across campus—but the payoff over the long run will be substantial.

Because the endowment is so central to the College's financial model, we chose to identify a new partner to manage the endowment just prior to the launch of Giant Steps. Strategic Investment Group now serves as our outsourced chief investment officer (OCIO). They manage a few dozen clients with endowments totaling about \$20 billion. The OCIO model allows us to

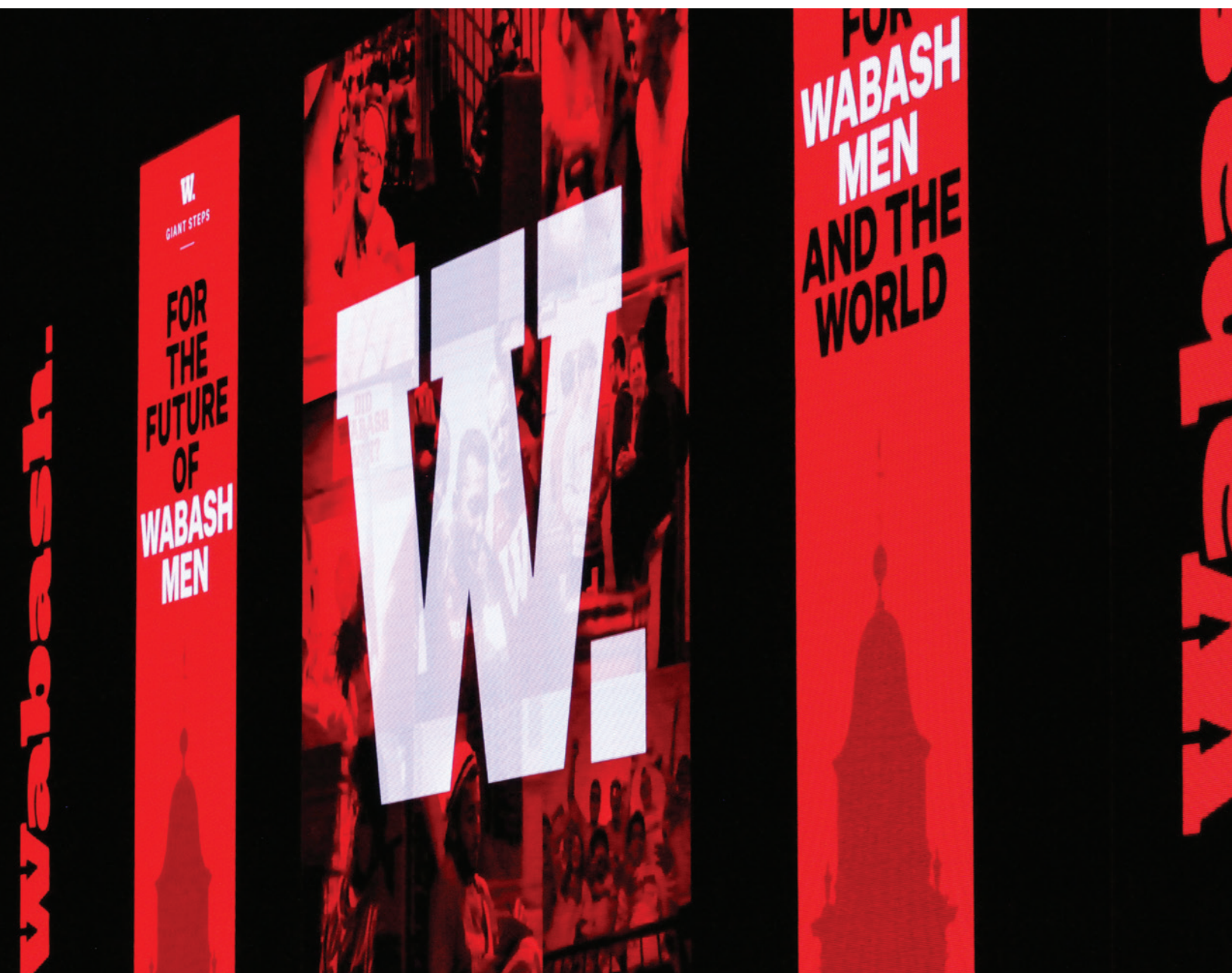
combine Strategic's expertise and investment opportunities with our unique needs as an endowment-driven institution.

The partnership between Strategic and the Board of Trustees' Investment Policy Committee is paying off handsomely. Our recently completed review of performance showed that during the past seven years of their management, endowment returns (net of fees) have exceeded the benchmark by \$14.1 million. Additional favorable returns have been generated by choosing the appropriate long-term asset allocation and then regularly rebalancing to that asset allocation through market cycles.

It's important to share these examples of our financial stewardship as a counterbalance to the prevailing, negative discourse focused on colleges and universities in this country. Every week I read another article on higher education in the national press that causes me to say, "The picture they are painting is unrecognizable to me."

In August, my frustration with the media portrayal of higher education reached a new high when I read a Wall Street Journal article titled, "Colleges Spend Like There's No Tomorrow. 'These Places Are Just Devouring Money.'" I was especially bothered by the headline given that the story examined seven public flagship universities—and not a single college.

We should be rightly proud of the lives transformed in the past, but we should be pushed to move ahead in service of the young men who will become alumni during our third century.



I am grateful that the Chicago Tribune published and syndicated my critique of the Wall Street Journal piece. I invite you to read it online but will share just one bit of data I used to make the point that broad generalizations about colleges and universities often don't apply to Wabash College.

The Wall Street Journal's criticism of university spending was based on comparing budgets in inflation-adjusted dollars from 2002 to 2022. While some universities did have dramatic increases in their budgets,

I was able to show that Wabash had no such increase. In fact, our budget slightly decreased in today's dollars.

I don't want to imply that holding costs constant is virtuous or the best choice for every institution. I suspect that many flagship universities are called upon to do things today that weren't expected of them 20 years ago.

It is my hope that Giant Steps allows us to make some necessary investments in Wabash's people, places, and programs over

the coming years. And I can promise you that those investments will be made with full consideration of our responsibility as stewards of your philanthropy and the noble traditions we inherit.



Scott Feller

Scott Feller | President
fellers@wabash.edu



Wabash Wrap-up: A Look Back



- 1. The Wabash Liberal Arts Immersion Program** (WLAIP) held its monthlong summer institute. WLAIP's continued impact on graduation and retention rates inspired an anonymous foundation to establish a \$1 million endowment helping secure the long-term support of the program.
- Wabash hosted a variety of summer camps. Funded by the Restoring Hope, Restoring Trust grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., **Pathway to Your Future** (PTYF) participants engaged with Wabash faculty and students in hands-on learning, including an immersion experience in Indianapolis, networking with alumni, and learning from civic and business leaders. **Liberal Arts at Play** (LAAP) was a weeklong camp for high school boys interested in a career in sports funded by the Indiana Youth Programs on Campus Initiative from Lilly Endowment Inc. Camp participants were led by Wabash faculty and staff and alumni through sessions about current issues in sports.
- Sixteen **international alumni** from countries including Bangladesh, Pakistan, Vietnam, Greece, and Gambia returned to Wabash for a reunion celebration.
- Wabash Club of Indianapolis** (WCOI) held its annual Back to School Bash at the home of **Drs. Will '93 and Julie Fecht** and co-hosted with **Dr. Rob '92 and Leigh Rudicel**. The 18 freshmen and their parents were welcomed by alumni and other members of the Wabash community.
- Wabash officially welcomed the Class of 2027 at the **Ring In Ceremony** in August. Orientation continued for three days and included a tour of Crawfordsville, community service, and learning about academic support services, health services, career services, Wabash traditions, and the Gentleman's Rule.
- Upon returning to campus, Wallies were welcomed at the **Back to Bash celebration** with games, music, and food trucks on the mall and a special downtown farmers market featuring Wabash organizations and photos with the city's favorite mascot!
- Communications and Marketing collaborated with Career Services and Alumni Engagement to offer **professional headshots and a session on how to dress for success**.
- Wabash Fine Arts** hosted artists **Marina Kuchinski** and **Carrie Newcomer**. In addition to sharing her exhibit, Kuchinski gave a demonstration in Art Professor **Annie Strader's** ceramics class. Newcomer, a singer and songwriter, performed a concert, spent time in classes, and collaborated with the Glee Club to write a new song.
- The Little Giant football** team clashed with Division I Butler University. Members of Woodland Heights Christian Church in Crawfordsville passed out cookies to the team as it left campus. The WCOI hosted a pregame tailgate. The fan spirit in the stadium had the Bulldogs seeing scarlet.
- The President's Distinguished Speaker Series** welcomed neurologist and nationally recognized sleep expert **Dr. Chris Winter** and creator of the Media Bias Chart **Vanessa Otero** to campus. In addition to giving public evening talks, both spent time in classes and met with small groups of students, faculty, and staff.
- Career Services** hosted alumni from Eli Lilly for their annual recruiting event for Lilly's finance and marketing internships. It has been one of the largest annual employer events on campus for the past decade.
- Several **community engagement events** took place throughout the fall, including a 5K run, a Homecoming royalty competition, a softball tournament, and a swim-a-thon.
- Many **cultural activities** took place on campus, including the Tea Culture Club consilk tea tasting, the Chinese Club Mid-Autumn Festival, and a Chapel Talk by La Alianza members focused on Hispanic Heritage Month.
- Wabash **student-athletes** on the football, basketball, and track and field teams visited students at Hose and Nicholson Elementary schools for lunch and games.
- Members of the **Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies (MXIBS)** heard from **Bob Knowing '77, Kevin Chavous '78, and Eugene Anderson '83** about preparing for life after Wabash.
- The 43rd Annual **LaFollette Lecture**, "Glory and the Dove Tail," was presented by Religion Professor **Derek Nelson '99**.
- Students, faculty, and staff filled the **Off-Campus Study and Study Abroad Fair** to learn from organizations about summer- and semester-long programs worldwide.
- Students interested in majoring in **mathematics, computer science, and physics** were treated to food and games by the departments' faculty. The physics department won the epic three-way tug-of-war contest.
- Members of **'shOUT**, Wabash's LGBTQ+ alliance, celebrated LGBTQ+ History Month by decorating the mall with pride flags and hosting various events, like quaffing, to bring awareness and honor the ongoing history of queer and trans rights.
- Soccer** fans celebrated a goal against DePauw University.

GOING DOWN THE HOLE



Wab



ash.

COLLEGE

Homecoming Alumni Chapel Award Winners



Ronald J. Dostal '92
Alumni Career Services Fellow

Jeffery H. Birk '77
*Fredrick J. Urbaska
Distinguished
Civic Service Award*



David Miller
*Honorary Alumnus
in the Class of 2005*

John M. Castro '97
*Alumni Admissions
Fellow*



Gary D. Reamey '77
*Frank W. Misch Alumni
Distinguished Service Award*

Howard E. Hallengren
*Honorary Alumnus
in the Class of 2012
(Not in attendance)*

Bryce C. Chitwood '08
*Jeremy R. Wright Distinguished
Young Alumnus Award
(Not in attendance)*

Alonzo Weems '92
*Clarence A. Jackson Distinguished
Career Achievement Award
(Not in attendance)*



“

Homecoming is a glorious day when we have so much to celebrate—our brotherhood, philanthropy, athletics, and the arts. Thank you for coming home to be a part of it.

Welcome back to Wabash, everyone.
Welcome home.”

President Scott Feller at Homecoming Alumni Chapel





The Long and the Short

by Kim Johnson

Mile after mile, day after day, Joe Barnett '24 goes the distance. He knows he'll get there, even if he doesn't always know exactly where *there* is.

THE ONLY RACE distance runner Joe Barnett '24 ever won in high school was at an indoor meet at Wabash College. The connection he made with the coaches that day ultimately led him to become a member of the "Red Pack" cross country team.

"Running is one of the things I truly love," says Barnett. "I started running when I was in sixth grade. It's such a measurable sport. The more work you put in, the faster you get—especially when you start out. I got hooked on that. I love competing. I love pushing myself and trying to be the best I can be."

Day after day it can be challenging to commit to putting in the work it takes as a distance runner, but Barnett says there has never been a day when he didn't want to go to practice or run on his own.

"Running is just as much a competitive sport for me as it is a hobby," he says. "So some days, I'm knocking out a workout because it's important to improve my fitness to be able to beat a lot of people. Then other days, I'm just out on a run because it is what I like to do. That helps. It's why I'm able to do it day after day, because I'm not always focused on that superintense competitive side."

Barnett has learned patience through running—or not running.

"I have spent a lot of time injured," says the runner, who was named NCAC Cross Country Athlete of the Week during the fall season. "I've always had big goals for myself, but some of those goals had to wait a couple years since I got delayed with injuries."

Coach Tyler McCreary admires Barnett's fortitude.

"What most impresses me about Joe is his quiet strength. He is a guy who is always doing the right thing and leading by example," says McCreary. "Joe never needs the push or external motivation to do what needs to be done. It's all internal for



photo by Brent Harris H'03

him. He has fought through a number of injuries since high school to get where he is today, which is one of the best runners in the conference. None of it was easy and none of it happened by accident."

Knowing he'll get there eventually keeps Barnett focused.

"You have to have the long-term picture in mind at all times, and you get there by hitting your short-term goals. It's important to think, 'I have this setback now, but I'm eventually going to get there.' That patience has taught me to show up every day and do what I can to make sure that day has something beneficial come out of it."

Being able to see the long view has translated to other parts of Barnett's life, too.

The senior philosophy, politics, and economics (PPE) major came to Wabash knowing the career path he wanted to follow, but the more he has learned, the broader his interests have become.

"I'm studying PPE because that's what a lot of pre-law guys do," Barnett says. "I found I love my major, but I'm not as sure I want to become a lawyer. That's OK. I'm learning and developing so much in intangible ways. I trust that whatever I end up doing, I'm going to be prepared for it."

Barnett, a recipient of the Chase Family Scholarship, calls PPE a "great exercise of problem-solving" and credits his coursework

for making him more well-rounded.

"Being able to deeply think about an issue and look at all sides is an important life exercise," Barnett says, "much more practical than anything I ever thought I'd get out of the major I studied in college."

"Wabash has made me more open-minded because I can think through more complex issues. Some of that is also understanding why those issues exist. Problems aren't always easy to solve, but it's sometimes easy to see why they exist because of all the conflicting sides—even in everyday life. PPE has taught me to see those complexities."

His coursework, discipline as an athlete, and being a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity have taught him a lot about himself.

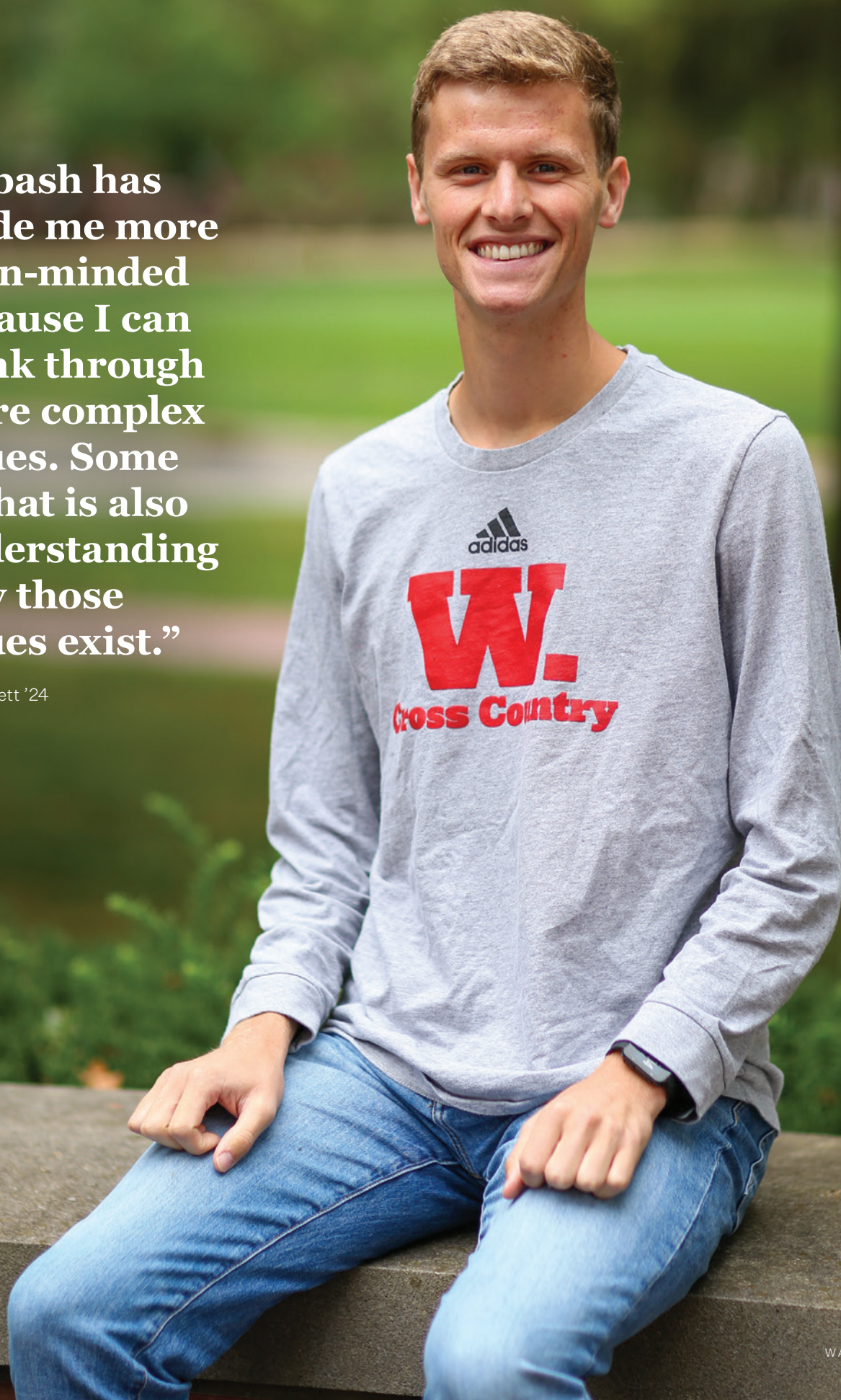
"It's made me a better member of society," Barnett says. "That's probably true for anyone who studies the liberal arts. That's the point of it—a huge reason to get educated."

"That's part of the maturity I have gained here. I've been challenged a lot. But the competence to be able to do difficult things, especially that conflict like 'Oh, maybe I don't want to follow that career path anymore,' was something I had to get past. I trust I'm headed somewhere. There's a good direction; I just don't know exactly where it's going to go." ■

photo by Kim Johnson

**“
Wabash has
made me more
open-minded
because I can
think through
more complex
issues. Some
of that is also
understanding
why those
issues exist.”**

Joe Barnett '24





Leading the Next Generation

by Allie Northcutt

WHY WABASH? For Declan Chhay-Vickers '26—an intelligent, outgoing kid from Chicago who could have easily attended many other schools closer to home—the answer is simple.

“It’s the relationships,” Chhay-Vickers says with a bright smile as he reflects on how far he’s already come over the past year and a half.

Chhay-Vickers knew he wanted to enroll at a school that fostered connections, as he believed those future relationships with professors, staff, and peers would be key to his learning, well-being, and overall success.

His first glimpse at those kinds of possibilities came when he met Kyle Vowell, senior associate director of regional admissions. As part of the Greater Chicagoland Initiative, funded by Walt '68 and Kathy Snodell, Vowell works as the College’s Chicago-based admissions counselor.

“Kyle was fantastic,” says Chhay-Vickers. “Out of all of the admissions representatives my dads and I met, Kyle was the most attentive. He genuinely seemed like he cared, which was a big thing for us.”

Chhay-Vickers says education was always important to his family, as both of his parents are college graduates—one immigrated from Cambodia and attended the University of Illinois and the other attended DePaul University.

“I knew my parents would support whatever I did,” he says, “but after meeting Kyle and learning more about the opportunities Wabash had to offer, I think they were happy to see me come here.”

HEATHER THRUSH, ASSOCIATE DEAN for student engagement and success, remembers being amazed by the grit and determination Chhay-Vickers displayed when he first arrived on campus.

“Very early in his freshman year, he was already more engaged than most,” Thrush says of the Snodell Scholar. “He’s incredibly intelligent, was very involved as a leader at his high school, already had an internship under his belt, and was very focused on his studies. He was ready for college. Not all students have that confidence.”

Kim King '99, assistant director of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies (MXIBS), echoed Thrush, recalling the first time he met Chhay-Vickers.

He was one of three students to join King and MXIBS Director and Dean for Professional Development Steven Jones '87 on a trip to Anderson, Indiana, to watch a production of “The Meeting,” an award-winning play about an imaginary meeting between Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X in 1965 in a hotel in Harlem during the height of the Civil Rights Movement.





Declan Chhay-Vickers '26 (center) joined MXIBS Director Steven Jones '87, MXIBS Assistant Director Kim King '99, Lance Williams '26, and Alfredo Mar '24 at a production of "The Meeting."

“

We want our students to be like him—approachable, conversational, inclusive—someone who values relationships.”

HEATHER THRUSH

“What struck me about Declan was—and still is—how true of a renaissance mind he is. That trip he was as comfortable talking about business interests and his long-term goals of investment banking and private equity as he was fine dining,” King says with a chuckle. “I’m listening to this freshman, and I’m thinking, ‘Who are you that you can have these seamless, seemingly different conversations?’ And it was only pertinent that all of that was happening against the backdrop of going to a play for which he volunteered, saying, ‘I want to seize this opportunity to learn.’”

“That is typical Declan,” King continues. “He’s always seizing an opportunity and going into activities with an inquisitive attitude and outlook on life—not the characteristics you’ll find in most young people.”

THRUSH AND KING SAY it was apparent that Chhay-Vickers came to Wabash open to new experiences and was eager to emerge as a leader.

And that’s exactly what he’s done.

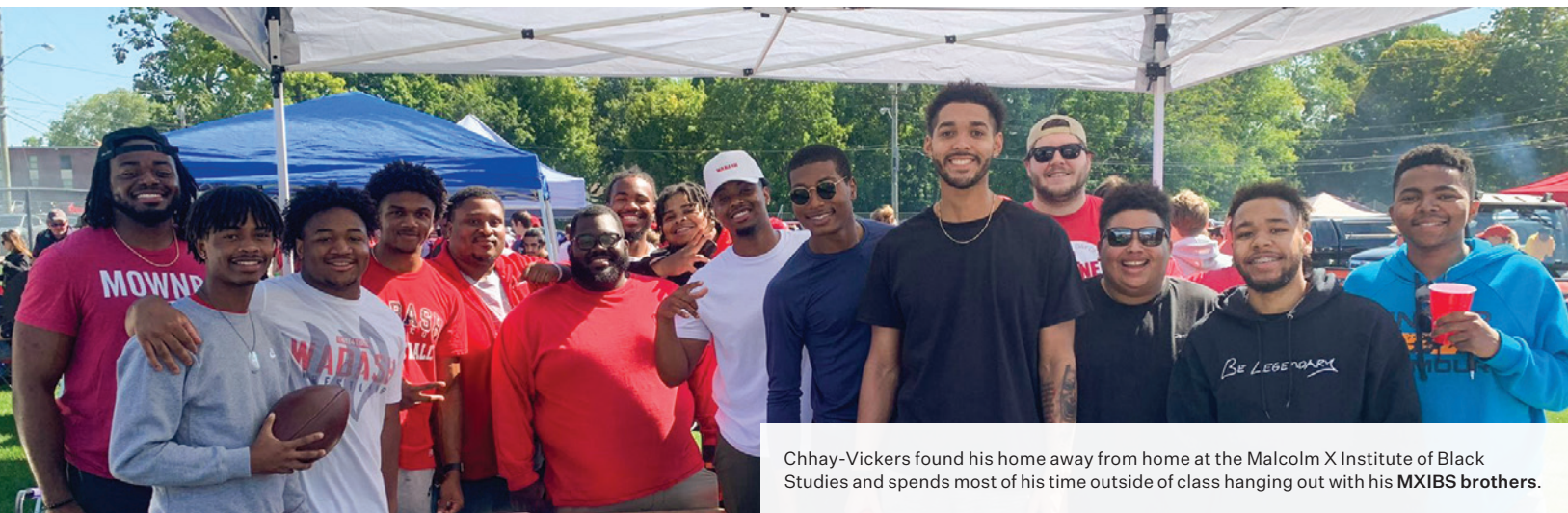
The financial economics major is an innovation consultant with the Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship and the vice president of the Investment Banking Association. He also serves as the MXIBS treasurer, an executive position usually held by upperclassmen.

“Being selected to serve as a Ram’s Horn is a great responsibility and has given me so many great opportunities, especially being a sophomore,” says Chhay-Vickers. “I want to do all I can in this leadership position to spread the MXIBS message further and help the institution get to a great place where I believe it can be.”

Chhay-Vickers was one of a small group of student leaders selected by Associate Dean of Students Marc Welch '99 to join administrators for a visit to Hampden-Sydney College this fall. While there, he attended dinner at the president’s home and met with other campus leaders and students to discuss similarities and differences between the two institutions in an effort to learn from each other.



Chhay-Vickers was one of 16 **Snodell Scholars** to meet with donor **Kathy Snodell** (wife of **Walt '68**) in 2022 during a scholarship reception in Chicago.



Chhay-Vickers found his home away from home at the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies and spends most of his time outside of class hanging out with his MXIBS brothers.

“The Hampton-Sydney trip was amazing,” says Chhay-Vickers. “I was honored to represent Wabash; it was something I never expected.”

He also got the chance to connect with the president of Hampden-Sydney’s Minority Student Union (MSU).

“I learned how they run the MSU, issues that have happened at the school, things they wish they would do differently,” he says, “and I hopefully cultivated a lasting relationship between the MSU and the MXIBS.”

CHHAY-VICKERS RETURNED from that trip energized and excited to share all he had discovered.

“He talked about how Hampden-Sydney’s Minority Student Union has a house where students can actually live together. He compared, contrasted, and analyzed how to make the social component of the MXIBS even more robust,” King explains. “He raised questions about Wabash’s history regarding conversations for historically Black fraternities. He talked about the Divine Nine, and how that might have an impact on student recruitment.”

“As a sophomore in college, he’s already thinking about future Wabash men,” says King, “and how he can leave the MXIBS better.”

That’s a goal of Chhay-Vickers, who says he found his “home away from home” at the MXIBS.

“I experienced a bit of a culture shock coming to Wabash. Chicago is very diverse with lots of people who look like me, and Crawfordsville is kind of the opposite,” Chhay-Vickers says. “I was one of the founders of my high school’s Black Student Union and I wanted to continue work that promoted diversity and inclusion, so I thought joining the MXIBS would be perfect for me.”

“When I went to the call-out, I sat next to a stranger who has become my best friend,” he says. “The MXIBS brotherhood is really special, unlike anything I’ve been a part of before. It’s made up of a great group of guys, some of the best on campus.”

Thrush says she has no doubt Chhay-Vickers, not even to the halfway point in his Wabash tenure, will continue to do great things at Wabash and leave a legacy that sets the example for the next generation of students.

“We want our students to be like him—approachable, conversational, inclusive—someone who values relationships with students, faculty, and staff,” she says. “I think he will be an alumnus that we will see again. He’ll be involved, mentor students, and pay forward some of the things that are being given to him now as a student.” ■

“
As a sophomore in college, he’s already thinking about future Wabash men and how he can leave the MXIBS better.”

KIM KING '99



Chhay-Vickers was one of two CIBE student leaders to give a presentation to the Wabash Board of Trustees this fall that focused on maintaining relationships with employers and what the future of work looks like.

CONNECTIONS

He came for the soccer and stayed for the culture.

by **Kim Johnson**

ANDRE AGUILERA '25 has been kicking around a soccer ball for as long as he can remember, and his mom has been his biggest cheerleader—even when he decided to move 1,200 miles from his home in Naples, Florida, to continue playing.

“Soccer brought me to Wabash,” Aguilera says. “I had a couple offers from other places. Wabash was a good academic choice and a good athletic choice. I visited and the culture here sold me.”

His mother motivated him to pursue college and to keep playing soccer. She immigrated to the U.S. from Bolivia when she was in her mid-20s, raised four kids, and started her own cleaning company.

“I grew up in a single-parent household. My mom would always take me and my siblings to and from practice,” says Aguilera. “After work, she would just be killing herself getting us to those places, and I owe it to her, all the sacrifices she has to make for us.”

“We butt heads a lot,” he continues. “But I know she really wants the best for me. Anyone who knows her knows how much she loves her kids and has seen her work so hard to give us better futures.”

Aguilera recalls that when he was a child, his mother went out of her way to give work to young people who were new to the country as she once was and insisted that her children invite people to their home to eat. Even though his family didn’t have a lot, she instilled in him the importance of seeing the need in others.

“There was always an open spot at the table for any guest,” he says. “That’s something I try to incorporate myself—always think about others and what they might be going through.”

“Sometimes I get flustered or frustrated at a game, but I try to take a step back and realize not everything is that deep, not everything is as serious as I might think it is. It gives me perspective.”

Wabash Soccer Head Coach Chris Keller says Aguilera has always been strong academically, but what stands out most is how he relates with people.

“He has the ability to connect with everybody,” Keller says. “Not just the best player or the popular guy or his group of friends, but even the guy at the tail end of the roster. He is a really likable guy. He’s always cognizant of how people are feeling.”

The political science major and economics minor has not decided on the exact career path he wants to pursue—perhaps working with a nonprofit organization in his home state—but he knows he wants to use the skills and connections he has gained at Wabash to help people.

“He realizes the opportunities Wabash has for him and he’s grabbing on to them,” Keller says. “Some kids say, ‘Where’s my job? Where are my alumni?’ He has sought them out himself.”

Aguilera was also one of the first students to receive the Paul “Robbie” Robinson Family Scholarship, established

“There was always an open spot at the table for any guest. That’s something I try to incorporate myself—always think about others and what they might be going through.”



during the Giant Steps Campaign with preference given to first-generation college students.

Along with soccer, the junior is a member of La Alianza and served as a Wabash Liberal Arts Immersion Program (WLAIP) mentor last summer.

“WLAIP was a full-circle moment,” Aguilera says. “My WLAIP mentors felt super old. It’s crazy to think I’m now in their shoes. It was nice to be able to connect with young guys who might have gone through the same things that I went through when I first got here.”

As for Maria Elva, his mom, it’s hard to have him far from home but she knows Wabash is where he needs to be.

“Having my son at Wabash is a great privilege for me,” she says. “He has the great opportunity to play what he is most passionate about and at the same time be able to be a great student. Being Andre’s mom brings me great pride. I am proud of Andre, his charisma, and above all, his nobility.” ■



Aguilera’s pregame ritual: After he tapes his wrists, he takes out his chain, gives it a kiss, says a prayer for his mom and family, and kisses his roommates on the forehead, (above left to right) Hayden Eaton ’25, Aguilera, Fernando Ramos ’25, and Bruno Zamora ’25.



Top: Aguilera and his mother, Maria Elva.
Above: Aguilera (in black cap) and the other Summer 2023 WLAIP mentors.



EASY

by Richard Paige

THERE IS NO HESITATION from Cooper Sullivan '24.

"Liam Thompson is a great quarterback," says Sullivan of the QB who is the three-time North Coast Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Year and led all NCAA Division III quarterbacks in passing yards per game and total offense in 2022.

Thompson '24 draws the focus of every opposing defense. Others are noticing, as well. The rhetoric major with a 3.86 grade point average was the only DIII quarterback on the preseason watch list for the Manning Award, which honors the nation's top player at that position. Thompson is also being mentioned as a candidate for the Gagliardi Trophy, given to the most outstanding DIII player in the country.

He was named a finalist for the National Football Foundation's William V. Campbell Trophy, presented annually to college football's premier scholar-athlete. As one of 16 finalists, and one of three from NCAA DIII, Thompson receives the Coach Lou Saban Scholar-Athlete Award and an \$18,000 postgraduate scholarship.

"He's a great person to be around," says Penn Stoller '24, a second-team All-American tight end in 2022. "He's always pushing us to be better, whether it's in the film room, weight room, or in practice. He's a commander on the field."

Ask the guys Thompson is closest to—the receivers and running backs—and they'll explain it about as succinctly as Sullivan. He's a strong communicator, obsessive in film study, open to critique, can extend plays, and runs like a running back. The additive effect is tough to beat.

There is constant chatter back and forth between the quarterback and his offense, making adjustments on the fly based on the flow of the game. The point is to keep the chains moving.

"We're communicating all the time," says wide receiver Derek Allen Jr. '24. "He's so good at knowing what everybody is supposed to do and where they are supposed to be, even if he sees something different before the snap, he'll communicate that. Everybody is on the same page."

This isn't a one-way street. The receivers hold Thompson accountable, whether it's recognizing coverages or missing a check-down. Thompson listens and makes the necessary alterations.

"That's one of the things that makes him great," says Sullivan, a three-time all-conference receiver. "If you say he missed something, he doesn't drop his head. He's open to anything and everything when it comes to feedback. He finds ways to turn those critiques into positives."

The constant communication goes hand-in-hand with the work. The repetition builds through the offseason, spring ball, fall camp, into game-week practices, and finally, to Saturday. There is an expectation created through all of that work that must be met when the play call comes in.

"Liam expects us to do our jobs at a high level," says wide receiver Jacob Riddle '24, "and he has his responsibilities, too. But there is an ease when you look in the backfield and see No. 2 back there."

That ease eventually becomes cohesion.

"We get so many reps together in practice, that come game time, I know where this ball is going to be on this play," says Sullivan, who is now the Wabash record holder for career receiving yards. "You already know what's coming."

The guys all agree that Thompson throws a ball that is easy to catch. "Every time he throws it, he hits me right in the chest," says running back Donovan Snyder '24.

"His ball zips," explains Riddle. "Sometimes, when the ball is damp, you can hear the laces spinning. That's cool because we know every pass is going to be on time."

It all adds up to an impressive offensive package. Thompson, who has tallied more than seven miles of total offense, owns 20 school or NCAC records. His teammates will be the first to tell you that the numbers are secondary.

"He never worries about stats, records, or himself, really," says Snyder. "He's always thinking about his teammates."

Sullivan adds, "He only wants to win games."

That focus was apparent in the team's final drive in the season opener at Hampden-Sydney. Trailing 28-21 with just over three minutes to play, Little Giant linebacker Jake Pasch forced a fumble and recovered it on the Hampden-Sydney 33-yard line.

From there, Thompson and the Wabash offense took over. The quarterback ran for seven yards on first down, completed a 10-yard pass to Snyder before connecting with Allen on a 16-yard scoring pass to cut the deficit to 28-27.

On the ensuing two-point conversion, Wabash ran a play it had practiced all week: a reverse to Riddle where he pulled up in the backfield and lofted a pass to Thompson in the end zone for the game-winning score.

"I saw that Liam was open and knew I was going to have to take a hit to get it to him," Riddle says. "Their safety was flying out to make a play on Liam, so when it left my hand, I was hoping it got there before the safety did. Luckily, it was enough. I knew Liam would make the grab."

Thompson on the receiving end of the play is a result of how he approaches the leadership baked into the position.

"As a quarterback, you have to be a leader," he says. "You have to elevate the play of others or bring your level of play up to the guys around you. At a place like Wabash, it's easy. We have really talented people at every position. It makes my job a whole lot easier." ■

Cross Country

The Wabash cross country team won its fourth North Coast Athletic Conference championship on October 28 in Granville, Ohio. Six Little Giants earned all-conference honors by finishing in the top-20 places as the squad cruised to victory by 19 points over runner-up Oberlin. It was the program's first conference title since 2014.

Brayden Curnutt '25 led Wabash with a ninth-place finish individually with a time of 26:21.9, just ahead of teammates **Drake Hays '24** and **Jacob Sitzman '25**, who finished 10th and 11th, respectively, with times of 26:22.8 and a career-best 26:30.5.

Just behind was **Haiden Diemer-McKinney '26** in 15th place in a time of 26:34.6, **Joe Barnett '24** in 17th place at 26:39.3, **Will Neubauer '25** in 20th place at 26:49.5, and **Justin Santiago '25** in 38th place at 27:31.0.

For Head Cross Country Coach Tyler McCreary, the title was a year in the making. "This championship was won 12 months ago," he says. "We came together after an undesirable result during the 2022 NCAC Championship and collectively made a decision to come out better on the other side of it. I'm not at all surprised by the result. I have had the pleasure of watching these guys grow and mature as runners and men, so seeing it come together for them in this way was wonderful."

Football

The Wabash football team had a record-setting year. Led by **Liam Thompson '24**, the three-time North Coast Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Year, the season was driven by each game having more records broken.

The Little Giants (7-3, 6-2 NCAC) marched through the season, averaging 493.5 yards of total offense per game, the second-highest figure in school history. The outstanding season came to a heartbreaking finish with a 33-30 double overtime loss to DePauw.

Along the way, Thompson rewrote the Wabash and NCAC record books. The quarterback from Indianapolis now holds 20 school or conference records, including total offense (12,900 yards), passing yards per game (272.0), and touchdowns (133).

Thompson's yardage total covers nearly 7.5 miles with an average gain of 4.4 yards per play in the 2,460 offensive plays run during the entirety of his career.

Other standout efforts include senior wide receivers **Cooper Sullivan '24** and **Derek Allen Jr. '24**. Sullivan finished his tenure as the Wabash career leader in receiving yardage (2,916), while Allen recorded the longest reception in school history—a 90-yard completion from Thompson on October 7 vs. Wooster.

That trio was among 13 players to earn all-conference honors. Joining them were: tight end **Penn Stoller '24**; offensive linemen **Cameron Ford '25**, **Kanon Kelley '25**, **Joe Mullin '24** and **Quinn Sholar '26**; defensive backs **Jake Pasch '26** and

Brock Robertson '26; linebacker **Gavin Ruppert '26**; defensive lineman **Steven Thomas '24**; and kicker **Brody Rucker '26**.

"This team was the hardest-working group in my 12 seasons here," says Head Football Coach Don Morel. "They have raised our work-ethic standard to a new level and will be responsible for many future Wabash victories."

Soccer

Jose Escalante '26 notched a hat trick in the final match of the season as the soccer team's season ended with a 5-0 blanking of Oberlin on October 28.

Escalante's hat trick was the 15th in program history. On the year, Escalante led the Little Giants in goals scored (9) and points (21) as the team finished with a 6-7-4 record (2-5-1 NCAC), missing the conference tournament for the first time since 2015.

A strong schedule and some untimely injuries hurt the club's progress. Four ties and three one-goal defeats indicate that a rebound in 2024 is probable.

In addition to Escalante, several players had solid seasons. A quartet of midfielders, **Jackson Grabill '24**, **Bruno Zamora '25**, **Emilio Paez '25**, and **Myles Bernat '26**, started in 61 of 63 combined appearances, collecting four goals and 15 points.

"Several guys had great years for us, including Grabill, Zamora, Paez, Escalante, and Bernat," says Head Coach Chris Keller. "I'm excited for all of these guys and the rest to come back even stronger next year."





Jose Escalante '26



Derek Allen Jr. '24 with his nephew, Tyren Moore, on Senior Day



No. 43 Owen Volk '25



Brayden Curnutt '25 (left) and Drake Hays '24



Myles Bernat '26



Evan Miller '26



Welcome to W.



Philanthropy is central to everything we do at Wabash College. At the simplest level, philanthropy provides about two-thirds of the College's budget, which means when a student and his family come here, on average, if they invest \$1 into this education, somebody they don't know throws \$2 on top. That's a value proposition that is rare in higher education.

Giant Steps has helped us be in a position where we can talk about what we want Wabash to be in 2032—when a lot of colleges are worried about how they're going to get through right now. The gift that Giant Steps gives the campus is the opportunity to have choices, to make our decisions about what we want Wabash to be, to set our own destiny.

It allows Wabash to pursue the change and innovation that it wants, rather than the change imposed upon it by external forces. Right now, a lot of colleges are being battered around. The gifts from Giant Steps have provided tremendous momentum that allows us to push through those headwinds, stay focused on our mission, and stay focused on our third century.

Wabash President Scott Feller

The background of the page is a photograph of the Wabash College building, featuring a prominent cupola with a weather vane. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent red overlay. The title "Giant Finish" is written in large, bold, white sans-serif font, centered in the upper half of the page.

Giant Finish

The Giant Steps Campaign was the largest and most audacious comprehensive fundraising campaign in Wabash College's 191-year history. The bold philanthropic spirit of Paul Woolls '75 and Betty O'Shaughnessy Woolls and their \$40 million unrestricted commitment launched the public phase of the campaign in 2018 and inspired members of the Wabash nation to take their own giant steps.

“As we were thinking about the needs, we knew we wanted to continue to deliver the educational product we’ve been delivering for the first 200 years,” says Jay Allen, chair of the Wabash College Board of Trustees. “We thought there were some key areas—most important scholarships. More and more students can’t afford the cost to go to school. So we needed to invest in scholarships. We needed to invest in some of the physical plant. We needed to invest in the faculty and the academic programs. And then we needed to provide the other aspects of an education, like immersion opportunities and learning abroad. And the answer to how do we do that, was to grow our endowment so we could fund these opportunities into the future.”

From the campaign’s quiet phase, which began in 2017, the Giant Steps Campaign raised more than \$250 million, surpassing the original goal of \$225 million. Gifts created an immediate effect on campus and will have a long-lasting impact on generations of Wabash men and the faculty, coaches, and staff who are the driving force behind all that our students achieve in and out of the classroom.

More than anything, Giant Steps created unrivaled momentum. Momentum for the men of Wabash. Momentum to carry the College forward into its third century and beyond.

Campaign Goal **\$225,000,000**

Amount Raised **\$250,638,714**

Equates to:

\$313,298 per student

(First in the North Coast Athletic Conference; seventh among national liberal arts colleges with campaigns in the same time frame)

\$17,903 per alumnus

(Second in the North Coast Athletic Conference; 19th among national liberal arts colleges with campaigns in the same time frame)

of Gifts 82,272

of Donors 12,029

of Households With Total Gifts:

- **\$10 Million +** 4
- **\$1 Million–\$10 Million** 44
- **\$1,000–\$1 Million** 2,849
- **Less Than \$1,000** 9,132

Outright Support Now \$147 million

Immediate Endowment Support \$40 million

Deferred Support \$103 million

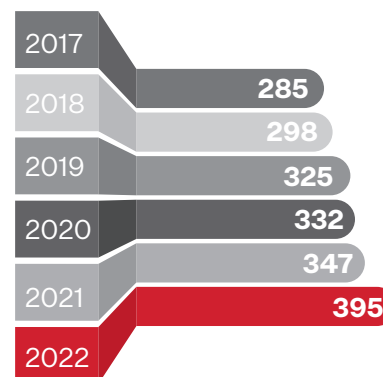
123 New Endowed Funds Established

- 81 new scholarship funds
- 36 new academic department, internship, special program, and immersion experience funds
- 6 new endowed professorships and faculty chairs
- 20 by graduates 1990 and younger
- 16 deferred

of funds at the College with gifts allocated to them during Giant Steps 471

of students who received named scholarships during Giant Steps

(Almost half of Wabash students now receive some type of named scholarship.)



New Initiatives or Centers Funded Through Gifts to Giant Steps

Giant Steps gifts further developed the co-curricular Wabash X initiatives; endowed Wabash's immersion learning program, which now provides every student with the potential for at least one immersive experience with a travel component at no additional cost; and generated additional internship opportunities and professional development experiences that exponentially "plus up" a student's liberal arts education.

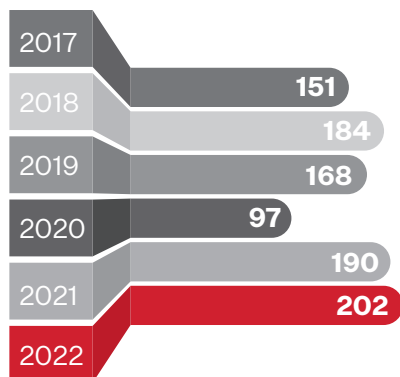
Wabash X Initiatives

- Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse Initiative (WDPD)
- Global Health Initiative (GHI)
- Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship (CIBE)
- Digital Arts and Human Values

Other Centers and Initiatives

- Stephenson Institute for Classical Liberalism
- Walsh Fund for Political Economy
- Wabash Women's Collective
- Wabash Liberal Arts Immersion Program (WLAIP)
- President's Distinguished Speaker Series (PDSS)
- Greater Chicagoland Initiative

of Summer Student Internships Funded by Wabash



of Students Participating in a Course With an Immersive Travel Component

2016–17: 100+
2017–18: 118
2018–19: 100+
2019–20*: 55
2021–22**: 96
2022–23***: 76

*The pandemic caused the cancelation of immersion course travel to China, Germany, Italy, Tennessee, and Peru. In a normal spring semester, approximately 120 students engage in immersive travel.

**Wabash supported an additional 55 student experiences (112 international and 39 domestic) through semester-long off-campus study or summer international internship/research experiences.

***Wabash supported an additional 37 student opportunities through semester-long off-campus study or summer international internship/research experiences.

Students Who Have Participated in WLAIP Summer Intensive

154 (total from six years)

of Giant Steps Events

- 31 Regional Giant Steps Events (2018–20)
- 106 Virtual Offerings (2020–present)

20 Academic Majors and Departments Impacted During Giant Steps

, including the establishment of two new academic majors—philosophy, politics, and economics (PPE) and computer science—that are now among the most popular majors. In addition, gifts were made in support of pre-law and pre-health programs, Lilly Library, Ramsay Archives, and the MXIBS.

The campaign also funded

the construction of six living units in the Ott Residential Life District, renovated Martindale Hall, constructed the Shelbourne Wrestling Center, developed a new gateway entrance to the Wabash campus, and built the new Little Giant Stadium and Frank Navarro Field.

Meet the Giant Steps Campaign Executive Cabinet



Jay '79 and Susan Allen Green Village, NJ

Jay serves as the chair of the Wabash College Board of Trustees. He had an illustrious banking career and retired as managing director of Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Jay steered Wabash through a presidential transition amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Susan is an avid champion for libraries and literacy in their community.

“My introduction to Wabash was through Jay and his father,” says Susan. “Both of them are the kinds of citizens the world needs. A graduate from Wabash leaves here intelligent, with a conscience and knowledge about how to create good, how to solve problems on a big scale. Those are the kinds of things the world needs.”

During the Giant Steps Campaign, Jay and Susan, passionate about how campus spaces help drive Wabash’s liberal arts mission, supported enhancements to the Allen Athletics and Recreation Center, the construction of the Ott Residential Life District, and the new campus center.

“

You walk on campus, and you fall in love with the place. It’s so beautiful and there is so much history of which I have come to appreciate much more.”

Susan Allen



Steve '68 and Joanie Bowen Glencoe, IL

Steve and Joanie Bowen served as national co-chairs of the Giant Steps Campaign. After concluding his time as chair of the Wabash College Board of Trustees and retiring as senior partner at Latham and Watkins in Chicago, Steve spent several fall semesters on campus as a visiting member of the Wabash faculty, teaching courses in philosophy and ethics, as well as a freshman tutorial, God, Human Limits, and the Things That Matter. Joanie is a retired nurse, an avid cyclist, and a master gardener. Other alumni family members include Steve’s son, David ’99, and Joanie’s son, Paul ’07.

“Wabash students know there is no substitute for hard work,” says Steve. “They work hard, under the steady guidance of our excellent faculty, to achieve the Wabash mission of thinking critically, acting responsibly, leading effectively, and living humanely.”

In addition to Steve and Joanie’s own generous philanthropic support, in 2017 then-President Gregory Hess announced the establishment of The Stephen S. Bowen Professorship in the Liberal Arts. This new professorship is made possible thanks to a grant in honor of Steve and as part of the Giant Steps Campaign from the Pritzker Pucker Family Foundation and Steve’s longtime law partner, Michael Pucker.



Frank '82 and Lisa Kolisek

Greenwood, IN

Frank is an orthopedic surgeon with central Indiana-based Orthoindy. His Wabash volunteer service extends to leadership on the College's Global Health Initiative Advisory Committee. Lisa is a founding member of the Wabash Women's Collective and serves on its Leadership Council. Frank and Lisa are proud Wabash parents of Jake '11, Charlie '14, and Kelsey.

During the Giant Steps Campaign, in addition to contributing to the Dr. John F. Zimmerman '67 Fund, Frank and Lisa established The Kolisek Family Health Innovation Fund to enhance and expand the College's record of student success in medicine and health-related professions.



Walt '68 and Kathy Snodell

Glen Ellyn, IL

Lifelong Chicagoans, Walt is the chair and CEO of Peerless Industries Inc. and Kathy is active as a member of the Village Vocal Chords, the oldest women's barbershop chorus in the United States.

Walt and Kathy created and funded the Greater Chicagoland Initiative and Snodell Scholars aimed at increasing the number of students from the Chicago area who enroll and graduate from Wabash. Their pioneering Giant Steps philanthropy provided a model for the College to follow when deciding to strategically place additional remote admissions officers in Texas and the southwest region of the United States. Read more about the Snodell Scholars initiative on page 42.



John '69 and Diane H'99 Schroeder

Evansville, IN

John is the president of Wabash Plastics in his hometown of Evansville, Indiana, where he champions a wide span of civic and nonprofit organizations aimed at sustaining the economic vitality of southwestern Indiana. Committed to adding cultural vibrancy to their community, Diane founded the Evansville Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, and served the Evansville Philharmonic as its board chair. John and Diane's son, Scott, is a 1999 Wabash graduate.

Inveterate travelers and passionate about learning in all forms, John and Diane created The Schroeder Family Endowed Immersion Learning Fund during Giant Steps. Thanks to their generosity, every Wabash student is now afforded the opportunity for at least one immersive learning travel experience during his four years at the College. Read more about John and Diane's giant impact on page 50.

Paul '75 and Betty O'Shaughnessy Woolls

Napa, CA

Paul and Betty served as national co-chairs of the Giant Steps Campaign, and Paul also serves as chair of the Advancement Committee of the Wabash Board of Trustees. Proprietors of Progeny and O'Shaughnessy wineries, two premier global wine brands, Paul and Betty have leveraged their gorgeous Napa Valley locations and gracious living and hospitality to engage Wabash benefactors, alumni, and friends of the College during this historic campaign.

"We had a lot of fun and enjoyed a great deal of success during Giant Steps," says Betty. "As a relative newcomer to the Wabash scene before the start of the campaign, it was a thrill to get to meet so many amazing Wabash alumni, spouses, and partners as we traveled across the country speaking about why we felt it was so important to invest in Wabash College. That said, what I have enjoyed most is coming to know the Wabash students. Truly, our students give me hope for the future."

At the Giant Steps kickoff event in November 2018, this generous couple propelled Wabash and the Campaign forward with confidence and undeniable momentum



by announcing a \$40 million unrestricted gift—the largest gift commitment in the College's 191-year history.

"At a time when higher education is taking a beating and there are discussions about whether people should go to college, there are several colleges that are struggling and struggling mightily," says Paul. "We didn't want Wabash to be in a place where there was any question about whether it could survive and thrive into the future.

"Wabash did a lot for me," he continues. "I've stayed connected because my wife and I believe that if you have been able to succeed in work and life, then you need to provide an opportunity for other people to achieve their potential as well. Staying engaged with the College to make sure that other students could come along and be able to reap the benefits that I reaped has been extremely important."



Tom '73 and Anne Walsh

St. Louis, MO

Tom is a retired partner at Dentons and Anne is the chief investment officer for Guggenheim Partners Investment Management. As Wabash leaders, this generous couple shares their legal and financial acumen with the College and seeks to deepen alumni and affinity ties throughout the greater St. Louis, Missouri, and Scottsdale, Arizona, regions by hosting numerous gatherings at their homes. Anne has enthusiastically provided internship and employment opportunities for Wabash students and recent graduates.

Wabash celebrated the launch of the Walsh Center for Political Economy in January 2023, and recognized Anne and Tom for their visionary support of the new philosophy, politics, and economics (PPE) major, currently one of the largest and most popular majors for Wabash students. Read more about PPE on page 62.

A chalkboard filled with handwritten physics equations in white chalk. On the left, there are three equations: $T_1 = -10^\circ\text{C}$, $T_2 = 20^\circ\text{C}$ with the word "assumed" written above it, and $l = .005\text{m}$. On the right, there are more equations including $\frac{dQ}{dt} = A\epsilon\sigma(T_1^4 - T_2^4)$, $dQ = mc\Delta T$, and $dQ = m\Delta H$. A person's hand in a red shirt is visible on the right side, pointing towards the equations. The background is a dark green chalkboard with some faint, illegible writing at the top.

I am honored to be able to express my gratitude for the generous contributions made to the Giant Steps Campaign. As the current president of 'shOUT, vice president of the Student Senate, and external vice president of Lambda Chi, I have done a lot in the first half of my time here, and I love this place in so many ways.

There is one common denominator: the people. The people that inhabit and support this great College are the essence of what makes it special. It's the conversations, the lessons learned, and the relationships built here. That's what makes this place so easy to call home.

Luis Rivera '25



The Life-Changing Power of a

by Allie Northcutt

Affordability often plays a significant role in a student's college decision. Dozens of alumni and friends have helped break down financial barriers, empowering the next generation of leaders and change makers to succeed at Wabash and beyond.



CHAMP MCCORKLE '24. Justin Santiago '25. Max Rosa '26. Ayden Lutes '26.

These four students come from different backgrounds and hometowns across the country, study different majors and minors, belong to different organizations and teams, and have varying dreams for what life looks like after graduation.

But all are connected in one way.

Each one of these students says he wouldn't have made it to and stayed at Wabash if it weren't for the generosity of others who value a liberal arts education.

"The scholarship completely changed the trajectory of my life, my brothers' lives, and took so much stress off my parents," says McCorkle, a financial mathematics and philosophy double major from Greenwood, Indiana.

McCorkle was the first recipient of the Wabash Leaders Scholarship Program.

Endowed by Steve '63 and Connie Ferguson as part of the Giant Steps Campaign, the scholarship provides support for students who exhibit a high probability of becoming a leader within their communities. It's a renewable four-year award that covers the full cost of tuition and room and board at the College.

McCorkle, son of two small-business owners and the oldest of three sons attending Wabash, began his college search at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. At that time, foot traffic decreased substantially and the family's businesses "took a big hit."

"It was a tough time, and I knew financial aid had to be a big part of my college decision," he says. "I didn't want my parents to take on a financial burden and potentially take away any opportunities from my younger brothers."

McCorkle, the valedictorian of his Greenwood Christian Academy class, was selected for the Wabash Leaders Scholarship after participating in a multi-phase interview process that involved alumni, members from the College's Enrollment Office, and counseling staff from select Indiana high schools. He was chosen based on his high ethical standards, integrity, and strong written and interpersonal communication skills.

Scholarship



Left to right: Max Rosa '26, Ayden Lutes '26, Justin Santiago '25, Champ McCorkle '24

photos by Julia Moravec

"I remember immediately driving to my parents' work to share the news after getting the call that I was awarded the scholarship," McCorkle recalls with a smile. "We cried happy tears together. They really wanted me to go to Wabash, and the scholarship made it possible."

McCorkle has distinguished himself at Wabash through a variety of campus leadership roles and academic achievement. He's a Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship (CIBE) senior innovation consultant; a member of Lambda Chi Alpha, math club, Spanish club, crypto club, and investment club; and founder of the new sunrise and cycling clubs.

He's also a four-year forward on Wabash's basketball team, and was one of six players

on the 2022–23 team to receive Academic Excellence honors from the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC).

This past summer, McCorkle worked as a finance intern for Eli Lilly and Company.

After graduation, he plans to attend graduate school and continue studying financial mathematics or accounting.

"I wanted to go to college somewhere I would be given lots of opportunities and make lifelong connections. That happened at Wabash," says McCorkle, who was joined at the College by his brothers, Styles '25 and Kage '27. "The rigorous academics, the discipline that comes with being a student-athlete, the leadership with my fraternity and clubs, working at Lilly—it has all prepared me for what's to come."

Steve Ferguson, chair of Bloomington-based Cook Group Inc., has had a significant impact on the state of Indiana. From public service to philanthropy, he's been recognized for service to Indiana University as chair of its Board of Trustees, as well as chair of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. He received an honorary degree from Wabash and is a five-time recipient of the Sagamore of the Wabash, the state's highest honor awarded by the Indiana governor.

He believes liberal arts colleges provide the right environment for honing leadership skills because they teach students how to assimilate vast amounts of information, critically analyze it, and communicate broadly. That's why he and Connie created the Wabash Leaders Scholarship.



1. Max Rosa '26 got the opportunity to adjust to campus life before his freshman fall semester officially began as was one of 26 students in the 2022 cohort of the Wabash Liberal Arts Immersion Program (WLAIP). 2. Student-athlete Justin Santiago '25 also plays the tenor saxophone in the jazz band. 3. Champ McCorkle '24, the first recipient of the Wabash Leaders Scholarship, spent last summer working as a finance intern for Eli Lilly and Company. 4. Ayden Lutes '26 distinguished himself at Wabash through a variety of campus leadership roles and academic achievement, including being a member of the wrestling team.

"We view this scholarship as a higher calling," Ferguson explains. "Wabash develops people with integrity, honesty, and all the traits that the institution teaches. I want those people—no matter if they go into education, medicine, politics, business, or government—in leadership. I want to do all I can to support good Wabash people to go out and solve the issues that continue to face the nation."

He and Connie are impressed by the students who have been awarded Wabash Leaders Scholarships, and are excited to see the first recipient graduate from the program this spring.

"It's hard to believe that we're going to see our first Wabash Leader go out into the world in a matter of months," says Ferguson. "We have no doubt that Champ, and all others who follow him, will continue to grow, give back, and remain committed to leadership in their communities."

SINCE 2020, SEVEN STUDENTS have been awarded the Wabash Leaders Scholarship.

Justin Santiago, a financial economics major and religion and business double minor from Westfield, Indiana, is a scholarship recipient.

He's a CIBE lead innovation consultant, an executive board member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), a member of Wabash Christian Men, and he plays the tenor saxophone in the jazz band. Santiago is also a member of the track and field and cross country teams.

"The amount of generosity gifted by Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson is truly significant," says Santiago. "There have been moments when I've wondered what life would look like for me if I was at another school, and I don't think I'd be half as happy anywhere else as I am here.

"It's thanks to them that I've gained so much valuable life experience from the

unique aspects of Wabash," he continues. "The impact of that is immeasurable."

OF THE 123 NEW ENDOWED FUNDS established during the Giant Steps Campaign, 81 were scholarships for current and future Little Giants.

The Frank and Jill Navarro Family Scholarship, named in honor of former Wabash Head Football Coach Frank Navarro and his wife, Jill, awards \$10,000 to at least six Pell Grant recipients each year.

The inaugural group of students to receive the Navarro Family Scholarship includes Max Rosa from Queens, New York.

Rosa grew up loving and playing football, and was determined to continue his education at a Division III school that would give him playing time and push him academically. A quick Google search put Wabash—a college more than 700 miles away from home—on his radar.

“Wabash was one of the first colleges that popped up,” says Rosa. “I applied honestly not expecting that coming here would be a reality.

“I was caught by surprise when Assistant Football Coach Olmy Olmstead ’04 reached out after I got accepted,” he continues. “He started to text me, sent a bunch of mail, and helped organize a visit. Coming to Crawfordsville was definitely a culture shock, but I felt so welcomed by everyone here and fell in love with the campus. From there, Wabash was it for me.”

Rosa admits the initial sticker price of higher education was intimidating, and he worried his family wouldn’t be able to afford sending him to school.

“My mom has sacrificed so much busting her butt to pay for my (older) brother to go to college, and she’s not really making a lot of money as it is,” he says. “When we were getting letters from different schools and learned they were going to charge us five-figures a semester in tuition alone, it was disheartening.”

Those uncertainties vanished once he learned he had been awarded a Navarro Family Scholarship.

“Mom was elated,” says Rosa. “Seeing that final number, how much the scholarship lowered my tuition, and realizing that I wouldn’t have to rely so heavily on loans made all the difference and solidified my decision to come here. We’re so thankful.”

Rosa, a psychology major, is a member of Phi Delta Theta, Wabash Liberal Arts Immersion Program (WLAIP), La Alianza, and the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies. He also is a defensive lineman on the football team and throws shot put and discus on the track and field team.

He hopes to grow as a leader over his next three years at Wabash.

“I want to become more involved on campus and pave the way for younger guys,” says Rosa. “My goal is to lead by example and show the next generation of students who come from traditionally underserved backgrounds that anything is possible at Wabash.”

SINCE 2018, 145 STUDENTS from the greater Chicagoland area have been awarded Snodell Scholarships established by Walt Snodell ’68 and his wife, Kathy.

“Since we’re both Chicagoans, we both had the attitude that it was time to create a scholarship for Chicago kids,” says Walt, a member of the College’s Board of Trustees and chair and CEO of Peerless Industries Inc.

“Especially with the first graduating class (of 2022), we’ve seen that the program is a success,” he says. “Graduates took advantage of the opportunities. They are bright and strived for excellence. If you get in the habit of doing that during college, it will translate into a successful life after graduation in many ways.”

The Snodell Scholars program was established as part of the Greater Chicagoland Initiative, which focuses on four components: scholarships, a Chicago-based Admissions counselor, marketing, and support for recruitment events and outreach in Chicago, its suburbs, southern Wisconsin, and eastern Iowa. The initiative has also encouraged replication in places like Dallas and Fort Worth, Phoenix, and Southern California.

“We all need and get help along the way. Many times, we don’t even know it, and we’re almost never in a position to pay it back. But we can pay it forward when it’s our turn. That is what the Snodell Scholarships are all about,” Kathy told students at last year’s scholarship reception in Chicago.

“You will experience a lot at Wabash. You’ll come away from Crawfordsville having learned how to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely,” she continued. “You will hear that mantra a lot in the next four years. Own it, live it, and when your time comes, pay it forward.”

AYDEN LUTES IS ONE SNODELL SCHOLAR who says he couldn’t afford college on his own. He receives up to \$10,000 annually as part of the program to help cover tuition and fees.

“I’m a Wabash student because of the Snodells,” says Lutes. “It’s hard to put into words how much it really means to be given this opportunity. The scholarship has changed my life.”

The chemistry and Spanish double major from Naperville, Illinois, plays the trumpet in the jazz band, works as an athletic training aide for the Wabash Athletics Department, and studies molecular motors using WebMO as a research assistant for Chemistry Professor Joe Scanlon ’03.

Lutes is also a member of the wrestling team. He was one of seven wrestlers from the 2022–23 squad to receive Scholar All-America recognition from the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA).

“Wrestling is what initially drew me to Wabash—it’s been my passion since I was a kid. The resources that we have as a Division III institution blew my mind,” says Lutes. “Once I got here, met some of the upperclassmen like ‘Mr. Wabash’ Jack Heldt ’23, and became a part of the team’s brotherhood, I knew I made the right decision. The team feels like home. Those guys push me to be better. They’re my family.”

Lutes says he’s inspired by the generosity of the Snodells and all the others who have selflessly supported students as part of the Giant Steps Campaign. As a future alumnus, he plans on giving back to his alma mater in support of the next generation.

“I want to leave a lasting legacy at Wabash, and a great way to do that, is to give back to the institution that’s helped get me there,” the sophomore says. “I believe it’s important and the right thing to do in support of making other great Wabash men.” ■

Endowed Scholarships and Named Scholarships Established During the Giant Steps Campaign

The Joseph D. Barnette Jr. & Charlene Barnette Family Scholarship*

Joe and Charlene Barnette

The Dr. John E. Batchelder '65 Scholarship

Lori Batchelder

The Dr. David R. and Sue A. Benak Mathematics Scholarship*

David and Sue Benak

The Walter A. Blake Scholarship

Munawar Ali
Terrence Butler
Brian Henry
Alonzo Weems

John A. Bowerman Scholarship for History Majors

Joyce Byllesby Estate

The William P. '85 and Jennifer J. Brady Scholarship

Bill and Jennifer Brady

The Buresh Family Scholarship

Bob and Kathy Buresh

Parents of Tyler '12,
Cody '15, Ethan '17,
Dylan '18, and Seth '22

The Van H. and Mary L. Butler Glee Club Scholarship*

Van and Mary Butler

Susan Veatch Cantrell Memorial Scholarship^

Susan Cantrell Estate

The Douglas E. Carl Family Scholarship*

Douglas and Jackie Carl

Maurice W. Chadwick '25 Scholarship^

John and Ann Sweeney

The Chase Family Scholarship Fund

Kip and Nicole Chase

Supports
upperclassmen

The John '91 and Jill Cheek Scholarship

John and Jill Cheek

Greater Chicagoland Initiative and The Snodell Scholars*

Walt and Kathy Snodell

The Class of 1968 George A. Lipsky Scholarship in Political Science

Anonymous

The Dennis R. Cleaver Memorial Scholarship

Chad and Maheen Cleaver

Supports
students in
mathematics
and natural
sciences

The Brett Coldiron & Lana Long Family Scholarship

Brett Coldiron and Lana Long

The James R. Cumming, M.D. Scholarship

Susie Cumming
John Birdzell

The Dillard Family of Tennessee Scholarship

Ross Dillard

The Mr. & Mrs. Robert R. Dyer Memorial Scholarship#

Carol Dyer Estate

The Jim Engledow '78 Memorial Scholarship

Jack Engledow

Richard T. Farrell Scholarship

Jean Farrell Estate

The Flanagan Family Scholarship Fund

John and Patti Flanagan

The Flanigan Family Scholarship Fund

Brian and Katie Flanigan

The David & Nancy Galliher Family Scholarship

David and Nancy Galliher

John B. Goodrich Scholarships

Winchester Foundation

The Dr. Wesley H. Gregor '56 Memorial Scholarship

Martin and Megan Gregor

The Timothy J. '85 and Michelle Grusenmeyer Scholarship*

Tim and Michelle Grusenmeyer

The Hartzog Family Scholarship

Ryan and Jean Hartzog

Supports
arts students

The Vic and Karen Hasler Family Scholarship

Vic and Karen Hasler

The Paul D. “Howie” Hawksworth Jr. ’56 Memorial Scholarship

Jim and Rem Hawksworth

The Robert J. Healey, M.D. Scholarship

Patrick and Diane Healey

Dr. Lester L. Hearson H’70 Scholarship Fund

Art Baluyut
Chris Leagre
John Roberts
Todd Rowland
David Stockwell
Jeff Thomas
Randy Williams

Dr. Hearson taught biology at the College for 30 years and was registrar and director of financial aid

Frank L. Himes Chemistry Scholarship⁺

Frank Himes Estate

The Corinne U. and Michael T. Hodges Scholarship⁺

Mike and Corinne Hodges

The Miles E. and Barbara J. Holsworth Scholarship

Miles and Barbara Holsworth

The Hutchins Family Scholarship⁺

Troy Simmerson
Mark Simmerson
William Simmerson
Michael Simmerson

The Alan L. Impicciche ’82 Endowed Scholarship

Joe and Tammy Impicciche

The Carlyn and Daniel E. Johnson ’53 Scholarship

Carlyn Johnson

The Kenney Family Scholarship

Phil and Colleen Kenney

Parents of Vincent ’13 and Patrick ’18

The David and Anne Krattebol Family Scholarship

David and Anne Krattebol

The Philip E. Kucinski Scholarship

Phil Kucinski

The Ernest E. Lewis Scholarship⁺

Laura Lewis

The Dr. Byron S. Lingeman ’50 Scholarship

Suzanne Lingeman

Supports Montgomery County students

The Robert H. Long Family Endowed Scholarship

Cathy Long

The Michael and Lacey Lynch Family Scholarship

Mike and Lacey Lynch

Ronald W. McCoy Scholarship[^]

Ron McCoy Estate

The Mike and Ann McGinley Family Scholarship

Mike and Heather McGinley

Lee and Rose McNeely Scholarship[#]

Lee and Rose McNeely

The Victor A. Melchiorre ’77 Scholarship Fund^{*}

Vic Melchiorre

The Frank and Jill Navarro Family Scholarship⁺

Ben and Kelly Navarro

The Robert R. Neal ’33 Scholarship

Robert Jr. and Barbara Neal

The John G. Pantzer Jr. ’54, M.D. Scholarship

Anne Pantzer

The Matt and Emily Parker Family Scholarship

Matt and Emily Parker

Charles A. Penzel Sr. Honor Scholarship[^]

David A. Moore Estate

The Dr. Harry A. ’65 and Christine M. Phillips Scholarship in Political Science^{*}

Harry and Christine Phillips

The Dr. Harry A. ’65 and Christine M. Phillips Southwest Scholarship^{*}

Harry and Christine Phillips

The Powell Family Scholarship

John and Kathy Callen Powell

Endowed Scholarships and Named Scholarships Established During the Giant Steps Campaign (continued)**The David B. Rea Family Scholarship Fund**

David Rea

The Mike Ricci '84 Scholarship*

Mike Ricci

Jasmine Ernest Robinson H'85 Scholarship

Ron Dostal

The Paul "Robbie" Robinson Family Scholarship

Paul Robinson

Supports
first-generation
college students**The Rudicel Family Scholarship**

Rob and Leigh Rudicel

The Fred & Beverly Ruebeck Family Scholarship

Bev Ruebeck

The Dr. Martin R. See '74 Scholarship

Patsy See

The Roger '68 and Carol Senkbeil Glee Club Scholarship

Carol Senkbeil

Max E. Servies "Heavy Mitts" Scholarship

Nancy Servies Estate

Multiple Benefactors

The Tom & Lynn Shearman Family Scholarship

Tom and Lynn Shearman

The Son of Freedom Scholarship for ROTC

David Woessner and Tundo Pham

Evan E. Steger III '59 Memorial Scholarship*

Suzy Steger

The Thrush-Thompson Scholarship

Stan Thompson

The Adam Van Zee '07 Scholarship*

Adam Van Zee

The Robert Voigt Scholarship in Mathematics and Computer Science

Robert Voigt

The Wabash Leaders Scholarship and Program

Steve and Connie Ferguson

Mark Miles

The Jonathan and Vanessa Walsh Family Scholarship

Jonathan and Vanessa Walsh

The David E. Wilson H'70 Scholarship in Mathematics

Aleeta Wilson

The Peter C. Wilson Scholarship

Pete and Melani Wilson

The Robert H. Winter, M.D. and Nancy R. Winter Scholarship

Robert and Nancy Winter

The Thomas R. Woodfill Scholarship

Thomas Woodfill Estate

The William Yackel Scholarship Fund

William Yackel

The John B. and Jeananne Yanko Family Scholarship

John and Jeananne Yanko

Supports
math
students

If you would like to establish an endowed scholarship fund or contribute to any of the existing scholarships, please contact a member of the Advancement team at advancement@wabash.edu.

*Deferred, +Spendable/non-endowed, #Additions to an already existing fund,
^Counted in prior campaign (non-Giant Steps), but fund was funded and established with a deferred gift that arrived during Giant Steps

Undeniable

AT WABASH, we firmly believe in the life-changing power of education and understand that a college education can be a gateway to a future filled with boundless opportunities. However, we also recognize that access to this transformative experience can sometimes be challenging, particularly for students who come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. This is where Giant Steps has shined as a beacon of hope and catalyst for change.

With your incredible generosity, we have been able to open our doors wider to the neediest students in the nation. You make up the difference. You make it so that Wabash is the most significant investor in a Wabash student's education.

Scholarships established during Giant Steps have become a lifeline for our young men, allowing them to dream big and achieve their full potential. As a first-generation college student and Pell Grant recipient myself, I know how life-changing a quality education can be.

We can now extend a helping hand to a greater number of deserving students, ensuring that financial constraints do not stand in the way of their educational pursuits.

There is still work to be done. Imagine, just for a second, a Wabash where we could replace student loans with grants; or meet every admitted student's full need—a place where all students graduate debt-free. We will get there with your continued generosity and support.

The power of Giant Steps has been undeniable. And the best part of my role—I'm the one who gets to deliver the good news to students and families. I'm the one who gets to see the excitement, joy, and relief when students learn they can follow their dreams, and paying for it won't be a barrier.

Alex DeLonis |
Associate Dean for
Enrollment Management



IMMERSED

by **Kim Johnson**



It's the classic Wabash story—student travels to a new place and experiences a piece of the world once only seen in two dimensions. Now, thanks to a gift from **John C. '69 and Diane H'99 Schroeder**, these experiences are becoming part of the norm for students at Wabash as they build frameworks to view and interact with the people and places around them.

BEN JANSEN '24 SPENT SPRING BREAK ON A SMALL ISLAND off the coast of Belize. In May, Preston Parker '26 stepped off his first-ever flight on an airplane into an airport in Estonia.

Wabash calls this immersion learning. Most of it is in the form of semester-long courses with a travel component in the middle or end of the semester like Jansen's invertebrate biology course. It may also be a concert or an athletic tour like Parker's two-week Glee Club tour to the Baltics.

"The travel experience is so important for students' understanding of not just other cultures but of themselves as well," says English Professor Agata Szczeszak-Brewer. "It changes lives. It's a cliché, but it's a cliché for a reason—because it's true."

Just as lab and art courses include no additional fees for students, John C. '69 and Diane H'99 Schroeder created an endowed fund that will allow all Wabash students the opportunity to immerse themselves in

a new topic or culture about which they are passionate or curious for no additional cost.

John spent six weeks in the British Isles after his senior year in high school on a Presbyterian youth exchange program. Diane's first time abroad was after she and John were married.

"We realized there are all kinds of different cultures out there. We have gotten to know fabulous people on trips we've taken," John says. "Seeing how we benefited from that made it easy for us to want to provide for students to do the same thing—especially knowing a number of them probably wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to go abroad."

A previous gift from the Schroeders created the John H. Schroeder Interdisciplinary Chair in Economics, in honor of the elder John Schroeder '42. The first professor to hold the title was Kay Widdows. John C. made it a point to get to know Widdows after she was named the chair.

"She and I would have breakfast when I came to Wabash," he says. "She mentioned to me she was going to take her freshman tutorial class to the United Kingdom to study the Industrial Revolution. I told her I would fund it."

"Afterward, we received letters from every one of those students," he continues. "As we read through their thoughts on what the trip meant to them, we were reminded how important travel is. One student, Sam Vaught '16, said as a result of the course, he wanted to spend a semester at Harlaxton, where they had gone for Thanksgiving dinner during the trip."

Vaught remembers the day the summer before his freshman year when he learned he'd secured a spot in Widdows' course.

"When the selection process went live on the website, I sat at my computer clicking refresh to make sure I could get in that class," says Vaught. "It was my first time out of the country. I had to get my passport for it."

◀ **Ben Jansen '24** studies the water currents surrounding a vase sponge at a patch reef near South Water Caye, Belize, as part of a research project during an immersion learning experience in March.



“All of a sudden, the fiction and poetry we read and wrote about connect with their own sense of social justice and empathy.”

Agata Szczeszak-Brewer

IMMERSED continued

The course included reading works by Charlotte Brontë, Charles Dickens, and Elizabeth Gaskell—literature about people interacting with industrial England.

“The trip turned everything that had been theoretical about the course into a real place,” says Vaught, who is now a chaplain at Butler University. “That trip really started, in earnest, my deep relationship with the British Isles that I have been cultivating ever since. It set the trajectory of my life. John and Diane are part of that and so is every single person who has given of their time or money to make these experiences for students happen.”

SZCZESZAK-BREWER HAS LED a number of immersion learning courses, including one on James Joyce that included a visit to the

Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland and another on South African literature and film that spent time in Cape Town, South Africa. She is currently planning a course on Holocaust literature that includes a trip to Poland. She sees a big difference between classes with and without an immersion component.

“If you learned about six million Jews who died in the Holocaust, it’s an abstract number and really hard for students to wrap their minds around,” she says. “When you visit the place where extermination happened, talk to people who experienced hate and antisemitism, and can almost touch the eyeglass frames and shoes discarded from people who were the victims of genocide, you add empathy to data. It expands our understanding of what it truly

means to hate another human being to such an extent that you’re willing to treat them as a thing.

“All of a sudden, the fiction and poetry we read and wrote about connect with their own sense of social justice and empathy,” she continues. “Students get invested in the topics they study when they see things with their own eyes, smell and taste different cultures, and talk to people with different accents.”

The benefits of immersion learning translate across disciplines as well.

Biology Professor and Global Health Initiative Director Eric Wetzel teaches a course in global health that spends two weeks in and around Lima, Peru, and another in invertebrate biology that travels to the Gulf Coast, Jamaica, the Amazon rainforest, and off the coast of Belize.

“We can read papers and watch videos about the coral reef or about communities in extreme poverty,” he says, “but it’s qualitatively and quantitatively different to actually be there.

“We snorkel along the barrier reef and along the outside of the reef, where if you start to swim east, there’s nothing for a



photo by Andrew Day

◀ **Preston Parker '26** (second row, far right) with the Glee Club performing at St. Catherine's Church in Vilnius, Lithuania.

long time,” Wetzel continues. “When the guys jump out of the boat, suddenly there’s always this moment of pause. It’s like, ‘Holy mackerel, I’m a really small piece of this.’ That’s a helpful perspective, an educational pause—how you get that in the classroom, I don’t know.”

Jansen is a biology major and chemistry and Spanish double minor from Kendallville, Indiana, and is active in Student Senate, Lambda Chi Alpha, the Global Health Initiative, and the Public Health Organization. The recipient of the Turk Family Scholarship was one of seven students in Wetzel’s most recent invertebrate biology course.

“We flew into Belize City, then took a really small charter plane to Dangriga,” Jansen says. “Then we got on a boat and took a half-hour boat ride out to an island on the barrier reef of Belize—which is the second-largest barrier reef in the world.”

Students snorkeled every day and visited other islands to look at different ecosystems. Then they spent time at the field research center on the island for class sessions with Wetzel to digest what they had seen and learned.

“In class, we look at one species at a time,” Jansen says. “When we get out there, it was everything working together—not just the coral. When looking at them on a slide you can get the gist. But out in their actual ecosystem, you get to see how they interact with other animals and abiotic factors.”

“It really shined another spotlight on how we’re all in this together.”

Not all immersion learning happens as part of a course.

“We do immersion all the time—it’s called lab,” says Wetzel. “But immersion extends from courses to research and other internships. That’s an immersive experience because you’re embedding students into a context they may have read about or knew about, but it’s only when you dive into that, that you see there’s a lot more there.”

Wabash Liberal Arts Immersion Program

The Wabash Liberal Arts Immersion Program (WLAIP) is another program that received an endowed gift during Giant Steps. Professor of Psychology and Program Coordinator Bobby Horton talks about the continued impact of WLAIP.

The WLAIP is an initiative that supports students who come from communities that are traditionally underserved by higher education. We started in 2015 with a grant from the Mellon Foundation that was intended to work closely with low-income students, first-generation college students, or domestic students of color to give them the resources they need to be successful at Wabash and beyond.

Students come to campus for a month during the summer, take their first college class for credit, and are surrounded by upperclassmen mentors and faculty who have their best interests at heart. They get used to being on campus, in Crawfordsville, and what it’s like to read as a college student, write as a college student, and get feedback as a college student.

They return in August already ahead of where they might have been otherwise.

Then we stick with them. We put them in touch with people who we think are going to be important to their success throughout their first year. We meet with them regularly and get them ready for an internship. All our students have the opportunity to apply for and secure an internship for their second summer, which is something most freshmen broadly don’t avail themselves of. The program concludes after they do their internship in the summer.

Then we informally stay in touch with them throughout the rest of their college career to make sure they’re getting the support they need.

We see the impact of the program in a lot of small ways—obviously in a lot of big ways like graduation rates—in the sentiments guys express to us.

For example, I saw one of the students last year right when he came back to campus in August. He said, “I missed my friends.” He had made this great group of friends from all over the country, from South Texas, Florida, New York, and Indiana. He’d gone home for two weeks and missed the guys he’d been with here. When he got back, he felt like he was back home, and he was so happy. You could just see his face light up when he talked about that.

This is a life-changing experience for many students. We’re graduating three or four additional students from underprivileged communities every year as a result of this program. That’s three or four families who are going to have a different existence for multiple generations because of the generosity of those who have given their time, talent, and treasure to Wabash.

I don’t think you can overstate the importance of what they’re doing to help these students. The students get that. They know they’re standing on giant shoulders. And maybe because of that, they really go after the Wabash education with intensity and vigor. They have a marked lack of entitlement and fecklessness because they feel like they have to live up to something and honor the generosity of the people who have really helped them be here.

Our community is enriched by the students who this program is helping to keep in school and progressing toward graduation. These students add flavor and personality, grittiness, and a wholesomeness that our community would lack if they weren’t here.

“I’d like to thank the Schroeders for seeing the value of immersion courses, because I hadn’t seen it before.”

Preston Parker '26

“Whether it’s in an individual course or internship, during the semester or summer, these off-campus, out-of-the-classroom kinds of experiences are part of the whole continuum of getting them to see the broader scale,” he continues. “It helps them connect things they would not have been able to connect before—within a class but also across classes and disciplines.”

Parker, from Logansport, Indiana, joined the Glee Club early in his freshman year. Part of the Glee Club curriculum includes an annual concert tour with every fourth year being an international tour. The PPE major and theater minor and member of Tau Kappa Epsilon lucked into his first tour being to the Baltics.

“It was my first time flying ever—what an experience,” Parker says. “The Baltics are beautiful, and the culture was so rich.”

“Immersion means being able to be open-minded and not let my biases impact what I’m experiencing,” he continues. “It’s an opportunity to genuinely reflect on what cultural values are important to me and see them through other cultures.”

In the time leading up to the Glee Club tour, members learned music native to the countries and at least one piece in each of the foreign languages—Lithuanian, Latvian, and Estonian. While abroad, they visited several musically significant locations and met with native composers.

“We commissioned a men’s arrangement of a popular Estonian show tune from Olav Ehala,” says Associate Professor of Music and Glee Club Director Sarin Williams. “The composer attended our first concert and then came to dinner with us. We also were able to have a masterclass with Eriks Ešenvalds, the Latvian

composer of two of the works we sang on tour. Incredibly generous with his time and talents, he spoke with the men at length about his works and all kinds of cultural and compositional details. These add up to be an irreplaceable cultural and musical experience for our students.”

Parker is grateful to have been exposed to this opportunity early in his Wabash career and has been on the lookout for ways to experience more throughout his remaining three years.

“I’d like to thank the Schroeders for seeing the value of immersion courses,” he says, “because I hadn’t seen it before.”

Vaught echoes Parker’s sentiments.

“I hope people know it’s because of the Schroeders that they can do this,” Vaught says. “I benefited on a small scale from John and Diane’s generosity. It changed my Wabash experience in a really significant way. Now that generosity has a chance to be amplified to potentially every student on campus. Knowing how grateful I feel to them as an individual, I am beyond grateful that the impact can go farther and can be more.”

While the Schroeders know their gift has had and will continue to have an impact on students, they feel they have received a gift as well.

“You can spend money on cars, boats, and houses, but helping someone realize what else is out there is a very good feeling that you don’t get from money spent in some other way,” John says. “We love receiving letters from students and reading about what the trip meant to them. It’s heartwarming. The money invested has come back in a very gratifying way.” ■

photo by Andrew Day

Jake Weber '25 at a famous tower ▶
in Old Town Tallinn, Estonia.

Academic Department, Immersion Learning, Professional Development, and Special Program Funds Established During the Giant Steps Campaign

Brigance Presidential Lecture Series*

Jack Oest

The Cassidy Family Fund for Electronic Music*

Brendon Cassidy

The Big Cookie Athletics Spirit Fund*

Rem Johnston

The Coons/Bowman Biology Internship Fund

Phil Coons and Elizabeth Bowman

Computer and Data Science Startup Fund*

Multiple Benefactors

The Crawford Standardbred Farm Division I Research Fund

Ken Crawford

Dill Small Business Internship Fund*

Mike Dill

The Gary and Ann Dillon Family Fund

Gary and Ann Dillon

The Nancy J. Doemel Fund for Study Abroad

Bill Doemel

The Pat and Jamie East Endowed Fund

Pat and Jamie East

The Fell-Voris W.I.S.H. Fund*

Bill Fell

The Floyd Artful Advocacy Prize

Riley Floyd

Lisa Floyd (mother of Riley)

Endowment for WLAIP

Anonymous

The Haenisch-Salter Student Research Fund

Jim Clynh

The Haug Family Fund

Jonathan and Amy Haug

The Dr. Robert L. Henry Fund

Rob Sherwin and Kristen Willard

The Tobey Herzog Family Fund for Athletic Department Professional Development

Tobey and Peggy Herzog

The Josh '99 and Monica Kline Fund to Promote Entrepreneurial Exploration and Development

Josh and Monica Kline

The Kolisek Family Health Innovation Fund

Frank and Lisa Kolisek

Korb Classroom

Don and Jean Korb Estate

The Dennis Krause Physics Equipment Fund*

Dennis Krause

The Ray LaDriere and Anne LaDriere Study Abroad Endowed Fund

Ray and Anne LaDriere

The James Lau '73 PPE Fund

Jim Lau

The Miller Family Fund

David Miller

The Jon '71 and Andrea Pactor Fund for the Ramsay Archives at Wabash College*

Jon and Andrea Pactor

Perkins Fund for Student Health and Happiness*

Jeff Perkins

Charles R. Quillin '60 Biology Research Internship Fund*

Charlie Quillin

The Reinke Brothers' Endowed Law Fund

Bill Reinke

Bob Reinke

The Rippy Family Research Fund for Physics

Randy and Marian Rippy

The Dr. Lewis S. Salter H'57 Fund for Physics*

Bob Jones

The Schroeder Family Endowed Immersion Learning Fund

John and Diane Schroeder

The Horace Turner Legacy Fund

Multiple Benefactors

Wabash Mothers' Fund

Jennifer Evans and Jack Tankersley

The Jules Scott Walker '54 Tennis Fund

Jules Scott Walker Estate

The Tom and Anne Walsh Fund for Political Economy

Tom and Anne Walsh

The Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse Fund (WDPD)

Multiple Benefactors

Dr. John F. Zimmerman H'67 Fund for Innovative Teaching and Technology

Russell Bostick

Bryan Daniels

Chris Halkides

Ray Knight

Frank Kolisek

Brad Maxwell

Scott Rathgaber

Mark Simmons

John Van Drie

If you would like to contribute to an academic department or program,
email advancement@wabash.edu.

Embrace

Their memories of Wabash don't include favorite professors, learning "Old Wabash," or competing on Chadwick Court, but their support for the institution and the young men it serves is paving the way for a new movement on campus: women as drivers of philanthropy.

by **Kim Johnson**



Blue Woman Series No. 100 by Jennifer Evans, founding member of the Wabash Women's Collective.
The piece was created in honor of the extraordinary women who comprise the Collective's Leadership Council.



THE FIRST MEMORIES the women have of Wabash are as varied as their names and faces. Hide-and-seek in her parents' closet tucked behind a Wabash letter jacket. Driving through campus after a wrestling tournament at a local high school. A sorority/fraternity exchange.

However, the lasting impression is the same. Wabash builds better men and better men are good for the world.

"As a mom of three boys, it's really important to ensure that males know that women are for them," says Nicole Chase, wife of Kip Chase '03. "We are living in a time where there are big challenges in the support we are lending to each other across genders. It's important that we emphasize we are all in it together."

The Women's Philanthropy Institute, part of the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, researches women's wealth and influence. Their research notes that women's wealth is rising; today women hold around 40% of global wealth—and women are more likely to give and give more than men.

Every year more and more women—mothers, daughters, sisters, wives, widows, and friends—are embracing the opportunity to support the College in a new way.

During Giant Steps, multiple women established endowed scholarships in memory of their husbands.

Patsy See met her husband Martin '74 in 1970 at an exchange between her sorority,



Holly Harrington

Alpha Chi at Butler University, and his fraternity, Kappa Sigma at Wabash.

"The one that occurred at Kappa Sigma and subsequent exchanges with them spawned many enduring relationships between Butler Alpha Chis and Wabash Kappa Sigs, including my husband and me," says See. "I've never seen a school or community that has the strong bonds that are forged among the alumni of Wabash. That was obvious to me when my husband was still living, but has been reinforced for me since his death.

"Martin and I both grew up in families of modest means in which education was of paramount importance—all four of our parents were educated at small private Midwestern colleges. Martin and I followed in their footsteps. Both of us received scholarships to attend," she continues. "What better way to honor our family traditions, to remember him, his hard work, and dedication to his profession than to start a scholarship in his memory?"

It is See's hope that the students who are awarded The Dr. Martin R. See '74 Scholarship will leave legacies similar to Martin's.

"Martin was the hardest-working person I've ever known," she says. "Every dollar that is granted by the scholarship represents his time, expertise, and his whole-hearted devotion to the practice of medicine. The best way they can honor the gift of a scholarship is to embody those same qualities."

Carol Senkbeil was able to establish The Roger '68 and Carol Senkbeil Glee Club Scholarship by adding funds to one of the life insurance policies Roger had in which Wabash College was the beneficiary.

"My first thought was a scholarship for young men singing in the Glee Club because Roger enjoyed it so much," Senkbeil says. "I didn't want it to be a one-time thing, so during a five-year period I added funds to the amount to endow it so it will live on for a long time.

"The opportunities the College offers young men are great. I hope this scholarship allows those in need of added funds to accomplish more than they hoped for—like singing in the Glee Club and traveling," she continues. "I have received several letters from the previous years' recipients of this scholarship. It warms my heart when they tell me how appreciative they are. I know Roger would be happy as well."



Nicole Chase

ANOTHER GIANT STEP CAME FROM Wabash Trustee Jennifer Evans, who, along with her husband, Jack Tankersley, created the Mothers' Fund in 2019.

"When Jack and I asked ourselves what impact we wanted to have on the College, we wanted a fund that would be allocated with a mother's touch, with an eye for 'this is what mom would do,'" says Evans.

This endowed fund is allocated at the discretion of the dean of students in ways he or she deems worthy for improving the student experience.

"It's for when life gets in the way—a resource to help assist our students in less-traditional ways," Evans says. "The Dean of Students can say, 'The Mothers' Fund is looking out for you.'"

With Evans' initial investment establishing the Mothers' Fund and more women with the desire to create scholarships, the College began to think about harnessing the giving power and interests of other women.



Founding members of the Wabash Women's Collective include: (top row, left to right) Jennifer Evans, Sarah Crossman Sullivan, Holly Harrington, Nicole Chase, (bottom row, left to right) Maheen Cleaver, Karen Reetz, Gayle Davis, and Wendy Feller (not pictured, Lisa Kolisek).

"Engaging moms and Wabash women of all kinds was our idea," says Evans, mother of Jack Montgomery '15. "We want it to be a community effort. Every Wabash man has a woman in his life. We think this is a place for men to honor those women, and a place for women to honor the men in their lives too."

So began the conversations which grew into the Wabash Women's Collective—of which Evans and Chase are two of the nine founding members and 12 current members. Rounding out the Collective are Katherine Allen, daughter of Bob Allen '57 and sister of Jay Allen '79; Maheen Cleaver, wife of Chad Cleaver '00; Sarah Crossman Sullivan, daughter of Kenneth Crossman '55 and mother of Jack Sullivan '23; Gayle Davis, wife of Fred Kraft '64; Jessi Farris, wife of Ken Farris '12; Wendy Feller, first lady of Wabash College; Holly Harrington, mother of Brailen Harrington '22 and Bradley Harrington '24; Amy Haug, wife of Jon Haug '00; Lisa Kolisek, wife of Frank Kolisek '82 and mother of Jake '11 and Charlie '14; and Karen Reetz, daughter of Thomas Reetz '58.

Early in the life of the Collective, the women gathered to learn best practices for women's philanthropy from similar initiatives at other institutions.

"We are a part of this bigger movement of women philanthropists," says Cleaver. "I didn't realize the connections that would be formed and how much fun it would be to connect with like-minded women to work on a common cause. There's a camaraderie and shared connection that we all feel passionate about."

Now, two years in, the Women's Collective mission is to engage women as philanthropic investors of time, talent, and treasure for the benefit of Wabash College.

Through their giving, they are enhancing funding for Wabash student support services.

"We are very blessed to have a supportive family and network as it related to my boys in college. We are just a phone call or text away," says Harrington. "I know not everybody has that."

As they work to increase philanthropic support of the College, they have also committed to continuously learn and engage with the Wabash community to understand the nonacademic barriers to success and the societal trends that impact students; engage with students in ways that are purposeful and nurturing; foster a mutual sense of belonging for their members and student advisors; and enhance members' lives through meaningful engagement and connections with one another and those they support.

"It excites me that this group has the opportunity to step up not just with dollars in hand, but with innovation in heart," says Crossman Sullivan. "We are not merely gathering in person on Wabash's campus, but we are constantly determining ways to bridge gaps within the Wabash community, which is a community of the world."

One of the initial impact grants the Collective funded transformed Kendall House on the College's campus into a hub for the Counseling Center and Student Wellness.

"It's now a student center where counseling and training workshops can occur," says Cleaver. "It's a place where students feel welcome and comfortable while utilizing the services there."

Other impact grants have centered on leadership development; peer mentorship programs; health insurance for uninsured students; supplemental funds for study abroad; and belonging for international students, WLAIP participants, and neurodivergent students. In two years, the Collective has funded nearly \$140,000 in projects that positively impact the student experience.

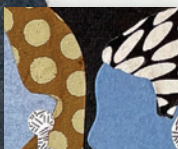
Reetz sees a bright future for the organization but knows if they want to do even more, they will need to expand and help other women learn about and fall in love with Wabash—a place that cannot be their alma mater.

"When I was considering joining, I made sure I had enough love in my heart for this college, not just through my father," says Reetz. "After I visited, it was clear to me I truly do have a special place in my heart for Wabash. It's a little bit of an odd space because I don't have a real emotional tie to my own alma mater, so there's a little bit of an internal conflict there, but the more exposure I get to Wabash, the more thrilled I am with my decision to support this institution."

"I'm really excited about growing this organization," Reetz continues. "While it's not going to always be an easy road, we can start to see ourselves bring in people who may not have known about Wabash or may not have a direct connection, but will see the value in the work we're doing to support such a fine institution."

While Wabash is a college that educates men, it is evident to these women that their lives have been changed by Wabash too. They know they are welcome and belong at the College.

"This is not a college that excludes women. It includes women in different ways, maybe not as students, but it's a college that educates young men," says Chase. "A part of that education—having that female presence from a philanthropic standpoint—teaches them that women do care about them, their education, and their lives outside of Wabash, and we want to help prepare them for that." ■



The Kindness of Strangers

ONE RECENT WINNER of an endowed scholarship created by women is Ahmoni Jones '24.

Jones is a mathematics and psychology double major and a Black studies and education double minor. He is a recipient of The David E. Wilson H '70 Scholarship in Mathematics endowed by Aleeta Wilson. He will be a secondary math educator as part of the Memphis Teacher Residency program next fall.

He has received first-team All-NCAC honors as a member of the basketball team. In addition he is a member of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies, is the president of Best Buddies, and was part of last year's Athlete Leadership Academy. The active and engaged senior wasn't always that way.

"I thought I didn't want to make any friends. I shut everybody out," Jones says. "I never left my room and was unwilling to let anyone get close to me. I was depressed. I didn't think I had made the right decision to attend Wabash, especially when classes got hard, and I started to second-guess myself.

"There were moments when I would not want to get out of bed. I wouldn't want to do anything. It was a horrible feeling. It affected how I studied and the grades I received, my athletic performance, my social life—every aspect of me. I didn't think that I was going to be able to get out of it."

It was the caring words from an unexpected source that helped him recognize he needed to make some adjustments.

"I had class with History Professor Sabrina Thomas. She was a very hard professor," Jones recalls. "I was scared. We had a Zoom meeting to talk about my research project. At the end, she told me that I had a lot of potential and I just have to believe in myself first. She told me I do belong at Wabash. That really stuck with me.

"She not only kept me here, but she saved me," he says. "I thought if one of the hardest professors here is telling me something like that, maybe I have to believe what she's saying. From there, I told myself, 'Come on, man, you can do it.' I talked to my dad about my depression. He encouraged me every day to get out there, make myself more noticeable, and more approachable."

As his confidence began to grow, he started to feel more comfortable.

"I'm not afraid to talk about it. I am only in the position I am today because I did struggle," Jones says. "Coach (Clyde) Morgan told me, 'Just pass it forward.' So I've taken a lot of freshmen on the team under my wing—helping them process their emotions and sharing my story."

As he heads into his final semester at Wabash, he hopes to continue taking advantage of opportunities to be a leader on campus. Most importantly, though, he wants other Wabash men to know it's OK to not be OK.

"You don't have to struggle in silence, because a lot of the time that silence only gets quieter and quieter," Jones says. "You don't have to have it all figured out. And when you realize that you don't have it all figured out, ask for help."

He's thankful for the support he's received from coaches, faculty, staff, and fellow students that continues to lift him up, but he's also thankful to the people like Wilson, whom he's never met, but is supporting his education through the scholarship she established in memory of David Wilson H'70 who taught mathematics at Wabash for 34 years.

"It makes doing well and graduating even more important to me," Jones says. "I want her to be proud. I want everybody to be proud."





I am a product of the Wabash welcome. I knew I could become anything I ever dreamed of because of how Wabash loved my dad and gave him the start of what family looks like. That is legacy beyond anything we could ever fathom. That's generational giving. That is far more than buildings, far more than fabulous classes, far more than ever-evolving majors. All of that is good. But it is profoundly, abundantly more to bring out the meaning and the light in human beings.

Sarah Crossman Sullivan,
Wabash Women's Collective member



INVESTING IN TODAY'S EDUCATORS

by Allie Northcutt

Inspired by the legendary Wabash professors and liberal arts programs, Wabash benefactors were inspired to establish six new endowed professorships and faculty chairs and two academic majors during the historic Giant Steps Campaign.

EARLY IN HER ACADEMIC JOURNEY, Laura Wysocki thought an endowed chair would be something bestowed on a faculty member near the end of their career after they had “made a name for themselves” in their research.

When the news came that she would be awarded an endowed professorship after serving 10 years at Wabash, the chemistry professor and department chair was filled with shock and gratitude.

“It’s a real honor,” says Wysocki, who holds the Edwin J. Peck/David A. Phillips Professorship in Chemistry. “You see people who hold endowed chairs and you think of them as the experienced ones, the ones who are leaders. Being named an endowed chair mid-career has built confidence and helped me see myself as this integral part of the College and the community.”

As part of his estate gift to Wabash, the Peck/Phillips Professorship was reestablished by David Phillips H’83, who served the College for 36 years as a professor in chemistry. He was appointed as Wabash’s first inorganic chemist in 1968 and taught until his retirement in 2004.

Although Phillips had retired before Wysocki joined the staff in 2011, she says he was one of the first people she met the day she interviewed for the job. After that, he served as her mentor and the two became good friends.

Before he died on March 4, 2021, Phillips praised Wysocki’s successful research and teaching career at Wabash.

“Laura loves teaching these students, and you can see that it’s reciprocated,” said Phillips. “Her students love her and that’s unusual because organic chemists have a reputation for being frightening—and she is anything but.”

“Just to know that I had his blessing as the inaugural chair is something that’s really important to me,” says Wysocki, “and it makes me proud that he saw in me a professor who he felt was worthy of this kind of honor.”

Funds provided by the endowment have helped Wysocki purchase equipment for both her teaching and her research labs. As a result, her students gain experience with up-to-date instruments while investigating questions related to organic chemistry and fluorescent dyes.



Chemistry Professor **Laura Wysocki** is the first faculty member to hold the Edwin J. Peck/David A. Phillips Professorship in Chemistry, a chair endowed by Professor of Chemistry **David Phillips H'83** following his passing in 2021.

Wysocki says the Giant Steps Campaign has sparked an enthusiasm among her colleagues. Faculty members feel encouraged and supported in their efforts to develop immersion learning courses, design new research projects alongside students, and think differently about incorporating technology and innovation into the classroom.

"These opportunities only exist because of the generosity of so many alumni and friends of the College," says Wysocki. "These efforts will continue to be vital in future years, with an ever-changing world and evolving student demographics."

RELIGION PROFESSOR DEREK

NELSON '99 is the first member of the faculty to hold the Stephen S. Bowen Professorship in the Liberal Arts.

Established in 2017, the professorship honors Stephen Bowen '68, retired attorney, the fifth-longest-serving chair of Wabash's Board of Trustees, and co-chair of the Giant Steps Campaign. The endowment was made possible by the Pritzker Pucker Family Foundation.

"It's a nice honor," says Nelson, a theologian who teaches in the areas of ethics and the history of Christian thought. "This endowment allows me to do things, like travel and participate in conferences, that I wouldn't otherwise get to do for research."

"It also makes me more attentive to the liberal arts than I would otherwise be," he says. "It makes my teaching in my field more connected to broader questions, different disciplines, and pushes me into other conversations."

When he retired after 42 years of practicing law, Bowen was given the opportunity to teach at Wabash. He taught theological ethics, and in 2018, helped Nelson teach a senior colloquium and a freshman tutorial.

"It was a privilege to get to see Steve in action as a classroom teacher," Nelson continues. "He is extremely inquisitive and competent in all kinds of different areas. He exemplifies the best of what Wabash can do in a young man's life and even more so what service back to Wabash and one's community should look like."

Nelson says the Giant Steps Campaign has moved him to be better.

"I feel empowered to say, 'No, we're not going to do things the default, easy way,'" Nelson explains. "This generosity has sparked a newfound urgency for excellence."

TWO NEW ACADEMIC MAJORS were also established through Giant Steps—philosophy, politics, and economics (PPE) and computer science.

PPE was introduced during the 2019–20 academic year and has already become one of the most popular majors among students. The multidisciplinary course of study was made possible by Trustee Tom Walsh '73 and his wife, Anne B. Walsh.

“As important as philosophy, politics, and economics are individually,” says Anne, “the integrated study of these disciplines provides a new generation of leaders with a much richer understanding of the interconnectedness of today’s world, and the institutions, systems of government, and theories and policies that shape it.”

“We believe the unified study of the science, theory, and practice of philosophy, politics, and economics is vital to obtaining the knowledge base necessary to bring about global economic and societal harmony,” Tom adds. “We are proud to help Wabash further enrich the academic opportunities to meet this challenge.”

An endowed professorship, the Tom and Anne Walsh Professor of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, was established as part of the Walshes’ gift to the College.

Economics Professor Nick Snow, who spent the 2016–17 academic year as a visiting professor at Wabash, was appointed to the position four years ago. Since then, he has worked closely alongside professors Jeff Gower (PPE, philosophy) and Lorraine McCrary (political science) to build the program from scratch.

“I come from a PPE background, but I’ve learned so much over these last few years teaching,” says Snow. “I’ve really enjoyed learning from the students in their various projects and helping them develop research papers. They’re thinking about questions and topics I wouldn’t necessarily tackle on my own, which helps me to be a better, broader PPE professor.”

Snow says he’s grateful for the freedom and trust he’s been gifted throughout this journey in crafting the program.

“We need good infrastructure to be successful as an institution, and that includes the faculty and staff who work directly with students every day,” says Snow. “It feels good to be supported—by the Walshes, trustees, and our administration—in what we’re trying to do. If we didn’t have this kind of support and we set up the major and it exploded like it has, we couldn’t offer the kinds of classes that we do now.”

Religion Professor **Derek Nelson '99**, Computer Science Professor **Qixin Deng**, Economics and PPE Professor **Nick Snow**, and Chemistry Professor **Laura Wysocki** have been impacted by the Giant Steps Campaign. Each faculty member says the generosity of donors has influenced their teaching and work with students in their classrooms.

photo by Kim Johnson



Endowed Professorships and Chairs Established During the Giant Steps Campaign

The Stephen S. Bowen Professorship in the Liberal Arts

Pritzker Pucker Family Foundation

Coons Bowman Professorship in United States History (deferred)

Phil Coons and Elizabeth Bowman

David A. Moore Chair in American History

David A. Moore Estate

Edwin J. Peck/David A. Phillips Professorship in Chemistry

David Phillips Estate

The Anne Korb Shane and David N. Shane Professorship in the Liberal Arts

David and Anne Shane

The Tom and Anne Walsh Professor of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Tom and Anne Walsh

Economics and PPE Professor **Nick Snow** is the first to hold the title Tom and Anne Walsh Professor of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.

“That trust is so important, and I’m thankful to be given so much of it early in my career at Wabash,” he concluded. “To know that they believe in my abilities and will continue to support me as the major grows is massive.”

COMPUTER SCIENCE PROFESSOR

Qixin Deng—one of several new educators to join the Wabash faculty in July—echoed Snow’s gratitude for the support given to him so early in his professional career.

In his first year of teaching, Deng has been awarded the title of Anne Korb Shane and David N. Shane Professor in the Liberal Arts, a professorship established in 2018 by emeritus trustee David Shane ’70 and his wife, Anne Korb Shane.

“When I first arrived for my on-campus interview, Wabash didn’t feel like any of the other institutions I had visited. I immediately felt like the College really cared,” says Deng, a University of Houston graduate from China. “Every faculty member in our department took the time to get to know me, I gave a teaching demonstration, and got to meet with students. I knew this was the environment I wanted to be a part of.

“Now that I am here and have received this professorship, it’s a great honor,” he continues. “It shows that the College believes I can be successful.”

Deng’s goal is to use funding from the endowment to purchase the most up-to-date equipment and software for his classroom and to sponsor several students interested in conducting computer science research.

“I want to do all I can to support my students,” he says.

“The students are at the center of Giant Steps,” Wysocki concludes. “I feel a lot of gratitude for all who remember our institution, believe in it, and support all of the people here.” Their philanthropy is what makes Wabash so special.” ■

Building a Stronger Wabash

by Jim Amidon '87



At its inception, Giant Steps was focused on growing the College's endowment—specifically for scholarships, department funds, and professorships—and with more than 120 new funds established, the campaign was an enormous success.

While major capital projects were not envisioned at the outset, important, even critical projects emerged before and after the pandemic, and the College's alumni, parents, and friends met the challenge.

RESIDENCE LIFE

It had been more than 60 years since Wabash had built new independent housing when Former President Gregory Hess hired the architectural firm Shepley Bulfinch to take a comprehensive look at residence life. Hundreds of hours of focus groups and research led to the construction of the Ott Residential Life District and the renovation of Martindale Hall.

The Ott Residential Life District includes Williams and Rogge halls, Placher Lodge and Class of 1966 Lodge, and Butler and Seymour houses—a total of 132 new beds for Wabash students. Martindale's capacity was reduced, but the renovation created apartment-style suites, a large living room with fireplace, and rooms ranging from singles to quads.

"In an ultracompetitive college recruiting environment, these new housing units are symbolic of our long-standing commitment to a residential liberal arts education for men," said Hess at Martindale's rededication. "These rooms, common areas, outdoor spaces, and, yes, even the laundry area, are the places where men will form lifelong friendships, share their joys and sorrows, and have some of the best years of their lives. These are the places where our young men will learn to Stand TALL—to think, act, lead, and live—with students who will be their best teachers and mentors."

CAMPUS GATEWAY

During the Giant Steps Campaign, Wabash acquired the three properties on the northeast corner of campus at the intersection of Wabash and Grant avenues. Through generous gifts from Gary '77 and Jo Reamey, Kevin Clifford '77, Peter '68 and Carol Kennedy and family, and Tom '73 and Anne Walsh, among others, the College was able to transform the space into a stunning gateway that welcomes alumni, friends, and visitors to our campus.

Dozens of tons of dirt were removed to allow a gentler approach and give visitors a glimpse into the Fuller Arboretum. The brick-and-limestone wall honors the memory of Remington A. Johnston '55, aka, The Big Cookie, for his half-century of mentoring Wabash men.

"This is the link between Wabash and the Crawfordsville community, and we believe we have created a place that will give all our guests a giant sense of arrival," said Hess at the dedication of the new "front door" to campus. "And there is great symbolism tied to our gateways and our mission as a residential liberal arts college. Wabash is very much a gateway for our students and alumni to take giant steps beyond our campus and out in the world."

LITTLE GIANT STADIUM AND FRANK NAVARRO FIELD

The original Little Giant Stadium was funded by a then-anonymous donor and dedicated in 1968. While it was state-of-the-art at the time, decades of wear and tear from fans jumping, stomping, and cheering the Little Giants to victory had taken a toll. Furthermore, the stadium had few amenities, had only a handful of bathrooms, and was not accessible for people with disabilities.

It was 60 years later when another anonymous donor stepped up to pledge \$10 million to imagine a new Little Giant Stadium that would honor a legendary Wabash football coach, Frank Navarro. At the new stadium's dedication, it was revealed that Clifford and his family had provided the funding that inspired hundreds of donors to contribute to the project.

"When you think of the young men that Frank and his coaches recruited, and all of the coaches that followed them, it's filled the ranks with alumni who are out there today doing incredibly important things to make the world a better place," Clifford said at the 2021 Homecoming dedication.

Left: the renovated entry living room in Martindale Hall; **top:** Placher Lodge and Williams Hall are part of the Ott Residential Life District on the west side of campus; **bottom:** the campus gateway honors the memory of Rem "The Big Cookie" Johnston.



► “I was fortunate to play and work for Coach Navarro,” Clifford said. “The lessons learned under his tutelage served me well in life and business. Discipline, attention to detail, perseverance, sacrifice, and teamwork were of paramount importance to Coach Navarro, and we all benefited from his leadership. My family and I hope the new Little Giant Stadium will provide future generations of Wabash scholar-athletes, coaches, faculty, and the broader community a best-in-class facility in which to compete, learn, and win!”

Little Giant Stadium features seating for more than 3,500, the W. Club Lounge for year-round entertaining, four suites, game operations and broadcast booths, and nearly 100 bathroom stalls, and it is fully accessible with ramps and an elevator to the top.

ALLEN CENTER AND SHELBOURNE WRESTLING CENTER

When it was built in the late 1990s, the Allen Athletics and Recreation Center was the finest facility in Division III—housing Chadwick Court, the Class of 1950 Natatorium, the Class of 1952 Fitness Room, Knowing Fieldhouse, Servies Wrestling Room, coaches’ offices, the Student Health Center, and training and locker rooms—all under one roof. The facility was the vision of longtime Trustee **Bob Allen ’57** and his family, whose gift of \$10 million was at the time the single biggest gift in Wabash history.

Continuing their family’s philanthropic tradition, current Board of Trustees Chair **Jay Allen ’79** and his wife, **Susan**, made Giant Steps gift commitments to modernize the fitness room, build a new weight room, and replace the floor in Chadwick Court, among other improvements.

“I’m very proud to have our name on a facility that is so important to students and which demonstrates the commitment we have to them,” says Jay. “One of the things I’ve really enjoyed about our support of the Allen Center is that the whole community benefits. We would support whatever the College needed, but it’s nice that we’re able to support something that is an enhancement not only for the students, but the broader community as well.”

Meanwhile, Wabash’s wrestling program saw its best 10-year run in history before and during the Giant Steps Campaign. Wabash posted seven top-10 finishes at the NCAA Championships, including a national runner-up and two third-place trophies. The roster had far exceeded the capacity of the Servies Wrestling Room, which inspired Trustee **Don Shelbourne ’72** and his family to provide the seed gift for a stand-alone, dedicated wrestling facility.

Today, the Shelbourne Wrestling Center is the finest facility in Division III and includes two full-sized practice mats, aerobic exercise equipment, hot and cold tubs, and plenty of space to display the many championship banners that now hang from its rafters.

THE STEPHENSON INSTITUTE FOR CLASSICAL LIBERALISM

Richard J Stephenson ’62 credits the life lessons imparted by his parents and his Wabash education—along with a lot of hard work—for shaping his life and career and instilling in him the importance of individual freedom and liberty in maintaining a free society.

He and his wife, **Dr. Stacie J. Stephenson**, along with his family, including **Christopher ’87** and **Jamie Stephenson**, and **Shawn ’98** and **Morgan Stephenson**, made a \$10.6 million grant during the Giant Steps Campaign to establish the Stephenson Institute for Classical Liberalism on the Wabash campus.



Left: the updated weight room in the Allen Center; **above:** Little Giant Stadium and Frank Navarro Field.



The entire Wabash community benefits from lectures, seminars, and workshops organized by the Institute. Students engage in conversations with world-class thought leaders. Professors associated with the Institute are able to accelerate their research projects, improve course offerings, and plan more student immersion opportunities. Students also benefit from paid summer internships at think tanks or other public policy-related organizations, enabling formative experiences beyond campus.

The Stephenson Institute is housed in a renovated home on the east side of Grant Avenue once owned by longtime Professor of Spanish Bernie Manker and his wife, Cris. The house bustles with activity in the seminar room, offices, library, and third-floor student research and study rooms.

CAMPUS CENTER

The College has been in active conversations about building a new campus living room—a campus center. While the campus center was never contemplated as part of Giant Steps, a significant number of alumni, parents, and friends have seen this critical need and have already pledged nearly \$19 million for this exciting endeavor.

Although it will cover the footprint of the current Sparks Center, the new campus center should not be seen as Sparks 2.0.

Classics Professor **Jeremy Harnett '96**, who has been part of the planning



Top: the floor in Chadwick Court was replaced; **bottom:** renderings of the main dining space for the new campus center.

committee for the new campus center, has taught a freshman tutorial three times focusing on how buildings shape communities. He and his students have figured out the “secret sauce” that makes Wabash special. He calls it “human friction,” described as people encountering one another spontaneously and unexpectedly, outside of classes and meetings.

“These interactions tighten campus fabric and weave new threads through it,” he says.

“Buildings are critical to a college like Wabash. They house the places we study, learn, grow, play, sleep, and celebrate. They recruit the next generation of Wabash men. They enshrine cherished memories,” Harnett continues. “Yet they also have the power to shape us, to inculcate a sense of belonging, and to stimulate the kind of authentic exchanges among interesting people that are at the heart of a Wabash liberal arts education.” ■

Forward to 2032 and Beyond

A Look Ahead to What Comes After Giant Steps

by **Michelle Janssen** and **Joe Klen '97**

**WHAT COMES AFTER
GIANT STEPS?**

First, we remain steadfast in our commitment to our time-honored mission, the liberal arts, and the charge of our first president, Elihu Baldwin, who said, “Our purpose is never to rest while Wabash College shall lack any advantages for the student, which are offered by the highest class of American colleges.”

Giant Steps was conceived as the first of two fundraising campaigns leading to Wabash’s bicentennial in 2032. While the exact priorities of the second fundraising campaign will be further developed in the coming months and years, there are some things we know hold true to Baldwin’s vision.

There will always be a need for a robust Wabash endowment to support our people and strengthen our programs.

Scholarship funds that make a Wabash education possible for so many

young men will continue to be critically important to future generations of enrolling students. Additional endowed scholarship dollars will also allow the College to work toward a longer-term goal of reducing or eliminating debt for our graduates.

Similarly, the track record of success of our alumni across the decades and the changing global landscape give us the confidence to double down on our commitment to our liberal arts curriculum.

A Wabash education will set up men for purposeful lives where they will make a difference in our ever-changing and often difficult world. It continues to be rooted in deep relationships and rigorous classroom preparation and discussion; balanced with co-curricular opportunities, athletics, clubs, fraternities, and the arts; and grounded in the trust and responsibility embedded in the Gentleman’s Rule.

Whatever priorities arise to strengthen our liberal arts living and learning experience—and all we hope to do to innovate in our traditional framework—will come with a significant price tag.

An important lesson reaffirmed from operating in a pandemic is that our model of liberal arts teaching and learning best happens in a residential environment. For this to always be our focus, the need will arise in the coming years to enhance our residential campus. For example, we know there is a need for a new campus center to serve as a campus living room and to create a stronger sense of belonging for the entire community.

Lead gift fundraising for a campus center to replace the Sparks Center started during Giant Steps and will continue for the next few years through its completion. Major buildings only come along every 50 years or so and are truly once-in-a-generation projects that require significant philanthropic support.





WHAT CAN YOU DO to help Wabash? To add to the momentum? What role can you play in moving Wabash forward to 2032 and beyond?

BE ENGAGED

Relationships have always been at the center of the Wabash experience—student to professor, student to student, and student to coach or staff mentor. One of the primary things you can do is remain connected or reconnect to Wabash and to one another. You can also meet or reacquaint yourself with alumni in your area through one of the many Wabash Clubs across the country.

Introduce a high school student to the College and refer any young man of promise to our Enrollment Office. Enrollment staff will pick up the relationship and work with the prospective student to help determine whether Wabash is a good fit.

Offer internship opportunities for Wabash students in your geographic area or industry, and if that isn't possible, you can link the College's professional development team to potential student experiences in your professional networks.

BE LOYAL

Our operating model depends on the loyalty of alumni, parents, friends,

family, students, faculty, and staff supporting our mission with annual gifts. You can do your part by increasing your annual support and setting a goal to be part of the 1832 Society with gifts of \$1,000 or more. An annual gift of \$1,000 is the equivalent of the return \$20,000 invested in the endowment generates each year.

BE BOLD

There is a need for bold philanthropy if Wabash is to thrive in its third century. It is special for an institution to be the worthy beneficiary of a \$40 million unrestricted gift like that made by Paul '75 and Betty O'Shaughnessy Woolls. All gifts start with a conversation about the transformational impact you might like to have with your philanthropic support. For example, gifts of \$50,000 or \$100,000 or more to projects like the campus center will help enrich our campus footprint and provide spaces where relationships will flourish.

Furthermore, new endowed funds or additions to existing funds are central to the College sustaining and strengthening what we do. A gift of \$100,000 or more will establish a new endowed fund, such as a named scholarship or academic department or program fund. Gifts of \$1 million or more will establish professorships that

support our ability to recruit and retain excellent teacher-scholars.

BE ENDURING

For many alumni and friends of the College, their most influential gift will come to Wabash as part of their estate plans. If Wabash is fortunate to have a place in your plans, we invite you to have a conversation with the College about what you would like this gift to support in perpetuity. The Advancement team is well-versed in the many different planned giving vehicles you can use to leave a legacy at Wabash.

IF EVERY ALUMNUS, PARENT, FRIEND, AND FAN who loves the College takes these steps, the momentum to carry Wabash forward to 2032 and beyond will be unquestionable.

President Scott Feller has challenged all of us to build on this incredible energy, saying, "For nearly 200 years, Wabash has graduated men with vision and guts. They're bold because they balance knowledge with determination. Strong because they listen and understand before acting. We are—and always will be—committed to investing in each one of them. Because we know that Wabash is good for men, and Wabash men are good for the world." ■



There is a lot that excites me about Wabash. When I first got here, I snickered at the idea that we were this life-changing place. I don't snicker anymore. What is so profound about Wabash is no matter who our students are, we provide them with the challenge and support they need to reach their potential. We are a place that works really hard to meet students where they are and then push them to do things they didn't know they could do, to find interest in things they didn't know they were interested in.

My colleagues are the best faculty on the planet. There's no doubt in my mind. There is not a better set of people on a college campus than who we have here—genuinely good, smart, supportive, challenging individuals who bring all of their talents, time, and commitment to our students.

Professor of Psychology Bobby Horton



1976

Michael Kilpatrick has retired after practicing medicine for 40 years. He was with Schneck Primary Care in Seymour, IN, for 34 of those years. While at Wabash, he was an independent and majored in biology.

1977

Gary Reamey released a new album, "Unforgettable," produced by Ryan Rossebo. The album is dedicated to his wife, Joanne, who is on the cover with him.



1987

On July 13, **Greg Castanias** was elected as a member of the American Law Institute (ALI). The ALI is a research and advocacy group of judges, lawyers, and legal scholars established in 1923 to promote the clarification and simplification of United States common law and its adaptation to changing social needs. Its membership is limited to 3,000 elected members, who are judges, lawyers, and legal scholars from a wide range of practice areas from around the world.

1988

Douglas K. Mawhor has been appointed by Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb to the bench of Delaware County Circuit Court 3. He joins **John M. Feick '73**, who is Delaware County Circuit 4 judge. Feick was elected in 2003 and is in his fourth term. Both graduated from IU McKinney School of Law.

1990

Phil Goss launched his campaign for Indiana's 3rd Congressional District. While at Wabash, Goss studied political science and was an independent.



1991

Indiana's first and longtime solicitor general, **Thomas M. Fisher**, is leaving the Office of the Attorney General to take a job in the private sector. He is joining EdChoice, a nonpartisan group that advocates for school choice. ■ **Matt Mellady** began a new position at the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

He was named deputy director of the Police and Correctional Training Commissions, which are responsible for providing the majority of the training at Maryland's Public Safety Education and Training Center. ■ **John Plaster** will join Guggenheim Securities as a senior managing director. He will lead the firm's Power, Utilities & Renewables investment banking practice together with Senior Managing Director Jim Schaefer. While at Wabash, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta and majored in economics.



1994

Matt Brim was named the executive director of CLAGS: The Center for LGBTQ Studies at the Graduate Center, City University of New York. While at Wabash, Brim was a member of Delta Tau Delta and majored in English.



1996

California State University, Long Beach, has named **Royce W. Smith** dean of the College of the Arts. While at Wabash, he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha and majored in English.

■ Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb has announced **Daniel Reed Young** has been appointed to the Vermillion Circuit Court. Young has a private practice in Attica and is a part-time public defender in Tippecanoe County.

1997

Brian Samuels has been selected as the next chair of the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.

1998

After nearly 11 years advising the Indiana Supreme Court, **Jason Bennett** has joined Stuart & Branigin LLP in Lafayette, IN. While at Wabash, he was an independent and double-majored in philosophy and music.

2000

On "PBS Arts Talk," **Nathaniel**

Mary Quinn joined ballerina Misty Copeland in a passionate discussion about the deep familial meaning of Quinn's art. Quinn recounted his journey, from drawing on the walls in his mother's home on Chicago's South Side, to graduating with his MFA from New York University, to becoming an internationally celebrated artist.



2005

Steven Andrews has published a literary memoir titled, "That's Me in the Closet: A Spiritual Memoir," detailing a story of childhood trauma, healing from trauma, religious conversion, and queer identity.



2006

Dane Logan Fowler was promoted to global manager of continuous improvement at Carlisle Brake and Friction. While at Wabash, he was an independent and majored in religion.

2008

Active Energy, the international waste biomass-based renewable energy company has appointed **Barron Hewetson** as chief technology officer. Hewetson holds both a Ph.D. and an M.S. in agricultural and biological engineering from Purdue University. While at Wabash, he was a member of Beta Theta Pi and majored in psychology.

2009

Chad Peterman, president of Peterman Brothers, has been named Midwest Entrepreneur of the Year. He will now be considered for Ernst & Young LLP's National Entrepreneur of the Year.



2011

Justin Allen and his wife, Kaitlyn, announced the birth of their first child, Scarlett Catherine Allen, on June 26. Justin is a physician at Duke University Hospital in Durham, NC.



2014

Mark M. Riffle has joined Taft's Real Estate group in the Indianapolis office. Riffle earned his J.D., from the Indiana Maurer School of Law and his bachelor's degree in history.

2016

Derek Andre joined Fox Rothschild. While at Wabash, Derek majored in political science and double minored in rhetoric and business. He was an independent and a member of the golf and football teams, Pre-Law Society, Spanish Club, The Bachelor, Independent Men's Association, and Student Senate Activities Committee.

2020

Franklin Russel has been named athletic director at Liberty Common High School. While at Wabash, he majored in political science with a minor in classics. He was an independent and a member of the Independent Men's Association, Sphinx Club, Wabash Acts Responsibly Council, and Student Senate Activities Committee.



CONTRIBUTE

We love hearing from you.
Submit your news to communications@wabash.edu.

2022

William Yank has been serving as the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Honored Hero for the Indianapolis Visionaries of the Year Campaign. He spoke and organized to help facilitate fundraising, ultimately bringing in over half a million dollars for LLS.



2023

Giovonni Zappala is a sales representative at Freckles Graphics Inc. in Lafayette, IN. He is also coaching football at Lafayette Jefferson High School.

2025

Dalton Waldman has achieved the rank of Minisino in the Firecrafter Organization. Firecrafter is a service organization founded in 1920 within the Boy Scouts of America. The purpose of the Minisino rank is to recognize those who go above and beyond in their service.



1950

Stephen Douglas Leffler, 95, of Saginaw, MI, died June 28. He was born February 25, 1928, in Shelbyville, IN, son of the late Ralph and Martha (Watkins) Leffler.

Leffler graduated from Wabash College and then Garrett-Theological Seminary. On June 20, 1955, he married Marilyn Anne Doyscher, in Detroit. They celebrated 68 years together. He served for both Methodist and Presbyterian churches in Wisconsin, Indiana, and Michigan. For 25 years, he was chaplain for veterans' hospitals in both Butler, PA, and Saginaw, MI. Leffler enjoyed his years in Ezekiel Project, bringing peace to civil issues. He was also a lifelong member of the American Legion. His devotion to God, his family, and veterans will always be remembered.

Leffler is survived by his wife, Marilyn Leffler; sons, George and Mark Leffler; three grandchildren; one great grandson; and special niece. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Mary Louise Volz, and many cousins, aunts, and uncles.

1952

Kenneth Joseph Granitz, 92, died July 9. He was the only child of Esther (Lange) and Joseph Granitz in Danville, IL. He married Patricia "Pat" Storey on September 12, 1970, in Danville and was married for 43 years until she preceded him in death November 12, 2013.

Granitz grew up in Danville, enjoying sports, particularly football, and singing in the choir. He attended Wabash College before leaving to serve his country in the United States Army. He was stationed in Japan during the Korean War and enrolled in Eureka College after being honorably discharged. Granitz returned to Danville with chemistry and engineering skills and accepted a position with Bohn Aluminum. He retired after 34 years of employment.

Granitz and his wife were enthusiastic season ticket holders of Illinois football and basketball games for many years. They were a fun-loving couple who enjoyed life and were dedicated to the life of their church and supporting others.

Granitz was a Lifetime Member of Central Christian Church and an elder emeritus. He was also active in the Further Light Masonic Lodge #1130, Danville Consistory, and

American Legion Post 210, and was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. He served as a high school football and softball official for many years and was active in the Faith in Action program.

He is survived by numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

1952

Irving Russell Thrall, 92, former lawyer and house counsel for Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL), died July 28. A resident of Sunrise at Bluemont Park, he had lived in Arlington County, VA, since 1956 and worked at APL in Maryland for 39 years.

Thrall was the son of Irving and Corriene Thrall and grew up in Hartford, CT. He attended the Wooster School in Danbury, CT, and went on to graduate from Wabash College in 1952 and the George Washington University Law School. He majored in English, joined the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, and met the love of his life, Marilyn Earle. They married in 1953 and enjoyed 56 years together until her passing in 2009. They raised three children: daughter, Janice, and twin sons, Gordon and David, who survive him. Other survivors include six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Thrall was a founding member of Saint Peter's Episcopal Church and served on the Vestry and in other capacities. He was passionate about baseball and coached youth league teams for 28 years. In 1986, he was recognized as the Coach of the Year by the Better Sports Club of Arlington. Originally a Yankees fan, he adopted the Orioles as his favorite team and was delighted with their success this year. With his wife and close friends, he made a dozen trips to England, visiting historic churches, cathedrals, towns, and villages, most enjoying the people and pubs along the way.

In retirement, Thrall volunteered at the Virginia Hospital Center, serving as auxiliary president for several years. A vacation home in Bethany Beach, DE, provided him and his family many opportunities for rest, relaxation, and fun. He will be missed greatly by his family and many friends. During the course of his life, Thrall maintained a positive, optimistic outlook and considered himself to be a very lucky man.

wabashcollege

Wabash students had the opportunity to sit down with business professionals and Wabash alumni including **Isaac Myers '21** to discuss possible careers and internships.

Read the story online wabash.edu/news/story/13196

OCTOBER 19, 2023

1953

Calvin W. Hilgediek, 92, of Sullivan, IN, died August 9. He was the son of Carl and Helen Phillips Hilgediek. He graduated from Sullivan High School and went on to Wabash College, where he played football and ran track.

Hilgediek served in the U.S. Army and after his service returned home to work for his father at Hilgediek Plumbing and Heating. Later he bought the family-owned business and continued running it for several years.

He was a longtime member of the Sullivan First Christian Church, where he served as the Sunday school superintendent and an elder and taught the men's class for numerous years. He was a member of the Sullivan Masonic Lodge #263 and served as a city councilman.

A loving husband and devoted father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Hilgediek enjoyed spending time with family most. He enjoyed sports and being a Colts fan. He coached Little League and Babe Ruth baseball in Sullivan for several years.

Hilgediek was preceded in death by his parents; wife of 65 years, Donna Hilgediek; brother, Robert Hilgediek; sister, Gwendolyn Waterman; and granddaughter, Stacy Ayers. Survivors include his daughter, Debra Ayers; two sons, Danny and Thomas Hilgediek; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

1955

Joseph Earl Fouts II, 90, of Marshfield, WI, died April 18.

Survivors include his daughter, Julie; son, Todd; granddaughter; and three great-grandchildren.

1956

Christian F. Guhl, 88, died June 5 in his hometown of DeKalb, IL. The patriarch of a close-knit Midwestern family, Guhl was actively engaged throughout his life in the things he held most dear: family, friends, and community.

Guhl was born in Freeport, IL, to Roy and Ruth Guhl. From West High School in Rockford, IL, he went on to attend Wabash College. He was known to jovially sing its fight song to his family. After graduating from Wabash, he married his lifelong sweetheart, Diane, on September 1, 1956, in

Rockford, IL. During their 66 years of marriage, they supported each other through the ups and downs of creating family, and celebrated countless milestones, including a 50th wedding anniversary, the weddings of their children and grandchildren, and welcoming great-grandchildren.

Guhl began his career at Anaconda Wire and Cable as an industrial engineer and remained with the company until it closed its Sycamore location in 1983. A meticulous, hard worker, he also worked at his parents' family-owned bakery, in maintenance at The Growing Place, and in the office of DuPage Neonatology Associates—and even started several businesses on the side, including a successful quick-serve fried chicken restaurant. When not hard at work, he could be found playing on the golf course, demonstrating his wizardry at card games to family and friends, or being an active member in his church and the Elks Club. During his golden years, he was passionately engaged in NIU's Lifelong Learning Institute. He was never one for sitting around—although it was well known that he enjoyed time at home on his patio basking in his wife's lovingly tended garden, occasionally with a McDonald's burger and Miller Genuine Draft in hand.

Guhl was preceded in death by his parents, Roy and Ruth Guhl. He is survived by his spouse, Diane Guhl; daughters, Debbie Woods and Julie Anders; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

John D. Nash, 89, died in Englewood, OH, on March 26. He was born in Carlisle, IN, the only child of Edgar and Mary Nash, who predeceased him. Nash graduated from Wabash College, where he played varsity basketball and baseball and was a member of Phi Delta Theta.

Nash married Shirley Cunningham on August 26, 1956. He was drafted into the Army in 1957 and served as a medic in the 4th Infantry at Fort Lewis in Tacoma, WA, until 1959. After being honorably discharged, he joined Wyeth Ayerst as a pharmaceutical representative. He remained with the company for 35 years, serving Dayton, OH, and the surrounding areas.

Nash was an active member of First Baptist Church of Dayton for 61 years, volunteering his time and talents in many capacities. He was a loving and generous husband, father, and grandfather, and an exceptional role model. In addition to his wife, Nash is survived by his children, Susan Deffet and John C. Nash; three grandchildren; and brother-in-law, Jim Cunningham.

Philip "Philly" Stephen

Kosanovich, 88, died June 3. He was born in Hammond, IN, to Mary (Davis) Kosanovich and Philip Kosanovich. He grew up in Calumet City, IL, and attended Thornton Fractional North High School. He attended Wabash College, where he studied business and played football. After two years, Kosanovich enlisted in the Army and served as a military police officer (MP) in Germany. After serving in the U.S. Army, he returned home and attended Northwestern University, graduating with a degree in business.

He met Maureen Dulan on a blind date set up by his best friend. Shortly thereafter, they were married, on July 15, 1961. During almost 62 years of marriage, they raised four children in Lombard, IL, where they had lived for the past 53 years.

Kosanovich went on to a successful career in retail with Montgomery Ward and Service Merchandise. Upon retirement, he enjoyed traveling with his wife, reading voraciously, playing Texas Hold 'Em, and doing crossword puzzles. Once he became a grandfather, he enjoyed attending youth sporting events and giving history lessons to his grandkids. Later in life, Kosanovich and his wife enjoyed the fun and camaraderie of the Lombard Pool Pals. He was the regular emcee of their annual end-of-the-season dinner.

Kosanovich is survived by his beautiful wife, Maureen; daughters, Julie and Lisa; sons, Stephen and Peter; and five grandchildren.

1958

Ron deLanglade died April 29 after several years of declining health. He was born in Indianapolis and is the second son of Louis J. and Ruth (Monfort) deLanglade, who predeceased him, he graduated from Wabash

College, and then received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue University. He was a true botanist at heart. He spent two years as an instructor at Wabash College while completing his Ph.D. He then joined the faculty at Eastern Kentucky University.

In 1967, deLanglade began his teaching career at Wittenberg University, where he taught for 46 years and was named professor emeritus of biology in 2016. He was first and foremost a teacher who inspired many students. During his career, he served as department chair for 22 years. He initiated, directed, and taught the Bahama Field Station Study program, as well as initiating the marine biology program with Duke University and the 3-2 occupational therapy program with Washington University, among his many achievements.

His yard was a garden oasis where he spent countless hours. It was on the WASSO Garden Tour multiple times and was recognized as home of the week multiple times. He married Violet Ann Shew on August 5, 1962. They shared their lives for 60 years, enjoying their family, trips to the islands, whole-family beach vacations, and antiques. He is survived by his wife, Ann; his daughters, Élise deLanglade-Spriggs and Joy Stablein; and five grandchildren.

Richard Lee Francis, 86, died April 15. He was born in Indianapolis, to Leroy and Mary (Reveal) Francis.

A graduate of Garfield High School, he received his B.A. from Wabash College in 1957. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Francis was a caseworker for the Marion County Department of Public Welfare. He then went into the ocean marine insurance business in Boston and Texas. In 1988, he and his wife returned to Indiana, where he worked with his father for Sunset Harbor Inc. and became its president after his father's death.

Among his favorite memories were exploring the many attractions of New England and spending time with family on the lake. He also bicycled, jogged, and won a prize for ballroom dancing.

Francis was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Sharon Kemper. He is survived by his

wife, Judith Vaught Francis, whom he married June 5, 1965. Other survivors include his brother-in-law, Jon Kemper; sister, Mary Kay Andrew; brother, William Francis; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Charles Louis Haffner, 85, of Syracuse, IN, died May 7 following a short illness. He was born in Hillsboro, OH, to Arlie O. "Bill" and Marjorie E. Howe Haffner. On November 21, 1959, he married Ann Ruth Stoeckley in Fort Wayne, IN. She survives in Syracuse.

Haffner graduated from Syracuse High School in 1955; attended Wabash College for two years, where he was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity; and graduated from Ball State University in 1959 with a degree in secondary education. In 1966, he earned a master of arts in mathematics from Boston College. His professional career included 17 years as a math and science teacher and 16 years as a junior high principal in California and Syracuse, retiring in 1993.

Moving back to Syracuse from California in 1970, he became involved in the community, serving as a member and president of Lakeland Youth Center Board of Directors, member of the Syracuse Town Council, member and president of St. Martin de Porres Parish Council, and member for more than 20 years of the Kosciusko County Area Plan Commission and Kosciusko County Board of Zoning Appeals.

Haffner joined the Yosemite, CA, Lions Club in 1969 and transferred in 1970 to the Syracuse Lions Club, where he served in many capacities at the club, district, and state levels for 53 years. He is the holder of a Builders Key for sponsoring 10 new Lions Club members. During his district governor year in 1998–99 when five new clubs were chartered, District 25-G finished the year plus 193 in membership gain, the highest in all of North and South America and Europe.

For a number of years, Haffner, in cooperation with a local printer, delivered misprint and overrun napkins and cups to area day care centers, 53 school cafeterias in 15 school corporations, homeless shelters, churches, battered women's homes, and other

service agencies. For 17 years, he promoted the building and distribution of more than 3,000 wooden eyeglass collection boxes to be used in Indiana and neighboring states. Donated wood, courtesy of area cabinet manufacturers, was delivered to several area high school and middle school shops for use in the classroom.

Through his local church, Haffner raised money for four ambulances to be delivered to Mexico. In 1987, he raised the money to buy a fire truck, an ambulance, a van, a boat, and a boat trailer for an eyeglass mission to Guatemala in which he participated. He also participated in two eyeglass missions to Mexico and one to Romania.

As an Indiana Lions Foundation Trustee, Haffner was instrumental in the foundation's successful establishment of "Operation KidSight," a preschool eye-screening program in Indiana, and served as program director until it was taken over by the Indiana Lions Eye Bank Inc. He served five years as state sight conservation committee chairperson and produced 250 White Cane Day collection canisters and kits for distribution around the state to enable Lions clubs to fund their sight conservation projects.

Haffner was a frequent presenter at state and district leadership development events and developed many programs and ideas for use with clubs to increase membership and enthusiasm in the various programs of Lions Clubs International. He and his wife attended many district, state, and international conventions and forums and hosted three Lions Youth Exchange students in their home.

For his humanitarian service, he was recognized with five Lions International President's Certificates of Appreciation, an International President's Leadership Medal, an International Presidential Medal, the Indiana Distinguished Lion Award, a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship, Indiana Lions Foundation W. P. Woods Fellowship, and the Kosciusko County Community Foundation Heart of Gold Award.

Haffner was preceded in death by his parents; an infant brother, Harold Gene; his brother-in-law, Robert Hatheway; and Ann's parents, Richard and Ruth Stoeckley. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Ann; twin sister, Charlotte Hatheway; children, John, Jane, and Mary; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Richard "Dick" Everett Lahr, 87, Greenfield, IN, died May 16. He was born in Indianapolis to Lorraine "Bub" and Wilma "Billie" (Smith) Lahr of Indianapolis. Lahr graduated from Washington High School in 1954 and Wabash College in 1958. He married Rita Elaine Conway on June 15, 1958; she preceded him in death October 10, 2015.

He played football at Washington High School and was a tackle on the 1953 All-City football squad chosen by the Indianapolis Star. He also played football at Wabash College and was a member of Sigma Chi. He was a 10-year member of the City of Indianapolis Parks Board and was a co-founder of the Warren Township Football Club and an IHSA football referee for 32 years.

Lahr retired from McGowan Insurance and had previously worked at Allstate and Traveler's.

Lahr is survived by his daughters, Lisa Habig, Elaine Hanselman, and Susan Corey; son, Bradley Lahr; and six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Carole Ann.

1959 Leonard Andrew "Drew" Brennan Jr.

died August 2. He was married to his college sweetheart, Barbara Bittorf Brennan, for 62 years. He was father to four children: Mary Sheehan, Ann Brennan, Leonard A. Brennan III, and Megan Wedl. Brennan delighted in the achievements and journeys of his eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He leaves behind his sister, Eden Lysaught, but joins his brother, John Scott Brennan, in the afterlife. He also leaves behind the beloved relationships



he developed with cousins in Salt Lake City and Portland.

Brennan was born in Salt Lake City, UT, to Leonard A. Brennan and Evelyn Scott Brennan. Confined to bed for two years as a child with scarlet fever, he later attended Judge Memorial High School. As an adolescent, he played offensive end on the high school football team—later he played collegiate tennis and threw the javelin.

Brennan was among the first to ride Brighton Ski Resort's Mount Millicent ski lift, as his father and uncles helped to build the resort's first chairlift. The New York Times wrote a feature article about the seasonal life his family lived in those years, based out of the Austrian-styled A-frame at the base of the mountain. In his junior year of high school, Brennan moved to Lake Oswego, OR, with his parents and his sister. Ultimately, he would graduate from Campion High School, a private boarding school in Prairie du Chien, WI.

Inspired as a teen by the dreams of his mother, in high school Brennan began his pursuit of a career in medicine. As an undergraduate at Wabash College, he was introduced at a dance to Barbie Bittorf, a student at nearby St. Mary of the Woods. Two years her senior, he courted her while studying medicine at St. Louis University and for a time made the 170-mile trip to St. Mary of the Woods in his VW Bug. They married in 1961. Shortly after completing his residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, Brennan was drafted into the U.S. Army at the age of 29. He served in Vietnam as a medic for one year, quietly earning the Bronze Star for heroism while stationed in Chu Lai.

Rejoining his family, Brennan pursued a two-year postdoctoral research fellowship in renal physiology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. In 1970, Drew and Barb moved into their "Squirrel Hollow" in Rochester with their four children, and his 25-year career in nephrology as a Mayo Clinic physician began. As a physician, Brennan was known for his warmth and generosity.

Brennan Jr. (continued)

He assisted as faculty at Mayo Medical School and participated in scholarly writing early in his career, but the bulk of his contributions were found in work as a consulting physician. With an enduring humility and sharp mind, he enjoyed the privilege of caring for patients from across the world.

In 1979, while on a century bike ride, Brennan spotted “Nether Wallop” and convinced his wife to move the family out to the bucolic countryside of southeastern Minnesota. There, Brennan connected in his free time with his Irish heritage, raising sheep, caring for horses, sharecropping hayfields, and walking and skiing in the nearby woods. In 1986 they sold the Ford tractor, bevy of snow shovels, and down parkas and moved to Atlantic Beach, FL, where they lived for 28 years at Ocean Walk and Brennan joined the “Dirty 30” and helped open the doors of Mayo Clinic Jacksonville, FL.

Brennan will forever be remembered for the passion with which he lived his life, and the breadth of interests he pursued and sought to master. Large-format photography, languages, tennis, golf, backpacking, long walks, all forms of skiing and snowboarding, windsurfing, and paddling filled his days on this earth. Beginning in the early 2000s, Brennan and his wife discovered meditation and became a part of the World Community of Christian Meditation and together were early supporters of the Neptune Beach meditation center. He volunteered with schoolchildren in Atlantic Beach, helping children learn how to read. Brennan also helped make this world a better place by spending countless hours helping himself and others find and hold on to sobriety. The manner in which he embraced AA fellowship and allowed himself to be changed by working a highly disciplined program was something to behold. He found immense meaning in supporting countless people in their journey toward wholeness.

One of Brennan’s numerous classrooms was the Camino de Santiago. Papa, as he was known by his grandchildren, cleverly cloaked his mentorship in the form of a challenging, monthlong, 500-mile pilgrimage in Spain—

the Way of Saint James. Going forward, generations of his family will tell the story of how this man impacted the moral development of his grandchildren while walking across Spain.

With the devoted and constant care of his soulmate, Brennan navigated the last years of life with Alzheimer’s disease. His lightheartedness, the joy found connecting with others, his ongoing efforts to serve others, and his gratitude for his life on earth were an essential part of his being. His warmth, genuine curiosity, and charm will be felt by many people.

James Lee “Jim” McVay, 85, died May 1 in Kensington, CA. Born in Indianapolis, he was the oldest of six children. He grew up on the family farm before graduating from the prestigious Wabash College with a triple major.

McVay joined the Marine Corps and became a jet pilot with the rank of captain. With an M.A. in business from the esteemed Thunderbird Graduate School, McVay worked in Singapore and Puerto Rico with his first wife and son before returning to the U.S. in 1972. He became a talented contractor who designed and built custom home additions throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

After McVay’s first marriage dissolved, he met Larana Robinson at church in 1998. They married in 2002, enjoying singing, travel, and delight together.

McVay will be remembered as a loving husband, father, and grandfather; a respected veteran; and a talented musician. He is survived by his wife, Larana; her two daughters, Amy and Sarah; his son, James II; and his daughter-in-law, Cathy. He has four grandchildren whom he adored. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

1961

James Lawson Davidson III, 83, of Indian Head Park, IL, died June 10.

Davidson was born and raised in Marshall, MI, where he graduated high school with honors. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Wabash College and a master’s in business administration in marketing from the Kellogg School of Business at Northwestern University.

Davidson served in the U.S. Navy as lieutenant (junior grade) for four years on the USS Cowell DD-547, followed by a career in marketing and advertising with Alberto-Culver, Cunningham & Walsh, Bender Browning, and Euro Taitham.

He volunteered for Habitat for Humanity in Kane County and at the Hinsdale Historical Society for many years. After retirement, he started his own handyman business and had great success. He loved golf, sports car racing, making stained glass windows, and woodworking.

Davidson was preceded in death by his brother, John Davidson. He is survived by his wife, Carol Davidson; his sister, Deborah Fisher; and his sister-in-law, Holly Self.

William Keith Hayden

83, of Columbus, IN, died May 3. He was born in Madison, IN. He married Carol Ritter on June 11, 1961.



Hayden attended Wabash College on a football scholarship and was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity. After college, he coached Little League baseball, played slow-pitch softball, and umpired slow-pitch softball and several national championship games. His favorite sport to officiate was high school and college football.

In 2000, Hayden retired from Arvin Industries, where he served for more than 40 years, ending his career as the manager of customer service. He enjoyed golf with his buddies, gardening, reading, playing cards, and wintering in Arizona. His favorite pastime was watching his children and grandchildren participate in sports and other activities.

He is survived by the love of his life, Carol; children, Andrew Hayden, Pamela Stachelek, and Douglas Hayden; five grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his mother, Hazel Stout Hayden Stults; stepfather, Edward Stults; and brother, Richard Hayden.

1962

Michael W. Fanger, 83, of Lebanon, NH, died August 1. He was born in Fort Wayne, IN, and was the son of Walter and Dorothy Fanger.

Growing up in Fort Wayne, he met Sharon, his high school sweetheart and wife of 61 years. He graduated from North Side High School in 1958. He completed his undergraduate studies at Wabash College in 1962 and obtained his Ph.D. from Yale University in 1967. He began his independent research at Case Western Reserve University. In 1981, Fanger was recruited to Dartmouth Medical School, where he established a research laboratory and taught classes for many years, training and inspiring many undergraduate, graduate, and medical students, as well as numerous postdoctoral fellows. He was later appointed chair of the department of microbiology and immunology, a role in which he served for 10 years. He was very active in the scientific community, earning the respect of his colleagues worldwide.

Fanger’s research lab was highly productive, producing more than 160 papers and 90 patents and patent applications while performing groundbreaking work in the field of Fc receptor immunology and immunotherapy. Perhaps his proudest accomplishments were the successful biotechnology companies he co-founded, including Medarex and Celdara Medical. Celdara Medical has helped academic scientists worldwide transform their discoveries into groundbreaking medical innovations. Medarex was later acquired by Bristol-Myers Squibb and is responsible for pioneering immunotherapy, including the creation of the successful cancer therapeutics ipilimumab and nivolumab, which are FDA approved to treat almost 40 different cancers, and are estimated to have saved hundreds of thousands of lives.

Fanger loved to travel with his wife and the rest of his family, often visiting friends in Ireland and England. Another favorite destination was St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands. In his retirement he enjoyed spending time with and helping his children and grandchildren with all sorts of

projects. Fanger loved to work in his house and yard, and had endless energy for long walks, hard work, and table tennis. He will be remembered for his generosity and sharp wit.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon; two children, Suzanne Fanger and Christopher Fanger; four grandchildren; brothers, Phil Fanger and Robert Fanger; sister-in-law, Denise Fanger; and numerous nieces and nephews, all of whom will miss his guidance, wisdom, and wonderful sense of humor. He was predeceased by his brother, Jerry Fanger.

Dennis Stephen “Denny”

Gaughan, 83, of Bonita Springs, FL, died May 21.

Gaughan was born in Indianapolis to the late Edward J. and Rose M. (Schaedal) Gaughan. He attended Cathedral High School and was an avid athlete excelling in track. After graduating from Cathedral, Gaughan attended Wabash College, earning an undergraduate degree, and later pursued a graduate degree in accounting from Butler University.

Gaughan was a certified public accountant for many years and an entrepreneur. During his lengthy career, he was instrumental in the successful operation of many business enterprises. In 1989, he established Floating Docks Manufacturing Company, a business that remains in the family today.

In 2006, Gaughan moved to Bonita Springs, FL, where he was a longtime member of Collier’s Reserve Country Club in Naples, FL. He was an avid golfer who enjoyed traveling the world and playing on legendary courses. He was an ardent sports fan throughout his life and enjoyed sharing this pastime with his friends and family. Gaughan loved the Indianapolis Colts. He had a tremendous sense of humor and delighted in entertaining all with his stories.

Survivors include his wife, Gloria J. Gaughan; sons, Brian D. and Christopher; stepson, Robert Holloran; and six grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Kevin, David, Edward, and Tony.

Thomas Leroy Houk Jr., 82, died on May 8, in Orlando, FL. Houk was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend.

Houk graduated from Wabash College and served his country as a retired captain in the Navy Reserve. He was president of Diller-Brown & Associates for many years before he retired. Then, he could be found having breakfast at Johnny’s Diner most mornings. He was an avid sportsman who participated in Enduro motorcycle racing, marathon running, cycling, and car racing. He was a man of simple pleasures who loved popcorn, iced tea, and sweets. Houk enjoyed watching basketball and soccer, following the Orlando Magic and Orlando City soccer team closely. He also was a history buff and enjoyed watching the History Channel.

Houk was a faithful member of his church, where he dedicated his time and resources to various community service activities. He was involved in the prevention of human trafficking, directed traffic on Sundays, mentored teenagers who wanted to be future businessmen, and participated in a weekly men’s group. When in North Carolina, he volunteered chopping vegetables for the food bank.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Gayle Houk; sons, Colin and Kevin; two grandchildren; sister, Patty Pracht; and brothers, Bob and Bill Houk.

1963

Edmund Molloy died January 24, 2016.

1964

James “Jim” Walter Cooper, 79, died July 24, 2022. Cooper was born in Sullivan, IN, and was the son of Rachel Ann Everhart and Walter Warren “Pepsi” Cooper.

Cooper was a 1960 graduate of Milwaukee Washington High School, where he was vice president of his class and on the football and track teams. He attended Wabash College, for one year, on a football and track scholarship. His track expertise was the discus throw. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a bachelor of arts degree in Spanish in 1964. Later, Cooper received a master’s degree in Spanish from the University of Wisconsin-

Madison, where he was teaching high school Spanish.

After college, he and his wife, Karen, lived for a year in Maracaibo, Venezuela. While teaching high school Spanish in Madison, Cooper started a travel agency with a fellow Spanish teacher. Through this agency, he arranged for high school Spanish students to travel to Mexico.

He lived in Madison, WI, until he moved with his young family to St. Louis in 1974. He moved there to work with his brother Tom Cooper’s company, PPG (Physicians’ Placement Group).

When the company was sold in 1984, Cooper, with his teacher’s certification and bilingual proficiency in Spanish, began teaching at Parkway School System, St. Louis County. A popular and award-winning high school teacher, he was chosen in 2002 as a Fulbright Exchange Scholar. Through this program, Cooper resided and taught in a high school in Poza Rica, Mexico, for one semester.

In 1989, Cooper married a fellow Parkway High School teacher, Rosalie Scuderi Wood. They were married for 30 years until she died.

Reverend Gary T. Mohler, 81, of Bridgeville, PA, formerly of Canonsburg, PA, died July 15.

Mohler was born in Canonsburg, a son of the late Harry and Gwen Thomas Mohler. He was a graduate of Canon-McMillan High School Class of 1960, and Wabash College in 1964. He was a decorated Naval veteran serving in Vietnam. Mohler then attended the Divinity School of the University of Chicago and was a graduate of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Class of 1975.

He was a longtime member of the Canonsburg United Presbyterian Church and had previously served as pastor for five years at Bethel Presbyterian Church in Knightstown, IN. He was employed with Greene County Arc and various other social service and government agencies. After retirement, Mohler officiated mostly at funerals and weddings, the last one being the wedding of his son and daughter-in-law.

He loved technology and was a lifelong learner with a great sense of humor, who especially enjoyed British humor and television comedies.

On December 2, 1972, he married Diana J. Andrews, who died March 27, 2018, after 45 years of marriage. Left behind to cherish his memory are his beloved children, Drew Mohler and M. Blake Mohler; his “other son,” John Saffel; and his sister, Sharon Butzer.

1966

Lawrence N. McNair II, 78, of Roanoke County, VA, died May 16. McNair was born in Detroit and was the son of Dr. and Mrs. John McNair. He was the grandson of Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence North McNair. His family moved to Muskegon, MI, when he was young.

McNair had a brilliant mind. He liked to sail and had a sailboat as a teenager. He was a train enthusiast; he loved train rides and model trains. He also loved baseball.

McNair was a graduate of Muskegon High School, Wabash College, and Wichita State University in Wichita, KS. Following his graduation, McNair taught at private schools in Kansas before moving to Blacksburg, VA, to attend Virginia Tech.

McNair owned a professional sign business in Christiansburg, VA, for several years. He taught economics at Southern Virginia University. He retired from Verizon in Roanoke, VA, after 12 years. He was deeply religious and was a member of St. Thomas of Canterbury Anglican Catholic Church in Roanoke.

Survivors include his wife, Helen Taylor McNair; son, Greg McNair; daughter, Amy Kinsley; stepdaughters, Candace Calfee and Amber Wilson; two grandchildren; and several nephews, nieces, and other family.

1967

Robert Barta, of Eugene, OR, died August 26, 2022.

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

THE FORD FOUNDATION was first conceived in 1936 as a philanthropic arm of the Ford Motor Company. It established the Fund for the Advancement of Education in 1953.

One of its first initiatives was the Program for College Self-Studies, which provided funding to liberal arts colleges to conduct critical examinations and appraisals of their work in liberal education. Wabash President Frank Sparks tasked Dean Byron Trippet to take the lead on this initiative. While a small step, this established working connections that would benefit Wabash when it was announced that the Ford Foundation was looking at potentially more significant awards and projects.

Ultimately, the Foundation selected Wabash as one of the first recipients of the Ford Foundation Challenge Grant. The conditions of the grant were straightforward. The Foundation awarded Wabash \$2 million provided the College would obtain \$4 million in matching gifts within a three-year period.

Some years later, now president, Trippet attended a meeting of the Association of American Colleges in Denver, Colorado. He was presented with an exciting, yet vague, opportunity from the Ford Foundation.

"I was ushered into a spacious lounge which had been converted into something like an office. There were perhaps a half dozen Ford people casually seated about the room," Trippet later recalled in "Wabash on My Mind." "James Armsey did most of the talking. ... He asked me what plans we had at Wabash for the decade of the 1960s. I outlined my objectives."

Trippet left this meeting with little to no information. A few weeks later, he received a questionnaire from the Ford Foundation with some probing questions. "It was a searching, demanding set of questions and instructions," Trippet said.

With a tight deadline and many questions to answer, Trippet, William Degitz, and Benjamin Rogge huddled together in Center Hall, ran the numbers, and answered all of the foundation's questions. They felt reasonably confident about receiving an award, though they did not know what that entailed. It would be up to alumni, faculty, staff, and students to seal the deal.

That spring, members of the Ford Foundation made several visits to Wabash. The first was by Elizabeth Pascal, who met

with faculty and members of the Board of Trustees. Her visit was followed by visits from other members of the Foundation, including James Armsey.

Trippet put his faith in Trustee John P. Collett [W1924] to assist in these site visits, and he could not have chosen a better person. During meetings with the Ford Foundation and trustees, Collett was one of the most avid supporters of Wabash and its ability to meet the demands of a \$2-to-\$1 matching grant.

"What the hell! Let's go for broke! Let's accept the two-million-dollar challenge. We can meet it," Trippet recalled Collett saying to the Foundation representatives.

Ultimately, the Foundation selected Wabash as one of the first recipients of the Ford Foundation Challenge Grant. The conditions of the grant were straightforward. The Foundation awarded Wabash \$2 million provided the College would obtain \$4 million in matching gifts within a three-year period.

Wabash succeeded in meeting the demands of the Ford Foundation Challenge Grant. The grant brought together all aspects of the College working for a common goal, placing it on an upward trajectory. The resulting campus development included Baxter Hall, Martindale Hall, McCanniss Physical Education Center, Little Giant Stadium, and fraternity housing. Funds were used for faculty and staff development and retention, scholarships, external and outreach programming, campus facility upgrades, and the Development Office's growth.

In his chapel talk "Modesty Aside, Wabash is on its Way," Dean Benjamin Rogge discussed the grant and closed by saying, "Each of us can take a new and enlarged sense of pride in our association with this College—and with that a new and enlarged sense of the importance of accepting the full responsibility that goes with that association. Our president is already at his task with new vigor, new confidence, and a new sense of its importance; let us now turn to our tasks in the same spirit."

The spirit and enthusiasm of generosity and collaboration have lived on in the Giant Steps Campaign.

Nolan Eller '11

Archivist | archives@wabash.edu

 @wallysattic

Giant Steps Campaign: Grants, Foundations, and Corporate Support

Wabash continues to be well supported by grants, corporations, and foundations.

State and Federal Awards— \$1,875,954

(reimbursable grants not included in Giant Steps totals)

During the Giant Steps Campaign, a focus on giant minds and giant ideas supported Wabash faculty and students with an expanded emphasis on stimulating academic undergraduate research. With support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the National Institutes of Health, the College has consistently grown our average dollars-per-award and annual submissions to federal entities. This focus on academic rigor and scientific curiosity has drawn new and talented faculty to the College and has set up our students for successful careers in numerous STEM fields backed by experiential learning.

Foundation and Corporate Awards— \$6,674,913

Student support services, co-curricular Wabash X programming, Lilly Library resources, and faculty pedagogical development have all benefited from local, state, and national foundation support. With these grant dollars, we have seen the growth of the Wabash Liberal Arts Immersion Program (WLAIP), Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse initiative (WDPD), and our highly regarded Visiting Artists Series. We have fostered deep relationships with funders who help us to sustain immersion learning experiences and increase the availability of student scholarships.

Lilly Endowment Inc.— \$28,727,178

(not included in Giant Steps totals)

Our partnership with Lilly Endowment has supported efforts to increase student access and belonging through programs like WLAIP and strategic collaborations with both academic and student groups. Lilly Endowment has supported intentional recruitment pipeline development in order to increase enrollment and graduation rates. These efforts have launched summer programming like Pathways to Your Future and Liberal Arts at Play. They have been instrumental in their encouragement of Wabash to open our spaces in an effort to promote Restoring Hope, Restoring Trust in our community. We continue this work to leverage our people, programs, and places for a stronger Wabash College and broader community. Finally, Lilly Endowment has been a sustaining funder of the Pastoral Leadership Program and our prominent Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, which builds on our College's national reputation and outreach efforts near and far.



photo by Anna Tiplick

The Class of 2027 Wabash Liberal Arts Immersion Program (WLAIP) cohort

1968

Malcolm Moore, 76, of Montezuma, IN, died May 3. He was born in Clinton, IN, to Franklin Theodore Moore and Dorothy Virginia Pinnick Moore.

Moore graduated in 1964 from Garfield High School, where he had started a photography club. He attended Wabash College and later graduated from Indiana State University with a degree in photojournalism.

In the Texas Forestry Service his skills were used for aerial mapping and creating self-taught educational materials. At the Terre Haute Tribune Star, he rose from photojournalist to production manager. His photographer's eye and his advanced darkroom and computer skills allowed him to take excellent photos and enhance them with a unique artistic flair. He established and operated Moore Photography from 1985 to 1995 in Terre Haute, IN.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Montezuma. He enjoyed his membership in the Covered Bridge Art Association, where he exhibited regularly and his photography won multiple awards. Moore and his wife operated the Machledt Furniture Store in Montezuma for many years. As a lifelong learner, he had a wide knowledge of many subjects. He was gifted in his ability to explain and educate others in an intelligent, witty, and jovial manner.

Moore was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Marty. Survivors include his wife, Gwendolyn; son, Jeffrey Moore; daughter, Julie Sutliff; stepdaughters, Laura Spilman and Suzanne Faris; 12 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; a brother, Mike Moore; a sister, Marilee Bridgewater; a sister-in-law, Sarah Moore; and several nieces and nephews.

1969

Ron Hall died June 30 in Port Clinton, OH. He was born in Kentucky and graduated with a bachelor's degree in history from Wabash College.

He was married to Vicky Hall for 49 years and enjoyed traveling, gardening, and riding his bicycle.

Hall joined the Landscape Management staff—then known as Weeds Trees and Turf—in 1984 as an associate editor. He became editor-in-chief in 2000 and was

named editor-at-large in 2008.

Hall covered the industry for more than 30 years and won numerous awards during his tenure. The Turf & Ornamentals Communicators Association (TOCA) inducted Hall into its Hall of Fame in 2016.

1973

Richard Gordon Appley, 72, died August 3 at the Wickshire Senior Living in Poland, OH.

Appley was a longtime resident of Ludlow, MA, and he moved to Ohio in 2021 to be closer to family. He was born in New Haven, CT, to Mortimer H. and Dee G. Appley.

After graduating from Amherst Regional High School, he went on to Wabash College. He later received a bachelor's degree in general studies from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and a master's degree in criminal justice from American International College.

Appley had a long career in law enforcement, including more than a decade as a police officer and sergeant at the University of Massachusetts' Amherst and Worcester campuses and 13 years as an officer and supervisor in the Massachusetts State Parole system, retiring in 2005. After that, he was a part-time private investigator for a Boston investigation firm for several years.

He was involved with the local Republican Party in Ludlow and worked as an election volunteer at the local polling station for many years.

Appley was a devoted fan of Boston sports, following their games on television and radio and making an annual trip to a Red Sox game at Fenway Park with his grandson. He played tennis and squash in high school and was an accomplished racquetball player well into his 40s. He was also an amateur pilot, earning his private pilot's license and thrilling and terrifying family members by taking them up with him in small passenger planes. Appley loved the music of the 1960s and was a lifelong Beatles fan, from their first vinyl album to their best-of CD collections. After retirement, he enjoyed visiting estate sales and auctions, with a particular interest in Mayflower Moving Company memorabilia, since he had driven their company van during summers while at college.

Appley is survived by his daughter, Heather A. Kirkpatrick; son, Justin R. Appley; brother, John Appley; and grandson, Colin G. Kirkpatrick.

Steven Lee Snyder, 72, died December 25, 2022. He was born to James A. and Margie B. Snyder in Indianapolis. He married Ellen Kaplan on September 25, 1993.

Snyder spent most of his career in the hardware industry, holding the position of vice president of sales and marketing prior to his retirement. A natural athlete, he played several sports, but he was proudest of playing football for Wabash College. You could find him cheering at the Indy 500 every year. He held his seat there for more than a half century. His interest in other cultures led him to travel to countries across three continents, including Israel, Turkey, Hong Kong, and China.

He is survived by his wife; brother, Jeff A. Snyder; sister, Twila S. Snyder; sister-in-law, Brenda Hetzler; and nephews and nieces. He also was an uncle to 15 great-nieces and -nephews. His parents, James and Margie Snyder, and brothers Jimmy and Phil preceded him in death.

1974

Richard "Rick" O'Dell Adams died July 30 in Indianapolis. He was born to John Richard (Jack) and Mary Caroline (Molly) Adams in Indianapolis.

Adams and his younger brother, John David "Dave," grew up in Indianapolis. He graduated from Shortridge High School in 1970. He then attended Wabash College, where he was a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity and graduated in 1974. Adams received his J.D. from Indiana University School of Law—Indianapolis in 1979.

In 1973, he met Rebecca "Becky" Reiners, and they married on September 25, 1976. They have three children, Emily Susan Adams, Samuel Mark "Sam" Adams, and John Richard Adams II.

Adams spent his career practicing law in Indianapolis, most of it at the Marion County Public Defender Agency. In addition to helping people who couldn't otherwise afford an attorney, he enjoyed mentoring and training young public

defenders. He retired from the Public Defender Agency in November 2019, but maintained a small private practice afterward.

Adams was an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Indianapolis and sang in the choir for 42 years. He especially loved being in the choir. He was a part of several choir tours to England and Scotland and around the U.S. His favorite was the 1997 England tour with all five members of his family in the choir. He also served on the vestry of St. Paul's several times, including three terms as warden.

Adams is survived by his wife, Becky; children, Emily, Sam, and John; brother, Dave Adams, and his husband, Nik See; and three grandchildren.

1977

John Kaylor Mann, 68, died June 10 in Phoenix, AZ. Mann was born in Indianapolis. He graduated from Thomas Carr Howe High School, Indianapolis, and from Wabash College.

Following college, Mann fulfilled a long-held dream of becoming a United States Marine Corps officer. He completed Officer Candidates School and the Basic School, both in Quantico, VA, receiving his commission as a second lieutenant, in 1981.

Mann was first and foremost a Marine with a profound love of country. He was a field artillery officer for 10 years, after which his military occupational specialty changed to motor transport officer. Mann had five separate company commands as a motor transport officer.

His most memorable tour during his Marine Corps career, which occurred between artillery and motor transport billets, was his assignment as combat cargo officer aboard USS St. Louis, LKA-116, Sasebo, Japan. As the only marine officer in ship's company, this three-year sea duty involved logistical coordination and command of all embarked U.S. Marine Corps detachments, as well as all Marine Corps combat-ready cargo being carried by the ship for exercises and missions. A student of celestial navigation, Mann was mesmerized by the sea and the stars when underway. He felt at peace with the sea.

Mann served proudly in the Corps, on active duty from 1980 to 1993, during which time he was promoted through officer ranks to captain. Following active duty, he continued to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve from 1993 to 1999. During active duty, Mann was deployed many times to various global points for both readiness training and conflicts, including an assigned command of a Marine detachment tasked with recovery efforts in the Persian Gulf during Operation Desert Storm.

A Marine Corps life meant that Mann and his family moved often, but it always meant new adventures, which they embraced. Mann often reflected that he hoped they'd never be ones who, in older age, couldn't adapt to change.

As with all serious life endeavors, Mann approached his Marine Corps commitment with a full heart. He was a leader by example, never asking what he wouldn't do himself. There are countless stories—some heartwarming, some comical, some that shouldn't be repeated—recounting the ways this decorated Marine Officer impacted some young Marine's life through skilled leadership or a show of compassion. The United States Marine Corps, itself, states that one shall know an officer of marines by these character traits: bearing, courage, decisiveness, dependability, endurance, enthusiasm, initiative, integrity, judgment, justice, knowledge, loyalty, tact, and unselfishness. All of these qualities described Mann, especially selflessness; he thought of himself last, first considering who was on his left and right and what they needed.

He was respected by all with whom he served in the Corps, regardless of rank. The sentiment "once a Marine, always a Marine" could not be more true than for Mann; it is a lifelong brotherhood/sisterhood that is unrivaled. If, somehow, a Marine is identified by another Marine, while out and about, it's commonplace to hear a very quiet "Semper Fi, Marine," with the other responding in kind, affirming a lifelong commitment to one's fellow Marines and to the United States of America.

The core pride and bearing that Mann felt from being a Marine was shared by Laurie, his loving wife of 45 years, and by Mann's other family members. His esprit de corps was easily recognized by so many friends and colleagues whom Mann impacted during his too-brief lifetime.

Following his formal Marine Corps commitment, Mann and Laurie adopted San Diego County as their permanent home, and they nurtured a "little farm," as Mann called their property. Mann also began a second 21-year career as an educator, a role that was apropos of Mann's professional history as well as his personality. He loved to witness his students' success and he strove to foster their sense of personal responsibility. Mann himself never stopped learning. He also loved to explain things in infinite detail! Consistently, students praised him. Colleagues, including superiors, sought him out for his expertise on different matters.

Mann was an inspiring, thoughtful husband who fiercely valued the family and the welcoming home that he and Laurie created together. Just as Laurie supported Mann's dreams and goals, he showed her the very same love in return, always fully encouraging her dreams and interests, often participating right alongside her. They were a strong team in all that life presented to them, both joyful and sorrowful. He was always quick with expression of his love to Laurie.

Mann also valued true, lasting friendships, with the span of those lifelong connections ranging from his high school wrestling coach and mentor, to countless Marines and their families reaching from coast to coast, to worldwide fellow collectors of militaria, to respected, longtime professional colleagues and other buddies.

Mann had an unhesitating generous nature, both at home and toward his greater community. He could always be counted on to support various philanthropic causes, particularly when they concerned children or animals. (He was a doting papa to many creatures that he and Laurie shared their love and home with through the years.) He was a gentle listener, accepting of others, creative, and artistic, and he pursued diverse interests with real

passion; once he jumped in, he gave everything he had. He was a marvelous chef who believed that dancing with his wife, to Motown while cooking, would sweeten any dish. Mann had a wonderful sense of humor and a quick wit with perfect timing; he helped Laurie laugh even in his final days.

Words cannot hold the love his family and friends will always have for Mann, nor can they adequately express the sadness that comes with his passing. He was a good man who appreciated the simplicities of life and who will be greatly missed. His courage, positive spirit, and "let's move forward" attitude will always be remembered.

He is survived by his wife, Laurie; sisters, Terri Engle and Tami Engle; nephew, Seth Engle; and true friends, near and far.

For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. Romans 14:8

1980

Thomas W. Sines, 65, of Quincy, MA, died December 2, 2022.

Beloved son of the late Frank E. and Abbie M. (Garrity) Sines, he was born in Quincy and raised in Houghs Neck. Sines was always proud to be a "Necka."

He was a graduate of Archbishop Williams High School, where he was a member of the hockey and varsity cross-country teams. In his later years he enjoyed music, gardening, nature, and spending time with his family. He loved the outdoors, kayaking, and hiking in the woods.

One of nine siblings, he was the beloved brother of Philip and Colleen Sines, Frank Sines, James and Yvonne Primavera, Steven and Dorothy Sines, Martin and Sandra Sines, Joseph and Janet Shea, and Robert and Ann Conti, and the late Patricia Sines. He is survived by many nieces and nephews and their families.

1986

Michael Andrew Paxson, 59, died June 10. Born in Fort Wayne, IN, he was the son of the late James L. and Carol K. Paxson. He graduated from Elmhurst High School and was the class valedictorian.

Paxson was a graduate of Wabash College, earned his doctorate in music from Ohio State University, and was a classically trained voice student. He graduated from seminary at Methodist Theological School in Ohio, and was a pastor in the Columbus, OH, area.

He enjoyed spending time playing cards at his parents' RV at Jellystone Campground. He is survived by several cousins, including Robert Habeger.

2025

Nicholas Bryant Casad, 20, of Terre Haute, IN, died June 11.

Casad was born in Terre Haute to Eric Casad and Julie VanGilder Casad. He graduated from Terre Haute South Vigo High School in 2021 and proceeded to study at Wabash College. His dream was to be a doctor, specifically a pediatrician.

Casad played football at South for four years; however, when he discovered wrestling, that became his passion. He continued his wrestling career at Wabash. He spent a lot of time in the weight room and loved training for his matches. Casad was a dedicated wrestler with an unforgettable personality. His reputation on and off the mat was admirable. He was a great friend, brother, son, and grandson.

He is survived by his parents, Eric and Julie Casad; brother, Collin Casad; maternal grandparents, Bill and Libby Toney and Alfred and Zina VanGilder; paternal grandparents, Robert Wayne and Vicky Casad; aunts and uncles, "Funcle" Matt Toney, Jennifer Earl, Nikki VanGilder, Alfred VanGilder IV, Bob Casad, Cheri Paige, and Eunice Champion; several cousins; lifelong best friends, Josh Howell, Conner Lutz, and Alex Rose; and many, many other close friends.

Casad was preceded in death by his grandmother, Margie Kay Casad, and uncle, Erin Bryant.



1949

Dale Milligan of Crawfordsville, IN, died June 21. He was born in Waveland, IN, to James Milford and Ruby A. Milligan.

He graduated from Waveland High School and spent one semester at Wabash College before enlisting in the U.S. Navy, where he served in the Pacific theater until World War II ended. He witnessed, from the deck of his ship, the surrender of Japan in Tokyo Bay. He then returned to Wabash College, graduating in 1949. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity and an active alumnus of the college, serving as a class agent for many years.

On August 14, 1948, Milligan married the love of his life, Clara Louise Aumann from Shelbyville, IN. In 1958, they opened Milligan's Garden Center, adding the Milligan's Flowers & Gifts shop later. He retired in 2000 after moving the Flowers & Gifts shop to East Main Street and turning that business over to his daughter, Susan Rosen.

Milligan served on the Crawfordsville Zoning Board, the Alcoholic Beverage Services Board, and the Milligan Park Board. He was a past president of Rotary, the Masonic Lodge No. 300 of Waveland, the American Legion Post 72, University Club, and Ouitatenon. He delivered Meals on Wheels until 2019. For 70 years he was an active member of Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church, where he served as elder, deacon, and chairman of many committees and projects.

Milligan and his wife were longtime members of the Crawfordsville Country Club, enjoyed traveling, and had many friends in the Crawfordsville community. He was a voracious reader, an avid historian with a special interest in Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War, and

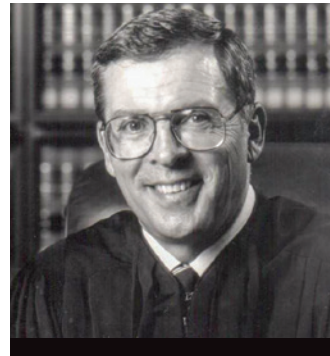
the keeper of the Milligan family lore. In 2017 at the age of 91, he achieved a personal goal by visiting Normandy.

He was predeceased by Clara Lou. Deceased siblings are brothers J. Kenneth, Roland, Richard, and Milford, and a sister, Ellen Jane. Milligan is survived by his daughters, Nancy Frick and Susan Rosen; two grandchildren; two great-granddaughters; and many loving nieces and nephews, and great-nieces and -nephews.

A remembrance

Dale is one of the best men I have ever known. His servant heart and Wabash spirit were most evident through his steadfast, faithful involvement with both his church and his college. In his 80s, Dale was always part of Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church crews that worked football concession sales. In his 90s, Dale, who dearly loved the church, was still organizing outdoor work crews. My favorite memory of Dale is him at age 94 spraying weeds in the church yard, the sprayer can resting in the seat of his rolling walker. While we kept a watchful eye over Dale to make sure he did not do too much, Dale is the one who really kept a watchful eye over us—over all the things he cared for and all the people he loved.

-John Van Nuys '83



1954

William Irwin Garrard was born in Indianapolis. He was raised by his mother, Doris Garrard, and his grandparents, in Frankfort, IN. He graduated from Frankfort High School in 1950. Garrard earned his B.A. in 1954 from Wabash College. After college, Garrard served in the U.S. Army for two years. It was in keeping with his interest that he was awarded a medal for (rifle) sharpshooting.

Garrard loved the law and loved writing about the law. He wrote in the style of Hemingway. Whether written or spoken, his opinions were concise and clear. A colleague once called him the "haiku judge."

His legal career began when he enrolled at Indiana University Bloomington School of Law in 1956. He received his J.D. with distinction and became a member of Order of the Coif in 1959.

After law school, Garrard began his legal career with the Warsaw, IN, firm Graham, Rasor, Eschbach, and Harris. He practiced law with the firm for the next 15 years, also serving as deputy prosecutor from 1959 to 1969. In 1974, Indiana Gov. Otis Bowen appointed Garrard to the Indiana Court of Appeals. He was reelected to the bench in 1976, 1986, and 1996. He also served as presiding judge of the Third District for three terms. In 1990, Garrard earned his LLM from the University of Virginia Law School, becoming the first Indiana judge to attend the school's master's degree program for sitting judges. Garrard served more than 26 years on the bench before retiring in 2000 and becoming a senior judge of the Court of Appeals.

Garrard served as an adjunct professor at the IU School of Law, Bloomington, for 10 years and is a past president of the law school's alumni association. He also served as a faculty member

at the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, and as a lecturer in trial and appellate practice seminars. He presented at seminars for the Indiana State Bar Association, ICLEF, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. Garrard was a recipient of Wabash College's David Peck Medal, three Sagamore of the Wabash awards (given by Indiana Govs. Bowen, Evan Bayh, and Frank O'Bannon), and the Indiana State Bar Association's Presidential Citation. He was inducted into the Indiana University School of Law Academy of Law Alumni Fellows in 2000.

Garrard served as president of the Kosciusko County Bar Association, vice-chairman and parliamentarian of the Indiana Supreme Court Rules Committee, and secretary of the Indiana State Bar Association. He also served as president of the Warsaw Rotary Club; president of the Warsaw Chamber of Commerce; founding director of the Kosciusko Community YMCA; elder and president of the board of trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Warsaw; and president of the Kosko Conservation Club. He was also a past president of the Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington Law Alumni Association. He was inducted into the Academy of Law Alumni Fellows (2000).

His wife, Linda L. Chezem, survives him. Also surviving him are his children, Michael Garrard, Kathleen West, Kelly Smith, Sally Ann Wood, and Andrew J. Wood; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A remembrance

A colleague referred to me recently as a bit of a Renaissance man. I laughed. It was humorous not only because of my hillbilly, trailer park upbringing, but mainly because I have, in my journeys, met many truly talented and knowledgeable people with broad swaths of interest and ability. William "Bill" Garrard was one of them.

His life journeys included many stops, titles, and awards. Raised in Frankfort, IN, an Eagle Scout, a Wabash College graduate, a U.S. Army stint, and an Indiana University School of Law Bloomington graduate with distinction, Bill was prepared

well for what was ahead of him. He began his practice of law in Warsaw, IN, where he also, as one could back then, served simultaneously as a deputy prosecutor for 10 years and in private practice for 15. Later appointed to the Indiana Court of Appeals in 1974, Bill went on to serve 26 years in that role. A lifelong learner, he later obtained a master of laws degree from the University of Virginia and became a regular presenter for the Indiana Continuing Legal Education Forum. Garrard also served as an adjunct professor at the Bloomington law school for 10 years and led many seminars and lectures over a variety of organizations during his long career. While in the Army, he was also awarded a medal for sharpshooting. Bill later became quite adept at skeet shooting and made one appearance at the World Skeet Shooting Championships in San Antonio.

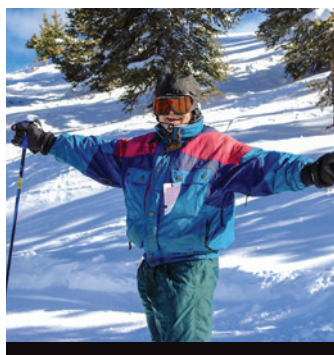
His civic duties were just as varied: president of the Kosciusko County Bar Association, Warsaw Rotary Club, Warsaw Chamber of Commerce, and Kosko Conversation Club; founding director of the Kosciusko Community YMCA; and elder and president of the board of trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Warsaw. Bill was later the vice-chair and parliamentarian for the Indiana Supreme Court Rules Committee, and secretary of the Indiana State Bar Association. He was honored often throughout his career.

As a law clerk for a different court of appeals judge, Linda Chezem, I knew none of this about Bill when I met him. All I knew was that he was a Wabash man. Our conversations spanned 30 years, sometimes with a decade between them. Most of them were at his home, later with the same Judge Chezem, after they had both retired from the Court and married. We would lunch together and catch up on the courts, politics, hunting, and his many adventures. Bill and Linda's home was filled with photos and trophies of wild game, fish, and tournaments. He was an avid outdoorsman and lived it. Linda has an indomitable spirit and loves a great adventure, and they enjoyed many together—Europe, Arizona, all over the United States. His reputation for his love of history, law, and

outdoor adventures remained with those who met him throughout his career. His legal opinions were known among the courts as “Garrard Opinions” for their directness, brevity, and lucidity.

Bill Garrard was a true Renaissance man—a man of many talents and much knowledge. In short, he was Some Little Giant. I will miss him and our conversations.

-Tom Oakes '86



1963

John Gibbs, 85, of Crawfordsville, IN, died January 15.

He was born in Danville, IN, to Joseph and Gladys Kellams Gibbs. He graduated in 1955 from Danville High School and in 1963 from Wabash College, where he was in Beta Theta Pi fraternity. Gibbs was a longtime member of St. John's Episcopal Church.

Gibbs worked for RR Donnelly & Sons until his retirement. After retirement he spent time driving kidney dialysis patients to appointments and volunteered with Meals on Wheels. He loved the outdoors and nature, downhill skiing, camping, boating, motorcycle trips throughout the U.S., and bicycling the Hilly Hundred in blue jeans. He also shared a tree-trimming side business to support his downhill skiing trips.

Gibbs was a gentle soul and led a persistently active lifestyle. He was a beloved and loyal friend.

He is survived by his children, Mike Gibbs, Matt Gibbs, and Cynthia Summers; six grandchildren; and his former wife, Susie Gibbs. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Carrie Jo Gibbs.

A remembrance

I first crossed paths with John Gibbs shortly after returning to practice family medicine in Crawfordsville in 1990. We shared a number of connections—both of us were Wabash Beta alumni and parishioners at St. John's Episcopal Church, and most significantly, we shared a passion for snow skiing. Additionally, I had the privilege of serving as his physician.

John was, for the most part, a reserved individual, with a sense of humor even drier than my own. His time at Wabash was somewhat disjointed; he arrived in 1955 but had to depart at Thanksgiving during his junior year due to a severe health issue. I've heard that he was initially on a pre-med track before circumstances forced his departure. John underwent an extended period of rehabilitation, followed by some time at Indiana University, before eventually returning to Wabash. He displayed remarkable perseverance and earned his degree in 1963.

John's rekindled connection with his Beta fraternity brother Sam Hildebrand '61 played an important role in his return to Crawfordsville. He went on to enjoy a long and fulfilling career in various roles at the printer R.R. Donnelley & Sons. (You have likely handled a book, an encyclopedia, a catalog, or a Bible that he had a part in producing.) John and his wife, Susie, cultivated a lively circle of friends through St. John's and their neighborhood, resulting in a treasure trove of side-splitting stories that he shared with me over the years. I was accustomed to my parents having a similar social group, and I could easily envision him fitting right in.

John possessed an adventurous spirit and upheld the Wabash tradition of fostering enduring friendships with fellow men throughout his life. He had a slew of steadfast companions, including Sam, Conrad Harvey (a childhood friend from Danville, IN, and a Crawfordsville attorney), Mike Grant (the proprietor of the local pizzeria Arni's), and Mike Plant (a Crawfordsville businessman).

John's escapades, whether with sailboats, motorcycles (participating in a couple of Colorado 500s), or ski adventures—or misadventures—were nothing short of legendary.

It seemed that every one of his journeys was fraught with some form of misadventure—be it accidents, getting lost, skirting the law, or gastronomic issues. I'm convinced he was the inspiration for the saying, “What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas.” His storytelling had an uncanny ability to reduce a group of grown men to tears. His adventurous spirit and sense of humor were undoubtedly passed down to his two sons, who continue to be masters of practical jokes.

My most cherished moments with John occurred during our annual men's ski trips. Although he initially dipped his toes into skiing through the St. John's church ski trips, he truly embraced the sport in 1976 when he snagged a red, white, and blue ski outfit on sale at J.C. Penney. He and his wife embarked on their first skiing adventure in an RV alongside three other couples. However, that was the one and only couples' trip. The ladies unanimously decided that the perilous drive to Colorado wasn't worth the gray hair. Consequently, the annual men's trip was born the following year and remains a cherished tradition to this day.

The exact moment when John adopted his iconic ski attire of blue jeans and red leg gaiters remains shrouded in the mists of history, but one could always spot him on the slopes. He had a unique skiing style, limited to turning in only one direction, which made for some intriguing descents down the mountain. I regret missing his daring run on his rear end down Pallavicini at A Basin. Sam aptly summed up John's relationship with the mountains: “John never conquered the mountain, but it also never conquered him.”

I consider myself fortunate to have known John during the latter part of his life. He demonstrated that a person with quirks and imperfections can be a source of immense joy to those around him. It was deeply moving to witness the outpouring of support from so many of his dear friends, whose lives he had touched, during his final days. He truly was Some Little Giant!

-John Roberts '83



1979

John O. Marlowe, 65, of Clayton, IN, died June 13.

He was born to Chuck and Ann (Mitchell) Marlowe.

Marlowe was a graduate of Cascade High School and Wabash College. He was a member of Wabash's 1977 NCAA Division III National Runner-Up football team. He was a sportswriter and columnist for The Paper of Montgomery County and the Noblesville Times. He was an award-winning scribe, winning six writing awards from the Hoosier State Press Association in the past five years, including three best columns in the state. For many years, he co-published the Indiana Basketball Handbook.

Marlowe served on the Hendricks County Community Foundation Board, as well as the Clayton/Liberty Township Library Board. He was an elder in the Clayton Presbyterian Church. He was a kind and gentle spirit, an immediate friend to all people he met, and a devout loyalist to his family and his "peeps."

Survivors include his brother, Todd Marlowe; half-brothers, Ben and David Marlowe; and stepmother, Marian Marlowe.

A remembrance

Seven months ago, John Marlowe was doing CrossFit workouts, writing a weekly column for The Paper of Montgomery County and the Noblesville Times, and basically enjoying life.

This week, he is dead.

Cancer is an insidious beast.

If he could, John would tell people that his legacy boils down to a few things: He would hope that others would use his passing as a spur to go get their own checkups, and if there is cancer, to find it early. He would also likely say that he didn't accomplish everything he wanted in this life. There's no

"but" after that. He wouldn't qualify it. That's just the way he was. Humble? Certainly. Unassuming? Most definitely.

But his legacy is so much more.

Over the last few years, John won more writing awards than anyone else in our company. In the last five years, John won six statewide writing honors from the Hoosier State Press Association, including three first places. Think about that for a minute. If this were high school basketball, John would have three state championships in five years. Think that's Hall of Fame material?

But it's not something he talked about.

For when it came to his accomplishments, John just never said much.

His actions spoke volumes.

John Marlowe was the kind of man and friend you could count on—no matter what. He and I met back in the late '70s or early '80s—neither one of us could remember the exact date. We tried a couple of times to figure it out and ended up laughing about being old men with bad memories.

The first thing that struck me about him back then was his dad. John was the son of famed sportscaster Chuck Marlowe. IU and Bob Knight fans know the elder Marlowe from IU basketball glory days.

Whereas Chuck was outgoing and could take over a room, John was quiet and laid back. That's not to say he wasn't quick with the wit. He absolutely was. A degree from Wabash College proved he was no slouch, and a role on the football team proved he was tough—much tougher than the two-year starter from Cascade High School ever let on.

Actually, he was one of the funniest guys I ever met.

I asked him what position he played in football, and he said "left." "Left end?" "Left out."

He wasn't.

We used to play this game where someone would say the name of a song and the object was to name the performing artist. Other than one of John's very best friends Rocky, he was the best I ever saw at that. He used to joke that when it came to knowledge of unimportant things, he was awfully good. There's that meekness again.

From the '80s to well after the turn of the century, John and I drifted apart. A vagabond newspaper guy, I left the great Hoosier state to work in Texas, North Carolina, and California. It wasn't until after starting the Little Newspaper That Could that I saw him again.

I was working at my desk when I looked up and there stood John. We laughed and hugged, and he said that word of our new venture reached him all the way over in Clayton. He just wanted to come by and say hi and wish us well.

That started some long conversations where we were able to catch up and rekindle a lost friendship. It actually brought another good friend along, and the three of us laughed and did a lot of remembering over lunch one day. It was there that John said he was still looking for something fulfilling, jobwise, I suggested he write for us.

He said no.

Said that he wasn't that good a writer, that he didn't have anything worth sharing, that no one would be interested in what he had to say.

Many, many writing awards later, newspaper professionals would disagree. So would readers. John's columns were always among the most read we offered. When he stopped writing in January of this year because of the cancer, I can't begin to tell you how many people asked what happened to John. It was the main question I got for weeks. And John wouldn't let us put anything in about his cancer. He didn't want to make a big deal out of it—even though it was.

Finally, after weeks of bugging him, he finally allowed us to share with you that he had cancer and that prayers were appreciated.

He also wanted—and tried—to write a column. He told me he wanted to tell everyone to go get checked. He said he had annual physicals, but the pandemic ... that damned pandemic ... got in the way and he put it off. He wanted others to know not to put theirs off. But John said every time he tried to write it, the words didn't come. Later, he didn't have the energy.

John would tell you his legacy wasn't that much.

But believe me, it was. It was more. So very much more.

—Tim Timmons,

reprinted with permission from
The Paper of Montgomery County, June 15



1985

John Dimos, 60, of Valparaiso, IN, died July 6. He was born in Gary, IN, to John and Marianne (Fosse) Dimos. He graduated from Merrillville High School, received his bachelor's degree from Wabash College, earned his master's degree from the University of Cincinnati, and pursued his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois Chicago. Dimos proudly made his career as a self-employed certified industrial hygienist for more than 30 years. In recent years, he was committed to focusing on industry education and worker training. Dimos was certified by OSHA and had membership with the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists.

Dimos was a lover of all the arts and a music aficionado. When he wasn't at work, he loved playing the drums, attending concerts, and experiencing music of all genres. Being a constant learner, he was an asset to any trivia team. He was an animal lover who frequently checked in on the family dogs, often requesting to be supplied with new pictures and updates on their well-being. Dimos never met an animal he didn't love, including the deer, fox, and wild turkeys that visited his home. He even became fond of the pesky groundhog in his yard.

The generous, kindhearted, and thoughtful person that Dimos was carried across all aspects of his life. He would often go out of his way to do something special and meaningful without any expectations in return. He was always thinking of others. As a son, brother, uncle, friend, and colleague, you could find no one better.

Dimos is survived by his brother, Chris Dimos; sister-in-law, Kathy Dimos; nieces and nephews; and many extended family members and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Marianne; and brother, **Jim Dimos '83**.

A remembrance

"Little John." That's how so many of us were first introduced to John Dimos at Wabash. The superficial irony referred to his physical stature (he was not a small man). Or perhaps that he was the younger brother of Jim Dimos '83, the definitive big man on campus. Of course, there was *nothing* little about John. The more we got to know him, the better we understood just how large loomed his heart, intellect, character, interests, kindness, sense of humor, and generosity. We had no idea of the huge role Little John would play in our lives.

John was a force of nature. He could have easily been intimidating. Instead, he welcomed you as a dear friend, took deep interest in your well-being, and shared an infectious curiosity that made you want to join him in explorations of music, culture, science, and just about anything else. His campus leadership ranged from Delta Tau Delta to student government to the Pep Band, where he was a precise and powerful percussionist—and those drums led to many adventures.

His friends will always remember John's laugh, and we laughed so very hard during a phone call just a few days before his unexpected death. We made plans for dinner and a show the evening of July 15, in Indianapolis. John shared he'd overcome some recent health concerns and felt better than he had in years, even though one issue had led to a toe amputation. The plus side, John said, was he now had a bona fide mob name, Johnny Nine Toes. We laughed more and reminded each other, "I love you, brother," as we finished. He passed July 6, leaving so many friends heartbroken, with the only saving grace being he joins his brother, Jim, and their parents in heaven.

Tom Graham '85 first met John as his roommate and pledge brother at the Beta Psi chapter of Delta Tau Delta. Greeting Tom in their room, before even meeting John, was John's self-made wall

poster proclaiming: "Save an alligator, eat a preppie." Tom squirmed in his topsiders and popped his collar, preparing for confrontation. Then he met the big-hearted man who "went from Little John to best friend, advisor, groomsman, Uncle John to my four children, and my wife's favorite. John truly loved our family as his own, and for that blessing we are eternally grateful. I will never know a friend like him again."

John enjoyed friendships across the Wabash campus that evolved into lifelong bonds. **Chuck Feehan '86** met John in Fall 1982 and they quickly became terrific pals. Chuck shares, "Over the years we remained close. He knew my children, and to them he was Uncle L.J. John was a man with infinite capacity to love others. His kindness and willingness to listen to and help his family, friends, and associates were incredibly special. He always looked out for the best in others. I am thankful I was able to call John Dimos my friend."

Marty Tuohy '91 met John in 1987 when playing electric guitar for the Wabash Pep Band at football games. "Then one Saturday John Dimos showed up with his drum set. John thundered with percussive precision. I found the drummer I always wanted to play with. He became one of my big brothers."

That brotherhood led Marty and John on many adventures, almost all involving music and many an Irish pub. They included a road trip to Ireland with John's mother, Marianne Fosse Dimos, and Marty's wife, Rachel Bone Tuohy. John DJ'd the trip with music curated from his voluminous CD collection, seemingly timed to each location visited. When hotel plans in Ballinrobe went awry, John managed to find the Tuohys and his mother suitable sleeping arrangements, and then spent the night with "old family friends." He clearly felt the effects well into the next day, all with a smile.

Marty eloquently writes: "John always was so smart, so sharp-witted, so quick with a recognizable musical reference in lyric or in drumming. He was my big brother, a Good Delt, the best Wabash man a guy could call a buddy."

There are many more stories that can be shared; the 1989 world premiere of Stewart Copeland's first opera in Cleveland; a late-night call from John: "Hey, wanna

go see The Who next Thursday?;" or, "You'll never believe what I just did: I played drums for Todd Rundgren at his Chicago concert last night!" This is a man who voraciously dissected and enjoyed music and life at a level unlike anyone I know.

Most importantly, though, Little John had immense talent for friendship. It's a wonderful feeling to spend time with someone who warms your heart in a way so few can—whether it'd been days, weeks, months, or even longer since you'd last spoke. That's a rare gift, yet it's one John had seemingly infinite capacity to share with so many. What a privilege it was to be John's friend—the joy of his memory is fuel for love.

-Greg Estell '85



2015

Terrance Anthony Pignes of Raleigh, NC, died July 26.

What can be said about Terrance Anthony Pignes without it bringing a smile or a laugh to the one remembering? Born in Memphis, TN, to Alonzo and Clemmie Pignes, Pignes entered the world quietly but feisty. Growing up, he was a curious child who wanted to know everything. In high school, he challenged himself by taking AP courses and participating in STEM activities, consistently making the honor roll. As a senior, he was on the debate team highlighted on the local news. Other extracurriculars included singing in the concert choir, participating in the African drum ensemble, and participating on the track and tennis teams.

During this time, Pignes' academic focus switched to engineering, resulting in his enrolling at Wabash College. His mom was challenged by his decision to go so far away from home, but it ended up being an

excellent place for him to continue to grow and thrive. It would also be the place where he would meet Stephanie, his future wife.

Pignes' Wabash years were marked by his campus involvement, both scholarly and social. He served as president of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies. Additionally, he was a thrower (shotput and javelin) on the track team, all while majoring in economics and mathematics and minoring in Asian studies. Attaining fluency in Mandarin Chinese, Pignes put his academics to work and spent a summer at Fudan University in Shanghai, China. While there, he studied Mainland China's economic history and capital markets, and he returned to tell stories about the fantastic and unique foods he had eaten. He was a dedicated student, excelled academically, and formed lifelong friendships.

Following graduation in 2015, Pignes began his professional journey at Ipreeo in Raleigh, North Carolina. For the past three years, he was at Cisco, making his mark. At the time of his transition, he was serving as partner account executive. His work ethic and determination made him a great asset to the company. Always ready to learn and share his knowledge with others, Pignes fostered a collaborative environment wherever he went. His willingness to learn and adapt led to his success and inspired those around him to strive for excellence.

Pignes' life was marked by three pillars—faith, family, and friends. As a child, he attended Summerfield Missionary Baptist Church, where he gave his life to Christ at the age of 10. His spiritual gifts and maturity were on display from a young age. Pignes participated in all the traditional church activities—Sunday school, vacation Bible school, and children's choir. He was encouraged to "serve God with excellence," and he took that instruction seriously. Later, Pignes joined the Spoken Word Church.

His walk with the Lord matured as he grew into adulthood. Upon moving to Raleigh, he became a member of Church on the Rock and joined the evening men's class of Bible study fellowship.

NOW I GET IT

DON'T ASK ME WHY I LOVE WABASH.

I've always struggled with that question. It's like asking me why I love my kids. Can you pick out one or two things that capture all you love about them? Can you adequately describe what it means to be a parent? No. It's a million reasons that you just know the minute you look at their faces. It's joy, pride, heartbreak, and anxiety. It's just hard. My kids challenge me all the time. I learn something new about myself every day.

Kind of like Wabash—it's such an intangible thing that is difficult to explain unless you've experienced it. Joy, anxiety, challenge, accomplishment. I grew up at Wabash. Perhaps that's why I always feel at home when I'm on campus. Wabash is my place. It's a place where I feel comfort and pride.

Had it not been for my dad, I may never have known Wabash. His story is the Wabash story.

Paul Hawksworth Jr. '56 grew up in a low-income household in Chicago. As a kid, he aspired to be a foreman at the local canning factory just like his dad. He never dreamed about going to college until these guys from Wabash saw him play football and offered him a scholarship. He didn't even really understand what getting a scholarship meant or why they wanted him. Suddenly an impossible dream he never knew he had was made possible.

Wabash changed my dad's life. It moved mountains. It was that big of a shift for him—and then for us, his family. Instead of spending his life on the line in a canning factory, he went on to become the CEO of an international company, traveling the world, and opening up new possibilities for my mom, my siblings, and me.

However, he never forgot what Wabash did for him. He made it his life's mission to continually say thank you. For that, and for so many other reasons, he was the greatest role model a kid could have. He was generous—not only to Wabash, but to many causes he believed in.



Jim Hawksworth '95 (center) with his parents Dorothy (left), and Paul (right) Hawksworth Jr. '56.

I learned to give by watching him as I grew up. He loved Wabash and poured himself into it. He gave financially, but he was also involved on the National Association of Wabash Men (NAWM) board and served as a trustee. He hosted many events, endowed funds for the Glee Club, and went on to receive an Alumni Award of Merit.

I am incredibly grateful for what Wabash has done for me, too. So, during the Giant Steps Campaign, my wife, Rem, and I drew upon his inspiration and made a pledge to endow a scholarship in my father's name—The Paul D. "Howie" Hawksworth Jr. '56 Memorial Scholarship. It's a way we can honor Dad while also helping the college he loved, and I love, continue its mission to change the lives of young men.

Dad made loving those people and places he believed in look easy. But I know my parents made sacrifices for my siblings and me and for him to be as involved at Wabash as he was. No matter what, they always managed to dig a little deeper—for us and for Wabash.

When my parents were first together, my mom heard all about Wabash. She didn't have the opportunity to attend college and certainly didn't understand the affinity Dad had for the small school in Crawfordsville.

I will never forget a story Dad once told me. At a certain point early in their relationship, he took Mom to campus for the first time, likely Homecoming Weekend. It was very important to him that she visit the place that meant so much to him. As they were driving back home to Chicago, the car was quiet. Then Mom said, "Paul," and he looked at her and she said, "Now I get it."

Like so many of us, I bet she wouldn't have been able to explain why she got it either. It's just something you have to experience yourself. I'd like to think that she came to understand what an important role Wabash had played in shaping the man with whom she had fallen in love.

It is our hope that in some small way our scholarship will help young men realize their dream of attending Wabash so that they too can go on to achieve something they never knew possible.

In Wabash,

Jim Hawksworth '95

President | NAWM

Pigues (continued)

In 2016, Pigues met the love of his life, Stephanie. Theirs is a love story for the ages. They knew from the start that they were meant for one another. It wasn't a question of if they would get married, but when. He was so excited to have found his "good thing!" He cherished and honored Stephanie as his wife and, in her own words, "made her feel loved, beautiful, and his priority."

As a dad, Pigues embraced the role with unmatched enthusiasm, becoming the epitome of "that dad" who adored and cherished every moment with Jackson. His devotion to his son was at the core of his being, and he couldn't wait to meet Jacob.

A true friend to many, his personality and genuine kindness drew people toward him. He could meet you once and remember everything about you. He was known for always having a story or jokes to tell! He was a big ball of energy, but his authenticity and candor were always on display. Pgiues was young in years but mature in wisdom; he was an old soul.

He has left an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of knowing him. His spirit will live on through the memories he created and the values he instilled in those he touched.

Pigues was preceded in death by his father, Alonzo Pigues; maternal grandmother, Ella Mae Taylor; maternal grandfather, Walter Taylor Sr.; paternal grandparents, Mary and Cambo Pigues; and maternal aunt, Mattie Taylor Burton.

Pigues leaves to cherish his memory, celebrate his life, and continue his legacy: his devoted wife, Stephanie; his sweet sons, Jackson (1) and Jacob (due late 2023); proud mother, Clemmie Taylor Pigues; brothers, Tommie Taylor, D. Keith Pigues, Kevin Pigues, Wyndon Hibler, and Cottrell Armstrong; parents-in-love Marlene and William Woolley; six uncles and beloved Aunt Viola McLeod; treasured cousin Donald Guy; Memaw Helen Ford; very special nieces, nephews, and cousins; and a host of friends near and dear to him.

A remembrance

The men of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies (MXIBS) at Wabash College extend our

deepest condolences in the passing of our Brother, Terrance Pigues. The grief we feel is real. Terrance was one of the most genuine, charismatic men who gave leadership to the MXIBS. He was always such a nice guy. He possessed a great, contagious, caring spirit. He carried himself in a way that lifted up everyone else around him. At some point, he simply became known as TP. He was loved by all of Wabash and we knew he loved Wabash.

To Stephanie, Jackson, Jacob, and the Pigues Family, we share your pain because he was our brother. TP provided great times, funny moments, constructive debates, and memories that we cannot begin to share.

His time on earth was impactful and the legacy he leaves is rooted in each of us.

TP, your brothers agree, it was a tremendous pleasure and privilege to cross paths with you. You made us better men. You were an outstanding Man of the MXIBS and Some Little Giant!

With a Heavy Heart.

-The Men of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies,

edited from the reading at the memorial service August 3



Finley C. Campbell died August 18 in Chicago, IL.

Campbell was born in Anderson, SC. When he was eight, his family moved to Detroit, where he lived until 1952. He studied English and American Literature at Morehouse College in Atlanta from 1952 to 1958. In 1959, while earning his M.A. at Atlanta University, Campbell spent a year studying French at Sorbonne University in Paris, where he met his first wife, Liliane, who lived in Geneva, Switzerland. After their marriage, she had to "pass as Black" for

them to be able to live together legally in Georgia.

In 1961 he was ordained as a Baptist minister. In 1960 he started teaching at Morehouse College and became active in the Civil Rights Movement after the murder of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968. In 1969 he moved his family to Crawfordsville, where he taught at Wabash College. That same year, he received a Ph.D. with honors in English literature from the University of Chicago, where John Hope Franklin helped supervise his dissertation.

Campbell was a co-founder of the International Committee Against Racism (InCAR). In 1972 he moved to Madison, WI, where he organized both the Black studies department and a chapter of InCAR. In 1977 he moved to Chicago to work with InCAR. His teaching positions in Chicago included UIC and DeVry. In 1971 he married his second wife, Vicky. He married Bobbi, his current wife, in 1986. They both joined the First Unitarian Church in Hyde Park in 1992.

Campbell was influential in the church, joining the social justice council and the racial justice task force, being very active in the men's group and the global studies discussion group, and acting as a member of the church's board of trustees. For many years he taught "The Nature of Racism" at the church, examining a different aspect of institutional racism each year. More recently, he founded the Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Council (UUMUAC).

Campbell's principled anti-racism, so thoroughly uncompromising, led him to an understanding that is still not grasped by many people: that racism in many forms globally is the obstacle that holds back all social progress; that the majority of people, working-class people, from all racial and ethnic groups, are harmed by this division; and that it is foolish and dangerous to blame so-called white people as a whole for these problems. He fought for multiracial unity against racism and all other forms of economic, political, social, and cultural discrimination. His work bore fruit, not just in UUMUAC, but in the tens of thousands who have been directly and indirectly influenced by his work and who, in turn, will carry that forward. He

leaves a hole in the hearts and minds of all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Roberta "Bobbi"; children, Phillip, Paulette, and David; co-children, Kathi and Mark; and six grandchildren.

A remembrance

Four months before he passed, Finley and I had a long phone conversation intended to plan a Zoom session the next day for History Professor Sabrina Thomas' class. She had asked us to reflect on the founding of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies (MXIBS, or simply MXI). But we didn't plan; we reminisced about our lives since we first met at Wabash in the summer of 1969. That's 54 years of amazing friendship! We talked about our personal and professional lives, relationships, losses (my son), unfinished projects (a book from his dissertation), battling racism in America, failing health in our mid/late 80s. As Finley summarized the call, "We each had had tragic and heroic moments in our lives."

Finley arrived at Wabash in 1968 in the aftermath of Martin Luther King's assassination and took the campus by storm with his charismatic Black Baptist preacher/teacher style. As a professor of Black literature, Finley shined with infectious magnetic energy, playfully inventing new concepts and words for race and racism. A tension in Finley as an inspiring Black Christian preacher and a radical Marxist-Leninist professor was reconciled by his life of faithful devotion to the causes of racial justice, human/civil rights, and perfecting America's imperfect society and politics.

I arrived a year later to teach Black history and "tame our militant Black students" as the then-dean hoped. Compared to Finley, I was utterly boring, even though I had written a book on Christian socialism and was a passionate, activist teacher of Black history to whites and Berkeley/Oakland Black Panthers. Our only difference—other than color—was that although I talked too much, I far preferred interaction in student discussions more than lecturing, and Finley preferred the reverse. No one could ever tame Finley's irrepressible energy and commitment to his causes.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WABASH MEN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Hawsworth '95
President

Tony Unfried '03
Vice President

Ken Farris '12
Recorder

Rudy Altergott '13
Chris Carpenter '96
Class Agent Representatives

Kip Chase '03
Past President

BOARD MEMBERS

Term Expires May 2024

Rudy Altergott '13
Jake German '11
Garrard McClendon '88
Neil Patel '94
Brian Shelbourne '12
Todd Vogel '04

Term Expires May 2025

Taz Ahmed '07
Mike Berry '92
Wayne Hentrup '84
Byron Lamm '79
Rick Strasser '02
Milton Turner '05

TERM EXPIRES MAY 2026

Kyle Bender '12
Jared Lange '08
Kevin Meyer '06
Harsh Singh '01
Dave Zimmerman '93

Faculty Representative
Bobby Horton

Student Representative
Luis Rivera '25

Regional Representative
Dustin DeNeal '04

NEW TO AN AREA?

Find the Wabash alumni association
nearest to you at:
wabash.edu/alumni/regional_groups

WANT TO REFER A STUDENT?

wabash.edu/alumni/student/refer

CHANGING CAREERS OR ON A JOB SEARCH?

wabash.edu/careers/alumni/services

WANT TO CONNECT WITH WABASH ALUMNI AFFAIRS?

wabash.edu/alumni/

In Memory | continued

Finley (continued)

Our first task working together in the summer of 1969 was an ad hoc faculty committee charged with considering adding more Black courses and deciding whether to recommend a major in Black studies. Also on the committee were two highly trusted faculty members, **Joe O'Rourke H'65** in speech and **Ed McLain H'03**, a conservative political scientist. We actually worked well, recommending that professors integrate more Black content into existing courses rather than developing new ones, and a minor rather than major in Black studies. My blurry memories of Finley that summer are that he was charmingly brilliant and was often late for our meetings because he was so busy speaking on behalf of Black Panther educational programs and as Peace and Freedom Party candidate for governor of Indiana.

In 1971, when President Thad Seymour refused to appoint Finley to another year of teaching, angry students filled the Chapel to demand he stay. In explaining his reasons, Thad unfortunately used the phrase “either Finley goes, or I go,” which enraged students further. To resolve a worsening situation, Ron Clark and I beseeched Thad to go back to the chapel pulpit, retract his either/or ultimatum, and say that he was open to compromise. He did that, and the crisis was settled with Finley having a final year as faculty fellow in the new MXI, Horace Turner's first year as director. When Finley left Wabash a year later to develop Black studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, I moved my family into his college-owned, ugly yellow stucco rental house on Crawford Street that was torn down later to build the Robert Knowing Fieldhouse. Finley and I exchanged furniture, ideas, and lofty aspirations that year.

In subsequent years, usually at MXI reunions, Finley and I would give each other huge hugs, share social activist and academic Black studies “war” stories, and endlessly quote Black leaders like DuBois, King, Malcolm X, and Angela Davis. We always enjoyed witty repartee with lots of laughter. When I retired in 2004, MXI students organized my retirement dinner. Finley called me the night before with regrets because he was committed to a Chicago May Day parade for progressive labor and the Midwest branch of the International Committee Against Racism (InCAR), which he founded. I told him this was a better use of his time and wished him well in the struggle against racism. We had both often quoted Frederick Douglass, “Power never gave up anything without a demand. It never did and never will.”

We met again in 2011 at the 40th anniversary of the MXIBS. We hung out that weekend with more hugs, stories, laughter, and other reunion joys. The highlight of the weekend for me was going to the Homecoming football game with Finley. Watching football with him is to listen to a nonstop, ironic, hysterically funny analysis of the game and festivities, especially with a halftime parade of young men dressed in drag. My stomach literally ached from laughter. Then came a long absence.

So I was delighted in April this year when Sabrina invited Finley and me to join her class to answer student questions about the early days of the MXI and to help students think through updating the MXI mission statement to better reflect the founders' goals. In our phone conversation, it became clear to me that Finley's mind and heart wanted an opportunity to describe the humiliating process of how he left in 1971. Also, loving an audience as he did, I worried that he would launch into a lecture as “the spokesperson for the Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Action Caucus” and we'd miss interacting with students. Which is exactly what happened!

Please understand, I love Finley and admire his off-the-cuff, mischievous brilliance as a speaker. Once started, though, trying to stop him is like stepping in front of a speeding freight train. But something else, a sacred moment, happened that day in Sabrina's class. I had somehow thought Finley's spirit and energy could never be extinguished, but I was slowly sensing that his days on earth were nearing an end. So with Black students present—at Wabash where he began—this beautiful man, our friend Finley, was putting an exclamation point on his legacy of a career devoted to “making necessary trouble” (to quote John Lewis) and as “a drum major for justice” (quoting Dr. King). We miss you, dear Finley, and we know you're up there now troubling God and her angels as both Christian preacher and scholarly professor.

-Peter Frederick H'92

A Giant Step for Jasmine

WHEN I CAME TO WABASH, I had had little experience with personal computers—other than playing Zork. All my high school papers were typed on my mom's hand-me-down electric typewriter.

The computer lab, then in the basement of Baxter Hall, felt foreign to me. The sterile room was impersonal and the hum of the machines seemed loud and hollow. I would try to concentrate on writing while surrounded by people, but it was not what I was used to and not how I worked best.

Yet, when I went to the computer lab, I felt grounded. That grounding was Jasmine Robinson H'85.

As a student, my relationship with her was wholly transactional. I did not know her as a person, and, if she were still living, she would likely have no memory of me whatsoever. But I always thought she was striking, almost regal. She could be intimidating and comforting and inviting at the same time. She was a fixture in my Wabash experience.

My senior year I took an ethnic literature course taught by English Professor Warren Rosenberg H'98. Among the books on our reading list were "Invisible Man," "My Ántonia," "Things Fall Apart," and "Ceremony."

The course taught me a lot about the history of the Black experience in the United States, but one particular assignment was sort of a genealogy study. This was

before easy at-home ancestry DNA test kits and internet family trees that span centuries. I had to have real conversations with my family. Through that assignment, I learned of my Virginia ancestors' role in the enslavement of African Americans in the 1700s. I also learned that sometimes plantation owners, like my ancestors, used their power to take advantage of enslaved people in ways that resulted in not only free labor, but, perhaps, the impregnation of enslaved females.

I posited rather matter-of-factly, maybe even flippantly, in my essay that I could be 1/128th Black.

IT WASN'T UNTIL AN EXTENDED STINT in addiction treatment and recovery in 12-step meetings that I began to realize the discomfort I still held regarding my fifth-great-grandfather. In other words, I was continuing to learn from the essay I had written 30 years earlier.

It was Step 4 specifically, the "searching and fearless moral inventory," that brought me back to Rosenberg's course and the assignment. As a 21-year-old, I felt generations away from my ancestors' beliefs and behaviors. But, the older I got, the more the discomfort grew.

Many years after I graduated, I learned more of Robinson's history. When she was hired at Wabash in October 1963, 25 years before I came to campus, she was the first woman of color to work in a professional role not only at Wabash College, but

in all of Crawfordsville. It is difficult enough for professional women or Black women to get the respect they deserve. Jasmine was both! And yet, by the time I arrived, she seemed so firmly rooted on campus that I never gave a thought to how she had struggled or even continued to struggle. All I know is that Wabash would not have been the same without her.

I'll never be able to undo my history, but during the Giant Steps Campaign, as a small way of providing partial restitution for my family, I established the Jasmine Ernest Robinson H'85 Scholarship. I hope this fund will provide financial resources to help young men continue to receive the benefits of a Wabash education, foster a better understanding of the Black experience, and recognize trailblazers like Robinson who supported, advocated for, and mentored members of the College's Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies.

It was a Giant Step for me, but it's a very small step in the grand scheme of civil rights for all.

My late father always said, "Go where you are needed and do what you can." Endowing this fund is far from all I can do, but it is something I can do.

Ron Dostal '92 |

Director of Alumni and Affinity Group Engagement



We have to be relevant to young men going forward, but we can do that in the context of what Wabash means to all of us and what it meant to us when we were here. If we want this College to continue under some of the pressures small schools are facing, we have to be intentional. We have to be thoughtful about how we invest in the College.

Chair of the Board of Trustees Jay Allen '79

WABASH WELCOMES NEW FACULTY



Satabdi Adhikary
Visiting Instructor of Economics
M.S. (University of Calcutta)



Warren Campbell
Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion
Ph.D. (University of Notre Dame)



Daniel J. DeVinney
Visiting Assistant Professor of Rhetoric
B.A. (Hope College),
M.A. (University of Illinois),
Ph.D. (University of Illinois)



Qixin Deng
Assistant Professor of Computer Science
M.S. (Purdue University),
Ph.D. (University of Houston)



Julio A. Enriquez Ornelas
Visiting Associate Professor of Spanish
B.A. (Wabash College),
M.A. (University of California-Riverside),
Ph.D. (University of California-Riverside)



Donato Fhunsu
Visiting Assistant Professor of Spanish and French
M.A. (Kent State University),
M.A. (North Carolina State University),
Ph.D. (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)



Matthew T. Harvey
Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science
M.A. (University of Colorado Boulder),
Ph.D. (University of Colorado Boulder)



Aiala T. Levy
Scholar-in-Residence
B.A. (Princeton University),
M.A. (University of Chicago),
Ph.D. (University of Chicago)



Ruihua Liu
Visiting Instructor of Chinese
M.A. (University of North Dakota)



Brian A. Long
Visiting Instructor of Rhetoric
B.G.S. (Kansas State University),
M.A. (University of Minnesota),
M.A. (Saint Louis University)



Jorge A. Montiel
Assistant Professor of Philosophy
B.A. (Northeastern Illinois University-Chicago),
M.A. (Marquette University),
Ph.D. (Marquette University)



Noe Pliego Campos
Assistant Professor of History
M.A. (University of Notre Dame),
Ph.D. (University of Notre Dame)



Bernardo R. Rios
Scholar-in-Residence
B.A. (San Diego State University),
M.A. (San Diego State University),
Ph.D. (Ohio State University)



Alison M. Rosenblum
Visiting Assistant Professor of Mathematics
B.S. (Wisconsin Lutheran College),
Ph.D. (Purdue University)



Ralph W. Sanders Jr.
Visiting Professor of Economics
B.A. (Duke University),
M.S. (University of Rochester),
Ph.D. (State University New York at Buffalo),
J.D. (Taft Law School), LL.M. (Taft Law School)



Emily Smith
Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion
B.A. (Kalamazoo College),
MTS (Harvard Divinity School),
Ph.D. (University of Notre Dame)



David B. Vogel
Associated Faculty with the
Rank of Assistant Professor
B.A. (University of Minnesota),
M.F.A. (Pennsylvania State University)



Huei-Jyun Ye
Assistant Professor of Political Science
B.A. (National Taiwan University of Science
and Technology),
M.A. (National Taiwan University of Science
and Technology),
Ph.D. (State University New York at Binghamton)

COLLECTIVE GIVING HONORS WABASH LEGENDS by Allie Northcutt

“WHEN PEOPLE COME TOGETHER, good things happen.”

That proclamation made by **David Miller H’05**, father of Wabash wrestler **Adam Miller ’05**, was repeatedly exemplified over the past five years as groups of alumni, faculty, staff, and friends collectively came together in an effort to support current and future Wabash students as part of the Giant Steps Campaign.

A handful of endowed funds created during the campaign were initially established by one individual or a small group of donors. These funds grew over time as more benefactors were inspired to contribute.

Here are just a few of those funds:



The Dr. Lester L. Hearson H’70 Scholarship

As a way to show their gratitude for retired Biology Professor and Administrator Lester Hearson’s continued impact on the College and its alumni, **Dr. Randy Williams ’83**, **Dr. John Roberts ’83**, and **Dr. Chris Leagre ’83** established an endowed scholarship in his honor.

The Dr. Lester L. Hearson H’70 Scholarship will provide support for Wabash students in their junior and senior years who have achieved academic excellence and intend to pursue a career in the health sciences.

In addition to their financial contributions, Williams and Roberts played an essential role in gathering funding from a growing group of supporters who learned from and were mentored by Hearson. So far, more than a dozen other alumni have contributed to the scholarship.

“We hope this scholarship continues the legacy that Dr. Hearson started,” says Williams. “We want to give students who are heavily invested in academic excellence and have compassion for others the ability to pursue health sciences at Wabash and beyond.”



Dr. John F. Zimmerman H’67 Fund for Innovative Teaching and Technology

Several alumni took a giant step for the College’s chemistry department by establishing a fund that honors beloved Chemistry Professor John Zimmerman H’67.

The Dr. John F. Zimmerman H’67 Fund for Innovative Teaching and Technology will support course design that incorporates new technology, novel teaching practices utilizing technology within existing courses, the replacement and updating of lab instruments, and associated upgrades to Hays Science Hall classroom technology that support teaching innovation.

Fund donors include **Russ Bostick ’79**, **Bryan Daniels ’81**, **Chris Halkides ’83**, **Ray Knight ’69**, **Frank Kolisek ’82**, **Brad Maxwell ’83**, **Scott Rathgaber ’84**, **Tom Roberts ’70**, **Mark Simmons ’73**, and **John Van Drie ’74**.

Initial gifts and commitments to the fund from generous benefactors topped \$400,000, President Scott Feller reported when the fund was first announced, and that total has grown even more over time.



Class of 1966 Lodge

The Class of 1966 collectively raised nearly \$3.3 million to name the last housing unit in the Ott Residential Life District as part of a reunion class gift. Not only was this the first-ever 55th reunion class gift, but it was one of the biggest class gifts in Wabash’s history.

The naming project was led by **Dave Krattebol ’66** and class agent **Cal Black ’66**. The duo spent months making phone calls, sending letters, and writing emails in an effort to connect with classmates and collect gifts. Their hard work paid off as more than 80 class members made a gift to the lodge project.

Additionally, two endowed scholarships were created and six new planned gifts were disclosed by members of the class, which President Scott Feller says will “further cement the class’s legacy.”



Walter A. Blake Scholarship

Munawar Ali '93, Terrence Butler '96, Brian Henry '95, and Alonzo Weems '92 created a scholarship that honors their mentor, friend, and former Admissions Associate Director Walter Blake.

The Walter A. Blake Scholarship provides support for students with demonstrated financial need with preference given to students who would further the College's interest in achieving the educational benefits of diversity. Recipients will demonstrate promise for academic success at Wabash and show leadership qualities and community involvement during their high school years, which are expected to continue when they enroll at Wabash.

The core leadership group has offered a dollar-for-dollar matching opportunity for the next \$100,000 in new gifts and commitments to the fund. This scholarship program will be evergreen with the goal of growing the endowment to levels capable of supporting full tuition for one new student each year.

"I go back to an old Wabash tagline: It won't be easy, but it will be worth it," says Henry. "We understand in these turbulent economic times that it won't be easy to give back, but it will be worth it. It'll be worth it to the students, their families, and future generations who benefit from the opportunities enabled by the scholarship. It'll be worth it to our alumni who reconnect with others, and with the mission of the College that has given us the capacity and capability to do so much."



The President's Distinguished Speaker Series

Larry Landis '67, former Indiana Utility Regulatory Commissioner, helped start the President's Distinguished Speaker Series (PDSS), which began in 2017. PDSS brings a wide range of inspiring and influential thought leaders to campus to interact with students.

"I wasn't able to fully endow the series," says Landis, "but figured a startup gift might inspire others to also contribute."

And it did.

Many donors, including Trustee Jay Williams '66, have supported the idea of exposing generations of Wabash students to giant ideas outside of the classroom.

"The goal of college should be to broaden your experiences. Speakers can do that—they're sharing stories, they're sharing ideas, they're sharing thoughts," says Williams. "You can disagree with 90% of it, but maybe there is an idea that strikes you or gives you the opportunity to learn. That's what speakers do—they pollinate our minds with ideas."

Some previous speakers include "NPR Weekend Edition's" puzzle master Will Shortz H'10, U.S. Senator Mike Braun '76, noted psychologist and author Dr. Jean Twenge, ecologist and conservationist Dr. Douglas Tallamy, sleep expert Dr. Chris Winter, Ad Fontes Media CEO and founder Vanessa Otero, and former Surgeon General Jerome Adams.



Max E. Servies "Heavy Mitts" Scholarship

Max Servies '58, Wabash Athletics Hall of Famer; wrestling, football, and track coach; and athletic director, died on October 9, 2021, at 85 years old.

As a way to celebrate their father and his lifetime of loyalty and service to the College, his children, Alisa, Tina, and Tim '87, created the Max E. Servies "Heavy Mitts" Scholarship in his honor. The fund provides support for students with demonstrated financial need.

"He always felt that it was important to give back and believed when people come together as a team, they can make a real impact," says Alisa. "To be able to do this and give future students the ability to achieve their dreams by coming to Wabash would mean the world to him."

To further honor Max, a group of Wabash wrestling alumni and fans issued a challenge to add weight to the "Heavy Mitts" Scholarship.

Benefactors have pledged to match all donations to the fund up to a total of \$12,000.

If you would like to establish a fund in honor of a Wabash legend or contribute to an existing fund, please visit wabash.edu/giving or contact a member of the Advancement team at advancement@wabash.edu.



The new campus center will be a hub of activity for the entire campus community. It will utilize the current footprint of Sparks Center and will stretch east to align with Lilly Library and Goodrich Hall on the Mall. The space will include a game room and living room, a reimagined Wally's pub and restaurant, a versatile event space for more than 200, outdoor patio seating along Monon Bell Way, and a second-floor gallery and conservatory for small group gatherings and discussions. Generous gifts made during Giant Steps cover approximately one-third of the cost of the project. The anticipated construction start date is May 2024 but is dependent upon additional funding.



To make a contribution to the campus center project or any of the projects mentioned in this issue or for inquiries about making a gift to Wabash, please visit wabash.edu/giving or contact a member of the Advancement team at advancement@wabash.edu.





NOW IN MY LAST SEMESTER on campus, I have been reflecting and really trying to take in the beauty of the places at Wabash that occupy my time. As a tour guide, I get to see the entirety of campus—from our housing options to classrooms and athletic facilities. It's an easy sell. The connection I feel to Wabash is a result of the experiences we share in the places where we work, play, and connect.

I have lived in the new housing in the Ott Residential Life District for my entire time at Wabash. Placher Lodge has become home to me, and the people around me have become family.

Having a comfortable space where we can wind down after a long day of class, practice, meetings, clubs, and other responsibilities has been one of the most valuable pieces of my experience. Though we spend plenty of time around campus on weekends, we almost always find ourselves back in Placher, playing euchre and talking about life.

I remember every time I have had the blessing of stepping into Little Giant Stadium to compete, but I vividly recall my first time taking the field in the new stadium two years ago—walking from the Allen Center through the Hall of Giants and to the Stan Parrish Tunnel.

When I take the field, I can feel the tradition of the greats who have paved the way and set the standard for what it means to wear Wabash on my jersey. Yet I also feel the excitement and newness of a place where we can carve our own legacy and create memories and history that will last a lifetime.

I am going to miss this place. Thanks to all who have contributed to making Wabash a place of opportunity for those fortunate enough to spend their college years here. I extend a humble thank you for the unmatched generosity that has resulted in constant improvement to the spaces we occupy daily. The level of commitment to philanthropy displayed by those who love this place has inspired me and many others to give and make Wabash a home for all.

It has been said, "The magic thing about home is that it feels good to leave, and it feels even better to come back." I'm going to enjoy every second I have left here, but I already can't wait to come back to this place.

Liam Thompson '24







photo by Kim Johnson

LAST GLANCE

The Wabash theater department opened its fall season with the first musical to hit the Ball Theater stage in nearly a decade. Organizing “Something Rotten!,” one of the biggest productions in the College’s history was a complex but exciting endeavor for Director and Theater Professor Michael Abbott ’85.

“There’s nothing like a musical to take all the things we have available to create theatre into play,” he explains. “In the beginning, I tried to imagine all those things working at once. It seemed impossible. But after weeks of rehearsal and the crew understanding all the pieces, we created something we’re proud of.”

Above: Logan Weilbaker ’25 sings in his leading role as Nick Bottom.
See the process from auditions to opening night in the next issue of Wabash Magazine.