

RESO LUTE

THE PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE | MAY 2015

SPECIAL EDITION

... AND

JUSTICE

FOR ALL?

EDITOR

Sandy Deneau Dunham

WRITERS

Zach Powers
Taylor Lunka '15
Matthew Salzano '18

PHOTOGRAPHER

John Froschau

EXECUTIVE CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Simon Sung

ILLUSTRATOR

Steve Skramstad

PROOFREADER

Julianne Bogaty '95

CLASS NOTES

Adrienne Jamieson '09

EDITORIAL OFFICES

Neeb Center
253-535-8410
resolute@plu.edu
www.plu.edu/resolute

PLU OFFICERS

Thomas W. Krise, Ph.D.
PRESIDENT

Steven P. Starkovich, Ph.D.
PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

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OF CONSTITUENT ENGAGEMENT

Nolan Ryan
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Katie Curtis '14
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Nesvig Alumni Center
Tacoma, WA 98447-0003
253-535-7415
800-ALUM-PLU
www.plualumni.org

ADDRESS CHANGES

Please direct any address changes to alumni@plu.edu or 800-ALUM-PLU.

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"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." —The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

EDITOR'S NOTE

A SPECIAL SEMESTER-LONG SPOTLIGHT ON SOCIAL JUSTICE



WE DID SOMETHING new at PLU for Spring 2015: We themed the whole semester.

It was hard to miss the prevalent pattern in our jam-packed spring calendar: event after event dealing with crucial, relevant justice-related topics, from

sexual assault and environmental justice to the removal of indigenous children from families and the youngest voices of the Holocaust. Even better, these topics were the foundations of programs developed and supported all across campus and open, free, to the community—film screenings, discussions, interactive workshops, lectures, rallies and the prestigious Powell-Heller Conference for Holocaust Education.

As a result, we debuted the first-ever Spring Spotlight Series, four months of events that naturally fell under the perfectly PLU theme "... and justice for all?"

The semester focus was such a natural fit, we decided to take the concept one step further and devote this whole edition of Resolute to the social justice theme, too.

Justice—and the search for justice—is one of The Big Three pillars of Pacific Lutheran University (along with diversity and sustainability).

"Justice values are embedded in who we are as an institution, academic programs, faculty, staff and students," said Joel Zylstra, director of PLU's Center for Community Engagement and Service. "This semester represents a commitment to collaboration across divisions and departments, and showcasing the many



events that challenge each of us to live more thoughtfully. These programs hold us accountable to live our stated values and invite us to reflect on justice issues on our campus, in our local community and around the world."

The monthly Spring Spotlight Series posters on this page were distributed around campus and the community; they'll give you an idea of the amazing array of justice-themed events at PLU this semester. You can get a much deeper look at some of the events and topics—and their profound impact—in the following pages. □

Sandy Deneau Dunham

(P.S. We'll publish another themed edition of Resolute in September 2015 in honor of PLU's 125th anniversary, featuring, among other awesomeness, the Commencement Day visit of His Majesty King Harald V of Norway.)

... AND
JUSTICE
FOR ALL?

IT'S ON



"I pledge to **IDENTIFY** situations in which sexual assault may occur."

IT'S ON US

PLU puts its own face on a national campaign to end sexual assault.
PAGE 20



A SILVER MILESTONE

The Women's Center celebrates 25 years at PLU.
PAGE 14

ON THE COVER

A carnation rests in a cell of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp near Berlin on Jan. 27, 2015, the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. A PLU group met a Sachsenhausen survivor in Mainz, Germany, and later toured the camp as part of a J-Term Study Away experience. (Photo: John Froschauer/PLU)

VIEW A PHOTO GALLERY OF THE GROUP'S VISIT AT WWW.PLU.EDU/RESOLUTE.

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BIGNAMES ON CAMPUS

PLU NOT ONLY SENDS LUTES OUT TO CHANGE THE WORLD, BUT ALSO BRINGS WORLD-CHANGING LEADERS TO PLU

MORE ONLINE

www.plu.edu/resolute

THE KING OF NORWAY

In honor of PLU's 125th anniversary, His Majesty King Harald V of Norway was scheduled to visit campus on May 23 and speak at PLU's Commencement ceremony, where he was to receive a

Doctor of Laws *jure dignitatis*. (His visit didn't coincide with the deadline for ResoLUTE, though, so please check our upcoming special 125th Anniversary edition in September for full coverage.)



Norwegian Royal Palace



ELA STEIN WEISSBERGER

Weissberger, a survivor of the Nazi concentration camp known as Terezin who performed 55 times in the children's opera *Brundibar*, visited PLU on March 5 for the Eighth Annual Powell-Heller Conference for Holocaust Education.



DR. CAROLYN WEST

The Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Washington led a forum on March 17 at PLU called "Cultural Grooming: Uncovering Vulnerabilities to Sex Trafficking."



DR. CAROLYN FINNEY

The Assistant Professor of Environmental Science, Policy & Management at UC-Berkeley, third from left, delivered the 2015 Earth Day Lecture, "This Patch of Soil: Race, Nature and Stories of Future Belonging," on April 21.



DR. MARGARET JACOBS

The award-winning historian and Chancellor's Professor of History at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln discussed her book, *A Generation Removed: The Fostering and Adoption of Indigenous Children in the Postwar World*, on Feb. 25 in PLU's 41st Annual Walter C. Schnackenberg Memorial Lecture.

JUNE

COMING SOON
FOR A COMPLETE LISTING, VISIT:
www.plu.edu/resolute



PLU SUMMER CONFERENCE ON PASTORAL THEOLOGY

JUNE 8-10. PLU hosts "Renewing Adult Formation in the Congregation," co-led by Dr. Samuel Torvend, who holds the University Chair in Lutheran Studies.

'NAMIBIA NINE'

Six of the subjects of *Namibia Nine*, a PLU-produced documentary depicting the journey of nine Namibian students back in their homeland after graduating from Pacific Lutheran University, returned to campus for the packed film premiere on Feb. 28. Read more about the premiere and watch a video of the event at www.plu.edu/resolute.

~ Unless noted, all photos by John Froschauer | PLU



LT. COL. CELIA FLORCRUZ

Military trail blazer Lt. Col. Celia FlorCruz of Joint Base Lewis-McChord shared her intensely personal story of sexual assault for the first time at Pacific Lutheran University on Feb. 17 in her riveting talk, "From Victim to Survivor to Leader." Read her whole story and watch a video of her visit at www.plu.edu/resolute.



Courtesy of Stephanie Blythe

STEPHANIE BLYTHE

The internationally known mezzo-soprano visited campus on Feb. 23 to deliver a master class to five lucky Lutes who auditioned to perform for her.



DR. DUNE IVES '93

The co-manager of the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, who earned a graduate degree at PLU, presented a talk titled, "How PLU Prepared Me to Tackle Some of the World's Biggest Challenges" at PLU's inaugural Day of Vocation on April 8. □

JUNE-AUGUST



JAZZ UNDER THE STARS

THURSDAYS from **JULY 9-AUG. 13**. PLU's free outdoor jazz series kicks off July 9 with a performance by the multitalented LaVon Hardison; Mary Baker Russell Amphitheatre.

BERRY FESTIVALS

JUNE 10, JULY 8 AND AUG. 5. The annual Berry Festivals at PLU each feature one sweet berry and bushels full of farm-fresh, family-friendly fun and entertainment; Red Square.



DISCOVERY PLU

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF PLU'S FIRST-CLASS FACULTY

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| MARIA CHAVEZ |

| BRADD BUSICK |

| AMY YOUNG |

RESEARCH

Trio of PLU Faculty Addresses Higher Education at **TEDx Tacoma** BY ZACH POWERS '10 | RESOLUTE WRITER

"DID YOU KNOW intellectuals are lousy at talking about their work?" PLU Associate Professor of Communication Amy Young asked the sold-out audience at downtown Tacoma's Theatre on the Square.

Young's illuminating query was one of 14 "ideas worth spreading" presented in the form of four- to seven-minute talks at the fourth annual installation of TEDx Tacoma on March 21.

PLU faculty members Maria Chavez, Bradd Busick and Young each responded to the event's theme of "Did You

Know...?" by posing questions addressing trends, systems and mores prevalent, but often unaddressed, in higher education.

Echoing many of the themes of her book, *Prophets, Gurus and Pundits: Rhetorical Styles and Public Engagement*, Young's talk focused on academia's widely held inability and disinterest in sharing scholarship with the general public.

"We need to think about how our work is relevant to audiences outside of our fields and outside of our campuses,"

Young challenged. "If academics want to make public arguments and do scholarship that matters to people, we've got to get better at speaking a different language."

"Intellectuals should 'go public' and demonstrate the relevance (of scholarship and research) to social and political concerns," said Young. "We need to change the system from the inside. That is happening, but slowly."

Chavez used her talk to shed light on the millions of young people in the United States

who are currently locked out of college classrooms, a byproduct of what she referred to as "the de-Americanization of Latino youth."

"Did you know the American Dream is not accessible to 5 million Latino youth?" asked the Associate Professor of Political Science.

Drawing on research published in her book *Living the Dream: New Immigration Policies and the Lives of Undocumented Latino Youth*, Chavez detailed the denial of educational resources to the children of

undocumented Latinos and proclaimed the injustice of the lack of equal opportunity to higher education in the United States.

"We are a nation of immigrants, and we must treat our young immigrants in a way that reflects the American Dream," Chavez concluded.



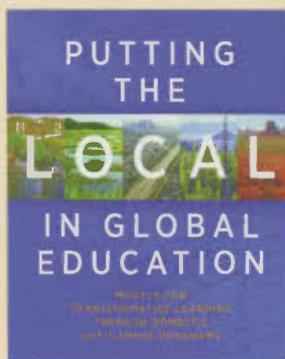
- Amy Young

Busick '99, an adjunct faculty member in the PLU School of Business and a senior manager at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, urged the audience to recognize the value of authentic relationships between professors and students, and contended that the absence of such relationships is the inescapable inadequacy of online higher education.

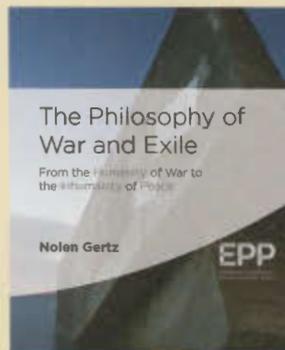
"Did you know we are on the brink of sacrificing quality for quantity?" Busick asked, expressing concern with the rising trend of institutions taking on thousands of online degree-seeking students.

"The question that I have is, what kind of product are we actually putting into the marketplace when we have professors who don't have the chance to know their students?" Busick said. "Know them, meaning to actually be able to teach them effectively. Are we actually developing attributes and qualities, including soft skills, that the market wants?"

The evening's PLU presence was not limited to the three presenting professors, as alumna Hannah Williams '04 gave a talk about motivating K-12 students; the program was hosted and organized by alumnus Adam Utley '04; and two current students, Derrik Ellis and Anne-Marie Falloria, volunteered at the event. □



Professor of History **Neal Sobania** is the editor of *Putting the Local in Global Education: Models of Transformative Learning Through Domestic Off-Campus Programs* (Stylus Press, May 2015), which emerged from his time as executive director of PLU's Wang Center for Global Education. It is the first book of its kind to look at domestic off-campus programs as a way of doing global education. Six other PLU faculty/staff members are authors of three additional chapters: **Amanda Feller, David Huelsbeck, JoDee Keller, Rose McKenney, Kathy Russell and Joel Zylstra.**



Nolen Gertz, Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, has published *The Philosophy of War and Exile: From the Humanity of War to the Inhumanity of Peace* (Palgrave-Macmillan, 2014), the inaugural book in the series *Palgrave Studies in Ethics and Public Policy*, edited by Thom Brooks.

MORE ONLINE



Kate Luther, Assistant Professor of Sociology, was featured on NerdScholars' new list of "40 Under 40: Professors Who Inspire." Luther was nominated by her colleagues at PLU, who described her as dynamic, involved and committed and said she has inspired countless students to major in Sociology. "In fact, we see a drop in the number of our majors if we ever take her out of the Intro to Sociology teaching rotation," said Joanna Gregson, PLU Professor of Sociology and Sociology Department Chair.



Associate Professor of Mathematics **Daniel (Deej) Heath** will be recognized with the 2015 Carl B. Allendoerfer Award, a national award sponsored by the Mathematical Association, at the MathFest in August. This represents the second recipient from PLU; Associate Professor of Mathematics Jessica Sklar was the first in 2011.



Melannie Denise Cunningham '12, Director of Multi-cultural Recruiting, delivered the keynote address at the City of Tacoma's 27th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration on Jan. 19. Cunningham was a driving force in the event's creation in the late 1980s, when she was the city's Equal Opportunity Employment Officer. □

MORE ONLINE

... AND
JUSTICE
FOR ALL?

THE J-TERM EXPERIENCE OF TWO LIFETIMES



Holocaust Survivor Kurt Mayer's Family—and the Unexpected Kindness of Strangers—Adds Uniquely Insightful, Emotional Elements to PLU Group's Study Away Program in Germany

BY SANDY DENEAU DUNHAM | RESOLUTE EDITOR

PHOTOS BY JOHN FROSCHAUER | PLU



Sophia Mahr '18 inspects a stairway in the dark, dungeon-like cellar where Kurt Mayer's father hid in Wiesbaden.

Kurt Mayer survived the Holocaust to become a fierce advocate for Holocaust education, and for the memory of those who did not survive. Even after his death in 2012, the man whose name informs one of PLU's most distinguished programs remains an inspiration: for scholars, for students—and, perhaps most recently (and most poignantly), for a J-Term Study Away experience organized by Kirsten Christensen, Associate Professor of German and affiliated faculty in PLU's new program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies.

Christensen has led J-Term programs in Germany since 2006. Each year, the students explore aspects of Germany's past and present, including Jewish life and the Holocaust, all while staying with host families and speaking lots and lots of German.

As Christensen was planning this year's experience, though, Kurt Mayer came vividly to mind—and suddenly, "host family" took on a much deeper meaning.

"I thought, 'I need to do a Kurt Mayer segment,'" Christensen said. "And I thought, 'Why hadn't I thought of that before, and why hadn't I done that while he was alive?'"

Christensen had known Mayer personally—not well, she said, but very meaningfully—through her opportunity to work with him on the German translation of his memoir, *My Personal Brush with History*.

Christensen ran into Mayer's son, Joe, at a Powell-Heller Conference for Holocaust Education and asked whether members of his family might be willing to meet with the J-Term travelers before they left. When Joe's sister, Natalie, a student at PLU, heard of the program, she said, "We'll go with you!"

"Suddenly we had the potential for a whole different encounter—for Kurt Mayer's family to see students engaging with his life and the Holocaust and what he wrote, and for the students to learn more about Kurt through their interactions with his devoted family," Christensen said.

And so on Jan. 2, Christensen and six PLU students—April Burns '16, Natalie DeFord '15, Lexi Jason '18, Sophia Mahr '18, Savannah Schneider '15 and Frances Steelquist '16—left for Germany. They were met later in the month in Mainz, where Kurt Mayer lived as a child with his parents, by three generations of Mayer's family: his wife, Pam; his daughter, Natalie; and her son, Elliott. Together they spent a weekend visiting key places from Mayer's childhood and, at each stop, pausing to read aloud relevant portions of his book.

It was an instructional and emotional experience—a series of them, actually, all marked by some rather remarkable coincidences. And through it all, the students kept a journal of their travels, their experiences and their insights.

NEXT PAGE

THE J-TERM EXPERIENCE OF TWO LIFETIMES

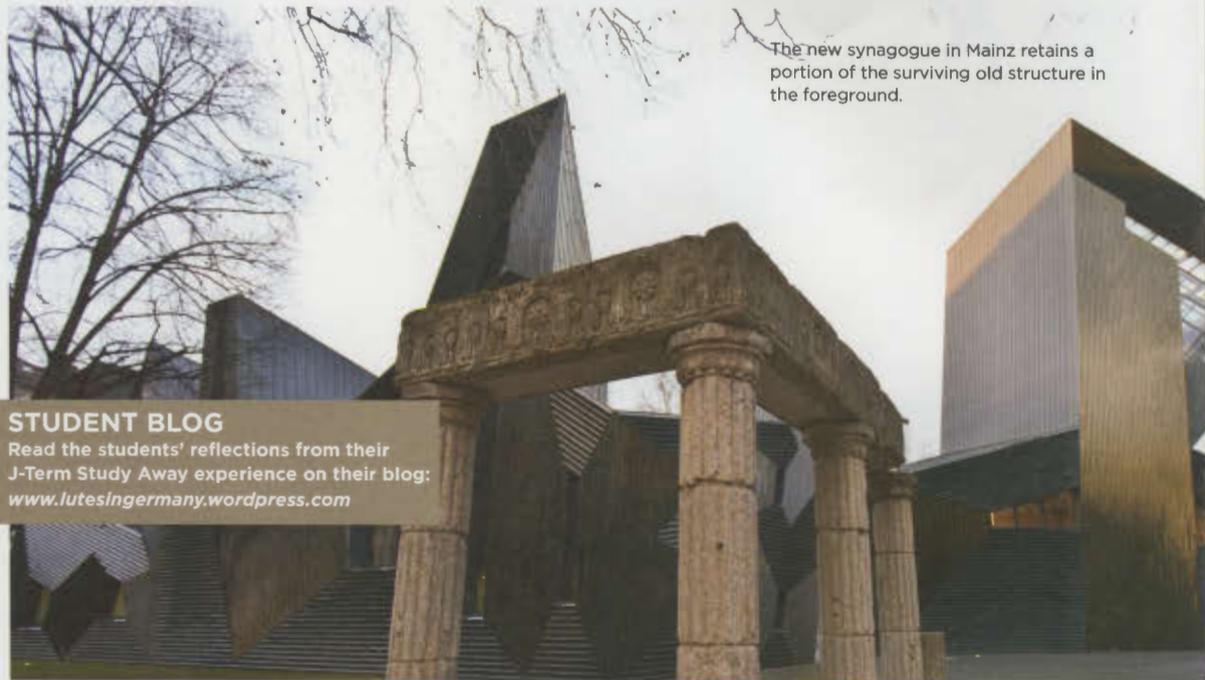
"There is a 180-degree shift from learning about the Holocaust in a textbook to being in the places where it happened and hearing personal stories of suffering," Mahr wrote. "I wish from the bottom of my heart that I could have personally met Kurt Mayer. However, meeting his wife, daughter and grandson was wonderful and inspiring. They are continuing his legacy and spreading his story. I did not realize how emotional and moving it would be to meet them and hear this story for myself."

Here are the students' reflections, along with Mayer's original writings that were read at each site.

MAINZ: SYNAGOGUE

"My earliest recollection goes back to age six. My mother took me to my first day in school. We were no longer able to go to public school, so the rooms in the synagogue, which was two blocks from where we lived, were converted into classrooms. Our rabbi was head of the school. There were probably 10 or 12 children in my first- and second-grade classes. I only know of four including myself who survived."

THE MAYERS and our group attended a service at the Neue Synagogue," Mahr said. "The original structure was bombed during Kristallnacht, where Nazis destroyed synagogues and other places that meant something to Jews across Germany. All that remains of the original synagogue is a beautiful arch. I think the renovation of the building was carefully thought out and holds a lot of meaning.



The new synagogue in Mainz retains a portion of the surviving old structure in the foreground.

STUDENT BLOG

Read the students' reflections on their J-Term Study Away experience on their blog: www.lutesingermainz.wordpress.com

Inscribed on the interior walls are prayer verses. Kurt Mayer ceremoniously helped lay the new foundation."

Christensen said the all-gold interior of the new synagogue is "very edgy and contemporary," with acoustics so perfect, attendees were enveloped in sound the moment the rabbi began chanting.



At the synagogue in Mainz, Natalie DeFord, back, and Frances Steelquist talk with Adam, a 90-year-old Holocaust survivor of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp.

At the synagogue's Shabbat social hour, the group met with the head of the Jewish congregation in Mainz, who asked Natalie Mayer and Christensen to speak. Also in attendance was Adam, a 90-year-old Holocaust survivor of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp near Berlin, which the PLU group toured just a few days later.



ABOUT KURT MAYER

Kurt Mayer was born Jan. 14, 1930, in Mainz, Germany, to Joe and Emmy Mayer. The family escaped to the United States during the Holocaust and settled in San Francisco. In 1957, Mayer moved to Tacoma.

He was introduced to Pacific Lutheran University when he was invited to speak to Professor Christopher Browning's Holocaust class. In his memoir, Mayer wrote, "The fact that a university founded by Norwegian Lutherans would teach the evils of Nazism and spare no one who was guilty from being exposed was for me the key."

Mayer served on the PLU Board of Regents from 1995-2005. The Kurt Mayer Chair in Holocaust Studies was created to honor him and to ensure that teaching of the Holocaust would remain part of the PLU curriculum.

Mayer published his memoir, *My Personal Brush with History*, in 2009; it was translated into German and published in October 2012. Mayer appeared at PLU's Powell-Heller Conference for Holocaust Education in 2010 and 2011, was the featured author at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2011 and held numerous signings, with all proceeds supporting the PLU Holocaust Studies Program.

Mayer died a month after the German edition of his book was published. His family remains in Tacoma and continues to actively support PLU's Holocaust program.

"After the service, members of the community invited us to a reception in which Kurt Mayer was honored," Mahr said. "I met a man, Adam, who was the sweetest. He was so willing to talk about his life experiences with us. When he was younger, he was not as fortunate as the Mayers and was sent to Sachsenhausen. I had never met a survivor of the Holocaust before Adam. The suffering that Adam had to go through because of his blood and beliefs is atrocious. It makes me very angry that anyone could hurt someone as nice as Adam."

MAINZ: THE MAYER FAMILY'S FIRST APARTMENT

"At the end of second grade, sometime in late 1937 or early 1938, my dad was suspicious of some kind of government action against Jews. We were living in an apartment house in Mainz and after I had finished the second grade, my folks decided to move to Wiesbaden."

THE NEXT morning, the group visited the site of Mayer's childhood home, which also was bombed in the war. A new home since has been built there, just a block from the synagogue, with the same house number.

"Early that morning, coincidences started happening," Mahr said. "Natalie Mayer, Kurt's daughter, told me that she knew her dad was with us, making things happen. At his childhood home, we were just looking at the exterior, as well as at the original outside of his childhood neighbor's home, Helmut. We were under the impression that no one knew Kurt who lived there presently. However, a lovely woman popped her head out of one of the windows and joined in on the conversation. She turned out to be Helmut's cousin's wife!"

MAINZ: APARTMENT AND BUTCHER SHOP OWNED BY MAYER'S GRANDMOTHER

"The evening of my return to Wiesbaden is one of the most memorable of my early childhood. ... My grandmother talked about having been forced to sell her meat market and house, located at 8 Betzelsgasse, to a Nazi who had secured favorable government financing. My father said we must emigrate but my grandmother said she wanted to die in Germany and my grandfather said he was too old to emigrate. It was a tense time but also a good time. It was one of the few times in my life that I can remember when our entire family was together."



The group that traveled to Mainz poses in front of the house where Kurt Mayer's friend Helmut lived, next door to Mayer's childhood home, which was bombed during the war. From left, Natalie DeFord, Savannah Schneider (behind), Lexi Jason (front), Sophia Mahr, Frances Steelquist, Pam Mayer, Natalie Mayer, Elliott Mayer and Kirsten Christensen. (April Burns, who also was on the J-Term experience, was ill that weekend and didn't travel to Mainz.)



Pam Mayer walks in the cellar in Wiesbaden.



Stolpersteine (brass plaques) in the pavement commemorate the last addresses of Holocaust victims.



In Mainz, a woman who knew Kurt Mayer's childhood friend popped her head out of a window to talk to the PLU group at the Mayer family's first apartment.

"(THE MAYER) family had owned a butcher shop that was taken over by Nazis," Mahr said. "I am glad that these Stolpersteine (commemorative brass plaques in the pavement in front of their last address) that are installed in front of the old butcher shop serve as remembrance of their lives."

WIESBADEN: HIDING PLACE OF MAYER'S FATHER

"My father returned to Wiesbaden from Frankfurt since it was evident he could not hide with his cousins, but my Mom told him he could not stay because the Gestapo was looking for him. We had no Christian friends in Wiesbaden since we had not lived there very long, and in any event, people were afraid to harbor Jews because it would have been like harboring a criminal. An elderly couple named Bach owned a delicatessen. Their business and apartment were two doors up the street from Taunus Strasse 23, our rented flat. Mr. Bach had been an officer in World War I. Mrs. Bach told my Dad that she would hide him in the cellar, and although food was rationed, he would have plenty to eat and my mother could come to the store and get verbal signals on any changes in conditions. So my Dad went into hiding in the basement of the deli."

THE J-TERM EXPERIENCE OF TWO LIFETIMES

THE GROUP observed and took a few pictures of the house from the outside, Christensen said, and certainly didn't expect any interior access. But a woman who lived in the building and who arrived home just as the group was gathered agreed not only to invite everyone in, but also to open the cellar where Mayer's father had hidden to escape the SS. Although she had lived there for many years, the woman said she had no idea a Jew had ever hidden there.

The group entered the cellar while Pam Mayer, who uses a walker, stood atop the tiny staircase looking down, Christensen said. It didn't take long before Mayer determined to leave the walker and descend the stairs to join the group.

"It was really moving to see the living conditions of the cellar. It was all exposed brick with lots of cobwebs. It was drafty, and the floor was dirt and uneven. But for Kurt's father, this cold, lonely cellar was a haven," Jason said.

Christensen said the cellar probably looks the same today as it did then—dark, dungeon-like and bare.

"... It was uncomfortable to put myself in his position," Jason said. "This cellar was pretty gross, but it was nothing compared to the horrors of a camp. Realizing the sacrifices that Jews (and other persecuted people) had to make in order to stay alive is always a reality check for me. Knowing that hiding in this cellar and getting a little food and human contact once a day was how Kurt's father and many others lived is hard to stomach. It's difficult to imagine now, but it was a reality for them."

IN 1938, Mayer was 8, Hitler had come to power and laws that stripped Jews of their civil rights had been implemented. Forbidden to attend public school, Mayer went to a Jewish



The group played soccer with a boy in the backyard of the school where Kurt Mayer and the other children watched the burning of the Torah and their prayer books.



Savannah Schneider helps Pam Mayer navigate the boarding school path.



The original artwork from Kurt Mayer's time at the boarding school has been uncovered on the walls.



The boarding school where Kurt Mayer lived, as shown in a book on the history of the school.



Natalie DeFord looks out the schoolhouse window.

BAD NAUHEIM: JEWISH BOARDING SCHOOL

"At about 6:30 a.m. the morning of November 9, 1938, I was on the top floor of the boarding school in Bad Nauheim. As we were about to get up, we heard a lot of noise and we were told to go out on the street. We packed some clothes in suitcases, but we still had our nightshirts on and no shoes. It was cold and we were marched barefoot in a line of two or three by civilians with revolvers exposed and pointing at us. Cars driving adjacent to the sidewalk accompanied us for about one mile to the police station.

"We were held in the outside yard for several hours and I developed frostbite on my toes. Our male teachers were gone. That night we learned they had been taken to concentration camps. After what seemed an eternity, we children went back to the boarding school by ourselves. When we got back, the same men who had taken us to the police station were there and herded us around the schoolyard. We watched from the perimeter of the schoolyard as these same men gathered the prayer books and the Torah, poured gasoline on them and burned them in the center of the schoolyard. All the kids were confused and crying."



Sophia Mahr reads a section from Kurt Mayer's book.

school in Wiesbaden and, eventually, because his father was in hiding and his mother in trade school all day, to a Jewish boarding school at Bad Nauheim.

Christensen said it took a bit of work to reach someone who could let them into the school, in part because its name had changed since Kurt Mayer's day. (It is now aptly named for Sophie Scholl, a courageous young resistor who lost her life for spreading anti-Nazi propaganda.)

But Patricia Koch, the administrator of Sophie-Scholl-Schule Wetterau,



Natalie Mayer and son Elliott.

FOLLOWING IN HER FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

Natalie Mayer, a student at PLU and Kurt Mayer's daughter, shares her emotional return to meaningful sites of her father's childhood during a J-Term Study Away program. Read her story and watch a powerful video taken outside her father's former boarding school at www.plu.edu/resolute.

agreed to meet the group—even on a Saturday.

"I look back at that Saturday in January full of thanks that I was able to share in the story of the Mayer family and to get to know so many good, warm, open people," Koch wrote to Christensen after the trip. "I was ... profoundly moved to be able to be part of this gathering."

After gathering first on the school grounds near a small memorial for schoolchildren killed in the Holocaust, everyone went inside: first to the ground floor, where nursery-rhyme paintings from Kurt Mayer's day still adorn the walls. They then went to the top floor, where Mayer and the other children had slept.

"Inside, we were able to see where Kurt Mayer had lived as well as what the view from his window would have looked like, snow included," DeFord said. "We also saw some beautiful artwork, preserved from the time when Kurt Mayer went there and it was a Jewish boarding school.

"This point, for me, was the most emotional," DeFord said. "The point when I learned a story of a very young girl (I think about 3 years old) [the daughter of the school's

director] who died because she had swallowed a barrette and not a single [doctor in town] would help her because she was Jewish."

The school was especially emotional for the Mayer family, Schneider said, because they were able to see where Kurt Mayer had slept and what it had looked like, and better understand what he had experienced.

"At the school, Mrs. Mayer said that the book reading at the places was important because, 'It helps us to imagine,' Schneider said. "It was one thing to read and study and watch movies on history and to be in the place of that history. There is a different, more one-on-one personal element to reading, but there is an experiential element that can only be remembered at the place and vice versa. However, there is also the truth of never being able to actually remember something that is not ours to remember—not being able to experience what has already happened.

"That is why this stood out as so special to me that Mrs. Mayer said that. I don't need to remember to begin to understand—I just need to be able to imagine." □

THE WOMEN'S CENTER AT

STORIES OF INSPIRATION AND LASTING IMPACT

BY SANDY DENEAU DUNHAM | RESOLUTE EDITOR

Since its founding in 1990, Pacific Lutheran University's Women's Center has changed perceptions—and lives—and people have a way of remembering that. To commemorate its 25th anniversary, the Women's Center asked the PLU community to share experiences and memories of this safe place and its inspiring people. Individually, the submitted stories are moving and inspirational. Together, they start to form powerful themes: Connection. Challenge. Acceptance. Engagement. And maybe, most of all, an impact that will last well beyond 25 years.

Here are the stories:

LESLIE C. DUCAY '14 ALUMNA

"As an alumna of PLU, I still consider the Women's Center my home. I continue to receive and read the Women's Center weekly e-mails, and find that I am always inspired by the work this center does for students. While a student at PLU, the care I received from the Women's Center was enriching, individualized and encouraging. The staff and student workers really are the bread and butter of this department."



AMY SWANSON '07 SAPET COORDINATOR 2004-06 AND VOLUNTEER UNTIL 2007

"The Women's Center has made me a leader of my own life! It also has given me the courage to create my dreams and live them. It's given me a voice and the passion to speak for those who cannot. It made me see the world differently, always asking myself, 'How can I do more? How can I inspire more change?' It's made me that woman I am today ... a business owner, empowering women to take ownership and control of their lives by making themselves healthy and well! I can never fully verbalize the strength and meaning that came from my time at the PLU Women's Center. It found me my closest friends and developed the courage to always stand up for what's right ... even if you're the only one. My heart is filled with joy for what the WC continues to offer and provide the PLU community at large. To this day, when I am asked what job shaped me the most, my answer is easy. I consider it my second home and a safe haven for individuality and acceptance. I was able to grow from past pain and experiences into a strong and capable woman!"



CLAIRE PLOURDE '12 WOMEN'S CENTER INTERN

"The Women's Center was huge-ly instrumental in solidifying my passion for feminist activism and praxis. As a Women's & Gender Studies major at PLU, I was very excited to be a part of the Women's Center and help with their day-to-day activities as well as their larger events, including Love Your Body Day and Woman Up! Being a part of a supportive and activist-centered space, I realized that I wanted to pursue a career similar to Jen Smith and Jennifer Warwick. Because of their leadership and example, I am now in my second year at San Diego State University getting my master's degree in Women's Studies. Overall, though, the Women's Center was a fun place to be and grow. Every day I worked, I engaged in fun and meaningful conversations with the staff as well as laughed a lot. The Women's Center taught me that being a feminist and doing feminist-centered work can be incredibly difficult but also incredibly fun. I deeply admire Jen and Jennifer, and they both continue to be my role models today. Oh, and Lady Jane too!"

The History of the Women's Center—and Women—at PLU

1894

PLU always has had female faculty members. Sophie Peterson was among the first.

1898

Ettie Kraabel and Amanda Swan are the first female students to graduate from PLU.

1925

Lora Kreidler comes to PLC as faculty member and Dean of Women. She later is the first woman to have a campus building named for her.

1944

As most men are fighting in World War II, the PLC student body is almost all female. The student body elects its first female president, Agnes Mykland.

1969

The dress code for female students ends through advocacy from the Association for Women Students; women now are allowed to wear pants to the dining hall.

1982

Dr. Mary Lou Fenili is appointed as the Vice President for Student Life. She is the first female officer at PLU.

1983

Funding for Women's History Week is allotted with a presidential decree and faculty support.

1984

The first Women's History Week takes place.

1990

The "Women's Center of Pacific Lutheran University" is established in April.

1990

PLU offers a minor in Women's Studies for the first time. Professor Elizabeth Brusco serves as the first chair of the department.

1992

The Women's Center moves to the Little Red House.

1992

Becky Frehse, Professor of Art, is given course release to serve as the first Women's Center director.

continued



MYCAL FORD '12

FORMER WOMEN'S CENTER INTERN

"The Women's Center encouraged me to come into my identity as a feminist and taught me the importance of challenging sexist ideas that perpetuate a system of gender-based violence and hierarchy in our society."



ERIN MCKENNA

FACULTY AT PLU SINCE 1992; FORMER CHAIR OF WOMEN'S STUDIES

"When I arrived at PLU, the Women's Center was still very new. The fact that PLU had a Women's Center (and a Women's Studies Program) was a very important factor in my decision to take the job here. Entering an all-male department, with some openly less than excited about my arrival, this place and the people in it made all the difference for me as I navigated those stressful pre-tenure years. The feeling of welcome and calm anytime I entered the house for a meeting or a cup of tea helped offset the stress of having to 'prove myself' as a teacher, scholar and colleague. It was here that I learned how to find my own voice as an academic professional; it was here I found mentors that helped me become a leader; and it was here that I could relax a little. Over the years I have also used the center to hold Philosophy seminars. Some of my most successful and fulfilling classes were held in the Women's Center, and I attribute much of that to the atmosphere it provides. The houses have changed over the years, but not the spirit of the place."



NOVA SCHAUSS '04

ALUMNA

"The Women's Center was truly my entrance into active student engagement, and what a way to enter! Through the Women's Center I found a remarkable community of support, the courage to express my opinions, a safe space to ask questions and pose concerns, and a real sense of identity. I like to think that the Women's Center was where I came into my own and began the process of defining my purpose in society. In addition to being an incredible catalyst for social change, it was also a second home—an environment that was deeply inviting and familiar. In hindsight, the Women's Center shaped the bulk of my college experience, and continues to inform the way in which I live my daily life. Wow, 25 years! May the next 25 years continue to produce moments of amazement, wonder, care and empowerment for generations to come!"





Lindsey Paxton '07

ALUMNA

"I was never able to take an official Women's Studies class because of my class schedules. Through the Women's Center, I connected with other students and staff who were interested in making life better for women and men. I always think of my time at the Women's Center as the place where I earned my extracurricular minor in Women's Studies by osmosis. I met so many great people while hanging out in the cozy little house, and especially learned a lot from Bobbi Hughes. My time at PLU and at the Women's Center helped shape my career choices to where I am now working with survivors of domestic violence."

Chynna Boonlom '17

CURRENT VOLUNTEER, MEMBER OF SAPET AND CO-LEADER OF THE FEMINIST STUDENT UNION

"Before I began spending time at the Women's Center, I had very few connections to the PLU community. After becoming a part of the Women's & Gender Studies program and attending the reception at the Women's Center this year, I finally feel like a real member of the PLU community, and have made great connections to the staff and other students through the various programs put on by the center. I have never felt so welcome and accepted at any space at PLU as I have at the Women's Center."

Farah Schumacher '14

FORMER VOLUNTEER

"The Women's Center helped me feel more comfortable in myself and my identity as a woman and a feminist. In addition, when I was going through a rough time during my freshman year, Jennifer (Warwick) helped me find resources on and off campus to keep me safe. I am so honored to have been able to be a part of and welcome others to the Women's Center and wish I had been more involved with the center during my years at PLU."



Weeks before its March 13 '80s "prom" in celebration of its 25th anniversary, PLU's Women's Center conducted a "sneaker campaign" involving bright, mysterious posters of '80s pop stars. Staked posters just popped up (and quickly became collectors' items) all around campus with no explanation—that came later via social media.

Can you name all the '80s poster pop stars? Take our quiz online at www.plu.edu/resolute.

MORE TRIBUTES ONLINE, PLUS:

- The history of the Women's Center in pictures and words.
 - View a photo gallery and video from the 25th anniversary party.
- www.plu.edu/resolute

Dressed in their retro best, PLU President Thomas W. Krise and Patricia L. Krise, along with Women's Center Director Jennifer Smith, Men's Project Coordinator Jonathan Yglesias and Victim Advocate and Voices Against Violence Project Administrator Jennifer Warwick, celebrate the center's 25th anniversary at a 1980s-themed prom on March 13. (Photo: John Froschauer/PLU)



... AND
JUSTICE
FOR ALL?



WATCH A VIDEO OF
NOUJAIM'S DAY
ON CAMPUS:
www.plu.edu/resolute
.....

JEHANE NOUJAIM

Academy Award-Nominated Filmmaker Encourages Lutes to Boldly Tell Their Stories

BY ZACH POWERS '10 | RESOLUTE WRITER

"I consider myself a visual diarist, enabled and obliged to bring testimony to our world so you're able to see beyond the three-minute news sound bite."

Filmmaker Jehane Noujaim spent the day Feb. 19 at PLU, clockwise from top, in an Intro to Women's and Gender Studies class; in the Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, where she delivered the second biennial Ambassador Chris Stevens Memorial Lecture; holding a mock press conference in Ingram Hall; and at a reception following the lecture. (Photos by John Froschauer/PLU)

Jehane Noujaim has received seemingly every illustrious award and accolade available to an independent filmmaker.

The Harvard graduate's documentaries have earned top honors at many of the world's most prestigious international film festivals, including Sundance, Full Frame, Berlin, Sydney and Toronto.

Her most recent feature, *The Square*, which profiles four visionary young leaders on the front lines of the Egyptian revolution, was nominated for an Academy Award and won multiple Emmys.

Equal parts poignant and optimistic, stirring and healing, and still and energetic, Noujaim's documentaries are not easily forgotten—much like her visit to PLU.

On Feb. 19, Noujaim spent the day on campus, culminating with her delivery of the second biennial Ambassador Chris Stevens Memorial Lecture. From the moment she stepped foot on campus, there was no doubting her passion for thoughtful dialogue with students.

Her humility, candidness and warmth, coupled with her fervor, experience and knowledge, opened the door for countless conversations.

The essence of the filmmaker's message to PLU students: Anyone has the power to tell a story she believes is important—regardless of who she is and where in the world that story may be.

"We are living in a time when we have great power as individuals to communicate and understand what is happening halfway around the world. If you see an injustice, you have the power to communicate it, talk about it, Tweet about it, march about it, make a film about it, change it."

Her visit began with lunch in the Scandinavian Cultural Center, where more

than 100 students peppered her with questions about her films, storytelling strategies and her personal connection to the Egyptian revolution.

"I grew up about 10 minutes away from Tahrir Square. If you can imagine, think of a huge uprising that was the center of the world's attention at the time being five minutes away from your house ... and you're a filmmaker... you'd think, 'This is where I need to be!'"

Her next stop was Ingram Hall, home to PLU's School of Arts and Communication, where Noujaim was the subject of a mock press conference with students from a multimedia journalism course.

"The press conference went spectacularly because she was so open and so engaging," said Professor of Communication Joanne Lisosky. "The students were completely engaged with her because they share an affinity for telling stories."

The aspiring journalists, publicists and digital storytellers posed questions about funding documentary films, advice for aspiring filmmakers, the challenges of filming a documentary in the midst of a violent revolution and the role of digital media in social movements.

"I consider myself a visual diarist, enabled and obliged to bring testimony to our world so you're able to see beyond the three-minute news sound bite... Viral videos and stories can catch the spirit of a nation and spread across the world like wildfire. It is the story that a culture tells that sets the parameters for what we perceive as possible... we as journalists can magnify a dream."

Noujaim's afternoon concluded with a conversation with students in a Women's and Gender Studies course, where she discussed how she chooses the subjects of her films, her multicultural identity, the pace of systemic

Continued on Page 31

IT'S ON



"I pledge to **IDENTIFY** situations in which sexual assault may occur."

Jacynda Woodman-Ross '17
Women's Center

IT'S ON



"I pledge to **RECOGNIZE** that non-consensual sex is sexual assault."

Dr. Galen Ciscell
Visiting Assistant Professor - Sociology

IT'S ON



"I pledge to **INTERVENE** in situations where consent has not or cannot be given."

Dennis Sepper
Campus Ministry

IT'S ON US

BY TAYLOR LUNKA '15 | PLU STUDENT WRITER

Watch an inspiring video on It's On US at PLU at www.plu.edu/resolute

The national It's On Us campaign, launched by President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden, aims to keep men and women safe by challenging all of us—as active bystanders—to put an end to sexual assault.

When staff members at PLU's Women's Center heard of the campaign, they knew it was something they wanted to bring to campus.

"It excited us because we knew it was something students could get behind," said Women's Center Victim Advocate Jennifer Warwick.

And they have. Students and staff alike have signed pledges saying they will work, actively, to prevent sexual assault. And in no time, from Olson Gymnasium to Ramstad Commons to the Anderson University Center, signed Lute pledges and It's on Us posters were hanging all over campus.

Jennifer Smith, Director of the Women's Center, said the It's On Us campaign helps remold the responsibility of the university to reshape the culture around violence—and it's not simply a women's issue.

"Everyone is impacted by violence, and everyone is responsible to speak up, act up, notice and do something because if that becomes a cultural norm, people will know this isn't tolerated on campus," she said.

Across campus a variety of events offered opportunities for students, faculty members and staff to support the campaign, including a university-wide spring photo shoot.

Here's a look at some members of the PLU community who are supporting the It's On Us campaign:

ALLISON STEPHENS ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC ADVISING

Stephens, a co-chair of the Active Bystander Coalition with University Pastor the Rev. Dennis Sepper, has been at PLU for about 10 years and says the university has been doing bystander intervention for a majority of that time.

"It's a kind of awareness campaign, but it's also a call to action for people to be active bystanders," said Stephens.

Stephens said previous prevention work around the country hasn't changed the sexual-assault numbers. Many colleges and universities have focused on telling men not to be rapists and on telling women to take precautions to protect themselves before they go out.

"We look at the statistics of how many people actually experience sexual assault, and they haven't changed," said Stephens. "So clearly that type of prevention work was ineffective."

She said there is more to the story of sexual assault that needs to be addressed.

"Most of the time, there are other people around, so why don't we shift the focus and say, 'OK, other people around; let's tune in a little bit so you can see early warning signs of high risk?'" said Stephens. "It's our responsibility to make college a safer place for everyone."

IT'S ON



"I pledge to **IDENTIFY** situations in which sexual assault may occur."

Maridel Agas '17
ROTC

IT'S ON



"I pledge to **CREATE** an environment in which sexual assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported."

Aaron Steelquist
Student Involvement & Leadership

IT'S ON



"I pledge to **RECOGNIZE** that non-consensual sex is sexual assault."

Rigoberto Loreto '17
Athletics - Men's Soccer



Lt. Col. Celia FlorCruz, left, signs an It's On Us pledge card with Colby Klingele '15 after FlorCruz's February presentation at PLU. (Photo: John Froschauer/PLU)

Stephens said sexual assault, unwanted physical touch, sexual harassment, stalking and intimate partner violence are all things we need to prevent to make campuses across the country safer.

"It is really hard to find someone who does not know someone who has been affected by this," she said.

**AARON STEELQUIST '14
PROGRAM COORDINATOR, STUDENT INVOLVEMENT &
LEADERSHIP**

Steelquist, with the help of Hai Doan, Assistant Director of Social Media and Technology in Student Involvement & Leadership, created the PLU posters for the It's On Us campaign, which features athletes, student leaders and faculty members and staff.

"Everyone seemed into the idea and wanted to be a part of it," said Steelquist. "There has been a culture at PLU for a while [about these kinds of issues]."

**LT. COL. KEVIN KELLER
PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SCIENCE, MSIV INSTRUCTOR**

One of the first groups on campus to have all of its students sign pledges was ROTC, which partnered with the Women's Center for the It's On Us campaign.

"We are heavily involved in this," said Keller. "We [the Women's Center and ROTC] share a lot of the same goals."

Keller said ROTC has a program similar to It's On Us called SHARP (Sexual Harassment/Assault Response & Prevention), located in the resource area of the Memorial Gym.

"We are all part of the human race," said Keller. "We have to take care of each other. We have to stem this ugly tide. This is something that affects so many—it has personally affected my own family."

Keller, who has been on the PLU faculty since 2013, said he is making sexual-assault prevention a top priority.

"I really want to see change in our attitude," he said. "It's ridiculous."

Keller says that to tackle an issue as large as sexual assault, we all need to come together.

"We are teammates in this fight," he said. "We can only get better by teaming up with folks."

**THE REV. DENNIS SEPPER
UNIVERSITY PASTOR**

Sepper has been university pastor since 1995 and is co-chair of the Active Bystander Coalition with Allison Stephens.

First, the coalition brought together people from all departments on campus to get this campaign in full swing at PLU.

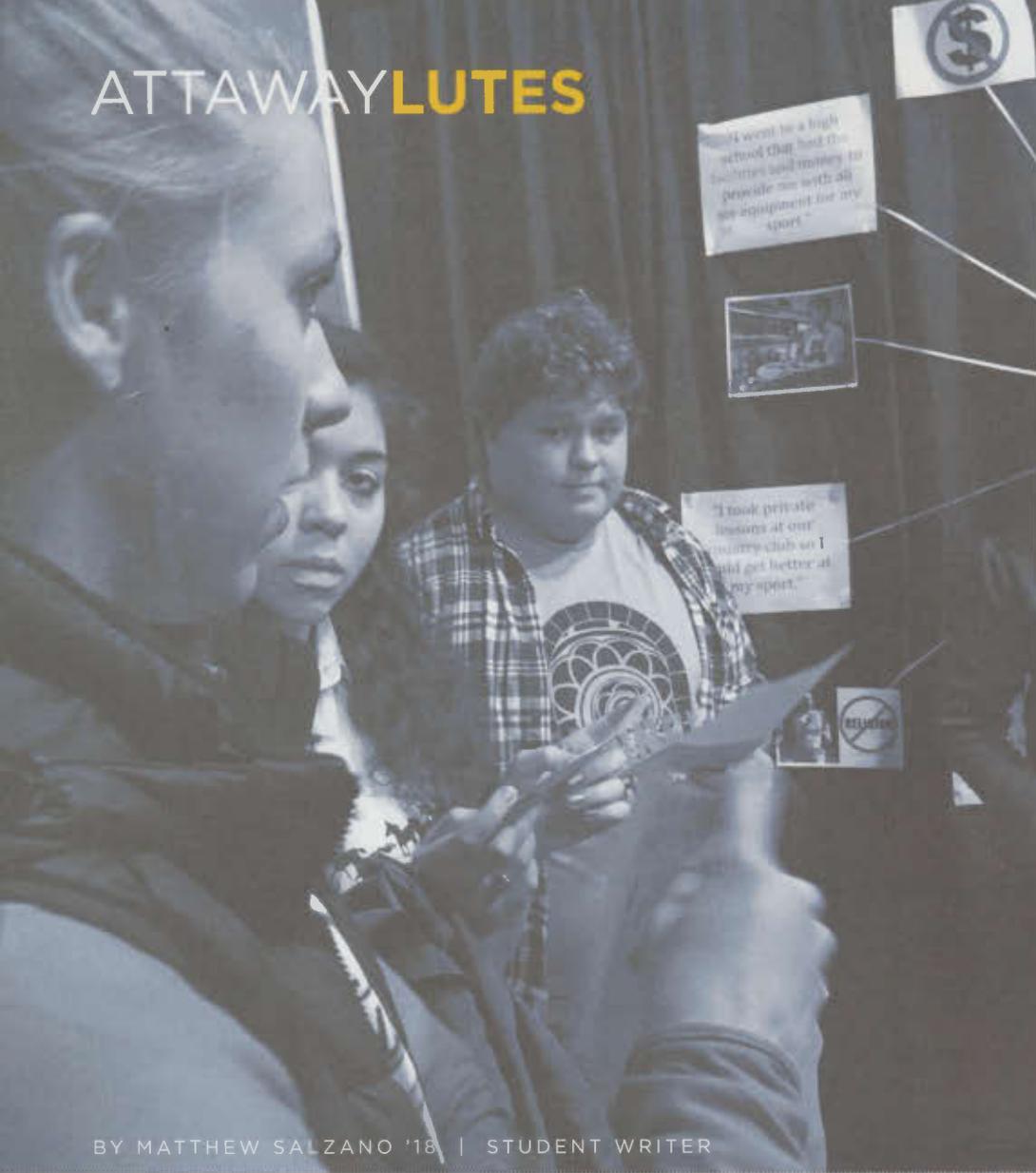
"We want to make PLU an absolute safe place for everyone," said Sepper.

He said sexual assault is seen in too many parts of our world today.

"The level of violence in our society is crazy—crazy doesn't even get to it," said Sepper.

Sepper said this campaign reinforces PLU's goals as a university. From Green Dot to bystander trainings and resources on campus, this is another part of the university that makes it PLU.

"Community is a big thing here," said Sepper. "This issue [of sexual assault] is more than a women's issue. It's men's, too—it's a community issue." □



"I played softball all through high school and was skilled enough to be able to be given the opportunity to play in college but money became the issue. I had to take care of my younger siblings while my parents worked supporting me and my siblings."
-Stacy Johnson, age 18, USA

IN NCAA DIVISION 1A:
 Head coaches for women's teams receive an average salary of \$850,400 while head coaches for men's teams average \$1,783,100. This is a difference of \$932,700.

"I am from Swaziland, Africa. I play soccer with rolled up trash bags, on a downhill slanted dirt field barefoot. I don't get the chance to play on an organized team with a coach."
-Sibusio

BY MATTHEW SALZANO '18 | STUDENT WRITER

Scenes from SAAC's 2015 Tunnel of Oppression exhibit

STUDENT-ATHLETES AS SOCIAL

"PLAYING A SPORT" sounds so easy. Grab, hit, kick a ball. Hurl a javelin, hammer, shotput. Row, row, row a boat.

But for many students, serious, challenging obstacles block the path to participation in organized athletics. In reality, successful student-athletes benefit not only from physical skills, but also from access—and privilege.

Members of PLU's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) are aware of that—and are working to raise an even broader awareness.

SAAC participated in its second Tunnel of Oppression on Feb. 20, an annual interactive event sponsored by the Diversity Center that seeks to creatively address social injustice through guided "scenes" that depict issues of oppression in society. After bouncing around lots of ideas, SAAC members decided to share a look at the privileges they enjoy, and the obstacles others face.

"[Participating in athletics] is something we try to encourage to children and even adults daily, yet there are many obstacles that some may not realize," said SAAC Vice President and Women's Swim Team captain Melissa Dean '16. "I think [our scene] gave an opportunity for everyone to look at times they may not realize

it was a privilege and just think about the opportunities which either helped or hindered them in athletics."

In SAAC's scene, a Tunnel of Oppression docent chose three participants to read from notecards containing firsthand testimonies from athletes who had faced obstacles to participation in sports.

"I played softball all through high school and was skilled enough to be able to play in college, but money became the issue. I had to take care of my younger siblings while my parents worked supporting me and my siblings," read one card, attributed to an 18-year-old U.S. athlete named Stacy.

On the cloth walls of the SAAC exhibit were facts displayed as quotes and infographics that pointed out socioeconomic privileges:

- Head coaches of NCAA Division I men's teams get paid \$932,700 more on average than those of women's teams.
- Women's NCAA Division I teams obtain less than 40 percent of college sport operating dollars and roughly one-third of spending for recruitment.
- Female college athletes receive only 43 percent of participation opportunities, 56,110 fewer than their male counterparts.

MALE AND FEMALE

PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE SALARIES

... AND
JUSTICE
FOR ALL?

NBA

AVERAGE NBA SALARY \$4,500,000



TOP WAGE EARNER 2014: KOBE BRYANT

\$23,500,000

AVERAGE WNBA SALARY \$72,000



MAXIMUM WAGE 2013

\$107,000

GOLF

AVERAGE PGA SALARY \$973,000



TOP WAGE EARNER 2014: RORY McILROY

\$6,965,895

AVERAGE LPGA SALARY \$162,000



TOP WAGE EARNER 2014: STACY LEWIS

\$1,973,016

SOCCER

AVERAGE MLS SALARY \$207,831



TOP WAGE EARNER 2014: MICHAEL BRADLEY

\$6,000,000

AVERAGE NWSL SALARY \$15,000



MAXIMUM WAGE 2014

\$30,000

Icons made by Freepik from www.flaticon.com

2%

OF COLLEGE ATHLETES MAKE IT TO THE PROS

460,000

NUMBER OF NCAA COLLEGE ATHLETES

7,800,000

NUMBER OF HIGH-SCHOOL ATHLETES IN THE UNITED STATES

21 MILLION

NUMBER OF CHILDREN AGES 6-17 WHO PLAY A SPORT ON A REGULAR BASIS

50.6 MILLION

NUMBER OF CHILDREN AGES 6 to 17 IN THE UNITED STATES IN 2014

- JUSTICE ADVOCATES

This was SAAC's second year of Tunnel participation; last year's scene focused on the use of the word "retarded" as a synonym for "stupid."

"It was a foreign concept to student-athletes to think about how they could participate in Tunnel of Oppression, and many had never even attended," said SAAC Advisor and Associate Director of Athletics Jen Thomas. "But we wanted to bring light to the derogatory use of the word 'retarded,' when people use it in slang and how that affects people with disabilities. We felt that that was very successful, and there's a lot of topics that could be covered beyond that in relation to athletics and how people can be oppressed."

Tunnel scenes were a "natural progression" for SAAC, Thomas said. For the past several years, SAAC has focused on community issues such as sportsmanship and locker-room talk, as well as serving communities by volunteering at Habitat for Humanity and Special Olympics. In fact, the assembly's social-justice campaigns have earned national recognition: In August 2014, SAAC was awarded the inaugural NCAA Division III Diversity Spotlight Initiative for its "You Can Play" campaign, which was comprised

of a video and posters stating that, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, religion or ethnicity, "If you can play, you can play."

SAAC also hosts an annual Youth Sports Clinic, which invites local elementary-aged children to a free, daylong clinic where they learn about athletics and making healthy lifestyle choices.

"It's things like [this] that really make the athletes stop and think about what their impact is on the community, the PLU community, the community at large," Thomas said. "It's been a good experience for them to analyze and experience that type of situation, and they walk away thinking, 'OK, I can make a difference.'"

SAAC President Amy Wooten '15, a volleyball player, first interacted with Tunnel during her first year at PLU.

"I went my freshman year. I had heard great things, but I had no idea what Tunnel of Oppression was. I was just like, 'What's this thing everyone's calling Tunnel? Maybe I should go to it,'" she said. "I went without knowing how deep and how emotional it was, and I was just like, 'Whoa.' My eyes were opened to a lot of different things." □

... AND
JUSTICE
FOR ALL?

ANDREW AUSTIN '06:

TRANSIT ADVOCACY HAS LED HIM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY ... AND BACK AGAIN

BY ZACH POWERS '10 | RESOLUTE WRITER



WATCH A VIDEO OF
AUSTIN EXPLAINING
TRANSPORTATION
ADVOCACY.

www.plu.edu/resolute



IN 2014, ANDREW AUSTIN '06 returned to the city and the organization that collectively helped foster the ascent of his professional and personal vocation.

Thankful to have had the opportunity to lead transit-advocacy efforts all over the country, Austin is now back in his element in Tacoma, advocating, organizing and educating on behalf of the issue in the state he loves.

Now regarded as a national leader and expert on transportation advocacy, the Religion and Global Studies graduate says he's still every bit as passionate about social justice as he was a decade ago while a student at PLU.

"During my junior year, I witnessed people in Tacoma relying on buses to get to work, school, the doctor or just visit their families," says Austin. "It really hit home that public transit access touches and impacts so many other critical issues.

"Even now, nearly 10 years later and equipped with a few more tools, I feel like I'm the same young guy, figuring out how I can be an effective advocate and doing this work to the best of my ability."

As an 18-year-old first-year student at PLU, Austin challenged himself to live without a vehicle, dependent on public transportation. Now 30, Austin continues to live according to that challenge, and his commitment to public transit has grown from a personal conviction to an influential career in state- and national-level public transit advocacy.

As the policy director at Transportation Choices, an advocacy organization dedicated to creating more opportunities for people to walk, bike and take public transit, Austin's work focuses on policy development, lobbying and statewide coalition building.

"Transportation is an issue that a lot of people care about, but it's not very many people's number-one issue," Austin explains. "As transit advocates, our power is based in our relationships with our closest friends. We have to build pro-transit coalitions at the state and local level to have success."

Austin's professional career in advocacy began in legislative politics. He spent the first four years of his career managing political campaigns throughout Western Washington and serving as a legislative assistant in Olympia.

While working at the Legislature in 2007, Austin began establishing himself as a local leader in Tacoma transit advocacy, participating in local activism and making the most of an opportunity with *The News Tribune* of Tacoma.

"I had a blog for the *Tribune* called 'The Bus Stops Here,'" Austin explains. "I would meet riders and talk with them about what they were doing, where they were going and why they

were riding the bus and then contextualize the importance of public transit through their stories."

In 2009, Austin landed a job as policy associate with the organization he had long hoped to work for— Transportation Choices. His talent and work ethic were quickly recognized and rewarded, and after just one year he was promoted to field director.

"During that time it really hit home for me that advocacy work, especially on this issue and especially in this state that I love, is what I wanted to do," he says.

Austin's leadership at Transportation Choices landed him on the radar of the national transportation advocacy community. In 2012, he was recruited to serve as the executive director of a national nonprofit called Americans for Transit.

The opportunity meant moving from one Washington to the other, a transition Austin had always hoped might be possible. "D.C. is its own realm, much different than state and local politics, and I wanted to get a taste of that," Austin says.

Dedicated to "strengthening, uniting and creating grassroots transit rider organizations across the country," Americans for Transit afforded Austin the opportunity to travel nationwide, convening peer-networking trainings and workshops, consulting on advocacy and policy campaigns, and speaking at regional and national conferences.

"My favorite part was that I got to work with passionate, dedicated advocates fighting for transit issues all over the country," Austin says. "It was an incredible experience organizing in the south in places like Georgia and in Rust Belt cities like Pittsburgh and Cleveland.

"My eyes were really opened to the similarities between advocacy organizing across the country, but also the dynamics and culture of each community greatly impacted the work. Like they say, all politics is local."

However, after two invigorating years living in D.C. and out of a suitcase on the road, Austin couldn't help but feel as though much of his fervor for advocacy had been left behind in Washington state.

"I missed working in a place where I felt a personal investment and I was able to see the work through to the finish," Austin says.

So when Transportation Choices asked whether he'd be interested in returning to serve as its policy director, Austin didn't have to think twice.

"I realized there is nothing I'd rather be doing than leading the policy work at Transportation Choices," he says. "Who knows what the future has in store, but I'm incredibly thankful for where I've been able to go, and so excited to be back." □



Andrew Austin '06, regarded as a national leader and expert on transportation advocacy, now works as the policy director at Transportation Choices, a statewide advocacy organization dedicated to creating more opportunities for people to walk, bike and take public transit. (Photos: John Froschauer/PLU)

ALUMNI NEWS

HOMECOMING 2015: OCT. 9-11



BLACK & GOLD NEVER GETS OLD

PLU HOMECOMING 2015

Celebrating **125 Years of PLU**

- Class reunions for classes of 1955, 1965, 1975, 1990 and 2005
- Alumni Tent and Homecoming Football Game vs. Linfield
- Graduates of the Last Decade PreGame Event
- Alumni Awards Banquet
- Golden Club Brunch and University Congregation

www.plu.edu/homecoming

Homecoming registration

opens June 15.
Register before Aug. 1 and receive a 12.5 percent discount in honor of PLU's 125th anniversary!

ALUMNI PROFILES ONLINE

FOR THESE AND MORE, VISIT
www.plu.edu/resolute



ACCOMPLISHED
SINGER

Crystal Aikin '97



SUPER BOWL
STAGE-SETTER

Stephen Dilts MBA '14



Root, Root, Root for the Home Team at PLU NIGHT AT THE TACOMA RAINIERS

AUGUST IS ONE of the most beautiful months in the Pacific Northwest, with evenings made for striking sunsets, warm temperatures—and Tacoma Rainiers baseball.

PLU Night at the Rainiers has become a wonderful tradition for celebrating our PLU community and the end of summer.

The Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations invites you to join our current students, incoming students, alumni, friends, faculty and staff in one big end-of-summer bash as the Tacoma Rainiers take on the Omaha Storm Chasers on Friday, Aug. 28, this year's PLU Night at the Rainiers.

For only \$11.50 apiece, you get admission to the game, a hotdog, bottled water, chips and a fireworks show after the game. There'll also be a PLU Hospitality Tent with lots of Lute mementos and PLU information, including a free raffle.

The entire evening's program—even beyond the game—will represent PLU and the best the university has to offer, featuring Lute talent and participants, including those singing the National Anthem and tossing the first pitch.

Tickets are on sale now! And soon after you make your purchase, your tickets will be mailed to you. Buy yours now from the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations through www.plu.edu/rainiers or by calling 253-535-7415.

ALUMNI BOARD Official Nomination Ballot

The following candidate is nominated for the 2015-16 Alumni Board of Directors:

Salvador Mungia '81

You also may vote for a write-in candidate:

Please vote; detach this form; and mail it before Aug. 1, 2015, to:

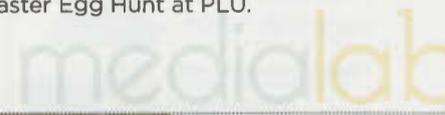
The Office of Alumni & Constituent Relations
Nesvig Alumni Center
Pacific Lutheran University
Tacoma, WA 98447

Two response boxes are provided for households with two voters; you also can fill out your ballot online at www.plualumni.org.

MORE ALUMNI NEWS ONLINE



- ☞ See a photo gallery from the March 1 Connection event in Seattle.
- PLU's Twin Cities alumni chapter screened the award-winning MediaLab documentary *Waste Not* on March 28.
- Check out photos from the Easter Egg Hunt at PLU.
- Upcoming alumni events. ☞



ACCLAIMED
NOVELIST

Leslye Walton '04



LUTES IN
HEALTHCARE

Candice LeBaron '09
and more



SEATTLE
STARTUP SUCCESS

Brockton Gates '12

CLASSNOTES

SUBMIT YOURS HERE: www.plu.edu/resolute

Class Representative positions available: 1966, 1975, 1979, 1982 and 1998

Pre-1930, 1930-35, 1937-44, 1946-48, 1951, 1952, 1954
Golden Club Class Representative Committee

1929

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

Eliot (Michelsen) Morken '29 died Jan. 26.

1936

Class Representative - **Volly (Norby) Grande**

1945

Class Representative - **Annabelle Birkestol**

1949

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

James Mills '49 died Dec. 7.

Grace (Walters) Wilson '49 died March 8, 2014.

1950

Class Representative - **Dick Weathermon**

Ray A. Harding '50 died Dec. 14.

Beth (Gottwald) Peterson '50 died Dec. 25.

1953

Class Representative - **Naomi (Roe) Nothstein**

1954

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

Paul Steen '54 died Dec. 16.

1955

Class Representative - **Phyllis (Grahn) Pejsa**

1956

Class Representatives - **Ginny (Grahn) Haugen** and **Clarene (Osterli) Johnson**

Paul N. Jordan '56 died Jan. 11.

Patricia (Molver) Koessler '56 died Aug. 27.

Suzanne (Grabs) Sylling died Sept. 7.

1957

Class Representative - **Ed Larson**

1958

Class Representative - **Don Cornell**

Roberta (Lunsford) Kehle '58 had her fourth book, *The Covered Bet*, published by Koehler Books. She is garnering 5-star reviews for its suspense, setting and family dynamics. The book is available at all bookstores and on Amazon for print and e-book. Kehle would like to talk to other alumni on her blog at

www.robertakehle.com and her Facebook author page. PLU grads have longevity!

1959

Class Representative - **Camille (Emerson) Eliason**

Al Dungan '59 and his wife, **Hildred (Hansen) Dungan '60**, are eagerly awaiting the birth of their first great-grandchild. Their homes are in Edina, Minn. (April-December), and Casa Grande, Ariz. (January-April). The newest member of their family will be the son of their grandson, Peter, who was married by Al in Bozeman, Mont., in September 2012.

1960

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

Gary Peterson '60 began a 38-year teaching career in the local area after graduation. He married Cindy Lantz in 1963, and they have three married children and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Gary's closest friends, **Jim Kittilsby '60**, **Ken Miller '64** and **Harold Peterson '62**, all attended PLU, and they occasionally take in a PLU sporting event in the area. Gary thinks PLU brought him into contact with some quality people and launched him into a satisfying career in education. He has good memories of his years at the college, over half a century ago.

1961

Class Representative - **Ron Lerch**

Kenneth Gaal '61 died Feb. 5.

Carolyn (Ericksen) Swanson '61 is retired from FDA but is teaching Bible classes at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Seattle. One of them is *Manna and Mercy*, written by another alum, **Dan Erlander '62**.

JoAnn (Skold) Winesdorfer '61 died Aug. 21.

1962

Class Representative - **Leo Eliason**

Martha (Stoa) Bakke '62 died Nov. 16.

Claude Canfield '62 died Jan. 19.

Raymond Tau On Ho '62 died May 29, 2014.

1963

Class Representatives - **Merle and Joan (Maier) Overland**

1964

Class Representatives - **Jon and Jean (Riggers) Malm**

Gary Sund '64 died Dec. 14.

1965

Class Representative - **Rhoda Pappajohn**

1966

Class Representative - **vacant**

1967

Class Representative - **Craig Bjorklund**



Paul Benson '67 has been chosen as director of the National Endowment for the Humanities' 2015 Institute on Slavery, to be held at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Paul is professor of Humanities at Mountain View College, Dallas, Texas.

Donald Simmons '67 died Nov. 22.

1968

Class Representatives - **Jim and Georgia (Stirn) Girvan**

1969

Class Representatives - **Bill Ranta** and **Patsy (Davies) and David B. Johnson**

Jim Ojala '69 is a longtime rower who has been active in Whatcom Rowing Association (Bellingham) the past three years. When a fellow member posted a handbill about Allied Arts' call for submissions in conjunction with this year's Whatcom Reads! book by Daniel James Brown, *The Boys in the Boat*, Jim decided to create a collage in the subject he knows well. Jim's collage showed at Allied Arts Gallery in February and was then moved to a library in Whatcom County. Jim's interest in rowing began at PLU, where he earned four varsity letters.

Willie Stewart '69 was honored by the Tacoma School District in February as it renamed the Reengagement Center the Willie Stewart Academy in honor of his decades of service. Willie was the first black principal in the city and also was a former district administrator and school board member.

1970

Class Representative - **Bill Allen**

1971

Class Representative - **Paul D. Johnson**

Roger Anderson Jr. '71 died Oct. 19.

Rebecca (Rodning) Frank '71 and her husband, Don, now live in Murrieta, Calif. Don is retired as a professor at California Polytechnic University. Rebecca is retired as a specialist in the special education field. They both have new "jobs" volunteering full-time: Rebecca with the most poor, needy and homeless of their greater metropolitan area, and Don as a counselor. They love their new life, and their home is not empty—they have three daughters and a son ... that is, four beautiful dogs.

Glenn Zander '71 died Dec. 11.

1972

Class Representative - **Molly Stuen**

Brian Daniels '72 died Oct. 25.

1973

Class Representative - **Karen (Wraalstad) Robbins**

1974

Class Representative - **David E. Johnson**

Kenneth B. De Roche '74 died Aug. 6.

Patricia A. McCullough '74 died Aug. 29.

Frances McPherson '74 died Nov. 12.

Debra (Hammon) Young '74 recently moved back to Tacoma and would like to reconnect with the students who made PLU special for her, like the members of "BANTU." She says, "We made history and changed the face of PLU for a short time. We should be proud of the important role we played in the history of PLU."

1975

Class Representative - **vacant**

1976

Class Representative - **Gary Powell**

1977

Class Representative - **Joan (Nelson) Mattich**
1977 co-Class Representative Leigh Eric passed away on April 12, 2015.

Richard Rapp Jr. '77 died Jan. 27.

1978

Class Representative - **Pete Mattich**

1979

Class Representative - **vacant**

Stephen Whyte '79 is CEO and president of Vitus Group, a Seattle company, which announced in March that it is one of a handful of real-estate developers to team with the Partnership for a Healthier America in an effort to promote healthy living in affordable housing. Vitus Group will incorporate active design elements into at least 80 percent of its developments within the next few years. Part of that will mean indoor and outdoor spaces to encourage year-round exercise for children and adults. The effort focuses on accessibility of healthy alternatives for people who might not otherwise feel they can afford it.

1980

Class Representative - **John Bley**

1981

Class Representatives - **Dean and Susan (Lee) Phillips**



Tony Lorenzo '81 recently opened a restaurant near St. Joseph Medical Center in Tacoma: ZZ'S Chinese Food & Pop Jones BBQ. Website: zzandpop.com.

Arved Plaks '81 retired from Boeing in 1995. She last worked on development of the International Space Station (formerly named Space Station Freedom). Currently Arved is a freelance writer and member of the executive

PICTURE PERFECT



Check out Twin Cities alumni news and events at www.plu.edu/resolute.



Three PLU alumni are volunteering through a program called Young Adults in Global Mission (pictured). **Emily Bishop '14** is in Rwanda, **Caitlin Zimmerman '14** is in South Africa and **Ashley Dell'Osa '13** is in the United Kingdom. This year 63 participants are volunteering through YAGM all over the world.



Lutes gathered for an eighth annual PLU family vacation: **Josh Wyrick '97** and **Erin (Mortensen) Wyrick '97**, **Curtis Fenimor '97** and **Mary Ann (Forsythe) Fenimor '97**, **Scott Cushing '97** and **Kim (Creighton) Cushing '97**, **Brian van Valey '97** and wife Kelly, and **Peter Finstuen '98**.

committee of the Estonian American National Committee.

1982

Class Representative - **vacant**

Patrick Swenson '82 had his first novel published by Tor Books (Macmillan) in August 2014, a science fiction noir thriller titled *The Ultra Thin Man*.

1983

Class Representative - **Dave Olson**

Elsie Carothers '83 died April 19, 2014.

Kelly Carlisle '83 has been named assistant superintendent for the Salem-Keizer School District in Oregon.

1984

Class Representative - **Mark Christofferson**

David Sperry '84 had his first novel, *The Pouakai*, published by IFWG Publishing. An alien invasion technothriller seen from the viewpoint of an airline pilot, it is available online, and (hopefully soon) at a bookstore near you.

1985

Class Representatives - **Janet (Olden) Regge** and **Carolyn (Plocharsky) Stelling**

Lynnita (Smith) Bergström '85 won a prestigious leadership award in northern Sweden. Lynnita moved to Sweden in 1991 after marrying Tomas Bergström, a native Swede. She has worked as an RN in Sweden and won the award through the occupational health company she and three other Swedish nurses have started in northern Sweden.

Karel Hull '85 died Jan. 30.

Timothy Rundquist '85 died Dec. 22.



Trudi (Strain) Trueit '85 sold her latest children's novel, *The Sister Solution*, to Simon & Schuster. It will be published through Simon & Schuster's tween imprint, Aladdin MIX, in the fall of 2015. Trudi is the author of more than 90 fiction and nonfiction books for kids. You can find her at www.trudittrueit.com.

1986

Class Representative - **David Carlson**

1987

Class Representatives - **John Carr** and **Lisa Ottoson**

1988

Class Representative - **Brenda Ray Scott**



Edwin Dierdorff '88 recently was elected marketing vice president for the Northwest Sound Men's Chorus-2014 Evergreen District Chorus Champions. He is also the assistant director with the Seattle SeaChordsmen Men's Barbershop Chorus and Evergreen District Historian. This spring, he is celebrating his 37th year as a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

1989

Class Representative - **Brendan Rorem**

Dave Howell '89 gave a presentation entitled "Golden Guidelines for Good Game Design" at the PAX Developer's Conference this year.

1990

Class Representative - **Erik Benson**



Daven Rosener '90 has recently celebrated a successful first year working full-time as president and owner of his own small communications agency, GreenMegaphone, Inc. While he has owned the business for several years, 2014 was the first year he was completely full-time in the self-employed arena. He gives many thanks to PLU for starting his communications career on the right foot, and a special thanks to professor Cliff Rowe, his mentor, professor and friend. Also, this brief wouldn't be complete without thanking the most amazing person in Daven's life, his wife, **Sara (McNamara) Rosener '90**.

1991

Class Representative - **Jim Morrell**

1992

Class Representative - **Rebecca Benson**

Borge Steinsvik '92 became president and partner of RS Platou Houston Inc. in July. RS Platou serves the shipping and offshore industry worldwide by providing services within chartering, sale and purchase, and contracting of ships and offshore units. Further, the company provides investment banking services and project financing with a core focus on the shipping and offshore industries.

1993

Class Representative - **Barbara (Murphy) Hesner**

Kirsten Parsons '93 was hired at Allsteel Inc. as a business development manager.

1994

Class Representatives - **Catherine (Overland) Hauck** and **Dan Lysne**

1995

Class Representative - **Janet (Huss) Nelson**

1996

Class Representatives - **Steve** and **Kimberly (Nadon) Leifsen**

1997

Class Representatives - **Andy** and **Stephanie (Merle) Tomlinson**

1998

Class Representative - **vacant**



Kelley Minty Morris '98 became the youngest person elected to the Klamath County Board of Commissioners last May. Her four-year term started in January 2015.



Andrea (Bernhardsen) Rodenberg '98 graduated from Liberty University, Lynchburg, Va., with a master's in Human Services Counseling: Marriage and Family Cognate on Dec. 21, 2014.

1999

Class Representative - **David Potts**

Amy (Pardini) Sonnichsen '99 had her first novel published by Simon & Schuster BFYR in February 2015. *Red Butterfly* is the story of an 11-year-old Chinese orphan who is left in China alone when her American foster mother is repatriated.

2000

Class Representative - **Brian Vertrees**

2001

Class Representative - **Brianne (McQuaig) Vertrees**

2002

Class Representatives - **Nicholas Gorne** and **Brian Riehs**

2003

Class Representative - **Elisabeth (Pynn) Himmelman**



Aaron Lunday '03 married Allison Kolp, former PLU assistant swimming coach, on July 18, 2014, in Olalla, Wash. Lutes in attendance included **Scott Olson '03, Matt Sellman '96, Stephanie (Coleman) Sellman '96, Jenn (Jennings) Schneider '02, Kasey Dorcas '11, Christy (Amondson) Webster '98, Randy Webster '02, Jessica (Bland) Ober '04, Hannah Procter '14, Kina Ackerman '14, Patrick Carlisle '08, Nicole (Block) Swanson '04, James Jennings '06, Lindsey (Robinson) Jennings '04, Holly Mulvenon Wright '04, Annika (Nelson) Iverson '02, Courtney Eronemo '14, Lisa Morgenthaler '04, Chase Mesford '12** and retired PLU head men's and women's swimming coach Jim Johnson.

2004

Class Representative - **Tamara Lynn Schaps**



Claire Zovko '04 has been hired by the Instituto Superior de Derecho y Economía ("ISDE") based in Madrid, Spain, to teach international and comparative sports law within the LL.M. in International and Comparative Sports Law program at St. John's University School of Law in Queens, N.Y. This program is designed for recent graduates in law and other attorneys with interest in developing their career in the sports law world.

2005

Class Representative - **Micheal Steele**

Jennifer Schlies '05 graduated from her residency program in June in Muskegon, Mich. She moved back to Minnesota and started an OB-GYN attending physician job with the Buffalo Clinic in Buffalo, Minn., in August.

2006

Class Representative - **Jenna (Steffenson) Serr**



Jenae (Yandell) Lyamin '06 married Andre Lyamin on Dec. 28 at Lake Wilderness Lodge in Maple Valley, Wash. Jenae recently graduated from the City University of Seattle with a master's of business administration with an emphasis in change leadership, and she works at Boeing as an industrial engineering analyst.

2007

Class Representatives - **John McClimans** and **Kaarin Praxel Austin**

Blake Busey '07 has been serving at



Fort Bliss, Texas, as the medical director of his family medicine clinic as well as the PCMH director for primary care. He will be deploying this summer and will return in the fall. He has published two papers this year, one on Moyamoya disease and the other on Mullerian agenesis. He has designed a study that is underway at Fort Bragg, N.C., on Rhabdomyolysis. His wife, Selia, and daughters, Oriya and Serafina, are happy to be settling in El Paso, Texas!

Jennifer Henrichsen '07 and PLU Professor of Communication Joanne Lisosky researched and wrote the first-ever U.N. report on digital security for journalists. The report findings were presented at the Internet Governance Forum in Istanbul, Turkey, in September.



Kristi (Clough) Herriott '07 married Todd Herriott on July 19 in Seattle. Lutes in the wedding party were **Katie Schrenk '06, Gretchen (Kurz) VanPelt '06** and **Beth (Zimmerman) Grolbert '07**.

2008

Class Representatives - **Christy Olsen Field** and **Courtney Stringer**

2009

Class Representatives - **Maren (Anderson) Johnson** and **Amy Spieker**

Dannielle Hanson '09 received National Board Certification in Early Adolescence/English Language Arts in November.



Rebecca (Richardson) Holland '09 married Eric Holland on Dec. 29, 2012, at Mindekirken Norwegian Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. Lutes in the wedding party included **Katherine (Collins) Rilling '09** and **Christy Olsen Field '08**. Rebecca and Eric welcomed a baby boy, Leif Eric Holland, on May 14, 2014. Rebecca is in her first year of the master's of divinity program at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn.

Eileen Toth '09 died Oct. 18.

2010

Class Representative - **Jillian Foss**



Becca (Krzmarzick) Fairchild '10 married Tyler Fairchild on Aug. 9 in Tacoma, Wash. PLU friends in the bridal party included **Nicole Ferrin '10, Dena Harkovitch '10** and **Hannah Middlebrook '10**. Becca is a senior research analyst at Deloitte Digital.



Tyler Gubsch '10 was ordained into the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America July 27 and is now serving Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Tekamah, Neb.



Leanne (Briggs) Lang '10 married Christopher Lang in Denver, Colo., on June 14. Lutes in the wedding party were **Andrew Guinn '09** and **Carissa Davidson '10**. Other Lutes

in attendance: **Katie Oliver '09, Zachary Alger '09, Kathryn Guinn '12, Hanna Hill '13, Teal Flannigan '10** and **Catherine Cheng '12**. The couple recently relocated near Denver. Leanne accepted a position as a senior accountant at Inspirato, a luxury destination travel club.



Christine Mahar '10 married Jeffrey Kostechka on Sept. 26 at St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Astoria, Ore.



Brian Seppi '10 married **Emily (Marks) Seppi '10** at Chateau Rive on June 20, 2014, in Spokane, Wash. Lutes in the wedding party included **Erin (Milliren) Baker '10, Caitlin Webb '10** and **John Vankat '10**.

2011

Class Representatives - **Caroline Olsen, Adam Story** and **LyNSEY Tveit**

Alicia Coragiulo '11 married Christopher Adkins on July 20, 2013, in Mercer Island, Wash.



Anneliese Kellogg '11 married Lt. Joshua Samuelson on Dec. 27 at Messiah Lutheran Church in Auburn, Wash. They had a small, intimate ceremony of 15 guests. Joshua is a graduate of

the University of Alabama Birmingham with a degree in biomedical engineering and is now a nuclear engineer for the United States Navy. Anneliese received her degree in music education from PLU and is now the director of bands at Keithley Middle School in Parkland. Go Lutes!

Karl Plog '11 was awarded a Bletten Memorial Award for Distinguished Newspaper Reporting, receiving first place in enterprise reporting for her story about the eight people who mistakenly drove their cars down the boat launch and into the water at the Narrows Marina in Tacoma.



Sarah Wise '11 had her third annual PY // Art from Parkland's Youth juried art exhibition hosted in the PLU University Gallery in January 2015, featuring students from three local schools. A \$500 scholarship was awarded to the Faculty Choice winner, a senior from her alma mater, Franklin Pierce High School.

2012

Class Representatives - **Kelvin Adams** and **Caitlyn Jackson**



Cassie (Kelsey) Bieker '12 and **Tyler Bieker '13** were married in August in her hometown of Marysville, Wash. Their wedding was a testament to the lasting love and lifelong friendships they were blessed to find in their time at PLU.



Annika (Carow) Deming '12 was hired as communications manager at the Connecticut Convention Center. She will be overseeing all social media, digital media and public relations strategies.

Jonathan Jackson '12 was named program director at Palmer Scholars in Tacoma, Wash.

Laura (Rudquist) Nagel '12 and Ryan Nagel were married on July 19 in Minnesota. Fellow Lutes **Rachel Kising '12, Emma Struss '12, Caitlyn Jackson '12** and **Elizabeth Ginsberg '12** joined in the celebration!



Kelsey (Johnston) Stamps '12 and **Barrett Stamps '11** were married July 26 at Delille Cellars in Woodinville, Wash. Lutes in the wedding party included **Annie Zorko '12, Hannah Szabo '12, Shannon Price '12, Kindra Stamps '11, Auston Hilkin '13, Aaron Rasmussen '10** and **Scott Zhang '12**. They currently reside in Bonney Lake, Wash.

Olivia Joy (Hustoft) Taylor '12 married Dayna Marie Taylor on Aug. 30, 2014, in Ferndale, Wash. Lutes in attendance included **Christopher Staudinger '08, Tawny (Clark) Staudinger '08, Paige MacPherson '11, Jenny Snipstead '11, David Hustoft '77** and **Rusty Veth '07**.

2013

Class Representatives - **Taylor Astel** and **Anna Milliren**

2014

Class Representatives - **Katie Curtis, Tommy Flanagan** and **Anna McCracken**

Brianna Walling '14 was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and began teaching English in Argentina this spring.

FUTURELUTES

1994



T.J. Keiter '94 and his wife, Jessi, welcomed baby girl Margaret Elizabeth Keiter on Dec. 1.

1996

Amy (Mustain) Nowik '96 and her husband, George, welcomed daughter Hope, born in December 2014. She joins big sister Kyra to complete the family.

1998



Jessamyn Berniker '98 and her husband, Itai Grinberg, are thrilled to announce the birth of their son, Cedar Asher Grinberg, born Aug. 1. Jessamyn is a partner at Williams & Connolly LLP, a law firm in Washington, D.C., where she specializes in intellectual property litigation. Her husband, Itai, is on the faculty at Georgetown University Law Center, where he focuses on international tax.

2001



Deann (Merkel) Holliday '01 and her husband, Brian, welcomed their first son, Lincoln Anton, on July 29.

2002



John T. Burke '02 and his wife, Heidi, welcomed their second child, Tessa Jo Burke, on May 16, 2014. Tessa joins her proud big brother, John. The family lives in Burlington, Wash., and John is an associate at

Skagit Law Group in Mount Vernon, Wash.



Julie (Feltmann) Dennis '02 and **Joshua Dennis '03** welcomed son Calvin Russell Dennis on May 27, 2014.



Ashley Seffernick '02 and Mel Carson welcomed their second daughter, Elizabeth Josephine, on March 13, 2014. Big sister Maggie is thrilled!

2003



Molly (Banks) Kennedy '03 and **Sean Kennedy '03** welcomed their son and future Lute Gavin Banks Kennedy on April 25, 2014.

2004



Megan (Ernst) Kilpatrick '04 and husband Todd became the proud parents of Alden McCrohan Kilpatrick, born Nov. 13 in Tacoma, Wash. As the first

grandchild for both families, he is very spoiled!



Kerry (Weathers) O'Flaherty '04 and her husband, Ryan, welcomed future Lute Chloe Evelyn O'Flaherty on July 27, 2014, in Puyallup, Wash.

2006



Kacie (Thompson) Blanchard '06 and her husband, Ryan, welcomed their first child, Cassidy Marie Blanchard, on Aug. 15.

2007



Ellen (Brotherston) Aronson '07 and her husband, Kyle, welcomed Connor David Aronson, born Nov. 7, 2013, joining big sister Linnea. Proud grandparents are **Ruth (Swenson) Brotherston '79** and **Stuart Brotherston '79**. Godparents: **Christy Olsen Field '08** and **Carl Field '08**.



Jeff Kenschud '07 and Brianne Kenschud had a baby! Scarlett Grace Kenschud was born May 26, 2014. They are so thankful for Scarlett and

enjoy all the new things they get to do as a family of three!



Audrey (North) Thornburg and husband Jacob welcomed future Lute Kirra Grace Thornburg on Sept. 17.



Megan (York) Wallace '07 and her husband, Jesse, welcomed their first son, Paxton Ellis, on Dec. 22. He weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces, and measured 20 inches. They are so

thankful for their happy and healthy little boy.

2008



Jessica (Luppino) Pagel '08 and **Travis Pagel '07** welcomed their son, Hunter Natale Pagel, on Oct. 23.

2011

Heather McGivern '11 finds that reflecting on her days at PLU elicits the most nostalgic feeling within her. After all, she met her spouse during her time here, found her sense of self and pondered what to do



with her "one wild and precious life." One of the more deeply personal (and incredible) things she has chosen to do is to become a mother! She and her husband had their first child, Eveleen

Pettie McGivern, born Dec. 7 at Tacoma General Hospital at 2:29 p.m., weighing 6 pounds, 12 ounces and measuring 18 inches. Photo taken by Heather's husband, photographer Matthew McGivern, Possible future Lute, Class of 2037? □

FOR FULL OBITUARIES, SEE www.plu.edu/resolute.



JEHANE NOUJAIM continued

progress and even parenthood (at the time of her visit, Noujaim was six months' pregnant, and she talked jubilantly throughout the day about her unborn child).

"It doesn't take an entire nation to change the destination of a country. Most often, changing the world is done by a dedicated few pushing the limits and the boundaries and keep questioning."

Following a late-afternoon screening of *The Square*, more than 500 students, PLU community members and area residents packed the Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts for Noujaim's lecture.

Mirroring the synopsis of her film, Noujaim's lecture was titled "The Square: An Eyewitness Account of the Egyptian Revolution and the Downfall of a Regime."

The best films have a timeless, transcendent quality, Noujaim explained. Her film, she said, is about the Egyptian revolution and the people who filled Tahrir Square, but it also reflects the social construct

and potential for change throughout the Middle East and all over the world.

"I'm interested in making films that capture the zeitgeist of our time, and to me that means finding and making films about people who are on the front lines of change and sharing those stories with the world."

Noujaim explained that she believes her passion for filmmaking and storytelling is what she can offer her fellow Egyptians, and she feels an obligation to tell the stories of those who are unable to do so.

"Expressing one's truth is a privilege we all have here and a right we must continue to protect. The truth-tellers who are languishing in Egyptian prison cells are the very people who should be leading our country forward. They are depending on us now, and it's my obligation to tell their stories and continue to fight for their freedom."

The key to bringing about social change and fostering vibrant cultures, Noujaim said, is not individuals contributing what others suggest they ought to be contributing, but rather looking within

themselves to discover what makes them feel alive and contributing their inherent gifts.

Noujaim's words had a profound effect on the PLU community, including visiting family members of the late Chris Stevens, a U.S. Ambassador who was killed in 2012 while serving in Benghazi, Libya.

"When we hear her talking about people going out into dangerous places and seeing hope, it thrills us," said Rebecca Hemphill, Stevens' cousin. "It's a reminder of what's possible and a reminder of how Chris saw the world—and that keeps him alive."

"Howard Thurman wrote, 'Don't ask what the world needs; ask what makes you come alive and do it, because what the world needs is more people who have come alive.' I came alive when I saw what I thought I'd never see in Egypt: people on the street coming together as a collective to demand a just and dignified life."

Professors and students alike left the auditorium moved and thankful for the filmmaker's visit.

"She was so personable

and inspiring," said English Literature major Allison Groseclose. "She really made all of the things that PLU tells us to care about actually come to life, like global citizenship and caring for others and how that transcends your nationality and where you're from."

"She was perfect because she talked about vocation from her own perspective," said Lisosky. "My favorite line of hers was, 'It's your responsibility now.' She looked at our young people and said, 'You now cannot turn a blind eye, because you have incredible power.'"

As the evening wound to a close, Noujaim described her visit as "fantastic" and lauded the students she'd met throughout the day.

"The students here at PLU were smart, engaged, thoughtful," said Noujaim. "They asked really great questions, stumped me a few times, but really got me thinking."

The day of shared laughter, shared tears and shared perspectives ended with many PLU students dreaming of the stories they might someday share through their own lenses. □

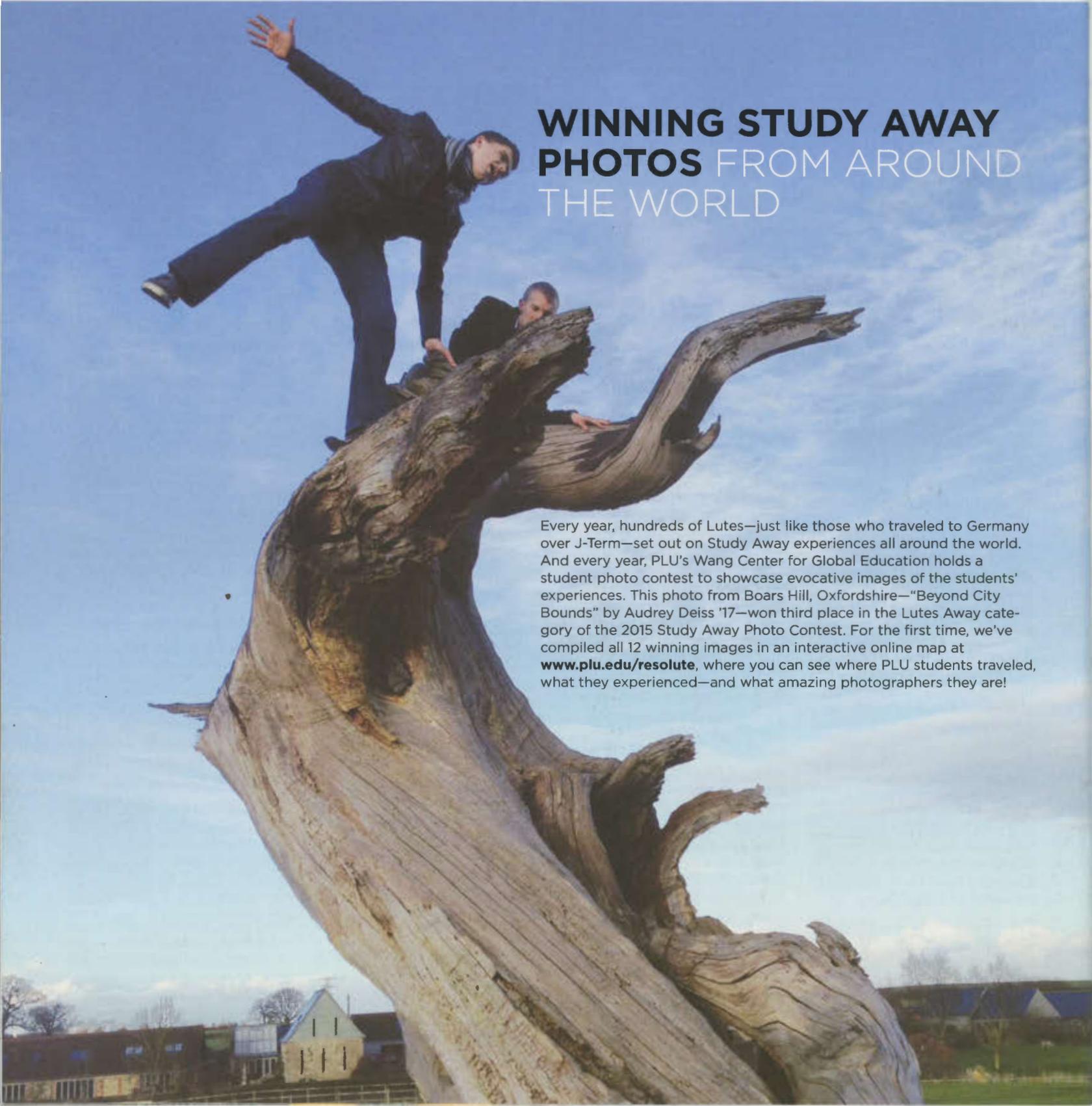


PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

12180 Park Avenue South
Tacoma, WA 98447-0003

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RESOLUTE ADDRESS CHANGE If this copy of Resolute is addressed to your son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please notify the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations with his or her new mailing address. You can reach us by phone at 253-535-7415 or 1-800-ALUM-PLU. You can also fax us at 253-535-8555 or email alumni@plu.edu with the new information. Thanks!

A photograph showing two people on a large, weathered piece of driftwood. One person is standing on top of the driftwood, leaning forward with one arm raised. The other person is sitting on the driftwood, looking towards the camera. The background is a clear blue sky with some light clouds. In the bottom left corner, there is a small building with a blue roof and a white wall.

WINNING STUDY AWAY PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Every year, hundreds of Lutes—just like those who traveled to Germany over J-Term—set out on Study Away experiences all around the world. And every year, PLU's Wang Center for Global Education holds a student photo contest to showcase evocative images of the students' experiences. This photo from Boars Hill, Oxfordshire—"Beyond City Bounds" by Audrey Deiss '17—won third place in the Lutes Away category of the 2015 Study Away Photo Contest. For the first time, we've compiled all 12 winning images in an interactive online map at www.plu.edu/resolute, where you can see where PLU students traveled, what they experienced—and what amazing photographers they are!