

# RESOLUTE

THE PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE | JANUARY 2015

## **LUTES** AND U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW

---

IMMIGRANTS' UNCERTAIN PATHS  
REPEATEDLY INTERSECT WITH PLU | PAGE 8

---

## EDITOR

Sandy Deneau Dunham

## WRITERS

Barbara Clements  
Sandy Deneau Dunham  
Katie Baumann '14

## PHOTOGRAPHER

John Froschauer

## EXECUTIVE CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Simon Sung

## ILLUSTRATOR

Steve Skramstad

## 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

Donna L. Gibbs  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR MARKETING AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Daniel J. Lee  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVANCEMENT

Anna Y. Leon-Guerrero, Ph.D.  
INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE  
AND ADMINISTRATION

Joanna C. Royce-Davis, Ph.D.  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT LIFE  
AND DEAN OF STUDENTS

## OFFICE OF ALUMNI AND CONSTITUENT RELATIONS

Jessica Pagel '08  
ACTING DIRECTOR

Nolan Ryan  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Adrienne Jamieson '09  
COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH  
MANAGER

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.

## VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

RESOLUTE (SSN 0886-3369) is published two to three times a year by Pacific Lutheran University, 12180 Park Ave. S., Tacoma, WA, 98447-0003. Postage paid at Tacoma, WA, and additional mailing offices. Address service requested. Postmaster: Send changes to Advancement Services, Office of Advancement, PLU, Tacoma, WA, 98447-0003, advancement.services@plu.edu.  
© 2015 by Pacific Lutheran University

## EDITOR'S NOTE

### We Really Value Your Input



To a Lute, every single alum we run into raves about how employers love to hire PLU graduates.

That doesn't surprise us one bit, of course, but there is one problem, even with such heartwarming, universal affirmation: It is *anecdotal* affirmation. And today, as tuitions climb, competition intensifies and student debt vexes, anecdotal evidence just doesn't cut it.

But how do you put an objective value on a PLU degree? (Not the cost, mind you—certainly anyone with a PLU degree can add up a few years' tuition—but the *value*?)

It's an increasingly important question—and not just at PLU. Colleges and universities all across the country are scrambling to figure out how to best measure and present student outcomes, especially now that the government has added a bit of presidential pressure: President Barack Obama and the Department of Education have called for new ways to measure higher-education outcomes and increase accountability and transparency.

Nationwide, two leading organizations help academic institutions assess college-student learning outcomes: the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment, based at the University of Illinois and Indiana University, and the Collegiate Learning Assessment, at The City University of New York. In December 2013, Gallup and Purdue University made news by announcing a partnership to build and conduct the largest representative study of college graduates in U.S. history. And on a smaller scale, according to a July 2014 story in *U.S. News*, Western Governors University posts employer-satisfaction survey results, and the California community-college system provides salary data by degree.

At PLU, we've always done annual surveys of each graduating class, but those have focused



more on employment and graduate-school acceptance.

Now, though, we're shifting that focus to a more consumer-based "return on investment." And if that sounds like serious business, it is: As we build up the new "Outcomes" page on our website, we'll be adding actual *research* on Lutes' salary data, along with more-qualitative measures about how graduates "feel" about their PLU degrees.

This is where you come in.

**On Page 16** is a quick and easy-to-submit survey for all PLU alumni (you also can complete the survey online, at [www.plu.edu/resolute/survey](http://www.plu.edu/resolute/survey)). This is your chance to tell us everything about your PLU experience and your post-PLU life. (Well, maybe not *everything*.) But please: Tell us how your PLU degree prepared you for the rigors of the real world, no matter your age or graduation year.

This information matters in so many ways, to so many constituencies—accrediting groups, higher-education associations, foundations and donors, prospective and current students and their families, employers, policymakers—and it matters even more if we have a lot of it.

Please take a few minutes to tell us your story. Together, your feedback will inform an accessible, transparent, valuable data-driven picture of all of our graduates—and the true value of your invaluable PLU degree. □

*Sandy Deneau Dunham*

# INSIDE

Big Names On Campus.....4

Campus Calendar.....4

DiscoveryPLU.....6

## COVER STORY

Immigrants' Uncertain Paths Repeatedly Intersect with PLU..... 8

## FEATURE STORY

PLU Founder's Descendants Retrace His Arduous Gold Rush Trek..... 14

## ATTAWAY LUTES

PLU's Drive to 125 Initiative Rallies the Campus as it Tallies Wins..... 22

## ALUMNI PROFILE

Benjamin Rasmus '06 Bicycles From One Washington to the Other to Raise Awareness of Hunger and Food Waste..... 24

ALUMNI NEWS..... 26

CLASS NOTES..... 28



### DRIVE TO 125

PAGE 22

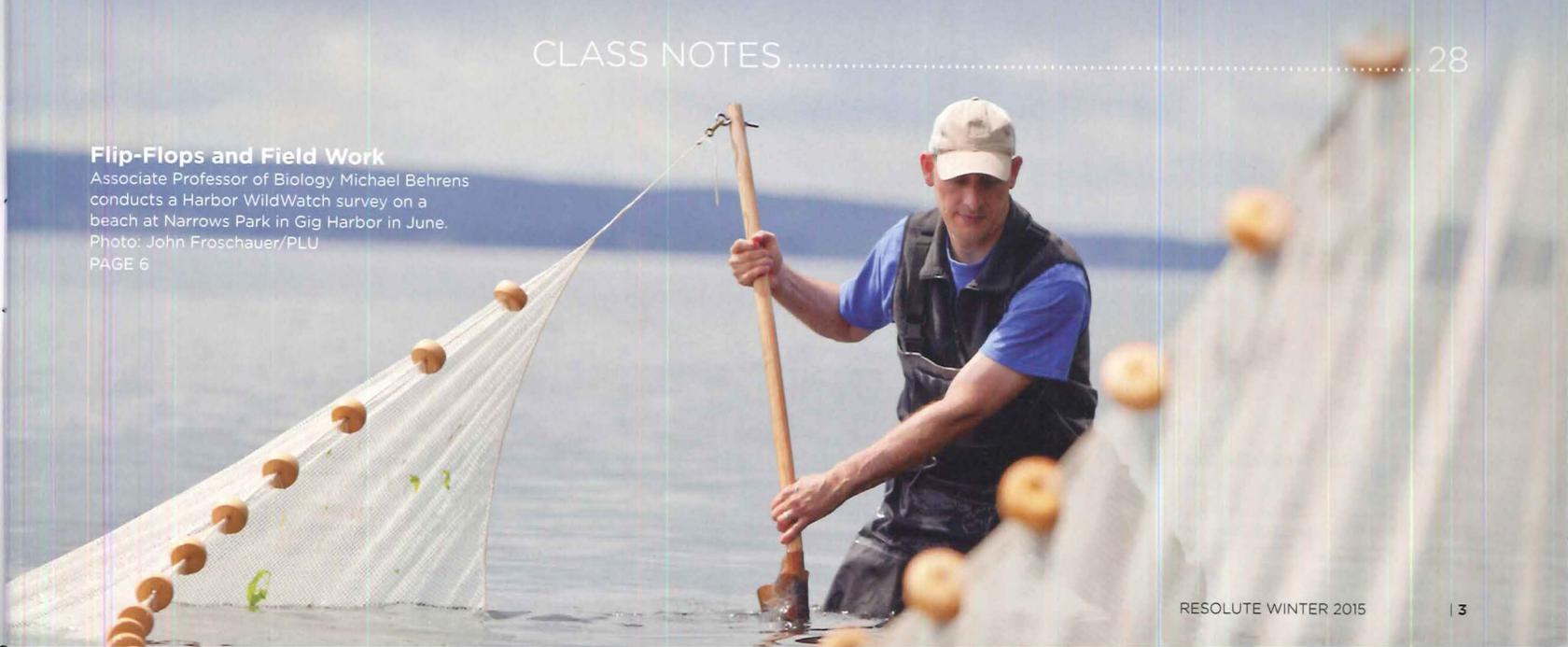
### ON THE COVER

PLU and the immigration issue.  
Photo illustration: John Froschauer  
and Simon Sung/PLU

### Flip-Flops and Field Work

Associate Professor of Biology Michael Behrens conducts a Harbor WildWatch survey on a beach at Narrows Park in Gig Harbor in June.  
Photo: John Froschauer/PLU

PAGE 6



# BIG NAMES 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](http://www.plu.edu/resolute)



PHOTO: JOHN FROSCHAUER/PLU

## 'THE DAILY SHOW'

*The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* spent the day on campus Aug. 1 interviewing Janet Runbeck, director and founder of the **RotaCare Free Clinic** of Tacoma. RotaCare was an all-volunteer specialty clinic for those without insurance who suffer from chronic disease; it was run out of the PLU Facilities break room on Wednesday evenings for

three years. PLU had made the space available for free, but the clinic closed earlier this year because all of its patients were able to get on Medicaid under ObamaCare. The piece aired on Sept. 11.

**WATCH IT HERE**  
[thedailyshow.cc.com/videos/Ocerfn/the-obamacare-apocalypse](http://thedailyshow.cc.com/videos/Ocerfn/the-obamacare-apocalypse)



**CATHRINE SANDNES**

The Norwegian journalist and journal editor presented the 2014 Bjug Harstad Memorial Lecture on Nov. 17, addressing gender equality and the status of women in contemporary Norwegian society in her talk, "Why Norwegian Women Can Have it All."



**MATT BAKER**

The five-time Guinness World Record holder brought his one-of-a-kind comedy and variety show to PLU during Family Weekend Nov. 8.



**LISA FRUCHTMAN**

The Oscar-winning filmmaker took questions from an engaged crowd at an Oct. 28 screening of the documentary *Sweet Dreams*. The beyond-sold-out event was a community-wide collaboration led by PLU's Holocaust and Genocide Studies program.



**U.S. REP. DENNY HECK**

Congressman Heck spoke at PLU on Sept. 23 as part of the Constitution Day program. Heck's keynote address was followed by a moderated discussion with politicians and PLU faculty.

## FEBRUARY

**COMING SOON**  
 FOR A COMPLETE LISTING, VISIT:  
[www.plu.edu/resolute](http://www.plu.edu/resolute)



### SCANDINAVIAN INSPIRATION FOR DISNEY'S "FROZEN"

Through **FEB. 28** Exhibition of the real cultural information from which the Disney team drew its inspiration; Scandinavian Cultural Center.

### SEXUAL-ASSAULT AWARENESS LECTURE

**FEB. 17** Joint Base Lewis-McChord Lt. Col. Celia FlorCruz; Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

## THE DEACONS

PLU's own 1960s-era No. 1 rock 'n' roll band returned to campus Oct. 4 for a truly rocking reunion as part of the 2014 Homecoming Fall Festival. Four of the five band members—bassist **Michael Boyd** '68, saxophonist **John Radke** '68, lead singer **John Sandvig** '68 and drummer **Jim Sola** '68—formed the band at PLU in 1964 (along with guitarist **Dave "Duke" Luther**, an import from Seattle's Lutheran Bible Institute).



## DR. CAROLYN FINNEY

Finney, assistant professor of Environmental Science, Policy & Management at the University of California-Berkeley and author of *Black Faces, White Spaces*, was the guest speaker at PLU's University Conference 2014 on Sept. 3. She spoke personally and eloquently on the intersections of diversity, justice and sustainability in a talk titled "Hard Times Require Furious Dancing: Environmental Change, Difference & Dreaming Into the Future." □



## DR. MONICA COLEMAN

Womanist, theologian, scholar and activist the Rev. Dr. Monica Coleman, renowned for her commitment to connecting faith and social justice, spent the afternoon of Oct. 22 talking deep topics with students in Harstad Hall (before joining in this fun selfie; that's Dr. Coleman to the right of the photographer) and then delivering the David & Marilyn Knutson Lecture ("You Can Have it All: Theorizing Transreligious Spirituality from the Field of Black Studies") to a packed Karen Hille Phillips Center. Watch her lecture here: <http://vimeo.com/109862420>.



## CHRIS STEVENS MEMORIAL LECTURE

FEB. 19 Egyptian-American documentary filmmaker Jehane Noujaim; Anderson University Center.



## GUITAR FESTIVAL AT PLU

FEB. 28 All-day, hands-on festival featuring workshops and concerts.



# DISCOVERY PLU

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF PLU'S FIRST-CLASS FACULTY

MORE ONLINE

[www.plu.edu/resolute](http://www.plu.edu/resolute)



Associate Professor of Biology Michael Behrens conducts a Harbor WildWatch survey on a beach at Narrows Park in Gig Harbor in June 2014. Joining him are Stena Troyer '12, his former student at PLU and now a naturalist and Science Advisory Committee co-chair with Harbor WildWatch, and other participants. (Photo: John Froschauer/PLU)



WATCH A VIDEO OF BEHRENS' RESEARCH AND READ ABOUT HIS WORK WITH HARBOR WILDWATCH AT [PLU.EDU/RESOLUTE](http://PLU.EDU/RESOLUTE).

## RESEARCH

### Flip-Flops and Field Work: A PLU Professor's Perfect Mix

BY KATIE BAUMANN '14

IF PLU ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR of Biology Michael Behrens had his way, he never would wear any shoes other than flip-flops. An avid fly fisherman, Behrens says he feels much more comfortable in a drysuit or waders than in a suit and tie—which works out well, since he spends quite a bit of time in, on and along the water.

Behrens also is a marine biologist who conducts fish biogeography and marine-disease research, including

disease in sea urchins, oyster-bed habitat recovery in Puget Sound and the larval distribution of marine invertebrates.

His work has been recognized on land and in the sea: Behrens has had a species of sea slug named after him (*Chromodoris michaeli*), and during the 2013-14 school year, PLU honored him with the K.T. Tang Faculty Excellence Award for Research.

But his own research is just part of his résumé: Behrens also works

## MARCH

### UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE CONCERT

**MARCH 18** Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.



### CHOIR OF THE WEST CONCERT

**MARCH 19** Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center.

COMING SOON

FOR A COMPLETE LISTING, VISIT:

[www.plu.edu/resolute](http://www.plu.edu/resolute)

## LUTE LIBRARY

## ACCOLADES

extensively with PLU students conducting research in the field and in the lab.

"I don't want to just teach my students facts. I want them to understand how we've learned those facts. I want students to do science and read and talk about others doing science as a way to understand scientific knowledge," Behrens said. "We have an undergraduate research program within the Natural Sciences that students can work through and are paid actually to do research with faculty."

Behrens, who joined PLU in 2005, grew up in Los Osos, Calif., a small town right on the coast. With a marine biologist for a father, Behrens grew up with the ocean as an ever-present part of his life. He received his undergraduate degree from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, Calif., and went on to earn his Ph.D. from UC-Santa Barbara.

Behrens' research offers a unique opportunity for students to work collaboratively with other local universities as well as area environmental groups.

"The collaborative work has been great because it allows our students to see field research on large-scale projects," Behrens said.

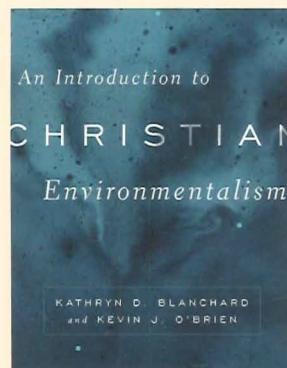
Behrens' own research focuses these days on oysters and sea stars. Specifically, he and his research team are trying to figure out how oyster larvae move away from adults once they spawn.

As part of this work he hopes to establish a native oyster population in Gig Harbor— as both a restoration project and a scientific experiment.

It's important, influential work—made especially for flip-flops. □



**Michael Halvorson**, Associate Professor of History, has published *The Renaissance: All That Matters* (Hodder and Stoughton and McGraw-Hill, August 2014), a fast-paced introduction to the Renaissance era.



**Kevin O'Brien's** book, *An Introduction to Christian Environmentalism: Ecology, Virtue, and Ethics*, was published by Baylor Press in November 2014. This textbook, written with Kathryn Blanchard, examines seven contemporary environmental challenges through the lens of classical Christian virtues.

**MORE ONLINE**



**Pauline Kaurin**, Associate Professor and Chair of the Philosophy Department, was a fellow at The Curt and Elise Silberman Seminar for University Faculty at the U.S. Holocaust Museum on the topic of "Teaching about the Holocaust in the Soviet Union." Kaurin said, "Much of our reading and discussion focused on ways in which the Soviet Union problematizes and forces us to rethink the dominant model of the Holocaust as death camp and ghetto model, oriented around Germany and Western Europe. We also spent time looking at Jewish culture and anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union and Russian cultural life."

On a related note, **Lisa Marcus**, Associate Professor of English and Chair of the Women's and Gender Studies Program, participated as a Fellow at the 19th annual Holocaust Educational Foundation Summer Institute on the Holocaust and Jewish Civilization. The intensive two-week course of study at Northwestern University was designed to broaden and deepen the background of current and prospective Holocaust educators.



During her Fulbright Fellowship in Namibia, Assistant Education Professor **Jan Weiss** was featured on the Namibian U.S. Embassy's Facebook page for facilitating a classroom-management workshop centered on strategies that promote positive connections between learners and teachers.

**Elisabeth Ward**, director of the Scandinavian Cultural Center, had an article published in the July 15, 2014, issue of *Logberg-Heimskringla*, the Icelandic community newspaper and oldest continuously published newspaper in Canada. The article, titled "The Rise, Fall and Rise of Icelandic Banking," focused on Professor Hilmar Örn Hilmarsson, a guest lecturer at PLU in April. □

**MORE ONLINE**

## APRIL

### DANCE 2015

**APRIL 11-12** PLU's annual Spring Dance Concert; Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

### WILD HOPE BANQUET

**APRIL 15** Garfield Book Company Community Room.

wild  
hope  
CENTER FOR VOCATION



# LUTES AND U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW

IMMIGRANTS' UNCERTAIN PATHS  
REPEATEDLY INTERSECT WITH PLU

## COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Last summer, half a dozen PLU students took their views on immigration reform to the streets—literally—and unfurled a giant banner across an overpass on Interstate 5.

*The News Tribune's* Larry LaRue wrote a column on the protest and PLU student Carly Brook,

and when we posted a photo of the protest on Facebook, we received a huge response from the Lute community—from all sides of the issue.

Here's a sampling of the comments (edited only for spelling or grammar, not content).

"We may all be immigrants, but we are not all illegal immigrants. In the 1940s my grandmother immigrated from Australia. In order to do so, she was required to have \$200 in her pocket and go through all sorts of paperwork. It took a good two years for her to save

that much money and get her affairs in order. I can't even move to Australia unless I have a skill they want or need at the time. We have laws for a reason, and ... we need to 'follow and uphold them.'"

FOR A MINUTE THERE—somewhere between the summer surge of undocumented child immigrants from Central America and the November 2014 elections—vivid images of mothers literally throwing their children across the U.S. border faded from the headlines.

But then, fueled by newly empowered midterm Republicans and the U.S. House of Representatives' refusal to pass immigration reform, President Barack Obama lobbed the issue back to the forefront with his explosive executive order to offer legal documents to as many as 5 million immigrants now in the country illegally.

While the national resolution waits for lawmakers—and likely, lawyers—Pacific Lutheran University students, faculty members and alumni continue to address this wide-reaching issue, which has divided families, cast an uncertain future over undocumented students and spurred others to change careers or simply grab a sign and start marching.

## HERE ARE THEIR STORIES >



WE ARE ALL IMMIGRANTS  
WHO WOULD YOU DEPORT?  
#ImmigrationReform

PHOTO BY LACE M. SMITH/PLU

“The thing is, we are not all immigrants ... most are children of ... and most have grandparents and on who came to this country legally ... went through the proper process to become citizens, not barging the gates or sneaking in or trying to disobey the laws of this great nation. So the answer is, folks who do not follow the rules. How about the last two weeks of your college class some students come barging into the classroom deciding that they really needed this class to graduate, and how about you just let me do the last

two weeks of assignments, grade me on those and then let me get credit for the class, foregoing any previous assignments? How about they do their whole college career this way? Even though you paid the money, went to the classes from the start, did the work—they have the potential of earning the same grade or better than you in much less time and much less work—without following the rules and expectations to earn a degree?”

“Sure, we are all immigrants; I don’t know anyone opposed. The sign appears to miss a key word beforehand ... there is a big difference between legal and illegal. We may not have written the laws of today, but it is our responsibility to follow and uphold them.”

“Proud to be a Lute!!!!!!  
Illegal or legal, we are all HUMAN!!!! One nation under God.”

STUDENTS

Carly Brook '15 and Saiyare Refaei '14:  
Waving the Banner for Immigration Reform

BY BARBARA CLEMENTS

CARLY BROOK '15 took a good long look at the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma and realized that few people really know the individual stories—and sometimes, tragedies—of those daily impacted by deportation and detention.

She and her friends had fasted in May to show solidarity with the immigrant detainees' hunger strike, and PLU students had protested in Red Square, but most days the detention center, a private immigration prison ringed with razor wire, sits isolated on the Tideflats, out of eyeshot of traffic and the public.

**MORE ONLINE**

An undocumented PLU student shares her story.

**VIDEOINTERVIEW**

Carly Brook '15



PHOTO: JOHN FROSCHAUER/PLU

Inspired by the bravery of the hunger strikers and allies already active in resisting the Northwest Detention Center through the Not One More Deportation movement, Brook wanted to find a space to raise visibility of the detention center and the injustice it represents. It was time to get in the face of rush-hour commuters.

Literally.

Brook and several friends, including Saiyare Refaei '14, put together a 25-foot banner and tacked on the message: "We are all immigrants—who would you deport?" One Friday afternoon last summer, they took this message to the 38th Street overpass in Tacoma and held up the banner for hours, receiving honks of support (and a few gestures that were not as supportive). When their protest appeared on the PLU Facebook page and in the pages of *The News Tribune*, it spurred widespread discussion, just as Brook had hoped it would.

Brook said her PLU experience has given her the critical consciousness and the courage to stand up and fight against what she sees as the systemic injustice and racism sustained by the center's detention and deportation practices. She learned Spanish here and



Saiyare Refaei '14

PHOTO: LACE M. SMITH/PLU

started visiting detainees in Tacoma. Each story, she said, was a reminder of the suffering caused by the failure of the immigration system.

The banner, Brook said, merely expressed what so many immigrant and mixed-status families already know: The system is broken, and it's time for action. Brook said she hopes that more people take an active role in supporting organizing work for immigrant rights and reform, by listening to undocumented-led organizations and to the people most affected.

Brook said people have been fighting this fight for full inclusion for as long as there have been immigrants in this country. At least the banner made a small impact to get more people to pay attention, she added. She's hoping the banner opened the eyes of a new audience to the need for change: No human being is illegal. Not one more deportation, not one more family separated, she advocated.

Refaei said she gets frustrated with those who

take a simplistic view of a very complex topic. Her mom immigrated from Hong Kong and her father from Iran in the late 1970s, when it was easier to become a citizen, she said.

"Now it can take up to 10 years to become a citizen," Refaei said.

"I think on a larger scale, there needs to be a broader understanding of what it means to be an immigrant, and there just needs to be a more efficient process to gain citizenship," she said.

Both women agree the Obama Administration should expand DACA coverage and spend less money on militarizing the U.S.-Mexican border and more on revitalizing immigrant and border communities.

"Anyone crossing 100 miles of desert isn't going to have any trouble climbing over a wall," Brook said.

This, she said, is time to test the moral character of this country: If we say we are a country that welcomes "your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free," then we need to demonstrate it in our immigration policies today.

"In the late 1890s, a young Teddy Roosevelt was Police Commissioner of New York City. There were, at that time, laws outlawing Sunday activities. These laws were not enforced uniformly — cops were often bribed to give businesses de facto monopolies one day per week. Mr. Roosevelt cracked

down on enforcing these laws and in the process provided opponents of the laws with the strongest arguments for repealing them. I find the immigration debate similarly ironic. The best tool many of these immigrants have is that they are illegal. If they were legal and working for a mandated

minimum wage, there would be less work opportunities for them, and thus the immigration would likely slow. These people are voting with their feet, and going where there are opportunities, which are ironically caused by the very proposals these people are advocating for."

"Please help me understand your message. Are you saying there should be no immigration laws? Or should there only be no immigration laws in the U.S.?"



**PLU FACULTY**

**Border-Crossing Stories: Imagining the Immigrant Experience in the Literature Classroom**

BY ADELA RAMOS, PLU ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH

DESPITE THE CLICHÉ “America is a country of immigrants,” understanding the immigrant experience today is made increasingly difficult by the vilification and misrepresentation of Central American and Mexican immigrants—many of them children—through campaign speeches, on the floor of Congress and in habitually reckless media outlets.

It is no wonder that when students first enter my “Coming of Age on the Border” English literature course, their understanding of immigration is limited to an image of a migrant, whom they often identify as Mexican, “sneaking into the country.”

My grandmother was Mexican, strong, determined and beautiful. She migrated to

Pittsburgh with her two children in March 1947 to find a livelihood, not to steal American jobs. She was able to buy three plane tickets for the ride over, but she had to work three years to afford the fare. But details like these that shape the lives of immigrants get lost in the shadow of terms such as “the immigration issue” or “the immigration crisis” and in political banter.

My family’s border-crossing story has fascinated me for as long as I can remember. But because my mother was only 9 when she migrated and my grandmother jealously guarded the details of the actual journey, I resort to imagination to re-create this journey, which I would not have the strength to undergo myself. When I imagine it, I visualize my grandmother and her children impeccably dressed, as she always made sure they were, paying attention to every detail, from their hair to their shoes. Appearance was everything to my grandmother, whose life in poverty had taught her the rewards of higher social status.

I imagine my mother and uncle gripping the armrests of their seats, frightened by their first airborne experience, while my grandmother struggled to hide whatever pang of discomfort she might have felt, modeling courage and aplomb for her children. I imagine them arriving in Pittsburgh, their elegance dulled by hours of flying, their faces revealing nervousness. I imagine my mother’s physical

response to the unfamiliar, stabbing winds of winter.

I imagine, too, their bafflement at the deafening buzz of English, a foreign language, which none of them spoke or understood. Then I imagine their relief at the sight of my Uncle José and Ms. Vans, their sponsor, waiting for them at the arrivals gate.

Compared to the journeys of the thousands of migrants who struggle to join the labor force of this country today, my family’s story seems quite privileged. My mother’s journey from Mexico to the U.S.A. was not longer than a day. She never worried about going without food or dying from dehydration in the unyielding desert heat, nor did she fear deportation, since laws were in place that facilitated immigration by way of individual sponsors, like Ms. Vans.

This does not mean that she migrated during a golden age. Rather, thanks to my family’s story, I can understand the complex history of immigration: the thorny policies and the changing forces pushing migrants out of their countries; the diverse kinds of migrants: exiles, expats, immigrants; the slipperiness of words such as “choice” when out of fear for your life you must leave everything you love behind to face uncertainty and, too often, derision.

Thus, in the literature classroom, I invite students

**NEXT PAGE**

“I saw them!! I tooted my horn madly and waved. Then I spent the rest of my I-5 drive explaining nativism and anti-immigrant racism to my kids.”

“Honked on my way to Seattle for an event. Glad to see fellow Lutes disrupting the community in positive ways!”

“If everyone should pick and choose which laws they are free to violate, you get anarchy. Those who advocate such thought, do you have any sustainable, consistent principles or philosophies? How about if someone chooses to violate yours?”

“If you knew the realities of the immigration red tape then I believe many of you would not judge so harshly.....many immigrants jump through all the hoops and still fall short....if you cannot afford thousands for a lawyer, then you don’t get a spot legally.”

to imagine border-crossing experiences by way of poetry, essays and novels. Literature sheds light on the immigrant experience, revealing its intricacies; humanizing its protagonists; reminding us that they, too, have names and emotions; and foregrounding the context without which we cannot understand why we are all involved in its history.

Through the works of such prominent writers as Julia Alvarez, Sandra Cisneros and Junot Díaz, I hope to instill in my students the ability to imagine and understand immigration not as a felony, but as an experience shaped by desperation, courage,

sacrifice, politics, war, chance, love, friendship and unwavering hope. And what better way to do this than through the work of these American writers, a living testament to the rich and invaluable legacy of immigration?

**MORE ONLINE**

PLU Assistant Professor of Political Science Maria Chavez is one of several other PLU faculty members active in the immigration issue: She's written to politicians; offered to volunteer her time (along with interested students) if refugee children come to the area; and has written a piece titled "Racist, Immoral Dehumanization of Immigrant Children" for *racismreview.com*.

The evolution of the immigration issue

FOR THE COMPLETE TIMELINE, GO ONLINE

**1921**

The United States' first quantitative immigration law was adopted, setting temporary annual quotas according to nationality.

**1943**

Legislation provided for the importation of agricultural workers from North, South and Central America—the basis of the "Bracero Program."

**1948**

The first U.S. policy was adopted for admitting people fleeing persecution, allowing 205,000 refugees to enter the U.S. over two years (later increased to 415,000).

SOURCES: Center for Immigration Studies, The Federation for American Immigration Reform

ALUMNI

Brian Erickson '09 and Jenny Taylor '14: Lutes on the Front Lines of the Border

BY BARBARA CLEMENTS

TO ILLUSTRATE the need for major changes in immigration law and border enforcement, Brian Erickson '09 shares the story of a woman from El Salvador who recently turned to his ACLU office for assistance.

She had come to the United States with five children after a gang had broken into her house, held her by the neck and said they would rape and kill her 19-year-old daughter if she didn't pay them. The gang already had killed a neighbor who had refused to pay, so she took the intimidation to heart and fled. Once she arrived in the U.S., she said, she ended up in a detention facility where she was not given food, and her children received only bread and water.

"A Customs agent said that she'd have to lick his boots if she wanted food," Erickson said from his offices in Las Cruces, N.M., where he works as a policy advocate for the ACLU of New Mexico Regional Center for Border Rights. Appropriately, this city, known

as "The City of Crosses," also is at the crossroads of the immigration debate.

Through the ACLU, Erickson said, the El Salvadoran family was released and is now getting legal help and assistance with food and shelter.

"It's hard to watch people become polarized on this issue when what is really needed, in reality, is having compassion for these families fleeing violence in Central America," he said.

The entire border has turned into a "Constitution lite" zone where agents stop anyone who looks like he might be an immigrant, Erickson said; U.S. citizens, especially males, are stopped repeatedly for looking "too Hispanic." That has wreaked havoc on citizens who live along the border, as well as immigrants.

"The message is that we are going to treat you suspiciously until you prove to us you belong here," he said.

Issues such as these



Jenny Taylor '14 works with AmeriCorps in Austin, Texas, where she helps women and children who have crossed the border, such as Yarli Martinez, find homes, food and shelter. (Photo: Dounia Lomri)

drew Jenny Taylor '14 to AmeriCorps service in Austin, Texas, where she works with women and children as they cross the border, trying to find them homes, food and shelter.

"I guess the biggest kicker for me is that people are coming to us from Central America looking for help," Taylor said. "They aren't trying to steal our jobs."

"This is not an easy choice for these people to leave their homes, and many times it's our economic policies in these countries which have driven them to us in the first place," she said.

Erickson couldn't agree more.

Free trade and NAFTA did not turn out well for farmers in the Mexican countryside, he said. Impoverished, they fled to the city, hoping to find jobs in tourism.

"If that wasn't available, the next option is us," he said.

At the end of the day, Erickson said, the immigration issue comes down to how the United States wants to be remembered and what we'll become.

"Who do we want to be as a country?" he asked. "Do we want to be recognized for showing compassion and giving these people some dignity, or not?"

## 1952

The Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), also known as the McCarran-Walter Act, restricted immigration into the U.S. and is codified under Title 8 of the United States Code.

## 1965

INA amendments repealed the national-origins quota system and represented the most far-reaching revision of immigration policy in the United States since the first Quota Act of 1921, instituting a system based primarily on reunification of families and needed skills.

## 1980

Refugee legislation was enacted in part in response to Congress' increasing frustration with the difficulty of dealing with the large-scale Indochinese refugee flow.

## 1986

The Immigration Reform and Control Act provided amnesty to immigrants who had completed one of two stipulations: They had resided continually in the U.S. since January 1982, or they had completed 90 days of agricultural work between May 1985 and May 1986.

## 1990

Comprehensive immigration legislation addressed total immigration numbers, created separate admission categories, revised all grounds for exclusion and deportation and more. The 1990 Act also mandated a study of immigration, later known as the Jordan Commission.

## 2001

The terrorist attacks exposed longstanding holes in the U.S. immigration system that included failures at visa processing, internal enforcement and information sharing.

## 2012

The Obama Administration's passage of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals granted certain undocumented immigrants who entered the country before their 16th birthday and before 2007 a 2-year work permit and exemption from deportation.

## 2014

Citing Congress' failure to pass a bill, President Barack Obama announced he would use executive order to defer deportations for up to 5 million undocumented immigrants. At press time, Republicans had promised a challenge.

## LEGAL

### Mary Beth Leeper '00: Helping Immigrants Through a Legal Tangle

BY BARBARA CLEMENTS

Patiently, in the Seattle Immigration Court, attorney **Mary Beth Leeper '00** explains in Spanish to three families what is about to happen.

There is a court date. They must show up. They need to find an attorney immediately, and if they cannot afford one, they will be required to present their claims on their own. Some of the people in court seem to catch on; others leave with puzzled looks.

And that worries Leeper, who came to court on her own time but as part of her volunteer duties as the pro bono chair for the Washington State chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. Usually, she says, the immigration cases take about two years to wind their way through the courts. That gives people enough time to find an attorney and raise the funds to pay for their defense.

However, due to the "surge cases" created last summer when immigrants flooded across the border, combined with President Barack Obama's mandate that all cases be tried as quickly as possible, the turnaround time is now about three weeks.

Then, those with or without an attorney—like those who appeared in court with Leeper—appear before a judge to make their cases.

After the one-hour court hearing and briefing, Leeper hurries with her pro bono team to give the families a list of attorneys who might take their cases. It's up to the families to reach out.

Sipping a latte later in a nearby Starbucks, Leeper knows she's done what she can. Time to get back to work on the other immigration cases waiting for her in Kent, Wash., where she works at Hanis Irvine Prothero in the immigration department.

Still, she mulls over the fate of the families—and our frustrating laws.

"They need to stop lumping everyone together, assuming all gang-based asylum claims from Mexico and Central America are going to fail," she says. "Some come over

for new opportunities, true. But in these latest cases (from Guatemala and San Salvador), these families are facing real threats and deserve protection under the law. But the courts seem reluctant to grant asylum to people in these circumstances and end up finding reasons to deny protection based on a convoluted interpretation of the law and policy. In reality I think the court is afraid of what will happen if they begin granting asylum to people fleeing gang violence, fearing it will open a floodgate for others."

Leeper, who graduated from PLU with a double major in Spanish and Global Studies, has had other job offers that pay more. But she's sticking with this, her vocation.

In 2010, she graduated with honors from Seattle University's School of Law and worked with undocumented youth in the United States who didn't have a legal guardian.

In October, Leeper returned to PLU to present the 2014 Meant to Live lecture. Two years earlier, she received the PLU Outstanding Recent Alumnus Award—given to someone within 15 years of graduation—someone who has excelled in a special area of life. □



**MORE ONLINE**  
Woman fleeing violence in Mexico shares her family's story.

**VIDEOINTERVIEW**

In her office at Hanis Irvine Prothero in Kent, immigration-law attorney Mary Beth Leeper '00 talks with a woman who faces deportation back to Mexico along with her three sons. (Photo: John Froschauer/PLU)

# A HISTORIC HIKE FOR HARSTAD

✦ FOUNDER'S DESCENDANTS RETRACE HIS GRUELING GOLD RUSH QUEST TO SAVE PLU ✦



**In 1898, Pacific Lutheran Academy was in serious trouble. Following the financial crisis known as the panic of 1893, the economy had crumbled, and unemployment had soared. Contributions to the new school had fallen off considerably, and debt from its first building (considered rather extravagant by some) seemed insurmountable.**

PLA, in other words, needed to strike gold. Perhaps literally.

Concluding that extraordinary times did indeed call for extraordinary measures, the Rev. Bjug Harstad—the Norwegian immigrant who founded Pacific Lutheran University in 1890—joined the Gold Rush in hopes of saving his school.

Harstad's efforts were valiant, if not triumphant—and now, his descendants have retraced his steps in commemoration. Over the summer, three generations of Harstads backpacked the historically punishing Chilkoot Trail from Dyea, Alaska, to the headwaters of the Yukon River in Canada.

"There's always been this powerful historical consciousness," Mark Harstad, Bjug Harstad's grandson,

The nine who hiked the Chilkoot from July 25-29, 2014, from left: Brent Matzke (great-grandson of Bjug Harstad, son of Margaret Harstad Matzke); Mark Harstad (grandson, son of Adolph Harstad '16); Linda Becker (great-granddaughter, daughter of Peter Harstad); the Rev. Vance Becker (husband of Linda); Eric Becker (great-great-grandson, son of Linda Harstad Becker); Carol Yenish (great-great-granddaughter, daughter of Linda Harstad Becker); Tegan Buckley (friend of Jonathan Scislow); Jonathan Scislow (great-great-grandson, son of Karen Harstad Scislow; daughter of Peter Harstad); Dave Harstad (great-grandson, son of Peter Harstad).

told his hometown paper, *The Free Press* of Mankato, Minn. "This is just a part of the fabric of who we are."

In total, eight members of Harstad's family (and one family friend) hiked five arduous days and 33 challenging miles over extremely rugged terrain, said Carolyn Harstad, 77, the wife of Peter Harstad, from Lakeville, Minn.

"Our son Dave quipped, 'I don't usually plan life-threatening vacations, but this one came close,'" she said.

The hikers and other Harstad family members converged in Skagway, Alaska, on July 23. Then, after a mandatory trail orientation and a less-strenuous family hike, the group shuttled to the Dyea trailhead for a rise-and-shine

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 16**

BY SANDY DENEAU DUNHAM  
RESOLUTE EDITOR



**THE REV. BJUG HARSTAD**, founder of PLU, joined the Yukon Gold Rush in 1898 to try to save his university from financial ruin.

## A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY: IN HIS OWN WORDS

PLU FOUNDER BJUG HARSTAD was not only a bold expeditioner; he also was a thoughtful, thorough correspondent, even under extremely trying circumstances.

Following are excerpts from his journals and his letters home, many of which were published in the *Pacific Herald* and all of which were translated from Norwegian into English by Oliver Harstad, Bjug's son and a PLU alum. It is clear that Parkland, and Bjug Harstad's family and school in Parkland, stayed uttmost in his thoughts.

### ABOARD THE STEAMER CITY OF SEATTLE: 10TH FEB. 1898

*Those who wish to go over the mountains at Dyea and into Canada by way of the lakes should have a good supply of tools and clothes together with provisions for one year. Such equipment will cost \$150 to \$200.*

### SKAGWAY, ALASKA: 14TH FEB. 1898

*On my back and in my hands I had at least 100 pounds and soon became tired. I rested a little on a block of ice. I felt I could not well carry all of it to town in one load. When one is expecting to carry 1,200 pounds several hundred miles over mountains and valleys, then it will never do to break oneself down at the first attempt.*

### DYEA, ALASKA: 16TH FEB. 1898

*To live in a tent between the beautiful trees in Parkland would be like living in a carpeted parlor compared to this place with much snow, quite severe cold and a rather strong wind.*

### SHEEP CAMP, ALASKA: APRIL 17TH, 1898

*When I consider the severe pressure that is put on (Pacific Lutheran) colleagues and many others to pay the debt, then everything indicates that it is my sacred duty to make every possible effort to free us from the distress and misery we are in on account of the debt. A couple of years of work and toil here in Alaska is as nothing if we can but come out of debt.*

### LAKE LINDEMAN, CANADA: MAY 17TH, 1898

*It is now three months since we started living in a tent. We still sleep on spruce boughs but are in very good health. We eat and work like loggers. ... A couple of us are going down to Lake Bennett today. There we hope to get mail from Parkland.*

### DAWSON, N.W. TER., CANADA: OCT. 14TH, 1898

*Dr. Lee shot the large buck (moose) and one calf and was so kind as to present the horns to the Lutheran University. It is an exceptionally stately and large pair of horns with a spread of some over five feet and has fourteen points. ... I hope to be able to send it to the school sometime.*

### PACIFIC HEROLD: AUG. 18TH, 1899

*To those dear friends who, we understand, have pitied us during our absence, I would like to say: You need not pity us. I can truthfully say: That year and a half was the easiest and least worrisome time I have had since I came to the Pacific Coast. That is true whether you believe it or not. I have never felt as well or weighed as much in many years as I do now.*

READ HARSTAD'S FULL ACCOUNT ONLINE  
[www.plu.edu/resolute](http://www.plu.edu/resolute)

DAWSON CITY

FORT SELKIRK

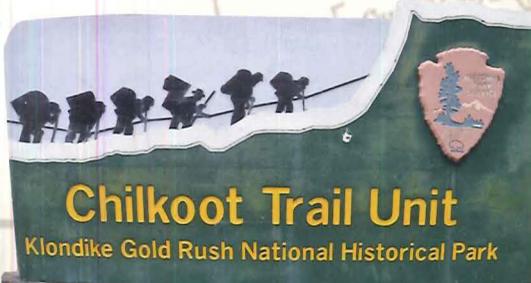
CHILKOOT PASS

LAKE LINDEMAN

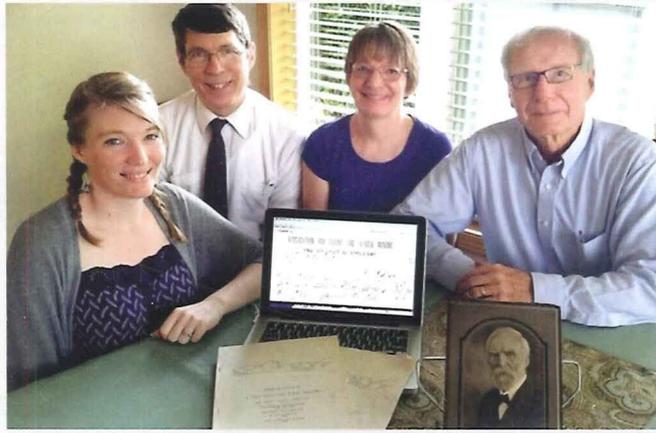
SHEEP CAMP

DYEA

SKAGWAY



# A HISTORIC HIKE FOR HARSTAD



**FROM LEFT,** Carol Yenish of Mankato, Minn., the Beckers' daughter and great-great-grandchild of PLU founder Bjug Harstad; Vance and Linda (Harstad) Becker of North Mankato; and Mark Harstad of Mankato display electronic and typed records of their ancestor's journey to Yukon Territory in search of gold. (Photo: Amanda Dyslin/courtesy of *The Free Press* of Mankato)

7 a.m. departure July 25. And they toted historic PLU memorabilia with them: University Archivist Kerstin Ringdahl said one of Bjug Harstad's granddaughters stopped by PLU to get a photo of the mukluks Harstad had worn in Alaska.

"Our family group of 15 ranges in age from 24 to 78 and is made up of a number of writers, historians and educators," Carolyn Harstad said. "All 15 have college degrees, and there are several with M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. I think Bjug would be proud of his offspring."

Bjug Harstad's trip almost certainly was even more arduous than his descendants'. Then 50 years old, Harstad traveled on the S.S. City of Seattle steamer from Tacoma to Skagway, and then on a large flat-bottomed barge for the remaining 100 miles to Dyea. From there he hiked over the 3,500-foot Chilkoot Pass to the headwaters of the Yukon

River, transporting, literally, a ton of goods on a sled. Harstad took handmade boats and rafts down the Yukon River to the boomtown of Dawson City

**BRENT MATZKE** is the great-grandson of Bjug and was the closest to his age during his trek (Bjug: 50, Brent: 47). Brent's mother, Margaret Harstad Matzke, is Bjug's granddaughter.

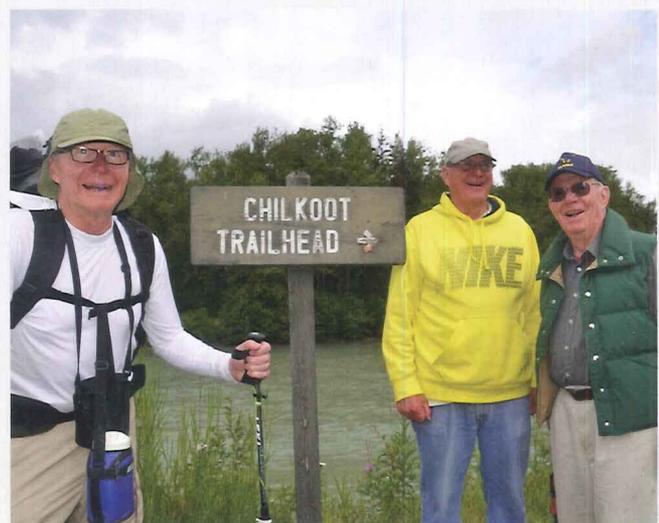
in Yukon Territory, where gold had been discovered in 1896.

Harstad had high hopes—grounded in solid faith—for his mission. In a letter home dated April 17, 1898, he wrote:

"Many are surprised that the undersigned should go to Alaska among gold seekers. I should like to ask those if they know anyone who has a better reason for going into the gold fields than I. ... It is firmly impressed both upon me and many others that our school on the Coast is responsible for large sums of borrowed money that must be repaid. We are in duty bound to try every reasonable means of fulfilling our obligations. Perhaps it is the Lord's will to unlock for us some of the earthly treasures that are deposited here."

But it was not to be, and after 18 months away, having traversed the entire Yukon River, Harstad "surprised everyone in Parkland" and returned penniless—and decidedly goldless—on July 20, 1899. (The economy eventually righted itself, as did PLU.)

During their commemorative trek, Harstad's descendants



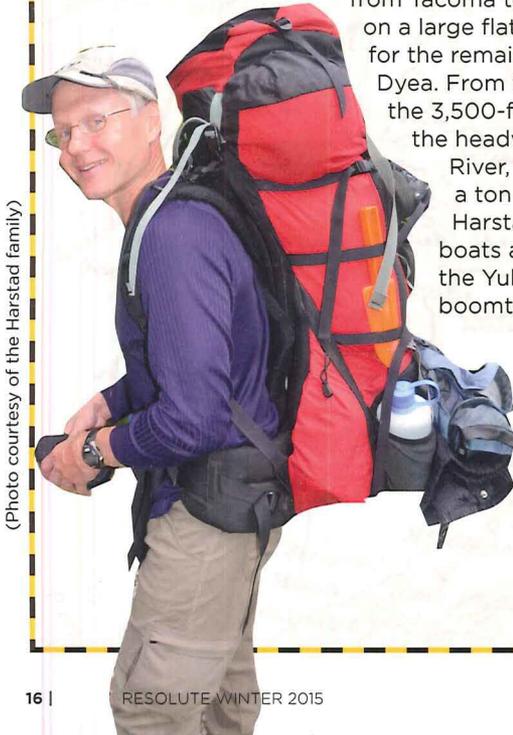
**THE THREE GRANDSONS** of Bjug Harstad: Mark Harstad made the hike; Herman Harstad and Peter Harstad stayed in Skagway. (Photo courtesy of the Harstad family)

discovered a little nugget of irony: Bjug Harstad's gold-stake claim site now is a very productive gold mine, reportedly yielding millions for its owner.

"It was amazing to learn that he was actually on pay dirt," Carolyn Harstad said. "Seven of our group was invited into the 'gold room' and got to see the operation, so that was pretty exciting. The heavy equipment necessary to extract the gold of the Yukon was, of course, unavailable to the 1898 Klondike miners who had to rely on picks and shovels and trowels, after burning wood to thaw enough earth to be able to even remove any."

Harstad didn't come back to PLU completely empty-handed, though: He lugged back the massive moose rack that hangs over the fireplace today in the office of Alumni & Constituent Relations.

And, of course, that first, possibly extravagant building still stands at PLU, too—and it's now called Harstad Hall. □



(Photo courtesy of the Harstad family)



The nine hikers begin their Chilkoot Trail adventure at the trailhead in Dyea, Alaska. (Photo courtesy of the Harstad family)

## THE HARSTAD DESCENDANTS IN ALASKA

- **Jonathan James Scislow**, Minneapolis, Bjug's great-great grandson, b. 1990.
  - **Tegan Jo Buckley**, Big Lake, Minn., Jonathan's friend, b. 1988.
  - **Eric Landis Becker**, Bjug's great-great grandson and son of Linda and Vance Becker, Singapore, b. 1987.
  - **Carol Lynn Becker Yenish**, Bjug's great-great granddaughter and daughter of Linda and Vance Becker, Mankato, Minn., b. 1984.
  - **David Glenn Harstad**, Bjug's great-grandson, Bloomington Ind., b. 1972.
  - **Brent Arthur Matzke**, Bjug's great-grandson, Bemidji Minn., b. 1967.
  - **Chris Ann Meno**, David's wife, Bloomington, Ind., b. 1977.
  - **Timothy Anders Moldstad**, Bjug's great-grandson, El Paso, Texas, b. 1957.
  - **Linda Carole Harstad Becker**, Bjug's great-grandaughter, Mankato, Minn., b. 1958.
  - **Vance Gordon Becker**, Linda's husband, Mankato, Minn., b. 1955.
  - **Peggy Sorenson Harstad**, Mark's wife, Mankato, Minn., b. 1952.
  - **Mark Oliver Harstad**, Bjug's grandson, Mankato, Minn., b. 1948 (a century after Bjug).
  - **Herman Erling Harstad**, Bjug's grandson, Mankato, Minn., b. 1944.
  - **Carolyn Schneider Harstad**, Peter's wife, Lakeville, Minn., b. 1936.
  - **Peter Tjernagel Harstad**, Bjug's grandson, Lakeville, Minn., b. 1935.
- (Chilkoot Trail hiker)  
Source: Peter Tjernagel Harstad

## PLU AT 125 ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

The year 2015 marks the 125th anniversary of Pacific Lutheran University, and as we move toward the actual charter date, Dec. 11, 2015, there'll be *at least* 125 ways for the entire PLU community to help mark a very significant milestone.

As the celebrations evolve, you'll want to keep a close eye on our website and social media, but a couple high-profile events already are in the works:

**May 2015:** Stay tuned for an important (and huge!) Commencement-time announcement.

**Dec. 12, 2015:** The President's Christmas Scholarship Concert and Dinner, one day after PLU's charter date.



The Diversity Center gets into the spirit of Bjug Harstad Day by wearing Harstad-inspired beards. (Photo: John Froschauer/PLU)

### ONGOING

**THE STORY OF PLU in 125 Objects.** Starting in August, for 125 days, PLU's social-media channels will showcase things strongly tied to PLU, its history and its legacy.

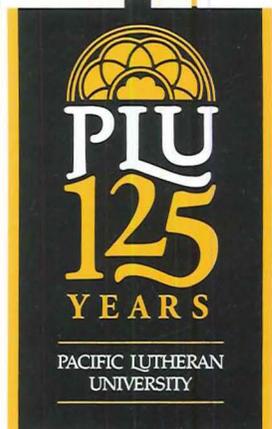
**New music.** PLU Music Professor Gregory Youtz has composed a new alma mater tune, *Lutheran Processional*, featuring instruments from PLU's Study Away Gateway countries, with the PLU community encouraged to submit lyrics.

**Drive to 125.** PLU Athletics is celebrating with a campuswide countdown to 125 victories. (See Page 22 for more.)

**The Bjug Harstad Day of Giving.** In honor of our founder, PLU established the annual Bjug Harstad Day of Giving on Nov. 12. It was wildly successful, maybe in part because students, faculty members and staff got into the spirit by sporting Harstad-inspired beards.

**Billboards!** A high-profile outdoor campaign running through May 2015 spreads PLU's story through a multilayered, environmentally conscious approach involving public-service and Six Word Story billboards. □

MORE ONLINE



# NAMIBIA NINE

PLU Filmmakers  
Spend a Month in  
Namibia Exploring  
Transformative  
Experiences in Higher  
Ed—Including Their Own



Watch the official 'Namibia Nine' trailer: <http://vimeo.com/102641825>

STORY BY SANDY DENEAU DUNHAM, RESOLUTE EDITOR

The PLU film crew visited "Namibia Nine" narrator and PLU graduate Edwin Tjiramba '94, third from right, in his office at the University of Namibia, where he is Director for Communications and Marketing. (Note the PLU flag in the corner of his bulletin board!) (Photo courtesy of the "Namibia Nine" team)



A

As part of a post-apartheid strategy nearly 20 years ago, 100 promising young Namibian leaders came to the United States to further their educations at Lutheran universities. Nine of those students attended—and then graduated from—Pacific Lutheran University.

Now the tables—and travel visas—have turned: Over the years, all nine Namibian graduates returned to their homeland, and in June, a diverse filmmaking team of PLU alumni, faculty, staff and students traveled there to research and record the profound impact higher education has had on the nine graduates' lives, careers and nation.

As it turned out, the month-long experience had a profound impact on the PLU team, too: Andrea Capere '14, Princess Reese '14, Shunying Wang '15 and Maurice Byrd '14 and supervisors Joanne Lisosky, Professor of Communication, and Melannie Denise Cunningham '12, Director of Multicultural Recruitment.

“What makes this so unique is the variety of perspectives



Namibian production assistant Des, left, works on camera framing with Melannie Denise Cunningham, center, and Princess Reese. (Photo: David Moeller)

NEXT PAGE



# NAMIBIA NINE

that we have in the six people on this journey,” Lisosky said. “We have elders, African-American alumni, Chinese and nontraditional students participating. A variety of perspectives in an entirely new environment makes this a very rich experience.”

And, in some cases, a very personal one.

“Being in Africa has given me a great perspective on how I have developed as a person, given my background as a black American, and how beautiful it is to meet Africans who have been to America,” Reese said.

## JOURNEYS TO AND FROM PLU

Fittingly, the PLU documentary is called *Namibia Nine*—and it includes interviews with each graduate. Now the filmmakers are working toward a Feb. 28 premiere on campus; all nine Namibian film subjects have been invited, and eight have confirmed attendance. (Only Ben Shingenge '91 is not coming—and only because, as Chief Foreign Relations Officer for Namibia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he will be on a mission in Angola.)

Even more fittingly, the film is narrated by one of the nine, Edwin Tjiramba '94, now Director for Communications and Marketing for the University of Namibia.

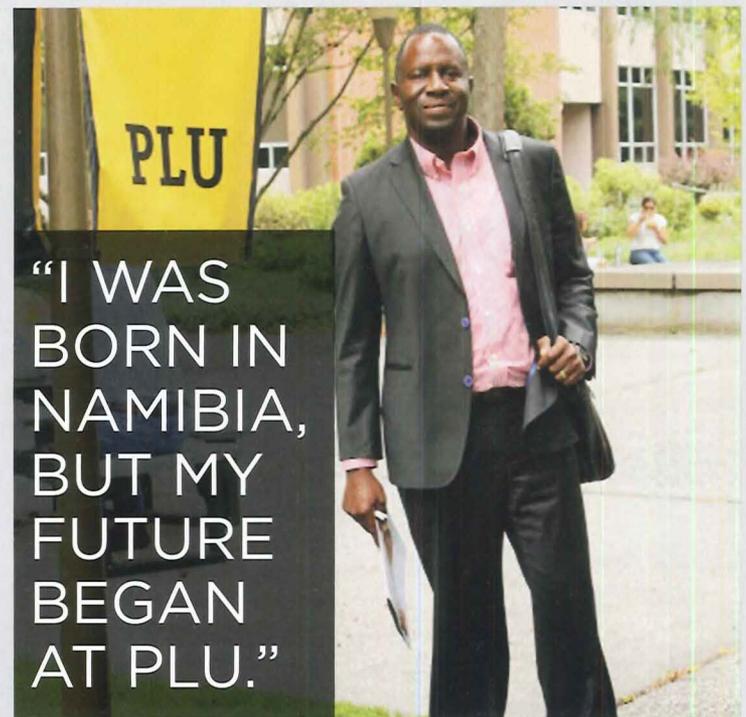
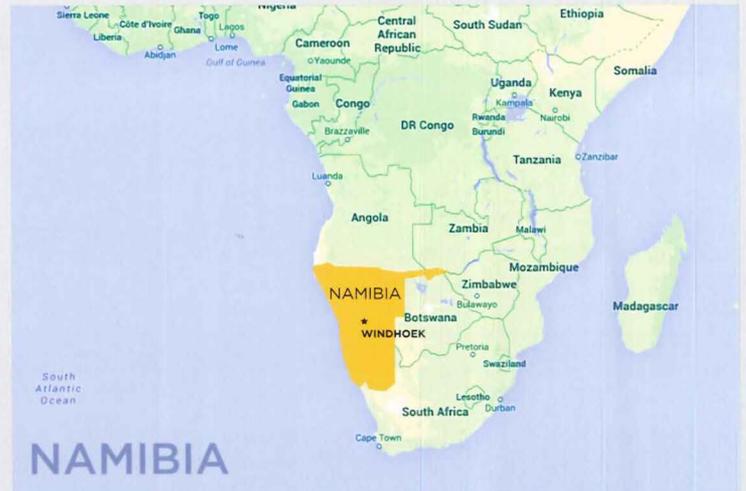
“I was born in Namibia,” Tjiramba said. “But my future began at PLU.”

Tjiramba started his journey at PLU in 1990. To get here, he competed with more than 800 of his fellow high-school graduates in a study-abroad program put together by Namibian Lutheran churches in collaboration with their American and German counterparts.

Tjiramba majored in Communication at PLU, went on to earn a Master's degree from California State University-Fullerton and



Namibian students attending Pacific Lutheran University pose for a group photograph with then-President William O. Rieke. From left: President Rieke, Ben Shingenge '91, Louisa Mupetami '92, Penda Naanda '92, Kuuva Kongeli '91 and Ron Tellefson.



Edwin Tjiramba '94, who first arrived at PLU in 1990 through an educational program initiated by the Lutheran Church in the newly independent country of Namibia, returned to campus in August 2013.

just last year graduated from the University of Namibia with a degree in law.

Tjiramba's Namibian PLU colleagues have been equally successful in their careers, from forensics and foreign relations to education and environmental policy-making.

The PLU filmmakers talked to all nine and “captured very compelling footage,” Cunningham said. In their interviews, team members explored the deep relationship these Namibians have with each other and with the university they call their “home away from home”—all the while gleaming insights into themselves.

“In the film, each of the Namibia Nine describes how what they lived and learned at PLU is ingrained in every aspect of their current-day living,” Cunningham said. “Witnessing their passion as they tell their individual stories has changed my life. Specifically, I have been reminded of my freedom that I sometimes take for granted and refocused

# WHERE ARE PLU'S 'NAMIBIA NINE' NOW?

**Edwin Tjiramba '94**  
Director for Communica-  
tions & Marketing, University  
of Namibia

**Louisa Mupetami '92**  
Deputy Permanent Secre-  
tary, Namibia's Ministry of  
Environment & Tourism

**Kuuva Kongeli '91**  
Forensic analyst, National  
Forensic Science Laboratory

**Ben Shingenge '91**  
Chief Foreign Relations  
Officer, Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs

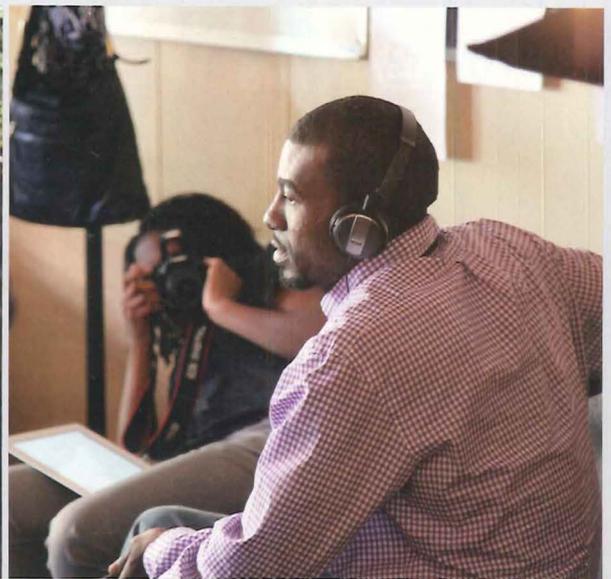
**Eva-Liisa Kafidi '94**  
I-Tech Namibia

**Lahja Kandongo '94**  
Head of Television Program-  
ming, Namibia Broadcasting  
Corporation

**Penda Naanda '92**  
Minister Counselor/Deputy  
Permanent Representative:  
Permanent Mission of the  
Republic of Namibia to the  
United Nations

**Tomas Shikongo '95**  
School principal in Northern  
Namibia

**Emmy Tjirmba '07**  
Lecturer, Student Support  
Centre for External Studies,  
University of Namibia



on the struggle for equality that still remains both in Namibia and in America.”

## PLU'S NAMIBIA CONNECTIONS

The filmmaking team was based for the month of June in Windhoek, the capital of Namibia, a cosmopolitan city of 200,000 in the geographical center of the country.

Windhoek also is the site of *Namibia Nine* sponsor Wang Center for Global Education's Study Away program—with options in Education, Nursing and the Natural Sciences—just one more powerful connection PLU has with Namibia. Professor Paula Leitz, who has traveled to Namibia since 2002, for example, initiated a J-Term course in 2008 for PLU Education students to practice student teaching in Namibia. As a result, more than 50 Lutes have had unique teaching experiences there.

And now, just as PLU changed the lives of nine Namibians, Namibia is changing the lives of six PLU filmmakers.

“The experience has been transformative,” said Capere. □

TOP LEFT Andrea Capere '14 on location in Namibia. (Photo: Shunying Wang '15)

TOP RIGHT Maurice Byrd works on sound while Princess Reese documents the making of a documentary. (Photo: Melannie Denise Cunningham)

BOTTOM The film crew goes over script development in Namibia. (Photo: Maurice Byrd '14)

## FOR MORE ON THE 'NAMIBIA NINE' TEAM

On its blog  
<http://namibianine.wordpress.com>

On Facebook  
*Namibia Nine*  
[www.facebook.com/namibia.nine.movie](http://www.facebook.com/namibia.nine.movie)

On Twitter  
@namibianine

# ATTAWAYLUTES

**Student- athletes team in Olson Auditorium to show support for the Drive to 125.**

From left: Jessica Hunter '16, rowing; Kailyn Osaki '17, softball; Madison Silva '15, cross country; Sarah Ameny '17, swimming; Toni Castillo '15, swimming; Melissa Dean '16, swimming; Reese Ackman '17, swimming; Kyle Sawtell '17, basketball; Erik Swartout '17, basketball; Cory Nelson '16, baseball; Allison McClure '15, tennis; Amy Wooten '15, volleyball; Nicoya Benham-Marin '16, soccer; Rigoberto Loreto '17, soccer; Kelly White '17, soccer; Bryce Kennedy '16, soccer; Hannah Walton '16, track and field; Machaela Graddy '18, soccer. (Photo: John Froschauer/PLU)



# 125

## DRIVE TO 125

RALLIES CAMPUS AS IT TALLIES WINS

BY SANDY DENEAU DUNHAM  
RESOLUTE EDITOR



## DRIVE TO 125 GEAR

Don't miss your chance to own special-edition Drive to 125 gear—on sale now for a limited time only at Garfield Book Company at PLU.

SHOP AND ORDER AT *luteworld.plu.edu*



THIS YEAR, as PLU student-athletes rack up impressive victory after impressive victory, their hard work doesn't just count toward a notch in the "win" column—it also counts toward a campuswide tally that's even more broadly motivating.

In honor of Pacific Lutheran University's 125th anniversary, PLU Athletics launched a Drive to 125 initiative in Fall 2014—an effort to reach 125 wins across all sports during the 2014-15 academic year.

Inspired by another school's anniversary program, PLU Associate Athletic Director Jen Thomas '98 came up with the idea—and then, as Lutes do, made it totally PLU.

"I thought that would be something cool to do if PLU had one of those 'anniversary moments,'" Thomas said. "It'd bring the whole Athletics department into one unit and be a great opportunity for every single program to be part of a larger theme."

Which is just what has happened.

"Buy-in has been great from all coaches and all teams," Thomas said. "The athletes all know where we are (on the tally); they ask, 'Does this victory count?'"

All team victories—for all of PLU's 19 varsity athletic programs—count in a big way ... and very visibly: Three big Drive to 125 boards—at the entrance to Olson Auditorium, at Old Main Market and in the Garfield Book Company at PLU front window—are updated every Monday with the current win count. Limited-time-only commemorative Drive to 125 gear is available at the Garfield Book Company, and student-athletes spread the word (and all-team spirit) by wearing specially designed and distinctive Drive to 125 shirts.

"I've heard other students asking the student-athletes what the shirt means, and the athletes explain it, so that's big," Thomas said.

Amy Wooten '15, a member of PLU's women's volleyball team, explains it rather perfectly.

"Drive to 125 upholds our division message and our school message," said Wooten, who had just learned that her team made it to the postseason. "We've found it motivating, but it's also turned into kind of an inner-school competition. Division III is so competitive, and now at PLU we're a community all working toward the same goal."

The season hadn't even started yet for Jessica Hunter '16, who's on the rowing team, but she already was looking ahead to the Drive to 125 prize.

"It's a great motivation for our spring season," she said. "We see the numbers go up, and we're excited to contribute."

Softball player Kailyn Osaki '17 is in the same boat—metaphorically.

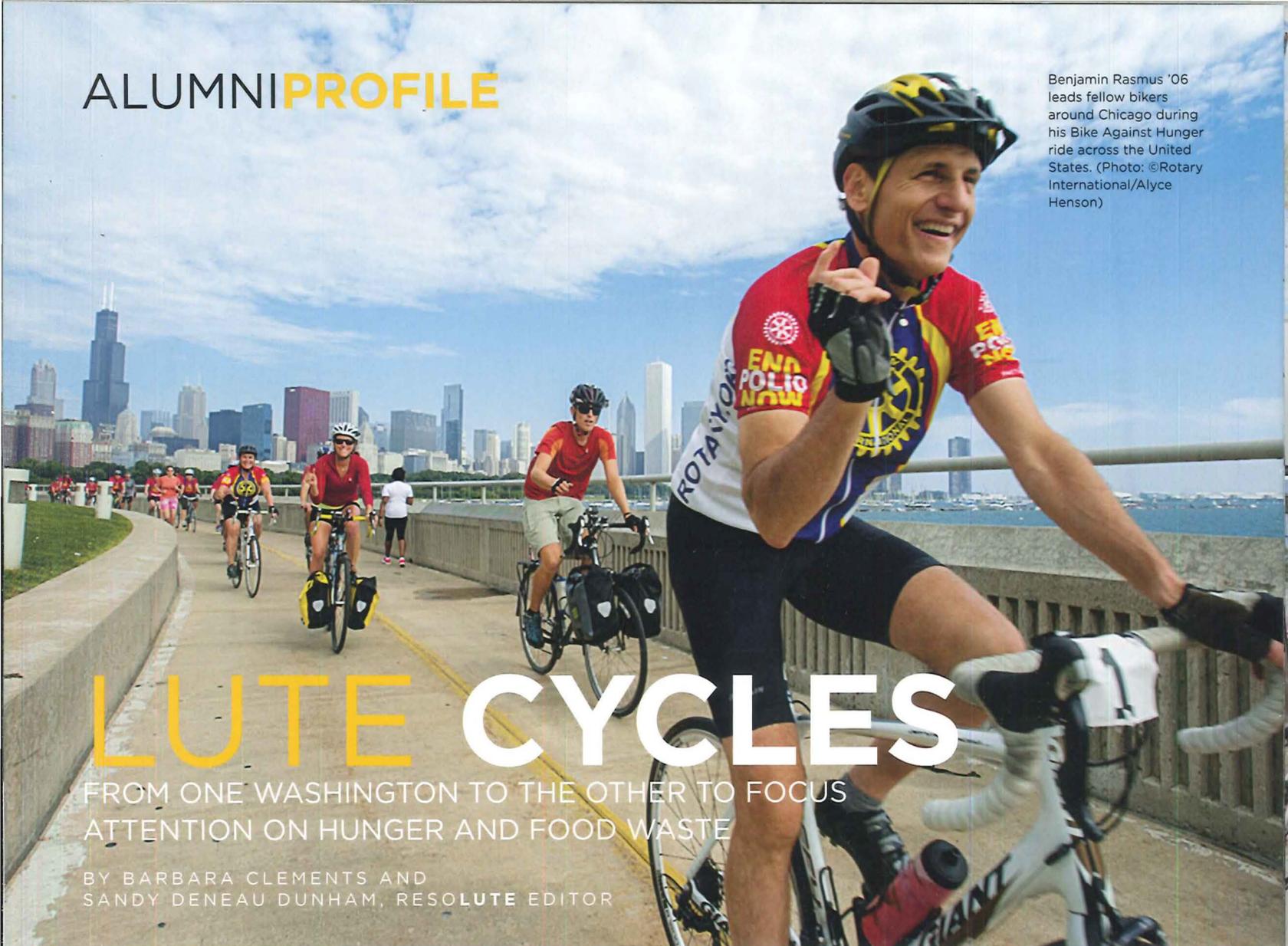
"It's been great motivation for my team," she said. "Knowing that other teams are contributing, we're working harder with (preseason) lifting and conditioning."

Just at the midpoint—of the academic year and of Drive to 125—Thomas said Lutes were ahead of pace, and she felt pretty good about reaching a campuswide goal worthy of a 125th anniversary.

But not until everyone's had a chance to contribute.

"We will do a celebration," Thomas said. "As soon as we hit 125, when we will have had participation from all the teams." □

Benjamin Rasmus '06 leads fellow bikers around Chicago during his Bike Against Hunger ride across the United States. (Photo: ©Rotary International/Alyce Henson)



## LUTE CYCLES

FROM ONE WASHINGTON TO THE OTHER TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON HUNGER AND FOOD WASTE

BY BARBARA CLEMENTS AND SANDY DENEAU DUNHAM, RESOLUTE EDITOR

**B**enjamin Rasmus '06 put some major miles on his bike—and some major muscle into his message—on a cross-country ride to highlight the paradox of hunger and food waste.

Rasmus and his girlfriend and partner in food activism, Heather Hoffman, began their Bike Against Hunger ride June 18 in a parking lot across from Seattle's Safeco Field and, 3,972 miles later, wheeled into their final stop, the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 26.

At the finish line, Rasmus and Hoffman thanked the family and friends who were there to cheer them on for their support, at the finish line and all along the way.

"How symbolic to finish at the memorial that stands for freedom and equal rights as we biked across the country highlighting the disparity and lack of access to fresh food depending on your social class," Rasmus wrote on his Bike Against Hunger blog. "There is a lot of room to grow for equality across this country!"

Rasmus conceived the ride as a way to raise awareness about the amount of food wasted in the U.S. (130 billion pounds annually) and the fact that in a country of great wealth, some 50 million people go hungry or lack reliable access to food. Rasmus' ride also highlighted the growing gleaning movement

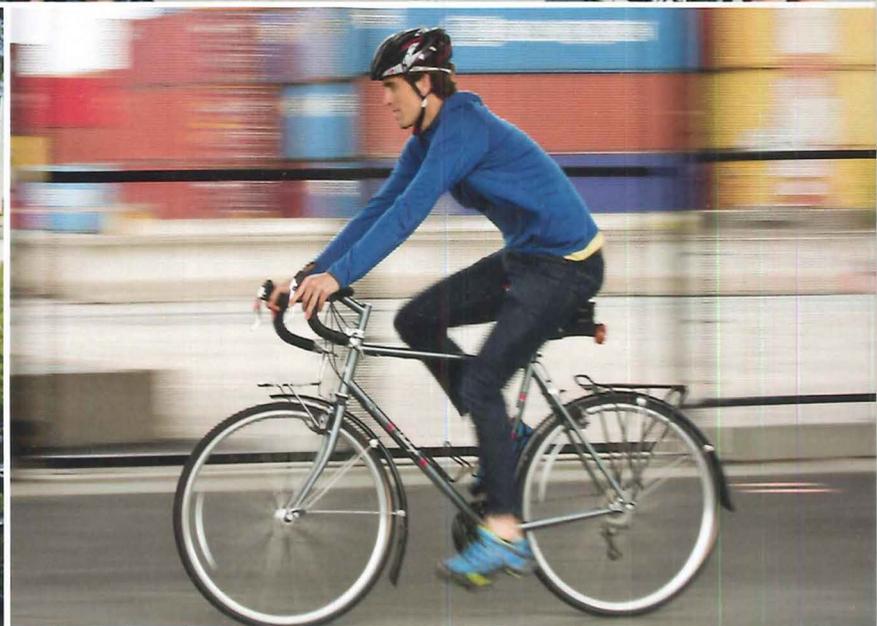
(wherein volunteers deliver harvested produce to hunger-relief agencies), with major stops in Denver, Chicago and Pittsburgh.

During the ride, Rasmus and Hoffman visited gleaning and food-recovery organizations, discovering "people committed to ending hunger while reducing food waste, and contagious enthusiasm for such work." They met—and were inspired by—young adults involved with diverting leftover food from college campuses to hunger-relief projects or emergency feeding programs, and faith-based communities that partner with gleaning sites.

On July 4, the bikers "cracked the 1,000-mile total," he wrote, as they rode "a monster tailwind through Craters of the Moon National Park." In Jackson, Wyo., the cyclers participated in a farmers-market gleaning event with Hole Food Rescue. And on July 18—six states, 1,600 miles and 30 days after setting out—Rasmus and Hoffman arrived in Colorado.

"We are super-excited to see more food-recovery projects in action, such as the Boulder and Denver Food Rescue projects, Foraged Feast, connect with an AmeriCorps VISTA project and also visit the Mile High Rotary Club," he wrote. "We can't wait to meet more great individuals who work with nonprofits to fight food waste and hunger."

This isn't the first time Rasmus has traveled—he is a Lute, after all. After living in China for about a year after graduating from



**MORE ONLINE**

**FOR MORE ON THE BIKE AGAINST HUNGER RIDE, CHECK OUT RASMUS' BLOG [firstharvest.org/harvest-against-hunger/bike-ride/](http://firstharvest.org/harvest-against-hunger/bike-ride/)**

**Read Rasmus' vignettes from his Bike Against Hunger ride and watch videos of his journey.**

PLU, Rasmus returned to the Seattle area through the AmeriCorps VISTA program, working at First Harvest as a VISTA member and then as a full-time staffer for the last four years.

(His cross-country ride has another PLU connection: Rasmus was interviewed about the work of Rotary First Harvest for the PLU MediaLab documentary *Waste Not: Breaking Down the Food Equation*, which premiered in Tacoma on Nov. 8.)

Rasmus' job as the Harvest Against Hunger program manager involves connecting local farms with food banks so all can benefit from harvesting crops that otherwise would go to waste. There are eight project sites in Washington, which involve 10 to 20 food banks each, and about 200 small farms, he estimates. During the last five years, more than 3 million pounds of food has been diverted to food banks. But hunger is still a problem, both in the state and nationally.

"There is still a tremendous amount of opportunity and need here," Rasmus said.

The idea for a cross-country bike ride to raise awareness started off as a bit of a joke two years ago, said Rasmus. A co-worker dared Rasmus to ride around some sites in Washington, encompassing 850 miles in all. After this ride, Rasmus considered the cross-country ride and decided he might as well.

"Perhaps the most surprising aspect of Bike Against Hunger ... has been introducing Rotary First Harvest and Harvest Against Hunger to complete strangers who ask why we are biking coast-to-coast," Rasmus wrote. "That's one of the major purposes of this trip: talking to people about hunger and food waste, introducing a few of the strategies that Rotary First Harvest encourages and plant(ing) the seed for a broader movement of connected gleaning projects from Washington state to Washington, D.C." □

**TOP LEFT** Rasmus in the Rotary First Harvest office about two weeks before his ride. (Photo: John Froschauer/PLU)

**TOP RIGHT** Rasmus and Hoffman celebrate the end of their 3,972-mile journey from Seattle to Washington, D.C. (Photo courtesy of Benjamin Rasmus)

**BOTTOM LEFT** Rasmus, left, and Hoffman meet other food activists in Chicago. (Photo: ©Rotary International/Alyce Henson)

**BOTTOM RIGHT** Rasmus takes a practice spin through Seattle before leaving on his ride across the country. (Photo: John Froschauer/PLU)

# ALUMNI NEWS

## LEGACY LUTES FALL 2014

Each fall, we welcome new students to our campus, and the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations extends a special welcome to our Legacy Lutes—those students whose parent(s) attended PLU. We recognize this extra-special commitment to the family alma mater and are thrilled to have sons and daughters carry on the PLU legacy. (Please note that only the parents who attended PLU are listed below.)

Emma Adams  
*Mark Adams '91 and  
Hayley (Halter)  
Adams '91*

Allison Ash  
*Larry Ash '77 and Julie  
(Lindbo) Ash '81*

Beau Baker  
*Carl Baker '88*

Jackson Bakse  
*Teresa Bakse '89*

Mitchell Baldrige  
*Gary-Baldrige '88*

Lydia Bill  
*Julie (Allison) Bill '89*

Maddie Bond  
*Vo Bond '96*

Genavie Boots  
*Paul Boots '83*

Elissa Brown  
*Edmond Brown '93 and  
Susan (Bryan) Brown '86*

Mathias Burud  
*Hans Burud '85*

Emma Charlston  
*Paul Charlston '77  
and Leigh (Kullberg)  
Charlston '80*

Courtney Couch  
*Lori Ann Couch '09*

Yunjoo Crossler-Laird  
*Jannie Crossler-Laird '80*

Sarah Crum  
*William Crum '10*

Tess Cummings  
*Brian Cummings '07*

Paul Dalenberg  
*Douglas Dalenberg '81  
and Kristi (Strandjord)  
Dalenberg '81*

Laura Dalton  
*David Dalton '88*

Emily Davis  
*Michael Davis '82*

Jacob Dominguez-  
Nelson  
*Sally (Nelson)  
Dominguez '90*

Katherine Enyeart  
*Martha (Leuthaeser)  
Enyeart '92*

Jawad Frangieh  
*Aleta Wenger '79*

Olivia Gallucci  
*Thomas Gallucci '91*

Andrew Gjerness  
*Deborah Marken-  
Gjerness '89, Dale  
Gjerness '92*

Olaf Grette  
*Daniel Grette '78*

David Gunnarson  
*Dennis Gunnarson '83  
and Judy (Lovstrom)  
Gunnarson '84*

Soren Iverson  
*Roger Iverson Jr. '83  
and Cynthia (Banken)  
Iverson '86*

Gavin Jackson  
*Brian Jackson '82*

Gabriel Johnson  
*Gregory Johnson '90  
and Cinthia (Garcia)  
Johnson '91*

Grant Kido  
*Scott Kido '78*

Lyndi Knox  
*Matthew Knox '90 and  
Julie (Clifton) Knox '89*

Rachel Kylo  
*Andrew Kylo '84*

Jessica Mason  
*Cara (Homestead)  
Mason '87*

Michelle McGrath  
*Julie (Gustafson)  
McGrath '86*

Leah Mellmer  
*Mary Beth (Boehne)  
Mellmer '84*

Marissa Miller  
*Mark Miller '88, Connie  
(Eliason) Miller '85*

Mikayla Minshall  
*Jill (Getty) Minshall '01*

Kathryn Molyneux  
*Chris Molyneux '90;  
Michelle (Clark)  
Molyneux '88*

John Morasch  
*Tracy Morasch '90 and  
Cherie (Case) Morasch  
'91*

Courtney Olsen  
*Diane (Van Vleet)  
Olsen '81*

Kenneth Phillips  
*Teri Phillips '11*

Marjorie Rasmussen  
*Melonie (Kaiser)  
Rasmussen '94*

Kelsey Sherman  
*Lee Sherman '87 and  
Cathy (Crowe)  
Sherman '87*

Haley Shultz  
*Laurel Shultz '91*

Morgan Sidles  
*Julie (Graham) Sidles '84*

Jacob Sinding  
*Henrik Sinding '93 and  
Gry (Johansen)  
Sinding '93*

Hannah Soltis  
*Kathy (Philby) Soltis '82*

Jacob Sylvanus  
*Sonja (Knapp)  
Sylvanus '97*

Kaelyn Voss  
*Denice Voss '92*

Kathryn Wee  
*Shelley Bryan-Wee '88*

Caitlan Whitley  
*Judy (Leschensky)  
Whitley '90*

Zachariah Wolfe  
*John Wolfe '87 and  
Deborah (Osborn)  
Wolfe '87*

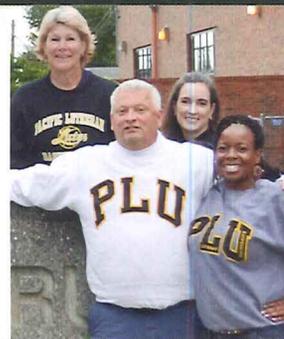
## ALUMNI PROFILES ONLINE

FOR THESE AND MORE, VISIT  
[www.plu.edu/resolute](http://www.plu.edu/resolute)



ACCOMPLISHED  
AUTHOR

Marissa Meyer '04



THE FERRUCCI  
LUTES

15 PLU alumni work  
at Ferrucci Junior High  
School in Puyallup



# SAVE THE DATE: HOMECOMING 2015

Between the rousing football game, the toe-tapping performance by The Deacons and the thought-provoking Meant to Live Lecture by Mary Beth Leeper '00, Homecoming 2014 was a HUGE success.

In fact ... let's do it again!

Please save the dates for Homecoming 2015: Oct. 9-11. Come home to PLU for a wide range of time-honored traditions, including football (and the Alumni Tent), GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) pregame events, Classes Without Quizzes, the Alumni Awards and Recognition Banquet, the Athletic Hall of Fame Luncheon and milestone class reunions. □

Check [plu.edu/alumni](http://plu.edu/alumni) for updates and details.



## 2015 ALUMNI AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Each year, the Alumni Association of Pacific Lutheran University presents awards to alumni, friends and students to honor them for their outstanding achievement and/or years of service to the university. The Awards and Nominations Committee of the Alumni Board meets every spring to select the upcoming year's awardees, and the awards are presented at Homecoming in the fall.

The PLU Alumni Association invites alumni, faculty, staff, friends and students to submit nominations. In order for a person to be given full consideration, nominations must include an official letter of nomination and be submitted by Feb. 20, 2015.

Fill out the nomination form at [www.plu.edu/alumni-recognition](http://www.plu.edu/alumni-recognition), or mail this form, along with your letter of nomination, to Pacific Lutheran University, Office of Alumni & Constituent Relations, 12180 Park Ave S., Tacoma, WA 98447.

### HERE ARE THE AWARDS:

**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS/ALUMNA AWARD:** Through years of dedication and service, this alumnus/alumna has achieved professional or vocational distinction.

**OUTSTANDING RECENT ALUMNUS/ALUMNA AWARD:** Award to an alumnus/alumna, within 15 years of graduation, who has excelled in a particular area.

**HERITAGE AWARD:** Awarded to an alumnus/alumna for years of distinguished service to the university.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD:** Awarded to an alumnus/alumna or friend of the university who has served the university in a unique or special way.

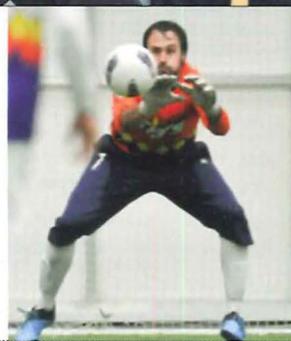
**ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD:** Awarded to an alumnus/alumna who has demonstrated outstanding volunteer leadership and/or service to the community.

**THE BRIAN C. OLSON AWARD:** Presented to a senior graduating student who has demonstrated commitment to the university and the alumni association. By recognizing the importance of connecting students and alumni, this student has shown a potential for lifelong service to the university.



IN THE BUSINESS  
OF MAKING  
CONNECTIONS

Daniel Rosales '07



GOALKEEPER  
FOR THE NEW  
SEATTLE FC  
IMPACT

Andrew Croft '09



ESPN MONTANA  
TALK SHOW  
HOST

Ryan Tootell '04

# CLASSNOTES

SUBMIT YOURS HERE: [www.plu.edu/resolute](http://www.plu.edu/resolute)

## Class Representative positions available: 1966, 1982 and 1998

Pre-1930, 1930-35, 1937-44, 1946-49, 1951, 1952, 1954 and 1960  
Golden Club Class Representative  
Committee

## 1936

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

## 1945

Class Representative - **Annabelle Birkestol**

## 1950

Class Representative - **Dick Weathermon**

**Beth (Gottwald) Peterson** received the "Carol Conway Award: The Spirit of Volunteerism." This is the highest honor given to a volunteer by RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program). Beth accumulated more than 1,000 hours in 2013. RSVP Chapter has been in existence for 42 years.

## 1953

Class Representatives - **Naomi (Roe) Notstein**

## 1955

Class Representative - **Phyllis (Grahm) Pejso**

## 1956

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

## 1957

Class Representative - **Ed Larson**

## 1958

Class Representative - **Don Cornell**

## 1959

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

**Lois Capps** was presented the 2014 Diane F. Cooper Lifetime Achievement Award in June during *nurse.com's* Nursing Excellence Awards Gala for the California Region at the Hilton Los Angeles/Universal City. As an RN and congresswoman, Capps has represented California's Central Coast since being sworn in as a member of the 105th Congress in 1998.

## 1961

Class Representative - **Ron Lerch**

**Arne Bue** recently has published a true story of his Lutheran upbringing, lapses and return to a good life in a coming-of-age memoir. [www.sitnews.us/ArneBue/041114\\_alaska\\_journey.html](http://www.sitnews.us/ArneBue/041114_alaska_journey.html)

## 1962

Class Representative - **Leo Eliason**

## 1963

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

**Dick Bakken's** book of poems, *The Whiskey Epiphanies*, recently was published by

Pleasure Boat Studios: A Literary Press. It includes poems written between 1963-2013, including while Dick was a student or professor at PLU.

## 1964

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

**Jon and Jean (Riggers) Malmin** toured Norway during summer 2013 with the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association. Jon was co-director of the chorus, and Jean was accompanist. Also on the tour were their daughter, **Kristin (Malmin) McGee '91**, and her husband, Robb. The tour visited Oslo, Stavanger, Bergen, Alesund and Trondheim.

**Don and Mary Jane (Geldaker) Isensee '65** are happily retired in Monmouth, Ore., where they have lived since 2005. They moved there after living for more than 35 years in Klamath Falls, Ore., where Don enjoyed a career in accounting after a stint in the Army as an officer in Germany and obtaining his CPA certificate in 1975. Mary Jane's career was in nursing, mainly as a school nurse, and then as the administrative director of a college health clinic. They live one block from daughter **Julie (Isensee) LeMaster '94** and her husband, **Mike LeMaster '94**, and two of their five grandchildren. Son **Peter Isensee '90** and his wife, **Kristi (Kessinger) Isensee '89**, live in Bellevue, Wash. with their two daughters. **Michael Isensee '92** and his wife, Pastor Jana Schofield, live in Ferndale, Wash., with their son.

**Al and Marion (Rasmussen) Hokenstad** are thankful for the education they received at PLU. After graduation, they both were teachers in the Franklin Pierce School District. Later, Al held several school administration positions while Marion was a leader in Bible Study Fellowship. They continue to serve in the ministries of their church. Both of their children graduated from PLU: **Jan (Hokenstad) Stemple '90** and **Steve Hokenstad '94**. They were excited to be on the 50th Class Reunion Planning Committee and to see the Class of '64 at Homecoming 2014.

**Lynn Berg** became interested in making an ethnic Norwegian folk instrument, the Hardanger fiddle, 25 years ago. He is the only American to win medals (three) in the Norwegian National Instrument-Making competition. He enjoys restoring antique Hardanger fiddles and has restored many historic instruments. Recently he has crafted Hardanger fiddles in several children's sizes, which are available on loan from the Hardanger Fiddle Association of America so young people can learn to play traditional Norwegian folk music.

**Ed Brannfors'** career has been in the development and marketing of aircraft coatings. He remains active through Hentzen Aerospace Coatings. Ed resides with his wife, Angela, in La Center, Wash., and enjoys his work with an Angus cattle herd on his

grandparents' old farm; he does custom hay harvesting in the summers. Ed has two sons who graduated from PLU: **Erik Brannfors '95** and **Mark Brannfors '97**.



**Judi (Aus) Allen** is involved in the Bassett Hounds Mission, where dogs that are about to be euthanized are taken from the Humane Society to the Mabel Bassett Correctional Center in McCloud, Okla. The inmates train the dogs to be companion or service dogs, and they are given to disabled veterans, those who suffer from PTSD, and women and children in need. The inmates receive love from the dogs and give the dogs love, 24-7. Thus the tag "Saving Dogs, Changing Lives." You can join Bassett Hounds on Facebook, or by email at [bassetthounds@harrahchurch.org](mailto:bassetthounds@harrahchurch.org).

**Linnea (Eger) Hillesland** was excited to celebrate the 50th anniversary of graduation from PLU at Homecoming 2014. She lives in Pasco, Wash., with husband **David Hillesland '58**, who is retired from his position as a nuclear safety engineer. Linnea taught third grade in the Parkland area and moved to Pasco, where she stayed home to raise a family. She did graduate work and served as church musician. Since 1993 she has been teaching Musikgarten, early childhood music and movement classes, for babies and children in her home studio. Linnea and David's children are **Karl Hillesland '93**, **Bernt Hillesland, Kristina (Hillesland) Stredwick '98**, **Birgitta (Hillesland) Dubova '00** and **Ivar Hillesland '02**. All earned graduate degrees and have blessed the Hillesland family with 11 grandchildren.

**Dan and Judy (Pederson) Selmann** recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends. Dan continues to play on two softball teams and ushers for the Seattle Mariners.

## 1965

Class Representative - **Rhoda Pappajohn**

**Davis Carvey '65, '68**, former School of Business professor, was selected for the third consecutive year to fence on the USA Veterans Team in the 2014 World Championships in Hungary, which took place in October.

**Stan Hoobing** finished his interim assignment at First and American Lutheran churches in Circle and Richey, Mont., in June and began a new assignment at Zion Lutheran Church in Glendive, Mont., on July 1.

## 1966

Class Representative - **vacant**

## 1967

Class Representative - **Craig Bjorklund**

## 1968

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



**John Biermann** retired after 40 years of ministry in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. He lives with his wife, **Sharlee (Heather) Biermann '68**. They have two daughters, Heather and Holly, and three grandkids. Retirement has brought a renewed love of photography and aviation. John is a volunteer at Western Automobile and Airplane Museum in Hood River, Ore.



**Richard Erstad** retired on June 30 after more than 30 years in various roles at the Quaker organization American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). Inspired by mentor and Professor Don Wilson, Richard served in the Peace Corps in Colombia after PLU from 1968-70. After graduate school at the University of Pennsylvania, he started directing Latin America programs, working in peace and conflict resolution, human rights, health, development and civil society promotion through turbulent times of civil wars, coups and transitions to democracy. He also served as associate general secretary for U.S. and all international programs of the organization. He is planning an active post-retirement of consulting and short-term executive posts in the U.S. and in Latin America.

## 1969

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

## 1970

Class Representative - **Bill Allen**

## 1971

Class Representative - **Paul D. Johnson**

## 1972

Class Representative - **Molly Stuen**

**Judith Van Houten**, George H. Perkins Professor of Biology at the University of Vermont, recently was named the university's inaugural recipient of the President's Distinguished University Citizenship and Service Award for her consistent and outstanding record of service over time to the university community.

## 1973

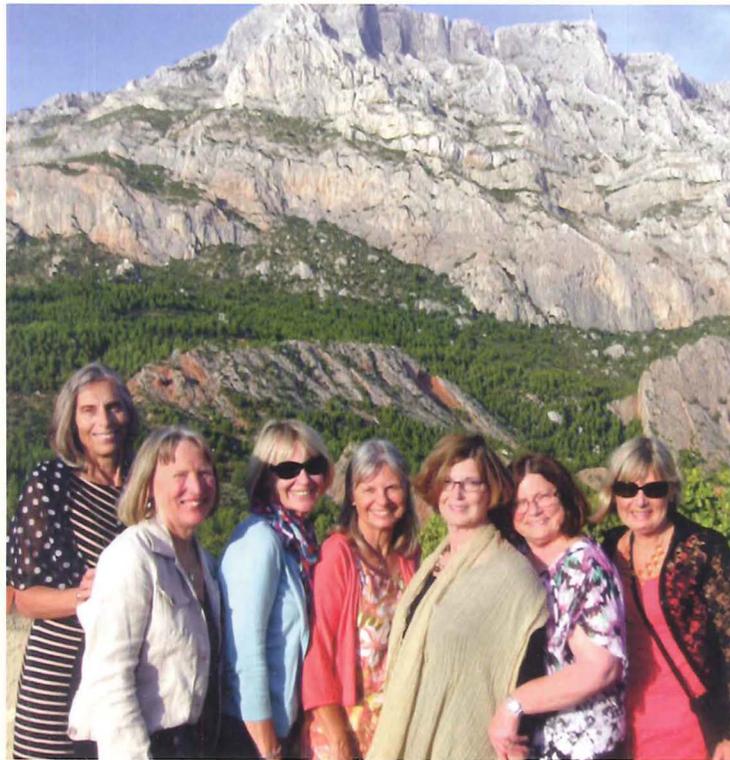
Class Representative - **Karen (Wraalstad) Robbins**

## 1974

Class Representative - **David E. Johnson**

**Kim Nordberg** has spent the last 35 years working at his dental practice in Puyallup, Wash. He has been married to his wife, Bette, for 39 years, and they have four kids: Eric graduated from USC and is a dentist finishing his orthodontic residency at University of the Pacific; Molly is a teacher and mom; Maggie is an ICU RN at Swedish Hospital, finishing her doctorate of nurse practitioner at University of Washington;

# PICTURE PERFECT



Seven Class of 1972 PLU graduates took a two-week journey to Provence and Paris. From left: **Molly Stuen, Diane (Christensen) Smith, Kathy (Meyer) Hauge, Gerd-Inger (Gregersen) McDougall** ("tour director extraordinaire"), **Laurel (Clark) Chentow, Karen (Roberts) Enhelder and Robin (George) Gehrs**. The photo was taken in Aix-en-Provence at the home of delightful French friends of Gerd-Inger; the backdrop is Mont St. Victoire, the mountain made famous by Paul Cezanne's paintings. This was just one of many memorable adventures, which also included a day at Cassis on the Mediterranean Sea, the Papal Palace at Avignon, the Roman ruins in Arles, Vespers in Notre Dame, Vivaldi at Sainte Chapelle, visits to Versailles and the Louvre and, to top it off, dinner and an incredible sunset on the Eiffel Tower. They celebrated not only the surroundings, but also the lifelong friendships that began at PLU!

## IN MEMORIAM

**1940**  
**Luella (Toso) Johnson** died March 21  
**1948**  
**Ernest Collard** died March 28  
**1950**  
**William "Bill" Muse, Sr.** died June 18  
**Harry "Buster" Petersen** died April 6  
**Philip Lynn Falk** died May 21  
**1951**  
**Gloria (Wold) Fuhr** died May 25  
**1953**  
**Carol (Schuler) Karwoski** died June 14  
**Betty (Drivstuen) Maxim** died March 7  
**1954**  
**Floyd Newland** died June 11  
**Margaret (Holbrook) Siegele** died June 13  
**Daniel Rose** died July 15  
**1955**  
**Harold Hillesland** died Feb. 26  
**1956**  
**Donna Swanson** died Feb. 8  
**1958**  
**Curtis Kalstad** died May 31  
**Lavern Weber** died May 5  
**1962**  
**Faith (Pettis) Reierson** died Nov. 1, 2013

**1963**  
**Janice Benson** died March 28  
**Eugene Black** died July 2  
**1964**  
**Margaret "Peggy" Shawhan** died March 2  
**1966**  
**Frank Johnson** died April 24  
**1968**  
**Archie Kovanen** died Sept. 3  
**Virginia Parker** died Sept. 13  
**1974**  
**Carolyn (Wilson) Schultz** died Feb. 7  
**1975**  
**Stephen Breen** died May 1  
**1976**  
**Louis Schultz** died Feb. 20  
**1982**  
**Kimberly (Hopkins) Carlsen** died April 25  
**1987**  
**Rosanna O'Neill** died June 13  
**1990**  
**Gregory M. Schutte** died June 1

FULL OBITUARIES ONLINE

and Peder joined Kim as a partner after attending Washington State University for bioengineering and Loma Linda School of Dentistry. Peder, Eric and Kim returned to Guatemala for his 12th mission trip providing dentistry and mentoring dental students from USC, UCLA and Loma Linda with the Christian Medical & Dental Society of Southern California.

**1975**  
 Class Representative - **Reginald Pearsall**

**1976**  
 Class Representative - **Gary Powell**

**Ricke Swaim** retired after 36 years as an educator. He taught every grade level from K-12 and at the university. He also has been a school administrator and central office teacher trainer; coached swimming, water polo, basketball, track and volleyball; and is a Psi-certified snow pro and Choice Theory certified trainer. Now he is the owner/operator of The Quarry Haus, a vacation retreat in Evans, Wash., on Lake Roosevelt.

**1977**  
 Class Representatives - **Leigh Erie and Joan (Nelson) Mattich**

**1978**  
 Class Representative - **Pete Mattich**

**1979**  
 Class Representatives - **Dave and Teresa (Hausken) Sharkey**

**Evelyn (Cornwall) Jerden** and her husband, Marc Jerden, are excited that their daughter, Lisa, is on Gustavus Adolphus College's NCAA Division 3 Gymnastics team this fall in Minnesota. Since PLU does not have women's gymnastics, Lisa had to look to another great Lutheran college. It will be a big change for Lisa from Tucson, Ariz., where the family resides.

**1980**  
 Class Representative - **John Bley**

**Patricia Kirkwood**, along with Necia T. Parker-Gibson, was awarded the Best Publication Award by the Award Committee of the Engineering Libraries Division of the American Society for Engineering Education for their book, *Informing Chemical Engineering Decisions with Data, Research, and Government Resources*, published by Morgan & Claypool Publishers as book No. 1 of the Synthesis Lectures on Chemical Engineering and Biochemical Engineering, 2013.

**Randy Knutson** was ordained a Deacon in the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California on June 28 by Bishop Barry Beisner. He will continue to serve at St. John's Episcopal in Lodi, Calif., as music director and Deacon. Priestly Ordination will take place in 2015.

**1981**  
 Class Representatives - **Dean and Susan (Lee) Phillips**

**Armen Shanafelt** married Marie-Claude in 1989. Armen received his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of California-Berkeley in 1987, then worked for DNAX Research Institute, Bayer, Roche Diagnostics, Lilly and, since 2009, at Lilly Ventures. He founded his first company in 2013: Aeglea Biotherapeutics, an oncology-focused company in Austin, Texas. His daughter, Isabelle, graduated from Miami University in Ohio and works for Teach for America in Charlotte, N.C. His son, Alex, is a musician. Marie-Claude, who has a Ph.D. in Immunology, teaches first grade in the French track at the International School. All is good!



**Rick Mattson** was promoted to the rank of Major General on April 16 in Kuwait City, Kuwait. The event marked the first time U.S. Ambassador to Kuwait Matthew Tueller had "pinned" a General Officer and the first time a General Officer promotion ceremony was conducted on Embassy grounds. Maj. Gen. Mattson served as the U.S. Embassy Senior Defense Official and Defense Attaché, and as the Chief of the Office of Military Cooperation in Kuwait City, Kuwait. In June 2014, Maj. Gen. Mattson assumed a new position as the CCJ7 Training and Engagements director at U.S. Central Command Headquarters in Tampa, Fla.

**Gayle (Ensor) Warner** was promoted in May to office manager of Arnett Testing & Distribution of Washington, a local and regional protective equipment test lab for those in the electrical workforce such as communications companies, light and power companies, and hybrid automobile businesses.

**Dianna (Koneman) Johnston** was appointed nursing program director of the University of New Mexico Valencia Campus associate degree in nursing program. She also was promoted to assistant professor. She is a member of the New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium and curriculum developer for the New Mexico Statewide Nursing common curriculum.

**1982**  
 Class Representative - **vacant**

**Craig Williamson** was appointed by Washington State Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler to serve on the Insurance Fraud Advisory Board for the Office of the Insurance Commissioner Special Investigations Unit.

**Jane Kinkel** married David Summers on July 26 in Spokane, Wash.

**1983**  
 Class Representative - **Dave Olson**

**1984**  
 Class Representative - **Mark Christofferson**

**1985**  
 Class Representatives - **Janet (Olden) Regge and Carolyn (Plocharsky) Stelling**

**Kathleen Martin** became a member of the Dramatists Guild of America this past year. She took a playwriting class through the School of Drama at the University of Washington last summer to work one-on-one with an instructor. She also was cast as the Queen of Hearts in *Alice in Wonderland* last summer through the PennMet Parks Family Theatre in Gig Harbor, Wash. In Feb. 2013, she was made a delegate in the International Women's Leadership Association in recognition of screenwriting and playwriting.



**Charles Kastner** recently published his book, *The 1929 Bunion Derby: Johnny Salo and the Great Footrace Across America* (Syracuse University Press). More information can be found at [CharlesKastner.com](http://CharlesKastner.com).

**1986**  
 Class Representative - **David Carlson**

**Marie Gettel-Gilmartin** took on a new role as sustainability marketing & communications manager at CH2M HILL, an environ-



mental consulting firm, where she has worked for 24 years. She lives in Portland, Ore., with her husband and three sons, aged 7 to 17, and she attends Mission of

the Atonement, a unique community of Lutherans and Catholics.

**1987**

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

**Constance (Bates) Frankland** has a new surname after recently marrying Kenneth Frankland. In addition, Constance is serving as copy editor for Oregon author/edutainer AnnaMarie Martinez-Minter, whose children's book *Mabel Sets the Table* is newly available at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). Constance and Kenneth Frankland reside in Grants Pass, Ore., with their border collie, Mister Darcy.

**1988**

Class Representative - **Brenda Ray Scott**



**Greg Schieferstein** started a new job as news director at the NBC and ABC affiliate in Peoria-Bloomington, Ill.



**Gretchen Newman** married Brett Freier on June 7 in Red Rocks Canyon in Las Vegas, Nev.

**1989**

Class Representative - **Brendan Rorem**



**Colleen Kirkwood** married Jim Harriott. In attendance were Lutes **Mary (Davis) Pubols '89**, **Greg Pubols '88**, **Laurel (Edgar) Hogan '89**, **Christina Gibbs '01**,

**Steve Gibbs '86**, **Judy (Slater) Oehling '89**, **Greg Oehling '91**, **Missy (Phillips) Maxson '89**, **Peter Maxson '91**, **Margy (Mueller) Schoenheit '88** and **Maria (Knapton) Oehling '92**.

**Jil Freitag** received her MBA in human resource management in June.

**1990**

Class Representatives - **Erik Benson** and **Mark Kurtz**

**1991**

Class Representative - **Jim Morrell**

**Christine Emerson** and **James Boulter '92** recently celebrated 20 years of marriage on Dec. 31, 2013. Christine is the associate pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in Eau Claire, Wis. James recently was named director of the Watershed Institute for Collaborative Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, where he is also associate professor of chemistry.

**Marcus LeMaster** has joined Schneider Electric as Global Director, Network Design & Data Analytics. In his new position, he will be responsible for projects utilizing advanced optimization, simulation and statistical modeling tools to improve customer service levels and operating efficiency in the company's global supply chain. Marcus remains based in Singapore, where he has lived the past eight years with his wife, Velle; daughter Yi Xian, age 4; and son An Xiang, age 2.

**1992**

Class Representative - **Rebecca Benson**

**1993**

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



**Cliff Mills** continues to work at Swedish Medical Center as an ED Social Worker full-time while adding Designated Mental Health Professional to his resume. He married Chris

**Downs** on April 26, with **Brad Chatfield '93** in the wedding party.

**1994**

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

**1995**

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

**1996**

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

**Kelly Davis** changed jobs, becoming the online editor at the *Hilton Head Island Packet* and *Beaufort Gazette* newspapers, part of the McClatchy Newspapers Co., effective July 29, 2013.



**Annette (Goldstein) and Mike Mueller '98** are sharing their gifts of teaching and speaking Spanish with students and teachers in Nicaragua.

They have been teaching at Nicaragua Christian Academy along with their three children since January 2014 and plan to teach through December 2015. The Muellers believe providing a quality Christian education to the future leaders of Nicaragua is the best way to initiate positive change. They are currently fundraising to support their teaching mission.

**1997**

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

**Brian Bannon** was presented with a 2014 National Medal for Museum and Library Service to the Chicago Public Library by First Lady Michelle Obama during a ceremony in the East Room of the White House on May 8. The National Medal is the nation's highest honor given to museums and libraries for service to the community.

**1998**

Class Representative - **vacant**



**Sarah Straks McAdams** married Robert Straks McAdams on March 16: beautiful, full of joy and love, and a part of an amazing story that continues to be unveiled. This was the wedding set in the Redwoods and witnessed by close friends and family.

**1999**

Class Representative - **David Potts**

**Suzanne (Silvia) Allore** graduated from University of Massachusetts in December 2013 with an Adult/Gerontology post-master's certificate.

**2000**

Class Representative - **Brian Vertrees**

**2001**

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

**Rebecca (Stephenson) Norton** was recently promoted to senior business analyst in the Center of Excellence within the Global Supply Chain organization of Starbucks. She completed her MBA at the University of Washington Foster School of Business in June 2010 and has been at Starbucks since 2011. She was married to James Norton in August 2012, and the couple make their home in West Seattle, Wash. James is in wine sales and works for Noble Wines, Ltd.



**JoAnne (Landis) Fernandes** married Levi Fernandes on Nov. 16, 2013, in Seattle, Wash.

**2002**

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

**Megan Lewis** married Edgar Ali Lazcano Romano in Seattle, Wash., on Sept. 12, 2013. Lutes in attendance included **Erin Harlan '02** and **Allison Snow '02**.



**Jason Bendickson** and **Sara Wolbrecht '01** served together at Saint Matthew Lutheran Church in Walnut Creek, Calif., for the last 10 years—Jason as worship arts director and Sara as pastor of congregational care (seven years). Sara has accepted a new call to Holy Spirit Lutheran Church in Kirkland, Wash., where she will pastor a new ministry as a mission developer in the ELCA. They relocated to Washington state in late July. Their son, Levi James Wolbrecht Bendickson, joined their family in April. Big sister Junia is 4 years old.



**Christa (Voie) Bergquist '02** and **Phil Bergquist** recently were married in Tacoma, Wash.

**2003**

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

**Erica Sponberg** is a lecturer of English at Valparaiso University, where she works with international students and teachers. She also hosts the radio show *International Hour with Erica and Friends* on WVLP 98.3FM. Listen in on Wednesday nights!

**2004**

Class Representative - **Tamara Lynn Schaps**

**Jens Langebrette** married Kjersti Lia on Aug. 23 in Oslo, Norway. Lutes in attendance were **David Pierce '04**, **Jason Rubottom '04**, **Pontus Agren '01**, **Chris Rallo '05** and **Kari (Keller) Rallo '05**.

**Chris Wyant** was promoted to partner at K&L Gates, LLP, a global law firm with 48 offices. Chris practices in the Seattle office in the areas of business and antitrust litigation.

**2005**

Class Representative - **Micheal Steele**



**Andrea Sander** married Nick Benson on April 5 at the Edgewater Hotel in Seattle. **Heather Gillespie '05** was in the wedding party, and **Nichelle Henry '05** was in attendance.

**Tara (Lee) Hummer** graduated with Juris Doctorate from the University of South Carolina School of Law in May.

**2006**

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

**Allison Norris** married Toby Black on July 4 on Whidbey Island, Wash. **Jennifer Viroche '06** was in the wedding party. Allison graduated with a master's degree in counseling psychology from Bastyr University in June. She will be starting a private practice in the Seattle area this fall.

**Lauren Katie (Schlepp) Zatorski** married Matthew Zatorski on July 20 in Bozeman, Mont.



**Mandy Olson Tabor** passed the American Translators Association certification exam. She is now an ATA-certified translator (German to English). This exam can

be very difficult—even for experienced translators—and has a low overall pass rate of under 20 percent. Mandy has worked as an in-house translator at German Language Services in Seattle since 2010.



**Stephanie Lewis** accepted a new position as PE/Health teacher in Raleigh, N.C.



**Ronald La Curan '06, '08** is working as a nuclear-trained submarine officer in the United States Navy stationed in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He is also a volunteer with the Drunk Driving Prevention Program on the island, giving sailors, airmen and soldiers a safe, free alternative to a poor decision that may affect their lives and careers.

**2007**

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



**Krystal (Anderson) Serrano** married Rodrigo Serrano on Dec. 28, 2013, in Orlando, Fla. Lutes in the wedding party included sister **Cassy Anderson '07** and friends **Bethany Henderson '07** and **Justin Henderson '07**. Lutes in attendance included **Stefanie (Freatman) McIrvn '06** and **Megan Bourassa '07**. Krystal is a high-school Spanish teacher in Gainesville, Fla., and Rodrigo is a health store manager.

**Jennifer Henrichsen** was promoted to the Director of Journalism After Snowden initiative and Research Fellow at the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia Journalism School.



**Katie (Oxenford) Bouwkamp** married Brandon Bouwkamp on June 15 in Sonoma, Calif.



**Emma Coulson** accepted a new position as a founder of a Seattle startup creating a three-dimensional experience for products and ecommerce websites.



**Kijsten (Kennedy) and Andrew Eisentrout '07** were married at Laurel Creek Manor in Sumner, Wash., on July 12. There was plenty of great food, cupcakes, libations, music, dancing and Attaway

Cheers to go around at this wedding! KJ and Trout are thankful to **G. Lee Kluth '69** for officiating the wedding and were so excited to share their epic day and party with family and friends including Lutes in the wedding party: **Nova Schauss '04, Abi McLane '08, Kari Gaspar '06, Kaarin Praxel '07, Rob Thomsen '07, Keith Sparks '07 and Daniel McDonald '07.**

## 2008

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



**Jessica (Caulkins) Wilcox** married Peter Wilcox in Sedona, Ariz., in May and moved to Mount Vernon, Wash., after living in Arizona for three years. The wedding party included **Tanzy Caulkins '13, Lisa**

**Lennick '08, Quinn (Urich) Bartholomew '08 and Chris Catterall '97.** The officiant was aunt of the bride **Susan Caulkins '82.** Lutes in attendance included parents of the bride **Robert Caulkins '79 and Lisa (Catterall) Caulkins '81 and Teresa Hansen '84, Stacie (Catterall) Krabill '93, Stacy (Nyman) Catterall '97, Mike Perez '07, Nancy (Jeffery) Walker '11, Sara-Rebecca (Miller) Hamele '11** and professor and chair of PLU Geosciences Department **Jill Whitman.**



**Kevin Gerard** is currently teaching English in Beijing, China.



**Erin (Fry) Fort** married Bradley Fort in September 2013 in Winterfield, Tenn. Several former Lutes were in attendance, including those in the wedding party, **Bridgett Stevenson '08 and Zach Foster '08.** For

those unable to attend the ceremony in Tennessee, in December 2013 a reception was held at 208 Garfield restaurant by campus! Erin and Brad currently reside in northern Tennessee with their two dogs, Marilyn and Molly, and cat HP.



**Maggie (Hagrave) Villalobos** married Eric Villalobos in Pasadena, Calif., on May 17. **Michelle Mason '08** was in the wedding party.

**Tarn Wilson's** memoir *The Slow Farm*, about growing up with hippie parents in British Columbia, recently has been published.



**Trina (Anderson)** married **John Stene '07** in Oahu, Hawaii, on March 29. Lutes in attendance were **Erik Jensen '06, Melissa Floyd '08 and Paige Tolliver '08.**

## 2009

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

**Skylar Cole** completed a master's in clinical social service administration at the University of Chicago, and moved back to the Northwest to work for Treehouse, a nonprofit dedicated to positive educational outcomes for King County foster youth. She lives in Tacoma to be close to PLU friends who also have settled there.



**Nicole (Reinke) Gant** married Dylan Gant on Aug. 17, 2013, in Salem Ore. Lutes in the wedding party were **Amanda Crawford '09 and Lauren Meyer '09.**

## 2010

Class Representative – **Jillian Foss**

**Holly (Borroff) Wright** married **Kyle Wright '00** at Grace Episcopal Church on Bainbridge Island on Jan. 4, 2014. Lutes in attendance included **Karly Siroky '10, Timothy '09 and Allison (Parks) Siburg '09, Thomas Siburg '11, Tamara Siburg '13, Tyler Scott '10, Desta Olds '12, Kristen Lee '12, Sarah (Coutts) Stewart '11 and Amanda Davis '11.** The couple recently relocated near Bend, Ore., where Kyle accepted a job as a hydrologist for the Deschutes National Forest.



**Sarah Curtis-Tilton** married **Derek Curtis-Tilton '09** on Oct. 6, 2013, at Golden Gardens in Seattle. Lutes in the wedding party included **Autumn (Leir) Fitzgerald '10 and**

**Katie Curtis '14.** Other Lutes in attendance included **Ardys (Burt) Curtis '86, Brian Curtis '85, Janie (Curtis) Dymond '80, Bob Curtis '55, Jen (Gustafson) Wrye '97, Matt Wrye '96, Laura Polcyn '75, Nicole Decamp '09 and Emilie Firn '09.**

## 2011

Class Representatives – **Caroline Olsen, Adam Story and Lynsey Tveit**

## 2012

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



**Molly Swanson and Jacob Deines '13** were married on April 26 in Shelton, Wash. The couple met at the PLU pool in 2009. Lutes in the wedding party included **Chase Mesford '12, Ramy Carter '16, Jake Dacus '16 and Michael Brasgalla '13.**

**Starre Helm** graduated from San Diego State University with her master's in postsecondary educational leadership with a specialization in student affairs in May. She was hired as a resident director at the University of Puget Island in July.



**Amy (Campbell)** married Philip Dzisenu in Marysville, Wash. Amy met Philip in Ghana while on her Study Away program in 2011. Lutes in attendance were

**Lauren James '12, Leann Littig '12, Kate Retherford '11, Anna Kosatka '13, and Chelsea Bailey '13.**

## 2013

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

## 2014

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

# FUTURE LUTES

## 1992



**Borge Steinsvik**, wife Regina and "big" sister Sofia welcomed baby Camilla Steinsvik on Feb. 1. She is a perfect baby girl.

## 1994



**Mai Yang** and her husband, Dr. Ger K. Moua, welcomed their sixth child, daughter Shoua-Naa Zita Moua, on May 4. She is adored by brother Yah-Tsheng, age 19, who finished his first year of college, and sisters Maylea, age 15; Tia, age 12; Gaoshoua, age 10; and Maichoua, age 8. Mai continues to work for the Washington State DSHS in the Home & Community Services Division in Spokane as a social service supervisor.

## 1998

**Tara Nelson** announced the birth of son William Michael David Price on May 30.



**Cynthia (McClure) Hagan** and her husband, Will, welcomed twin boys in January. Cynthia has just completed her 14th year with Microsoft. They reside in North Seattle.

## 2001



**Kristen (Roddel) Steine** and her husband, Tom, welcomed their third son, Samuel Ramsey, to the Steine crew on Oct. 25, 2013, to join brothers Brady, 6, and Aiden, 4. They couldn't be more happy or blessed. God is amazing.

## 2002



**Anna (Edgar) and Colin Minzel** are the proud parents of Mia Everhart Minzel, born Feb. 2. Mia joins big brother Kylan.



**Jenni (Dillon) Luckett** and her husband, Bill, welcomed daughter Morgan Marie Luckett on March 14. She weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces, and measured 19.75 inches. She joins brother Dillon Benjamin Luckett, 4.



**Alison (Johnson) and Kristofer Harris '03** are thrilled to announce the birth of their son, Matthew Scott, born on April 29, 2013. Matthew joins older siblings Michael, 6, and Lauren, 4. The family lives in Meridian, Miss., where Kris, a major in the Marine Corps, works as a T-45 jet instructor pilot. They look forward to moving back to the Seattle area, where Kris will be attending the University of Washington School of Dentistry this fall.

## 2003



**Troy Oppie** and wife Carly welcomed daughter Brooklyn Oppie on Dec. 27, 2013. Troy left a 10-year TV career and has joined Thrivent Financial as an associate representative in Boise, Idaho.

## 2004



**Ryan Neary** and wife, Hannah, welcomed son Sawyer Wild Guy Neary on April 19.

**Stephanie (Anderson) and Dan Frischmann** welcomed their son, Kyran, to this world on May 14 in Boulder, Colo.

## 2005



**Erin (McLaughlin) Sutterer** and husband Matthew had a baby! James Rohan McLaughlin Sutterer was born Sept. 17, 2013. They are so thankful for this miracle and soaking in these busy days!

## 2007



**Christina (Reindl) and John McClimans** welcomed son Jack Deacon McClimans on March 20.



**Shana (Whitney) Ladage '07, '09 and Adam Ladage '07, '09** welcomed son Zebadiah Lynn Ladage on June 12.

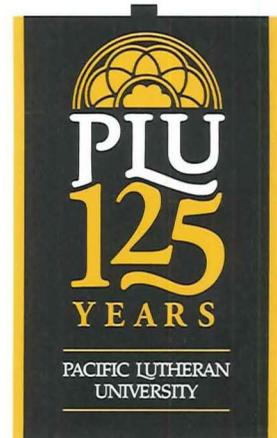
## 2008



**Candice (Ziegert) Tobin** and husband Timothy Tobin welcomed daughter, Penelope Autumn Tobin, on June 30.



**Christy Olsen Field and Carl Field '08** welcomed son Carl Burroughs Field on Aug. 2. Godparents include Rachel Field, **Courtney Olsen '18, and Kyle and Ellen (Brotherston) Aronson '07.** □





**ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED**

**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](mailto:alumni@plu.edu) with the new information. Thanks!



## MAJOR MUSICAL NOTES

Following an especially sensational season of Christmas Concerts and the return of conductor Dr. Richard Nance from sabbatical, the renowned Choir of the West heads out on an exciting 2015 International Tour in May, with concerts—and sightseeing stops!—in Stockholm; Copenhagen; Wittenberg, Germany; Prague; and Linz, Austria, where members will participate in the Fifth international Anton Bruckner Choir Competition and Festival. Then, in November 2015, the choir will perform by invitation as the featured ensemble at the National Collegiate Choral Organization in Portland under the direction of Simon Carrington, one of the world's foremost choral conductors.