

Scene



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COLLEGE IS HARD

A look at five first-year
classes and how professors
help students find success
Page 16

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calendar



Photo by Carlos Javier Sanchez

Angelica Boyden '11 and Marissa Lyons '10 were two of 17 student-athletes who captured the first-ever women's Division-III Ultimate Frisbee national championship this May in Appleton, Wisc.

SEPTEMBER

September 2-7

PLU New Student Orientation
Locations across campus

September 7, 9 a.m.

Opening Convocation
Olson Auditorium

September 7, Noon

PLU Annual Corporation Luncheon
University Center, Scan Center

September 10, 8 p.m.

For the King – All Campus Worship
University Center, CK

September 10, 9 p.m.

Karaoke in the Cave
University Center,
Cave

September 14, 6 p.m.

Semester Away Returner Welcome
Hong Hall, Main Lounge

September 21, 4 p.m.

NSCI Division Summer 2010 Undergraduate
Research Program Poster and Oral
Presentation Session
Morken Center, Public Events Room and Atrium

September 22, 7 p.m.

American Sueto – “The American Dream,”
written and directed by Rebecca Martinez
University Center, CK

September 23, 7 p.m.

Faith and Reason dialogue
University Center, Scan Center

September 24-25, 1 p.m.

7th Annual Students of Color
Retreat

OCTOBER

October 4, 7:30 p.m.

6th Annual Dale E. Benson Lecture in
Business and Economic History
University Center, Scan Center

October 5, 10:30 a.m.

“New Life at Mount Saint Helens –
Mt. Saint Helens: Its Rebirth” featuring a
presentation by Ernie Karlstom,
UPS Professor Emeritus
Garfield Book Company, Community Room

October 8-10

PLU Homecoming 2010: Luteology
Locations across campus

October 11, 7 p.m.

Sociology Film Night Showing –
“Sin by Silence”
Rieke Science Center, Leraas Lecture Hall

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Commencement 2010. Photo by Ted Charles '12



Journalist Martin Jacques came to PLU to discuss a world where China is the world's only superpower.

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Scene

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ON THE COVER

Assistant Professor Jason Skipper and Stefani Lopez '13 in Mortvedt Library. Photo by Mike Urban.



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PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

here & now

LUTEOLGY

Explore your 'Luteology' at Homecoming 2010

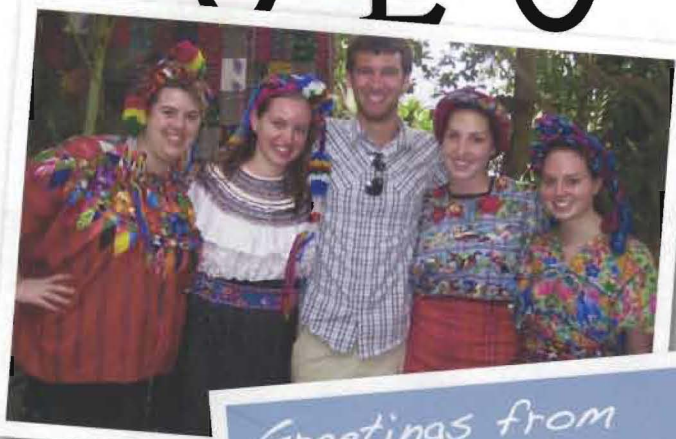
The PLU campus will celebrate its black-and-gold roots October 7-10, welcoming back alumni from near and far. From the Homecoming football game to the Gala, from class reunions to the quest for your own "Luteology," there is something for everyone. In addition to this year's class reunions of 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000 and 2005, there will be a special affinity reunion and events honoring all alumni of the School of Arts and Communication. Homecoming is proud to partner with Meant to Live for an enhanced Friday of activities. For more information, please visit the Homecoming 2010 Website at www.plu.edu/homecoming, or look for more details on page 24.

Student group experiences the passion of Guatemala

Like many students across the country, 10 PLU students spent their spring break seeking warm weather. The group, organized by PLU's Campus Ministry office, was also seeking something more fulfilling: they traveled to Antigua, Guatemala, to participate in the world's second-largest Holy Week celebration.

The goal for the students was, in the words of Luke Hansen '10, "to experience the Christian tradition outside the United States."

That meant spending time



with members of the Antigua community, most of whom live on less than \$2 a day. Still, they would put on elaborate displays of devotion - joining processions throughout the city, or staying up all night to create decorative, colorful "carpets" made of dyed sawdust and pine needles.

From senior Emily Isensee's perspective, this was an exercise in devotion unlike anything she has witnessed.

"From our perspective, they have nothing," she said. "But they are so happy and passionate about their faith and their culture. It is something we can learn from them and bring back [to campus]."

Hansen agreed. "It really helped me develop a new perspective and understand what it means to be a servant and a part of a community," he said.

Three students and three faculty earn Fulbrights

This year, three more PLU graduates - **Eric Buley, Nicolette Paso** and **Kelly Ryan** - received prestigious U.S. Fulbright Student Fellowships. Since 1975, 83 PLU students have received the coveted award. As the largest U.S. international exchange program, recipients are enabled to undertake international graduate study, advanced research, and teaching positions worldwide.

Buley will be placed in one of Venezuela's universities or at a Binational Center (learning centers affiliated with the U.S. Embassy) as an English teaching assistant. There he will lead language learning classes, and present lectures and discussions on

U.S. culture and society.

Paso will be moving to Leipzig, Germany, and will study the early Reformation church ordinances that created the first state-sponsored systems of social welfare.

Ryan will be continuing work on his



PLU capstone project at the Nansen Dialogue Network in Skopje, Macedonia, where he will be conducting research in grassroots reconciliation in that war-torn country.

Three faculty members also received Fulbright awards.

Joanne Lisosky, associate professor of communication, will teach journalism at Baku University in Azerbaijan.

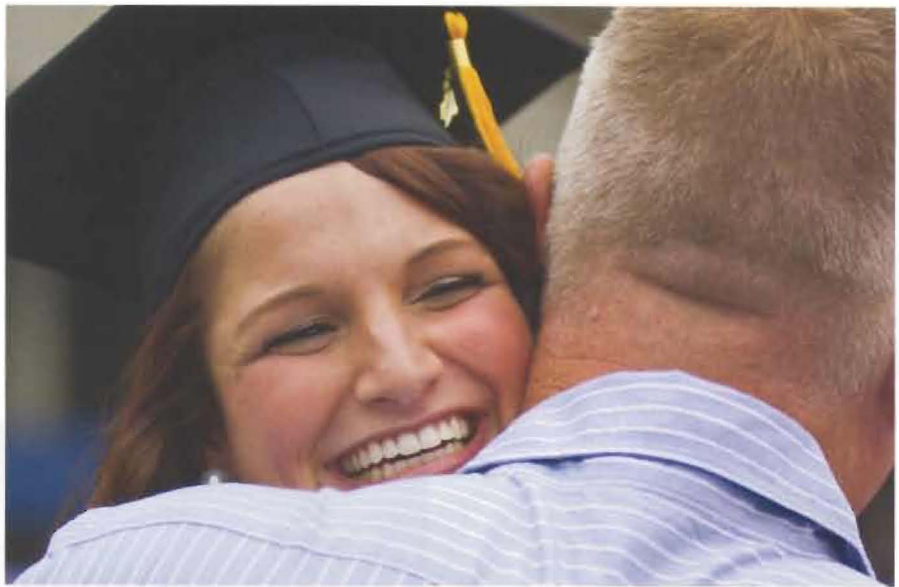
Janet Weiss, assistant professor of instructional development and leadership, will do curriculum work in Namibia. **Jennifer Jenkins**, assistant professor of German, will participate in the Baden-Württemberg Seminar for American Faculty in German and German Studies.

School of Arts and Communication names Cameron Bennett as dean

A chamber musician and soloist who has had an active and varied career as an administrator, artist and educator has been named dean of the School of Arts and Communication.

Cameron Bennett comes from Ohio Wesleyan University where he is professor and chair of one of the most respected liberal arts music programs in the nation. He received both his Master's and Doctorate degrees in piano performance from the Manhattan School of Music. He also holds degrees from the University of Western Ontario and the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Canada.

"Our School of Arts and Communication will be very well-served as we move forward into the future with Cameron's thoughtful and steady-handed leadership," Provost Steve Starkovich said.



Tracy Goehri embraces a family member following Commencement. Goehri was honored with All-Conference Honorable Mention for basketball earlier in the school year. Photo by Ted Charles '12.

630 graduates earn their degrees

This past May, 630 graduates walked proudly across the Tacoma Dome stage to receive their BA, BS or master's degrees at PLU's 2010 commencement ceremony. William Bell, CEO of the Casey Family Programs, was the keynote speaker. He

urged the graduates to not let the day-to-day of life distract them from larger goals.

Don't let the "buts" get in your way, he cautioned. "The *but* for my job, *but* for my family, *but* for my girlfriend, I would do this," Bell said. "Live like you are the answer, and don't rest until you find the question you were meant to answer," he said.

PLU: Vet Friendly

"The Yellow Ribbon Program fully covered tuition and allowed me to keep my standard of living."

Jason Myers
Former Army Sergeant
57th Signal Battalion,
3rd Signal Brigade,
Fort Hood
Mental Health Practitioner
PLU MBA Student

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY


www.choose.plu.edu

here & now

continued

MBA program named top business school

PLU's MBA program was named as one of the top business schools by students surveyed by The Princeton Review, as part of its second annual "Student Opinion Honors for Business Schools." In particular, PLU was in the top 15 nationwide for the categories of general management and global management. The list appeared in the April 2010 issue of Entrepreneur.

"We're thrilled to receive this recognition from the Princeton Review. It's an honor to be the only MBA program in the Northwest to be recognized, and especially gratifying that the PLU MBA program is listed among the top 15 programs in two of the six categories," said Jim Brock, Dean of PLU's School of Business. "It is a testament to the commitment, passion and experience of the business school's faculty." 



The PLU MBA program, which has its home in The Morken Center for Learning and Technology, was recently honored by The Princeton Review.

Retiring Faculty



1



2



3



4



5



6



7

1. James Albers

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

2. Eli Berniker

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

3. Susan Dwyer-Shick

POLITICAL SCIENCE (PHASED RETIREE)

4. Susan McDonald

LIBRARY INFORMATION SERVICES (PHASED RETIREE)

5. James Predmore

LANGUAGES & LITERATURES (PHASED RETIREE)

6. Clifford Rowe

COMMUNICATION & THEATRE

7. Charles York

MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPY (PHASED RETIREE)

letters to the editor

We welcome your comments. Send your letters to the editor to scene@plu.edu

50 Years of marriage – and ministry – started in Tower Chapel

It was January, a cold and rainy day. The year was 1961, the “University Year.” We were seniors at PLU. Both of us were from San Francisco, and we’d met at PLU the previous school year, when Barbara transferred from San Francisco City College. Early on, we’d discovered we shared the same birthday, one year apart. (She didn’t believe him: “January 16? You’re kidding. Let me see your driver’s license!”) So giving birthday gifts to each other became a special event.

Marty said to Barbara that evening, “Let’s go to the Tower Chapel to give our gifts.” Her response: “But it won’t be open now.”

To her surprise (but not his), the door was open. Up the stairs we went, into the chapel, and sat in the back row facing the beautiful window. A faint light glowed through the stained glass.

Barbara gave her gift – a sweater, if we remember correctly. Then Marty gave his: an engagement ring, a solitaire diamond, slipping it on her finger in the darkness. (She said yes.)

We graduated from PLU in May of ’61, Marty began four years of study at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, and in November of ’61 we were married in San Francisco. Now, after forty years of ministry, Marty is retired, and at this writing, Barbara is completing her 12th year working in the front office at PLTS.

We are happy to say that our commitment to one another and to serve God together began, as it has for others, in the Tower Chapel at PLU.

–Marty ’61 and Barbara (Weber ’61)
Schaefer

‘Really?!’ spread had liberal slant

I was not surprised to see that five of the six points of view in the “Really?!” editorial spread (Spring 2010 issue of Scene) had a very liberal slant. I’d like to know if there were opposing points of view by other faculty members. It would be nice to know if the faculty leans just one way, or if there is an open-mindedness permitted in classrooms for students. As an undergraduate at a major

Big Ten university, I did not find much opportunity for open-mindedness in my major, Zoology. However, as a graduate student at PLU and Western Kentucky University, I was encouraged to be open-minded and allowed to defend a particular point of view. If there are different points of view on the six folklore topics, I’d like to hear from those faculty members. ☐

–Ernest F. Przybyla ’74

ACCOLADES



Bridget Yaden, assistant professor of Hispanic studies, was awarded the 2010 “Inspirational Leadership Certificare” by the

Washington Association for Language Teaching. The award recognizes important contributions in promoting, organizing, supporting, defending, lobbying or planning some important aspect of study of world languages and/or cultures.

Claudia Berguson, associate professor of Norwegian and Scandinavian area studies, delivered a lecture on May 26, 2010, at the Lillehammer Literary Festival in Norway. Berguson discussed Sigrid Undset’s historical novel “Kristin Lavransdatter.”

Laurie C. Murphy, associate professor of computer science and computer engineering, was named co-editor in chief for the national journal Computer Science Education.



Dean Waldow, professor of chemistry, has received a Natural Science Foundation grant of \$98,000 for his project “RUI:

Compatibilization Studies of Bulk and Thin Film Polymer Blends with Copolymer Additives.”

Kevin O’Brien, assistant professor

of religion, is the author of “An Ethics of Biodiversity: Christianity, Ecology, and the Variety of Life,” published by Georgetown University Press. The book uses both science and theology to inform a Christian perspective on the extinction of life’s variety and the need for thoughtful and committed conservation efforts.



Donald Ryan, faculty fellow in humanities, is the author of “Beneath the Sands of Egypt: Adventures of an Unconventional

Archaeologist,” published by HarperCollins. The book includes tales of Ryan’s time in Egypt, as well as adventures with famed Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl.

Kathy Russell, assistant professor of social work, is the recipient of the 2009-2010 David T. Alger Award for Service. Russell was honored for her service activities with the Washington Corrections Center for Women, Associated Ministries, and the children of incarcerated parents.

Brenda Ihssen, visiting assistant professor of religion, published “Strip the Rich Right Down to Their Shirts”: St. John the Almsgiver and the Transformation of the City,” in the journal *Ekklesiastikos Pharos*, volume 91.20.

China will not only influence world economics, but have a strong say in how environmental resources are used, and how technology is developed.



life of the mind

Journalist Martin Jacques imagines a world where China is the world's only superpower

China will be the economic colossus on the block someday. It's not a question of if, but when.

That's the proposal British journalist and author Martin Jacques brought to PLU as he delivered a series of lectures based on his book "When China Rules the World: The End of the Western World and the Rise of the Middle Kingdom."

In making his argument for the rise of China in influence and economic clout, Jacques (pronounced "Jakes") first points to sheer numbers. The Asian giant counts a billion-plus population - four times the population of the United States. That alone will enable China to overtake the United States as the world's largest economy by 2027, with a continued climb to the position of world economic leader by 2050.

China is already emerging as the new center of the East Asian economy, eclipsing Japan. The role of economic and cultural relevance will, in our lifetimes, begin to pass from Manhattan and Paris to cities like Beijing and Shanghai, Jacques claims.

"And the assumption in all this is that China will grow and develop like a Western country," Jacques said during one of his many interviews and lectures in Tacoma and Seattle last May. "But that is simply not the case. The U.S. wants to understand China on its own terms and defines progress as the Westernization of the country. But that isn't going to happen. Not in a month of Sundays will China ever be like us."

So what will China be like? And why should the United States care?

Jacques predicts that China will not only influence world economics, but have a strong say in how environmental resources are used, and how technology is developed. The country will do it all without becoming a democracy. It will borrow economic and political ideas for the West, Jacques said, but it will hold onto a very patriarchal system, which China's growing middle class will tolerate, or even encourage.

Jacques contends that it is the American

relationship with, and attitude toward, China that will determine whether the 21st century will be relatively peaceful or fraught with tension and instability. America is just waking up to the fact that its world influence is waning, while China's is growing, Jacques said.

"I remember being very excited (when I read his book) because this was a set of questions that I'd been waiting for about 10 years for someone to ask," said Gregory Youtz, music professor at PLU and a faculty member in PLU's Chinese Studies Program.

"He talks about how the Chinese have their own sense of superiority, just as the U.S. has its own sense that we're God's people, and the British before us," said Youtz.

How China's own sense of hubris, as well as its developing role as the world's banker, may play out is uncertain. Currently, China is sitting on \$2.5 trillion in foreign currency. Generally, China has been more interested in making key trade and business alliances with other countries, and ignoring what might be happening in a humanitarian or ecological sense within that country, he said.

"They have a very strict policy of non-interference in other countries' affairs in that way," Youtz noted.

Although Youtz agreed with many of Jacques points, he believes that the journalist hasn't answered all questions posed by his own scenario.

China's growing, and powerful middle class is technologically savvy - and while they might tolerate a Communist regime now, they won't want to be cut off from the world, Youtz said.

With the advent of new technologies, "more (Chinese middle class) will begin to think about other possibilities than what they know," Youtz said.

Jacques has argued that China will catch up and take on the modern view of environmentalism, such as the use of solar and wind power technology. But Youtz counters that while the government may

be very progressive in environmental policy, the local government officials can, and often do, ignore such edicts.

In fact, if there is one thing that may keep China hamstrung as a superpower, it's the widespread endemic corruption of local officials, Youtz said.

"That is the major complaint of the average Chinese citizen," Youtz said. "And it contributes to the doom and gloom that overshadows their view of China as a country. That corruption may bring down China and makes Jacques' vision of a growing, successful and peaceful China impossible," Youtz said.

Several critics of Jacques' work also point out that they doubt China will emerge as the world leader because its workforce and leaders are unimaginative. Others note that Jacques' main sources for the book seem to be Western financial experts or urbane Chinese, not the hundreds of millions of the underclass workers who live in poverty.

Adam Cathcart, assistant professor of history and a part of PLU's Chinese Studies program, said Jacques did bring up some interesting questions. But he noted that China may quickly become sidelined in its growth and influence if it gets drawn into the tensions between North Korea and South Korea over last March's sinking of the South Korean warship Cheonan. China is now in the uncomfortable position of chastising its unstable neighbor and longtime ally, North Korea.

If this dispute draws China in, don't look for an emergence of a leading superpower any time soon, Cathcart noted. □

—Barbara Clements

Martin Jacques is a visiting senior fellow at the London School of Economics, IDEAS, a centre for the study of international affairs, diplomacy and grand strategy, and a visiting research fellow at the LSE's Asia Research Center. He is a columnist for the Guardian and the New Statesman.



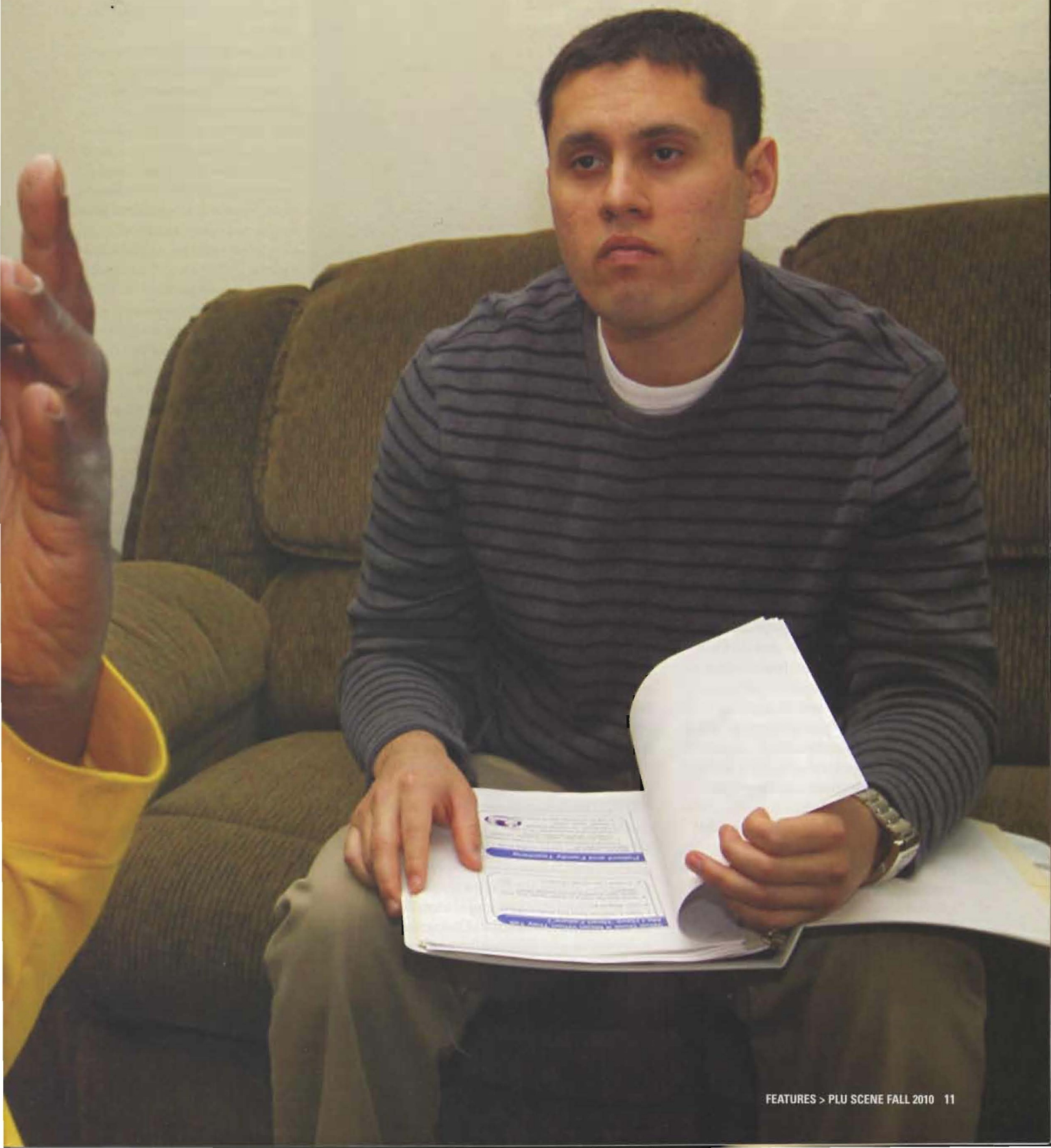
INTENSIVE CARING

Nurses take their skills to cardiac patients at their homes

LEO RIVAS, a Pacific Lutheran University nursing student, had stopped by for a chat with his client, Trevor Modeste, 54, who lives in a tidy rambler tucked between a patchwork of farms and subdivisions south of Tacoma. >>>

Nursing student Leo Rivas visits with patient Trevor Modeste at his home. Photo by Gilbert Arias.

BY BARBARA CLEMENTS



INTENSIVE CARING



Nursing student Carolyn Pratt helps her client, Martha Massey, with paperwork. Photo by Kathleen Mosio, Comprehensive Gerontologic Education Partnership Project Coordinator, PLU School of Nursing.

Usually Rivas - one of 160 nursing students participating in a joint program between PLU and MultiCare Hospital System - just shoots the breeze with Modeste, usually talking about their favorite sports teams, after asking preliminary questions on his weight, eating habits and medications.

But not today. Modeste admits, after some probing questions from Rivas, that he hasn't been feeling well, and he's been having chest pains and shortness of breath - news that sets off alarm bells for Rivas. The casual interview turns serious. He insists Modeste call his doctor - immediately. Modeste first resists, not wanting to be a bother, but then relents.

The nurse, after listening a few minutes, tells Modeste to get to the hospital

NOW (an order heard clearly through the receiver) for a checkup. Modeste, who had bypass surgery three years ago, complies and they both leave for the hospital in Tacoma.

For the last two years, once a week by phone and twice a semester in person, 160 PLU nurses-in-training have been checking on patients in the Pierce and King county area who suffer from congestive heart failure. This program - which is gaining national attention - was conceived two years ago, according to Terry Miller, dean of PLU's nursing program, at a quality committee meeting at MultiCare.

The board was concerned with the readmit rate for congestive heart failure patients. The patients were found to quickly return to the hospital after fail-

ing to understand the discharge paperwork, failing to take their medications properly, or ignoring diet and exercise regimens.

With any chronic illness, there is a lot of risk when a patient goes home, noted Marlo Moss, MultiCare Chronic Heart Failure Nurse Navigator and Clinic Coordinator. The students are key in helping with the transition, especially for patients who might not have the support they need at home or are reluctant to bother their doctor with follow up questions.

At the time of the quality committee meeting in 2008, PLU had just received a \$250,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to improve health-care in the community. Miller thought having PLU nurses visit these recently discharged patients would be a perfect match. So did Kathy Ueland, CHF RN Educator for Cardiac Service at MultiCare.

"These patients were frequently being readmitted to the hospital and therefore not

meeting our 90-day benchmarks for the hospital readmission rates," recalled Miller. "So we proposed a home visit program for all the patients who would agree to participate in it voluntarily."

When PLU senior Kelsey Carlson gave Elaine Streich a call two years ago after Streich received a valve replacement, Carlson was surprised, but willing to take part.

For all intents and purposes, Streich, 63, was trapped in her house.

Her husband did all the shopping, attended social events for the pair and even had to help Streich tie her shoes. Streich, who lives in Tacoma, was struggling with the idea of not drinking too much liquid in her daily diet, and dealing with chronic diabetes. The dozen or so medications she was on were confusing and expensive, costing \$600 a month. And some were at the wrong

"As a nurse, you don't just take care of the patient, but the whole family."

dosage, making her faint if she walked too far, even in her own house.

It was embarrassing. The lack of the ability to do even the simplest tasks led Streich to deal with another challenge, depression. Carlson started counseling Streich about her diet, fluid intake and exercise. Over the last two years the results have been dramatic. Now, the pair always has their consultations out of the house, on this day at a local coffee shop.

Streich has lost 70 pounds and exercises five days a week. All of her blood levels are better. Carlson found programs to help pay for the medications.

She credits Carlson, 25, with helping her take control of her own life.

Carlson knows that the program is paying off when she calls one day to find Streich isn't home. "Her husband told me she was out with the girls."

Scott Ross is a nursing student who decided on a career change after retiring from the Army. While serving in Iraq,

Ross, 43, was impressed by the work he saw the nurses involved in as they treated patients.

"I really appreciated what they did for the troops," Ross said.

So, for the past three years, Ross has been studying to be a nurse, and for the past two, he's been working with Gene Meade, a fellow veteran who lives in Gig Harbor. When Ross met Meade, he quickly discovered that Meade was trying to pay his \$300 medication bill out of his own pocket. Ross helped Meade and his wife navigate the Veteran's Affairs benefits labyrinth and also discovered that he wasn't getting the disability benefits he should have been receiving for the last three decades.

"Took a couple of visits to figure out what was going on," Ross says modestly. "As a nurse, you don't just take care of the patient, but the whole family."

It's this sort of attitude and the changes in the lives of the patients that recently won the Heart Failure Community Transition Program MultiCare's President's Award for community partnerships. Miller said he was surprised that PLU won the award, not because he didn't think the program was a success, but because of the stiff competition from such heavy hitters as Department of Agriculture and the Washington State Department of Health.

"There's some groundbreaking work here that the health care community is just waking up to," Miller said. "It's making a difference in patient's lives. To me it's a beautiful marriage between practice and the health care needs of the community. When that happens, it's magical."

MultiCare's Marlo Moss said this program might be one of the first of its kind in the nation.



PLU nursing student Melissa Pelissier chats with her client, Shirley Barker. Photo by Kathleen Mosio, Comprehensive Gerontologic Education Partnership Project Coordinator, PLU School of Nursing.




PLU nursing student Leo Rivas weighs patient Trevor Modeste, part of his regular visit with Rivas. Photo by Gilbert Arias.

Not that the program, at first, didn't have its detractors among doctors and students. Nursing student Megan Armstrong admits she was one of them. She was skeptical of how much good it would do. Another "to do" in a crammed nursing studies schedule.

But in a recent e-mail to Sheri Shull, PLU's pediatric clinical instructor and the coordinator of the Heart Failure Community Transition Program, Armstrong wrote she'd been won over by the program. She has visited her patient for the last two years and the woman, as of mid-April, is now in hospice. Armstrong plans to attend the funeral.

"I know I made a difference to my patient," she wrote. "And I know she made an even greater impact on me."

Meanwhile, Rivas has been checking on Modeste every day since he checked into the hospital. He wasn't having a heart attack, but his doctor wanted him to stay in the hospital for another day.

And when Modeste returns home, no doubt, Rivas will drop by for a visit. This time, both hope they can talk about sports. 

By Chris Albert
Photos by John Froschauer

Lost Boy of Sudan

From 'Nowhere' to home at PLU

The table in David Akuien's South Hall apartment is covered with textbooks and worksheets, filled with meticulous notes. He sits down at the table and spends hours studying - this day it's for an environmental studies test.

Behind him is a poster of Mahatma Gandhi, with the quote "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." On the right is a poster of Martin Luther King Jr. at the Lincoln Memorial, with his "I Have a Dream" speech below the image.

"People like them can keep me on track everyday," he said, pointing to the posters. "These guys aren't alive, but their words are still very much alive."

The study area, the décor on the walls, is all very much Akuien.

"This is home," he said.

For the first 12 years of David Akuien's life, he did not have a home - at least not the way most people think of one. He had places to live, but the word, the meaning of "home" was lost. The comfort and safety associated with the word did not exist.

His first years of his life were spent escaping from the horrors of a civil war in Sudan.

"I was born into this chaos right away," Akuien said.

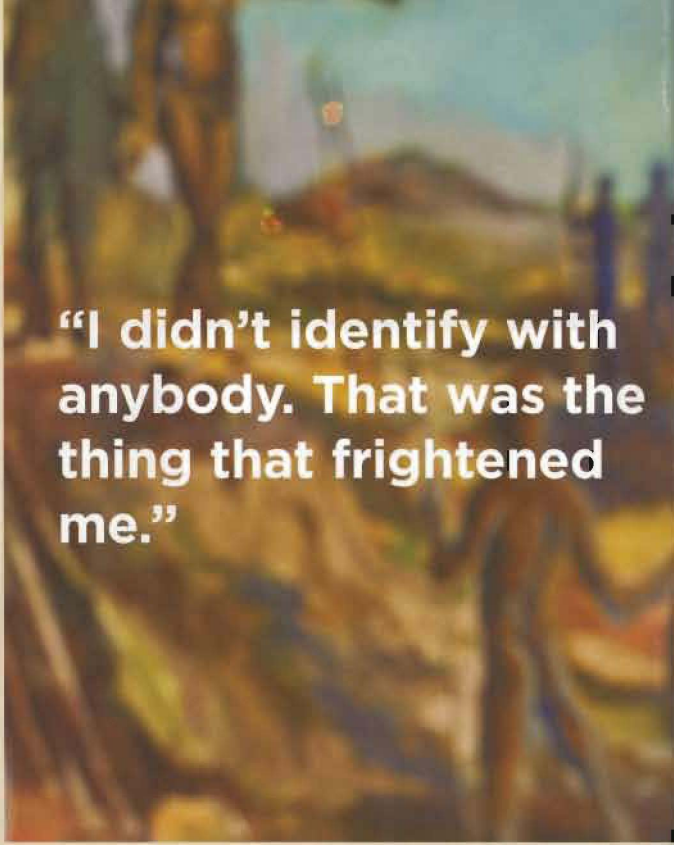
He is one of almost 4,000 "Lost Boys," who escaped a life of war and faced the fear of the unknown for a chance at a better life in America, in a faraway place called Tacoma, Wash.

For the next 10 years, the place the 22-year-old has called home has been Tacoma. The past six years have been at PLU. He has lived here longer than any place in his life.

This May, Akuien (pronounced "A-Q-en") graduated with a double major in communication and political science, and earned minors in conflict resolution and religion.

"Luckily, I was one of the children chosen to come here," he said.

Life at PLU wasn't automatically easy for Akuien. He felt dif-



"I didn't identify with anybody. That was the thing that frightened me."

ferent. He was different. He'd sit in a class and hear the problems his fellow students would talk about and realize how disconnected they were from the horrors of his past.

"I didn't identify with anybody," he said, "That was the thing that frightened me."

But through the guidance of people like retired Professor Rick Seeger, and by getting involved in campus organizations and even working in PLU's conference and events, PLU became his home. "We were the 'go to' people," Akuien said of his time with conference and events. "That was the first time I felt at home. That's when I felt a sense of belonging.

"PLU has become a home," he added, "all of that came because of my involvement."

Akuien hopes to stay involved. He's considering getting his masters in education at PLU. He's passionate about educating people and giving people the opportunities that come with education. Someday, he hopes to return to Sudan as an educator. He hopes to make his country great.

"If you know where you've gone, you know where you're going and you know where you've got to go," he said.

His earliest memories are of being carried by a cousin with a group of refugees through thousands of miles of harsh wilderness and a homeland ravaged by war. He was only five years old at the time. They headed to Ethiopia only to find another civil war. His father was killed and four of his siblings met the same fate.

"That's life in southern Sudan," he said softly. "A lot of people didn't make it."

"Sometimes we don't realize life is really, really horrible in parts of the world," Akuien said. "I wish people made the best of what they have."

On the road to Ethiopia and then to Kenya, Akuien said it was common to see other refugees stop on the side of the road and give encouragement to each lifeless person laying beside it.

But staying put wasn't an option. "There was a sense of



urgency,” Aukiien said. “You had to always keep moving.”

It wasn't just sickness or malnutrition that would kill, but also the people along the way. It could be a bandit or soldier, whose side wasn't always easy to tell.

The faces he remembers most are those of the nearly 8,000 Lost Boys who didn't make it to America. Certainly some of them are now dead, but there's hope many have survived and one day he'll see them again.

Being on the cusp of achieving so much for himself, in many ways those achievements are also for those people, those boys that are always on his mind.

“The Lost Boys,” Aukiien said, “I'm one of them.”

It took years, thousands of miles and unspeakable sights to make it to Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya - home to nearly 100,000 refugees. In Swahili, “Kakuma” means “nowhere.”

There were moments though where the boys, who were forced to grow-up too soon, truly experienced life as boys.

In camp, the boys would gather around a soccer ball on a dirt field filled with rocks and no clear boundaries and just play. They'd play without shoes. The dirt would soil the few clothes they had and the rocks would tear at their skin. But none of that mattered in those moments, Aukiien said. They were getting a chance to play a game, to escape the confines of their existence.

“When you'd see them do that, you'd think these kids are tough,” he said. “Despite everything, a lot of kids live life with hope and happiness.”

Eventually, programs organized by the United Nations and the United States enabled some of the “Lost Boys” to be moved from Kakuma to America. “The Lost Boys of Sudan” earned their name from the story of Peter Pan - all of their parents were either killed or separated from them. These boys who had lived a harder life than most men, hurried to apply for evacuation. Not all would be rescued from “Nowhere,” but some would.

The day Aukiien saw his name he was filled with mixed feel-

ings, after all he was only a 12 year-old boy and was going to be leaving everything he had known to be a part of a place he couldn't explain or visualize. He didn't know the fate of many of his family members and in camp he was without them. It wasn't until years later, in America, that he would reconnect with his mother.

“I felt I was giving up a lot of myself,” he said.

Aukiien lived in foster care in Tacoma during his first years in the United States. He went to Foss High School. He struggled to communicate and understand cultural differences. For someone who walked east Africa for years, just finding a classroom was hard.

He asked himself that first day of class, “How am I going to make it?”

Aukiien has always found a way. He has made Tacoma and PLU home, but longs to open the door of the past in hopes for a bright future.

He misses the mother he hasn't seen for more than 10 years - a lifetime ago. She is back in southern Sudan, with his sister. Being with them, in one place, is an image he holds on to and he is eager for it to happen.

“It's been on my mind since I first came to this country,” Aukiien said. “I want to see how life is now.”

Even though Sudan was a place of many horrific memories, he misses his country. Today, southern Sudan is a nation in recovery. It was only a few years ago that phone service became readily available throughout the region. Since, he's been able to talk to his mother.

A journey that's taken him from Sudan to Ethiopia, back to Sudan, to Kenya, then to Tacoma, will take him back to Sudan, not to the horrors of the past, but rather the hope of the future.

“I'm not better,” he said, “but I guess I can say it's the card I've been dealt and you just have to deal with the card you've been dealt.”

“Nothing is bigger than what I've already been through.” S

COLLEGE IS



The first year of university life is a time of transition. There's a reason some students find it exciting; others find it unsettling. Usually, it's a mixture of both.

At PLU, it is understood that students will have multiple feelings. After all, take 700+ students who don't know each other, put them on a single campus, and give them the freedom and support to study and explore anything they want – well, anything can happen. That's why university life is so great.

We asked five first-year students and their professors to talk about some of the classes they took during their first year at PLU. The classes are very different. So are the students. But they all have one thing in common – they are given the tools they need to succeed.

STORY BY STEVE HANSEN + PHOTOS BY MIKE URBAN

HARD

PSYC 101 INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

Name: Rachel Lee

Hometown: Everett, Wash.

Major: Psychology

Professor: Christina Graham, visiting assistant professor of psychology

WHEN RACHEL LEE '13 told a senior biology major that she had switched majors and declared psychology, he responded with a laugh: "You had professor Graham, didn't you? She steals all the biology majors!"

Of course, that isn't really the case. But it does speak to the reputation professor Graham has earned from her Psychology 101 class, a popular general university requirement and a prerequisite for psychology majors. At approximately 100 students, it is probably the largest class Lee will ever take at PLU – by far.

To Lee, Psych 101 never felt too big. "I came to PLU because I wanted small classes, to be at a place where the professor makes eye contact and calls you by your name," Lee said.

That is an important part of professor Graham's instruction. She works hard to know each student's name, even in a larger class like this. Graham knows the best way to teach complex psychological concepts is to engage students on a personal level.

"I challenge them to keep an open mind and to see the material in their everyday lives," said Graham. "It leads to lively discussions in class. When they learn they are playing out the subject matter every day, it becomes real to them."

That connection is key for Lee. It not only makes her class feel smaller, but it also helped her adjust to university-level studies. "When you have that one-on-one connection, it is easier to ask a question in class or drop in during office hours."

That connection has resulted in a big payoff for Lee. She's been able to merge her love for biology and psychology – through talking with professor Graham, she found that she could do both. Someday, Lee hopes to practice neuropsychology.

Rachel's advice to first-year students:

"I've seen students come to college over-confident. They think, 'if I can maintain the same level of effort as I did in high school, I'll do OK.' But that won't cut it here. Now you're dealing with the big boys."

WRIT 101

FIRST YEAR-WRITING SEMINAR

Name: Stefani Lopez

Hometown: Puyallup, Wash.

Major: Undeclared, leaning Psychology and Hispanic Studies

Professor: Jason Skipper, assistant professor of English

IN ONE SEMESTER, for just one class, Stefani Lopez '13 discovered that she had four major writing papers – a reflective narrative, a literary analysis, a comparative analysis and a research paper. It was a lot more writing than she ever did in high school.

The class was Writing 101, a required course for all first-year students as part of PLU's innovative First Year Experience Program. The program brings together first-year students in small-class settings where they can develop essential skills that will enable them to succeed at the university level – and beyond.

In the case of professor Skipper's class, that meant a lot of reading, critical thinking, discussion – and writing. A lot of writing.

The class also featured peer-review groups where students would meet to discuss each other's work. "That was intimidating," said Lopez. "But that ability to read [other students' rough drafts] and talk to them about it, made me look at my own work more critically."

Skipper believes having a class of only first-year students helps build community, and with it, the space to explore ideas and grow intellectually.

"Collectively, they bring wonder, curiosity, fears, struggles and growth – all of which are very individual experiences," said Skipper. "It's invaluable that students have a safe place to relish these experiences, and understand they're not alone in having them. It's humbling and rewarding to take part in this."

Stefani's advice to first-year students:

"Avoid procrastination. And *always* make an outline."



BIOL 125/126 MOLECULES, CELLS AND ORGANISMS/GENES, DIVERSITY AND ECOLOGY

Name: Sean Boaglio

Hometown: Longview, Wash.

Major: Undeclared, leaning Biology

Professor: Jacob Egge, assistant professor of biology

FOR STUDENTS who want to enter PLU's rigorous Health Sciences track, the first classes they will take are Biology 125 and 126. The two-semester set, called the biology introductory core sequence, seeks to lay the educational foundation for the many students who hope to enter fields of biological study including the medical profession.

Sean Boaglio '13 is one of those students. He says he's seen a lot of students – the best at their high schools – have difficulty adjusting to the intensity of the coursework. It is just so different from high school. "You really have to connect

concepts in this class," he said. "You just can't memorize information and then forget it. You have to apply it.

"And you have to take advantage of your professor as a resource," added Boaglio. "I never hesitated to e-mail my prof when I had a question, and I always got a response."

If you talk to Assistant Professor of Biology Jacob Egge, one of two professors that teaches Biology 126, it is clear that he and other faculty members have worked hard to develop a course structure that supports students.

"We are making a deliberate effort to give the introductory biology courses a more welcoming, personal experience that students expect from a place like PLU," said Egge.

For instance, the two profs break down Bio 126 to smaller groups. Students have the same professor for their lab that they do for lecture. This way, even though multiple profs teach the courses, a given student will only interact with one professor. Egge estimates he sees his students

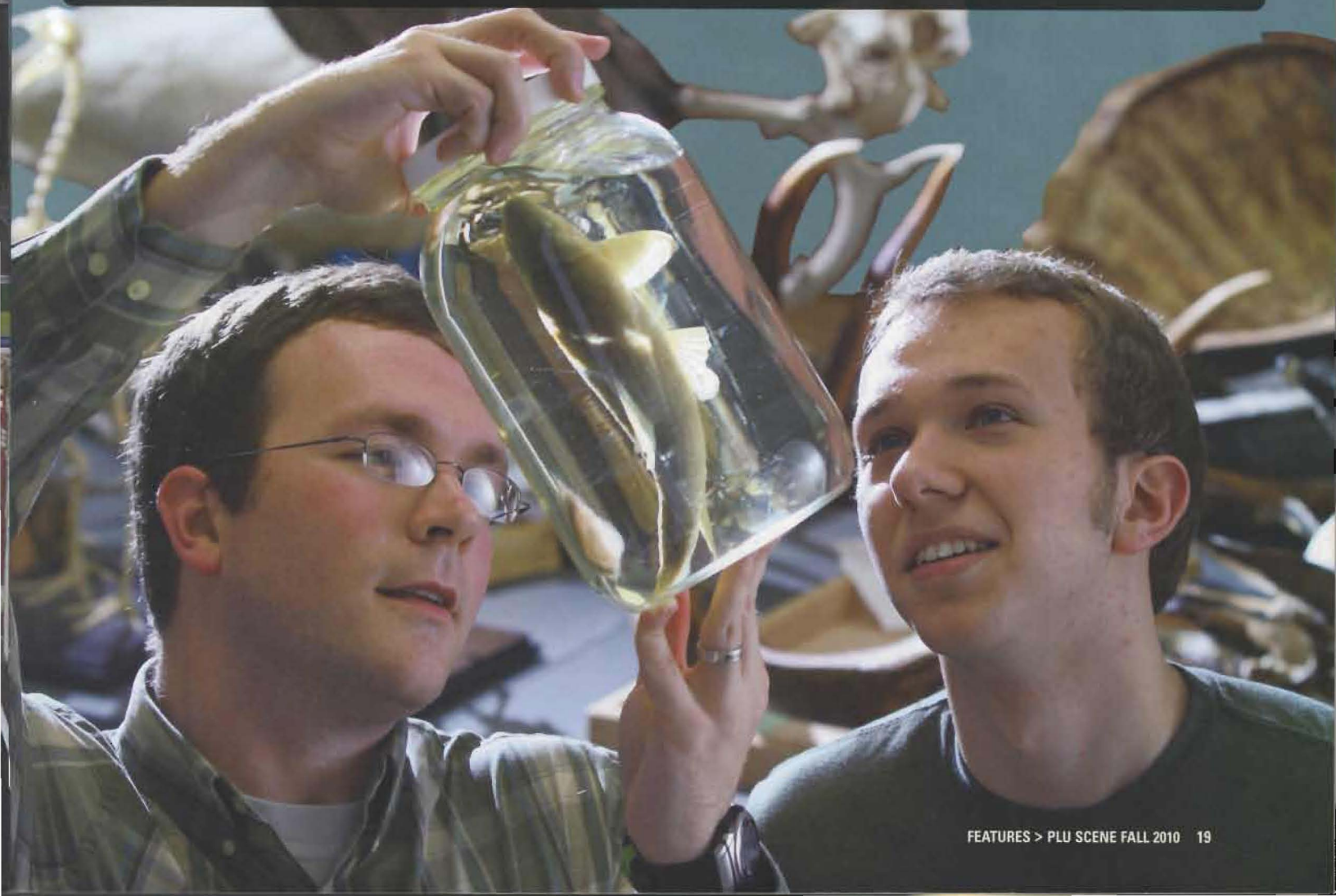
four times a week for a total of about six hours between lecture and lab.

"This level of interaction in an introductory course gives me time to get to know my students and assess them as individuals much more effectively," Egge said. "Every student has an opportunity to be successful in the course, but the outcome is ultimately determined by the individual student."

Boaglio has seen a lot of really good students not put in the effort, and it has hurt them. "I know some kids who thought they could coast, because that's what they did in high school," he said. "But coasting is a different pace here. You can't coast uphill."

Sean's advice to first-year students:

"Study with someone. It is a great way to meet people in your class. And when you explain something to someone else, it also helps you understand it better."





PSYC 113 CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL PLANNING: FINDING YOUR WAY

Name: Colin Mischel

Hometown: Eatonville, Wash.

Major: Undeclared, leaning Business or Economics

Instructor: Eva Johnson, dean of student development

AS IF COLLEGE wasn't going to be hard enough, Colin Mischel '13 knew that being the first member of his family to go to college could make it harder. So when his academic adviser suggested he take Psychology 113, a class that helps students transition to college life – both in and out of the classroom – he knew he had to take it.

"It helped me so much," he said. "I was in a class of first-gen(eration) students, and when you are, you realize you have so much common ground. You realize you are not here alone."

Classes cover a range of topics, from developing study skills or landing a campus job – even how to talk to the folks about your experience in a university setting. When the goal is to help students be successful, everything is open for discussion.

"First-gen college students are in uncharted territory," said Eva Johnson '95, dean of student development. "The goal is to provide support and create a comfortable and safe space for students to ask questions that are at the heart of the matter to them."

That is exactly what Mischel found.

"It helped me to understand what PLU could offer me as an individual," said Mischel. "It helped me understand that this is my home, and this is where I need to be."

Colin's advice to first-year students:

"Utilize your planner. Put down every date – when you have a test or have a paper due, this type of thing. Then check it every day."

Your First Year

There are numerous things PLU also does outside the classroom to ensure that first-year students make a smooth transition to university life and have all the tools they need to succeed.

For instance, PLU's Charting Your Course advising program doesn't simply help students register for classes, it advises students on all aspects of first-year student life, even before they set foot on campus.

During orientation weekend, first-year students go "On the Road," – exploring the Pacific Northwest, from kayaking Puget Sound to volunteering at a rescue mission. During J-Term, first-year students are invited to an overnight retreat where they can discuss the meaning and purpose in life.

When on campus, all residence halls have first-year wings, which allow students to meet others in which they have much in common. For commuter students, they can choose to connect with a residence hall community through "Commuter Connections," and take part in residence hall events.



IHON 111 ORIGINS OF THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD

Name: Jessie Lewis

Hometown: Forest Grove, Ore.

Major: Undeclared, leaning Psychology

Professor: Samuel Torvend, professor of religion; Paloma Martínez-Carbajo, assistant professor of Spanish

HIGH SCHOOL WAS FACT-BASED.

It was all about what you could put in your brain and spit out," said Jessie Lewis '13. "It isn't like that anymore."

Lewis says this is true for all of her classes, but especially so for IHON 111, the first of seven classes in PLU's International Honors Program sequence. What makes PLU's program truly unique, is that global issues are looked at from multiple disciplines.

"You don't learn about something from one perspective," said Lewis.

This approach is underscored by the fact that the class is team-taught by a professor of European religious history and a professor of Spanish. "You can't take the most important issues that shape our world and look at them through only one lens," said Professor Samuel Torvend '73. "This is why we study the origins of the modern world from legal, philosophical, and religious perspectives."

Lewis says there is great chemistry between Torvend and Assistant Professor of Spanish Paloma Martínez-Carbajo, and that makes the class a lot of fun. But that give-and-take also encourages others to participate, too.

"When you come to class, you know you're going to be asked to share your opinion," said Lewis.

Martínez-Carbajo agrees. "We strive to, literally, maintain an active dialogue with the past, as well as its many contributions to our present time," she said.

"This was the most difficult class I had all year," said Lewis. "It was also my favorite."

Jessie's advice to first-year students:

"Do the reading. Not being prepared is the one thing that will absolutely hold you back."

attaway lutes

Athletic Hall of Fame 2010

THE 2010 PACIFIC LUTHERAN ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME CLASS, consisting of three national championship teams and three outstanding athletes who wore the black and gold, will be the 21st in the hall's history. The list of inductees includes the NAIA national championship women's soccer teams of 1988, 1989 and 1991; Jason Thiel (football, and track and field); Mike Simmons (men's swimming); and Ted Carlson (men's tennis).

The induction dinner is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8, in Olson Auditorium. Tickets may be purchased by calling the PLU athletic department at 253-535-7352.



Jason Thiel

(Football 1991-94 and
Track and Field 1991-94)

Jason Thiel was arguably one of the greatest defensive linemen to play football at PLU, and he also placed himself among the best in the Track and Field record books. Thiel amassed remarkable stats as a defensive tackle, and as a star hammer thrower and shot putter. Thiel started in 27 of the 29 games that he played during his PLU football career, accruing 22 sacks, with 13 coming in his sophomore season. Thiel was a two-time Mt. Rainier League All-Star (1992, '93) and a member of the Columbia Football Association championship teams of 1992, '93 and '94. He earned honorable mention All-America honors in the 1993 season, and with six tackles, two quarterback sacks, and a fumble recovery, he was named the Defensive MVP in PLU's 50-20 NAIA championship game win over Westminster. He was off

to a similarly impressive 1994 campaign when he suffered a career-ending ankle injury early in the 1994 season. When Thiel wasn't throwing opposing quarterbacks to the ground, he was throwing shot puts and hammers all the way to the national championships. As a star of the PLU track and field team, Thiel progressively increased his impact over the three years he participated. Moving from 14th nationally (151-9) his freshman year (1991) in the hammer throw, Jason then went on to seventh- and third-place finishes in the following two years. With a mark of 188-5 in 1993, Thiel claimed third place at the national championships and also took home a First Team All-America honor.



Mike Simmons

Men's Swimming
1995-1999

For several decades, PLU swimming was the toast of the NAIA, with a plethora of All-Americans and individual national champions. Beginning in

his freshman year of 1995, Mike won the NAIA national championship in the 100-yard breaststroke in a blazing 57.90 seconds, shattering the previous school record. Simmons earned All-America honors in both the 100- and 200-meter breaststrokes. The following year, Simmons placed fifth in the 200-meter breaststroke and sixth in the 100-meter breaststroke. Mike's junior year proved to be his most prolific and fastest at PLU. Breaking his own school record in the 100-meter breaststroke, Simmons once again won the NAIA national championship with a time of 57.46. At the same meet, Simmons placed third in the 200-meter breaststroke (2:05.43) and 12th in the 200-yard individual medley (1:59.58). These outstanding feats earned Simmons another All-America honor. In the fall of 1998, PLU transitioned from NAIA to NCAA Division III, marking a stark change in the qualifying times for swimmers nationwide. Simmons qualified and placed in both the 100 and 200 breaststroke events at the Division III meet in 1999, making him the only PLU swimmer to date to compete in an NCAA Division III championships. With a 10th-place finish in the 100 breaststroke and a 16th-place finish in the 200 breaststroke, Simmons firmly planted himself among the best swimmers to ever grace the PLU pool.

Heading into the 1971 tennis season, PLU men's tennis had yet to make a mark at the regional level, let alone establish a national presence. This changed with Ted



Ted Carlson

Men's Tennis
1971-1974

Carlson. Carlson was the number-one singles player all four years at PLU, amassing a record of 50-17, and a 33-13 mark as the regular number-one doubles participant. In his sophomore season of 1972, Carlson and teammate Dave Knodel won the NAIA district doubles championship. The next year, Carlson won both the conference and district singles championships and, as a result, became the first PLU men's tennis player to play at the NAIA national championship tournament. "In so many ways Ted was the pioneer for what we would consider the 'modern era' of PLU tennis," said Carlson's former coach, Mike Benson. To cap off a remarkable and trailblazing career at PLU, Carlson won both the singles and doubles championships at the NAIA District I meet, once again making it to the NAIA national tournament, before bowing out in the second round.

Pacific Lutheran University has been blessed with several teams that have completely outshined and dominated competition nationally. Few, though, have equaled the successes reached by the 1988 women's soccer team, finishing the season with a 21-2-0 record. Led by four-time All-American Sonya Brandt and her 29 goals and Wendy Johnson's 15 assists, this team stormed through opposition to claim the NAIA national title. A staunch defense, anchored by keeper Gail Stenzel, kept opponents to a 0.51 goals per game average. Along the way, the PLU women brought home Northwest



Women's Soccer

NAIA National Champions
1988

Conference of Intercollegiate Colleges, NAIA District I title, and NAIA West Region titles. The 1988 team still holds the highest winning percentage in team history (.913), making its successes even more valuable in historical significance. Asserting their will over opposing teams, the Lute women netted a staggering 83 goals for the season while allowing their opponents only 10.

During the national tournament, the Lutes scored 10 goals while only giving up just two. This team was the first of five consecutive women's soccer teams to reach the NAIA national title game, starting a dynasty that would never be forgotten in PLU history.

Team members: Cathy Ayres, Sonya Brandt, Kirsten Brown, Laura Dutt, Tina Corsi, Karin Gimler, Robyn Heft, Wendy Johnson, Patti Lirette, Dianne Moran, Sheri Noah, Sharon O'Donnell, Jenny Phillips, Lori Ratko, Shari Rider, Sue Schroeder, Sue Shinafelt, Gail Stenzel, Heidi Van Shaik, Kate Wheeler. Head coach Colleen Hacker, assistant coach Stacy Waterworth.

Following the success of the 1988 national championship team, the women's soccer team of a year later equaled, and in some respects, surpassed its predecessor. The 1989 team won every possible championship put in front of them, amassing a final record of 22-2-2 en route to their second successive NAIA national championship. Kate Wheeler led the team in defense, holding a 0.28 goals against average with an amazing 19 shutouts.



Women's Soccer

NAIA National Champions
1989

In the attacking front, PLU was led by three All-Americans, with Wendy Johnson earning NAIA first team recognition, and both Karin Gilmer and Shari Rider on the second team. As the catalysts of the team, these women led the Lutes through their competition and set the team record for highest number of wins (22) and tying for fewest losses in a single season (2). The 1989 team also holds the PLU women's soccer record for most consecutive games without a loss (23). The Lutes demonstrated their utter dominance of opponents by scoring 80 goals in the season, including 16 each by Wendy Johnson and Laura Dutt.

Team members: Shannon Arnim, Kirsten Brown, Tina Corsi, Laura Dutt, Karin Gilmer, Krista Hallock, Robyn Heft, Linda Hollandsworth, Wendy Johnson, Cheryl Kragness, Sheri Noah, Kim Peccia, Jodi Pfaender, Jenny Phillips, Julie Priest, Shari Rider, Mary Rink, Sue Shinafelt, Jill Straughan, Kate Wheeler. Head coach Colleen Hacker, assistant coach Stacy Waterworth.

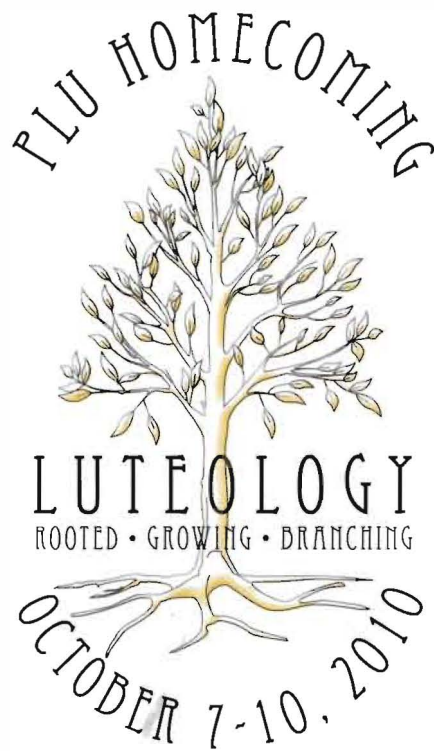
After a disappointing loss in the 1990 NAIA national championship game, the PLU women's soccer program wanted redemption. It took them just one year to do so, winning the title in 1991 with a final overall record of 18-2-4. "On the day that we came in second last year, the members of this team very quietly and very

Continued on page 28

HOMECOMING

The Homecoming Committee has partnered with PLU's Wild Hope project team to build a day during Homecoming that focuses on "vocation." The Wild Hope Project was made possible in 2004 by a \$2 million donation from the Lilly Endowment and provides opportunities for faculty, staff and especially students to explore vocation. One aspect of the Wild Hope Program is Meant to Live - an annual student-initiated event, now funded by a gift from the Class of 1958, that bring alumni back to campus to share their "vocational narrative." What better time than Homecoming to bring alumni and students together in conversation about vocation? While all are invited to participate, we extend an extra special invitation to

this year's academic affinity reunion - graduates of the School of Arts and Communication.



Meant to Live Festivities include a School of Arts and Communication Luncheon providing networking and sharing opportunities for Alumni and current SOAC majors. There will be a brief presentation, including an intro to the Meant to Live Lecture to be delivered by Jim Walker '76. The lecture will follow the luncheon and is open to all. In keeping with the tradition of relationships and connections, join the PLU Community for the Apple Fest following the lecture. Current students will engage all attendees through a myriad of talents and skills. Favorite Apple inspired fall treats will be a tasty part of this community celebration.

SCHEDULE

Thursday, October 7

- Songfest

Friday, October 8

- Chapel
- Meant to Live Luncheon and Lecture
- Apple Fest Community Celebration
- Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner
- Campus Campfire

Saturday, October 9

- Reunion Coffee Hours
- Homecoming Celebration Brunch
- Football Game
- Campus Alternatives to the Football Game
- 50th Anniversary Banquet Gala at the Tacoma Art Museum

Sunday, October 10

- Golden Club Brunch
- Homecoming Worship
- Organ Recital

Reunions

Festivities are planned for the class years ending in 5 or 0, as well as for the School of Arts and Communication.



FRIENDS

ROOMMATES

FACULTY

LUTE RELATIVES

PLU MENTORS

WHO IS IN
YOUR LUTE
FAMILY TREE?

Use the spaces to fill in the significant people in your PLU experience. Who would you like to see at Homecoming? Who do you want to reconnect with? After filling out your Lute Family tree, contact those people to extend a personal invitation to meet you at Homecoming. If you need help contacting them, contact the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations and we will try to help you find and invite these special people to Homecoming. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations at 253-535-7415 or alumni@plu.edu.

continued

ALUMNI

Distinguished Alumnus Award Debra Kristensen Anderson



For her outstanding contributions to the medical field, Debra Kristensen Anderson '80 receives the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Working for PATH (Program for Appropriate Technology in Health) for the past 20 years, Debra research has been focused on ensuring that children in poor countries receive effective vaccines. Every year, millions of dollars and lives were once lost due to vaccines spoiling because of the lack of appropriate storage containers.

Debra helped to develop the Vaccine Vial Monitors (VVM), ensuring that administered vaccines were not damaged by heat. VVMs were introduced in 1996 and PATH worked closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) to ensure their use by vaccine producers. In 2007, she was recognized by the WHO in honor of the 10th anniversary of the introduction of VVMs.

Debra is currently the group leader for vaccine technologies and director for the vaccine stabilization project at PATH, and is working on a joint project with WHO called "Optimize: Immunization Systems and Technologies for Tomorrow." She is

also an advisor to WHO and has assisted in the production of many training materials for immunization programs.

Distinguished Alumnus Award Karen Phillips



For her outstanding achievements in the field of clinical nursing and for her continued service and dedication to the university, Karen Phillips '55, receives the

Distinguished Alumnus Award.

When she was a little girl, Karen knew she wanted to go to school at PLU and study nursing. After graduation, she worked as a nurse in her hometown hospital and at Swedish Medical Center in Seattle, before helping to open the UW Medical Center in 1959. In her 30 years at UW, Karen was head of the Medical Outpatient Clinic, helped prep patients for the first heart transplants, and served on the teams that established the first cancer clinic, the first Alzheimer's clinic, and the first AIDS clinic there.

Thanks to her understanding of the university, a sincere commitment to the preservation of an independent, church-related university, and her passion for helping others, Karen also successfully served the university on the Board of Regents for nine years. Her extraordinary commitment has been reflected by her financial support of the university.

Outstanding Alumnus Donald Ryan



For his outstanding contribution to the fields of archeology and Egyptology, Dr. Donald Ryan '79 receives the Outstanding Alumnus Award.

Following his childhood fascination for ancient Egypt, Donald's areas of research include Egyptian archeology, Polynesian archeology, history of archeology, history of exploration, experimental archeology, and ancient languages and scripts. His most famous research includes excavations in the Egyptian Valley of the Kings, where he rediscovered long-neglected, undecorated tombs.

Donald was also appointed as research associate of the Kon-Tiki Museum in Oslo, has published numerous books and articles on archeological subjects, and has contributed to many archeological documentaries. He has also served as faculty fellow in humanities at PLU for many years and currently teaches Introduction to Egyptology and Ancient Civilizations of the Near East.

Outstanding Recent Alumnus Award Angela Meade

For her outstanding achievements and talent as an opera singer, Angela Meade '01, receives the Outstanding

2010 AWARDS



Recent Alumnus Award.

Angela made her professional operatic debut at the Metropolitan Opera House in 2008. While still a student at the

Philadelphia Academy of Vocal Arts, she was called to substitute for an ill colleague in Giuseppe Verdi's "Elvira in Ernani" and stunned the crowd by her first professional performance.

She returned to the Metropolitan Opera as Mozart's Countess in Jonathan Miller's production of "Le Nozze di Figaro," was at the San Francisco Opera covering Konstanze in Mozart's "Die Entführung aus dem Serail" and, most recently, triumphed in the title role of Rossini's "Semiramide" at the Caramoor Festival. In 2009, Angela also received the first prize and audience choice award at the Concours Musical International de Montreal.

Heritage Award Volly Grande



For her many years of distinguished service to the university, Volly Grande '36 receives the Heritage Award.

A graduate of the class of 1936, she has served for the past 25 years as class representative and has been

faithful in her effort to keep her classmates connected to the university, as well as encouraged them to donate to their alma mater.

Volly was also one of the founders and organizers of a PLU Women of the Luncheon, aimed to bring together local area alumnae; an event that developed into a 50-year tradition. The embodiment of a "Lute for Life," she has contributed her talents, time and resources to the university and throughout her lifetime.

Special Recognition Award The PLU Women's Club



For 57 years of service to the university and its community, The PLU Women's Club receives the Special Recognition Award.

Founded in 1953, the Faculty Wives Club aimed to "promote better understanding of Pacific Lutheran College activities and our responsibilities as wives." Faculty wives got together, under the leadership of president Emma Ramstad, and organized numerous events at PLC and in the community.

Over the years, the club grew in membership and purpose. In 1972 the club organized the first Yule Boutique, a fundraising effort where local holiday craft and food

vendors were brought to campus during the holiday season. By the end of the 1970s, the Faculty Wives Club had awarded \$25,980 in scholarships to deserving students.

In the 1980, the club changed its name to the PLU Women's Club and welcomed all members of the PLU family. For nearly four decades, the proceeds from the annual Yule Boutique have been used to fund an endowment now valued at nearly \$300,000.

The Brian C. Olson Leadership Award Kelly Ryan



For his leadership on the campus of PLU and his intended lifelong dedication to the university, Kelly Ryan '10 receives the Brian C. Olson Leadership Award.

At PLU, Kelly has been a TelALute, intern in the Office of Development, resident assistant in Hong International Hall, community assistant in South Hall, served on the leadership of University Congregation, and was part of the Debate Team.

Next year, Kelly will dedicate his commitment, energy and passion to serve others, by doing grassroots reconciliation research with Nansen Dialog Center in Skopje, Macedonia, as part of a U.S. Fulbright Student Fellowship. [5]

alumni news & events

continued

Brues put 'exclamation point' on their time at PLU

In his words, former Professor of Economics Professor Stan Brue, along with his wife Terri, wanted to "put an exclamation point" on their long association with PLU. This past May, the university accepted their gift of \$500,000 that will endow annual scholarships and offset study-away

expenses for several students in the Social Sciences.

Stan and Terri arrived in Tacoma in 1971, he as a new assistant professor and she as a teacher at Washington High School. During his time at PLU, he became a well-liked teacher and colleague and a very successful author.

With professor emeritus Don Wentworth, he co-authored five editions of "Economic Scenes"; wrote "The Evolution of Economic Thought", a history of economic ideas; and co-

authored with his former professor Campbell McConnell "Contemporary Labor Economics." His biggest success, "Economics," will soon be in its 19th edition. Nearly one in four U.S. students cut their economics teeth on this text, which has sold over 14 million copies. It is also a leading seller in many other countries.

In making this gift, Stan acknowledged that such success requires not just hard work on his part, but a bit of luck and the support of his family and the entire university. He said the gift was a "thank you to department, division, and university colleagues and university administrators for providing an environment of strong encouragement, helpful support, time flexibility and, above all, a huge amount of intellectual stimulation."

In addition to gifts in support of the Morken Center and the Xavier remodel, the Brues gave the initial gifts behind endowed scholarships in honor of former economics professors Ernie Ankrim and Marlen Miller, and in memory of the late wife of current economics professor and Dean of Social Sciences Norris Peterson. They also endowed the Brue Excellence Award, which honors outstanding economics majors. In 2008, they funded an endowment to help cover J-Term travel-related expenses for social science students. [S]

Pencil Us In

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 20 PLU at the Tacoma Rainiers baseball game
- September 2-7 New Student Orientation
- September 11 Tailgate at Hamline University, Saint Paul, Minn.
- October 7-10 Homecoming 2010
- October 10-11 Alumni Board Meeting, PLU
- October 16 Tailgate at Menlo College, Atherton, Calif.
- November 5-7 Family Weekend, PLU
- November 7 Parent Council Meeting, PLU

For more information: www.plualumni.org or call 800-ALUM-PLU.

attaway lutes *continued from page 23*

determinedly dedicated themselves to this season," said head coach Colleen Hacker. Winning the championship match 4-0 over Missouri Valley, the 1991 team laid to rest any speculation that they had lost the dynastic stature they had built over the past four seasons. The Lute women also placed four players on the all-tournament team (Cheryl Kragness, Wendy Johnson, Shari Rider, and Mary Rink). The team demonstrated this drive by outscoring opponents 68-12 during the season and holding a 0.47 goals-against average. The Lutes also placed three players on the NAIA All-American Team, with Wendy Johnson



Women's Soccer

NAIA National Champions
1991

and Shari Rider making the first team, and Brenda Lichtenwalter earning second team honors. Cheryl Kragness led the Lutes in points, scoring 18 goals and adding 11 assists. The team would end the year in a familiar place – atop the national standings.

Team members: Kim Alexander, Keri Allen, Shannon Arnim, Kirsten Brown, Rowena Fish, Robyn Heft, Wendy Johnson, Cheryl Kragness, Asta Kvitne, Missy Law, Jennie Lee, Gina Mobley, Shawn Moody, Dianne Moran, Jodi Pfaender, Shari Rider, Mary Rink, Jill Straughan. Head coach Colleen Hacker, assistant coaches Stacy Waterworth and Kat Conner. [S]

alumni profiles

Tenacity is the hallmark of ad man's work

Brian Ford '95 began his creative work early during his college career, designing posters for clubs and organizations through ASPLU's agency, known as Impact.

Now, as co-founder and creative director of the advertising agency Zambezi, his list of clients includes NBA superstars Kobe Bryant and, as it pertains to his endorsement deal with Vitaminwater, LeBron James.

The agency's first project was building Kobe Bryant's Website, *kb24.com*, and creating original content and films that are featured on it. Ford uses multiple formats to shoot campaign ads – even his Super-8 camera.

"I fell in love with filmmaking at PLU. My friends and I would make videos and skits that led to more nuttiness," says Ford.

Ford became a copywriter in 1999 and spent the next seven years writing ads for Wieden + Kennedy, a Portland Ore., ad agency. In 2006, he started to work mostly on Nike basketball projects, including the Kobe Bryant and LeBron James campaigns.

Regarding his work with Kobe Bryant, Ford said they became friends when he wrote and directed a TV spot for Bryant called "Love Me or Hate Me."

"Kobe is really creative himself, and incredibly intelligent," Ford said. "He challenges everyone to be their best."

Eventually, these campaigns led to the creation of Zambezi. Ford considers the company to be his biggest accomplishment. Zambezi's growing list of clients has included Teva, Comcast, the Los Angeles Lakers, the Portland Trailblazers, and Vitaminwater.

"Creativity is so subjective, you have to be ready for a lot of rejection," Ford said. "Luckily, that makes the successes that much more fun."

Describing the creative process, Ford said that he just starts broad and looks for angles into an idea. His approach is to write and keep writing until he feels good about an idea.

"Sometimes it's a process of elimination," Ford said. "Dumb idea. Dumb idea. Dumb idea. Not a dumb idea."

One of Ford's favorite accomplishments started out small – as a headline. From there, it went big. Really big. It was the only writing on a 200-foot wall featuring a likeness of LeBron James, just across from where he played basketball in Cleveland. It read, "We are all witnesses." It was there for seven years.

"It's proven to have legs that make me smile," Ford said. "LeBron James tattooed it on his leg. Crazy."

To see more of Ford's work, visit zambezi-la.com. 

—Liz Anderson '10

alumni class notes

Class Representative positions available: 1937, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1946, 1949, 1951, 1952, 1954, 1959, 1968, 1980, 1990 and 1991.

1936

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

1939

Robert Mitchell died March 27. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the Vietnam War. After his military service, he worked as a stationary engineer for the Tacoma Public Schools. He was a member of the South Lakeshore Christian Church and many service organizations. He is survived by his children, **William '69**, Gail and Jennie; seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

1940

Class Representative – **Luella (Toso) Johnson**

Bernice (Odegrad) Ekern celebrated her 90th birthday on May 23 with family and friends. She is retired from Washington Savings Bank and enjoys keeping in touch with her PLU classmates. She is the widow of **Steinar Ekern** who also attended PLU.

1941

Myrtle (Cribb) Bresemann died May 1. After PLU, she taught at Gault and Stewart junior high schools in Tacoma. Myrtle married Burrill Bresemann in 1942. Myrtle was active in her church, loved dancing, listening to music, doing needlepoint, dining out, and spending time with family and friends. Myrtle was a kind and caring mother, aunt, grandmother and friend. She was preceded in death by her husband. Myrtle is survived by children Gordon and Kathryn; eight grandchildren; many great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

1942

Gloria (Rummer) Pederson celebrated her 90th birthday on June 15. Her husband, **Arne '51**, was a professor of education at PLU. All of her sons, **Les '64**, **James '67**, **Robert '66**, **David '75** and **Mark '81** attended PLU.

1945

Class Representative – **Annabelle Birkestol**

1947

Class Representative – **Gerry Lider**

Karl Olsen now resides at Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Community and really enjoys the beautiful view of Mount Rainier from his apartment.

1948

Class Representative – **Norene (Skilbred) Gulhaugen**

1950

Class Representative – **Dick Weathermon**

Odven Aakre died Jan. 17.

The Rev. **Chauncey Christofferson** died February 27. He served as a pastor for many years, before retiring in 1977. He continued to minister as a visitation pastor, and began Mountain View Fellowship at the Bakerview Apartments in Everett, Wash., where he served for 20 more years. He loved hiking, climbing, rafting and traveling. Following the death of his first wife, **Nellie '46**, in 2004, Chauncey met Thelma Symonds and they were married in 2008. He is survived by wife, Thelma; sister Naomi; sons Chris, **Mark '84** and Ken; three grandchildren; many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Gerald P. Faaren died Oct. 26, 2009. After PLU, he taught 5th grade for 30 years in Olympia, Wash. He loved his students and enjoyed following their careers. In 1951, he married his longtime dance partner, Grace. Gerry loved dancing, traveling, playing cards, adventures and good parties. He also enjoyed singing in the church choir and teaching Sunday school. He is survived by his wife, Grace; brother Arthur; daughters **Nancy '76** and **Linda '78**, and their husbands John Rosenberg and **Jan Ruud '79**; adopted daughter Judy; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Milton Hanson died Feb. 14. He married Helen Marie Hawkinson in 1952. Milton loved to drive and travel with his family. Milton was a strong supporter of the civil rights movement, and was a passionate advocate for children, elderly and underprivileged. He and his wife Helen founded the Institute for Creative Aging, a non-profit organization that helped adult children plan and care for their aging parents. Milton is survived by his wife, Helen; children William, Betty Sue and Robert; and five grandchildren.

Larry and Beth (Gottwald '50) Peterson celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 24 with a dinner hosted by their children, at the Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

1951

Bob Larson died March 25. Bob married Donnie Hamburg in 1951. Following service in the Korean War, he began his career in education. He was a teacher and later served as principal and as assistant superintendent. Bob and Donnie settled in Stanwood, Wash.,

where he served as superintendent for 11 years. After enjoying retirement for two years, he continued his lifelong commitment to his community by serving as mayor of Stanwood from 1985 to 1993. Bob enjoyed duck hunting, fishing, volunteering in his community, and spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife, Donnie; children Larry, Dan, Cathy and Allen; brothers Dick and Jack; 10 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

1952

Jean Fritts died Feb. 1. Jean and her husband, R. Byard Fritts, who taught organ and was the university organist at PLU, moved to Tacoma in 1949 where they raised a family of four. Jean was a certified teacher and her curiosity about life and meaning took her to various corners of the earth. She was preceded in death by her husband, Byard. She is survived by her children, Paul, Carol, Susan, and Judy; five grandchildren and countless extended family members and friends.

The Rev. **Adolph Kohler** died Feb. 21. After PLU, he attended Wartburg Theological Seminary and was ordained in 1956. Adolph served as a pastor in numerous churches in California and Arizona before retiring in 1992. He was preceded in death by his daughter Chris. He is survived by wife **Sylvia (Narvesen '50)**; children Margo, Cindy, Karen, Pete, Mike and Amy; sister Trudy Williams; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, family and friends.

1953

Class Representatives – **Naomi (Roe) Nothstein** and **Carol (Schuler) Karwoski**

Dorothy (Bauman) Freitag died January 18. After PLU, Dorothy taught in Bremerton, Wash., for 38 years. She loved being a Sunday and Bible School superintendent and teacher, the Ladies' Guild president, the Altar Guild director, a wedding coordinator and the kitchen chair. Dorothy is survived by her husband, Arthur; children Cheryl and James; nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

1955

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

L. June (Bunney) Justice died April 17. She met her husband, **Jack '51**, at Kapowsin High School and they both attended PLU. Jack died in 2006. June's family was very sport-oriented and she loved attending ballgames played by her husband, children and grandchildren. She is survived by children Gary, Sharon and Cheryl; sisters Reatha, Doris and

Cleo; seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

1956

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

1957

Class Representative – **Ed Larson**

Gary Gale died in November 2009. He is survived by his wife Norma.

1958

Class Representative – **Don Cornell**

1960

Class Representative – **Marilu (Miller) Person**

Gerald Scheele received the 2010 National Conservation District Professional Award, in Orlando, Fla.

1961

Class Representative – **Ron Lerch**

Ken Olson died Jan. 16. Ken is survived by his wife **Roselyn (Ness '58)**.

1962

Class Representative – **Leo Eliason** and **Dixie (Likkel) Matthias**

Jan Shabro was appointed the Pierce County Auditor by the Pierce County Council in January 2009. She served in that position until November 2009.

1963

Class Representative – **Merlyn** and **Joan (Maier) Overland**

Michael Macdonald, emeritus professor of European studies and, for many years, director of the C.S. Lewis Institute at Seattle Pacific University, retired in June 2007 after a 40-year career. He is the author of *Europe A Tantalizing Romance*, as well author/editor of numerous other books, articles and reviews. He is currently president of the emeriti faculty of Seattle Pacific University.

1964

Class Representative – **Jon** and **Jean (Riggers) Malmin**

1965

Class Representative – **Dave Wytko**

Stanley Hoobing finished his interim at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Twin Falls, Idaho, on Jan. 31. He is currently an on-call ELCA interim pastor. Stanley and his wife, Carol, live in Boise, Idaho.

Francis and **Karen ('65) Stack** both retired after 40 years and moved to

Boise, Idaho. Francis worked in the pharmaceutical field and Karen worked in the field of medical technology.

Leslie (Geer) Watts was honored as one of the 2009-10 Distinguished Faculty Members at Pierce College.

1966

Class Representative – **Frank Johnson**

The Rev. **Bob Anderson** died Jan. 9 after a long battle with cancer. Bob met his wife **Mary (Gilbertson '65)** in the Choir of the West. After PLU, he attended seminary and served in several Washington parishes. Bob loved playing and coaching soccer, cheering for the Mariners, listening to opera and classical music, and all things Scandinavian. He is survived by his wife, Mary; sisters Christine and Stephanie; children Erik, Kjell and **Sonja (Anderson '99) Hardenbrook**; five grandsons, and numerous nieces and nephews.

1967

Class Representative – **Craig Bjorklund**

1968

The Rev. **Linda Allen** was recently inducted into the Northwest Women's Hall of Fame. She is currently touring more than 30 cities in Washington in celebration of 100 years of women's suffrage. She released her ninth CD, "Here's to the Women!" and currently directs the Threshold Choir in Bellingham, Wash. Her son, Nathaniel, is a student at PLU.

Jerry Crawford retired after serving for 37 years as a parish pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He is a graduate of Lutheran Seminary. Jerry and his wife, Marilyn, reside in Anaheim, Calif.

Marvin Kananen was the commencement speaker at Finlandia University in Hancock, Mich. He was a teacher and his career brought him from Michigan to Washington, and from Sierra Leone to Tanzania. Marvin and his wife Jean spent the last 12 years as missionaries at the Maasae Girls Lutheran Secondary School in Monduli, Tanzania. After retiring in January, they are planning to move back to Bellevue, Wash.

Violet Turner died March 30.

Marilynne (Buddrius) Wilson is a registered nurse with the Hyperbaric and Comprehensive Wound Care unit at Deaconess Medical Center in Spokane, Wash. She recently participated in a 10-day Witness for Peace health care research delegation to Cuba.

1969

Class Representative – **Rick Nelson**

Michael Belcher has been retired from private practice in the fields of psychotherapy, hypnotherapy and hypnosis for five years but has returned

to part-time practice this summer. While retired, he remained active in his other businesses, including four long-term care facilities, 40 Web site stores, a bar and a restaurant. Michael and his wife Francine live in Marion, Ohio.

Ione Eastby died May 4. She met her husband, Franklin Lane Eastby, at Concordia College, and they married in 1957. Ione taught business and English at the University of Minnesota, North Dakota State University, and Franklin Pierce High School in Tacoma. In 1971, she transitioned from teaching to counseling at Washington High School in Tacoma, and eventually became the guidance director. Ione was a loving wife and mother, a tireless and generous public servant – dedicated to always helping her students achieve their greatest potential in school and in life. She is survived by her two sons, Forrest and **Jeff '83**, and two grandchildren.



Rick Nelson married Lenora Dines on Feb. 13, 2009. The wedding and reception were held in the

Tapps Island Club House. Rick is currently teaching mathematics at Auburn High School and Lenora retired from Boeing in 2001. They live on Tapps Island.

1970

Class Representative – **Bill Allen**

1971

Class Representative – **Joe Hustad, Jr.**

Paul Berg wrote a book titled "Sandra's Hand" about his remembrance as a teacher at Wounded Knee on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

Don Meyer was elected as 2010 Port of Tacoma commissioner. He has 10 years of experience as executive director of the Foss Waterway Development Authority and 14 years in port senior management, including deputy director.

1972

Class Representative – **Molly Stuen**

Judith Van Houten was named distinguished professor at the University of Vermont.

1973

Class Representative – **Karen (Wraalstad) Robbins** and **Sandy (Dimler) Privett**

Lyle Quasim was named interim president of Bates Technical College in Tacoma. He served, most recently, as the chief of staff for Pierce County under county executive John Ladenburg. He also served as a board member for the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges, and was a trustee at Bates Technical College.

1974

Class Representative – **David Johnson**

Tammy Skubinna retired after 26 years as the 4-H extension faculty in Benton County, Ore. She is now playing tennis, volunteering and doing some 4-H work. She recently received the Rotary Club's Meritorious Service Award for enriching the lives of the youth of Benton County.

1975

Class Representative – **Helen Pohlig**

Art Thiel has launched a new venture called Sports Press LLC along with fellow sport journalist, Steve Rudman. Art, Steve and Mike Gastineau, sport talk show host, also wrote the book *The Great Book of Seattle Sports Lists*, published in 2009.

1976

Class Representative – **Gary Powell**

Cynthia (Wilson) Edwards was named Best Doctor by South Sound Magazine for the second year in a row.

1977

Class Representatives – **Leigh Erie** and **Joan (Nelson) Mattich**

1978

Class Representative – **Pete Mattich**

Mary Rennebohm was named Cambridge Who's Who Professional of the Year in Education and Counseling for her commitment to positive change and for her excellent counseling skills. She works as an international school counselor for the Elementary Division of Universal American School in Dubai. In her post, Mary works with children of over 70 nationalities. She also authored *Counseling Abroad: Using Your Skills in the World*.

1979

Class Representatives – **Dave and Teresa (Hausken) Sharkey** and **Stephan Fjelstad**

Stephan Fjelstad joined the law firm Leahy PS in Kirkland, Wash.



Joann (Johnson) Schafer died March 16. She and her husband, Eldon Lamoine

Schafer, faculty emeritus at PLU, met early in life and enjoyed 58 years of marriage while teaching and traveling to several different universities and countries. She participated in many arts and crafts fairs, including the Yule Boutique at PLU. Joann is survived by her sons, Warren and Karl, and grandson, Justin.

Alice Watson died January 21. She was a warm and compassionate teacher who left a long lasting impression on count-

less students. Alice taught junior high English, social studies and gifted students in the Clover Park School District where, for 10 years, she also served as the administrator of gifted education and fine arts. She is survived by husband Jack; brother Ralph; and daughters Tracy, Martha and Paige.

1981

Class Representative – **Dean and Susan (Lee) Phillips**

Eric Carlson resigned as the football coach at Newberg Senior High School in Newberg, Ore., after 21 years.

John Wallace was hired as the chief executive officer for the Oregon Real Estate Association Board of Directors. He previously worked as community high school business teacher and as adjunct professor at North Carolina Wesleyan College. John, his wife Nancy, and their three children recently relocated to Salem, Ore.

1982

Class Representative – **Paul Collard**

Maria (Meyer) Mord became board certified by ANCC in Cardiovascular Nursing in July of 2009. She is currently working at John Muir Health in Concord, Calif., as cardiac rehabilitation nurse case manager. Maria and her husband, Rod, live in Lafayette, Calif. Their daughter, Karin, is a sophomore in college in Los Angeles.

Patrick Swenson has been teaching at Riverside High School in Auburn, Wash., for a number of years and also publishes a quarterly magazine called *Talebones*. Since 2000, he has published over 30 books. Patrick organizes several writers' conferences each year and is well known in the field of dark tales and sci-fi. He recently published the children's book, *Mrs. Annathena Gilly Gully From Puddle Rumble Tilly Willy*, authored by his step-mother, Chellis Jensen.

1983

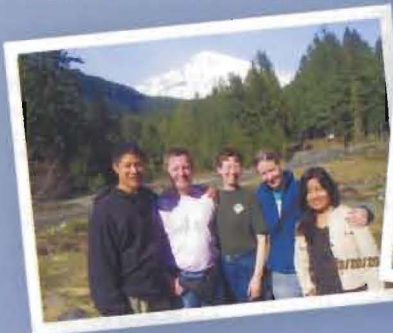
Class Representative – **Dave Olson**

Jeff Chandler is the new head football coach at Redmond High School. He has nearly a decade of high school head coaching experience and most recently worked as the athletic director at Skyline High School.

Brad Tilden received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award, given to Eagle Scouts who have distinguished themselves in business, professions, and service to others. He was also recently appointed as an independent director for Flow International Corporation.

Karen Weathermon is an inaugural steering committee member of the new Washington State Learning Communities Consortium. She works as the learning communities director at

Picture Perfect



On March 20, 2010, a group of PLU alumni gathered from Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington to hike the Westside Road trail at Mt. Rainier National Park. They enjoyed their time together in the beautiful sun and snow on the first day of spring. L to R: **Rendall Choy '96, John Miles '92 '95, Kay von Gohren Miles '95, Natasha Woodward '97, San Kip Thluai '99.**



Four old roommates met to celebrate their friendship in October 2009. L to R: **Dixie (Likkel '62) Mathias, Sandra (Tynes '62) Hagevik, Karen (Hegstad '62) Raisler, Karen (Toffle '62) Toreson.**



Longtime friends and PLU alumnae met in Tucson, Ariz., for a 30-year college reunion. They met their freshman year when they all lived on the second floor of Pfeiffer Hall. Highlights included hiking Sabino Canyon's five-mile Telephone Trail, the Tucson Botanical Gardens and historical Porter House, great conversation and much laughter. L to R: **Evelyn (Cornwall '79) Jerden, Laura (Nelson '81, '91) Wood, Linda (Davenport '80) Davison, Betsey Stahler '81, and Margo (Student '81) Peck.**

Would you like to share your pictures with your fellow alumni?

Send pictures to us by e-mail at alumni@plu.edu, or by mail to the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, Pacific Lutheran University, 12180 Park Ave. S., Tacoma, WA 98447. Please feel free to call us at 800-ALUM-PLU if you have any questions.

Washington State University and coordinates Freshman Focus, a first-year program that helps students integrate with their residence hall living.

1984

Class Representative – **Mark Christofferson**

Teri Cadd-Rhodes' husband, William Rhodes, passed away in 2006 and she later married Daniel A. Contreras. Together, they have four children, Nick Rhodes, 13, Joey Rhodes, 17, Contessa Contreras, 15, and Gabriel Contreras, 21.

Loni Simone, formerly Linda Gioia, is a retired applications development systems analyst for the City of Tacoma.

Paul Swenson is a professional photographer, and lives in Arcata, Calif., with his family. He has done a number of art pieces for publications. In 2009, he collaborated with his mother, Chellis Jensen, to illustrate her children's book, *Mrs. Annathena Gilly Gully From Puddle Rumply Tilly Willy*.

1985

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

Susan (Georgeson) Hopper has earned the Coldwell Banker Previews International Property Specialist designation. She is a sales associate at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. Susan, her husband John, and their four teenage children live in Frisco, Texas.

Kathy Kleinhenz rejoined Fidelity Title Agency of Alaska as a commercial escrow officer. She began her career as a real estate paralegal. Kathy specializes in commercial, residential and new con-

struction closing as well as relocations and REO transactions.

Michael Nelson was elected treasurer of the Western Washington Fair Association, Puyallup.

1986

Class Representative – **Stacey (Kindred) Hesterly**

1987

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

Theresa Wallace Mathew has been appointed vice president of sales for the Western Region of Xtend Healthcare. Theresa and her husband **Jacob '87** reside in Langley, Wash.

Jerry Larson was elected secretary of the Western Washington Fair Association, Puyallup.

1988

Class Representative – **Brenda Ray Scott**

David and Sara (Gregerson '87) Bowe are currently working with Baylor Medical in Moshi, Tanzania. David is teaching medical students how to work with children with HIV/AIDS.

Heidi (Menzenberg) Hall is an instructor of voice at Northwest University, and her husband Richard is a mortgage broker. The couple lives with their daughter, Abigail, in Bellevue, Wash.

1989

Class Representative – **Lisa (Hussey) Ferraro**

Fatahiyah Abdullah is the executive of corporate affairs and communication for the

Malaysian Structural Steel Association.

Ken Gibson is the principal consultant for Leading Edge Solutions LLC in Tacoma, Wash. He has served in leadership positions in the non-profit and government sectors for more than 20 years.

Whitney Keyes just returned from Malaysia where she was a speaker for the Department of State and the U.S. Embassy in Malaysia developing and facilitating the program "Empowering Women through Entrepreneurship". Whitney is the director of WMK Productions in Seattle, Wash.

Ben Jennings joined Olympia, Wash., based Sound/View Advisors as the firm's fourth financial planner, bringing more than 20 years of experience to the firm. He is the past president of the Financial Planning Association of Puget Sound and the Tacoma Estate Planning Council.

1990

Michael Auton is the new principal at Lakeview Hope Academy in Lakewood, Wash. He was previously the principal at Grangeville Elementary/Middle School in Grangeville, Idaho, and has more than 16 years of experience as an educator.

Jamie Dieveney is the new boys tennis head coach at Mercer Island High School. He is also the current tennis pro at the Mercer Island Beach Club.



Brien Thompson married Rebecca Dena on December 19, 2009, in Seattle's Pike Place

Market. Fellow Lutes included the groom's father, uncle and brother, the Rev. **Neil**

Thompson '62, Dale Thompson '64, and Wade Thompson '88. Steve Valach '88, Terry Marks '88, Russ Cole '87, David Martinson '90, Kristin (Ford '92) Martinson, and Bart Tilly '89 were also in attendance. The couple currently lives in the Seattle neighborhood of Madrona.

1991

Shana (Weatherly) Osmer is a professional pet sitter with The Sitters and a vet assistant at Coalition: Humane in Tacoma. She is a volunteer at the Tacoma Humane Society, where she hosts the Comcast On-Demand Cat Adoption Show. She also volunteers at Point Defiance Zoo as an animal handler.

1992

Class Representative – **Darcy (Pattee) Andrews**

Greg Jones was promoted to executive vice president/credit administrator of Valley Bank. He has 32 years of banking experience and has been with Valley Bank for 19 years.

Mike Martinez was named chief marketing officer for izmocars, the leading Internet business solution provider for the automotive industry. He is responsible for all marketing functions at izmocars as well as business development and product management ownership for izmoindv, the company's Web 3.0 operating platform. Prior to joining izmocars, Mike was the executive vice president of products and strategy at OneCommand.

Traci (Wensel) Mitchell was recently hired as quality program manager—patient satisfaction at Evergreen Hospital Medical Center in Kirkland, Wash.

Monica Reisch was promoted to manager of global manufacturing finance and accounting with Kinetic Concepts, Inc., in San Antonio, Texas. She has worked for KCI since November 2008. KCI is a medical technology company that develops, manufactures and sells products for wound care treatment, tissue regeneration, and therapeutic support systems. She has lived in San Antonio for five years and loves it.

Mary (Tachell) Sigmen is the new director of finance and operations at Annie Wright School in Tacoma. Mary is an experienced finance manager who previously served as vice president of finance at Saint Martin's University in Lacey, Wash. She also brings expertise in endowment and trust accounting, non-profit tax preparation and bond financing. Mary and her husband, Gary, reside in Tacoma.

Borge Steinsvik became partner at RS Platou ASA, a world leading international ship and offshore broker and investment bank. Borge has been the managing director for Russian operations since 2004.

Susan Swanson recently moved to Richland, Wash., and started working as the gallery administrator for Allied Arts Association. She has also developed a jewelry line and is a freelance illustrator.

1993
Class Representative – **Barbara (Murphy) Hesner**

Mark Amberson recently joined the retirement/wealth management team at Albers & Co. As a senior investment strategist, he brings more than 20 years of experience managing fixed portfolios.

1994
Class Representatives – **Dan Lysne** and **Catherine (Overland) Hauck**

1995
Class Representative – **Christi Rupp**

Kirstin (Hokanson) Doud was voted Outstanding Music Educator for the San Juan region. She teaches orchestra at Sehome High School in Bellingham, Wash.

1996
Class Representatives – **Mari (Hoseth) Lysne** and **Jennifer (Riches) Stegeman**

Emily Dykstra left for the Czech Republic on August 1, 2010, to teach English as part of the Fulbright Exchange Program.

1997
Class Representatives – **Andy** and **Stephanie (Merle) Tomlinson**

Matthew Bouthillier died March 1 from a cardiac arrest in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. He was volunteering with Medical Teams International, treating earthquake survivors since Feb. 20. Matthew worked as

an emergency room nurse at Swedish Medical Center in Issaquah, Wash. He has previously served in the Army Nurse Corps and volunteered in Honduras. He is survived by wife **Melissa (Leppke '97)**; sons Brian, 7, and Logan, 4; mother Dale, and stepmother Sharon Andrews.

1998
Class Representative – **Shannon (Herlocker) Stewart**

Suzanne Fritch is now a radiographer at Rady Children's Hospital in San Diego, Calif.

Heather (Delatorre) Hokanson joined the staff of Sound Family Medicine at the Hartland Clinic in South Hill, Wash. She will provide family care with an emphasis on women's health and obstetrics. Heather is board certified as an advanced nurse practitioner in family medicine.

1999
Class Representative – **Julie (Johnston) Bulow von Dennewitz**

Tony Aho was selected as the chair of the Parks & Recreation Board of the Puyallup City Council.

2000
Class Representative – **Ashley Orr**

Emily Keys is now an adjunct professor in the Graduate School of Education and Counseling at Lewis and Clark College.



Melissa Montgomery married Jonathan Ferris in September 2009. Melissa is a program manager for the

Washington Department of Natural Resources and received the Meritorious Public Service Award from the U.S. Coast Guard in August 2009. Jonathan is a software developer at DNR. The couple lives in Olympia, Wash.

Delilah Langer married Randy Hawkins on Feb. 1, 2010, in their home in Minneapolis, Minn. Randy works as an audio engineer and tour manager for musical artists. He is currently working with Atmosphere, Brother Ali and Faith No More.

Louis Hobson plays Dr. Madden/Dr. Fine in the Broadway play *Next to Normal* that recently won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

Nathaniel Schlicher received the 2010 Leadership Award from the American Medical Association, and represented the American College of Emergency Physicians on March 3, 2010 at the White House. Nathaniel is an emergency physician at Northwest Emergency Physicians of Team Health in Tacoma.

2001
Class Representatives – **Keith Pranghofer**



Shawn Jennison is the new director of communications and marketing at Clover Park Technical College in Lakewood, Wash. He is responsible for the college Web site,

publications, CPTC Television, advertising, marketing, and public relations. Shawn has spent the last 10 years working in marketing and communications. He began his career working in public affairs and marketing for KSTW-TV, Channel 11.

Neal Massie married Brandi Haney on July 18, 2009, in Evergreen, Colo. Lutes in the wedding party were best man, **Boyd Massie '05**, as well as **Gabe Miller '01**, **Nate Wiggins '01** and **Andy Bentz '01**.

In Memoriam

1939
Robert Mitchell died March 27, 2010.

1941
Myrtle (Cribb) Bresemann died May 1, 2010.

1950
Odven Aakre died Jan. 17, 2010.
Rev. **Chauncey Christofferson** died February 27, 2010.

Gerald P. Faaren died Oct. 26, 2009.
Milton Hanson died Feb. 14, 2010.

1951
Bob Larson died March 25, 2010.

1952
Jean Fritts died February 1, 2010.
Rev. **Adolph Kohler** died Feb. 21, 2010.

1953
Dorothy (Bauman) Freitag died January 18, 2010.

1955
L. June (Bunney) Justice died April 17, 2010.

1957
Gary Gale died in November 2009.

1961
Ken Olson died Jan. 16, 2010.

1966
Rev. **Bob Anderson** died Jan. 9, 2010.

1968
Violet Turner died March 30, 2010.

1969
Ione Eastby died May 4, 2010.

1979
Joann (Johnson) Schafer died March 16, 2010.

Alice Watson died January 21, 2010.

1997
Matthew Bouthillier died March 1, 2010
2007
Tiffany Faith Lindsey died May 7, 2010.

Friends and Family



Philip E. Beal died June 30, 2009. He came to PLU as dean of men in 1968 and remained for 10 years, concluding his tenure as vice president of student life. After his retirement, Philip and his wife Kathy were missionar-

ies with the United Methodist Church in Asia for 11 years, and later volunteered in Haiti. Phil is survived by his wife Kathy; two sons, Dayna and Dwight; and 4 grandchildren.

Glenn Cooper died May 11. He came to PLU in 2007 after more than 25 years of experience as a cook. Glenn enjoyed his work and loved interacting with his customers. He will be remembered for his Hawaiian shirts, his kindness, following the band Little Feat, and his clever sense of humor. He was also a devoted Seattle Storm season-ticket holder and frequent player of bridge. Glenn is survived by his mother; his brother Keith, a professor in the philosophy department; his sisters Meg Cooper, Joyce Lush and Carol Hulton; and other relatives including cousin Duncan Foley, a professor in the geosciences department.

The Rev. Frank Warren Strain died Jan. 16. He served on the PLU Board of Regents for many years and his children, **Sylvia (Strain '66) Sizer** and the Rev. **Philip Strain '67**, attended PLU. He devoted his life to serving parishes across the United States until his retirement in the mid '80s. In 1977, his wife Marjorie died and he later married Lavinia, to whom he was married for 30 years. During their retirement, Warren and Lavinia traveled the world. He is survived by his wife, Lavinia; children Sylvia, Philip, Jan and Joanie; seven grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Eric Paulson died March 6. He served PLU as a member of the Board of Regents for several years. He is survived by his wife Elna; his children **Solveig '70**, **Ann**, **David '72**, **Donn '75** and **Rolf '77**.

Jane Rieke died March 4. She was a longtime member of Faith Lutheran Church in Seattle. Jane was the mother of Paul Rieke, synod attorney, Jan Cunningham, Seattle attorney, and David Brauer-Rieke, bishop of the Oregon Synod.

Jarl Secher-Jensen died on April 4, 2010.

What's new with you?

> Please fill out as much information below as possible, including city of residence and work. Feel free to use another piece of paper, but please limit your submission to 100 words. Photos are welcome, but only one photo will be used, and on a space available basis. Notes will be edited for content. Photos must be prints or high quality jpegs. Please, no reproductions or copies from other publications.
Deadline for the next issue of Scene is August 20, 2010.

NAME (LAST, FIRST, MAIDEN)	PLU CLASS YEAR(S)
SPOUSE	SPOUSE'S PLU CLASS YEAR(S) IF APPLICABLE
STREET ADDRESS	IS THIS A NEW ADDRESS? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
CITY STATE	ZIP
PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL/WEBSITE POST ON THE ALUMNI E-MAIL DIRECTORY YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Job Information

JOB TITLE	EMPLOYER
WORK ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP
WORK PHONE	WORK EMAIL

Marriage (no engagements, please)

SPOUSE'S NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, MAIDEN, LAST)
DATE/PLACE OF MARRIAGE
SPOUSE'S OCCUPATION

Birth

CHILD'S NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)	BIRTHDATE (M/O/Y) GENDER MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/>
SIBLINGS/AGES	

Promotions/Awards

NAME
TITLE OF POSITION/COMPANY/AWARD/ DATE ASSUMED

> **MAIL TO:** Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, PLU, Tacoma, WA 98447-0003; **FAX:** 253-535-8555; **E-MAIL:** alumni@plu.edu; **Internet:** www.plualumni.org. Please limit to 100 words.

Neal is a business rental executive with Enterprise Holding and Brandi is an account manager with Charles River Clinical Services. The couple resides in Tacoma.

2002

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

Rachel (Morton) Cardwell is the community engagement manager at the University of Puget Sound. Her husband, Brandon, is an accountant. The couple resides in Tacoma.

Lisa (Sims) Petorak will be attending Seattle University School of Law.

Katie Weidmann married Adam Barrett on Dec. 14, 2009, at the Lane County Courthouse in Eugene, Ore.

2003

Class Representative – **Elisabeth Pynn Himmelman**

Allison Hicks is now an assistant professor in the division of social sciences at Alfred University in Alfred, N.Y.

Patrick Pastor works at the Joint Base Lewis-McChord in the Central Issue Facility where soldiers receive and return equipment before and after deployment or transfer. He is employed through Skookum, a non-profit organization based in Western Washington that is dedicated to create jobs for people with disabilities. Patrick earned his master's degree in chemistry from Washington State University.

Trevor Roberts stepped down as football coach at Kent-Meridian High School in Kent, Wash., after three years. He will be working as offensive coordinator at PLU and as the youth and recreational sales representative for Riddell in the state of Washington.

Rob Rydberg married Lynsey Elizabeth Compton-Drake on August 22, 2009, in Lagerquist Concert Hall at PLU. Rob completed his Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Washington State University in May 2009 and Lynsey works as a software engineer.

2004

Class Representative – **Tammy Lynn Schaps**

Holly Emmel is now the office manager for the ELCA Alaska Synod Office.

2005

Class Representative – **Micheal Steele**

Patrick Bell married **Resa Lee '04** in Centralia, Wash., on Dec. 5, 2009. The couple moved to Washington, D.C., in March 2010 where Patrick is now the director of new media for the U.S. House of Representatives and Resa is a social worker.

Raechelle Watkins-Baghirov is currently serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ganja, Azerbaijan.

Erika (Helm) McDonald is an environmental scientist with Jacobs Engineering and her husband, Adam, is a network engineer. They live in Anchorage, Alaska.



Erin McLaughlin married **Matthew Sutterer** on August 7, 2009, on Skilak Lake on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska. The couple hiked to the marriage ceremony, which was shared with close family and friends. Erin received her master's degree in mental health counseling from the University of Northern Iowa in May 2009 and is currently working in family matters at Hope Community Resources in Anchorage, Alaska. The couple resides in Anchorage.

Lori Morgan was hired as chief administrative officer at Legacy Emmanuel Hospital in Portland, Ore. Previously, she served as the medical director at Tacoma's Trauma Trust.

2006

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



Everett Barr married **Alyssa Hertel '07** on January 16, 2010, in Vancouver, Wash. Alyssa is a school counselor. Lutes in the wedding party were **James Lucase Stonehouse '06**, **Darren Struthers '06**, **Bethany Atkins '07**, **Julie Kerrigan '07**, **Kathryn Druback '08**.

2006

David Baure is currently working at the University of Washington Medical Center emergency room as a registered nurse, and as a flight nurse for the U.S. Air Force Reserves. He will deploy to Iraq in August.

Stephanie Lewis is the new head basketball coach in the Sequim School District, where she is also a health and fitness instructor.

Kathryn Suzanne Irwin married **Carmine Andrew Pernini** on Jan. 1, 2010, at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia where they are both seminarians. The couple resides in Philadelphia.

2007

Class Representative – **Kaarin Praxel**

Katie Crawford will be attending the University of Sydney, Australia, in 2010 for a master's degree in peace and conflict studies.

Eric Bernerd Faris is the new music director at Creator Lutheran Church in Bonney Lake, Wash.



Tiffany Faith Lindsey died May 4, 2010, in Westlake Village, Calif. A native of Gig Harbor,

Wash., she graduated from PLU with degrees in psychology, women's studies and religion. She was working towards her goal of becoming a mental health counselor. She was committed to supporting causes she believed in – she was passionate about women's issues, music, running, faith and friendship. Always a selfless person with a listening ear, Tiff's many friends will miss her charismatic personality, bubbly sense of humor and positive energy.

2008

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

2009

Class Representative – **Maren Anderson** and **Amy Spieker**

Trinity Gibbons is the Betty H. Jaynes intern with the Women's Basketball Association in Georgia. She will be working as the convention logistics intern and will assist the director of event planning and execution of the 2010 WBCA National Convention in San Antonio, Texas

Nicolette Paso will go to Germany as a Fulbright scholar, researching social welfare and justice programs that were implemented during the reformation. She will be living in five different cities while in Germany.

Nanyoung Shiraiwa is now the import manager of general merchandise in the international division of Supervalu. She is responsible for importing merchandise from South-East Asia countries, Hong Kong, Taiwan, China and Vietnam.



Seth Schwiethale married Sarah Parnham on Jan. 10, 2010, in Port Gamble,

Wash. Seth is a user interface developer for Motorola and Sarah works in early childhood education.

Colin Swanson was hired as a staff assistant to U.S. Congressman Dave Reichert in his Washington, D.C., office.

Jon Wedell currently lives in Coos Bay, Ore., and is a production assistant/technical director at the local TV station.

Future Lutes

1990

Matt Wilde and his wife Amanda welcomed twin boys, Maddox Errol and



Mitchell Oliver, into the family on May 17, 2009. The boys joined big sister Avery, 2

1993



Samuel and Teresa (Kelly '93) Cook welcomed Ashley Jordan on Dec. 8, 2009. She was born at Pondok Indah Hospital in

Jakarta, Indonesia. She joins older siblings, Abigail, 3, and Zachariah, 16 months. Sam and Teresa have been in Jakarta for the past three years where Sam has been the principal at North Jakarta International School. Teresa has taught 4th grade and has been the curriculum coordinator. They moved to Manila, Philippines, in July, 2010. Sam is the coordinator for faculty and student learning and Teresa is teaching fifth grade at International School Manila.



Bill and Sarah (Nelson '93) Walles welcomed Sage Yunyi into their family through adoption on April 13, 2009, in

Guangzhou, China. She joins siblings Payton, Carter and Risa. The family lives in Maple Valley, Wash.

1995



Corey Bray and wife Leslie welcomed Landry Cooper on March 28, 2010. Landry joins big brother Luke, 2.

Corey is the assistant athletic director at Eastern Kentucky University and Leslie is the director of special athletic events at Eastern Kentucky University. The family resides in Richmond, Ky.

1997



Scott and Kim (Creighton '97) Cushing welcomed Toby in June 2009. Scott is a deputy prosecuting attorney for the

Civil Division of the Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and Kim is a staff attorney for the Washington State Senate. They live in Olympia, Wash.



Josh and Erin (Mortensen '97) Wyrick welcomed Dan Douglas on Feb. 24. He joins big sister Ella.

1998



Meagyn (Keys) Karmakar and husband Soumen welcomed Oliver William on March 13, 2009. Meagyn is a

teacher at West Linn High School in West Linn, Ore., and Soumen is an engineer.



Jason '98 '03 and Mairead (McSweeney '01) Shutt welcomed Truman Patrick on February 3. Jason is a seventh grade science teacher

and Mairead works for The Trust for Public Land. They are caretakers of a small farm on Bainbridge Island.



Lindsay (Johnson) Williamson and husband Troy welcomed Molly Gayle on March 25. She joins siblings

Jack, 4, and Kate, 1. The family lives in Bonney Lake, Wash.

1999



Peter and Rachel (Hemphill '09) Collins welcomed Ella Jane on Dec. 29, 2009. Ella joins big brother Charles

James, 4. Peter and Rachel are both teachers in the Puyallup School District. The family resides in Puyallup, Wash.



Laurie Jo (Jones) Davis and husband Derek welcomed Logan Patrick on Nov. 19, 2009. Laurie Jo operates her own business

as a management consultant. The family resides in Golden, Colo.



Corinne (Kenney) Hartley and husband Kevin welcomed son Kaden on Nov. 24, 2009. Kaden joins big brother Cohen, 3. The family recently moved back to

Washington state and resides in Adna, Wash.



Jonathan and Ahna (Lietke '99) Strand welcomed Clara Marie on January 20. She joins siblings

Joseph, 5, and Timothy, 2. The family resides in Santa Clara, Calif.

2000



Aaron and Jenny (Jacobsen '01) Jacobs welcomed Clark Herbert in December 2008.

The family resides in Tacoma.



Jonas and Alison (Brennan '01) Tanzer welcomed Johan on Nov. 15, 2009. Johan joins big brother Lucas,

2. Jonas owns a consulting firm establishing outlet malls in Scandinavia and the Baltics and Alison is an English teacher for the Intercultural Language Department. The family resides in Soderkoping, Sweden.



Brandon Vrosh and Britta Hobbs '00 welcomed their first child, Soren Lauridsen, on November 4, 2009. Siri

(Fletcher '02) Preston and Rob Preston are his Godparents. Britta, Brandon and Soren reside in Vancouver, Wash., where Brandon works as a pharmaceutical sales representative and Britta is a choir director at Covington Middle School and Trinity Lutheran Church.

2001



Bryce and Audrey (Pinning '03) Miller welcomed Tyson Gregory on Feb. 1. He joins big brother Trevin. The family lives

in Battle Ground, Wash.



Garret Schroeder and his wife Jennifer Blake Schroeder welcomed their first child, Grant Garret, on March 17.

Garret is a radiology resident at Oregon Health and Science University and Jennifer is a pediatrician. The family resides in Portland, Ore.



Ryan and Meghan (Paustian '04) Wagner welcomed Ella on Oct. 27, 2008. Meghan is the

director of bands at Auburn Riverside High School. The family resides in Auburn, Wash.

2002



Adam and Jackie (Nuechterlein '05) Epperson welcomed Liam Milton on Dec. 8, 2009. The fam-

ily lives in Tacoma.



Michael Mauss and wife Kristine welcomed Joseph on April 10. He joins big sister Avila

Marie, 2. The family lives in Tacoma.

Kristy (Jacobson) Monahan and husband Brett welcomed Abbie on Aug. 20, 2009. She joins big brother Bryce, 4. The family resides in Covington, Wash.

2003



Mitchel and Crystal (Tullis '04) Morey welcomed Maguire Theodore-Walter on Sept.

9, 2009. The family resides in Port Orchard, Wash.

2004



Lori (Hahn) George and husband Steve welcomed their first son, Owen Christian, on Aug. 19, 2009.

Lori works as an RN in the NICU at Seattle Children's Hospital and Steve works for the City of Tacoma. The family resides in Fife, Wash.

2007

Ellen (Brotherston) Aronson and husband Kyle welcomed their first child, Linnea Marie, on Feb. 5. Grandparents



Ruth (Swenson '79) and Stuart Brotherston '79 were also excited for her arrival. Ellen is taking an extended

leave from her job at the House of Representatives. The family resides in Puyallup, Wash.

BOOKS FROM A-Z



the arts

Contributions to Excellence

Alumnæ are a proud group of people. Instilled with a passion to give of themselves, Jean (Hesla '50) Kopta is no exception.

Kopta graduated from PLU in 1950 with the bachelor's degree in education. Later in her life, she returned to school to obtain her Master's degree in vocal performance. Her passion was to share her love of singing and music by teaching voice lessons. She landed at PLU at the Department of Music under David Robbins, who remains the head of the department. Kopta taught private voice lessons at PLU for 11 years. She also taught in her private voice studio while also serving as a choral director.

Kopta left PLU in the spring of 2007, but not without making a positive impact on the lives of students of all ages, all levels of ability and all walks of life.

Her teaching career was complimented by her career in performing. Kopta spent many years in Seattle and Rome. She was selected to be one of eight sopranos in the first professional Seattle Opera Chorus; she proudly sang with that company for four years. In her later years, she sang opera scenes, arias, operetta and Broadway theater music in various clubs throughout Seattle.

"Jean is a gracious lady, a charming colleague, a thoroughly professional educator and colleague," said Robbins. Her contributions as a voice instructor at PLU, and to the Department of

Music in particular, were appreciated. "We enjoy having a very strong voice area, and Jean has historically been part of that area and has contributed to that excellence that we enjoy," Robbins added.

In acknowledging her contributions to excellence, PLU created a new talent award in her name: "The Jean Kopta Artistic Achievement Award for Vocal Talent." The award will be given to three deserving voice students starting in the fall of 2011. Helping others is a fundamental goal of Kopta. "This award and its ability to help students means the world to me," Kopta said. "My passion is teaching. My love is music and singing. And my heart wants to give back to the music community. This award and the benefits to students is one way of achieving my goal. I am very honored."

Kopta's passion for teaching and her love for singing continue to this day. She formed her own choir that entertains residents at local nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Kopta wants to share her gifts with others. "My choir members thank me for teaching them - I smile because they warm my heart. Seeing them excel brings me such joy. Sharing our work and knowing we bring smiles to faces is priceless. I thank my choir for allowing me to teach. It fills my soul like nothing else."



Jean (Hesla '50) Kopta

Photo by Carlos Javier Sanchez

giving back

Our heroes made the difference!

Project Access

Thanks to the generosity of 1,468 heroes,

PLU students who needed additional financial aid in the face of economic challenges received it, keeping their dream of a college education alive.

Project Access exceeded its \$1 million goal by \$83,500 when the special fund-raising effort concluded on May 31. Project Access funded 309 additional Q Club scholarships, providing an average scholarship of \$3,500 to our most deserving students.

We are especially pleased to announce the results of the Regent Challenge. The PLU Board of Regents provided a generous match of \$50,000. Donations of \$61,815 during the last three weeks of May earned that challenge grant and helped even more students achieve their PLU dreams.

Every gift made a difference in this project and in the lives of our students. And because of such a positive response to this effort, the opportunity for named Q Club Access Scholarships for gifts of \$3,500 and more will continue to be offered. Gifts of every size made a difference in this project and in the lives of our students.

On behalf of a grateful university and student body, thank you.

Definition and Foundations of Hope

My research led me to a simple, yet comprehensive, definition of hope: “a belief and a feeling that a desired outcome is possible.” In addition, I identified four foundations of hope: Options, Action, Evidence, and Connection.

To demonstrate these foundations, imagine a yet unachieved desired outcome in your life. As you think about how much hope you have about achieving that outcome, you will notice that your hope is partly based on your belief and feeling that you have options to choose from to achieve that outcome. The greater the number of options you perceive you have, the more likely you are to feel hopeful. Second, your hope is sustained (or diminished) by your belief and feeling that you are both willing and able to act on those options. Third, your hope is influenced by the evidence you have that the desired outcome is possible. For example, if you’ve accomplished a similar task, or seen others like you achieve that goal, you’re more likely to feel hope that you can also. Finally, your hope is related to your feeling of connection to others who support or help you to achieve the desired outcome. Having hope is inherently relational. Our hope increases as we are surrounded by others who support our hope, whether those “others” are humans, a higher power, or even pets.

Applying the Theory to Relationships

Given this definition and these four foundations, several interventions emerge to help individuals and couples increase their hope for improving their relationship.

First, your available options for achieving your desired outcomes are greatly influenced by how you view the situation, particularly the apparent obstacles that stand in your way. Your view of those obstacles often determines the number of options you perceive you have. For example, many couples believe that conflict is a sign of inherent problems in their relationship when, in fact, conflict is an inherent

part of close, intimate relationships. If you can view the next conflict as an opportunity to connect and grow, you are much more likely to stay hopeful about the future of your relationship and find more options to choose from to handle those conflicts.

When couples who are unsure about their future begin to connect again, it builds hope that things can improve and gives them a foundation to handle issues that need to be addressed in the relationship.

Second, a belief and feeling that you are willing and able to act on options can be increased by simply committing to a time frame to work on a desired outcome with an attitude of hope; that is, a belief and feeling that you are able to achieve your goal. Too often, desires get stifled by spending time debating in our minds the obtainability of the goal rather than putting energy into action that will make the goal more possible. This happens in distressed relationships as individuals use each new interaction as data to ask themselves the question, “Do I stay or do I go?” Rather than getting stuck in this dilemma, commit to staying for a certain amount of time and put your energy into being the best you can be and asking your partner to meet you there. Don’t ignore the voice that asks “do I stay or do I go,” simply acknowledge it and choose not to dwell on it for the time being. Many times, as people commit to a brighter future, the brighter future begins to emerge. And if it doesn’t, they have fewer regrets about moving their hope to something (or someone) else.

Third, you can actively look for and seek out evidence that you can achieve your desired outcomes. Sometimes this evidence comes as you tell others about your hopes. One couple I worked with told another couple of their challenges

and desire for their relationship to be happier. The other couple proceeded to tell the couple in distress about similar challenges they had had in their relationship five years ago, that they had since worked out and found themselves to be very satisfied with their relationship. The couple came to therapy with renewed hope because of the evidence the other couple had given them that their relationship could improve.

Fourth, you can work to achieve greater connection with people who support your goals or who have a role in achieving these goals. I have come to see that the connection component of hope is the most powerful because it is in connecting with others that we increase our evidence, build options, and believe and feel we are capable of acting to achieve our desired outcomes. For couples, this sense of connection is so important to regaining a sense of hope for the relationship. Thus, I routinely tell couples to build into their relationship connecting rituals – going on a date each week, ending the day by telling each other what they appreciate about each other. Amidst the busyness that most couples face, connecting must be a priority and must be done purposefully or it may not happen. When couples who are unsure about their future begin to connect again, it builds hope that things can improve and gives them a foundation to handle issues that need to be addressed in the relationship.

Sharing Hope

A therapist once said to me that part of our jobs as therapists is to “create a space where hope can prevail.” I have come to see that this “job” goes well beyond the walls of therapy. Each of us can be a beacon of hope for someone else as we help them discover options, work toward action, remember evidence, and create connections around their goals and dreams. [5]

David B. Ward, Ph.D., is assistant professor of marriage and family therapy in the Department of Marriage and Family Therapy.

calendar

continued from inside front cover

October 18, 8 a.m.

General Education Workshop – “There’s a CAPR for that!”
University Center, CK

October 20, 5:30 p.m.

Visiting Writer Series: Laruen Groff, author of “The Monsters of Templeton”
University Center, Regency Room

October 29, 11 a.m., 4:30 p.m.

ELCA Seminary Visit
University Center, 2nd Floor Foyer

NOVEMBER

November 5-7

PLU Family Weekend
Locations across campus

November 7

PLU Parents Council
Nesvig Alumni Center

November 8, 7 p.m.

4th Annual Conversation on Privilege, focusing on sustainability/ environmental privilege
University Center, Union Pacific Room

November 11, noon

Veteran’s Day Celebration
Lagerquist Concert Hall

November 11, 7 p.m.

Holocaust Program Lecture
Xavier, Nordquist Lecture Hall

November 13 and 14, 2 p.m.

Annual Swedish Heritage Program
Featuring culinary feast prepared and demonstration by Swedish chefs
University Center, Scan Center

November 15-18, 8 a.m.

Annual Christmas In Scandinavia Exhibit
University Center, Scan Center


November 15, 7 p.m.

4th Annual Got (Marriage) Privilege?
University Center, Union Pacific Room

November 17, 5:30 p.m.

Visiting Writer Series: Matthew Dickman and Monica Youn, poets
University Center, Regency Room

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY
A PLU CHRISTMAS



SHALOM PEACE 和平 PAZ

December 4, 7:30 p.m.
Arlene Schnitzer Hall,
Portland, Ore.

December 5, 3 p.m.
Lagerquist Concert Hall, PLU

December 6, 7:30 p.m.
Benaroya Hall, Seattle

December 9, 8 p.m.
Lagerquist Concert Hall, PLU

December 10, 8 p.m.
Lagerquist Concert Hall, PLU

FOR TICKET INFORMATION VISIT
www.plu.edu/christmas
253.535.7787

November 20, 9 a.m.

2nd Annual Danish Christmas Bazaar
University Center, Scan Center

November 20, 9 a.m.

Annual Nordic Sweater Exchange
University Center, 1st Floor Hallways

DECEMBER

December 1, 5:15 p.m.

Christmas Tree Lighting
Eastvold, Red Square

December 3, 7:30 p.m.

Annual Sankta Lucia Fest
Lagerquist Concert Hall


December 11

Fall Commencement
Olson Auditorium

December 16

PLU Christmas Luncheon
Olson Auditorium

December 18, 6 p.m.

Annual Nordic Christmas Fest
University Center, Scan Center 

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perspective

The Power of Hope



Photo by Carlos Javier Sanchez

David Ward has seen how hope can instill a happier and healthier future. He sought out to understand hope within the specific context of couples therapy, which has far-reaching applications.

By David B. Ward

As a marriage and family therapist, the couples I work with tend to wait until problems in their relationship have significantly escalated before they seek therapy. Fortunately, amidst the distress, by the end of the session I usually experience a feeling that keeps me loving the work I do with these couples. It was that same feeling that encouraged me several years ago to ask myself the questions, "What is this feeling?" and "How can I make it happen consistently in therapy?" The answer that came to me then, and that continues to empower me now, is hope.

Hope is a life force. It keeps people moving toward their goals and dreams. It keeps people alive in difficult circumstances. An individual's personal relationship with hope influences his or her daily actions. As hope is nurtured in therapy, clients move from hoping for a happier and healthier future, to actually having one. In couples therapy, "hope happens" as couples move from a position of uncertainty about the future of their relationship to a belief and feeling that their relationship can improve.

When I first decided to study hope there was little to no research specifi-

cally related to couples therapy. There were myriad definitions of hope, and various disjointed ideas existed. Thus, a primary task of my research was to find a definition of hope that would bring enough clarity to the concept to then be able to describe clearly how hope can be nurtured in therapy. What started out as a journey to understand hope within the specific context of couples therapy, has developed into a theory of hope that has far-reaching applications.

continued on page 38