

# Scene

Pepperdine University • Spring 2013

## SAY YES TO EVERYTHING

How PLU's study-away program in China changed the life of Mycal Ford '12. PAGE 14

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> The Busy Studio Theater, 10

> Max Beatty Returns, 22

# calendar



## APRIL

### March 13 - April 10

Each Form Overflows its Present  
University Gallery, Ingram Hall

### April 1, 6 p.m.

Dinner and a Movie: "Garbage! The  
Revolution Starts at Home"  
Philip A. Nordquist Lecture Hall

### April 2, 8 p.m.

Lyric Brass Quintet  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### April 3, 8 p.m.

Regency String Quartet  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### April 4 & 5, 8 p.m.

Westfield Continuo Conference Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### April 6, 3 & 8 p.m.

Westfield Continuo Conference Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### April 7, 3 p.m.

Organ Concert: Gregory Crowell  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### April 7, 8 p.m.

Duo Piano Recital  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### April 8, 10:30 a.m.

Dr. Ruth Camp: "The State of the Oceans"  
Garfield Book Company Community Room

### April 8, 7 p.m.

Current Research in Communication:  
Dr. Amy Young  
Ingram 100: Lecture Hall

### April 9, 1:45 – 2:45 p.m.

Lecture by Edmund Stone,  
host of "The Score"  
MBR Music Center 322

### April 9, 7 p.m.

Current Research in Communication:  
Dr. Lori Lee Wallace  
Ingram 100: Lecture Hall

### April 10, 5:30 p.m.

Visiting Writer's Series: Jaimy Gordon  
Scandinavian Cultural Center

### April 10, 8 p.m.

Harty Studio Recital: Music of Chopin  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### April 12, 8 p.m.

Orchestra Series: KammerMusikere  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### April 13, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

MESA Saturday Academy  
Morken Center

### April 14, 3 p.m.

Harp and Flute Ensembles  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### April 16, 6 p.m.

PLU MBA information session  
Morken Center, Room 103

### April 16, 7 p.m.

A Matter of Literature:  
From Early Documents to  
Contemporary Creation  
Hauge 101, Lecture Hall

### April 18, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Poetry Reading: Poetry at Your Leisure  
Garfield Book Company  
Fireside Lounge

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**ON THE COVER**

Mycal Ford '12 pauses for a moment in a bustling produce market in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Photo by Neil Wade.

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# here and now



Journalist Robin Wright and PLU President Thomas W. Krise at the Chris Stevens Memorial Lecture on Feb. 21.

*Wright discussed the cultural changes currently taking place in the Middle East, like rap music, performance art – even comic books. This type of expression is creating a new space to talk about things like democracy or extremism.*

## A packed house for the Chris Stevens Memorial Lecture

**T**o a packed Lagerquist Concert Hall, award-winning journalist Robin Wright discussed her views on the Islamic world and talked about her friendship with U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens who was killed last year when militants attacked the embassy in Benghazi, Libya, on the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

Wright's lecture marked the first Chris Stevens Memorial Lecture, sponsored by the Wang Center for Global Education. Wright, who has reported from 140 countries and whose work has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Magazine* and *Time*, has travelled and written extensively about the Middle East.

In her Feb. 21 lecture, Wright discussed the cultural changes currently taking place in the Middle East, like rap music, performance art – even comic books. This type of expression is creating a new space to talk about things like democracy or extremism. Wright warned, however, that change will not necessarily come soon – or easily.

"The next decade is likely to be tumultuous," Wright said. "But it doesn't

change what people ultimately want."

Wright also spoke poignantly about her friendship with Ambassador Stevens, whom she first met in Jerusalem 25 years ago when he was part of the U.S. envoy there. She described Stevens as a courageous diplomat who knew the language, knew the culture and would venture out into the streets to know the people.

Stevens' sister, Anne, also spoke to the audience. She encouraged PLU students to study abroad and to fearlessly immerse themselves in the world, just as her brother had.

## Staff, students and faculty honored at Christmas luncheon

**P**LU faculty and staff members were honored this past December at PLU's annual Christmas and holiday luncheon. Four members of the PLU staff were honored for their superior work and dedication: Laura Fuhrman '12 (Human Resources), Dana McDonald (Residential Life), Jennifer Thomas '98, '99 (Department of Athletics) and Audrey Thornburg (Department of Biology).

In addition, six faculty members were honored as Faculty Excellence



Quigg Award winners Anna Milliren '13 and Minda Jerde '13 receive their award from Carol Quigg '58.

Award recipients. The recipients were nominated and selected by their peers, signifying their high regard among those who know them well. This year's awards went to Rebekah Mergenthal (assistant professor of history), Norris Peterson '75 (professor of economics), Karen Travis (associate professor of economics), Christine Moon (professor of psychology), Jon Grahe (associate professor of psychology) and David Ward (associate professor of marriage and family therapy).

Also at the luncheon, this year's Carol Sheffels Quigg Awards for Excellence and Innovation were announced. The award, established by PLU alumna and former regent Carol Quigg '58, provides support for faculty, staff and students

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## THE LIGHTENER OF THE STARS



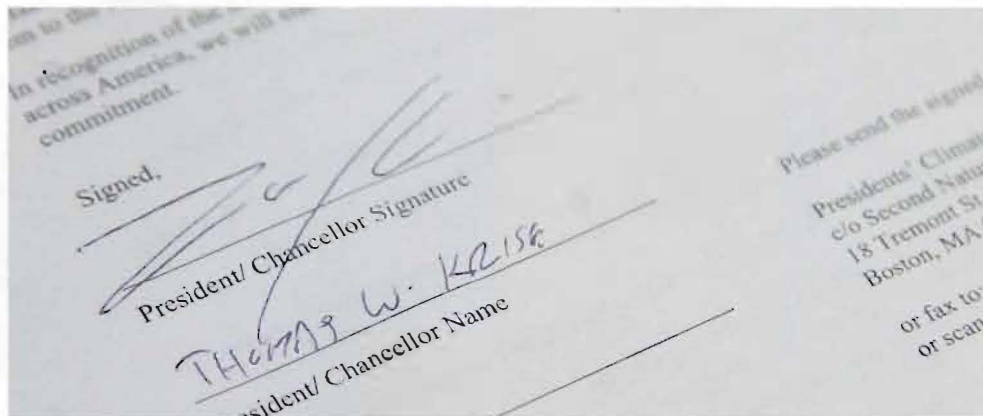
**"The Lightener of the Stars"** is a marvelous collection of music from the Choir of the West's 2011 and 2012 tours. Included are selections from the choir's award-winning participation at the prestigious 2011 Harmonie Festival, held in Limburg-Lindenholzhausen, Germany. The album also features works from the choir's performance at the 2012 American Choral Directors Association Northwest Division Conference. The title work was composed by PLU alumnus Jason Michael Saunders.

**"The Lightener of the Stars"** is available at Garfield Book Company at PLU, [garfieldbookcompany.com](http://garfieldbookcompany.com)

To see a catalog of other PLU albums, visit:  
[www.plu.edu/multimedia-recordings](http://www.plu.edu/multimedia-recordings)

# here and now

continued



PLU was one of 12 original signatories of the American College and University President's Climate Commitment Agreement. Since then, 661 universities have signed.

who have demonstrated unusually inventive, original and creative approaches to advance the mission of the university.

This year, students Anna Milliren '13 and Minda Jerde '13 were honored for their work with the Student Interfaith Council. Additionally, Tiffany Lemmon and Joel Zylstra '05 (Center for Community Engagement and Service) and Bobbi Hughes '00, '01 (Career Connections) were honored for their work with Alternative Spring Break: Springboard to Sustained Service.

## President Krise reaffirms Climate Commitment Agreement

With a flick of his pen, PLU President Thomas W. Krise reaffirmed the university's commitment to lowering its carbon footprint and encouraging recycling and renewable energy as outlined in the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment Agreement. He formally signed the agreement at a ceremony Oct. 30, 2012.

Krise signed the document that was first signed by his predecessor, Loren J. Anderson, in 2007. PLU was one of the 12 founding signatories of the agreement. Since then, 661 universities have signed, while PLU's reputation in this area has grown.

Sustainability and how it intertwines seamlessly with PLU's commitment to social justice and diversity is, in Krise's

words, "an important part of PLU's DNA."

Since PLU began its sustainability program, the university has saved \$71,000 in natural gas costs and \$66,000 in electricity costs and has raised more than \$100,000 in grants and rebates from the Green Partnership Fund, the Bonneville Environmental Foundation and other utility companies, Vice President of Finance and Operations Sheri Tonn said.

All this recycling and reduction in energy use has gained PLU a national reputation, she added. In 2010, PLU scored an "A-" in the Sustainable Endowments Institute Report Card, and the Sierra Club's Cool Schools competition has consistently ranked PLU as a top-100 green school in the United States.

## PLU acknowledged (twice!) for its global focus

In recent months, PLU received recognition from both The Chronicle of Higher Education and the U.S. Peace Corps for its emphasis on global education.

In October, The Chronicle acknowledged PLU as a top producer of U.S. Fulbright students for 2012-13 as a master's institution. In the last year, four PLU students were awarded Fulbright Student Fellowships. That makes 91 PLU student Fulbright recipients since 1975.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, the Fulbright program was established in 1946 by the U.S. Congress to "enable the government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between people of the United States and the people of other countries."

It is the largest U.S. international exchange program offering opportunities for students,

scholars and professionals to undertake international graduate study, advanced research, university teaching and teaching in elementary and secondary schools worldwide.

In January, PLU was ranked 18 on the Peace Corps' 2013 list of Top Colleges, small school division. The annual list recognizes the highest volunteer-producing colleges and universities for small, medium, large and graduate institutions.

PLU currently has 15 undergraduate alumni serving overseas in the Peace Corps. Last year PLU produced only nine volunteers, and by doubling their number this year they have joined the top 25 volunteer-producing schools in the nation. Since 1961, PLU has produced 242 volunteers in the Peace Corps.

"Peace Corps announces Top Colleges annually to recognize the schools that contribute the most alumni making a difference overseas through volunteer service," said Peace Corps West Coast Regional Manager Janet Allen. "We thank and congratulate PLU as one of the 23 universities from the West Coast producing globally minded leaders who turn idealism into action as Peace Corps Volunteers."

**Related story:** To read about 2008 graduate Bonnie Nelson's Peace Corps service in Mongolia, see page 28.



## Student Peace Scholars attend Nobel conference

In March, Anna McCracken '14 and Bruno Correa '15 represented PLU as Peace Scholars for 2013 at the Nobel Peace Prize Forum in Minneapolis.

The three-day forum has taken place each year in Minnesota for the last 25 years. The PLU Peace Scholars had the chance to listen to Nobel Peace Prize winners, such as Muhammad Yunis, father of the micro-lending movement, and Tawakkol Karman, a Yemeni journalist known as "Mother of the Revolution." Journalist Robin Wright, who spoke at PLU in February, also addressed the conference.

"I like the fact they bring in speakers from business and science as well," said Claudia Berguson, associate professor of Norwegian and Scandinavian Area Studies, who accompanied the students. Berguson is also the Svare-Toven Professor of Norwegian and Scandinavian Studies at PLU.

After attending the conference, both McCracken and Correa will attend the Peace Scholars Program in Oslo for seven weeks during the summer. The students will be spending time at the Nansen Center for Peace and Dialogue in Lillehammer, where they will be participating in dialogue sessions with students from the Balkans and the Middle East. The remainder of the program takes place at the University of Oslo's International Summer School.

McCracken, a global studies and anthropology major, said that after she graduates, she hopes to do volunteer work with the Lutheran Volunteer Corps and work with countries or communities in conflict "to build a common community and move forward."

Correa, from Uruguay, is also a global studies and anthropology major. He said he wants to work for an NGO or perhaps join the Peace Corps after graduation.

Becoming one of the universities associated with the conference was one of PLU President Thomas W. Krise's



Bruno Correa '15 and Anna McCracken '14 represented PLU as Peace Scholars at the Nobel Peace Prize Forum.

priorities when he arrived last year. A five-college consortium – Augsburg, Augustana, Concordia (Moorhead), Luther and St. Olaf – established the

conference in 1988. The forum is the only affiliation of the Nobel Institute in Oslo with colleges and universities in the United States. [S](#)

## ACCOLADES



**David Ward**, marriage and family therapy program director and associate professor, **Cheryl Storm**, PLU professor

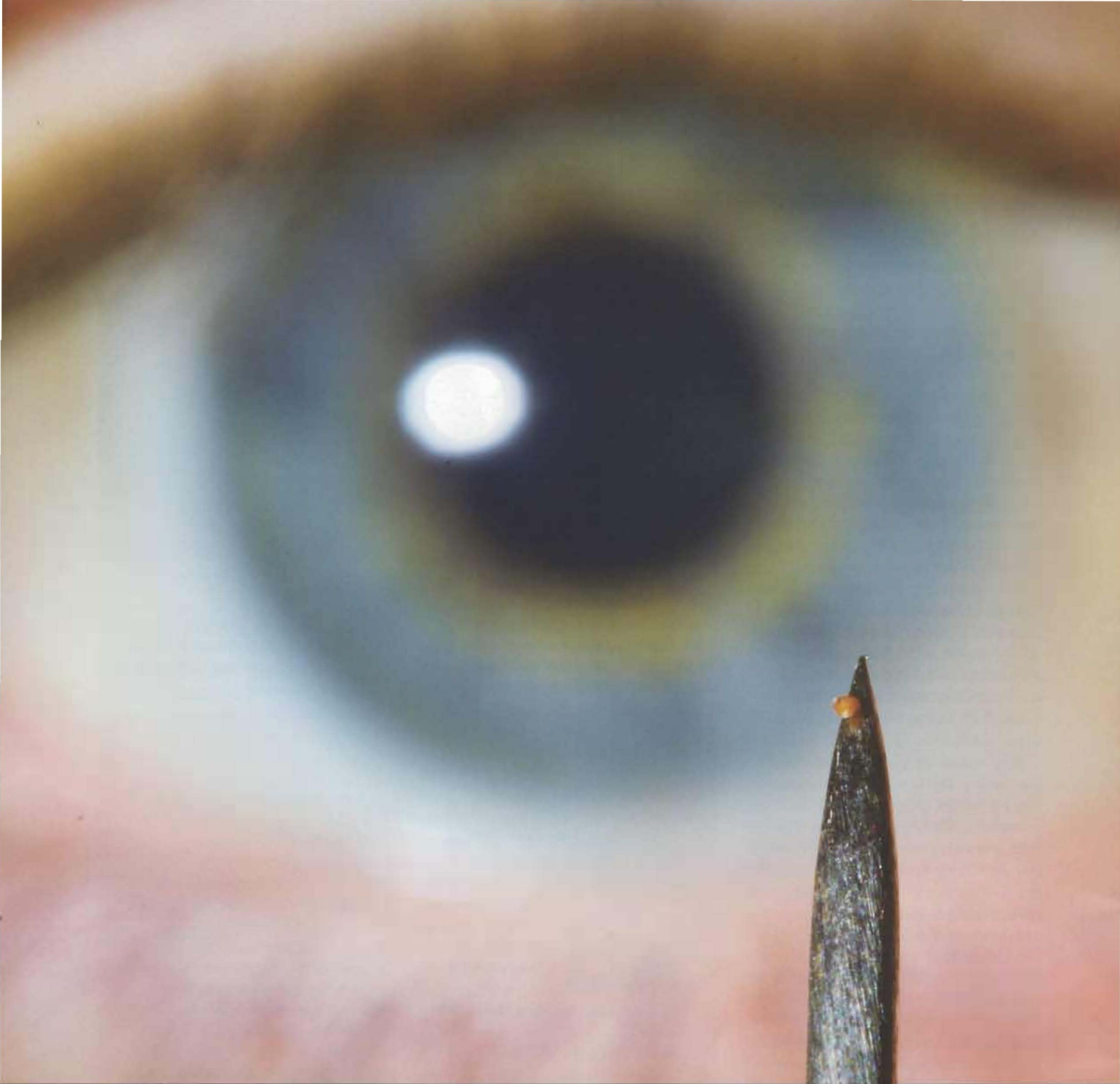
emeritus, and **Jennifer Davis '07** received the 2012 Anselm Strauss Award for their published article "The Unsilencing of Military Wives: Wartime Deployment Experiences and Citizen Responsibility," in the *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*. The award, which honors the most significant contribution to the area of family theory in the previous year, is presented by the Qualitative Family Research Network of the National Council on Family Relations.

**Akiko Nosaka**, associate professor of anthropology, published "Aspirations and Desires: Women's Education and Fertility Strategies in Contemporary Japan," in the journal *Human Organization*. This is the second of two top-tier journal articles based on research supported by a Regency Advancement Award she received in 2007.



**Amber Dehne Baillon**, associate director of Student Involvement and Leadership, was honored by

the Student Leadership Programs Knowledge Community at NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education) as the November 2012 Spotlight Series recipient.



Assistant Professor of Biology Neva Laurie-Berry,  
Ben Sonnenberg '14 and Bryan Dahms '13

*“That’s the great thing about having students who are motivated. This gives them ownership and allows them to make the project their own. It’s not enough that somebody is an A student. There has to be that spark for it.”*

—Assistant Professor of Biology Neva Laurie-Berry



# life of the mind

## Planting the seeds of knowledge

Student-faculty research gives students the opportunities to discover the 'right questions'

This past summer, Bryan Dahms '13 was sitting in a lab with fellow student-researcher Ben Sonnenberg '14, counting 30,000 seeds so minuscule that 5,000 can fit on a thumbnail. It took days.

Dahms asked himself, "What did I get myself into?"

As a biology major who has an interest in molecular biology and hopes to go to medical school, he never thought he'd be studying plants as part of a student-faculty research project.

"I really didn't care for plants all that much," he said. "But I came in with an open mind of what I can do and what I can learn, and really had one of the best summers of my life."

Dahms was asked to join Sonnenberg – a professed "plant nut" – and Assistant Professor of Biology Neva Laurie-Berry to investigate altered forms of the receptor for the plant hormone jasmonate, a chemical that controls a plant's response to infection and injury. In essence, the trio is trying to find out if, by manipulating its receptor, they can make the plant resistant to infection without residual side effects.

Plants have fewer chromosomes than humans, so mutating one part to fight infection might also affect, for example, the size of the plant.

"Could we end up with a tomato plant, for example, that is resistant to a particular infection (but) with the same size fruit?" Laurie-Berry asked.

They studied the plant *Arabidopsis thaliana*, which is ideal for research because it grows and self-produces seeds at a rapid rate. Laurie-Berry thought Dahms' interest in molecular biology – specifically how sequencing genetics works – would be a perfect fit for their research.

"I enjoy working with students and getting them excited about it," Laurie-Berry said. "That's why I wanted to be somewhere like PLU, where I'd have that opportunity."

Laurie-Berry certainly saw the opportunity to pair Dahms and his

molecular interest with fellow biology major Sonnenberg, who has a strong interest in plants. Together, Laurie-Berry said, they make a perfect team.

"It's really a team effort to solve a question or get to the next question," Dahms said. "You create one little brick in this big wall that people will be able to build upon in the future."

According to Sonnenberg, much of the research on the molecular level deals with human systems. But there's still so much to learn from how plants work.

This is exactly what brought Laurie-Berry to the study of plant pathology.

"We know a lot less about (plant pathology) compared to animal pathology," she said. "And it's incredibly important. How do we make the plant healthier overall, no matter what the fungus or infection?"

Laurie-Berry is very familiar with *Arabidopsis thaliana*. She has worked with the plant since her time as a graduate student at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo.

Two summers ago, she secured a grant from the MJ Murdoch Charitable Trust to study the plant's signaling responses to the plant hormone jasmonic acid, or jasmonate. It's a two-year grant through the Murdoch College Research Program for Life Sciences that covers work by the students and professor from June 2011 through May 2013. As part of the grant agreement, PLU supported sending the group this past summer to a meeting of the American Society of Plant Biologists in Austin, Texas.

At the ASPB meeting the students were able to present their research to Washington State University scientist Bryan Thines, who has done groundbreaking research in jasmonic acid signaling. It is the type of connection a lot of undergraduate students at larger universities would never get to make.

The three worked closely together throughout the summer and into

the school year. The research is dependent on the students being active in discovery, asking questions and working with their professor as actual peers.

"PLU students are so driven that what they're doing makes a difference in the lab," Laurie-Berry said. "It's an opportunity that's a really special thing for undergraduates to be a part of."

As their research continues, they may not come up with all the answers they seek, but that's OK, she said.

"I'm hoping by the time they graduate, if we don't have answers to the questions we have, we know the questions that matter," Laurie-Berry said. "The answers really don't tell you anything if you're asking the wrong questions."

This experience isn't about following a recipe to get to a definitive answer.

"Science is not the list of facts in the book," Laurie-Berry said. "The exciting thing is figuring out what are you totally wrong about. We're doing this because we don't know. That's the great thing about having students who are motivated. This gives them ownership and allows them to make the project their own. It's not enough that somebody is an A student. There has to be that spark for it."

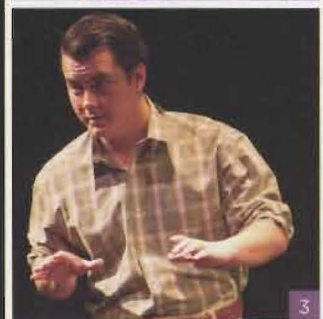
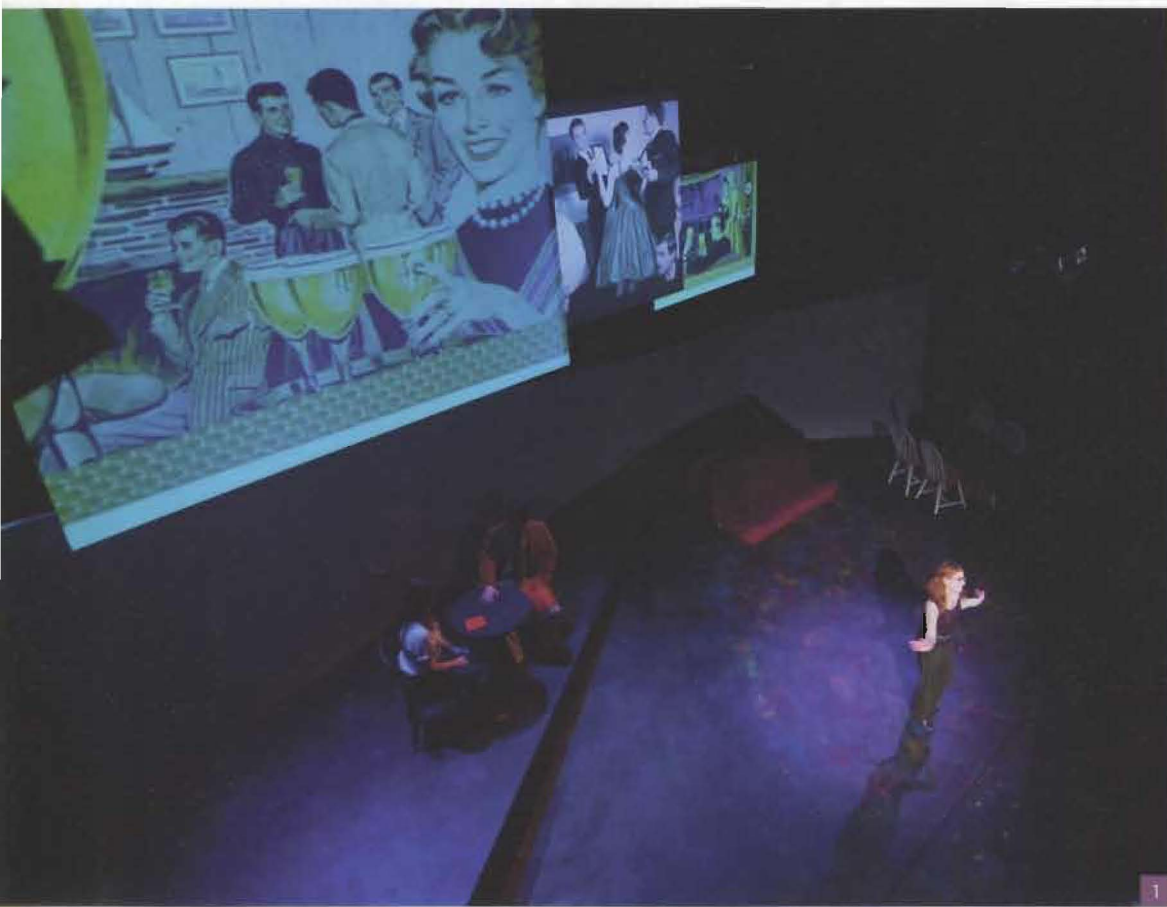
Dahms and Sonnenberg have that spark.

"That's the advice I always give," Sonnenberg said. "If you take a class and love it, go to the professor and ask more about it. Have that thirst for knowledge."

Dahms is a perfect example of that. He never thought plant research would open his mind to what he wants to ultimately do, which is to be a medical doctor. But he's seen how plant research binds to medical practice.

"The beauty of science is that it all relates and is interconnected," he said. "Science is really about a collaboration of people." □

—Chris Albert



# A YEAR IN THE STUDIO THEATER

BY STEVE HANSEN

IT HAS BEEN LITTLE MORE THAN ONE YEAR since the Studio Theater and its adjacent scene shop opened in the Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. And in that time, one thing is clear: It is much more than simply an 85-seat performance space.

It is a classroom. It is a lecture hall. It is a scene construction site. It is a makeshift dressing room. It is the performance space for the university's

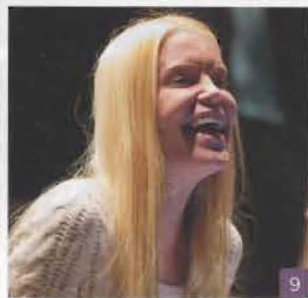
student drama clubs. It is a between-classes hangout. It is a late-night hangout. It is an *ad hoc* faculty office. It is an "Imaginarium," as Jeff Clapp '89, associate professor of theater and artistic director at PLU,

called it at its opening.

It is a very busy place.

This was, of course, the plan: When Eastvold Auditorium was slated to be renovated, the first phase would include a

Since PLU's Studio Theater opened in the Fall of 2011, it has been a very busy place. University Photographer John Froschauer trained his lens on the students and faculty members who spend so much time there, culminating in the March production of "How I Learned to Drive."



1. Kait Mahoney '14 monologues during the dress rehearsal of "How I Learned to Drive" in the Studio Theater.
2. Kait Mahoney.
3. Jack Sorensen '13 as the character Peck in "How I Learned to Drive."
4. Corissa DeVerse '14 in "Drive."
5. Ali Rose Schultz '14 plays the lead role Li'l Bit in "Drive."
6. Kraig Partridge '14 and Lisa Harrington '13 in the control room during dress rehearsal.
7. Scenic designer/lighting designer and Assistant Professor of Theatre Amanda Sweger looks over her notes during the dress rehearsal of "Drive."
8. Assistant Professor of Theatre and director of "Drive" Lori Lee Wallace.
9. Director Lori Lee Wallace reacts to a last-minute adjustment during dress rehearsal.

state-of-the-art Studio Theater and scene shop on the northwest side of the building, where the KPLU studio once was.

Once completed, the Studio Theater would host most, if not all, of the theatrical productions while the second phase of construction took place: the complete renovation of the auditorium, re-named Eastvold

Auditorium in the Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

Scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2013, the Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts will feature the completely renovated 630-seat Eastvold Auditorium and Ness Family Chapel, formerly known as Tower Chapel. When complete, the two

stages will be capable of mounting both student-directed and faculty-directed productions in one of the more technologically sophisticated venues in the region. All at the heart of campus.


As of now, the Studio Theater shoulders the entire burden – and is doing so gracefully.



# A YEAR IN THE STUDIO THEATER

Most recently in March, the Studio Theater played host to the production of Paula Vogel's 1998 Pulitzer Prize-winning play "How I Learned to Drive." The studio proved to be a fine showcase for PLU's student actors, as well as two of PLU's newest faculty members: Assistant Professor of Theatre Lori Lee Wallace, who directed the performance, and Assistant Professor of Theatre Amanda Sweger, the lighting and scenic designer.

On these pages, University Photographer John Froschauer was set loose upon the Studio Theater to see how it is living up to its billing as a vibrant,

flexible and busy asset to the PLU community. As evident from the photos, it is certainly all this, and more. 

## Next up in the Studio Theater

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," directed by Artistic Director of Theatre and Associate Professor of Theatre Jeff Clapp, May 10, 11, 17, 18 at 7:30 p.m., and May 19 at 2 p.m.

*To learn more about PLU's theater venues, including a link to photos of the continuing construction of the Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, visit [www.plu.edu/soac/venues](http://www.plu.edu/soac/venues)*

It is a classroom.  
It is a lecture hall.  
It is a scene construction site.  
It is a between-classes hangout.  
It is a late-night hangout.  
It is an ad hoc faculty office.  
It is an *Imaginarium*.

Named theater seats in the remodeled Eastvold Auditorium are still available with a gift of \$1,000. See <http://www.plu.edu/development/featured-projects/eastvold-restoration>



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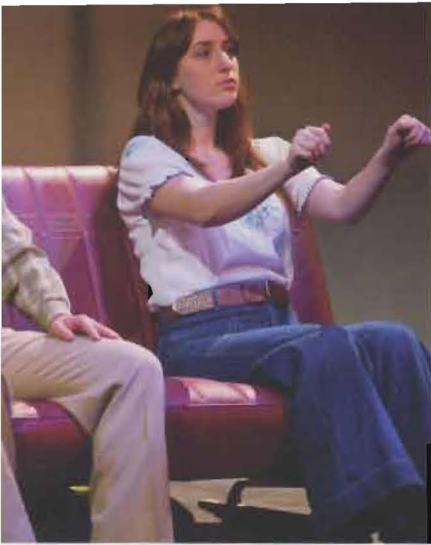
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14



15



10. Lisa Harrington '13 in the control room during "How I Learned to Drive" dress rehearsal.

11. A production model for "Drive."

12. Evan James Hildebrand '14 waits to go onstage at the dress rehearsal of "Drive."

13. Ali Rose Schultz (Li'l Bit) and Jack Sorensen (Peck) perform in the dress rehearsal of "Drive."

14. Technical director and Instructor of Theatre Henry Loughman and students raise a projection screen.

15. Assistant Professor of Theatre Amanda Sweger walks off the stage boundary.

16. Louis Hobson '00 works with Cameron Waters '16 during a J-Term workshop. Hobson performed on Broadway as a lead character in "Next to Normal."

17. Backstage in the Scene Shop.

18. Louis Hobson speaks to students during a J-Term workshop.

19. Louis Hobson.

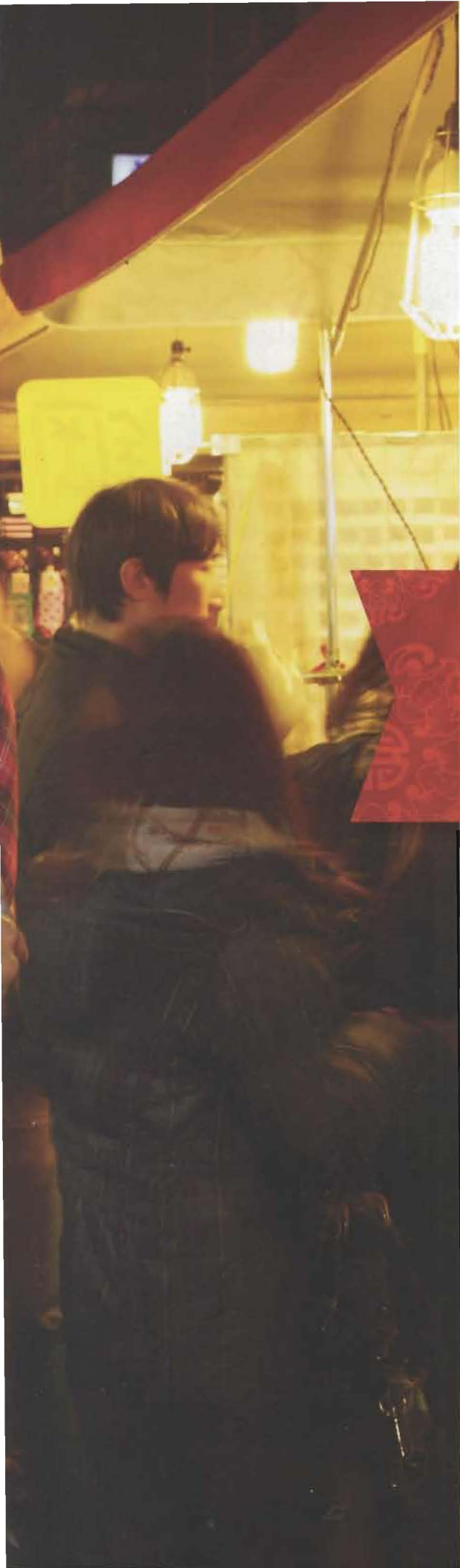
20. Louis Hobson looks on as Associate Professor of Theatre Jeff Clapp '89 addresses the J-Term class.



"In China, I didn't speak Chinese, and I didn't know anything about the philosophy, history or culture. But I told myself I was going to take a risk, even if it means trying something I didn't want to do."

—MYCAL FORD

BY BARBARA CLEMENTS



# SAY YES TO EVERYTHING

## How PLU's study-away program in China changed Mycal Ford's life

Mycal Ford eyed the skewer of fried scorpions he held at arm's length in front of him and knew he had a decision to make.

**Mycal Ford '12 pauses for a moment in a bustling produce market in Kaohsiung, Taiwan.**

Was he going to hold true to his promise to himself – “Say yes to everything”? He had come to Chengdu, China, one of six PLU Gateway programs, with the promise not to hold back, to engage the culture and the Chinese people, and to take advantage of new opportunities. So was he going to commit, or not?

He closed his eyes and chomped down on the scorpions that he'd bought from a market vendor. Two years later, Ford '12 tries to describe the taste. He gives up.

“Crunchy, and a taste I don't even want to remember,” he said with a laugh from Kaohsiung, Taiwan, where he is teaching English and hip-hop dance as a U.S. Fulbright Scholar.

Photo by Neil Wade

# SAY YES TO EVERYTHING



Ford, the first in his family to attend college, recalls his three-month-long experience in Chengdu during his junior year as a time that changed his perspective.

"China did change my life. It changed me. It offered me a chance to look deep within myself and accept that

invitation to think differently and feel differently about my world and myself," Ford said.

"In China, I didn't speak Chinese, and I didn't know anything about the philosophy, history or culture," he said. "But I told myself I was going to take a risk, even if it means

trying something I didn't want to do."

Looking back, two years later, Ford is glad he took the risk. He's now six months into his Fulbright experience in Taiwan, teaching English in two elementary schools, and for those who are interested, hip-hop dance



# GATEWAY PROGRAMS

Pacific Lutheran University's six Gateway Programs – in China, Norway (Oslo and Telemark), Mexico, Namibia and Trinidad-Tobago – provide PLU students with an opportunity to take a deep dive into the culture, politics and history of the country. Each program has a specific emphasis, such as change of an emerging world power in China and peace and conflict studies in Oslo, all offer students a chance to engage the culture and change their viewpoints on the world and its citizens.

For more information, go to [www.plu.edu/studyaway](http://www.plu.edu/studyaway)



after class. He will be wrapping up his Fulbright commitment in June and then continuing to graduate school, probably back in Chengdu.

And he's still trying to get a handle on the Chinese language.

"I will spend hours and hours practicing, and the difficulty will bring me to

Tukwila, Wash., and had no intention of going to college until a friend, who was attending PLU at the time, suggested he consider it. That conversation made college seem real and attainable for the first time, Ford reflected. With the help of an Act Six Scholarship, one thing led to

tears," Ford said. "But once in a while, I'll have a conversation that flows. And that makes it worth all the effort."

His fascination with all things Chinese began in Chengdu where, during the breaks from studying and tours, he'd walk the streets. Obviously, he stood out in a very homogeneous society. He found that the people of China were just as curious about him as he was about them. They would often approach Ford on the street and assume he was a basketball player or a rap star on vacation. Even his Chinese friends were astonished he couldn't shoot a basketball or sing.

Yet, eventually, they began to learn about his culture, and he theirs. Ford saw Chengdu as an opportunity to share not only American culture, but also African-American culture.

"Chengdu is all chaos and frenzy," Ford said of the city, population 14 million. "But I found peace in this chaos and all the craziness around me. I found myself asking what it meant to be me, Mycal Ford, in this country."

Ford grew up in Tukwila, Wash., and had no intention of going to college until a friend, who was attending PLU at the time, suggested he consider it. That conversation made college seem real and attainable for the first time, Ford reflected. With the help of an Act Six Scholarship, one thing led to

another, and he ended up at PLU.

When Ford got to PLU, he quickly found that the norm for students was to study away. He found scholarships through the Wang Center that would eventually send him first to Norway and then to China. And it is there where his life changed.

China was "like studying a puzzle," Ford said. And a puzzle that drew him in with its people, art, history and politics. His curiosity simply wouldn't let him put the topic or the place aside.

Through those three months in Chengdu, he found he loved the stillness in the country, and the frenzy in the city; the open curiosity of its citizens toward him, and their generosity in inviting him to everything. There, he found the ability to keep his promise to himself: Say yes to everything.

"It was the catalyst to defining me as a person in my culture and as a leader in the community," Ford said.

When Ford returned to PLU, he knew that his future was going to be linked to international studies. He changed his major and began diving into Chinese studies. Then his history professor, Adam Cathcart, suggested he might want to apply for a Fulbright Scholarship as Ford entered his senior year.

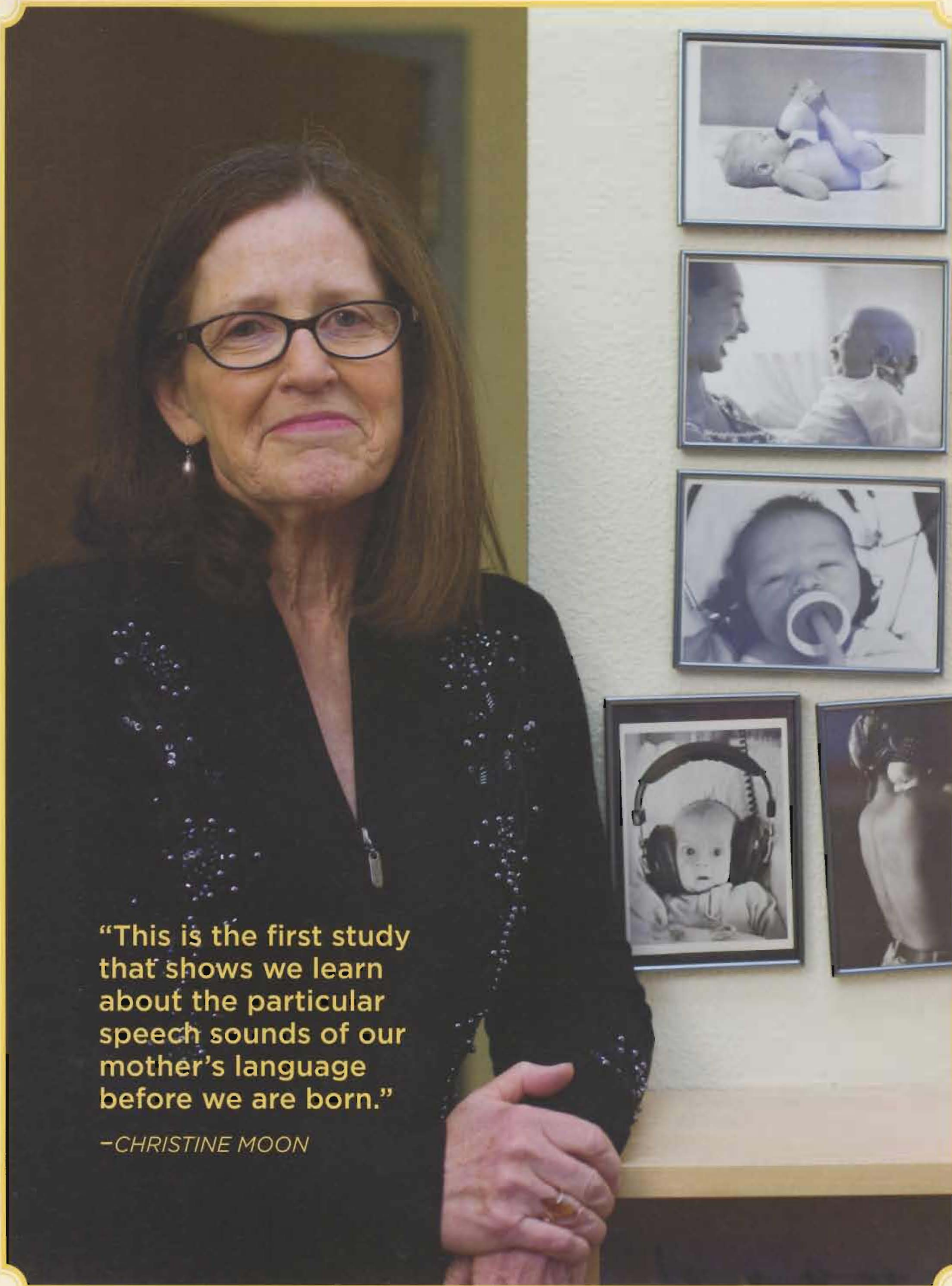
"I remember asking, "What was that?" Ford laughed.

So he did, and found out last year he was accepted in the U.S. Fulbright program to go back and teach English in Taiwan for the 2012-13 academic year. Eventually, Ford sees himself working at a policy institute or think tank, or perhaps the U.S. State Department with a focus on United States-Sino relations.

After that? Who knows. It all depends on the next challenge that presents itself to Ford.

Whatever it is, he's certain to say "yes" to it. ☐

To view a video of Mycal Ford talking about his experience in China and Taiwan, visit [www.plu.edu/mycal-ford](http://www.plu.edu/mycal-ford)



“This is the first study that shows we learn about the particular speech sounds of our mother’s language before we are born.”

—CHRISTINE MOON

# BILINGUAL LEARNING STARTS IN THE WOMB

PLU PROFESSOR DISCOVERS THAT BABIES IN UTERO ARE DEVELOPING BILINGUAL LANGUAGE SKILLS

Newborns are much more attuned to the sounds of their native language than first thought. In fact, these linguistic whizzes can up pick on distinctive sounds of their mother tongue while in utero, a new study has concluded.

Research led by Christine Moon, a professor of psychology at PLU, shows that infants only hours old showed marked interest for the vowels of a language that was not their mother tongue.

"We have known for over 30 years that we begin learning prenatally by listening to the sound of our mother talking," Moon said. "This is the first study that shows we learn about the particular speech sounds of our mother's language before we are born."

Before the study, the general consensus was that infants learned about the small parts of speech – the vowels and the consonants – postnatally.

"This study moves the measurable result of experience with individual speech sounds from six months of age to before birth," she said.

The findings were published in *Acta Paediatrica* in late December 2012.

For the study, Moon tested newborn infants shortly after birth while they were still in the hospital in two different locations: Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma and in the Astrid Lindgren Children's Hospital in Stockholm, Sweden. Infants heard either Swedish or English vowels and they could control how many times they heard the vowels by sucking on a pacifier connected to a computer.

Co-authors for the study were Hugo Lagercrantz, a professor at the Karolinska Institute in Sweden as well as a member of the Nobel Assembly, and Patricia Kuhl, endowed chair for the Bezos Family Foundation for Early Childhood Learning and co-director of the University of Washington's Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences.

The study tested newborns on two sets of vowel sounds – 17 native language sounds and 17 foreign language sounds, said Kuhl. The researchers tested the babies' interest in the vowel sounds based on how long and often they sucked on a pacifier. Half of the infants heard their native language vowels, and the other half heard the foreign vowels.

"Each suck will produce a vowel until the infant pauses, and then the new suck will produce the next vowel sound," Kuhl said.

In both countries, the babies listening to the foreign vowels sucked more, than those listening to their native tongue regardless of how much postnatal experience they had. This indicated to researchers that they were learning the vowel sounds in utero.

"These little ones had been listening to their mother's voice in the womb, and particularly her vowels for 10 weeks. The mother has first dibs on influencing the child's brain," Kuhl said. "At birth, they are apparently ready for something novel."

While other studies have focused on prenatal learning of sentences or phrases, this is the first study to show the learning of small parts of speech that are not easily recognized by melody, rhythm or loudness. Forty infants were tested in Tacoma and another 40 in Sweden. They ranged in age from seven to 75 hours after birth.

Vowel sounds were chosen for the study because they are prominent, and the researchers thought they might be noticeable in the mother's ongoing speech, even against the noisy background sounds of the womb.

The study shows that the newborn has the capacity to learn and remember elementary sounds of their language from their mother during the last 10 weeks of pregnancy (the sensory and brain mechanisms for hearing are intact at 30 weeks of gestational age).

"This is a stunning finding," Kuhl said. "We thought infants were 'born learning' but now we know they learn even earlier. They are not phonetically naive at birth."

Prior to studies like this one, it was assumed that newborns were "blank slates," added Lagercrantz. He said that although it's been shown that infants seem to be attuned to sounds of their mother tongue, this same effect now seems to occur before birth. This surprised him.

"Previous studies indicate that the fetus seems to remember musical rhythms," he said. "They now seem to be able to learn language partially."

Kuhl added that infants are the best learners on the planet, and while understanding a child's brain capacity is important for science, it's even more important for the children.

"We can't waste early curiosity," Kuhl said. "The fact that the infants can learn the vowels in utero means they are putting some pretty sophisticated brain centers to work, even before birth." ■

—BARBARA CLEMENTS

# the arts

## Student Juried Exhibition

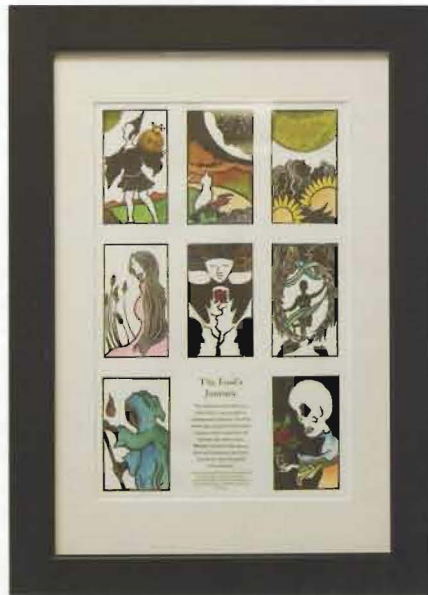
Collected here are selected works from the recent Student Juried Exhibition that took place in the University Gallery Nov. 14 through Dec. 12, 2012. More than 50 student works, chosen by guest jurors, were on display. It was one of six exhibitions in the gallery during the 2012-13 academic year.

The season will culminate with the senior exhibition, titled "Unfiltered," April 24 through May 25. Twenty-three graduating seniors - painters, sculptors, photographers, printmakers and graphic designers - will take part. Those seniors will be responsible for all aspects of the event, including advertising, branding and installation. An opening reception will take place April 24 from 5 to 7 p.m. □

TO SEE A COMPLETE LIST OF EXHIBITS IN THE UNIVERSITY GALLERY, VISIT [WWW.PLU.EDU/ART/UNIVERSITY-GALLERY](http://WWW.PLU.EDU/ART/UNIVERSITY-GALLERY)



"CHINESE ROSES"  
Kailey McEvelly '13  
Sumi



"THE FOOL'S JOURNEY"  
Nick Sanford '13  
Letterpress, Linocut, Watercolor



"NEWTON TOWNSHIP - HF 589"  
Siri Johnson '13  
Lithography  
FIRST PLACE



"MINOTAUR"  
Taylor Andringa '13  
Ceramic



"MAN IN CAGE"  
Taylor Cox '15  
Digital Photography

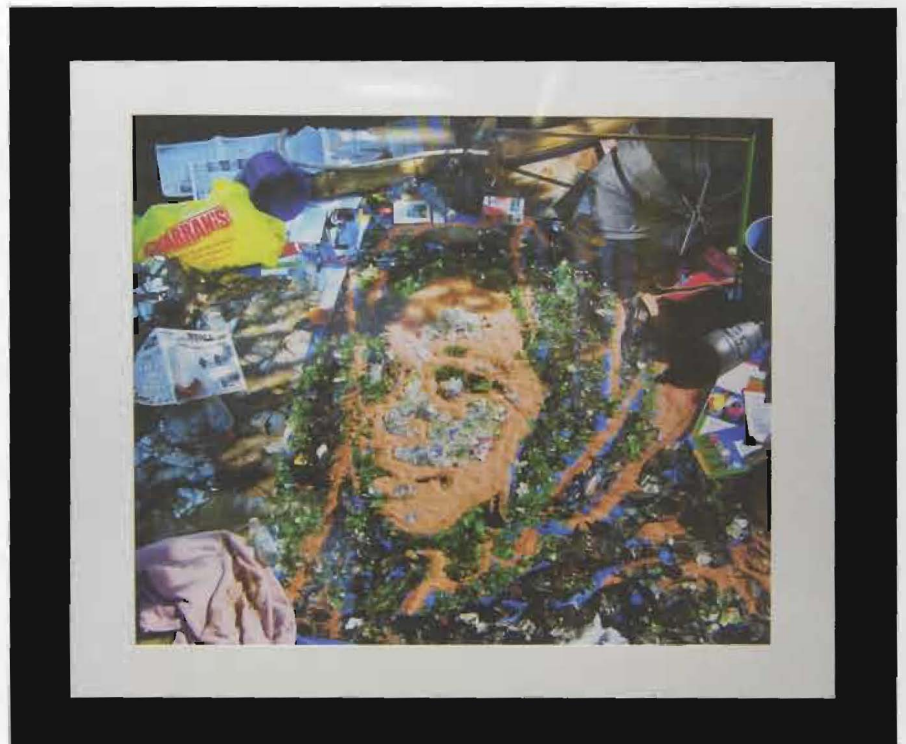


"'P' AS IN POWER, 'H' AS IN HUNGRY"  
Anders Hamilton '15  
Ceramic

SECOND PLACE



"REFLECTION"  
William Erich Hess '13  
Oil on canvas  
HONORABLE MENTION



"DAUGHTER CARIBBEAN"  
Taylor Carlisle '13  
Photography  
THIRD PLACE





# attaway lutes

## Cancer survivor inspires teammates with spirit, perseverance and a mid-90s fastball

It was only one pitch, but it was a pitch filled with emotion for PLU pitcher Max Beatty '14 and the entire PLU baseball family – coaches, players, parents, fans.

When Max Beatty threw the first pitch of the 2013 Pacific Lutheran baseball season opener to Concordia University batter Sheldon Austria on Feb. 4, it concluded one harrowing chapter in Beatty's life and turned the page to new chapters to be written, including one filled with dreams of a professional baseball career.

It was a year ago in December, during the winter break between fall semester and J-Term, that Beatty's life took a dramatic turn. A visit to the doctor revealed that Beatty had testicular cancer.

Within a week's time and unaware of Beatty's diagnosis, Baseball America magazine, one of the nation's top publications dealing with amateur baseball, named the PLU right-hander as its top 2012 professional draft prospect currently playing NCAA Division III baseball.

Following a surgical procedure to remove both of his testicles, Beatty was hopeful of returning to the Lutes for the 2012 season, but post-surgery blood work found cancer tracers.

With months of chemotherapy treatment ahead, Beatty moved back to his hometown of Vancouver, Wash., and faced both the cancer and the chemotherapy as he would an opposing batter – with the determination to get a strike out.

"Throughout the whole process, I stayed completely positive. I knew I was going to beat this, it was only a matter of when," Beatty said.

Doctors put Beatty on a chemo regimen of five rounds lasting eight hours a day for five consecutive days, followed by two weeks off – 15 weeks. He spent those long hours watching movies and playing video games on his iPad. And he planned for his return to the baseball diamond.

Beatty lost his hair and was frequently tired during his treatment,

*continued on page 37*

# alumni news & events

## MORE THAN JUST A GRADUATION YEAR



## AFFINITY GROUPS BRING THE UNIVERSITY TOGETHER

BY ADRIANNE (CRYER '09) JAMIESON

It was Joy (Tuff '74) Liezen's first time back to campus for at least 10 years when she attended the Skonesera Choir of the West reunion last July. Coming back for her affinity reunion was an easy decision.

"It wasn't that I simply wanted to attend, I could not miss this event," Liezen said. "Being a member of the Choir of the West was a highlight of my years at PLU. Some of my best memories are of rehearsals, concerts and tours."

It is opportunities like this that allows Lutes of all ages to reconnect

with the university. Affinity groups or reunions at PLU are based on specific areas of interest, which can be academic, cultural, professional, social or spiritual. For the last 10 years, alongside the traditional milestone class reunions, the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations has worked with alumni volunteers to incorporate affinity reunions like the Choir of the West reunion that was so important to Liezen.

Experience tells us that alumni often gravitate toward other graduates who

have like interests – often more so than gravitating toward graduates of their specific year. By gathering together alumni not just of one class but of discipline, passion or affinity, there is increased dialogue and interaction across generations. Affinity reunions held for 75 years of football, the School of Nursing, and Choir of the West have brought large numbers of alumni back to campus. That makes for a robust reunion.

But this isn't just about attracting larger audiences, but about bringing



**LEFT:** Fellow altos Sharlene (Anderson '77) Klein and Joy (Tuff '74) Liezen at the Skones-ara Chôir of the West reunion last summer.

**BELOW:** Former Choir of the West members warm up at the reunion.



**OPPOSITE PAGE, FAR LEFT:** The "50 years of the School of Business Gala" at the Hotel Murano, March 2011.

**OPPOSITE PAGE, BOTTOM:** Charleen Tachibana '77 speaks at "Meant to Live" during Homecoming 2011. Projected on the screen behind Tachibana is a photo of her nursing friends from her time at PLU.

**LEFT:** Former PLU football coach Frosty Westering and others celebrate at the "75 Years of PLU Football" reunion in 2003.

**BELOW:** Robert Randoy '89 and Mark Barfield attend the PLU-Chengdu University reunion last September.



together people with a common interest or experience. Affinity reunion groups have ranged from fewer than 30 for the first Chengdu University study-away experience to nearly 400 attendees for the "50 years of the School of Business" gathering.

We aren't re-creating the wheel, and these affinity reunions aren't exclusive to Homecoming weekend - affinity reunions are structured around milestones or events that are already happening on campus throughout the year. This month, alumni who

participated in Dance Ensemble over the years will come back to campus to enjoy Dance Ensemble 2013, followed by a reception in their honor with the current ensemble members. In May, Theater alumni are invited back to campus to watch "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" performed by current students in the new black box theatre, and catch up with friends at a light dinner with the cast afterwards.

So why go to the trouble? Our alumni feel more connected to the university when they are invited to remember why

they loved going to PLU. The more alumni feel connected, the more likely they are to contribute to the ongoing success of the university - not just financially, but by recruiting great new students, being a career mentor, and volunteering their time and talents. Alumni support helps ensure that current students have the chance to feel just as connected to PLU as the alumni do.

**What is your PLU affinity? Tell us about what you were involved in while you attended through the Online Directory.**

# alumni news & events

continued



## LET'S PLAY BALL!

BASEBALL SEASON is upon us and we are getting ready for one of our favorite summer events, PLU Night at the Rainiers. Last year, more than 1,000 Lutes enjoyed an evening at the ballpark. This year, let's pack Cheney Stadium with PLU alumni, students, family and friends again. This event is a great way to end your summer with a bang while enjoying the company of other Lutes.

PLU Night at the Rainiers will take place on August 16, 2013. For only \$10.50 a person, participants will enjoy admission to the game, a hotdog, soda and chips. The Tacoma Rainiers will be taking on the Colorado Springs Sky Sox. The game starts at 7 p.m., but we encourage everyone to get there early to enjoy your time with your fellow Lutes.

There will be a PLU hospitality tent with lots of Lute mementos, PLU information and friendly smiles for all attendees. The entire evening's program will represent PLU and the best the university has to offer. Everything from the national anthem, to the first pitch, to the on-field games between innings will feature Lute participants and programs.


### Tickets on sale now!

**Register early to ensure you can attend this fun-filled summer tradition. Tickets can be purchased from the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations for \$10.50 through [www.plualumni.org](http://www.plualumni.org) or by calling 253-535-7415.**



# Join the Click!



**W**hat were you involved in while a student at PLU? Be it men's or women's basketball, ASPLU, Choir of the West, Hawaii Club, Dance Ensemble or Media Lab, the Online Directory is a great place to affirm your PLU affinities. When you add the student activities and sports you participated in while at PLU to your profile, you ensure that you are kept in the loop for any reunion events planned for those important parts of your PLU experience. The Online Directory is also a wonderful resource that alumni can use to search for classmates, teammates and friends, as well as make new connections with people in your area. If you haven't already done so, take advantage of this free resource today! To register for the PLU Alumni Online Directory go to [www.plualumni.org](http://www.plualumni.org); it only takes a couple of minutes to sign up. If you are already registered, be sure to add your PLU affinities today! 

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Homecoming

# 2013

October 11-13, 2013

## ALUMNI BOARD NOMINATIONS OFFICIAL BALLOT

2013-2014 ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following candidates are nominated for the 2013-2014 Alumni Board of Directors. Please vote for three candidates – two response boxes are provided if two alumni live in the same household.

Detach this form and mail before August 1, 2013, to the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, Nesvig Alumni Center, Pacific Lutheran University, 12180 Park Avenue S., Tacoma, WA 98447. You can also cast your ballot online at [www.plualumni.org](http://www.plualumni.org).

- Linda Strand '67
- Mike Willis '74
- Noreen Hobson '00

\_\_\_\_\_  
(WRITE-IN CANDIDATE(S))

\_\_\_\_\_  
(WRITE-IN CANDIDATE(S))

BALLOT

### Pencil Us In

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 12.....Crew Alumni Gala Fundraising Dinner, Hotel Murano
- April 26-27.....Dance Ensemble 2013, Olson Auditorium
- April 27.....Dance Ensemble Affinity Reunion, PLU campus
- April 26-27.....Relay for Life, PLU Track
- May 5.....Parents Council Meeting, PLU campus
- May 11.....Theatre Alumni Reunion, PLU campus
- May 26.....Commencement, Tacoma Dome
- June 12.....Berry Festival, Red Square
- July 10.....Berry Festival, Red Square
- July 11, 18, 25.....Jazz Under the Stars, MBR Amphitheater
- August 7.....Berry Festival, Red Square
- August 1, 8, 15.....Jazz Under the Stars, MBR Amphitheater
- August 16.....PLU Night at the Rainiers, Tacoma
- September 9.....Opening Convocation, Olson Auditorium
- October 11-13.....Homecoming 2013 Weekend

For more information: [www.plualumni.org](http://www.plualumni.org) or call 800-ALUM-PLU.

# alumni profiles

A volunteer experience in an elementary school sets alumna on path to Mongolia



After growing up in a small town near Chehalis, Wash., Bonnie Nelson '08 at first wanted to just "be a face" in the crowd and chose to go to a large public state university rather than Pacific Lutheran University.

She soon realized this was a mistake.

"I knew within weeks that this wasn't for me," Nelson said during an interview from Mongolia. "It wasn't the education I was looking for, and I didn't know my professors."

Laughing now, Nelson said her father, Glen Nelson '69, knew that PLU was the right choice for her, but he had to let his daughter find that out on her own.

"He knew all along that PLU was the right fit for me," said Nelson, whose sister, Annalee Nelson '01, is also an alumna. The credits were easily transferred and Nelson was able to get financial aid and a scholarship to make the transition.

Instrumental in her development of her passion for service was a class with

Professor of Psychology Jon Grahe, and an opportunity to work with students at Thompson Elementary in Spanaway.

"Working with those children, and in that program, it changed everything for me," said Nelson, who graduated with a degree in psychology. "I knew then that I wasn't going to be a research scientist."

PLU encouraged everyone to get involved, she said.

"Everyone you knew was working on a service project, or volunteering in some way," she said. "PLU does a really good job of emphasizing that you aren't put on the planet to serve yourself, but to be a global steward."

A J-Term program to Bolivia, and then a trip to Thailand while she was pursuing a graduate degree in educational policy and leadership study at the University of Washington, cemented her desire to travel. And to serve. By 2011, she was ready to join the U.S. Peace Corps. But she never imagined she'd end up in Mongolia

which, at four people per square mile, has the lowest population density in the world. She had let the Peace Corps decide where to send her, but the assignment still came as a surprise.

During her last two years there, Nelson has found a renewed passion for service as she teaches English at a technical college. She also helps residents of Baruun-Urt, located on the eastern steppe in Mongolia, set up Facebook and email accounts or do whatever is necessary.

She's also been working with local service organizations on the Good Father Project. In Mongolia's rapid push to become a democracy, social issues came up, including alcoholism and unemployment. Through photos, essays and support groups, the Good Father Project reaches out to men and holds them up to the community as good fathers.

It's a country of incredible vistas, rolling out toward a distant horizon,

without a tree or mountain to interrupt the view. Yurts sport solar panels and satellite dishes. Camels, donkeys and goats share the streets with SUVs or Lexuses.

"I think the mixture of modern and traditional surprised me," she said. "I'd be in a grocery line and someone in traditional dress would be buying something like an iPad."

In addition to the fact that there are

no trees within eyeshot – nor mountains ("I miss Mt. Rainier!") – Nelson has had to get used to the cold. She has a nice apartment at Mongolian University of Science and Technology, but sometimes the heater doesn't work. And when it's 20 degrees below zero, that can be a problem.

"I wrap up in all the blankets I have and get near a space heater," she laughed.

After a quick vacation in Norway, where she'll meet up with her family, Nelson will be deciding what to do next. She will look for a job. She's considering setting up a youth service center.

"I plan to encourage others to serve, and do so myself, as much as I can," she said. "It's such a meaningful part of life."

—Barbara Clements

## Building relationships, one structure at a time

**P**resident of Korsmo Construction, John Korsmo '84, is building more than just academic halls.

His company, founded by his father, John Korsmo Sr., is focused on sustaining community, both at PLU and in the greater Tacoma area.

"We want to be of help where we can," Korsmo said.

Korsmo Construction, with 65 years of experience behind the name, has been responsible for such projects in the region as the Henry M. Jackson Memorial Visitor Center at Mt. Rainier National Park and, here on campus, the Martin J. Neeb Center and Studio Theater.

"It was a real privilege building a building, knowing it would be named for Martin, and to be able to build that building on campus," Korsmo said.

Korsmo and his company have received numerous awards, including McGraw-Hill Publishing Company's National Best of the Best Award in the retail and hospitality category. Despite these achievements in construction, Korsmo said he is more proud of his community service. Ten years ago, Korsmo established an organization called Helping Hands, a program in which his employees and their families donate time and talents to charitable organizations.

Through Helping Hands, Korsmo Construction has been able to support organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club, the YMCA and Toys for Tots.

"We always try to find a way to help," Korsmo said.

After the tragic shooting of four Lakewood police officers at a Forza coffee franchise, Korsmo Construction helped create the memorial at the café.

"It came to our attention, and it felt right," said Korsmo. "It was just an automatic response."



John Korsmo '84 (far right) and Lisa Korsmo '87 (far left) stand with Barbara and Martin Neeb in front of the Martin J. Neeb Center, home of KPLU.

Korsmo's leadership in volunteerism earned his company the Corporations for Community Award, given by the secretary of state. Korsmo Construction was the sole recipient of this award statewide, and it is an accomplishment in which the company takes great pride, said Korsmo.

"John's volunteerism transcends the company," said Scott Ramsey '85, fellow PLU alumnus and director of sales and marketing at Korsmo Construction. "There are many of us here individually involved in other organizations, and a lot of that comes from John's encouragement."

Korsmo attributes much of his community activism to his experiences at PLU. Korsmo said he has always felt connected to the university and enjoys giving back to PLU and the greater Tacoma area community. In a way, Korsmo said he is following in the footsteps of his father, a PLU alumnus as well, and also an active part of the community.

In addition providing overall guidance and leadership to the entire Korsmo Construction team, Korsmo also serves as a member of numerous boards, including the AGC of Washington, Broadway Center for the Performing Arts and PLU School of Business Executive Advisory Board. He also serves as a Lakewood Water Commissioner.

—Igor Strupinskiy '14

## PLU grad reaches new horizons, finds calling at NASA

**A**fter coming across an ad for a job at NASA in the newspaper, Sheryl Wold '76 decided to take her chances and send in an application.

Wold didn't just land the job – she beat out more than 250 applicants who had more relevant research experience.

She now finds herself with a career she loves but never once expected. Wold was contracted by the government through the University of California, Santa Cruz to work for NASA and has been there for close to 20 years.

She said the thing that set her apart was her experience working as a therapist for six years after graduate school. This background made her a prime candidate for the human resources department of NASA, which is where she got her start in the organization.

"Moving was one of the best things that ever happened to me. It made me grow up," said the Oregon City, Ore., native.

During her time at NASA, Wold has held various positions within the space agency. From 1987-1991, she worked in the human resources department, maintaining a range of responsibilities from improving the efficiency of hiring practices to organizing new employee programs. She also gave occasional tours of the NASA facilities.

"I am a master at walking backwards in high heels," Wold said with a laugh.

After taking a brief hiatus from work to travel with her first husband for his job, she was re-hired to work for NASA in 1997.

Wold began working with the research and development side of NASA to track milestones, develop software, narrow

continued on page 36

# classnotes

Representative positions available: **1960, 1965, 1975, 1980, 1998 and 1999**

**Pre-1936, 1937-1939, 1941-1944, 1946, 1947**

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

**1936**

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

**1940**

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

**1945**

Class Representative – **Annabelle Birkestol**

**1948**

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

**1949**

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

**Carl T. Fynboe** died Nov. 8. A longtime Lakewood resident and educator, Carl was a member of the PLU Board of Regents from 1967-76, in addition to heading Clover Park High School and the Annie Wright School. The Fynboe family moved to Parkland in 1938 when the Carl's father, Carl S. Fynboe, took a job at PLC. Carl attended grade school in Parkland and graduated from the defunct Pacific Lutheran Academy before enrolling in undergraduate studies at the University of Washington in 1944. He dropped out after one quarter to enlist in the Navy during the final months of World War II. Shortly before he enlisted, Carl met Ingrid Martinson. They were married a couple of years later. After the war, Carl graduated with honors from PLC. Carl served with various boards and charities and volunteered for Christian organizations. He was president of PLU's alumni association three different years, and served for nine years on the Charles Wright Academy's board of trustees. Fynboe is survived by his wife of 65 years, **Ingrid (Martinson '48) Fynboe**; daughters **Karen Fynboe '73** and **Kathy (Fynboe '71) Buser**; son **Chris Fynboe**; daughter-in-law **Karie Hamilton**; and grandchildren, including **Andrea Howe '02**.

**1950**

Class Representative – **Dick Weathermon**

**Glenna (Nelson) Brunner** died June 15. It was in the Choir of the West that she met **Louie Brunner**. They were married on August 25, 1950. Glenna served actively by Louie's side in his pastoral ministries. She was also an outstanding elementary school teacher for many years. She and Louie raised four children. Glenna believed in her children and encouraged them in whatever they chose to do. Her life changed in 1971 when she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. She was a woman of deep faith in Christ who faced adversity and ministered to

many with grace through her smiles and her singing. She is survived by her husband, Louie, of 61 years; her four children; her twelve grandchildren; her two great grandchildren; and her sister, Nancy. She was preceded in death by her brother, Richard; her sisters, Roberta, Donna and Kay; and her daughter-in-law, Signe.

**Edith (Ross) Lunde** died July 19. She met the love of her life, Vernon Lunde, through her best friend and cousin, Anne Berglund. Vernon then married his beautiful bride on Oct. 21, 1950. Soon after, they moved into a four-plex at the foot of Queen Anne hill in Seattle. In 1952, they moved to Medina and built their first home where they raised their four children. They continued as members of Grace Lutheran Church since 1953. Edith was a founding member of the first ladies prayer group that continues still today. They opened their homes and their hearts to many exchange students as well as women and children who had experienced domestic violence. She spent her life loving and serving her family, friends, and anyone who passed through her life. Edith leaves behind her husband, Vernon Lunde; children Karen, Kathy, Ross, and Kay; 12 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; 1 great-great grandchild; her sister Nelly Jacobson; and her brother Lawrence Ross.

**1951**

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

**Gerald E. Roth** died Aug. 25. Jerry taught in the Portland (Ore.) Public School System from 1951 to his retirement in 1985. In the summers he worked on excavation projects and formed the G.E. Roth Trucking business from 1985 to 1997, at which time he turned it over to his son, Tom. He also served several years as the caretaker of the historic Columbian Cemetery, just as his father did. He is survived by his wife, Marlene; children, Tom, Lisa and Diana; and PLU grandson, **Nels Flesher '06**.

**1952**

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

**E. Luther Kroenk** died Oct. 5. He was ordained into the Lutheran Ministry in 1956. Pastor Kroenk served churches in California and for 30 years at Zion American Lutheran Church in Seattle. In his retirement he served as minister of music at United Lutheran Church in Tacoma. He is survived by wife, **Charlotte (Johnstone '59) Kroenk**; and PLU step-daughter, **Kathryn Torvik '82**.

**1953**

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

**1954**

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

**Donald Hefty** died Oct. 20. As a Lutheran minister, he served parishes in Minnesota as a certified alcohol and clinical counselor at St. Johns Hospital in Fargo, N.D., and at Serenity Lane in Eugene, Ore. He also served as chaplain for Sacred Heart Hospital in Eugene, and Bethany of the Northwest in Everett, Wash. He was an active volunteer in Ducks Unlimited in Everett and Marysville, Washington, after retirement. Don is survived by his wife, Martha; son, Eric; and daughters, Elise and Lynn.

**1955**

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

**1956**

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

**Jerry Slattum**, retired art professor at California Lutheran University, was named Outstanding Scandinavian American of 2012 by the Scandinavian American Cultural and Historical Foundation in Thousand Oaks, California. This honor is given each year to individuals who have made significant contributions to their Scandinavian heritage and their chosen profession.

**1957**

Class Representative – **Ed Larson**

**Robert "Bob" Nordeen** died Dec. 7. Bob grew up on a family farm in Minnesota until his family moved to De Kalb, Ill., when he was in eighth grade. Bob attended Northern Illinois University and later graduated from PLU. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Bob married **Evelyn (Peterson '53) Nordeen** in 1955, and they shared a life together for more than 57 years. Bob taught industrial arts in the Edmonds School District for 25 years. He thoroughly enjoyed his family, traveling, church activities and musical programs. Bob will be thoroughly missed for his kindness, gentleness and encouragement. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn; sons and daughters-in-law, David and Freddie Nordeen, and Steven and Susan Nordeen; grandchildren, Nicole Hundley, Matthew and Mari Nordeen; and great-grandson, Kellan Hundley.

**1958**

Class Representative – **Don Cornell**

**1959**

Class Representative – Golden Club Representative



**Richard Londgren**, has had four novels selected for Kindle e-books. Another of his books, "Communication by Objectives," is for sale by Amazon. Two other books can be purchased

from him: "Big Shy in the Big Sky" and "Poor Richard's Tips from the Great Depression." Write to [kronapress@verizon.net](mailto:kronapress@verizon.net) for more information.

**1960**

Class Representative – Vacant

**Helene (Hemstad) Schuller** died Sept. 17, 2009. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 56 years, Michael Schuller who died in 1999. She was also preceded in death by her parents, Alf and Lillie Hemstad; and her three brothers. She is survived by son Michael; daughter Marie; niece Linda, who looked on Helene as her Auntie Mom; four grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; as well as many beloved nieces and nephews. Her dedication and love of her family was one of the guiding lights of her life.

**1961**

Class Representative – **Ron Lerch**

**Oswald "Al" Varness, Jr.** died Sept. 11. Al joined the U.S. Navy in 1954 and spent three years in active duty and another five years as a reservist. Al graduated from PLU with a degree in mathematics and his teaching certificate. He earned a master's degree from Seattle University in 1972. He spent his entire 30 year career teaching mathematics at Lake Washington High School in Kirkland, Wash., and influenced multiple generations of Kangaroos as they went through his classes. Al loved playing chess and was the advisor of the chess club at LWHS for many years. While at PLU, Al met **JoAnn (Corey '61) Varness**. They were married for 45 years when JoAnn passed away in 2006. Al and JoAnn raised their children, Eric and Michele in Kirkland. Al enjoyed fishing, travelling, card games with friends and spending time with his grandchildren and family. Al is survived by his son and daughter; four grandchildren; and his sister, Agnes Jay.

**1962**

Class Representative – **Leo Eliason** and **Dixie (Likkell) Mathias**

**1963**

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

**Arvid Lokensgard** retired in 1998 from Piper Jaffray, INC. He has three children and five grandchildren.

**1964**

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

**Karen (Rommen) Guzman** died Oct. 16. After completing her education at PLU and graduating with honors, Karen began her teaching career and started a family. Karen later received her master's degree in English at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Ore. While being a mom was her primary focus, Karen was quick to become involved in church activities,

parent education, square dancing and regular trips to the coast. After the family seized an opportunity to spend one year in Washington, D.C., Karen discovered that her teaching certificate had expired. Rather than return to school for additional credits, Karen chose a completely different path and took a position with the OSU Federal Credit Union. She remained with OSUFCU until her retirement 22 years later. Karen is survived by husband, Juan; daughters Juanita and Kristine; sister, Charlene; and many in-laws, cousins, nieces and nephews from her extended family.

### 1965

Class Representative – Vacant

**Stanley Hoobing** was interim pastor in northeast Montana at First Lutheran Church in Circle and American Lutheran Church in Richey from March 7 to July 31. On Aug. 15, he started work with two churches in southeast Idaho, Bethel Lutheran in Firth and Emanuel Lutheran in Blackfoot. This is all part of his new job description, "Have Sermon, Will Travel."



**Joan (Peterson) Cotterill** died June 20. After graduating with a bachelor of science in nursing, she worked as an emergency room nurse in New York City and San Francisco, where she met her husband, Robert W. Cotterill. She continued to work as a nurse in Los Angeles but took several years off to raise a family. She returned to work as a nurse in Aurora, Colo., and finally retired after working for several years in Tacoma, Wash. Joan loved quilting, spending time with family, and taking care of others. She is remembered for her quick wit, kind spirit and amazing courage. She is survived by loving family and friends who miss her very much.

**Robert Hart** died Nov. 4. Bob thrived on learning and sharing his knowledge with any enthusiastic listener. He loved history, especially of the Skagit Valley and of his own genealogy. Above all, Bob was passionate about preserving the farming community in the Skagit Valley and wanted nothing more than to see his family farm be preserved for generations to come. He served as Skagit County commissioner, chair of the Office of Farmland Preservation, president of Skagitians to Preserve Farmland, and commissioner for Drainage and Irrigation District #15. He leaves behind his wife, Marjorie; son and his daughter in law, Thomas and Cheryl and their three sons; daughter and her husband, Linda and Todd and their three children; a daughter, B. Jennings; two sisters, Martha and Linda; two stepsons John and James, and a stepdaughter Catherine; and many extended family members.

**1966**  
Class Representative – **Frank Johnson**

**Marcia Johnson** has lived in Asia since 2007, and is currently in Shanghai, China. She and her husband operate Binocular Vision Shanghai. The consulting company specializes in information systems

services for pharmaceutical companies conducting drug discovery research in China.

### 1967

Class Representative – **Craig Bjorklund**

### 1968

Class Representative – **Jim and Georgia (Stirn) Girvan**

**Jim Girvan** and **Georgia (Stirn) Girvan** both retired from positions at Boise State University in July of 2011. They are enjoying time to set their own schedule. Both are actively involved in church and community volunteering, as well as traveling to new destinations.

### 1969

Class Representative – **Bill Ranta, Patsy (Davies) and David B. Johnson**

**T. Glen Lockhart** is the author of several documentaries. His current publications include "Last Man Standing," about the life of private Smokey Smith who was Canada's last surviving holder of the Victorian Cross; "Vancouver's Most Lovely Lady" about the life of Yvonne deCarlo; and "Mr. Golf of Be" about the life of Ernie Brown.

**David Richardt** retired after 12 years as upper school drama director and part-time English teacher for Marywood - Palm Valley School, a private college-prep school in Rancho Mirage, Calif. Between those 12 years and his 31 years at Rogers High School in Puyallup, Wash., Dave leaves education after 43 years in the classroom. He resides in the Palm Springs, Calif., area with his partner of 22 years, Scott. They especially enjoy visiting with the two granddaughters from Dave's son and his wife in Puyallup, and new grandson from Dave's daughter and her husband in Nashville, Tenn.

**Nancy Kingston** married Jerry Collins in March 2012. They reside in Vancouver, Wash.

### 1970

Class Representative – **Bill Allen**

**Douglas Lambrecht** recently retired from emergency medicine after 34 years. He is currently doing locum tenens for family physicians who take vacations, and occupational medicine and urgent care part-time. Douglas raised four children to adulthood. All have moved out, have their own apartments and are gainfully employed. **Katherine Lambrecht '10**, recently graduated from PLU. His daughter Jillian, 25, lives in Everett, works at the Athenian Restaurant in Pike Place Market and is on the Bombshells dance team for the American Stealth professional lacrosse team. Jillian went to Arizona State University for three years. His son Ryan, 23, graduated from Washington State University last year and got a job with G.R.Horton, the nation's largest homebuilder. His son Nathan, 21, works for Red Robin in Redmond, Wash.

### 1971

Class Representative – **Paul D. Johnson**

**Eileen (Rue) and Bruce Reichert '75** are delighted grandparents of Future

Lute, Tallis Daniel Reichert, son of **Aaron Reichert '04** and wife, Kristin. Eileen is an ARNP at Seattle Children's Hospital. Bruce is a Color One commercial photo lab manager. Their son Andrew, works as a test technician for Element. Aaron builds pipe organs with Taylor and Boody Organ Builders.

### 1972

Class Representative – **Molly Stuen**

**Jody (Schwich) Marquardt** and her husband, Mick, retired last summer. They plan to work on their new house in East Wenatchee, Wash., do some foreign traveling, and spoil their grandsons in Minnesota and Indiana.

**Karl Arne** died May 26. Karl was the only son of **Olga (Hugo '37) Arne** and **John "Al" Arne '36**, who both preceded him in death. Karl's PLU tenure was interrupted when he enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he served from 1967 to 1970. When he returned to PLU, he graduated with a degree in chemistry. From 1972 to 1978 he was a graduate student at Washington State University in Pullman, studying synthetic organic chemistry. In 1980, Karl began a 28-year career at the Environmental Protection Agency that focused primarily on pesticides. He retired from the EPA in 2008. Karl pursued an active mix of outdoor activities, including travel by foot and bike. In August 2012, Karl was chosen to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award by The Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP), which is presented to those who have dedicated their lives to advancing alternatives to pesticides. Karl is survived by his two sons, Jacob and John; a grandson; former wife Cheryl; his sisters, Anne and Lisbeth; PLU niece **Kimberly (Lusk) Manz '95** and her husband, **Erik Manz '98**; and a large circle of caring friends.

**Bill Hope** died Dec. 16. Bill was a Seattle businessman and Washington native. Bill attended St. Michael's University School in Victoria, B.C., and PLU. He loved his cats, and he loved his partner, Patrice, for 32 years. Bill always had a smile on his face. His sense of humor was contagious, his friendship was constant. He was one of a kind and will be missed by all who knew him.

### 1973

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

**Stan Olsen** retired in 2010 as senior project manager for Alcan General, where he was responsible for projects across Alaska. He and his wife, Sally, are active members of the Alaska Mountain Search & Rescue Group, Mountaineering Club of Alaska and avid climbers, skiers, hikers and pack-rafters. Both are members of Central Lutheran Church in Anchorage. During 2011 and 2012, Stan and Sally completed an eight month bicycle trip in SE Asia covering Turkey, Indonesia, Laos, Vietnam and China. Central Asia remains to be covered next year. Stan is currently CEO and special projects director for the Kuwaa Mission, which provides potable drinking water and health-care services to remote villages in Liberia, which do not have access to potable water. See

[kuwaamission.org](http://kuwaamission.org) for more information.

**Michael Tripp** just retired from a 20-year career at AIG in New York City where he rose to become the president of multiple divisions. Prior to AIG he worked for 20 years at Fireman's Fund Insurance Company in Seattle and San Francisco. He is now a resident of Scottsdale, Ariz., where he is enjoying the beautiful weather, catching up on his golf game, preparing to race his Porsche, and traveling with his wife, Pamela. All three of his children are out of college and living in New York City, Georgetown, Washington and Istanbul, Turkey.

### 1974

Class Representative – **David E. Johnson**

**Gene Sharratt** was recently promoted to associate professor and director of the Washington State University College of Education superintendent certification program.

### 1975

Class Representative – Vacant

**James Yockim** is enjoying spending winters in Queen Creek, Ariz. He is currently serving as the vice chair of the North Dakota Association of Non-Profits.

**David Smith** recently joined Conoco Phillips as a conformance engineering advisor.

### 1976

Class Representative – **Gary Powell**

**Elaine (Johnson) Schwartz** recently retired from 21 years of teaching fifth grade at Zion Lutheran School in Corvallis, Ore. Her new pursuits will involve substitute teaching, home organization and cleaning for others, and travel with her husband, Michael, who recently retired from a 33-year career with the U.S. Forest Service. Their first trip was to visit their son, **Andrew Schwartz '07**, in New York City. In April of 2013, they'll fly to Muscat, Oman, to see their daughter, Kelsey, and family. Son-in-law, Colin, teaches at The American International School of Muscat.

**Theodore Plocki** retired in July 2011 as a lease manager from Washington State Department of Transportation, real estate services. He now spends his time traveling with his wife, Rosemary, and has taken camping and hiking trips to National Parks including Arches, Bryce Canyon and Zion in Utah, the Grand Canyon, Glacier Park, Mont., and climbing Mt. Larsen in Northern California.

**Todd Wagner** and his wife, MaryAnn, six years ago adopted a baby girl, Lucy, who was abandoned at a hospital in Seattle. Lucy has turned out to be a great blessing to their family. Being 60 years old with a 6-year-old is a wonderful experience, as Lucy keeps Todd young.



**Kevin Reem** has won Houston Film Festival Silver and Bronze Awards, Columbus International Film and Video Festival Bronze

Award, World Film Fest and Golden Angel

## Picture Perfect



Chris Egan '95 from KING 5, Ray Heacox '76 from KING-5, and Michael Fox '04 from KIRO-7 were Northwest Regional Emmy Award winners in June 2012. Photo by Jerry and Lois Photography.

On July 19, a group of old friends gathered at the Walters' new home in University Place, Wash. The alumni are left to right: **Doug Mjorud '65**, Phyllis Mjorud, **Jim Ruble '67**, Barb (Erickson) '66) Ruble, **Marjorie (Omdal '66) Paulson**, **Robert Paulson '65**, **Cheri (Duracher '66) Beer**, **Stephen Beer '69**, **Jan (Temte '67) Walters**, and **Clarence Walters '67**.



The PLU Nursing Class of '61 met for their biennial reunion at Sunriver, Ore., August 7-10, 2012. Front row (left to right): **Bonnie (Hanson) Nielsen**, **Dyann (Lonberg) Schierholtz**, and **Nelda (Reede) Chandler**. Second row: **Byrde (Eckrem) Stordahl**, **Ruth (Goldenman) Hezinger**, **Meg (Thiessen) Roberts**, **Susie (Berg) Levy**, and **Margrethe "Mari" (Gregersen) Famstrom**. They came from Ohio, Illinois, Idaho, California, Washington and Oregon. Unable to attend were **Cris (Christensen) Capelli**, **Marilyn (Nickelsen) DeVerne**, **Marilyn (Beise) Elhart**, **Jan (Engen) Lyon**, and **Susan (Baldwin) Stone**.



Friends from 1972 gathered again – this time at Skamania Lodge on the Columbia River, Wash., for a weekend of fun, relaxation and reminiscing. Enjoying the fellowship were, front row (left to right): **Claudia (Barnes '73) Pierson**, **Cherie (Johnson '72) Bradshaw**, **Karen (Roberts '72) Enhalder**, **Gerd-Inger (Gregersen '72) McDougall**, **Linda (Clement '72) Anderson**, **Kathy (Meyer '72) Hauge**, **Diane (Christensen '72) Smith**, **Laurel (Clark '72) Chentow**, **Robin (George '72) Gehrs**. Back Row: **Pennie (Knight '72) Narver**, **Molly Stuen '72**, **Christie (Ness '72) Kaaland**, **Linda (Loken '72) Wilcox**, **Bonnie (Lae) Jacques**, **Glenda (Gunning '72) Millman**, **Karen (Vance '70) Bell**, **Sherrie (Canney '72) Elmer**, and **Christy (Peterson '72) Youngquist**.



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

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

Awards, and was a U.S. International Film and Video Festival Bronze Award finalist. Most of his professional experience is Disney-nurtured, having worked as a producer, writer and director in four major divisions: Walt Disney Imagineering, The Disney Channel, Disney Home Entertainment and most recently Disney.com. Additionally he ran his own production company for seven years, which won several awards in various video and film genres. Kevin is presently producing and directing a documentary feature about mental health entitled "Believe In Me."

**Alan Krause** is chairman and CEO of MWH Global in Broomfield, Colo.

#### 1977

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



**Keith Davis** was named the 2012 Idaho Family Physician of the Year by The Idaho Academy of Family Physicians. A tribute was made to Dr. Davis for his generous contributions to his profession, to medical education and to his service and dedication to the community. After starting his solo private practice,

Shoshone Family Medical Center, in 1985, Keith continues to serve his community through active participation in civic organizations and healthcare related activities. Keith and his wife, **Diane (Lund) Davis '75**, have three children: **Anika**, **Brian Davis '04** and **Karla**.

#### 1978

Class Representative – **Pete Mattich**

**Donald W. Wilson** recently retired and travels regionally (in the western United States) as often as he can.

**James Nieman** was installed as the seventh president of the Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago.

#### 1979

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

**Daniel R. Anderson** graduated in May 2012 with a Ph.D. in congregational mission and leadership from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. The title of his dissertation is "Soli Deo Gloria! A Doxological Hermeneutic of Mission in Emerging Ministries in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America." Dan is an adjunct instructor and research consultant in the Doctor of Ministry programs at Luther Seminary and serves as the director of the Minnesota Consortium of Theological Schools.

#### 1980

Class Representative – Vacant

**Rev. K. David Daugs** was installed as senior pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Moscow, Idaho, on Sept. 23. The Rev. Bishop Martin Wells was presiding. Pastor Daugs' call to Emmanuel began on July 6. His spouse, Kristen, recently began teaching mathematics at Moscow Middle School. They have three grown children, Philip, 28, Ian, 27, and Mara, 25. Pastor Daugs is in his 28th year of ordained ministry.

**Michael Haglund** was awarded the highest honor that Duke University could honor, being given an endowed chair in the department of surgery. He currently holds the position of the distinguished professor of neurosurgery, neurobiology, and global health at Duke University.

#### 1981

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

**Munro Cullum** recently became the president of Division 40 of the American Psychological Association. Munro is the Pamela Blumenthal Distinguished Professor of Clinical Psychology, chief of the psychology division, and director of neuropsychology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

**Edna Giesler** was named in September the interim department chair for the department of social work at the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh.

#### 1982

Class Representative – **Paul Collard**



**Estelle M. Kelley** and **Jason M. Weber** married on a magical day at the foot of Diamond Head in Honolulu, Hawaii.

**Linda E. Davis**, long-time art promoter and artist, displayed four of her Aboriginal art pieces in the show "Music: Our Creative Response in Visual Art, Writing and Song" as part of a Minnesota branch of National League of American Pen Women exhibit. The show, with eight other artists exhibiting 35 pieces, was comprised of musical scores, poetry and fine art. Among many venues, Linda's artwork and involvements have been displayed at Blaine City Hall, on North Metro Television, the Anoka Chamber of Commerce, Minneapolis Institute of Art and Anoka-Ramsey Community College.

#### 1983

Class Representative – **Dave Olson**





**Julia Pomerenk** was presented the Woman of the Year award by Washington State University. The presentation took place at the Women's Recognition Luncheon on the Pullman campus last spring. Julia has served as the university registrar at WSU since 2003. From 1998-2003, Julia served as the University Registrar at PLU. This November, Julia completed her term as President of PACRAO (Pacific Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers) after presiding at the annual conference in San Diego, Calif.

#### 1984

Class Representative – **Mark Christofferson**

#### 1985

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

#### 1986

Class Representative – **David Carlson**

#### 1987

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

**Darlene (Bullock) Lamont** died Oct. 9. Darlene was born and raised in Tacoma, and proudly earned a degree in psychology from PLU. Darlene loved children and ran a home daycare for 20 years. She was well known in the local woodworking community and taught many others to carve. Darlene had unending optimism, a great sense of adventure, and lived life to its fullest. She is survived by her six children; PLU daughter-in-law, **Katherine (Toop) Lamont '07**; her mother, **Betty Bullock**; her five brothers and sisters; her three grandchildren; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

**Constance Bates** has a small but active writing business, Bates Writing and Editing. She feels privileged to have proofed the yearly "Profile" magazine for the Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce, is ghostwriting for a local sculptor, and her first series of radio ads just aired for southern Oregon's new local station, KCMD 99.3. She hopes to be attending the Rainier Writing Workshop at PLU this spring.

#### 1988

Class Representative – **Brenda Ray Scott**

#### 1989

Class Representative – **Brendan Rorem**



**Del Shannon** recently published a hilarious short story, "Battle of the Naked Zydeco Bands," in the humor anthology, "Fifty Shades of Funny: Hook-ups, Break-ups and Crack-ups." The story, which describes the antics surrounding a yearly competition of zydeco music bands at a nudist colony, will leave you in stitches – and thankful you're not a nudist. It is available on amazon.com.

#### 1990

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

**Heidi (Kreger) Elston** married Craig Elston in July.

#### 1991

Class Representative – **Jim Morrell**



**Rick and Marla (Swanson '89) Evans** have 10 children (six are adopted). Their second oldest daughter, **Abigail**, recently got married to **Anthony Sierra** on July

27. Marla just started a new job in Normandy Park, Wash., as the director of children and family ministries for John Knox Presbyterian Church, and Rick is an account manager for Otsuka Pharmaceuticals.

**Kathy Pheister** studied for a year to take the International Board Certified Lactation Consultant exam in July 2012. She is now working as a registered nurse and lactation consultant in Portland, Ore. She assists new moms and babies in the early stages of breast feeding. It is challenging but well worth the effort to get the certification!

#### 1992

Class Representative – **Rebecca Benson**

#### 1993

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

**Joel Kittinger** joined Microsoft in mid-September as a senior software development engineer. He works in the developer division.

**Robert "Bob" Nelson** died Nov. 16. He served in the U.S. Army National Guard in Alaska and in Chicago during the riots in the 1960s. Bob had a keen grasp of the tech industry and was instrumental in developing medical databases that are still used today. Later in his career, he was awarded a degree in computer science from PLU. Bob will be remembered for his never ending dry

## In Memorium

#### 1949

**Carl T. Fynboe** died Nov. 8

#### 1950

**Glenna (Nelson) Brunner** died June 15  
**Edith (Ross) Lunde** died July 19

#### 1951

**Gerald E. Roth** died Aug. 25

#### 1952

**E. Luther Kroenk** died Oct. 5

#### 1954

**Donald Hefty** died Oct. 20

#### 1957

**Robert "Bob" Nordeen** died Dec. 7

#### 1960

**Helene (Hemstad) Schuller** died Sept. 17, 2009

#### 1961

**Oswald "Al" Varness Jr.** died Sept. 11

#### 1964

**Karen (Rommen) Guzman** died Oct. 16

#### 1965

**Joan (Peterson) Cotterill** died June 20  
**Robert Hart** died Nov. 4

#### 1972

**Karl Arne** died May 26  
**Bill Hope** died Dec. 16.

#### 1987

**Darlene (Bullock) Lamont** died Oct. 9

#### 1993

**Robert "Bob" Nelson** died Nov. 16

#### 2004

**Michael Henson** died Sept. 18

## Friends and Family

**Lucille (Luci) Agnes Iacuessia** died Sept. 14. Luci worked as a legal secretary for a prominent Puyallup law firm and later enjoyed a successful career in the business office at PLU. She was an active member of St. John Bosco Catholic Church. Her interests included family, gardening, puzzles and

reading. Luci was preceded in death by her brothers Eugene and Leo, and sisters Katherine, Barbara, Claire, Mary, and Margaret. She is survived by her daughters **Carole Cash**, **Gina Ames** and **Sandra Fox**; her son **John Iacuessia**; her nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Kathlyn Breazeale** died Sept. 23 after living with cancer for two years. Kathi grew up in Natchitoches, La., where she graduated with a B.S. from Northwestern State University. She graduated *Magna Cum Laude* with a B.A. from Centenary College, earned a M.Div. with distinction from Iliff School of Theology in Denver, and a Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University in California. Kathi was a member of the religion departments at three colleges and universities, most recently serving as associate professor at PLU where she focused primarily on feminist and womanist theologies. Kathi is survived by her partner, **Jon Berkedal**, and his children, **Kai** and **Bjorn Berkedal '12**; parents, **Dr. Archie** and **Fay Breazeale**; brother, **David**; sisters, **Lisa** and **Julie**; and three nieces and one nephew. Kathi's sister, **Alison**, preceded her in death.

**Phylaine Folsom** died Nov. 2. Phylaine was raised on the family farm in North Dakota and moved to Tacoma with friends where she worked for DSHS for 30 years, retiring at the age of 62. Phylaine loved to travel and dance. She was an active member of Central Lutheran Church and the Daughters of Norway. She leaves behind a legacy of generous giving to PLU and Concordia College. She was preceded in death by her brother, **Kenneth**, and her parents. She is survived by daughter, **LuAnn** and grandson, **Aaron**.

**Kurt Mayer** died Nov. 13. Kurt came to America with his parents in 1940 as a 10-year-old Jewish refugee from Nazi Germany on one of the last ships to leave Europe. Many of his family members perished in the Holocaust. He eventually settled in Tacoma and in 1957 established the first volume home-building company in the area. The company is now known as Mayer

Built Homes. Kurt operated the company until 1981, building thousands of single-family homes and multi-family apartment units in Washington, Idaho and Colorado. Kurt was the first person of the Jewish faith to serve on Pacific Lutheran University's Board of Regents, serving from 1995 to 2005. In 2006, Kurt and Pam were recognized with a Special Recognition Award during the annual Alumni Awards ceremony. The Mayer family was instrumental in the development of the university's Holocaust Studies Program, being one of two prominent Tacoma area families who funded a \$1 million endowed professorship in Holocaust Studies at PLU in 2007. Mayer published his memoir, "My Personal Brush with History," in 2009, the proceeds of which benefit the endowed professorship. In addition to his wife of 51 years and their two children, **Natalie Mayer** and **Joseph (Gloria) Mayer**, he is survived by three grandchildren.

**Kristen B. Solberg** died Nov. 28. Shortly after receiving his doctorate in 1953, Dr. Solberg was invited to head the newly established psychology department at PLC. Later he served as the dean of students at PLU until 1964. Dr. Solberg worked for the Veteran's Administration as a clinical psychologist from 1965 until his retirement in 1982. For the last 10 years of this work he was the chief psychologist at American Lake, Wash., during which time he was instrumental in establishing one of the first Vietnam veterans outreach programs in the country. Dr. Solberg then set up a private practice, **Valley Psychological Services**, and taught as an adjunct faculty at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Wash. Dr. Solberg was a past president of the Washington Psychological Association, and served for 15 years on the Washington State Examining Board of Psychology. Kris is survived by his wife, **Opal**; two sons, **Ken** and **Don**; daughter, **Ona**; his brother, **Knud**; four grandchildren, **Jessica**, **Kristin**, **Kevin** and **Bridget**. He also is survived by many adopted sons and daughters.

# 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 May 15, 2013.**

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 (MM/DD/YY) GENDER MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/>
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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](mailto:alumni@plu.edu); **Internet:** [www.plualumni.org](http://www.plualumni.org). Please limit to 100 words.

humor, incredible intellect, and warm heart. Bob is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Alexandra and Patrick Sweeney; his older brother William, and several close nephews.

## 1994

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

**Tuan Trinh** is the CFO of Economic Opportunity Council of San Francisco, Inc.

**Jennifer (Berger) Allison** is now working as a librarian for foreign, comparative and international law at the Harvard Law School Library in Cambridge, Mass.

## 1995

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

**Nancy (Keene) Steele** accepted the human resources manager position at the newly organized Washington Health Benefits Exchange, building and implementing the statewide health benefit exchange platform that will allow uninsured residents to determine their eligibility for health-care subsidies and tax credits, which will help them find an affordable health plan beginning in 2014. Nancy believes this is an exciting opportunity to be part of something that will be such a service to the uninsured people in the state of Washington.

**Jennifer (Nicoll) Manchester** completed her master's of science in nursing in December at the University of Colorado. She is now a family nurse practitioner.

## 1996

Class Representatives – **Steve** and **Kimberly (Nadon) Leifsen**.

**Steve Leifsen** was recently named principal at Edgerton Elementary School in Puyallup, Wash.

## 1997

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

**Doug Thompson Kisker** started a new job as pre-clinical project manager at Seattle Children's Hospital, Research Institute, Ben Towne Center for Childhood Cancer Research. He and his wife also had their second son, Riley Kisker, in Feb. 2012.

## 1998

Class Representative – vacant

**Matt Bliss** was granted a design patent on Oct. 2, 2012, on a modern version of a Christmas tree. The design was inspired by his grandfather, Bud Stoecker. The trees are sold worldwide through the website [www.modernchristmastrees.com](http://www.modernchristmastrees.com) which Matt launched in November of 2011. The site and business have been a rewarding tribute to his grandfather, who passed away in November of 2012 after battling Alzheimer's. A portion of the proceeds from tree sales goes to the Alzheimer's Association.

**Bernhard Nielsen** was made professor of strategic management at Copenhagen Business School in Copenhagen, Denmark.

## 1999

Class Representative – Vacant

**Jamie (Gabriel) Farman** recently returned to the classroom after taking three years off to stay home with her two daughters, and is now teaching Spanish at Cascade High School in Everett, Wash. Jamie thinks teaching Spanish is so much fun, and it is exciting for her to see students learning a new language with enthusiasm!

## 2000

Class Representative – **Ashley Orr**



**Ashley Orr** earned the use of the exclusive Mary Kay Pink Cadillac in July. As a senior independent sales director,

Ashley received this promotion by demonstrating outstanding business and leadership skills.

## 2001

Class Representative – **Michael Mauss** and **Brianne (McQuaig) Vertrees**

**Joanne Landis** was appointed principal of Sacajawea Middle School in the Federal Way (Wash.) Public Schools in June 2012. She previously served as assistant principal at Sacajawea Middle School.

## 2002

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

**Kari Rallo** became the senior director of annual giving and grateful patient family programs at Seattle Children's Hospital in October.

## 2003

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

**Branden Durst** was elected to the Idaho State Senate, District 18, in November.

**Bruce Sadler** is one of 84 teachers selected for participation in the Teachers for Global Classrooms Program (TGC). The TGC is a multi-phased program that offers a unique opportunity to build global competence in the U.S. classroom through international professional development for teachers.

**Wendy Heibel** was selected to work as one of the Air Force White House nurses in Washington, D.C.

## 2004

Class Representative – **Tammy Lynn Schaps**

**Tamara Lynn Schaps** graduated in August 2012 with a master's degree in higher education administration from The George Washington University Graduate School of Education and Human Development. She now is serving as director of career services for the Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington in Seattle, Wash.

**Michael Henson** died Sept. 18. Michael had a generous spirit and will be remembered for his dedication to

human rights advocacy, environmental awareness, the Rainbow City Band, the Northwest Network where he worked, and his love of his Holden Village family. He was a champion of love, acceptance and equality. Michael was preceded in death by his twin sisters, Diana and Deborah; brother, Christopher; sister, Pamela; and brother, Patrick. He is survived by his husband, Stephen Nash; his parents; his nephew, Kaeden Henson; Kaeden's mother, Jena Brocious; his grandmother, Wasalea Henson; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.



**Kerry (Weathers) O'Flaherty** married Ryan O'Flaherty at The Kelley Farm in Bonney Lake, Wash., on March 31. Lutes in attendance were **Maggie (Eastman) Woods** and **Ally (Gramson) Swann**, who were both matrons of honor.

## 2005

Class Representative – **Micheal Steele**

## 2006

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

**Tara (Peterson) Ohman** is a registered nurse in Spokane, Wash. She and her husband, Jeffery, have two children, Aubrey, 4, and Evan, 2.



**Kimberly (Dixon) Khan** married **Alex Khan** on Aug. 25 in Kirkland, Wash. Lutes in attendance included **Sherri (Dixon '03) Templeton**, **Shannon (Greene '08) Wetherald**, **Kyle Wetherald '08**, **Lindsay Park '08**, **Erin Drummond '08**, **Angela Linderman '08**, **Rebecca Lewis '08**, **Adrienne Semann '08**, **Jessica Muir**, **Belinda Ho '08**, **Eric Gordon '09**, and **Jessica (Steberl '08) Postma**.



**Andrea (Wold)** married **Nick Huseby** in July. There were five Lutes in the wedding party: **Erika (Liming) Stichka**, **Andrea (Gabler) Ames**, **Jessica Holden '07**, **Laura (Thompson) Krueger**, and **Karin (Johnson '07) Teig**. Also in attendance were **Tyler Pugh**, **Matthew Wuerffel '07**, **Kevin Claus**, **Justin Klump '05**, **Christina (Pelto) Madison**, **Tyler Gubsch '10** and **Carrie (Draeger '10) Gubsch**.

**Mandy (Olson) Olson-Tabor** married **Corey Tabor** at Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine, Wash., on Aug. 19. Lutes in attendance at the wedding included **Anna McLeod**, **Paul Scott '04**, **Elizabeth (Morlan) Scott**, **Melissa Schultz '05**, **Sarah Salisbury**, and **Brandi (Paul) Wilson**.

## 2007

Class Representative – **John McClimans** and **Kaarin Praxel**



**Kyle Nowadnick** married **Katie Bolton** on Oct. 6. There were more than 40 Lutes in attendance spanning three generations ranging from the class of 1952 to class of 2010. Kyle is a financial consultant with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, and Katie is a registered nurse.

**Kyle Franklin** graduated with honors in December from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash., with his master's degree in religious studies.



**Jonathan Novotney** married **Cecily (Hale '08) Novotney** on Aug. 18 in Orcas Island, Wash. Lutes in attendance included the best man, **Robert**

**Grolbert '06**, groomsmen, **Thomas Purbaugh '06** and **Keith Petersen '06**, bridesmaid, **Kelsey Lee '08**, and **Beth (Zimmerman) Grolbert** who officiated. The music was played by **Daniel Mooney '06**.

**Blake Thiess** accepted a job as senior human resources associate with KPMG in Portland, Ore.



**Brad Lubken** launched his business, **Lubken Budgeting Services**, in October. When studying business at PLU, he dived his finance and accounting classes, but Professor Fern Zabriskie not only helped him get through the classes, but guided him through the material, ensuring he did not fall behind. Since then, Brad has self-studied personal finance and the stock market. He has recently built an easy-to-use tool that allows the customer to create a budget, get out of debt, save for their child's education, invest for retirement, and build wealth. In addition to the tool, Brad offers one-on-one consulting.

## 2008

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

**Micah Pearson** married **Linnea Johnson (St. Olaf '08)** on Oct. 13. Lutes in the wedding party included **Eric Pfaff '09**, **Kara Reckin** and **Troy Benton**.



**Kathryn (Vogel) Pimental** married **Robbin Pimental '09** in Sudbury, Mass., on Oct. 24, 2009. Lutes in attendance included best man **Dane Schmick '11**, bridesmaid, **Catherine (Stout '09) Doyle**, **Jo-Petter Iversen '09**, **Andrew Reyna '09**, **Jenna (Callaway '09) Reyna** and **Hannah Storm '09**.

**Michelle De Beauchamp** was ordained in September at Bethany Lutheran Church

on Bainbridge Island, Wash. Michelle began serving a congregation in Castle Pines, Colo., in October.

## 2009

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



**Catherine (Stout) Doyle** married **Andrew Doyle '12** on Sept. 1 in Mukilteo, Wash. Many Lutes were in attendance, including bridesmaids **Kathryn (Vogel '08) Pimental** and **Kari (Stout '11) Munson**, and father of the bride, **Stephen Stout '69**. Catherine and Andrew met in China on a PLU Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band International Music Tour. Catherine is currently a third-year medical student at the University of Washington and Andrew is working towards becoming a nurse anesthetist.

## 2010

Class Representative – **Nick Caraballo** and **Jillian Foss**



**Cathy (James) Adams** published her first novel, "This Is What It Smells Like," with New Libri Press, Washington.



**Hannah Middlebrook** married **Nick Edwards '11** in Chehalis, Wash., on July 14. There were more than 30 Lutes in attendance at the wedding.

**Megan Galbraith** was recently promoted to production coordinator at Rhythm and Hues Studio in Vancouver, BC.

## 2011

Class Representative- **Caroline Olsen**, **Adam Story** and **Linsey Tveit**

**Jason Saunders** was awarded second place, The American Prize in Composition (Choral—Student Division), 2012. He won this prize for several choral works that he submitted for consideration to The American Prize. All of the works he submitted were composed while attending PLU and most were recorded by PLU ensembles or singers. Jason is currently attending the University of Southern California as a master of music candidate in choral music, with an expected graduation date of May 2014.



**Winston Xu** is the co-owner of a new wineshop on Capitol Hill, Seattle, called **Essence Wine Shop**. It is a very unique wine shop that serves the local community and has wine from the river valleys of

Washington, Oregon, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Germany.

## 2012

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

**Claire Smith** joined the Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest for a year of full-time volunteer service in El Programa Hispano, Proyecto UNICA, Gresham, Ore.

## Future Lutes

### 1992



**Borge Steinsvik** and his wife, **Regina**, welcomed daughter, **Sofia**, on Jan. 9 at Swedish Medical Center in Seattle, Wash.



**Lisa McCormick** and her husband, **Colm**, announced the birth of their son, **Declan Theo McCormick Delaney**, on July 24, 2010. Declan joined big sister, **Elsa**.

### 1995



**Mary "Liz" Perez** welcomed her son, **Jason Cole Perez**, on May 17. Liz recently received her master's degree in social work from University of Washington, Tacoma, in 2011.

### 1997

**Sharon Hagerty** and husband, **Kevin West**, welcomed their son, **Gabriel Ray West**, on April 13, 2011.



**Kristin (Van Ness) Castellini** and husband, **Edward**, welcomed their daughter, **Samantha**, on Sept. 12.

### 1999



**Craig Vattait** and wife, **Margaret**, announced the birth of their second daughter, **Lucia Margaret Vattait**, on Nov. 5, 2011.

**Seth Cooper** and his wife, **Gretchen**, announced the births of their second and third children, **Lorelei Ruth** and **Calista Pearl**, on Aug. 13. The family lives in Fairfax County, Va. Lorelei and Calista are the beloved granddaughters of **Delores (Holt '69)** and **Ken Klubberud '67**. For the past two years, Seth has worked as a research fellow at the Free State

Foundation, a free market-oriented think tank focusing on communications technology policy.

## 2001



**Brianne (McQuaig) Vertrees** and **Brian Vertrees '00** welcomed the birth of their daughter, Everly Jane Vertrees

on Jan. 6, 2012. Everly joins big brother, Langley. Brianne is a marketing and event management, and Brian recently joined Naturipe Farms as their Northwest account manager.



**Stacie (Lintvedt) and Jason Hanson** announced the birth of their daughter, Hadley Josephine Hanson, on July 20. Hadley joins big sister, Ellery.



**Anna (Hall) Anderson** and husband, Joe, welcomed a baby boy, Eli Clark Anderson, born July 23. Eli joins big sister, Rachel

Grace, who is 2 years old. Anna also just graduated with her master's of science in marriage and family therapy from Seattle Pacific University.

## 2002



**Jason Andrew** and wife, **Carrie (Thorpe '05) Andrew** announced the birth of their son, Jordan, on March 27, 2012. Jordan

joins big brother, Carson.

## 2003



**Emilie (Parrott) and Nicolas George** announced the birth of their daughter, Adelaide Poppy George, on Feb. 22, 2012.

## 2004



**Solveig (Berg) Munson** and **Patrick Munson '05** welcomed the birth of their daughter, Julia Bergen Munson

on December 26, 2011. Julia joins big brother, Graham, who is almost 4.



**McKenna (Manion) and Brandon Kyriess** announced the birth of their son, Aidan, on June 9. McKenna graduated with her

Ph.D. in molecular biology in Aug. 2011.



**Benjamin and Marianne (Silveira) White** celebrated the birth of their son, Finnleif Audun, on July 28, in San Diego, Calif. Finnleif's middle

name was given in honor of PLU Professor Audun Toven, who passed away in November 2011.



**2005**  
**Zheng (Grace) Sun '05 and Katsushiro (Ken) Nakagawa '05** welcomed a baby boy, Muneshiro Ryan Nakagawa, on

Nov 27, 2012.



**2008**  
**Kelsey (Dawson) Goodman** and husband, Clarence Goodman IV, welcomed their daughter, Elouise Faith, on Aug. 9,

2012.



**2009**  
**Blair (Brodie) and Ben Resare** announced the birth of their son, Samuel, on Sept. 17.



**2010**  
**Kelsey (Hauge) Scrupps** and husband, Ryan, welcomed son, Gavin, on Jan. 11, 2012. □



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## alumni profiles

continued

the focus of research, and monitor expenditures. She became a vital part of the systems engineering career team and worked more closely with the researchers.

"She knows how to get the best of out of them," said Deanna (Thorpe '76) Nowadnick, Wold's longtime friend and college roommate. "It's a gift."

Currently, Wold is part of NASA's research division and works with the Federal Aviation Administration to facilitate the movement of planes through its airspace.

Following the Challenger and Columbia disasters, there was a spike in security measures at NASA, and particularly in Wold's division. As a result, Wold has



Sheryl Wold '76 (far left) poses with a group of her office colleagues and their children on NASA Family Day.

been much more involved with the research side of NASA and keeping track of expenditures of government money for various projects. There's no way to predict what a day on the job will be like for Wold.

Considering where life has taken Wold, you might never have guessed how her career path began. She looks

back on her undergraduate years fondly. She knew right from the start PLU was the right place for her. After graduation, Wold went to graduate school at Portland State University to gain her master's degree in education with a concentration in counseling. She then went on to earn certification in personal management from Portland State in 1986.

As one of her closest friends and PLU college roommate for three years, Nowadnick said, "we knew early on that (psychology) was her first love."

After graduating from Portland State, Wold worked in the counseling field for six years, helping kids and teens who had been sexually

abused or had problems with addiction to chemical substances. However, this kind of work took its toll. Although she loved helping others, she realized that the psychology field might not be the right place for her.

"I wanted to do something with people who were happy to see me," she admitted.

That's when Wold took the leap and applied for the position at NASA.

Twenty years later, she couldn't be happier.

"It is a really fun place to work," said Wold of NASA.

Wold resides in the foothills of San Jose, Calif., with her fiancé, two horses and two mules. In her spare time, Wold enjoys trail riding with her fiancé. □ —Cassady Carlter '14

# attaway lutes

continued

but rarely did he deal with the overwhelming nausea suffered by many patients undergoing chemotherapy. He felt so good, in fact, that he continued to play catch with his older brother Sam, himself a former PLU baseball player and a 2011 PLU graduate, and he also played with Sam on a recreational basketball team.

When Beatty made appearances at early season PLU games in Portland, and later at home games on the Parkland campus, it buoyed the spirits of the players and PLU fans.

"Throughout the whole process, Max would talk about how much he missed baseball," said fellow pitcher Nathan Shoup '13, Beatty's friend and roommate. "I visited him a few times and each time he made me play catch with him in the driveway. As only Max would, he was working on his cutter. The guy was two months into chemotherapy and his ball was still alive. I believe he could have pitched last season with chemotherapy. His talent and resiliency are things I have become in awe of in my four years knowing Max."

Without Beatty, the 2012 Lutes finished 24-16 overall and in third place in the Northwest Conference with a 16-8 record. "His illness left a crater in our locker room," Shoup said. "We were probably a Max Beatty away from winning the NWC last season."

With chemo treatments finally behind him, Beatty made his return to the pitcher's mound during the summer, playing his second consecutive season with the Corvallis Knights' summer wood-bat baseball team for college eligible student-athletes.

Lacking stamina and trying to regain a feel for all of his pitches, Beatty took awhile to get back to where he had been the previous summer when he compiled a 6-1 record in helping the Knights to the West Coast League championship.

In eight appearances, including seven starts, Beatty compiled a 2-1 record, a 4.01 earned run average. His 40.3 total innings pitched ranked third on the team. While not as impressive as the previous summer, those numbers were



downright unbelievable considering what he had gone through during the previous seven months.

Even more encouraging than all of that for Beatty, however, was hearing from doctors early in the 2012 summer season that he was cancer-free; blood work showed no traces of cancer in his body. "To hear that news," he said at the time, "is awesome."

That was last summer. A couple of months later in October, Beatty was back with his Lute teammates for fall practice. Then, on Feb. 4 at the PLU baseball field, Beatty was on the mound.

He beat Concordia on that day, pitching two innings of shutout ball. Five days later in Arizona, he shut down Concordia (Texas), ranked No. 16 in Division III baseball, on five hits in eight innings. With two wins that week and an average of nearly 1.5 strikeouts per inning pitched in those two starts, Beatty earned Northwest Conference Pitcher of the Week recognition.

"It has been absolutely incredible having Max back out there," Shoup said. "It kind of just feels right seeing him in a baseball uniform. His return gives us the realistic possibility of going on a playoff run, not only because of his right arm, but because of his personality in the locker room and his leadership role. Baseball is a sport that you are supposed to play relaxed and Max has mastered the fun part, but his drive to compete and win is something you don't see very often. I believe the team is starting to take on that personality as well."

"He was my first real friend here at PLU and I cannot explain how proud I am of him. He went from preparing for the 2012 Major League Baseball draft to chemotherapy. And just one year later he is in the same spot he was before cancer. It's unbelievable. His baseball career will likely continue after his time in Parkland, but I can't imagine a better way to finish mine."

With a four-pitch arsenal and a fastball in the low 90-mile-per-hour range (he touched 94 on the radar gun in Arizona), Beatty appears to be back to normal. Baseball America certainly thinks so, listing the 6-foot-2-inch, 220-pounder as its No. 2 prospect in Division III baseball.

"Ultimately, it has been Max's drive to beat this disease, that has allowed him to get back to doing the things he loves," PLU baseball coach Geoff Loomis said. "Pitching is one of those things, and he's good at it. He never doubted that he would beat the cancer, and I never heard him say, 'Why me? Why did I get cancer?'"

A recent battery of tests, including a blood draw and a CT scan, showed a clean bill of health, meaning Beatty won't have to go back for a checkup for another year.

With professional scouts attending games with their radar guns and requesting information about the hard-throwing junior, the goal of a professional baseball career seems in the offing.

That goal, however, is something for a later chapter. For Beatty, this particular chapter – and season – is about the team fighting for, and winning, the Northwest Conference baseball championship, and with it a berth in the NCAA Division III postseason playoffs.

"The team goal is to win conference and advance to regionals and ultimately playing for a national championship," Beatty said. "Personally, I want to perform to the best of my ability and hopefully be able to enter and get selected in this June's MLB draft."

And that would turn the page to the next chapter. ■

—Nick Dawson

# calendar

continued from inside cover

## April 18, 7 p.m.

Jolita Hylland Benson Education Lecture: Digital Divides, Digital Literacies, and the Power and Potential of Connected Learning  
Scandinavian Cultural Center

## April 19, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

A SurPLUs Swap Party  
SurPLUs Warehouse

## April 19, 2 p.m.

Biology Department Seminar:  
Anne Stevens, MD, PhD  
Rieke 103: Leraas Lecture Hall

## April 20, 5:30 p.m.

PLU/UPS Saxophone Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

## April 21, 3 p.m.

Mu Phi Epsilon  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

## April 21, 8 p.m.

Britten Anniversary Festival  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

## April 22, 6 p.m.

Master of Science in Finance  
information session  
Morken Center 103: Public Events Room

## April 23, 8 p.m.

University Chorale Homecoming Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

## April 24, 3:30 p.m.

Dr. David Deacon-Joyner:  
“Origins of Country Music”  
Garfield Book Company  
Community Room

## April 25 – May 25

Senior Gallery Exhibition: “Unfiltered”  
University Gallery, Ingram Hall

## April 26 & 27, 7:30 p.m.

Dance 2013  
Olson Auditorium

## April 26 & 27

Relay for Life  
PLU Track

## April 26, 8 p.m.

Studio Series: Wind and Brass Students  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

## April 28, 3 p.m.

Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series:  
Catherine Rodlund  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

## April 30, 8 p.m.

University Singers & Men’s Chorus  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

## MAY

## May 1, 8 p.m.

University Concert Band  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

## May 10, 2 p.m.

Biology Department Seminar:  
Julia Parrish, PhD  
Rieke 103: Leraas Lecture Hall

## May 2, 8 p.m.

Keyboard Students  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

## May 3, 5 p.m.

Lute Loop  
Eastvold Red Square

## May 3, 8 p.m.

Steel Pan and Percussion Ensemble  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

## May 4, 3 p.m.

Solvvinden Flute Ensemble  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

# one-on-one

continued from back page

America and began attending monthly meetings in Seattle and annual nationwide conventions, where, as you might expect from a group almost exclusively comprised of women, they were warmly welcomed into the fold.

And, naturally, they started writing their own romance novels.

It’s been a couple of years now, and Gregson is still about 40 pages into her novel. (Don’t expect anything, she warns.) But from the standpoint of getting the dish on the people who write these extremely popular, yet often marginalized, novels – that’s another story.

So far, Gregson and Lois have interviewed more than 45 romance authors, agents, reviewers, publishers and editors – from New York Times bestselling authors to those who are on the cusp of publication. She has delved

into all the subgenres of this type of commercial fiction – historical romance, paranormal romance, romantic suspense, inspirational romance. Even Amish romance. (Really.)

When Gregson started the project, she assumed the subject matter would be squarely in her sex-and-gender wheelhouse. Essentially, she’d find out: Who are these women who write these novels? And how do they decide to create the characters that they do? What she found, however, is that romance authors aren’t thinking about gender archetypes. They just want to tell a compelling story, like any author.


That dead end, however, led Gregson down a different path – one that may be even more promising. She and Lois have been researching how these writers identify themselves, the stigmas they face, and the feminine culture they have

created among themselves.

Gregson finds most interesting the idea of the stigmas associated with these novels. After all, she admits even she had her own before she read them. She knows her stigmas are hardly unique.

“We’ve interviewed New York Times bestselling romance authors who still get told, ‘That is so great you are successful at this; maybe someday you’ll write a real book,’” Gregson said.

Gregson will continue to dig into how the authors deal with these slights, and how an entire professional group seeks to gird themselves against a common perception.

In the mean time, Gregson and Lois will continue their interviews and begin presenting their academic findings. Just don’t expect the novel anytime soon. 

—Steve Hansen

**May 4, 5:30 p.m.**

PLUtonic/HERmonic Summer Show  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**May 5, 8 p.m.**

Guitar Ensembles  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**May 7, 10:30 a.m.**

Impersonator John Salicco as a Sourdough  
during the Klondike Gold Rush  
Garfield Book Company  
Community Room

**May 8, 8 p.m.**

University Jazz Ensemble  
International Tour Preview Concert  
Anderson University Center

**May 9, 6 p.m.**

PLU MBA information session  
Room 103, Morken Center

**May 10, 11, 17, 18, 7:30 p.m.**

"The 25th Annual Putnam  
County Spelling Bee"  
Studio Theater

**May 11, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

MESA Saturday Academy  
Morken Center

**May 11, 1 - 5 p.m.**

Lolla PLUza  
Garfield Street

**May 11, 8 p.m.**

Band Series: University  
Wind Ensemble  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**May 12, 3 p.m.**

Composer's Forum  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**May 13, 6 p.m.**

Celebration of Leadership  
Anderson University Center

**May 15, 8 p.m.**

String Kaleidoscope  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**May 16, 8 p.m.**

Studio Series: Piano Ensemble  
Lagerquist Concert Hall



**May 19, 2 p.m.**

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee"  
Studio Theater

**May 20, 6 p.m.**

Master of Science in Finance  
information session  
Morken Center: Public Events Room

**May 21, 8 p.m.**

Camas Wind Quintet  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**May 25, 8 p.m.**

Commencement Celebration Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**May 26**

2013 Spring Commencement  
Tacoma Dome

## JUNE AND JULY

**June 3, 10:30 a.m.**

Jordan Hanssen on his trip across the  
ocean in a rowboat  
Foss Waterway Seaport's  
Working Waterfront Maritime Museum

**June 12, 11:30 a.m.**

2012 Fruit Festival  
Red Square

**July 10, 11:30 a.m.**

2012 Fruit Festival  
Red Square

**July 11, 7 p.m.**

Jazz Under the Stars  
Mary Baker Russell  
Amphitheater

**July 18, 7 p.m.**

Jazz Under the Stars  
Mary Baker Russell  
Amphitheater

**July 25, 7 p.m.**

Jazz Under the Stars  
Mary Baker Russell Amphitheater

## AUGUST AND BEYOND

**August 1, 7 p.m.**

Jazz Under the Stars  
Mary Baker Russell  
Amphitheater

**August 7, 11:30 a.m.**

2012 Fruit Festival  
Red Square

**August 8, 7 p.m.**

Jazz Under the Stars  
Mary Baker Russell Amphitheater

**August 15, 7 p.m.**

Jazz Under the Stars  
Mary Baker Russell Amphitheater


**August 16, 7 p.m.**

PLU night at the Rainiers  
Cheney Stadium, Tacoma

**September 9**

Opening Convocation  
Olson Auditorium

**October 11-13**

Homecoming 2013  
Locations across  
campus 

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## one-on-one

Have you ever read a romance novel?



Professor of Sociology Joanna Gregson reads a novel by Nora Roberts, one of the highest-selling romance authors of all time. Gregson interviewed Roberts as part of her research on the writers of romance novels.

It all started when a box of pink and lavender romance novels arrived at Professor of Sociology Joanna Gregson's office.

The box came from a friend and fellow sociology professor with whom Gregson had attended graduate school. It was in response to a conversation the two had a few days earlier: Have you ever read a romance novel?

Gregson hadn't. And she would fully admit that she was like many other people: She assumed romance novels

were easy reads, brainless formulaic pop.

Then, the box of novels arrived. She read one. And a research topic was born.

Gregson and her friend, professor Jennifer Lois of Western Washington University, decided they wanted to study the writers of the romance genre, of which about 95 percent are women. Sure, the novels had been the subject of research – but, as Gregson would soon find out, nobody had studied the people who actually wrote them.

"Why hasn't it been studied?" Gregson

asked herself. "Like a lot of work that women do, I don't think it has been taken seriously as an occupation."

For a sociologist who specialized in sex and gender issues, the subject seemed perfect. And as a field researcher – someone who conducts research on location first-hand – Gregson knew she had to dive in, head first.

So she and Lois joined the 10,000-member-strong Romance Writers of

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