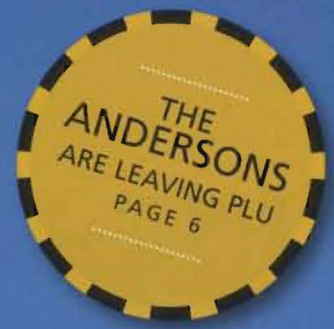


# Scene

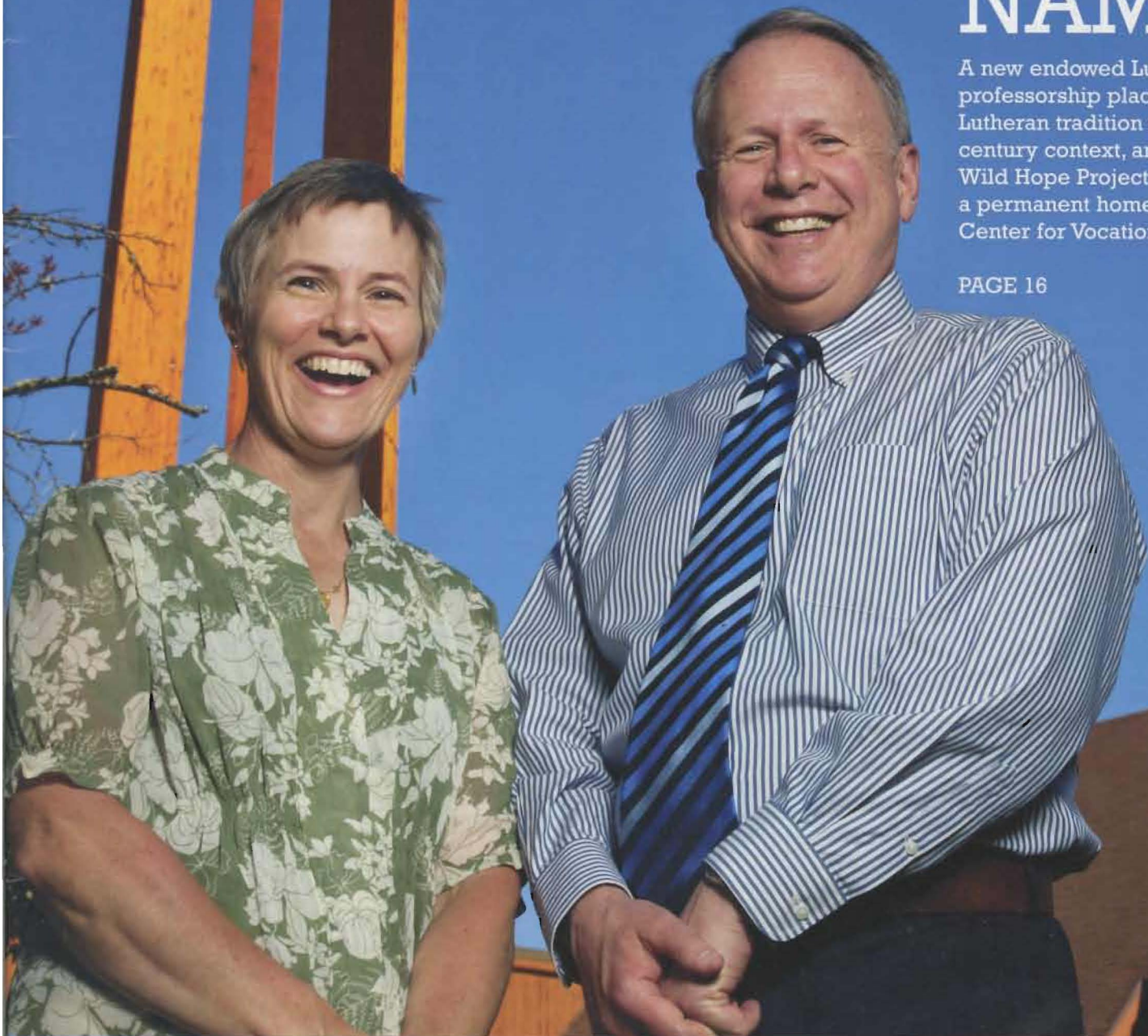
Pacific Lutheran University • Fall 2011



## our MIDDLE NAME

A new endowed Lutheran professorship places the Lutheran tradition in a 21st century context, and the Wild Hope Project finds a permanent home in the Center for Vocation

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# calendar



Four proud – and creative – graduates during PLU's 2011 commencement ceremony.

## AUGUST

### August 4, 7p.m.

Jazz Under the Stars  
David Deacon-Joyner, pianist and  
PLU professor  
Mary Baker Russell Amphitheater

### August 10, 11:30 a.m.

Blueberry Festival  
Mooncoyne Celtic-Irish Band  
Red Square

### August 11, 7p.m.

Jazz Under the Stars  
Jim Kerl Orchestra  
Mary Baker Russell Amphitheater

### August 12, 7 p.m.

PLU Night at the Rainiers  
Omaha Cubs vs. Tacoma Rainiers  
Cheney Stadium, Tacoma

### August 17, 6:30 p.m.

Cooking Demonstration  
Garfield Book Company Fireside Lounge

### August 18, 6:30 p.m.

MBA Information Session  
Morken Center 103: Public Events Room

### August 20, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Annual Garfield Street Fair  
Garfield Street, between Park and  
C streets

## SEPTEMBER

### September 1 – 6

New Student Orientation  
Locations across campus

### September 6

Opening Convocation  
Olson Auditorium

### September 14, 6:30 p.m.

MBA Information Session  
Morken Center 103: Public Events Room

### September 18, 12:30 – 7 p.m.

University Congregation annual Mount  
Rainier Hike

### September 20, 4 – 7 p.m.

Natural Sciences Summer 2011  
Undergraduate Research Program  
Presentations  
Morken Center

### September 20, 7 p.m.

Diversity Center 10th Anniversary Lecture:  
Dr. Bob Zellner, civil rights activist  
Scandinavian Cultural Center

### September 23, 6 p.m.

Languages Film Festival Series  
Brazilian Documentary:  
"Window of the Soul"  
Ingram 100

## September 29

First annual Lutheran Studies Conference:  
"Flowing River, Pooled Spring: Lutheran  
Perspectives on the Limited Gift of Water"  
Locations across campus

## OCTOBER

### October 2, 3 p.m.

Lyric Brass Quintet  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### October 3, 7:30 p.m.

Seventh annual Dale E. Benson Lecture in  
Business and Economic History  
Scandinavian Cultural Center

### October 4, 8 & 9, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Norwegian Rosemaling Class  
Scandinavian Cultural Center

### October 4, 6 p.m.

Sociology Department Lecture: "Sin by Silence"  
Chris Knutzen Hall, University Center

### October 5, 8 p.m.

Carpe Diem String Quartet  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### October 7, 8 p.m.

IWO Flute Quartet (Flutists from Idaho,  
Washington, Oregon)  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### October 8, 2 p.m.

MediaLab presents: "Overexposed: The  
Cost of Compassion"  
Seattle Central Public Library

### October 9, 3 p.m.

Organ Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### October 11, 20 & 29; 10 a.m. – Noon

Norwegian Cooking Class  
Scandinavian Cultural Center

### October 11, 8 p.m.

University Symphony Orchestra Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### October 12, 8 p.m.

University Jazz Ensemble  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

### October 14 – 16

Homecoming Weekend  
Locations across campus

*continued on inside back cover*

# inside

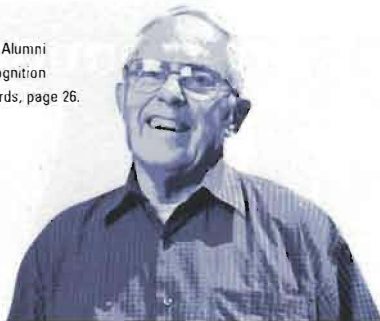
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Reed Ojala-Barbour '11 stands beneath a 400-year-old Garry oak tree on the PLU campus

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## Scene

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Professor of Lutheran Studies Samuel Torvend '73 and Associate Professor of Economics Lynn Hunnicutt.

Photo by John Froschauer.

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# here & now



## Get 'VIP' treatment at this year's homecoming

A scene from last year's Songfest, a timeless tradition at PLU.

**T**his Oct. 14-16, everyone in the PLU community – alumni, students, faculty and staff – will be VIP guests for a very special Homecoming weekend.

Typically, VIP stands for “Very Important Person.” At PLU, it signifies so much more than that. For this Homecoming weekend, VIP does not only signify very important people, but very important passions, projects and possibilities – all of which come from living a life of purpose.

Activities are planned for all Lutes throughout the weekend. Special opportunities are planned for the following classes celebrating reunions –



1961, 1966, 1971, 1986 and 2001.

In addition, all nursing alumni will

be recognized, as the School of Nursing is celebrating its 60th anniversary. Nursing has been selected as the Meant to Live academic affinity group/reunion.

Further, all those individuals who participated in diversity efforts around campus, whether it was through programs, clubs or organizations, are invited back to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Diversity Center. While the D-Center is 10 years young, diversity efforts on campus reach back many decades and paved the way for this anniversary and all who contributed to these efforts are welcome to join the celebration.

While activities and events are planned

for our affinity reunions this year, both groups have expressed their desire and intention that their reunion activities are open to all Lutes in the spirit of inclusion and interconnectedness.

For more, visit [www.plualumni.org](http://www.plualumni.org).



## Alaska governor praises 2011 graduates

**S**unday, May 29, was another special day for PLU as more than 650 students donned their caps and gowns as part of a festive spring commencement ceremony at the Tacoma Dome. In all, more than 850 students graduated from PLU in the 2010-2011 academic year.

Alaska governor Sean Parnell '84, the keynote speaker, acknowledged the many influential professors he had while at PLU, and how their leadership and commitment to service influenced him. In his commencement address, Parnell encouraged PLU students to similarly find opportunities to live a life of service that is intentional and wholehearted - "to live a life that is 'all in.'" Andrew Reyna '11 was this year's class speaker. Reyna, who earned his bachelor's of science in biology, discussed what it means to be a Lute, and the endless value in that association for the graduating class of 2011.

## Student musicians mark successful European tour

**T**his spring, PLU's Choir of the West and a small chamber music ensemble, KammerMusikk Orchestra, toured Germany and France, including performances in locations such as Chartres Cathedral in France, and the Luxembourg Gardens in Paris.

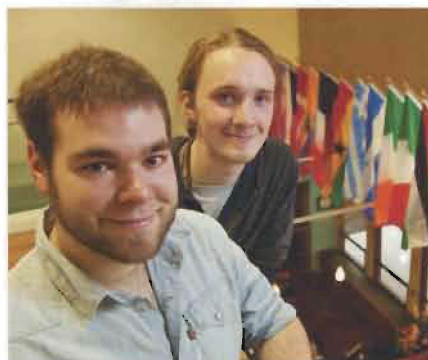
The Choir of the West also made a

special stop at the Harmonie Festival in Limburg, Germany, where they earned numerous awards from the judges. As part of the four-day international event, the Choir of the West took second place out of 17 groups - earning a gold medal - and the choir's men's and women's groups earned gold and silver medals, respectively. PLU's men's a cappella group, PLUtonic, also earned a gold.

## Four more students earn Fulbrights

**W**hen it comes to amassing prestigious international fellowships, PLU keeps adding to an already impressive total. This year, four PLU students increased the number of student U. S. Fulbright recipients since 1975 to 87.

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



Matthew Anderson and Reed Ojala-Barbour, two of PLU's four Fulbright recipients this year.

States to increase mutual understanding between people of the United States and the people of other countries."

Allison Meyer, who has a degree in elementary education and an endorsement in teaching English Language Learners, will be working with South African university students on conversational English, reading and writing.

Matthew Anderson and Matthew Palmquist, who both majored in German, will serve as teaching assistants in German high schools. Anderson plans to continue to develop his German language skills and pursue a doctorate degree in history once he's completed his fellowship. Palmquist plans to pursue a career in education - either teaching German or outdoor education.

Reed Ojala-Barbour, who has a degree in environmental studies and Hispanic studies, will study terrestrial small mammals in the cloud forests of the Ecuadorian Andes. He'll collaborate with an Ecuadorian university and a national park to understand more about how people and land-use practices impact the ecology of small mammals.

In addition, Associate Professor of Instructional Development and Leadership Vidya Thirumurthy also received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program Grant to study in her native India. *To read more about her project, see the back page of this magazine.*

*continued on next page*

## Retiring Faculty



**J. Thad Barnowe**  
School of Business  
(phased retiree)



**Carolyn Schultz**  
School of Nursing  
(regular retiree)

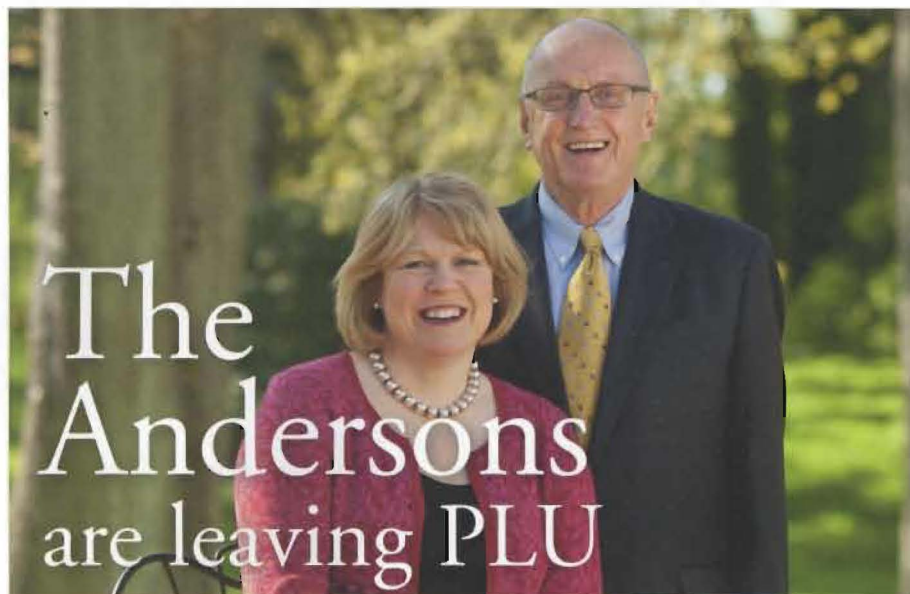


**Merlin Simpson**  
School of Business  
(regular retiree)



**Cathleen Yetter**  
Multi-Disciplinary Programs  
(regular retiree)

continued



**L**oren and MaryAnn Anderson have announced their intent to leave Pacific Lutheran University in the spring of 2012, at the end of the academic year.

"The time is right for the university," Loren Anderson, 66, said. "It's a perfect time for new leadership as another era of progress and development is about to open for PLU."

In the coming year the university's 2020 long-range plan will be completed. A highly successful fundraising campaign will conclude. Well-established core pathways to academic distinction will continue. A number of new graduate program offerings will be ready for review and implementation by the faculty. And several capital projects will be fully funded, including the Karen Hille Phillips Center for Performing Arts and lower-campus athletic fields.

"Our years at PLU have been both a great gift and high honor," Loren Anderson said. "We give thanks each day for our faculty and staff colleagues, as well as countless PLU students, donors, regents and friends who have blessed and enriched our lives."

The Andersons, who came to PLU in 1992, say they are not retiring but are completing 20 years of service to the university and then moving on to

new areas of professional focus and service.

MaryAnn Anderson, 53, calls their decision, "a Wild Hope moment."

"We are living true to Mary Oliver's line of poetry: 'Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?'" she said. "It's been PLU's Wild Hope Project theme and it's now our theme – describing Lutheran vocation and living lives of service."

Bruce Bjerke '72, chair of the PLU Board of Regents, praised the Andersons for their years of service to the university.

"The Andersons' tenure has been one of unparalleled accomplishment. We owe Loren and MaryAnn our deepest gratitude as the university enters into the search for our next president from a position of great strength and stability," Bjerke said.

The Board of Regents has formed a committee to conduct a national search to identify candidates and make a recommendation to the board. The work of the search committee will be separate from the university administration, as the committee will report directly to the Board of Regents, who will select the next president. The process is expected to take nine to 12 months.

PLU's almost 20-year journey under

the leadership of President Anderson has been guided by a series of community-based, long-range plans and major fundraising campaigns.

"Working together the campus community has realized so many important dreams," Anderson said. "All of us together have sharpened and focused our mission as a Lutheran university. Together we have achieved our goals to cultivate academic excellence, to enhance our global perspective, to build an engaged community and to nurture life as vocation in the fullest sense.

"Our community has turned these dreams into the reality of fiscal strength, balanced budgets, and enrollment stability while ensuring broad access to our programs for all," he said.

"These real and lasting accomplishments belong to the entire PLU community and all who support and care for this special place. It's a shared legacy and will serve the university for years to come."

Throughout it all, MaryAnn Anderson has been a vital part of the PLU presidency. She has served the university as external relations coordinator, and managed the Gonyea Fellows Leadership Program, the group of students who assist in hosting more than 100 events that bring more than 3,000 guests each year to the president's residence.

According to Bjerke, MaryAnn Anderson also has been the university's ambassador extraordinaire. "MaryAnn has brought a sophistication, grace and purpose to everything from campus events and activities, to individual donor cultivation, to our university signature community events," he said.

The coming academic year will include a series of events to celebrate and honor the Andersons and their many contributions to the university.

Look for more on the Andersons and their legacy at PLU in the Winter issue of Scene.




PLU's International Collegiate Business Strategy competition winners.

## Business students get down to business

**D**uring spring break, six PLU business students were doing anything but relaxing - they competed in the International Collegiate Business Strategy competition in Long Beach, Calif. Their hard work was rewarded at the 47-year-old competition: They took home first place in Outstanding Performance and first place in Outstanding Reports.

The International Collegiate Business Strategy competition provides students with the opportunity to learn and compete with other universities through simulating the running of a company, as well as networking with business leaders and students from around the world. The competition challenges students to work together in making decisions that Fortune 500 executives must make every day.

For more than four months leading up to the Long Beach portion of the competition, senior business students Vitaliy Marchenko, Kasey Dorcas, Sanne Jacobsen, Alisha Fisher, Colin Zinnecker and Tiffany Brown worked toward making the decisions as an executive team of their simulated corporation. Collectively, they spent nearly 2,000 hours working on the competition.

"This is just an outstanding opportunity for our students to experience the top level of industry," said Kory Brown, assistant professor of business and the group's advisor. "They are now going to walk out of PLU not only with their degree, but an understanding of all dimensions ... not just the one they're trained in." 

## ACCOLADES

**Kate E. Luther**, assistant professor of sociology, and **Joanna Gregson**, associate professor of sociology, authored the article "Restricted Mothering: Parenting in a Prison Nursery" in the *International Journal of the Sociology of the Family*, 37(1) 85-103. The project started as student-faculty research when Kate was Joanna's student.

**Justin Lytle**, assistant professor of chemistry, was awarded the Cottrell College Science Award. The honor, funded by Research Corporation for Science Advancement, acknowledges faculty members primarily at undergraduate institutions, who play an outsized role in producing future PhDs in the sciences.



**Melannie Denise Cunningham**, director of multicultural recruitment, was keynote speaker for the Multicultural Student Services

(MSS) Graduation Ceremony at Washington State University.

**Colleen M. Hacker**, professor of movement studies and wellness education, received the National Association for Girls and Women (NAGWS) Honor Award on April 1. The Honor Award, the most prestigious award presented by NAGWS, acknowledges those who have made an outstanding and noteworthy contribution to the advancement of girls and women in sports.

**Laura McCloud**, assistant professor of sociology, published with co-authors Rachel Dwyer and Randy Hodson, "Youth Debt, Mastery, and Self-Esteem: Class-Stratified Effects of Indebtedness on Self-Confidence," in *Social Science Research* 40(3): 727-741. The article was also cited in the June 18 issue of the "Wall Street Journal."

**Bridget E. Yaden**, assistant professor of Hispanic studies and director of the Language Resource Center, was the Montana Association of Language Teachers keynote speaker at their spring conference in April. Professor Yaden also conducted a workshop at the conference.



**Lynn E. Hunnicutt**, associate professor of economics, has been elected treasurer for the Association of

Christian Economists.

**Joanna Gregson**, associate professor of sociology, received a \$5,000 academic research grant from the Romance Writers of America for her research (with Jennifer Lois, Western Washington University) "Craft and Career: The Gendered Culture of Romance Writers."



**Erik Hammerstrom**, assistant professor of religion, has been selected as the winner of Yale University's biennial

Stanley Weinstein Dissertation Prize for best dissertation on East Asian Buddhism defended in North America in 2009 or 2010. Announced in July, the awarding of this prestigious prize will take place in September.

**Jon E. Grahe**, associate professor of psychology, was elected to a two-year term as Western Regional Vice President of Psi Chi, the international psychology honor society.

**Donald Ryan**, faculty fellow in humanities, has a new book published by Thames and Hudson, "Time-Traveler's Guide to Sightseeing and Survival in the Land of the Pharaohs."







# life of the mind

## One student's journey shapes the landscape by imagining the past

Standing under the branches of a Garry oak tree on the hill behind the University Center, Reed Ojala-Barbour '11 takes stock of the open space in front of him. He's imagining what it must have been like more than 100 years ago – before the basketball court, sand volleyball court, and the well-manicured lawn bordered by a dry creek bed and residence halls.

He thinks about how the dry creek bed once flourished as Clover Creek, with the surrounding vegetation part of a large prairie. The tree that he stands under today was there back then; it is nearly 400 years old. It is native to the area, one of more than 100 Garry oak on campus, making PLU a preserve of a species native to Pierce County.

The open space is an indication of what the entire area once was, Ojala-Barbour, an environmental studies major, said of the Clover Creek watershed on which the PLU campus sits. "That's a little piece of evidence that it used to be prairie," he said.

It's something he could have learned in a book – and he certainly did – but his experience at PLU extends well beyond the classroom. His experience here led him to work with professors who have long been retired, community groups who offer funding and volunteers, PLU staff who help manage the campus.

Not only did Ojala-Barbour turn this passion into a degree, but his passion changed the landscape of PLU.

That passion was celebrated last April during Earth Week, when about 60 students, faculty, staff and commu-

nity joined Ojala-Barbour, PLU President Loren J. Anderson and Professor Emeritus of Chemistry Fred Tobiason to dedicate the Fred L. Tobiason Outdoor Learning Center. The native space behind the University Center has become a symbol of what one student, with a lot of on-campus support, can do when he follows his passion.

The project, culminating with a ceremonial blackberry-vine cutting this April, was three years in the making. When Ojala-Barbour was looking for a summer job upon returning to campus his sophomore year from Spain, it was suggested he apply for a Sustainability Fellowship.

The fellowship had great appeal – he'd have a job, and the chance to make a positive impact on the campus of his university. He dived into researching PLU's

footprint, and he proposed studying the impact of invasive species to native plants on campus. It wasn't long before he'd learn about the Garry oak and its unique place as a native species of the area.

Even though the university long has embraced sustainable practices, such as setting a goal of being a carbon neutral by 2020 or investing in green building and renovation practices, Ojala-Barbour knew there was always more to do.

"I realized PLU wasn't doing all it could for the native area, but there was a network of people who could," he said.

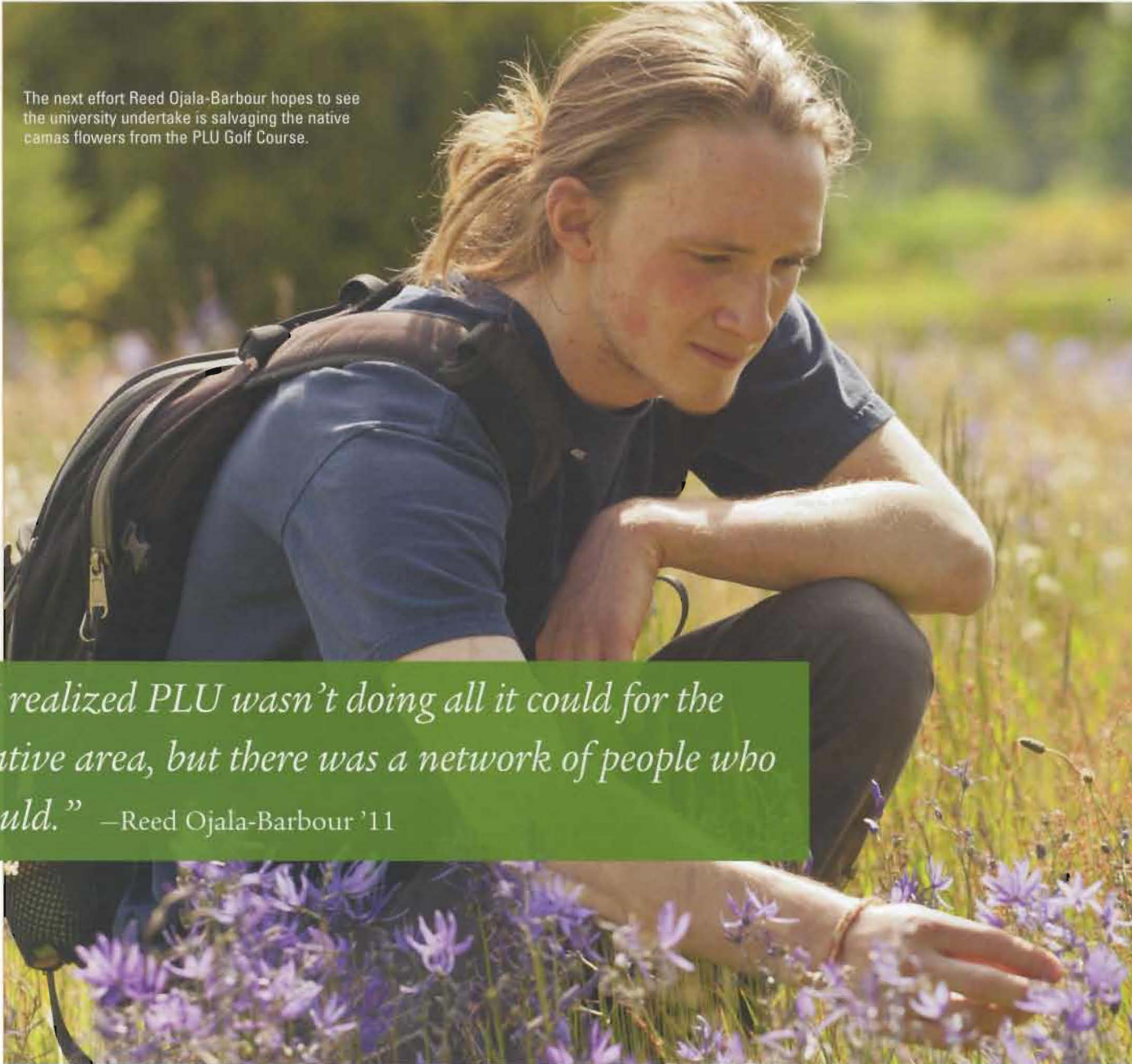
But he also learned about many people who have been active in preserving green spaces in the area. One of those people was Fred L. Tobiason, a former

*Even though the university long has embraced sustainable practices, such as setting a goal of being a carbon neutral by 2020 or investing in green building, Ojala-Barbour knew there was always more to do.*

Reed Ojala-Barbour '11 stands beneath a 400-year-old Garry oak tree on the PLU campus.

## life of the mind

continued



The next effort Reed Ojala-Barbour hopes to see the university undertake is salvaging the native camas flowers from the PLU Golf Course.

*“I realized PLU wasn’t doing all it could for the native area, but there was a network of people who could.”* —Reed Ojala-Barbour ’11

chemistry professor at PLU.

“I’d be talking to other people and they’d say ‘have you talked to Fred Tobiason?’” Ojala-Barbour recalled. “He sort of showed me the ropes around the Clover Creek watershed.”

Taking inspiration from Tobiason, Ojala-Barbour targeted a space behind the UC that, back in the 1970s, Tobiason saved from becoming a parking lot. The site had been inaccessible for years, thanks to dense thickets of Himalayan blackberries, an invasive

species that negatively affects the Garry oak tree.

He began going to conservation group meetings and learning all he could. It was at a Pierce County Conservation District meeting that he first heard about grants that were available to help promote preservation.

With the help of PLU staff, Ojala-Barbour submitted grant proposals to the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation and the Green Partnership Fund.

Help and support from people on campus including Professor of Biology William Teska and Sustainability Coordinator Chrissy Cooley, made learning how to write a grant proposal a lot less daunting.

By the fall of 2009, Ojala-Barbour learned the grants had been awarded to his project.

“That’s when things really got going because we knew we had the funds,” he said.

By working with the Native Plants



Reed Ojala-Barbour talks with Professor Emeritus of Chemistry Fred L. Tobiason at the Fred L. Tobiason Outdoor Learning Center.

seniors from Washington High School and volunteers from the PLU sustainability club, GREEN, Girl Scout troops, Boys and Girls Club members, and students from the Little Buddies club gladly lent a hand to clear the site of blackberries, and collect acorns of Garry oak. More than 100 people were involved in the project.

Ojala-Barbour came to PLU interested in environmental studies, but never imagined he'd be able to engage his passion so completely.

"It's been a lot of time and energy, but it's also been really rewarding," Ojala-Barbour said.

Someday, he hopes to combine the land management skills he's learned outside of the classroom, with what he's learned inside the classroom, and work to better preserve what native land remains.

This fall, Ojala-Barbour will be in Ecuador, as a Fulbright Fellow, studying small mammals and the environmental impacts

on them.

He calls it another chance to get his hands dirty. After his experiences at PLU, he's not sure if there's any other way to learn. He hopes the environmental work he's done carries on to the next generation of students. There's still a lot to be done. The work is never over, he said.

"I'm hoping it will become more of a campus culture," he said. "I'm hoping we can be better stewards of the pieces of nature we have left. Good stewards recognize the impact we have on the environment."

Today, evidence of that stewardship is taking root at PLU, with the Fred Tobiason Outdoor Learning Center and below the far-reaching Garry oak where Ojala-Barbour first took notice of the prairie at PLU.

Below the 400 year-old tree, a dozen foot-tall saplings of the Garry are taking root, taking hold of the land they once called home. And with a little hard work, and help, will once again. S



Reed Ojala-Barbour displays a Garry oak sapling.

Salvage Alliance, he was able to secure native seeds and native species for replanting on campus. Plants like snowberry, Oregon grape and beaked hazelnut. All in all, there were 25 plant types for replanting.

The money was there, and there were people ready to get their hands dirty, but they needed a voice to organize them. They needed someone to lead them and focus on making a difference in their environment.

"I just realized it was an opportunity for me to be a leader," Ojala-Barbour said.

The Clover Creek watershed is a unique environment, he said, just like PLU. Campus leadership was supportive of his efforts. "PLU has a unique climate of getting students involved in the institution," Ojala-Barbour said.

He learned that although PLU staff couldn't do all the work, he found a network of people passionate about the Clover Park watershed, in and around the PLU community. Local





## LIGHT FANTASTIC

This past year, PLU's most enduring symbol was removed from Eastvold Hall, shipped to California for cleaning and maintenance, and reinstalled. We asked University Photographer **John Froschauer** to give us an intimate look at the process, and University Pastor **Dennis Sepper** to share his memories of PLU's iconic Rose Window.

## LIGHT FANTASTIC



Ten o'clock in the morning is the best time to climb the stairs, slip in the door and take a seat at the back of Tower Chapel. There, you are bathed in brilliant hues of blue, red and yellow as the morning sun shines through the Rose Window. A few moments later, when the sun rises above Harstad Hall, the symbols of the Christian faith and our Lutheran heritage seem to burst out as if they were in 3-D. Throughout the years, hundreds, if not thousands, of Lutes have had their breath taken away by the window's brilliant beauty. With its Rose Window, Tower Chapel is like no other place on campus.

But it's not just the Rose Window that makes Tower Chapel such a special place. Whenever the subject of remodeling the Chapel comes up, the student chorus is always the same: "Please don't change the feel of the Chapel!" One would think with its bare concrete floors and creaky benches that the students would want new and modern furnishings. But it is the medieval ambiance of the chapel that seems to lend the space a spiritual quality. And well it should. The Chapel and the Rose Window have seen the course of human life as the generations of Lutes have come and moved on to other vocations in the world.

The Chapel is the home to early morning Bible Studies and late-night Holden Evening Prayer services. It is, as every Lute knows, one of the most popular places on campus to "pop the question" as couples become engaged. It is where students go to pray and discern their vocational call. In the 16 years that Nancy Connor and I have been the University Pastors we have presided over weddings, baptisms, prayer vigils for social concerns, funerals and memorial services, and even the renewal of wedding vows on significant anniversaries – all in front of that Rose Window.

The special nature of the Chapel and Rose Window is brought to mind each September, as a new group of Lutes are introduced to its meaning and significance by orientation guides who end their training with a blessing in Tower Chapel before the Rose Window. The spiritual link is what keeps the Rose Window alive in the minds and hearts of PLU students, faculty and staff.

Now, the window has been refurbished and restored as these pictures reveal. So, the next time you go into Tower Chapel at about 10 o'clock in the morning to be bathed by the colors of the stained glass, you might want to savor the moment and just let it take your breath away. ☒

—DENNIS SEPPER, UNIVERSITY PASTOR

To see a slideshow of the Rose Window, visit [www.plu.edu/newbloom](http://www.plu.edu/newbloom)



# our MIDDLE NAME





## A new endowed Lutheran professorship places the Lutheran tradition in a 21st century context, and the Wild Hope Project finds a permanent home in the Center for Vocation

WHEN AN ANONYMOUS DONOR COMMITTED to give PLU \$1 million to endow a Professorship in Lutheran Studies, it was more than simply the fourth of what would later become five endowed professorships or chairs on the PLU campus.

With this professorship, PLU reached yet another level of distinction by which it sets itself apart from other universities. In the words of Samuel Torvend '73, "it puts into clearer relief the distinctiveness of Lutheran education in the competitive market."

After a short pause, Torvend added, "After all, the distinctive part of PLU is its middle name."

Torvend is in a unique place to understand that distinction, as he is the first holder of the new Professorship in Lutheran Studies. He is a 1973 graduate in history from PLU. He also received his masters in divinity, his masters in theology and, ultimately, his Ph.D. in historical theology. He returned to PLU in 1998, serving as a professor of the history of Christianity. And since 2007, he has also been director of the university's innovative Wild Hope Project.

Torvend has also published on Lutheran colleges as centers of social reform, Lutheran commitments to education and social welfare, and the intellectual sources of social ethics in Lutheran higher education.

"Lutheran higher education looks different than what you get at, for example, the University of Washington," he mused. "At both places you can 'follow your bliss,' but here it is linked to things that are fundamental to who, as a university, we are."

He points to PLU's mission statement, using its environmental language as an example - though he notes that any portion of it would be relevant. "When we talk about 'care for the earth,' it is linked to who we are as a university" Torvend said. "There is a moral and ethical connection [to such ideas] because of our middle name."

While the \$1 million commitment secures an endowed professorship, the university is still seeking an additional \$1 million to elevate the post to an endowed chair.

With the professorship comes a certain level of cachet in academic circles. For instance, having an endowed Lutheran professorship will increase PLU's reputation as a leader among Lutheran universities. Torvend is now collaborating with an international consortium of scholars working on economic, political and social reforms to be presented and published at the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. Thus, PLU will be the only Lutheran college or university in North America represented in that international consortium. The professorship also provides other opportunities for him to consult, lecture and publish on the role of Lutheran higher education in linking academic study and ethical commitments.

In addition, income from the endowment will fund a yearly Lutheran Studies Conference at PLU, the first of which will take place this September 29.

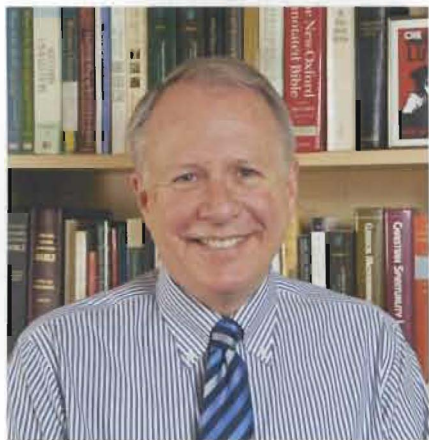
*(For more information on the conference, see the sidebar on page 19.) »*



"The Center for Vocation is the place where students will be able to ask important questions of meaning and purpose in their lives."

—Lynn Hunnicutt

# our MIDDLE NAME



“When we talk about ‘care for the earth,’ it is linked to who we are as a university”

—Samuel Torvend '73

All that is great for the university. But Torvend speaks even more enthusiastically about what the professorship will mean for the students, faculty and staff of PLU. He likes to talk about placing the Lutheran tradition in a “21st century context.”

“I see the professorship as a way of promoting the intellectual gifts of Lutheran higher education among a diverse faculty and student body who may or may not have a connection to the Lutheran tradition,” he said. “That is part of the challenge of being a Lutheran center of learning in the Pacific Northwest.”

The naming of Torvend to the professorship also sets in motion a series of changes at the university that, while nominally related, underscores the unique nature of instruction at PLU – one that very much continues the university’s focus on the idea of finding one’s vocation.

Torvend, in accepting the professorship, will relinquish his post as Director of the Wild Hope Project. At roughly the same time, the Lilly Endowment’s \$2.5 million, eight-year funding of the Wild Hope Project comes to an end, as university funding continues.

Beginning this year, Wild Hope will be a permanent component of the newly created Center for Vocation, with Lynn Hunnicutt, associate professor of economics, as its director. Torvend, in his capacity as professor for Lutheran Studies, will advise the center as its director for vocational reflection, a position he has held before.

Sometimes it is hard to recognize the players without a scorecard. So, what does it all mean?

It means that PLU’s Wild Hope project, and the university’s commitment to exploring ways to help students find meaning and purpose in life – or “vocation” – will become a structuralized part of the university through the Center for Vocation. Thanks to a \$500,000 gift from Linda '63 and Charles Barbo and a \$100,000 gift from the Class of 1958, the Center for Vocation, has a growing financial foundation to continue the momentum of the Wild Hope Project. PLU hopes to raise an additional \$3.5 million to permanently endow the Center for Vocation.

“The Center for Vocation is the place where students will be able to ask important questions of meaning and purpose in their lives,” Hunnicutt said. “And it is where they will be able to get more information and guidance in devising their own answers.”

Or, to put it in the language of the Mary Oliver poem from which the Wild Hope Project gets its name, the Center for Vocation will be the place for students to consider “what they will do with their one wild and precious life.”

Indeed, it is hard to find a student on campus who can’t recite that signature line of the Mary Oliver poem. And more importantly, many of those same students strive to live it.

That this theme has such resonance with students is an indication of why Wild Hope has always received high praise from the Lilly Endowment. PLU has integrated Wild Hope and its “big enough questions” across campus, through guest speakers, career fairs, service learning workshops and more. Many of its initiatives, particularly programs that foster the growth of first-year students, like The First-Year Experience and the J-Term retreat “Explore!,” have been called out for high praise.

More recently, thanks to the Class of 1958, Wild Hope’s Meant to Live program has been endowed to bring together students and alumni during Homecoming to discuss issues of vocation. This gives PLU students the chance to see how vocation is



## Lutheran Perspectives on the Limited Gift of Water

As part of the newly endowed Professorship of Lutheran Studies, PLU will host its first annual Lutheran Studies Conference on Thursday, Sept. 29.

Titled "Flowing River, Pooled Spring: Lutheran Perspectives on the Limited Gift of Water," the conference will focus on the one thing necessary for life – water. Through the arts, film and presentations, participants will explore the theological, sacramental, and ethical sources that shape contemporary concerns for the gift and use of water.

Among the presenters will be PLU professors of religion, Samuel Torvend and Kevin O'Brien, as well as Benjamin Stewart of the Lutheran School of Theology Chicago.

For more information on the conference, contact Samuel Torvend at 253-535-8106 or [torvensa@plu.edu](mailto:torvensa@plu.edu).

lived out by its alumni, and gives alumni the chance to think about how their own vocations have evolved through their lives. (For more, see page 24.)

They all have the similar goal of, as Torvend likes to say, "allowing students, faculty, and staff to pause and ponder meaning and purpose in life – something few places cultivate."

The Center for Vocation will also focus on training faculty and staff through workshops, study seminars on Lutheran Higher education and the like. Early on, organizers realized that, to be truly impactful, PLU needed to support faculty and staff – after all, they are the ones who are here year-after-year.

"We have worked to train our faculty so we can help our students ask questions of meaning and purpose, to develop our skills to mentor students," Hunnicutt said. "That's what sets this university apart."

The result has been a successful integration of these questions of meaning and purpose campuswide – in the classrooms, in student orientation, in career and academic advising, in residential life – just about everywhere.

"The Wild Hope Project and the Center for Vocation are places at PLU where we can work to make sure we are all rowing in the same direction," Hunnicutt added.

And thanks to the Lilly Endowment, generous benefactors to the university, and the commitment of the faculty and staff of PLU – all who want to encourage students to continue to ask those questions of vocation – PLU will be rowing that way for a long time. S

# the arts

Selections from Saxifrage volume 37, PLU's annual student-run literary magazine

## ON THE YOUNG GIRL HOLDING THE GARTER SNAKE

The slick body, a black polished braid,  
coils around her pink hands. Its head  
squeezes through the crux of her fingers.

In the early evening, our father had caught  
the snake. Placed in the kiddie pool,  
it rippled through marbles and toy boats.  
She had leaned over the side, wide eyed,  
her braids dipping into the water.

Now it is night.  
I stand in the grass watching her.  
In the pool, she cradles its belly. Inside I notice  
there are candles on the mantel, glowing  
like little gold cakes, or maybe moons.  
She splashes her feet suddenly and

I see the snake is gone from her hand—  
ripples pulse at her ankles.  
Bending towards the dark wet,  
she peers at the plastic floor,  
I imagine its reptilian jaw  
biting at her little round feet.  
I do not trust what I cannot see.

But she throws her head back—  
the opal shine of her eyes  
seems to brighten, as she laughs,

*come in,  
you can feel it on your toes.*

ANNA RASMUSSEN '13



TALE OF TWO CITIES: TACOMA  
SARAH WISE '11



AMERICA  
AARON BIZIER '14

## IN TRANSIT

Her father is driving fast tonight  
*and wants to be home to check on Sam.*  
*Something to expect with winter,*  
he says, *is colds colds colds.*

The tired Ford Pinto clicks its engine  
and the cello, hollow like a coffin,  
is wedged between her legs.  
*Missed a note in the Brahms,* she mutters,  
*skipped a line in the Schoenberg.* Her  
father twists the dial some  
and Sinatra's heavy breath seeps  
through dimpled plastic speakers.  
Now is when it happens: its flank  
appears, brownish-white—exposed  
by high beams—and the car convulses violent  
engine-throbbing convulsions. First

they're sideways, then they're turned  
around and somehow near the ditch  
but they're not in the ditch, and her cello  
is fine but she's reaching for her  
seatbelt, trying to open the door  
to get out of the car, screaming *we hit it,*  
*we hit it and have to save it,* and  
her father is yelling *no, sit down,*  
*sit down and stay in the car.*

But listen: the cello is safe. Later  
when she pours over the body  
she will find no cracks or blemishes.  
In time she will learn to heal.

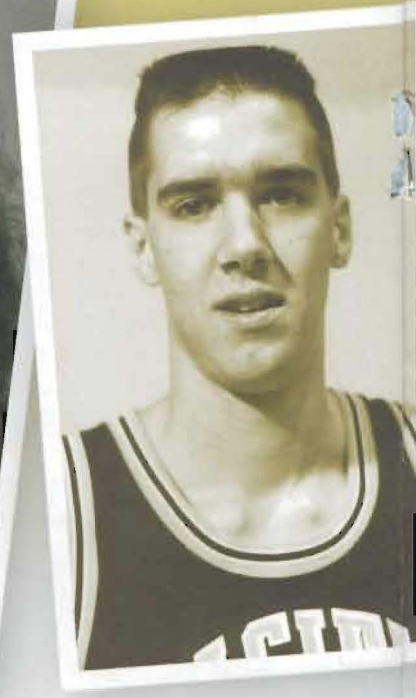
—MARK HENGSTLER '11



TIME  
JEN JEPSEN '12

This year's magazine was edited by Bethany Nylander '11 and Jonathan Post '11.  
To see more from Saxifrage 37, visit [www.plu.edu/sax\\_37](http://www.plu.edu/sax_37).

# 2011 HALL OF FAME



**T**he 2011 PLU Athletic Hall of Fame class, consisting of one national championship team, a coach and three outstanding athletes who wore the black and gold, will be the 22nd in the Hall's history. The list of inductees includes the 1988 NAIA national championship women's cross-country team, cross-country and track & field coach Brad Moore, basketball players Don Brown and Burke Mullins, and swimmer Aurora Bray.

The induction luncheon is scheduled for 11 a.m., October 14, in the University Center. Tickets may be purchased by calling the PLU athletic department at 253-535-7352.

### 1988 Women's Cross Country (NAIA National Champions)

In a storied athletic program at PLU, the 1988 women's cross-country team had a fairy-tale ending. After a third-place finish at the national meet in 1987, the Lutes set out to win it all a year later. Led by senior three-time All-American Valerie Hilden, the team took five of the top six spots at the conference meet, and it won every NAIA competition leading into the national finals in Kenosha, Wisc. In a true demonstration of skill and endurance, the Lutes cruised to a 1-4-11-12-34 finish to win the NAIA cross-country team championship. The 1988

squad showed its drive and perseverance, placing a PLU record four All-Americans (top 20 finish) at one championship.

"This team was the most focused group I coached, and their high level of excellence led to that championship," coach Brad Moore said. The 44 team points – the lowest team score wins – was the second-lowest total in NAIA history up to that point, and still ranks fourth all-time in the NAIA record books. Hilden became the only NAIA runner at the time to win two individual titles (1985 and 1988), as well as becoming the first PLU athlete to achieve four-time All-America status in two sports (cross-country and track & field). To round out the awards for the Lutes, Moore was named NAIA Coach of the Year.

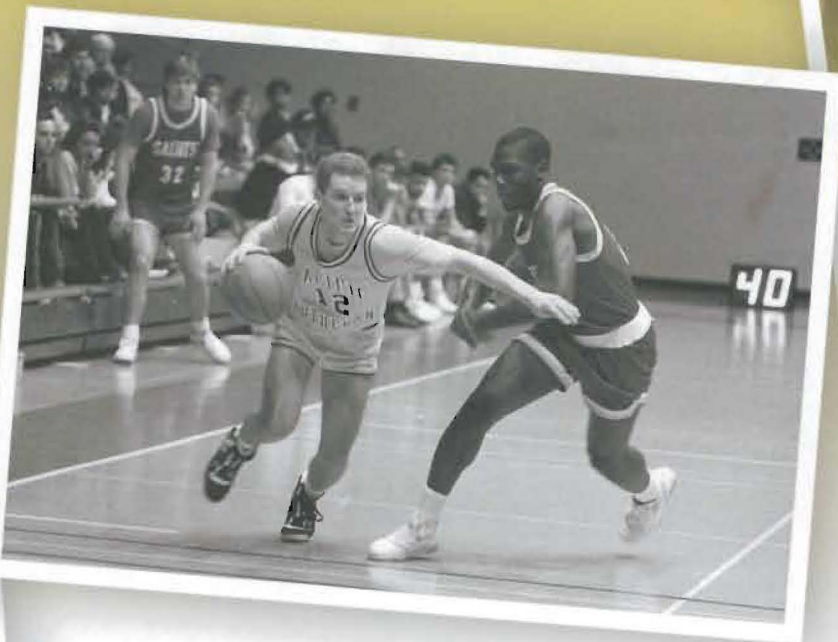
### Aurora Bray (Women's Swimming, 1994-98)

As a four-time All-American at PLU, Aurora Bray firmly established herself as one of the best long distance swimmers the school has ever seen. In her first year at the school, Bray swam primarily butterfly, with some middle-distance events mixed in. As part of the 800-yard freestyle relay team, Bray helped her teammates place fifth at the NAIA national meet to give her the first of her All-America honors. As a sophomore, she broke onto the national stage by win-

ning NAIA national titles in 1996 in both the 1,650-yard freestyle (clocking 17:40.76 to win by more than 13 seconds) and the 500-yard freestyle (5:04.44). Bray finished in the top eight in six different races at the meet, helping PLU finish third as a team. In 1997, Bray returned to the podium at nationals, repeating in the 1,650-yard freestyle (17:37.53) and also earning top-eight finishes in four other races. In addition, she earned NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete with a 3.64 GPA. In her senior year, Bray was the only PLU women's swimmer to earn All-America status when she finished third in the 500-yard freestyle, third in the 1,650-yard freestyle, and fifth in the 100-yard butterfly. That year, her 3.61 grade point average earned her repeat honors as a NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete. Bray exemplified excellence both in the pool and out, and was truly one of PLU's great athletes.

### Don Brown (Men's Basketball, 1987-91)

In a men's basketball program with a storied history, Don Brown was arguably one of the best all-around players to represent PLU. As a four-year starter, the 6-foot-8-inch big man could do it all. With 1,625 points in four seasons, Brown finished his career ranked fifth all-time in scoring at PLU. He joined PLU's prestigious 400-point club



twice, once in the 1989-90 season and again the next season. He was not just a scorer, however. Brown accumulated career statistics in rebounds, assists and steals that place him among the best PLU has ever seen. His 162 career steals places him first all-time in that category. In addition, Brown is PLU's all-time career blocked shots leader with 188 blocks.

Brown was a prolific passer as well. He ended his career with 241 assists, placing him seventh all-time. To round out his game, Brown also had a stronghold on the boards, finishing with 735 rebounds to rank eighth all-time. In his junior year, Brown put together the best single season of his career. In 27 games, Brown averaged 18.2 points and 8.2 rebounds per game. He was honored that season with a first team all-conference selection. Brown also received first team all-conference honors in his sophomore and senior seasons. His ability to pass, shoot, rebound, block and steal has made him arguably one of the best players in the program's history.

### Burke Mullins

(Men's Basketball, 1986-90)

Sharpshooter Burke Mullins established himself as one of the purest shooters PLU has ever seen during his four-year career. During the 1986-87 season, his first on

campus, Mullins ended the season leading the team in total scoring and scored what would be a single-game career-best 33 points against Hawaii-Hilo. He also added 49 three-pointers that season to begin what would be an outstanding outside shooting career. Mullins was honored in the 1986-87 season with a second-team all-conference selection. His next three seasons would continue to showcase his ability to shoot the basketball.

Mullins ended his career with 1,504 points, putting him sixth all-time in scoring at PLU. He twice joined the 400-point club, in the 1987-88 and 1989-90 seasons. Mullins also finished his career placing in the top 10 in several categories, including three-pointers made, three-point percentage, field goals made, and free throw percentage. Through 394 attempts, Mullins hit 176 three-pointers, placing him second all-time in shots made. His career .447 three-point percentage puts him third all-time in the category. Mullins made 558 field goals in his career, a mark that puts him sixth all-time at PLU. His 83.1 percent career free-throw percentage places him at the top of the all-time career mark. In the 1987-88 season, Mullins hit 87.4 percent of his free-throw attempts to set the single season record for free-throw percentage.

### Brad Moore

(Cross Country and Track & Field Coach, 1980-2005)

In more than 25 years of experience at PLU, Brad Moore firmly established himself as one of the greatest coaches to ever step foot on campus. Teaching and guiding more than 160 NAIA and NCAA Division III First Team All-Americans in cross-country and track & field, Moore won a combined 52 conference championships (24 in cross-country, 28 in track & field) between the years of 1980-2005.

"My coaches and I wanted to develop a culture that strived for excellence," said Moore. This excellence led Moore's 1988 cross country team to win the NAIA national team and individual titles, with blazer Valerie Hilden leading the Lutes to victory.

"The national title was an outcome of that desire to strive for excellence," said Moore. Continuing his already long list of honors, Moore was twice named NAIA cross-country national coach of the year (1988 and 1990), NAIA regional track & field coach of the year (1995), seven-time cross country conference coach of the year, and eight-time Northwest Conference coach of the year for track & field. To multiply Moore's impact at PLU, he was a full-time professor within the school of physical education while coaching two sports each year. [S]

# Meant



SEVEN YEARS AGO A NEW STUDENT-RUN PROGRAM was started with funding from the Lilly Endowment. Part of the university's Wild Hope Project, it was aimed at giving students new confidence and insight into their personal aspirations and goals for living full and meaningful lives.

In 2004 a small group of students met to plan the inaugural event. They discussed naming the program and establishing the themes that would sustain it.



At the time, the students were fans of the rock band Switchfoot. They found inspiration in the lyrics of the band's song that won the Gospel Music Association 2004 song of the year. The lyrics included:



*Fumbling for his confidence  
And wondering why the world has passed him by  
Hoping that he's bent for more than arguments  
And failed attempts to fly, fly  
We were meant to live for so much more  
Have we lost ourselves?  
Somewhere we live inside . . .  
. . . Maybe we've been livin' with our eyes half open . . .  
We want more than this world's got to offer  
We want more than the wars of our fathers  
And everything inside screams for a second life, yeah  
We were meant to live for so much more  
Have we lost ourselves  
We were meant to live*



# to Live

continues as an important part of Homecoming festivities

The title of that song, “Meant to Live,” became the name of the new campus program. Its lyrics inspired program themes that fit perfectly with the goals of the Wild Hope Project. It challenges students to ask themselves the “Big Enough Questions” such as “What am I living for?” “Whom do I really want to become?” “How do I work toward something when I don’t even know what it ultimately is?”

For several years, student organizers of Meant to Live brought professionals, musicians, performers, artists and intellectuals to campus to share their inspiring life stories. The speakers shared the events, people and passions brought them to their current life situations.

More recently, the program has evolved to become a permanent part of Homecoming. Now each year a group of PLU alumni are asked to share with students their own career stories and life goals.

“Because the School of Nursing is celebrating its 60th anniversary, this fall nursing alumni have been selected as the Meant to Live Academic Affinity,” said Sumerlin Larsen ’01, associate director of the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations.

“Related activities will include Homecoming chapel, School of Nursing simulations, a Vocation in Progress panel discussion, a Meant to Live speaker and a Meant to Live reception,” she said. ☐

**For more information and to register, visit**  
*[www.plualumni.org](http://www.plualumni.org)*

## **Get V.I.P. treatment at Homecoming!**

**October 14-16, 2011**

### **Highlights Include:**

Class Reunion Activities for Classes of 1961, '66, '71, '86 and '01

Homecoming Football Tent and Game

Homecoming Alumni Award Banquet

Homecoming Worship

Banquet

### **Meant to Live activities:**

Homecoming Chapel

School of Nursing Simulations

Vocation in Progress Panel

Meant to Live Lecture:

Charleen Tachibana '77

Meant to Live Reception

School of Nursing 60th

Anniversary Banquet

### **Diversity Center 10th Anniversary Celebration Activities:**

Diversity Center 10th Anniversary

Celebration: “Voice, Inclusion, Passion”

Multicultural Night

Diversity Center Open House

Past, Present and Future Panel

# 2011 ALUMNI AWARDS

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

### Dale & Jolita Benson

Through many years of dedication and service, these alumni have achieved professional and vocational distinction in the community. Dale '63 and Jolita (Hylland '63) Benson receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award. The Bensons have endowed two chairs at PLU; The Benson Family Chair in Business and Economic History, and The Jolita Hylland Benson Chair in Education. They have also supported many other projects at PLU, including student scholarships over the years. Dale currently serves as a member of the PLU Board of Regents.

In addition to their work at PLU, the Bensons support an organization called Minds Matter in Portland, Ore. The mission of Minds Matter is to transform the lives of accomplished high school students from low-income families by broadening their dreams and preparing them for college success. The Bensons support the organization's annual operating budget and have established a scholarship program for two Minds Matter students to attend PLU each year.

They have also shown their generosity and involvement in the greater Lutheran community around the Portland area. Each year they provide tuition support for any member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church who enrolls in a Lutheran college or seminary. Through this commitment, in 2010, their foundation supported 11 students from their congregation.

## OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS AWARD

### Roger Adams

For excelling in a special area of life, Roger Adams '79 receives the Outstanding Alumnus award. Adams is the creator of Heelys, athletic shoes with wheels in the heels. These shoes allow wearers to go from walking to skating, or "heeling" without having to change shoes. Adams invented the shoes in his garage in 1998, and today they have sold 4.5 million pairs of shoes in 70 countries worldwide.

Adams grew up in Tacoma. His parents owned the Adams Roller Bowl, the biggest skating rink in the Pacific Northwest. After attending PLU, Adams went on to become a clinical psychologist, mental health supervisor and regional coordinator for the state of Oregon. By the late '90s, Roger was experiencing professional burn-out. He decided to take some time off, and during this time he rented a little house in Huntington Beach, Calif. It was there that he got the idea for Heelys while watching people skate down the boardwalk.

Reader's Digest Magazine also named Heelys as the "Best of America" for 2005. Roger started with an idea and transformed it into a movement, proving that with a little hard work and a good idea you can achieve anything.

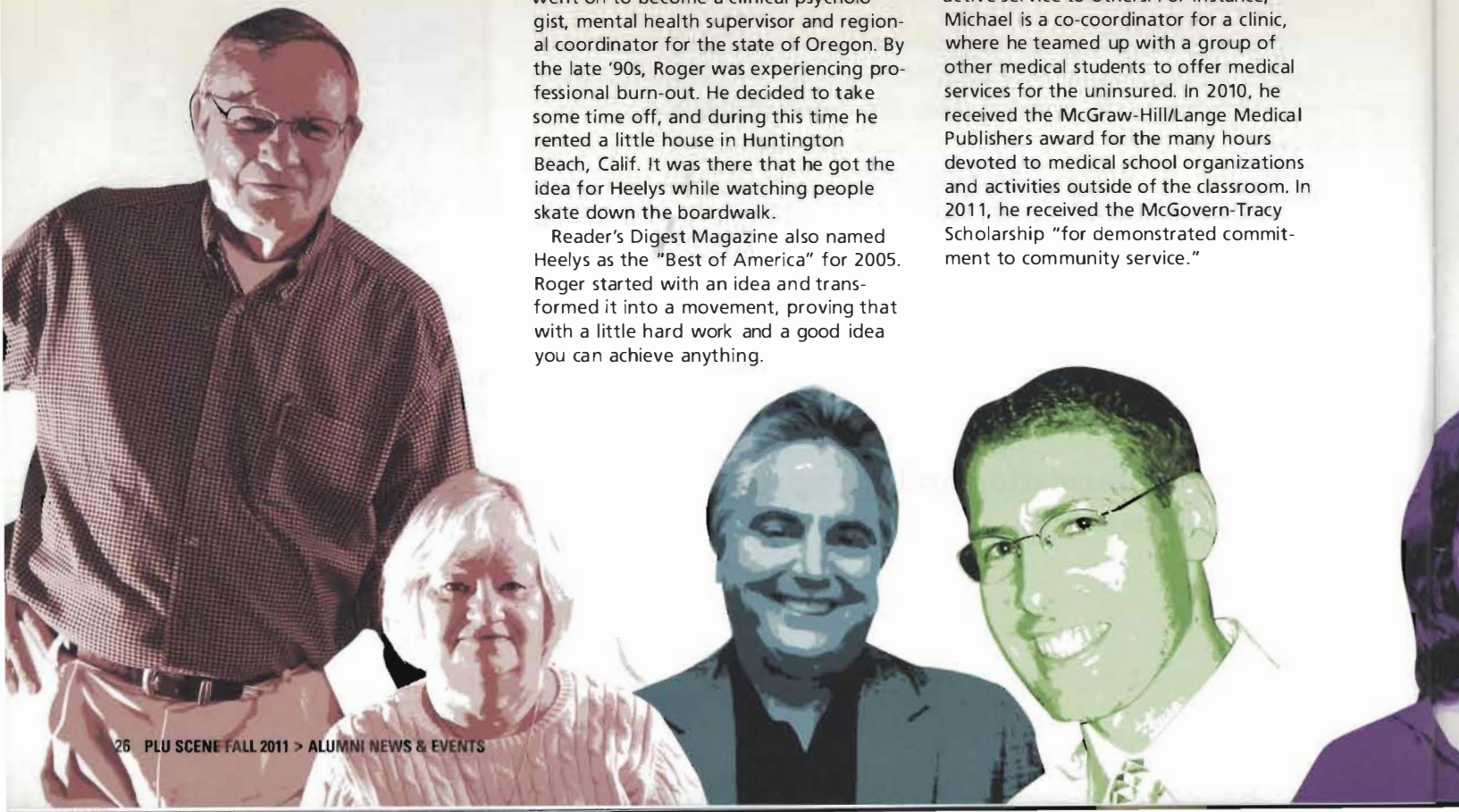
## OUTSTANDING RECENT ALUMNUS AWARD

### Mike Wauters

For his outstanding service to the medical community, Michael Wauters '07 receives the Outstanding Recent Alumnus Award. He spent the 2007-2008 academic year in Ecuador on a Fulbright Fellowship studying the Chagas Disease. When work was slow, Michael started volunteering at the Baca Ortiz Hospital, spending many hours reading to sick children and delighting them with his hand puppet, Marco the cat.

Michael's most significant accomplishment in Ecuador came after the Ecuadorian government failed to follow through with its promise to fund the Chagas Disease project. In response Michael initiated a campaign to seek donations from friends and family in the United States. Michael's efforts were successful, and he and his team were able to continue the project.

Michael is currently in his second year of medical school at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, where he spends his spare time in active service to others. For instance, Michael is a co-coordinator for a clinic, where he teamed up with a group of other medical students to offer medical services for the uninsured. In 2010, he received the McGraw-Hill/Lange Medical Publishers award for the many hours devoted to medical school organizations and activities outside of the classroom. In 2011, he received the McGovern-Tracy Scholarship "for demonstrated commitment to community service."



#### ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

### Melanie Barnes

For her outstanding volunteer leadership and service to the community, Melanie Barnes '82 receives the Alumni Service Award. Melanie is a pediatric psychologist at Mary Bridge Children's Hospital. Every day she helps families whose children have critical or terminal illnesses. One disease in particular, sickle cell anemia, affects many of the families she encounters. Because of this, Melanie went above and beyond her job to become the founding member of the NW Sickle Cell Camp.

Melanie hosted the first sickle cell camp in 1993. The camp continues today and typically hosts 30 to 50 children with sickle cell, as well as their siblings. It provides a safe place for the kids to leave home and have fun with the necessary medical support for their illness. Melanie has been a primary financial advocate for the camp by writing for grants and meeting with community supporters and fundraisers.

In addition to being responsible for the Mary Bridge Sickle Cell Clinic, Melanie is involved with the rest of the Mary Bridge Children's Hematology/Oncology Clinic. She loves to volunteer her time at social events for the clinic. Outside of her service to the hospital, Melanie has been a Girl Scout leader for eight years, helping young girls become confident leaders and contributors of their community.

#### HERITAGE AWARD

### Fred Tobiason

For years of dedication and service to the university, Fred Tobiason '58 receives the Heritage Award. As a former professor, Tobiason has made enormous contributions to the chemistry department at PLU and also in the broader research community. He promoted and successfully implemented several faculty-student research fellowships, and has presented

papers at the national American Chemical Society meetings with his students.

Tobiason was also an advocate for, and led a study away trip to Chengdu, China, in the late 1980s. As a faculty member he conceived the Natural Areas Committee that has today evolved into the Sustainability Committee.

Tobiason is also known for advocating that the wooded area south of the University Center be preserved as an educational habitat in 1970. Fred maintained that area until he retired in 1991. In April 2011 the area was dedicated as the Fred L. Tobiason Outdoor Learning Center.

Tobiason is the founding member of the Clover Creek Council, a citizen non-profit organization that has a mission of protecting and restoring the natural systems in the Clover Creek Watershed. Tobiason has been involved in several conservation projects and is responsible for the conservation of more than 100 acres of land near PLU.

#### SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

### Rodney Swenson

For his special service to the university, Rodney Swenson receives the Special Recognition Award. Rodney is credited with making the Fulbright program what it is today. The Fulbright is the U.S. government's premier scholarship program, sending more than 800 scholars and professionals each year to more than 155 countries to study internationally. He is known for encouraging applicants and helping them with the process. PLU has an extraordinary track record of Fulbright awards, and Rodney is responsible for much of this success.

While at PLU, Rodney also served for seven years as the chair of the Department of Languages and Literatures. He taught every German course in the curriculum and developed seven courses for J-Term. Rodney also published about 30 professional articles

and book reviews, and has a professional interest in teaching English as a second language. He has studied 13 foreign languages. This passion for foreign language drove Rodney to found the Tacoma German School.


He also served on the council of his church and has been a choir member for more than 25 years. Rodney was also a volunteer leader in many positions for the Boy Scouts of America.

#### BRIAN C. OLSON LEADERSHIP AWARD

### Adam Story

For his leadership and commitment to a lifelong relationship with the university, Adam Story '11 receives the Brian C. Olson Leadership Award. Adam worked in the Office of Development for more than three years. His primary position as a TelALute supervisor, gave him incredible opportunities to be a liaison between PLU and its many constituents. He mastered the art of articulating the university's mission and is an excellent fundraiser.

During his senior year, Adam was the donor relations intern. In this position, he was responsible for managing the endowed student scholarship program, which creates meaningful connections between donors and students. Adam met with soon-to-be graduating seniors to discuss donating to the university. Donating to the university is very important to Adam, and he wants his fellow classmates to start to make a difference in their university by giving back.

Adam is also one of the most recent Ubuntu award receipts for his leadership roles on campus. Adam was hired to work at a local non-profit in Seattle helping to raise money to make legal aid available for those in need. In addition to working, Adam will be one of the class representatives for the class of 2011 for PLU. 



# alumni news & events

continued

## Join the Click!

**M**ore than 8,250 alumni have already registered for PLU's Alumni Online Directory. What's stopping you? Make sure you're not left out, and log in to the Alumni Online Directory today.

If you haven't registered for the Alumni Online Directory, you will need your alumni ID number which serves as your temporary password. Your eight-digit alumni ID number is located on the address label of this magazine.

Registration is free and exclusive to all

alumni. As a registered user of the Alumni Online Directory, you can update your current information, search the directory for your friends, or make new associations. Contact us with any questions at [alumni@plu.edu](mailto:alumni@plu.edu) or 253-535-7415.



### GET STARTED...

You can visit us at [www.plualumni.org](http://www.plualumni.org) to access the Alumni Online Directory and update your profile. Or, simply


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Login to the Alumni Online Directory and update your profile by Friday, September 16, and you could be the winner of a brand new Kindle or other great PLU prizes!

GRAND PRIZE: A Kindle

2ND PLACE: An all-event package for two to Homecoming 2011

3RD PLACE: A \$50 gift card to Garfield Book Company that can be used online 

## Pencil Us In

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 12 ..... PLU Night at the Rainiers, Tacoma
- September 6 ..... First Day of Classes
- September 17 ..... PLU vs. California Lutheran Football Tailgate in Thousand Oaks, Calif
- September 22 ..... Norway Connection Event
- October 14-16 ..... Homecoming Weekend 2011
- October 17 ..... Alumni Board Meeting, PLU
- October 22 ..... PLU vs. Linfield Football Tailgate in McMinnville, Ore.
- October 29 ..... PLU vs. Lewis & Clark Football, PLU
- November 4-6 ..... Family Weekend 2011, PLU
- November 6 ..... Parent's Council Meeting, PLU
- November 30 ..... Music Affinity and GOLD Affinity Reunions, Portland, Ore. (PLU Christmas Concert)
- December 5 ..... Music Affinity and GOLD Affinity Reunions, Seattle (PLU Christmas Concert)

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



## PLU Night at the Rainiers August 12

For only \$10 a person, join approximately 500 fellow Lutes for a night at Cheney Stadium to see the Rainiers play the Iowa Cubs. Event includes admission to the game, a hotdog, soda, chips, fireworks after the game – and meeting old and new Lutes alike!

**TICKETS:** PLU Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, [www.plualumni.org](http://www.plualumni.org) or 253-535-7415

# giving back

## Rieke Science Center campaign aims for \$6 million goal



Karen Allyn '85 and Carol Sheffels ('58) Quigg meet Michaela Burke '12 and other students who will be using the newly remodeled Louis and Lydia Sheffels Biology Lab. Even though PLU reached its \$100 million goal, there are still opportunities to upgrade facilities and equipment in Rieke Science Center.

When PLU President Loren J. Anderson announced in May that PLU's fundraising campaign had crossed the \$100 million mark, it was a moment of pride for the entire PLU community.

It was not, however, a time to relax. There is much more work to be done.

A school with a strong commitment to the liberal arts must provide high-caliber facilities to support its academic and co-curricular programs. Architecturally distinctive facilities, complete with appropriate equipment and technology, inspire students and faculty and enhance the academic vitality of the university.

Of particular focus now is the 26-year-old, 88,500 square-foot Rieke Science Center. The facility has served the Division of Natural Sciences well, however, the building is outdated and requires upgrades to meet the needs of faculty members and the students they are educating particularly because undergraduate student and faculty research is one hallmark of a PLU education.

"The renovation of Rieke Science Center will give us more flexibility with

respect to how we can use the facility to support the kinds of teaching we want to do," said Angie Alexander, PLU professor of biology and former dean of the natural sciences.

To that end, Rieke currently has a new smart classroom under renovation, thanks to generous contributions from multiple donors. Additional general maintenance on Rieke is also taking place this summer, including the installation of a new roof.


Completed earlier in the year was the Louis and Lydia Sheffels Biology Laboratory, which would not have been possible without the support of Carol Sheffels ('58) Quigg, Jerry Sheffels '54 and the entire Sheffels family.

"The Rieke Science Center is an important part of the education of PLU students going out into the world," Carol Sheffels Quigg said.

The lab is the first of many renovations planned for Rieke. The goal is to raise \$6 million for an overall upgrade of the building. Currently, gifts to the university for Rieke Science Center have reached \$1.6 million.

Future plans for Rieke include the reconfiguration of an interior laboratory space supporting and enhancing scientific instructional methodologies for student and faculty research, updating more classrooms, improvement of the second floor "open lab," and updating building infrastructure such as heating and ventilation.

"Compared to what I think of as 'the old days' when most of the teaching was lecture and many of the labs were demonstration-based labs, we are now doing much more project work in the labs," Alexander said. "Teaching has shifted not entirely away from lecture, but certainly toward problem solving, project work, discussion groups and group work during class periods."

All this points to continued efforts to create a space where PLU's students have the resources and support to meet the demands of scientific inquiry in the 21st Century. 

*To learn more about the renovation of Rieke Science Center, and the variety of naming opportunities that are available, visit [www.plu.edu/campaign](http://www.plu.edu/campaign), or call 800-826-0035.*

# alumni profiles

40 years of caring for others



School of Nursing celebrates its  
60th anniversary at Homecoming!  
Join us October 14-16, 2011

**M**arilynne (Buddrius '68) Wilson came to PLU planning to study social work. But a simple conversation with her parents one day led to a different career path.

"I called home and told my parents I was in something I didn't think I wanted," Wilson said. "They called the minister. He called me and said, 'what about a nurse?' I said 'okay.'"

The Almira, Wash., native subsequently earned a bachelor's degree in nursing.

After graduation, Wilson began her nursing career at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane.

It was at that job she realized the two most important skills her PLU professors taught her: how to problem solve and how to think logically. "I remember when I got my first job at Sacred Heart and thinking, 'I don't know how to do anything,'" Wilson said. "Lo and behold, I discovered I knew how to think."

Wilson met her husband, Lewis, in 1969. The couple married two years later

and relocated to Western Washington, where she worked at Providence Hospital in Seattle while Lewis attended law school at the University of Washington.

They returned to Spokane in 1975 and Wilson entered home health care, a field she says was "right up [her] alley." She spent the next 28 years as a field nurse and in administration.

"Nursing has been good to me," Wilson said.

The mother of two and a soon-to-be

grandmother, Wilson is passionate about exploring new places and making a difference.

Wilson traveled to Cuba in 2010 through Witness for Peace, to observe Cuba's health care system.


Wilson anticipates retiring in 2012 from her part-time job at Deaconess Medical Center's Hyperbaric Wound

Care Center. But she plans to remain active, and says she may even remain on-call after she retires. Marilynne and Lewis are undecided as to when they will fully retire.

"We have always felt we wanted to contribute," she said.

Wilson also expects to stay involved with Spokane's Peace and Justice

Action League, that focuses on non-violent responses to issues. Community involvement is a commitment the Wilsons share.

"I couldn't have stayed married to anyone else for 40 years," Lewis said of Marilynne. "She knows who she is and what she wants." 

—Hailey Rile '13

## A life of service through environmental protection

**S**hella Biallas '04 says she is pursuing a career in public service because she values community, and more specifically, the protection of the environment.

"What motivates me is a passion for the outdoors," Biallas wrote during a recent online interview. "Being at PLU, where Mt. Rainier was in my background, really made me realize how lucky we are up there to have access to all these great, natural resources and beauty."

Currently, Biallas is working in Washington, D.C., as a policy analyst in the Office of the Secretary at the U.S. Department of Interior.

Biallas' desire to serve others has led to many opportunities to explore the United States and the world.

Biallas worked for a year with AmeriCorps VISTA, a national service program designed to fight poverty. For that position, she traveled to St. Paul, Minn., where she worked at the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota. There, she was responsible for recruiting volunteers and grant writing.

She has also worked as a Peace Corps volunteer near Gorda, Belize, where she helped develop eco-tourism income-generation projects in a small Mayan village.

"The challenges of a developing country are nearly insurmountable," Biallas said. "There is corruption. There are lots of competing



*"This passion [for environmental policy] was affirmed when I was in Belize, when I came back to Seattle, I pursued it as a profession in the hope that I could make a difference at the highest levels of policy making."*

needs, and you are working with very limited resources. But doing it was well worth it."

Upon her return to the U.S., Biallas completed a master's in public administration at the University of Washington's Evans School of Public Affairs, where she decided to pursue a career in environmental policy. As a result, Biallas also earned a certificate in environmental management from the UW.

"This passion [for environmental policy] was affirmed when I was in Belize," Biallas explained. "When I came back to Seattle, I pursued it as a profession in the hope that I could make a difference at the highest levels of policy making."

During her time at PLU, Biallas double-majored in sociology and psychology, and had the opportunity to be a teaching assistant in both departments.

Biallas also was involved in numerous extra- and co-curricular activities, volunteering as an orientation guide, serving as orientation coordinator, working for ASPLU, as well as for Impact and in the Career Center.

Biallas says she often misses the PLU atmosphere.

"The community of people were genuine," Biallas wrote, adding, "where people were genuinely nice, open, and compassionate without another agenda."

—Anne Walters-Cooke '12

# alumni class notes

Class Representative positions available: **1968, 1975, 1980, 1986, 1991, 1992, and 1995.**

## 1931-1935

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

**T. Olai Hageness** died March 15. Olai was an educator for 43 years, retiring as superintendent of the Clover Park School District, where he served from 1948-1974. Prior to his tenure with Clover Park, he was the principal of Fife (Wash.) High School and county superintendent of schools. He also served as a naval officer from 1943-1946. Olai served on numerous educational boards, as well as church boards, university boards, and hospital boards. He was also active in several community affairs. Olai was preceded in death by his first wife, **Irene (Dahl '27) Hageness**, and his daughter, Linda. Olai is survived by his second wife of 50 years, Sarah; 4 children, 11 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

## 1936

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

## 1937-1939

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

## 1937

**Dorothy Kappahn** died Jan. 15. After graduation, Dorothy had a long career teaching in the Bethel School District. Dorothy was known for her arts and crafts, which she shared with students, friends and relatives.

## 1940

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

## 1941-1944

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

## 1941



**Evelyn (Knibbe) Elliott** and her husband, Chalmers, celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary in February. Evelyn is a substitute teacher on occasion in the Highline School District. Evelyn and her husband live in SeaTac, Wash.

## 1944

**Per Ivar Pihl** died April 27. He received degrees from PLU and Augustana Theological Seminary, and was ordained by the Lutheran Church in 1952. Ivar shared the good news of God's grace and love in churches and communities in Massachusetts, California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska. Ivar is survived

by his loving wife, **Joan (Satern '46) Pihl**; children, Helena, Carol, **Susan (Pihl '80) Ferguson**, and **Marshall Pihl '83**; and 11 grandchildren.

## 1945

Class Representative – **Annabelle Birkestol**

## 1946

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

## 1947

Class Representative – **Gerry Lider**

## 1948

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

**Doris (Vinje) Thompson** died March 18. Doris truly made the world a better place. She was an extremely thoughtful person, often buying cards for people's birthdays or anniversaries. Doris was a strong supporter of the Christian Appalachian Project, sending little books or shoes to the children of Appalachia. Doris is survived by her husband, **Jesse Thompson '50**, and son, Jim.

**Ernest Hopp** died March 31. During World War II he enlisted in the Navy and studied at the University of South Carolina. Upon his honorary discharge, he continued his study at Pacific Lutheran College, Washington State College and Oregon State College, where he received his B.S. in poultry husbandry in 1949. He then began his career as an assistant extension agent with the Washington State University Agricultural Extension Service. In 1962 he received his master's degree from Oregon State University and became a full faculty member and state supervisor at the extension center. Ernie was a devoted fan of the Chicago Cubs, as well as the PLU football and basketball teams. He was a Rotarian, served on the Pierce County Land Commission and is one of the founding members of the PLU Q Club. Ernie was preceded in death by his wife, Irene (Fearn) Hopp. He is survived by his three daughters, **Michelle (Hopp '77) Mussie**, **Renee (Hopp '80) Robbins** and **Jeanine (Hopp '82) Wernofsky**; and grandchildren, **Marquel Mussie '09**, **Jessica Mussie**, **Shelby Robbins**, **Jaclyn Wernofsky** and **Daniel Wernofsky**.

## 1949

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

**Doane Blair** recently retired as vice president of Shoreline Community College. Doane's daughter **Kendall Blair '05** is now in her fourth year of medical school at Des Moines University in Iowa. Her brother, Kyle Blair, graduated from the University of Washington in 2010. Doane and his wife, **Alice (Andersen '51) Blair**, currently live in Mt. Vernon, Wash.

## 1950

Class Representative – **Dick Weathermon**

**Irene (Christensen) Suprunowski** died Jan. 20. She worked for Dr. Middleton for several years in Port Orchard, Wash., as a receptionist and medical assistant. Irene met her husband, Henry, (also known as "Gene") when he came to Dr. Middleton's office in 1954. They were married April 5, 1956, and remained so for more than 54 years. Irene was a homemaker, and was active in her church, Emmanuel Lutheran, and was a member of Sons of Norway for many years. She is survived by her husband, Henry; sons William and John, daughters Jean and Janet; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Jess Thompson** is a former pastor, storyteller, folk singer and fisherman. He has written essays on religion, politics, history, as well as two novels, all laced with humor and based mainly on the truth. Some older graduates may remember his stories and songs at banquets and school functions. "Blood on the Saddle," "The Blue Tail Fly," and "I Once Ate at the Boarding House at Dear Old PLU" were big favorites. Jess has written and published a batch of books: "The Sexy Lady-North to Alaska," "Sweet Molly Malone's Love Ad," "Now Hear This" and "All Aboard."

**Curtis Holm** died March 26. He joined the Navy in 1943, serving in the Philippines until the end of World War II. After his military service, he earned his B.A. from PLU, and attended graduate school at San Francisco State University, under the tutelage of S.I. Hayakawa. Curtis taught at Coontz Junior High, and was one of the original teachers at East High School, as well as English department chair and golf coach. He was "knighted" for his distinguished service. He retired in 1980, working at Rolling Hills Golf Course, winning the men's club championship, and scoring a hole-in-one. Curtis is survived by his wife of 30 years, Carol; daughters Karen and Catherine; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

## 1951-1952

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

**William Vaswig** died Jan. 23. He was the pastor at Mission Hill, Gayville and Yankton Lutheran Church in S.D., Resurrection Lutheran in Dublin, Calif., and Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Canoga Park, Calif. He was also the pastor and president of Preaching and Prayer Ministries, Inc., since 1978. William was preceded in death by his wife, **Marcine (Vohs '55) Vaswig**. He is survived by his children **Philip**, **Joanna**, **John '80**, **Charis**, **Rene**, and **Mairi**; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

## 1953

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

## 1954

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

**Paul Steen** was recently awarded a lifetime achievement award when he was inducted into the KPBS Hall of Fame. Paul was the longest serving general manager of San Diego-based KPBS, where he oversaw both the radio and television stations from 1974-1992. During Steen's term, KPBS accomplished broadcast history by transmitting the first over-the-air digital HDTV signal. While general manager, Steen made the decision to change KPBS radio into an all-news and public affairs format in 1990. He retired from KPBS in 1992.

## 1955

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

## 1956

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

## 1957

Class Representative – **Ed Larson**

**Carol (Jacobson) Arestad** died Feb. 22. Carol moved to Washington from Wisconsin to attend PLU. While at college she met her husband, **Roger Arestad '55**. Carol was preceded in death by her husband. She is survived by her two children.

## 1958

Class Representative – **Don Cornell**

## 1959

Golden Club Class Representative Committee

## 1960

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

**Larry Johnson** was elected president of the Scandinavian American Cultural and Historical Foundation in Thousand Oaks, Calif., for 2011. The organization, based at California Lutheran University, operates the Scandinavian Center and sponsors the monthly Scandinavian Lecture Series, the annual Nordic Spirit Symposium and the annual Scandinavian Festival. Before retiring as pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Thousand Oaks, he served at other congregations in California. He also is currently active in the community mental health association and assists with the Holy Trinity food program for the homeless.

**Jan Aust** attended the 50th PLU Class reunion and was grateful for the warm, loving connection with her vibrant classmates. Since graduating, traveling



has been Jan's passion. In the next few years, she hopes to visit both Africa and Australia.

## 1961

Class Representative – **Ron Lerch**

**Gene Schaumberg** died Jan. 19. Schaumberg was one of the first instructors in Sonoma State (Calif.) University's natural science division, and was credited with hiring most of the chemistry department faculty. Schaumberg presented seminars on environmental issues in numerous countries and was the recipient of five Fulbright lectureships. While at SSU, he led an annual study trip to Nepal and Thailand. Schaumberg was a consultant for the National Science Foundation and was one of six scientists chosen as senior research fellows in the Indo-American Fellowship Program. Gene is survived by his wife, Terrie; children, Tara, Jocelyn, Jason, and Nathan; and five grandchildren.

**Marty Schaefer** has composed a collection of ten piano settings of Christmas carols. Titled "Quiet Carols," the set has just been published by Augsburg Fortress. Marty and his wife, **Barbara (Weber '61) Schaefer**, will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in November.

## 1962

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

**Frederick Hansen** died Feb. 11. Fred met his wife, **Marilyn (Paulson '62)**, while attending PLU. They married in 1965 and settled in Northern California. Hansen enjoyed bowling, climbing, boating with friends and relatives, and buying and selling cars. Fred and his family returned to the Northwest, making a home in Bremerton, Wash. He was dedicated to his church, Emmanuel Lutheran, where he was church president. He is survived by his wife, **Marilyn**; two sons, Jen and Kristian; and four grandchildren.

**Larry Flamoe** died March 1. After graduating, Larry spent eight years active duty as a navigator, earning the Air Medal while flying combat missions in Southeast Asia. He then finished his 22 years of military service in the Washington Air National Guard. Larry married his college sweetheart, **Karen (Bird '61)**. Larry and Karen built a home in Browns Point, Wash., where they raised their family. He was also very active in coaching his kids' sports teams. He worked for many years running his own business selling fasteners. Larry loved the family cabin in Longbranch, Wash., and spent 45 summers there with family and friends. He was also involved for many years as a group leader with a Bible study fellowship. Larry was a long-time member of Marine View Presbyterian Church. Larry is survived by his wife, **Karen**; three children, Mike, Chelle and **Mark '92**; and seven grandchildren.

## 1963

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

## 1964

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

**Arvin Meyer** died Feb. 9. Arvin joined the Coast Guard after graduation and served one year active duty, and four years of reserves. He resumed his education at PLU and graduated with a degree in chemistry. Arvin worked at the Oregon Primate Research Center, and in the Reed College (Portland, Ore.) radiation department. He later moved to Tacoma, Wash., and worked for Mann Russell Electronics and Jesse Engineering, where he retired in 2004. Arvin loved life, traveling with family and friends, hiking, fishing, golfing, hunting, camping and sailing. He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Jan; children, Cathleen, Wendy, Steven, Julie and Kevin; and five amazing grandchildren.

## 1965

Class Representative – **Dave Wytko**



**Cynthia (Weaver) Bennett** and her husband **Walter** recently celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary with a family dinner. The couple was married at Tower Chapel at PLU.

## 1966

Class Representative – **Frank Johnson**

## 1967

Class Representative – **Craig Bjorklund**

## 1969

Class Representative – **Rick Nelson**

**Paul Dessen** died Jan. 4. He died peacefully at home, surrounded by family and friends. Paul was a role model of optimistically living for the future despite having a terminal illness. He moved to Oregon where he began 30 years of service as a dedicated teacher, working at Newport, North Marion, Knappa and Astoria high schools. He coached hundreds of student athletes in swimming, diving, cross-country, football, baseball and basketball. After his retirement, "Coach D" kept going and completed his 40-year coaching career as an Astoria High School volunteer. Paul could often be found playing golf at the Gearhart Golf Links with his Men's Club friends. Paul was a longtime lector at St. Mary's Catholic Church. He served as the meet director for the district swim meet for many years and was the SMART program volunteer. The highlight of Paul's coaching career was his 2010 induction into the Astoria High School Sports Hall of Fame, both as a coach and as a volunteer. Paul is survived by his devoted wife of 40 years, Helen; his daughters Lisa and Laura; and three granddaughters.

**Thomas Brierley** died Jan. 11. Thomas was awarded a certificate of appreciation from Gov. Mike Lowry for 38 years of service with the Washington Liquor Control Board.

**Judy (Gyldenvand) Odegaard** died Mar. 23. Judy held a number of administrative positions over the years at Weyerhaeuser, Westin Hotels & Resorts, and Sherron Associates. Her most enjoyable jobs were as the registrar at Trinity College in Issaquah, Wash., and in secretarial roles at the Westminster Presbyterian Church and Anacortes Lutheran Church. These jobs enabled her to utilize her organizational skills and administrative proficiency in a work environment with like-minded people of faith. She saw these opportunities as being a privilege to be of service. She loved playing her piano and singing in the church choir. Judy also enjoyed Bible study, walking, bike riding, gardening, traveling, baking, and creating beautiful scrapbooks and quilts. She is survived by her husband, Rod; children, Jeff, Joanna and Julie; and four grandchildren.

## 1970

Class Representative – **Bill Allen**

**William "Bill" Cody** died Oct. 10, 2010. Bill was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War, and was one of the most influential and memorable teachers White Hall (Ark.) High School will ever know. He loved and served the Lord with all his heart, and for many years he and his wife ministered through music at several area nursing homes. He was preceded in death by his son, Rex Cody. Bill is survived by his wife and best friend of 38 years, Beverly Cody; five daughters, 14 grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren, and many other loving family and friends.

**Mikki (McDermid) Stevens** was recently honored as a recipient of the Women of Distinction Award in the Arts and Culture category by Soroptimist International of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Stevens is the founding member of the performing group, the Red Hot Mamas. The Red Hot Mamas were a dance, march, song and comedy theater group that performed for 17 years. When they were very active, the Mamas performed a dance routine in the Macy's Day Parade, and in front of a past president.

## 1971

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

**Dennis Bryant** directs the conference and events function at California Lutheran University, and was commended in a column in the Ventura County Star for his "informal leadership" at the university. The columnist also called him "the glue" that "keeps the campus working."

**Judith (Zatterberg) Davis** died Feb. 03. Judith has many fond memories of her youth. In high school she was honored as a Daffodil Princess, not rising to be "Queen", but aptly chosen as "Miss Congeniality." Later on when she attended PLU she was chosen as a "Lucia Bride." She earned her degree in education, which led to a career teaching at Delong Elementary School in Tacoma, Wash. She positively touched the lives of her many young students, just as her early mentors touched her. Judy was

preceded in death by her parents and sister, Kristine. She is survived by her brother, Glenn.

## 1972

Class Representative – **Molly Stuen**

**Steven Cook** is working at Sound Mortgage in Tacoma, Wash., as a loan originator. He is helping others through these tough financial times.

## 1973

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

## 1974

Class Representative – **David E. Johnson**

**William Rudolph** is living a happy life on an 80-acre farm in Gillingham, Wisc., practicing a bit of country law and kayaking the world over.

**Martin Babbitt** died May 20, 2010. His life was filled with many purposeful projects, working from sunrise to sunset. After serving his country in the U.S. Navy, Martin received his degree in Business Administration from PLU. He went on to establish a commercial site development company, which he owned and operated for more than 20 years. This pioneering spirit also carried over to his contributions to the community when he created the first Peninsula Soccer Club, and spent many hours working on the gymnasium addition to Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church of which he had been a member for 46 years. He is survived by his wife, Arlene; children Laurie, Douglas, Brian '92 and Bonnie; and numerous grandchildren.

**Chuck Mitchell** and **Gay (Thompson '75) Mitchell** celebrated their 35th anniversary in December.

## 1975

Class Representative – **Vacant**

**David Smith** was recently appointed co-chair of the Federal Bar Association Criminal Law Section for the Western District of Washington. Smith practices in the areas of white-collar criminal defense and complex civil litigation. In addition to the FBA, Smith is a member of the American Bar Association's White-Collar Crime Committee.

**Rebecca Thompson** owns her own Neuropsychology private practice in Napa, Calif. She also has been teaching at Napa Valley College for 24 years. Rebecca is the founder and facilitator of the North Bay Fibromyalgia Forum. She is the vice president of the Napa Valley Bonsai Club and has enjoyed participating in the intensive bonsai study groups every month for the past two years. She is the past president of the Redwood Empire Swing Dance Club. Rebecca sings in three choirs: her local church choir, the Harlen Miller Chorale, and Cantare Con Vivo. With CCV, she has traveled to Russia, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Austria, Germany, Slovakia and Poland.

## Picture Perfect



**Kathy (Schranun) Falk '85, Janie (Buehler) Davis '85 and Stephanie (Nelson) Mantey '83** flew to Sausalito, Calif., for a weekend reunion in November 2010 and stayed onboard a 75-foot private yacht. They spent the weekend laughing and reminiscing about their time spent at PLU. They hope to do this again in the near future.

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

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



**Lynn Bartlett-Johnson '74, Beverly (Owens) '74) Hoback and Annette (Getzendeanner '75) Janka** pose at the Seattle Center in November 2010. Their friendships go way back: Annette and Bev began singing together in sixth grade, and added Lynn to make a trio in high school. All three sang with the Choir of the West at PLU. Today Lynn plays first violin with the Pacific Northwest Ballet and the Auburn Symphony. Bev is an elementary music teacher and sings with many PLU alumni in the choir, Cora Voce, directed by **Randall Spitzer '74**. Annette performs with a Celtic band in Cardova, Ala., where she and her husband operate a charter boat.

awaiting the day when they can legally marry in the United States!

### 1986

Class Representative – Vacant

### 1987

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

**Sylvia Montosa** died June 8, 2010. Sylvia graduated Magna Cum Laude from PLU School of Nursing and became a registered nurse. She worked in Tacoma General, Black Hills Hospital (Olympia, Wash.), Queens Medical Center (Honolulu) and Valley Medical Center (San Jose, Calif.). Sylvia always put her family's welfare first. She is survived by her husband of 38 years, Rich, children, Richard Jr. and Angel, and four grandchildren.

**Darrel Bowman** was named the National Veteran Small Business Champion by the U.S. Small Business Administration. Darrel served in the U.S. Coast Guard before becoming an entrepreneur, community leader, humanitarian and veterans advocate. Darrel is currently living in Tacoma, Wash.

### 1988

Class Representative – **Brenda Ray Scott**

### 1989

Class Representative – **Brendan Rorem**



**Gwen (Norlander) Porter** married **Christopher J.K. Porter** Dec. 4, 2010 at the Medicine Creek Winery in Olympia, Wash.

The bride wore a Scandinavian bridal crown rented from the Scandinavian Gift Shop in the Garfield Book Company at PLU. Gwen is working as a flight attendant with Delta Airlines and Christopher is the senior corporate counsel for Transaction Network Services. The couple is currently living in Lacey, Wash.



**David Mays** recently celebrated his one-year anniversary working on the CEO communications team at Kaiser

Permanent, the nation's largest non-profit integrated health-care system. Earlier this year, David's team created and launched a national public awareness campaign to promote the significant health benefits of regular exercise, called "Every Body Walk!" David also recently celebrated his 1,000th skydive at Skydance Skydiving in Davis, Calif. David and his wife, Janice Alley, live in San Francisco, where she teaches graduate clinical psychology courses at Golden Gate University.

### 1990

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

**David Engebretsen** died Feb. 1. He received his master's degree in humanities at PLU. David served his country for 23 years, three in the U.S. Navy as a midshipman, and 20 as a chaplain with the U.S. Army, serving at Camp Desert Rock (Nev.), Snelling Air Force Base (Minn.) and at bases in Korea, France, Ft. Ord, Calif., Savannah, Ga. and Vietnam. He retired as Lt. Colonel in June, 1976. He is survived by his wife Roberta; their children and numerous grandchildren.

**Joseph "Doc" Pagkos** died April 5. Joseph earned his master's degree at PLU and his Ph.D. from Ohio State University. He was a consultant, mental health therapist, school psychologist, and special education director. He loved teaching and learning, and he enjoyed the outdoors – especially hiking and SCUBA diving. He also loved working with disabled children. He is survived by his wife, **Debbie Tygart-Pagkos '91**.

### 1976

Class Representative – **Gary Powell**

**Gary Payne** died Jan. 18 at his home in Buckley, Wash. Gary received his master's degree from PLU and worked as a real estate broker. He was very active in church activities through Messiah Lutheran Church in Auburn, Wash., Morningstar Fellowship in Israel and New Water Fellowship. He also gave to orphanages. Gary is survived by his wife, **Michelle Payne '79**; children Abe and Bethany. He was preceded in death by his parents; Dwight and Louise Payne.

**Susan Kerns** is a computer specialist for West Point Elementary School in West Point, N.Y.

### 1977

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

### 1978

Class Representative – **Pete Mattich**

**Kirk Nelson** was recently named president and CEO of AAA Washington. Nelson came to AAA Washington from Qwest Communications, where he has been the Washington president since 1999. He currently serves on the executive committee of the Seattle Sports Commission and the advisory board of the Albers School of Business and Economics at Seattle University.

**Bruce Neswick** will join the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University as an associate professor of music (organ) in the fall of 2011.

### 1979

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

### 1980

Class Representative – Vacant

**Ray Francis** was recently awarded the credential of Associate Certified Coach by the International Coach Federation.

**Russell Rowland** recently co-edited an anthology that will be published by the University of Texas Press called, "West of 98: Living and Writing in the New American West." This collection features essays from writers all over the West talking about what it means to be from the West, and how they see the Western identity changing. The anthology includes writers such as Larry McMurtry, Louise Erdrich, Ursula Le Guin, Rick Bass, David

Guterson and 60 others. Russell was also recently named the fiction editor for "New West," an online magazine.

### 1981

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

### 1982

Class Representative – **Paul Collard**

**Deborah Erickson** is the assistant dean of the School of Education at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, Calif. She has recently been named to the statewide Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

### 1983

Class Representative – **Dave Olson**

**Brian Trefry** has taught in the Post Falls (Idaho) School District since January of 1984. Brian is currently teaching world history and A.P. United States history. He is also the varsity cross-country coach. His wife is a mathematics instructor at Whitworth University in Spokane, Wash.

### 1984

Class Representative – **Mark Christofferson**

### 1985

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



**Elise Lindborg** and **Kelli Henderson** celebrated their 20th anniversary together on March 23. They are anxiously

**Robert Vogelsang** graduated with honors from Pacific Coast Banking School in September of 2010. His senior management report, "How to Maintain and Increase Core Deposits While Operating Under Regulatory Orders," was awarded a citation for excellence. PCBS, held in conjunction with the School of Business Administration at the University of Washington, is a three-year masters-level extension program for senior officers in the banking industry. Robert joined Silicon Valley Bank in December as a global treasury advisor.

**Stephen Wangen**, founder of the IBS Treatment Center in Seattle, Wash., celebrated five years of successful business. His office has moved to a brand new clinic space in north Seattle and patients come from around the country, and internationally, to see him. His wife, **Tara Shadduck '91**, works to market his books and to promote him as an author and speaker specializing in food allergies and irritable bowel syndrome. They live in Seattle, Wash., with their two kids. Stephen's business partner, **Thomas Mercer '91** is also a PLU alumnus.

**Paul Sundstrom** recently launched [www.arghcentral.com](http://www.arghcentral.com), the first website to feature movie reviews in a cartoon format. Paul and his wife, Carol, live in Seattle, Wash.

**Linda Trendler** was hired at Pasado's Safe Haven where she will be the "spay station coordinator." The Spay Station is a mobile unit that offers free and low-cost spays/neuters for dogs and cats all over Pierce County. Owners can also vaccinate, microchip, and treat their pets for fleas, worms, ear mites, when their animal is "fixed" on board. Recently she added "event coordinator" to her title, and will be working on the Pasado's Bark at Marymoor Park in Redmond, Wash., in July.

### 1991

Class Representative – Vacant

**Cameron Galford** is an adoption supervisor for the Riverside County (Calif.) Department of Public Social Services.

**Tyler Clements** was awarded the 2010 All-Star Sales Manager of the year for VF Licensed Sports Group/Majestic Athletic. Now in his fifth year with the company, he is managing the Pacific Northwest and Northern California territory. A highlight of his year was watching his account, the San Francisco Giants, win the World Series. Tyler is currently living in Spokane, Wash., with his wife of 17 years, Erin. He has two sons, Jacob, 16, and Griffin, 13, and one daughter, Sydney, 11.

**Jeremy Desel** works for KHOU-TV as a general assignment reporter. In March, Desel was honored with six Texas Associated Press Broadcaster Awards, including "Best Reporter." Jeremy is a 17-time regional Emmy winner. He was most recently honored for the third consecutive year with the Emmy award for news writing. The Houston Press Club has twice named him television journalist of the year.

**Dai Ike** is currently living in Machida City, Tokyo, Japan, doing freelance work. He was married to Yumiko on March 21, 1994.

**Sandra Olson** died Nov. 15, 2010. Sandi devoted her life to serving God, loving her family and reaching out to friends. She was an active member of her church, serving as a Sunday school teacher and youth group leader. She was also involved in women's ministries and Bible studies. For 15 years, she was a committed teacher at the Dieringer (Wash.) School District. She also spent time teaching English as a Second Language at Pierce College. Sandi is survived by her loving husband, Ron; sons Justin, Kevin and Ryan; and five grandchildren.

**Jon Funfar** was named the new communications specialist for the city of Pasco, Wash.

### 1992

Class Representative – Vacant

**Michelle (Thieling) Landis** has a new position at Under Armour as an account planning manager for U.S. apparel. She is happy to hear from anyone (alumni or current students) interested in Under Armour (for jobs or summer internships). Michelle is living in Ashburn, Va.

### 1993

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

### 1994

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

### 1995

Class Representative – Vacant

**Doug Nierman** is the winemaker at Zerba Cellars. Zerba Cellars was just awarded winery of the year by Wine Press Northwest. Doug has been at Zerba Cellars since 2007.

**Amy Herman** has been awarded tenure at Olympic College in Bremerton, Wash. Amy is a full time library faculty member who also serves as the systems and databases librarian.

### 1996

Class Representatives – **Steve and Kim - Leifsen**

**Andrew Dreyer** has assumed responsibility for the periodontal practice of Dr. Mark Katz, who retired in November. Dreyer earned a bachelor's degree in biology at PLU; and went on to study at Creighton University School of Dentistry. After working for a year as a general dentist, he attended the University of Texas Health Science Center to earn a master's degree in periodontics. He received a certificate in periodontics at the Air Force Periodontics Residency at Wilford Hall Medical Center. Dreyer is board-certified in periodontology, and in 2008 was named the Air Force Medical Service Outstanding Junior Clinical Dentist of the Year.

### 1997

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

**Sarah (Werner) Bostelle** is currently working as a psychiatric evaluation specialist for the King County Jail. She is also a massage therapist. Sarah lives in Seattle, Wash.

**Devra Sigle-Hermosilla** and **Dovie Sigle '97** are pleased to announce the opening of their law firm: Sigle Law in Ellensburg, Wash.

### 1998

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

**Keven Wynkoop** was appointed interim principal for Ballard (Seattle) High School. Wynkoop has five years of leadership experience as assistant principal at Ballard, and also served as the school's activities coordinator from 2002-2007. He is a third-generation Ballard High School graduate, who has worked there for his entire professional career.

### 1999

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

**Casey Selfridge** was hired as the new head football coach at Lakeside (Wash.) High School.

### 2000

Class Representative – **Ashley Orr**



**Melanie (Isaman) Dean** married James Dean on Jan. 29 in Seattle, Wash. Melanie is currently working as a registered nurse at Seattle Children's Hospital.

### 2001

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



**Greg Thomas** finished his tour of duty in Iraq, and is now using his educational degree as a contractor with Raytheon. He teaches members of the U.S. Army how to fly and operate the Army's latest unmanned aerial vehicle, the MQ-1C "Gray Eagle." He is now living in Sierra Vista, Ariz., and working at Fort Huachuca. He was remarried on Oct. 11, 2009, to Leslie D. Brady of Anchorage, Alaska.

### 2002

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



**Bridget (Baker) Vandeventer** married Michael Vandeventer on Sept. 25, 2010, in the Great Hall at Sunriver, Ore. Lutes in the wedding party included matron of honor **Jessica (Baker '99) Petkun** and **Gillian (Hanson '03) Carnahan**. Lutes in attendance included **Kimberly Miller '02**, **Becky (Summerer '02) Rassi**, **Sally (Porterfield '02) Kroon**, **Katie (Gilliam '02) Streit**, **Juli Miller '03** and **Geoff Ledgerwood '98**. Bridget is the communications and community relations manager at the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department. Michael is a regional sales representative for Synthes Spine. The Vandeventers live in Gig Harbor, Wash.

**Roger Eller** is currently working as a firefighter/EMT for the Command Navy Region Northwest Fire Department on Indian Island in Washington.

## In Memoriam

### 1931

**T. Olai Hageness** died March 15.

### 1937

**Dorothy Kapphahn** died Jan. 15.

### 1944

**Per Ivar Pihl** died April 27.

### 1948

**Doris (Vinje) Thompson** died March 18.

**Ernest Hopp** died March 31.

### 1950

**Irene (Christensen) Suprunowski** died Jan. 20.

**Curtis Holum** died March 26.

### 1952

**William Vaswig** died Jan. 23.

### 1957

**Carol (Jacobson) Arestad** died Feb. 22.

### 1961

**Gene Schaumberg** died Jan. 19.

### 1962

**Frederick Hansen** died Feb. 11.

**Larry Flamoe** died March 1.

### 1964

**Arvin Meyer** died Feb. 9.

### 1969

**Paul Dessen** died Jan. 4.

**Thomas Brierley** died Jan. 11.

**Judy (Gyldenvand) Odegaard** died March 23.

### 1970

**William "Bill" Cody** died October 10, 2010.

### 1971

**Judith (Zatterberg) Davis** died Feb. 3.

### 1974

**Martin Babbitt** died May 20, 2010.

### 1975

**David Engebretsen** died Feb. 1.

**Joseph "Doc" Pagkos** died April 5.

### 1976

**Gary Payne** died Jan. 18.

### 1987

**Sylvia Montosa** died June 8, 2010.

### 1991

**Sandra Olson** died Nov. 15, 2010.

# What's new with you?

> Please fill out as much information below as possible, including city of residence and work. Feel free to use another piece of paper, but please limit your submission to 100 words. Photos are welcome, but only one photo will be used, and on a space available basis. Notes will be edited for content. Photos must be prints or high quality jpegs. Please, no reproductions or copies from other publications.  
**Deadline for the next issue of Scene is September 1, 2011.**

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 EMM/DD/YI GENDER MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/>
SIBLINGS/AGES	

## Promotions/Awards

NAME
TITLE OF POSITION/COMPANY/AWARD/ DATE ASSUMED

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

**Damon Armeni** is currently earning his master's degree in foreign affairs from the University of Virginia. Armeni remains on active duty with the U.S. Army while finishing his degree.

## 2003

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

**Erica Sponberg** finished her master's degree in English studies and communications at Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Ind. She also earned her Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages certificate. She will be teaching English at Hiroshima Bunkya Women's University in Hiroshima, Japan.



**Scott Olson** married Kimberly Giusti on Aug. 15, 2010, at the Willamette Valley Vineyards in Turner, Ore.

Members of the wedding party included PLU graduates **Aaron Lunday '03, Benjamin White '04 and Marianne (Silvera '04) White**. PLU attendees were **Daphne (Smith '04) Buren, Erich Bergerson '01, Daisuke Yamauchi and Gary Whiteman**. The couple resides in Bern, Switzerland, where they both work at the U.S. Embassy in Bern. Scott received his master's degree in public policy from George Washington University in 2007.

## 2004

Class Representative – **Tammy Lynn Schaps**



**Michael Henson** married Stephen Nash on July 31, 2010, at Whidbey Island, Wash. Lutes in attendance included **Jack (Karen)**

**Granberg '04, Aimee Lawrence '04, Ryan Healy '05, Jamie Marble '06** and Rose McKenney, associate professor of geosciences and environmental studies. Michael is currently working as an operations associate at the Northwest Network of Bisexual, Trans, Lesbian, and Gay Survivors of Abuse in Seattle, Wash. The couple currently resides in Seattle, Wash.



**Chris Gray** married Kari Brown on May 23, 2009, in Shoreline, Wash. Lutes in the wedding party were **Charles Dörner**

**'04, Brandon Kyriess '04**, sister-of-the-bride **Emily Brown '04**, and sister-in-law of the bride **Diana (Kucera '08) Brown**. The couple currently reside in Mountlake Terrace, Wash.

**Aaron Dennis** completed an internship at the Asian Development Bank in 2009, and has since been working on social development issues in connection to a nickel and cobalt mining initiative in North Maluku, Indonesia.



**Eileen (Padden) Kemink** married Austin Robert Kemink on Aug. 22, 2010, at the Robinswood House in Bellevue, Wash.

Eileen is currently working at PLU's Office of Development as a gift officer for annual giving. Her husband, Austin, is a corporate pilot.

## 2005

Class Representative – **Michael Steele**

**Tia Woodall** is the executive director at Bonaventure Senior Living in Tualatin, Ore.

## 2006

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

**Wesley Telyea** will be the new associate pastor at Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church in Bellevue, Wash. After graduating from PLU, Wes received his master's of divinity at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, Calif., in May 2010. Wes is married to **Emilee (Sieverkropp '06)** and they have a 13-month-old son named Noah. Since completing seminary, Wes has been serving as the interim youth ministry assistant at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Issaquah, Wash.

## 2007

Class Representative – **Kaarin Praxel**



**Jackie-Lynn (Sasaki)** married **Troy Andrade '07** on Dec. 18, 2010, in Honolulu. Lutes in attendance were **Lars Tanaka '09,**

**Wailhea Perreira '07, Desi Koanui '08, Shelly (Furutani '06) Cassler, Leighton Richards '05, Misty (Hug '07) Smith, Sheila Nakayama '08, Joe Cassler '07, Shayna Doi '09 and Scott Matsumura '07.**

**Kristi Clough** was recently named as partner and shareholder of Firmani + Associates Inc., a marketing and public relations firm in Seattle, Wash. In 2009, Clough's work earned the firm a Public Relations Society Totem Award for the strategic development and implementation of a community outreach program that uses integrated word-of-mouth marketing strategies to raise client company profiles among target audiences in the Pacific Northwest.



**Scarlet (Engelhardt)** married Bruce Wilson on May 15, 2010. Scarlet works as a health and fitness teacher for the Soap Lake School District

in Washington.

**John McClimans** is an electronic communication specialist at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif. He is currently living in Lodi, Calif.

**Zach DeBoard** recently graduated with a M.D. degree from University of Washington's School of Medicine. He will be starting a general surgery residency in Santa Barbara, Calif.

## 2008

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



**Erin (Parr) Calata** married **Dom Calata '08** on July 5, 2010, in Happy Valley, Ore. Lutes in the wedding party included

**Kathryn Claus '10**, **Mark Doherty '09** and **Chris Oledan '08**. Erin is currently completing her master's degree in music at Arizona State University and will graduate this year in May. Dom is currently deployed in Iraq working as a company executive officer.

## 2010

**Steven Davis** married **Kimberly (Henry '08) Davis** on Aug. 28, 2010, in Snohomish, Wash. There were many Lutes in attendance at the wedding. They have been living and working in Page, Ariz., and will be returning to Snohomish, Wash., in July 2011.

## 2009

Class Representative – **Amy Spieker**

**Sarah Knutson** has accepted a position as the new staff assistant for Congressman Peter Defazio, of Oregon's 4th District. It is a joy to be employed with a respected and dedicated representative.



**Ashley (Opdyke) Harris** married **John Harris** on Aug. 21, 2010, in Vancouver, Wash. Ashley is currently working

as a social worker at a skilled nursing facility in Portland, Ore.

## 2010

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

**Hannah (Pershall) Hantho** married **Eric Hantho** on Oct. 15, 2010, in Vancouver, Wash. Hannah is currently working as a registered nurse for the family birth center at Legacy Health System.

**Anne (Mioni) Lantz** married **Daniel Lantz** on Jan. 9 at Thornwood Castle in Lakewood, Wash. Anne is employed as a pediatric nurse in Olympia. The couple honeymooned in Kauai, Hawaii, before making their first home in Centralia, Wash.

**Asher Smith** is a well-site geologist at Hess Oil Corporation/Neset Consulting in Tioga, N.D.



**Stacey (Duryee) Deuring** married **Thomas Deuring** on July 24, 2010, on PLU's Red Square. Lutes in the wedding

party where **Jessica Tanner '09** and **Will Deuring '12**. They live in Missoula, Mont.

# Future Lutes

## 1992



**Julie Blum** welcomed the birth of her daughter, **Zoe Grace**, on March 28, 2011. The family lives in Shoreline, Wash.

## 1993



**Karen Koll** and husband, **Matthew Williams**, welcomed the birth of **Theodore George** on Jan. 7. **Teddy** joins big

brother, **Alfie**, 4. The family lives in Seattle, Wash.

## 1994



**Kim (Alexander) Willoughby** and husband, **Mark**, welcomed the birth of their daughter, **Keegan**, on Aug. 23, 2010. **Keegan** joins big brother, **Ryker**, 7.

## 1997



**Noelle (Dennis) Nelson** and her husband, **Christopher**, welcomed the birth of their daughter, **Hannah Rose**, on June 28, 2010. The family resides in Seattle, Wash.

## 1998

**Peter Finstuen** and wife, **Jessica**, welcomed the birth of their daughter, **Siri Evelyn**, on Jan. 30. The family lives in Bellingham, Wash.

## 1999



**Jennifer (Klumpp) Cramer** and husband, **Matt**, welcomed the birth of their son, **Preston**, on Nov. 26, 2010. **Preston** joins big sister, **Siena**, 2.



**Heather (Carter) Hamner** and husband, **Daks**, welcomed the birth of their son, **Ryland Tucker**, on Dec. 2, 2010. The family resides in Atlanta.

## 2000



**Gretchen (Voge) Matthews** and husband, **Marc**, welcomed the birth of their son, **Oscar Steven**, on Sept. 8, 2010. **Gretchen** is a

neonatology fellow at the Mayo Clinic. **Marc** is the medical director of the Mayo Family Clinic in Kasson, Minn.



**Satoshi Shimoji** and wife, **Heather (Hochhalter '00) Shimoji**, announce the birth of their daughter, **Erica**

**Mei-Lynn** on Dec. 25, 2010. The family lives in Olympia, Wash.



**Mindy (Norris) Sneva** and husband, **Jordan**, welcomed the birth of their son, **Emrey**, on Nov. 24, 2010. **Emrey** joins big brother, **Asher**, 3. The family lives in Burlington, Wash.



**Tara (Millet) Bennie** and husband, **Jasen Bennie '02**, welcomed the birth of their daughter, **Kenley Elaine**, on Nov. 3, 2009. **Kenley** joins big brothers, **Kael**, 6 and **Kaden**, 4. The family lives in Layton, Utah

**Kenley** joins big brothers, **Kael**, 6 and **Kaden**, 4. The family lives in Layton, Utah

## 2001



**Stacie (Lintvedt) Hanson** and husband, **Jason '01**, are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, **Ellery Anna**, on Sept. 11, 2010. The family resides in Denver, Colo.

**Ellery** joins big brothers, **Kael**, 6 and **Kaden**, 4. The family lives in Layton, Utah

**Katherine (Koch) Knight** and husband, **Ryan**, welcomed the birth of their son, **Tristan Matthew**, on Feb. 4, 2011. The family lives in Selma, Calif.

**Ann (Hogberg) Johnson** and husband, **Charles**, welcomed the birth of their son, **Henry**, on Jan. 21, 2011. **Henry** joins big brother, **Thomas**, 2. The family currently resides in St. Peter, Minn.

## 2002



**Brian Riehs** and wife, **Abbey (Schuetze) Riehs '04** welcomed the birth of their son, **Ethan**, on Dec. 12, 2010. **Ethan** joins big sister, **Emma**, 2. The family lives in Tacoma.

**Ethan** joins big sister, **Emma**, 2. The family lives in Tacoma.



**Lisa (Greeno) Jones** and husband, **DJ Jones**, welcomed the birth of their son, **Christian Charles Greeno-Jones**, on June 10, 2010. The family lives in Sedro Woolley, Wash.

The family lives in Sedro Woolley, Wash.



**Jacy (James) Ramsey** and husband, **Ben**, welcomed the birth of their first child, **Baylor Davis Ramsey**, on Nov. 15, 2010. **Jacy** is

a health and fitness teacher in the Bethel School District and is the head fast-pitch softball coach at Rogers High School in Puyallup. The family resides in Puyallup, Wash.



**Zach Zimmermann** and wife, **Anne**, welcomed the birth of their daughter, **Jillian Opal Zimmermann**, on Dec. 9, 2010.

The family just moved to the north end of Tacoma. **Zach** has worked for the Department of Financial Institutions since 2007.

## 2004



**Chris Gray** and wife, **Kari**, welcomed the birth of the first son, **Marcus St. John**, on March 27, 2011. The family currently resides in Mountlake Terrace, Wash.

The family currently resides in Mountlake Terrace, Wash.

## 2005



**Gabrielle Brockman** and partner, **Jenn Murray-Brockman**, welcomed the birth of their twins, **Saylor** and **Ryder**, on Sept. 29, 2010. The family currently lives in Omaha, Neb.

The family currently lives in Omaha, Neb.



**Erin (Anderson) Gwinn** and **Joseph Gwinn** welcomed their daughter, **Ashleigh Piper**, on March 10, 2011. She joins big brother, **Clayton**, 2.

big brother, **Clayton**, 2.

## 2006



**Allison Norris** welcomed the birth of her son, **Baylor**, on Aug. 3, 2009. The family lives in Seattle.

## 2007



**Scarlet (Engelhardt) Wilson** and husband, **Bruce Wilson**, welcomed the birth of their son, **Levi Samuel**, on March 28, 2011. The family lives in Soap Lake, Wash. [S]

The family lives in Soap Lake, Wash. [S]

## one-on-one

continued from back page

east India this fall, she will be looking for other instances of funds of knowledge, particularly as they relate to early childhood education in the Muslim community. When she took a group of PLU education students to India last J-Term to visit schools, she realized she knew very little about the cultural practices in Muslim community schools. It made her wonder – what are the learning practices that south Indian Muslim children bring from home that might facilitate learning later in the classroom? And how could those cultural practices inform what is later taught in the classroom?

“Children come [to school] with a whole lot of socio-cultural processes when it comes to learning,” Thirumurthy said. “So we need to find out how teachers can connect new knowledge to their cultural practices and how it informs curriculum.”

Beginning in October, Thirumurthy will use her Fulbright grant to find out. Over seven months, she will meet with students and families in the Muslim and Hindu communities in Chennai, as



well as observe the rituals and cultural practices of the children in their homes and communities. In the end, she will gather her findings and report back to the schools in hope of helping them develop a curriculum that takes advantage of these funds of knowledge.

“If I know more about their culture, then the better I can connect with

them,” she said. “Learning for those children becomes a little bit easier.”

In many ways, Thirumurthy’s upcoming studies are a slice of something in which she’s invested her entire career: understanding and exploring other cultures.

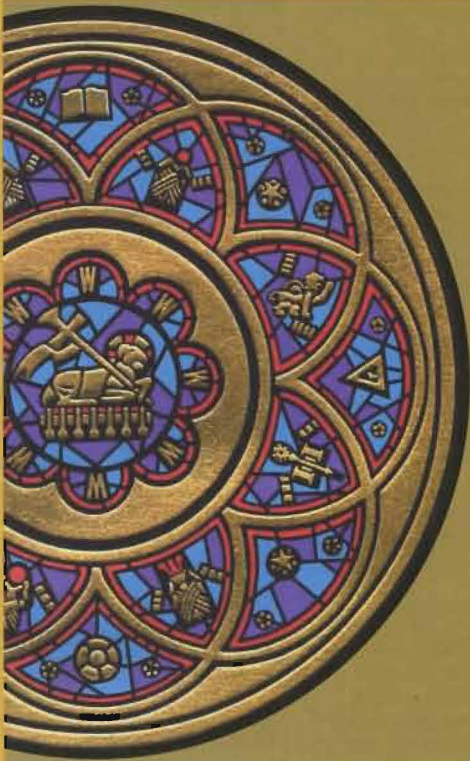
It is one of the big reasons why she enjoys taking students to India as part of her J-Term course “Comparative Education in India.” Some of the students who took part in the J-Term course in the past years have become, or will someday, be teaching in the classroom. And every opportunity to be exposed to different cultural practices can help make students better teachers.

“It changes their perception of the world,” she said.

And that’s a good thing. As a teacher, she’s also the first to admit it isn’t just her students that see a positive benefit from their travels to her home country. She does too.

“I see India differently because of them,” she said. “They help me understand Indian culture.” □

—Steve Hansen



PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY  
A PLU CHRISTMAS  
**MAGNIFICAT**  
MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD

<b>November 30, 7:30 p.m.</b> Arlene Schnitzer Hall, Portland, Ore.	<b>December 5, 7:30 p.m.</b> Benaroya Hall, Seattle
<b>December 3, 8 p.m.</b> Lagerquist Concert Hall, PLU	<b>December 9, 8 p.m.</b> Lagerquist Concert Hall, PLU
<b>December 4, 3 p.m.</b> Lagerquist Concert Hall, PLU	

FOR TICKET INFORMATION VISIT  
[www.plu.edu/christmas](http://www.plu.edu/christmas) 253.535.7787

# calendar

continued from inside front cover

**October 15, 8 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.**  
University Symphony Invitational  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**October 16, TBA**  
Dedication: Black Box Theatre  
Karen Hille Phillips Center

**October 16, 3 p.m.**  
Wind Ensemble  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**October 18, 6:30 – 8 p.m.**  
Mystery Lovers Book Club  
of Tacoma  
Garfield Book Company Community Room

**October 26, 7 – 9 p.m.**  
Celebration of Martin Luther's reformation  
of the Church  
The Cave, University Center

**October 27, 8 p.m.**  
Regency String Quartet  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**October 30, 3 p.m.**  
Concert: Early and Baroque  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

## NOVEMBER

**November 2, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**  
Photographs of Alaska's Brook Range, by  
David Streiffert  
Garfield Book Company  
Community Room

**November 2, 7:30 p.m.**  
Sixth annual David and  
Marilyn Knutson Lecture  
Speaker: Marcus Borg  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**November 3, 3:30 p.m.**  
Visiting Writer Series: Nikki McClure  
Garfield Book Company Community Room

**November 3, 7 p.m.**  
Visiting Writer Series: Book reading by  
Nikki McClure  
University Center Regency Room

**November 4 – 6**  
Family Weekend  
Locations across campus

**November 6, 3 p.m.**  
Mary Baker Russell Music  
Scholars Recital  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**November 11, 11:15 a.m.**  
Veteran's Day Ceremony  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**November 11, 8 p.m.**  
Pianist Erin Chung & Violinist Quinton  
Morris  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**November 12, 5:30 p.m.**  
PLU/UPS Saxophone Student Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**November 13, 3 p.m.**  
Organ Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**November 14, 8 p.m.**  
University Jazz Ensemble  
Lagerquist Concert Hall


**November 15, 8 p.m.**  
University Symphony Orchestra Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**November 15, 8 p.m.**  
University Concert Band  
Performance  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**November 19, 3 p.m.**  
Solwinden Flute Ensemble  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**November 19, 8 p.m.**  
Choral Union Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**November 20, 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.**  
PLUtonic/HERmonic Concert  
Lagerquist Concert Hall

**November 29, 8 p.m.**  
Percussion and Steel  
Pan Ensembles  
Lagerquist Concert Hall 

# LuteGear

luteworld.plu.edu



## CALL FOR SUGGESTIONS

### Is there a doctor in the house?

For an upcoming issue of Scene, we will be profiling alums in the health care industry. Are you a physician, or nurse? Perhaps you know someone who does great work in global health for an NGO. If so, we'd love to hear from you. Send us your suggestions – and

include contact information and a photo if you have one – to [scene@plu.edu](mailto:scene@plu.edu). Given how many Lutes are out in the world doing great things, we can't be sure we can profile everyone, but we will certainly do our best!

**Address change:** If this copy of Scene is addressed to your son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please notify the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations with his or her new mailing address. You can reach us by phone at 253-535-7415 or 1-800-ALUM-PLU. You can also fax us at 253-535-8555 or e-mail [alumni@plu.edu](mailto:alumni@plu.edu) with the new information. Thanks!

# one-on-one

## Connecting the dots



Photo by John Froschauer

Vidya Thirumurthy, associate professor of instructional development and leadership, received a Fulbright faculty fellowship to study the cultural practices of children in Chennai, India, and to see how those practices inform learning in the classroom.

**E**ach morning, on the doorstep of every home in Vidya

Thirumurthy's hometown of Chennai – indeed, in much of Southern India – women and girls create what's known as a kolam out of rice flour.

An intricate geometric pattern based on a series of dots, a kolam is an artful design that Hindu households use to communicate with community: If there is a kolam on the doorstep, then all is well inside; if there is not, then neighbors know that all is not well.

Thirumurthy remembers the days when she and her sisters would spend considerable time designing their fami-

ly's kolam – in a gentle spirit of competition, they would view their neighbor's designs and, each day, endeavor to design something more elaborate, more beautiful.

Thirumurthy uses the kolam to describe something else – something for which she earned a prestigious Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program grant to study in her native India.

She uses the kolam to describe what is called “funds of knowledge” – the idea that children, especially young girls, gain knowledge not simply in the classroom, but through their family and their culture. In the case of the

kolam, children learn not just a Hindu tradition, but they learn simple mathematical concepts, and spatial orientation and relationships through their daily creations. Children will unknowingly take those concepts they learned on their doorstep and use them, later, in the classroom.

“At the time, I never thought much about it,” Thirumurthy said. “But there is probably a relationship between designing kolams and mathematical concepts.”

When Thirumurthy returns to south-

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