The Most Beautiful College in America

This year we have been blessed with a flurry of national distinctions, not the least of which is Newsweek’s declaration that we are their 2012 “Most Beautiful College in America.” Naturally, we are so proud of our students, whose beauty—inside and out—drew that special recognition. We are also proud to be located in Northern California’s gorgeous Napa Valley, where we can take advantage of the wonderful climate, the spectacular scenery, and all the bounty of nature with which God has blessed us.

However, like the good manager in Christ’s parable of the talents, we are not content to accept these gifts from the Creator and simply leave them as they are. Over the past three years, we have been taking many determined and intentional steps to enhance the natural beauty of our campus. I have been especially proud of our facilities management, landscaping, and janitorial teams, “Team Sparkle,” who have implemented an aggressive campaign of improvements in many areas of campus. This past summer we worked tirelessly to paint entire dormitories, refresh the landscaping, replace 15,000 square feet of roof, as well as renovate the campus front door—the Enrollment Services Office.

Of course, beauty is more than skin deep, and while we have been taking care to address the aesthetic issues on campus, we have also renewed our commitment to address functional issues as well. From replacing electrical transformers and fire alarms to installing heating and air conditioning in classrooms and offices, we are intent on ensuring that our campus meets the needs of our students as they experience a great education at PUC.

Yet, we are well aware that our campus, while naturally beautiful, is far from perfect in terms of its aging facilities and infrastructure. We have taken great strides recently to improve our campus in terms of both aesthetics and functionality, but we know that there is much, much more to be done. Residence halls must be renovated and new ones designed and built in order to increase our capacity to serve our growing student body. Classrooms and laboratories must be equipped with state-of-the-art technology and equipment. New buildings, such as a new administration building with a one-stop shop concept to more effectively serve our prospective families, as well as a Wellness Center to serve the important health and wellness needs of our campus and local communities, are some of the components of PUC’s new Campus Master Plan, which are in need of significant financial support.

Second, many of our departments have pressing needs for facilities and equipment that are essential to the quality of the instruction that they can provide to our students. These needs range from a few computers in the communication department to several computers in the computer science department to 30 computers in the nursing department. In fact, across campus, technology is the area where the needs increase almost daily, but where our resources have the most trouble keeping up. While Newsweek may praise our lovely setting, we know that our true beauty lies in how well we prepare our students for productive and useful lives for today and eternity.

This goal is so much more than an issue of mere outward beauty. We seek to be good stewards of all of our resources in pursuit of a divine mission. Christ, our leader and our example, has called us to reflect His infinite excellence in the quality of educational opportunities we afford to His precious students, and that includes the state of our physical facilities. In all areas of our operation, we can do no less than be very best in His service.

Therefore, I invite you to partner with us in that mission. With your prayers and your generous gifts, you can help to ensure that PUC remains a beautiful light on the hill in the service of outstanding Christian education. We are proud and honored to receive glowing praise from the national media, but we aspire to a calling far beyond any recognition they can give. While the eyes of the nation are on the beauty of PUC, our eyes are ultimately on reflecting the beauty of Heaven.

Heather J. Knight, Ph.D.
President

“We are well aware that our campus, while naturally beautiful, is far from perfect in terms of facilities and infrastructure. We know that there is much more to be done.”

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President

Win a Legacy

Two alumni launch an upscale new venture

Introducing Your Bus

Alumni and friends come together on a special project

A lovely fall evening at PUC’s campus, nationally recognized for beauty.
Voyage of Luzeiro 26

Students provide medical aid on the Amazon

Giovanni Hashimoto

A group of Pacific Union College students and staff spent a week providing medical care and health information to villagers along the Amazon River—part of a medical service trip in conjunction with Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Brazil, August 21-29. The trip continued a recent increase in focus on humanitarian service at the college.

The group traveled along the Amazon River aboard a boat, the Luzeiro 26, stopping in the remote villages that line the river. The Luzeiro 26 is one of ADRA’s riverboats dedicated to students to live out God’s rich destiny for each of their lives. Phipps is an Adventist minister, a Grammy-nominated gospel singer, and the founder and president of the U.S. Dream Academy, a foundation that promotes educational opportunities for children of convicted prisoners.

"God is the ultimate dreamer—when He dreams, He acts. "I felt like I was actually doing something worthwhile," Tolan adds. "It was great playing with the children, experiencing the culture and trying new foods. It was just a feeling of satisfaction—meaningfully helping people out and meeting them." This summer’s trip is only the first planned to the region as PUC aims to build a lasting relationship with the communities along the river.

At the end of his presentation, the speaker challenged the audience to seek out and live God’s destiny in the coming year. The front of the church flooded with students, faculty, and staff answering his call as he sang out his deep and powerful rendition of “Amazing Grace” over the gathered crowd.

Convocation is the opening Colloquy service and ceremonial beginning of the school year. At the beginning and end of the service, PUC’s faculty and select staff marched into and out of the church in full academic regalia, sashes and colors signifying each of their disciplines. The church was packed to capacity.
The rise of internships at PUC

By far, one of the best days I have ever had,” says Chloé Dillion, a senior biology student at PUC and an aspiring wildlife veterinarian. “After that, I knew that my compassion and dedication to animals would never fade, and it would be successful in my aspirations.”

This past summer, Chloé was just one of many students who participated in an internship, applying the knowledge she’s learned in her classes to real life situations while gaining invaluable experience toward her career goals. Over the past several years, internships have become increasingly important in higher education, and at PUC in particular.

Making the Knowledge Stick

In general, internships belong to a group of methods known in academia as high impact learning practices. These practices typically go beyond the traditional model of lectures, tests, and homework and engage students in active learning that applies class-room knowledge to real-world situations.

In recent years, PUC’s academic administration under the leadership of academic dean Nancy Lecourt, Ph.D., has made a deliberate effort to adopt such practices as broadly as possible across PUC’s curriculum. “Research has shown these practices to make a difference in student success in college,” says Lecourt. “They improve student learning, but also improve student persistence, so students are more likely to stay in college and graduate and do well.”

The benefits of working in an internship become apparent before students ever pass through Commencement Grove. In a 1993 study on the relationship between internships and academic performance published in the journal Issues in Accounting Education, researchers Denise English and David Koepfen found that after an internship, student GPAs increased significantly—not only in the classes related to the internship, but in all their classes in general.

Lecourt, PUC’s career counselor, has an idea why that works. “Internships help them see the purpose, and how [classroom learning] plays out in real-world situations,” she says. “That’s really powerful in connecting different classes and experiences, and you might actually see how that one G.E. is actually helpful, or how what you’re learning in one class of your major is actually related to another.”

The principle bears out in real life for recent interns like Josh Tobar, a junior pre-engineering and pre-med student who spent this summer as a research intern growing semiconductor crystals at Vanderbilt University. “Working in material science showed me how fields blend together using the best of each field to produce a magnificent result,” says Tobar. “I was able to work with chemistry and apply concepts from physics to our theories.”

A Career Preview

This summer Marilyn Garcia, a senior nursing student, had a crash course in what to expect on the job while interning at Glendale Adventist Medical Center’s critical care unit. “Whether it’s a rapid response, a code blue somewhere in the hospital—I respond to everyone—or my own patient deteriorating, the most challenging part is making the right choices fast!” she says. “I have encountered some of my own patients entering sudden emergencies, and with the staff around me, I was always able to keep a clear mind and I was able to participate in the stabilization and recovery of those patients.”

While PUC prides itself on academic excellence, no classroom in the world can teach a student what it’s really like to be on the job day in and day out in his or her chosen field. It’s a critical factor in choosing a career, and internship experience provides a relatively safe place to learn those lessons in advance.

“It gives them confidence in a lot of ways—they might feel more confident in the field that they’ve chosen, or that they really don’t want to do that,” says Gore. “Either way, I think it’s successful.” Beyond that decision, Lecourt says that internships provide invaluable lessons not only in their chosen career field, but what it’s like to be a working professional in general.

“They learn the actual demands of the workplace... it lets students get a little reality therapy,” she says. “They’re learning life skills too. Learning workforce skills. Learning to be there on time, to be dressed appropriately, to interact with other people in a professional way.”

Those lessons tend to stick with students and continue to make an impact into their careers. A 2011 study by Phillip Siegel, Mohsen Naser-Tavakolian, and John O’Shaughnessy and published in the journal Internal Auditing revealed that employees who had taken an internship as students fared significantly better on job performance evaluations and promotion rates than employees who had never had an internship experience.

Chloé Dillion, biology/pre-veterinary senior

Sierra Wildlife Rescue

Because I aspire to be a wildlife veterinarian, it’s incredibly necessary that I submerge myself in these kinds of experiences. These internships not only look great on veterinary college applications, but they also remind me that I really am following my dream.”

Chloé Dillion, biology/pre-veterinary senior

Sierra Wildlife Rescue

LEARNING BY DOING

The rise of internships at PUC

Larry Peña

The day began with a flurry of wings. Stepping into the bird enclosure at the wildlife rescue facility, she felt a rush of excitement as half a dozen dainty creatures fluttered over to greet her, swirling around her and alighting on her head and shoulders. The fact that this was an assigned task didn’t dampen the giddy thrill at the brush of feathers on her face and the obvious power and grace as she held it in her hands to assist with wound care.

As the animal bleated at her as she drove it to another facility where it could get the care and nourishment it needed in crisp contrast to the fact that the experience was giving her a very adult head start on her future career.

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A Foot in the Door

For many PUC students, an internship provides even more than real experience in a potential career field—it actually leads directly to a career.

Last school year, senior social work major Erin Trues filled her department’s internship requirements by serving as a legislative intern for the National Association of Social Workers. Two days a week during the school year, she reported to the organization’s office in Sacramento, Calif., where her duties ranged from monitoring state legislation relating to the social work field to testifying before policy hearings in the state capitol.

“It was hectic moment-to-moment—I could be called to run to the capital at a moment’s notice,” she says. “It was fast-paced and I had to be able to go with the flow.”

Trues’s performance under pressure on behalf of social work advocacy caught the attention of Mariko Yamada, a state representative serving the district stretching from Davis to Napa County, and a social worker herself. Based on Trues’s internship performance, Yamada tapped her to serve as a legislative aide for Napa County on Yamada’s reelection campaign this year.

“Although I didn’t intern specifically with her, she was familiar with my work—I had testified on some of her bills,” says Trues, who is already in the first stages of her political career only months after graduation. “I never realized that government could be so accessible, and this experience has taught me that you can make an impact on policy.”

Rayna Duran, another graduate of the class of 2012, landed what she calls her “dream job” as a direct result of her internship. A business major, Duran connected with the Make-A-Wish Foundation the summer before her junior year. With Gore’s help, Duran landed a position as a development intern at the Greater Bay Area Chapter, immediately falling in love with the organization.

“I love children, and I love helping people,” she says. Apparently Make-A-Wish felt the same way about Duran, and she returned for another internship the following summer. Then last school year, a week before graduation, she received an unexpected call from the chapter office.

“I had no idea there was even a job available,” she says. “They called and offered me the job and I was just beside myself!”

A week after graduation, Duran began work as a program assistant at the organization’s San Francisco office. Her job involves planning and coordinating “wishes” for sick children. “Every day being here, it doesn’t even feel like work,” she says. “It’s my passion. I just love coming to work.”

According to a study by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, no percent of graduates from the class of 2012 who had experienced a paid internship as students received at least one job offer within a few months of graduation, compared to 36 percent of graduates with no internship experience. “That’s something that we want our students to have,” says Gore. “We want them to leave here with job offers, so having internships right now is really key to that. Internships are becoming the new entry-level job.”

Dreams for the Future

With all the benefits internships provide to career-minded students, academic administrators are planning for these experiences to continue to grow in importance in PUC’s academic program.

Currently nine out of PUC’s 19 academic departments include required internships or other practical experiences in their curricula, including six of PUC’s seven newest programs. In addition, four more departments encourage internships as electives. Lecourt hopes to expand the number of programs that include these valuable student experiences.

Next year, Gore plans to unveil a centralized system where students and departments can go for help finding internship opportunities—and where potential internship providers can post openings where a motivated PUC student might fit. She especially wants to see PUC alumni in that role. “I’d like to see a closer partnership with them,” she says. “We have great alumni doing amazing things around the world. It would be great to have that available to our students and be able to connect them.”

If your business could use an intern, PUC would love to connect you with a current student seeking experience. Call the PUC alumni office at (707) 965-7500.

The same thing that makes this internship fun is also the challenge—carrying a measure of responsibility to myself, to God, and to others that I have never truly known before.

Samantha Angeles, communication/theology senior
Internship: Summer in Ministry program, Southeastern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

A world is a ball, a chance to build a relationship with the community members and hear their stories. And, of course, I get to follow the action with my cameras, whether that’s helping a family break ground in their garden or handing out TOMS shoes to a group of barefoot children.

Shanna Crumley, intercultural communication/Spanish senior
Internship: Documentary photographer, ADNA Argentina

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Shanna Crumley, intercultural communication/Spanish senior
Internship: Documentary photographer, ADNA Argentina

“I am at one of the world’s top experimental physics laboratories, working on post-doctorate level research, with my travel paid for by NASA. I get to say the coolest line in history: “I’m sorry, I can’t discuss it. It’s top secret.”

Christian Guillen, biophysics junior
Internship: Research intern, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
A LIGHT ON THE HILL
BUILDING A NATIONAL REPUTATION AT PUC

Three years ago, Heather J. Knight began her tenure as president of Pacific Union College with the bold goal of securing a national reputation for the college. This year PUC achieved that goal, as a variety of sources this summer and fall gave PUC glowing praise in several areas on the national stage. For many both on and off campus, the acclaim confirms PUC as a shining new standard of excellence in education.

Nationally Recognized for Liberal Arts

In September, U.S. News & World Report placed PUC among national liberal arts colleges in the magazine’s annual list of the best colleges and universities. PUC is the only Adventist college listed in the national liberal arts category.

This is PUC’s second year on U.S. News & World Report’s list of national liberal arts colleges—a change from the regional baccalaureate colleges list, where the college had ranked in the top ten for nearly two decades. It’s a change that bumps PUC from a group of 67 regional institutions to a field of 239 institutions across the country that include such reputable schools as Williams College and Amherst College.

“The fact is that we are competing among a much more prestigious and much bigger group of schools,” says institutional research director Serhii Kalywovskyi, who tracks and reports data and statistics on PUC’s academic programs and student body. Even so, “we’re not far off from the first tier [of that category]. Preliminary calculations show that some statistics, such as our student retention, have improved considerably this year.”

One key factor in the switch involves the type of education the institutions provide. According to U.S. News, regional baccalaureate colleges award fewer than half of all degrees in liberal arts disciplines, while national colleges award most of their degrees in the liberal arts tradition. According to President Knight, this is an important distinction in line with PUC’s legacy of educating the whole person.

Liberal Education, the journal of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, describes why liberal arts studies are so vital in today’s world. “The liberal arts are the disciplines that memorialize and foster inventive action, both through their subject matter and their teaching methods,” writes Daniel Gordon, associate dean of the Commonwealth Honors College at the University of Massachusetts, in the journal’s summer 2012 issue. “[They] seek to engender persons who are inspired by past achievements and are confident in their creative potential.”

“The liberal arts tradition is a long tradition in education going all the way back to the classical age,” says Knight. “Liberal arts comes from liber, or ‘free.’ This is the education for free people. And so liberal education is one that is designed to help you to think critically to help you to make decisions as a free person.”
Second in the Nation for Diversity

In the same U.S. News listing, PUC also ranked as the second most diverse national liberal arts college. The ranking calculates the proportion of minority students among the student body, excluding international students. Hispanic students make up the largest group of students of color, according to the report. PUC administrators are celebrating the distinction as a unique educational advantage. “Living, working, and studying collaboratively with people who come from a variety of backgrounds gives students an opportunity to learn about people, ideas, and cultures, and to think critically about new ideas,” says academic dean Nancy Lecourt. “It also helps prepare them for the current working world, where they often find themselves working on teams with people who are quite different from themselves.”

Part of the value of PUC’s incredible diversity is the opportunities it affords students in daily life. “In one day we can hear beautiful music by the Gospel Choir, study our Sabbath School lesson in English and Spanish at La Capilla, and attend a Tri-Club Banquet hosted by the Asian Student Association, the Society of Latinos, and the Filipino Club,” says Lisa Bossell Paulson, vice president for student services. “The beauty of our diversity is that students get to experience new perspectives every day, as they see gifted, talented, engaged students—who are very different from themselves—fulfilling their dreams both in and out of the classroom.”

Undoubtedly, PUC’s diversity is tied in to its connection with an immensely diverse global faith community—a connection that Knight is proud to share. “We are a national model of the beauty of intercultural competence, so this level of diversity reflects what we see in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and the diversity that we will have in the kingdom of God,” she says. “Students, faculty, and staff get along so very well here. And our faith is the glue that helps us to cohere and hold us together.”

The recognition couldn’t be timelier, as the Supreme Court is currently weighing issues of affirmative action in higher education admissions. “We’ve never needed to resort to ratios or quotas to achieve the values of diversity on this campus,” says Knight, who was tasked with developing student and faculty diversity at another university before coming to PUC. “It’s a different level of inquiry when you’re in a place like this, so that you’re not trying to become a diverse campus, you’ve actually achieved it. And then what you do with that becomes the real opportunity.”

Who is my Neighbor? At most campus events, such as this recent outdoor Sabbath school class, students are sure to encounter people from many different races, cultures, and backgrounds.
Most Beautiful College

The distinctions in U.S. News came on the heels of yet another welcome recognition: in August, Newsweek named PUC the nation’s most beautiful college. The ranking aggregated survey data on the attractiveness of both the campus and the student, as well as data assessing the pleasantness of the weather.

While PUC can’t claim much control over Angwin’s beautiful weather, students and administrators alike have taken great pride in the other two factors.

“Beauty is subjective—we as students know that,” says Student Association President Samantha Angeles. “But as an Adventist campus, we value being beautiful on the inside too,” she says. “Team Sparkle” as they continuously work to make all areas of the campus truly shine.

Worth of deferred maintenance. That campaign has included renovations of the Dining Commons and library, as well as a host of smaller projects across campus, from fresh paint to new flowerbeds. Behind the scenes, Knight affectionately refers to the facilities crews as “from Sparkle” as they continuously work to make all areas of the campus truly shine.

“I am absolutely thrilled by these new designations for PUC,” says Knight. “This recognition inspires all of us in every area of our campus community to keep working even harder to make PUC a twenty-first century state of the art learning environment characterized by a God given gorgeous and pristine setting.”

Male and female attractiveness rated out of ten by students of the opposite gender

Campus aesthetics

262 Sunny days per year

9.2 9.1


Students rated each fact out of ten

RECOGNITION

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Introducing Your Bus
Alumni and friends come together on an important project Larry Peña

Over the past year, Pacific Union College alumni have been working toward a very special project at the college—a bus to serve the many student groups who frequently travel off campus as representatives of PUC. The goal was an economical, reliable bus in good condition—one that students could be proud of.

Because of your generosity, that bus is now here on campus, ready to take PUC students wherever they need to go as ambassadors of your alma mater.

The bus is a 2000 model 49-passenger bus built by MCI, boasting a powerful 12.7-liter in-line six-cylinder engine. PUC’s facilities management team found the bus clean and in excellent condition, owned and operated by Amador Stage Lines, Inc., who sold it to the college direct at an excellent price.

“This is a very reliable model of the MCI bus line,” says PUC facilities management director Dale Withers. “MCI is one of the top brands of passenger buses made.”

“For many of the churches we visit, having a guest ensemble is a big deal and seeing a beautiful coach in the parking lot with our logo and colors—in addition to hearing excellent music by our student musicians—makes the PUC brand that much more memorable,” says Rachelle Berthelsen-Davis, ’94, a professor of music and conductor of the PUC Orchestra. “Being able to drive up in a great-coach equipped with classy PUC branding will be a matter of pride for our students as well as the alumni we meet on tour.”

Other groups will also take advantage of the new bus, including the Pioneers athletic teams—frequently noted for sportsmanship—and students volunteering for nearby community service projects in Calistoga and the Bay Area.

“I would use the bus to deploy students to serve nearby churches and communities as the hands and feet of Jesus,” says campus chaplain Laffit Cortes.

“This is such a wonderful gift from our alumni to our students,” says Carolyn Hamilton, ’81, PUC’s interim vice president for alumni and advancement. “It means so much that alumni remember those important experiences they had when they were students here, and that they’re so glad to pass those same opportunities to the next generation.”

The Sponsors
While hundreds of people helped make the new bus possible, a smaller group responded to a call for significant sponsorships. The following people sponsored a seat on the bus with a gift of $2,500 or more.

• Lori Baker and Stan Baker, D.D.S.
• Bonnie (Hernandez) Comazzi & James Comazzi, M.D.
• Sylvia Fillman and Don Fillman
• Jillian Helmer and Curtis Helmer
• Leannor Johnson, Ph.D., and William Johnson, M.D.
• George Lee, M.D.
Enrollment Rises Again at PUC

Biggest growth in student retention

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE’S student body grew for the second consecutive year, fueled largely by a rise in retention—the number of students who return to PUC. This year’s enrollment increased to 2,655 from 2,587 at this time last year. The school-wide retention rate now stands at 78 percent, up from 72 percent last year.

Enrollment in PUC’s new allied health program, introduced last year, played the biggest role in fueling the increase in retention.

PUC administrators discovered the need for such a program after the Western Association of Schools and College, the school’s accrediting body, recommended an institutional assessment. Knight explained. The assessment revealed a gap in degree options for students overflowing the limits of PUC’s popular nursing program, and for students taking pre-allied health classes.

The new program fills that gap, giving students a degree providing a strong foundation for a broad range of careers in the health sciences. “In fall of this year, we had 158 students declared for pre-allied health,”said academic dean Nancy Lecourt. “In fall of this year, we had 158 students declared for pre-allied health.

“According to Westerbeck, the trip gave students time to become intimately familiar with the city of Florence and its culture: “You really feel like you own Florence, you know the city—it’s yours,” she says. “More than any of the other type of class, you are getting out of the classroom and actually experiencing learning.”

In addition to Florence, the group also visited Rome for its plethora of baroque art, the stunning ancient town of Assisi, Venice and its acclaimed museum of modern art, the Guggenheim; and other locations. In addition to the many museums and sights, the students also kept up an extensive reading schedule during the trip ranging from Giorgio Vasari’s Lives of the Artists to The Notebook of Leonardo Da Vinci.

Robert Henry, a junior theology major, said he was excited because the trip provided a chance to go overseas for the first time. “I haven’t painted or drawn since I was a little kid,” he says. “I never really had an interest in art or sculpture but after the second gallery, I had an epiphany. I was really able to embrace the art.”

“In terms of the Honors Program, certainly this is the central place in the program where art is truly the subject,” notes Westerbeck, who also teaches the program’s junior seminar titled “Virtue.” “It’s really important, I think, is just the cultural experience of traveling and being immersed in another culture.”

Honors Class
Experiences Italy

Juniors in PUC’s Honors Program had a stunning start to their summer when they spent three and a half weeks in Florence, Italy as part of the annual “Beauty” seminar, June 28-July 24. Students in the seminar focused on the definition of beauty, primarily within the context of Renaissance art, centered in Florence, along with other artistic periods.

The tour was led by Cynthia Westerbeck, chair of the department of English, along with Sylvia Rasi Gregorutti, professor of modern languages, and Roy Benton, professor of mathematics. This is the second time this group of faculty has led the tour; they led it with a different group of students four years ago.

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Giovanni Hashimoto
The Spirit at Work

In a remarkable sign that God is active on campus this year, students were baptized every week for the first month of the school year. Here, senior Mina Kim makes her commitment at the PUC Church.

Cross Country

Athletes have been working hard this season—the Lady Pioneers placed second, while a co-ed Pioneers team came in fifth, in the Whiskeytown Relays Sept. 23.

Fall Revival

The PUC family came together every evening for worship, prayer, and community, as featured speaker Pastor Jon Henderson talked about Adventist foundational beliefs.

Rebuilding Calistoga

A group of over 40 PUC students were already volunteering to serve their community within the first week of school—a Friday afternoon trip to help senior citizens with home maintenance in nearby Calistoga.

Welcome Back Party

A student relaxed at the end of the first day of classes, as the campus community came together to celebrate the new school year with free food, carnival games, and prizes.

Midnight Madness

The Pioneers athletics teams met the student body and received a prayer for a safe and successful season at PUC’s annual start-of-the-year pep rally.

RAG

Guests were intrigued by the intricacies of mathematical forms represented in featured artist Larry Frazier’s bronze, stone, and wood sculptures in an exhibition entitled Theme and Variations.

Fall Revival

Porter Power

Faculty, staff, and older student leaders helped new freshmen move into the dorms the week before school started.

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Welcome Back Party

A student relaxed at the end of the first day of classes, as the campus community came together to celebrate the new school year with free food, carnival games, and prizes.

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PUC Unveils Bachelor of Fine Arts and Biomathematics Programs

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE is unveiling two new academic programs available for students in the 2012-2013 school year: a bachelor of fine arts (BFA) and an interdisciplinary biomathematics major.

The BFA program offers a deeper exploration of the areas of graphic design, fine art, photography, or film and television production. Students in the program will have their own studio spaces during their third and fourth years to work independently while developing their senior thesis projects and portfolios.

The degree in biomathematics is valuable to students interested in pursuing graduate study in public health, emphasizing biostatistics, mathematical biology, biometrics and other research-intensive programs, as well as biomathematics. PUC is one of only two colleges or universities affiliated with the Seventh-day Adventist Church to offer a major in biomathematics.

Giovanni Hashimoto

PUC Student Named Top Presenter at Physics Conference

PUC notifies student Shelley Romano received the top student presenter award for outstanding research at the International Conference on the Application of Accelerators in Research and Industry (CAARI) this summer in Fort Worth, Texas. The conference included professional research physicists, and Romano’s award was in a category typically reserved for graduate students.

“Tob be recognized for research at a professional level while being an undergraduate student was a great accomplishment,” she says. “It made me feel like anything was possible with hard work and confidence.”

Romano conducted her award-winning research at her summer internship at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, one of the premier experimental research facilities in the world. The subject was the energy exchange of charged particles. Although her research team included several other students and physicists from educational and scientific institutions around the world, Romano was named first author on the presentation of their findings due to her extensive work and commitment in the lab.

“She is very motivated and focused, which has helped her as a researcher,” says PUC physics professor Vola Andrulianarja, one of Romano’s collaborators on the project. “This is very important, because in research you are the teacher of yourself.”

Larry Peña

Plan of Salvation Unfolds at Fall Revival

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE presented its annual Fall Revival week from Monday, Oct. 8, through Sabbath, Oct. 13. The week’s featured speaker, Pastor Jon Henderson, ’93, focused on Adventist foundational beliefs. Henderson is the lead pastor at Grand Adventist Church in Oakland, Calif., and a popular Seventh-day Adventist preacher.

Over four days, Henderson explored God’s plan of salvation, starting at the beginning with the creation story and touching on themes including the Sabbath, the nature of organized religion, and the origins of sin and sorrow.

A previous speaking commitment prevented Henderson from preaching at the last two programs of the week. Student Association religious vice president Cameron Haley and campus chaplain Laffit Cortes took over, preaching about God’s enduring love and His concern for even the smallest parts of our lives.

The week was packed with shared testimonies, special musical offerings, and heartfelt prayers. “I liked the speaker, Jon Henderson, and how he was able to relate stories from the Bible in a very real way for my generation,” said senior business major Oscar Villa. “I also liked how he was able to bring a lot of important issues—like the Sabbath, Jesus, hell, and eternity—how he was able to bring a new perspective to them.”

As the week came to a close, Haley connected this revival week with the spiritually charged opening of the school year. “The reason that I know that God is still working is He still continues to change lives in this way—we’ve had a baptism every weekend since we’ve started school. God loves us and He will not stop pursuing us.”

Lauren Armstrong

Rebuilding Calistoga

PUC students begin the school year with service

Over 40 PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE students helped Napa Valley senior citizens with home repairs and other needs in the first volunteer service project of the year on Friday, Sept. 28. The event, known as Rebuilding Calistoga, is a partnership between PUC’s Office of Justice, Service, and Missions and Calistoga Affordable Housing.

“We have a lot of people that live here by themselves or just a couple of elderly [people],” said Pablo Maia, PUC’s service and missions coordinator. “Calistoga Affordable Housing assesses what the needs are and we bring the workforce, the tools, the expertise and we help them.”

Several residents who received assistance from the project voiced their appreciation for the essential service. “I’ve always done it myself,” explains one resident who identified himself as Greg, who received help maintaining his yard. “But here lately, I’m 76 years old, and I just can’t do it anymore.”

The tasks accomplished by PUC students at Rebuilding Calistoga vary from simply cleaning houses to more complex jobs like rebuilding decks, painting exteriors, and landscaping.

“Serving others is just the best thing in the world,” explains Isaac Lee, a freshman from Salem, Ore. “In the first week we’re taking the first step, and hopefully throughout my four years in PUC I will grow and expand my horizons in different areas of service.”

Larry Kromann, CEO of Calistoga Affordable Housing, said that his organization started the project to connect volunteers with senior citizens to address health and safety issues in their homes. He approached PUC to become involved because, he says, “PUC students are a cut above most college and university students.”

Since then, PUC has sent several groups of students to volunteer for Rebuilding Calistoga each year. “It’s fun for the students,” adds Maia, “and it’s a great opportunity for our students to get involved and help our whole community.”

Giovanni Hashimoto

academic highlights

Floyd Hayes, professor of biology, was named a 2012-2013 Fulbright Scholar. He is serving a six-month research and teaching stint at San Carlos University in Paraguay. Hayes has already spent time in Paraguay researching bird species, and welcomed the opportunity to return. The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the U.S. State Department to promote international exchange in academia.

Sylvia Rasi Gregorutti, professor of modern languages, recently returned from a tour of Europe as the director of PUC’s Adventist Colleges Abroad program. On the trip, she met with PUC students as well as administrators and faculty at PUC’s sister institutions in Sagunto, Spain; Salve, France; and Florence, Italy.
Fund Supports Student Research

A new program, started last year by the Student Association and the academic dean, is helping students prepare and present original academic research at scholarly conventions across the country. The undergraduate research fund was created this past school year using an allocation from the Student Association president’s budget, with additional funding provided through a student senate bill introduced by Holly Batchelder, a junior psychology major.

“The undergraduate research fund encourages students to produce undergraduate research which will, most importantly, prepare students for graduate studies and future research while showcasing PUC’s academic success,” Batchelder explains.

“It’s much more exciting to do research if you know you might be able to present it publicly when you’re done,” says Nancy Leocurt, vice president for academic administration and academic dean. “It makes you feel like you’re actually in the world of academic research. Its active learning—it’s a high impact learning practice.”

The program has already issued twenty-five grants since its creation, including nine for the department of psychology, fourteen for the department of social work. Student recipients have presented research at the conventions of the Western Psychological Association, the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors, and the American Physical Society Division of Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Physics.

Racquet Brown, who graduated in June with a degree in social work, received a grant from the program to present at this year’s Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors convention.

“I wouldn’t have been able to go without the fund,” Brown notes. The research she presented at the convention, in collaboration with Gemma Fialiano, another social work major, and Morgan Butler, a professor of social work, won second place at the convention.

“Sometimes there is no way for a student to present due to cost,” she adds. “Knowing that there is something to help you to be able to present your research takes some stress off you.”

Giannanni Hashimoto

History Majors Explore South Pacific

Most students would jump at the chance to travel to Australia and New Zealand and call it academic credit. PUC students had just that opportunity when the department of history offered its biannual summer study tour June 25 to July 17. The group spent four days in New Zealand and seven days touring Australia, and logged over two days of travel on eight separate flights.

“It’s sort of like one long field trip—you can go to museums and historical sites—but at the same time we had readings to do and we would connect them to what we saw and we would write journal articles about them,” says Max Morphis, a sophomore history major.

“We had readings that covered all kinds of topics... It was definitely a class but it was more than just a class.”

“The various museums we went to are not something that you’re going to find here in the United States,” notes Paul McGraw, chair of the department of history. “History is something that takes a different perspective when you actually experience the stuff rather than just reading about it.”

The trip provides credit for HIST 450 - History Study Tour, a graduation requirement for history students at PUC. The summer study tour graduation requirement was added six years ago in an effort to broaden exposure to foreign cultures and to allow students to view the places where history was made firsthand.

Students on this year’s tour also had the option to take two additional upper division courses: a seminar in the history of Australia or a course on Christianity in the South Pacific, in addition to the standard study tour class.

In addition to their academic activities, the group took time to enjoy their travel. “New Zealand is beautiful, it’s just gorgeous,” enthused McGraw, recounting the group’s visits to numerous museums in the country and interactions with the Maori, New Zealand’s indigenous people group. In Australia, the group split their time between Cairns, near the Great Barrier Reef in northern Australia, and Sydney on the east coast. While in Sydney, they visited Avondale College, Australia’s Adventist institution.

Giannanni Hashimoto

Class Notes

1940

Leta J. (Rong) Juler, ‘44, and V. Kenneth Juler, ‘50, recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in St. Helena, Calif., at the Silverado Orchar...d retirement home, where they live just four or five blocks from the little brown church on Brown Street where they were married in 1942. Ken and Leta lived in Angwin nearly 40 years before moving to St. Helena. In most of that time Ken served in several administrative posts for Pacific Union College.

1950

Joy (Swinney) Dutton, ’53, lives in Scottsbluff, Neb., and recently published a book through TEACH Services, Inc., titled Plant a Prison. Involved in prison ministry since 1986, Dutton wrote the book in hopes of sharing the love of God with those behind bars. The book is available for purchase online at Amazon.com and at the publisher’s website. Dutton is retired after teaching music for 60 years.

Janice (Fansworth) Schurr, ’59, will soon exchange Alberta for some welcome Arizona sunshine. “My greatest anchor and joy is knowing the Lord Jesus,” she says. “I have a loving family that continually adds special interest to living.” Janice often takes opportunities to travel and do mission work, both of which she says have enriched her life. She also takes courses at Canadian University College.

1960

Larry A. Mitchell Th.D., ’67, retired in July from a 26-year career at Adventist Health in Roseville, Calif. Responsibilities in this career included program development, regulatory compliance, project management, strategic Planning, and health policy/government relations. Previous to his work at Adventist Health, Mitchell taught at Pacific Union College and LaVerne Academy, and served in the Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Mitchell will continue to reside in Roseville with his wife Andrea.

Mark Ishikawa, ’01

PUC’s new director of alumni relations

Taking a religion course with Dr. Myron Widner, Mark Ishikawa received a special class assignment one class period; spend the next week in prayer, asking God to reveal His calling for your life. By the end of that week, Mark, who had been considering a law career, had received two phone calls out of the blue inviting him to intern as pastor-in-training.

“It was a pretty clear sign to me,” he says. Mark has been serving as the executive pastor of the Grand Advent Church in Oakland, Calif., where four out of the five pastors are PUC grads. As executive pastor, his roles included managing the church’s operations, coordinating events, and making pastoral care visits to minister to church members in their homes. But despite loving his job, he has felt a special connection to PUC.

“I’ve always wanted to go back. I always saw PUC as sort of the pinnacle of my journey,” he says. This fall he got that chance when he was invited to return to his alma mater to serve as the director of alumni relations.

While it may seem like a switch from his ministerial calling, Mark sees it as just a different congregation. “I really don’t see much difference at all in what I’m going to be doing—running programs, talking with alumni, just reaching out and connecting with people,” he says. “I see it as a ministry for sure.”

“Mark has a heart for ministering to people, for connecting and building relationships,” says Carolyn (Carpenter) Hamilton, Ph.D., PUC’s interim vice president for alumni and advancement. “Besides that, he loves PUC! We’re excited to have him as part of the team.”
Shirley to perform during the weekend. Committed comes from Oakwood The celebrated Christian vocal group Committed will Voice of Prophecy.

Homecoming 2013
25 Central Avenue, Modesto, Calif. 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Dr. Norman Knight will preside, and President Heath 1. Knight will meet with alumni at a special luncheon following the service.

February 8-9 PUC Orchestra Northwest Tour
10 Hood View Seventh-day Adventist Church, Boring, Ore. 6:00 p.m.
Chehalis Seventh-day Adventist Church, Chehalis, Wash. 1:00 a.m.
PUC representatives to visit with alumni at all concerts.

March 2 Camachiel Seventh-day Adventist Church
4920 Winding Way, Sacramento, Calif. 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
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Philip G. Brockemeier, M.D., '74, lives in Downeasia, Calif., where he practices emergency medicine at Scripps Memorial Hospital in nearby La Jolla. His wife, Teresa, is now a sophomore at PUC.

1980
Jay Linthicum, '83, a technology integrated education teacher at Loma Linda Academy in Loma Linda, Calif., received two awards earlier this year: the Teacher of the Year award from the Loma Linda Chamber of Commerce, and the 2012 Excellence in Teaching award from the Alumni Awards Foundation. The latter award includes a prize of $1,000, a medallion, and a Certificate of Excellence. “Jay Linthicum’s extraordinary and unique vision as a teacher has helped his students, and Pacific Adventists Academy offer a top-quality program that provides heart and technology for the past 25 years,” says Loma Linda Academy principal Robert Skorza.

You’re invited to attend the funeral, running the family business, The Llamas Brothers. The establishment caters to students of all ages and races, and guests who are in college are eligible for special discounts. Yu says that the location is ideal for PUC students interested in diving into the rich culture and history of Peru. Learn more about the hotel at www. liamabrothers.com.


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Jeffrey Robert Woolf, att. ’82-’84, a former aerospace engineer, died July 31, 2012 in Carmichael, Calif. He was born August 13, 1964 in Sacramento, Calif. After discovering an early aptitude for math and science, Jeffrey studied at PUC and Cal Poly Pomona, where he earned a degree in mechanical engineering. One of his first post graduate jobs was as an engineer for the aerospace firm Northrop-Grumman, where he was part of the team that developed the stealth bomber. He also worked at Aerojet, and later tried his hand at careers in photography and investing. Jeffrey was preceded in death by his brother David, and survived by his parents Dorothy and Robert and his brother Greg.

Remembering Friends

In Memory is our opportunity to honor and remember fellow alumni. Currently, we receive obituaries from various sources and information may not always be complete. Family members with obituaries or information can contact the Alumni Office; the names we receive are also displayed each year at Homecoming.

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Patricia J. Altken, ’74, ’75, an elementary school teacher, died September 19, 2012 in Gower Beach, Calif., after a three-year struggle with cancer. She was born in 1952 in Glendale, Calif. Most of her 35-year career as an educator was spent at Valley View Adventist Academy in Arroyo Grande, Calif., where she made a profound impact on the lives of generations of students and colleagues alike. She is survived by her sisters Julia Schmidt-Leiffen and Karyn Marxmiller; her brother Bob Altken, Jr., ’76; and six nephews.

Margie (Phillips) Cadelago, att. ’73-’74, a music teacher and liturgical music minister, died recently at her home in Napa, Calif. She was born May 2, 1948 in Vallejo, Calif. An accomplished vocalist, Margie was for many years a part of the cantor-organist team at the Carmelite House of Prayer in Oakville, Calif. Margie is survived by her husband, Harry; her daughter, Angela Zullinger; her sons, Joseph and Michael; her granddaughter, Ellen; and six great-grandchildren. Jeffrey was preceded in death by his brother David, and survived by his parents Dorothy and Robert and his brother Greg.

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Office of Planned Giving

Patricia J. Altken, Jr., ’76; and six nephews.

never too young

Now is the time to plan for your family’s future

Some folks think they can wait on getting a will. They say they aren’t old enough yet, or maybe expect that’s a task best done only as they retire.

Here’s the truth: There are at least five sound reasons for having a will at any age.

1. Consider the possibility that death occurs by an accident or illness. Even if brohds seem remote to you today, having a will makes sense because something unexpected can happen.

2. People with young children have a special reason. Their wills can name custodians for minors, and trustees that will provide for your dependents.

3. Once you have a will in place, it is easy to alter as your circumstances change.

4. Even if you have a small estate, you can (and should) decide for yourself how your assets will be distributed and to whom. This includes designating bequests for charitable organizations like Pacific Union College.

5. Fulfilling this important obligation feels good at any age. Knowing you have a valid will gives peace of mind, in addition to having a sense of accomplishment and personal satisfaction at handling this responsibility.

Eckhard Hubin is our director of planned gifts, and he has a free book for you. This book can help guide you through your decisions. He will also be happy to meet you in person, if you wish. Eckhard works with people of all ages, young as well as older, and specializes in delivering peace of mind.

You can receive the book without cost or obligation by either sending him an email at ehubin@puc.edu or by calling toll free at 800-243-5557.

Office of Planned Giving

Planning for Giving at PUC

planningforgiving@puc.edu

www.pucplannedgiving.org

Toll free: 800-243-5557

What’s your memory?

viewpoint@puc.edu or online at www.puc.edu/alumni/share-your-memories or by post to ViewPoint Editor, One Anguslin Avenue, Anguslin, CA 95708

Getting Around

A flurry of generous gifts from PUC alumni secured a new bus for campus use this school year. But bus or no, PUC students have always found ways—both official and decidedly un- official—to get where they’ve needed to go.

What was your favorite way to get around at PUC? Share your memories and photos at facebook.com/pacificunioncollege.

1963 PUC’s original bus from the Headlaubg days, hand-built by PUC students in the college’s own carriage shop.

1957 PUC’s proud red lobbyist pose with the objects of their affection.

1966 One of the primary uses of the PUC bus has always been to serve God and others. These students loaded up to volunteer in the Mill Valley Project, a survey of faith in the Bay Area.

1974 Eager competitors use their cars to perform feats of strength at PUC’s annual LA Picnic.

1994 So many ways to roll … the members of the Team Grainger cycling club pose with the infamous MOGmobile.

Leaving a Legacy

Leaving a legacy at any age.

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What’s your memory?

viewpoint@puc.edu or online at www.puc.edu/alumni/share-your-memories or by post to ViewPoint Editor, One Anguslin Avenue, Anguslin, CA 95708
First in Class

This summer, PUC alumna Brittany (Collins) Cheney, ’07, graduated at the top of her class at the UC Davis School of Law. As she caught her breath over the summer, we met with her to discuss the factors of her success in a competitive and challenging professional program.

Why did you choose to go into law? I had considered it off and on since high school but I didn’t have the desire to do it right after school. I worked with a couple of non-profits, but I knew I needed to continue my education if I wanted to do something more than being someone else’s assistant. So I looked at my options and considered a number of different graduate programs. I knew a lot of lawyers who really enjoyed what they did and felt like they were making a difference.

Tell me about UC Davis. It was a much friendlier learning environment than most law schools, so that was a nice surprise. It has a very good reputation, a very good academic and clinical program.

What were some differences between your time as an undergraduate and in law school? I went to Adventist schools from preschool through college, so there were a lot of things that were very different. I don’t think I ever really got used to it, but I got less and less surprised at peoples’ lifestyles. But both [PUC and Davis] were very excellent academically, so they did have that in common, and a lot of wonderful professors who were really good at what they do and really passionate about teaching students.

What factors in your time at PUC helped you in law school? I learned that I had to be very disciplined and I couldn’t bite off more than I could chew. I knew my limits, so going into law school I knew what extracurricular activities I could be involved in without falling behind in school. I got to be competitive in athletics and I think that gave me an advantage. One of the most important skills in law school is writing and I had a lot of good writing experience at PUC. I felt like I was really prepared for that in law school. And being on Student Senate definitely helped me prepare for being in the courtroom.

Did you continue that level of involvement at UC Davis? I tried not to get overly involved in extracurriculars because I really wanted to focus on my academics. Also a lot of law school activities are on Saturdays, so I had already decided ahead of time that I really wouldn’t do much of that. But I did participate in the Family Protection and Legal Assistance Clinic, which provided legal assistance to low-income victims of domestic violence. We actually had real clients, went to court for them, wrote court documents for them and advised them. That was my second year of law school and I loved it. That’s really what got me interested in family law.

You excelled academically at both PUC and Davis. What did it take? It was a lot of work. I have a really supportive husband who didn’t mind that I was working so hard. That made a huge difference. It’s also a ton of reading, and I really enjoy reading. One other thing that I feel gave me an advantage was taking Sabbath off. At first, I was kind of worried about how I would perform if I was studying one less day a week. But I found that I could perform better when I had a day to rest and spend time with family and friends and go to church. I think that was essential to my success and I’m really glad I did it.

You were surprised when you found out you would be graduating top of your class? I wasn’t so much surprised as I was excited. I didn’t think it was going to happen so it took me by surprise.

So you’re done with law school and the bar. What are you doing now? Well, I am sleeping in and relaxing for the first time in three years. I took the bar exam and it was as horrible as everyone said it would be, but I made it through. I’ll be practicing family law at Downey Brands, the largest law firm in Sacramento.

my viewpoint

I Never Used to Laugh

“Never used to laugh, but now I laugh all the time.”

When it comes to quotes, this is at the top of my list. Partly because the words (unsolicited and unedited) were spoken by a very real fifth grader I know. And partly because they give me a tangible daily goal.

The quote was circulated among employees at an after school program where I worked, carrying extra impact for all of us because we could see that it was true. At first this youngster had lingered near staff members to complain and withdraw from activities. When in return, they offered good natured banter, encouragement, and daily friendship, her gloomy and shy persona were gradually infiltrated by smiles, conversations, and jokes.

Her statement drifts to the surface of my mind more often than any other quote. That’s not merely because it’s succinct and gratifying; it’s also because it is to me a clear reminder of a clear purpose: to bring joy. I don’t feel justified in arguing that our only or even our first task is to make people happy. But so much of what we are asked to be and do as Christians is about creating environments and existences that are prone to joy.

We’re familiar with the good ‘ol Fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness. In an active sense I think these simply mean letting every human interaction of our day be filled with Spirit. When every person in the world looks at someone with respect for their God-given soul, with empathy for their daily walk, and with hope for their future, that person will be equipped to experience—and utterly free to enjoy—the fullness of heaven’s joy.

“Fruit” are the essential attitudes Christians are asked to practice. Perhaps joy is by product rather than a goal, I don’t know. But heaven knows it’s a beautiful effect. I love the image of the angel booming out to shepherds near Bethlehem, “I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people!” Christ arrived, and brought us an entire curriculum on how to find, experience, and give that joy.

Pragmatically, joy is a concrete marker that helps me exercise the Spirit attitudes. To invest in joy and watch eagerly for it to happen is an assignment I can always be fulfilling. I have zero excuses. For the average person, not a day goes by without space to practice kindness, to enact respect, to delight in someone’s story, to offer dashes and dollops of justice. “Since you get more joy out of giving joy to others,” said Eleanor Roosevelt, “you should put a good deal of thought into the happiness that you are able to give.”

I am not able to appear out of the night sky with an angelic host and world-changing news. I am not able to alter my personality and go around being non-stop bubbly and charmingly nurturing. But if I pay attention and ask for Spirit, I am able to show people peace, forbearance, and faithfulness in tiny, momentary, unfish choices. The kind of choices that could, I like to think, accumulate over the days and years until someone might be able to say to me, “Now I laugh all the time.”

And then comes the Kingdom of Heaven.

“You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills willl burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands” (Isaiah 55:12).

“When every person in the world looks at someone with respect for their God-given soul, with empathy for their daily walk, and with hope for their future, that person will be equipped to experience the fullness of Heaven’s joy.”

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