

CONVERSATION

PUC's history professors flew to Tennessee for the triennial ASDAH conference. Learn more about the research they presented.

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Religion and theology majors traveled to Albion for their yearly retreat. Hear what the students had to share about spirituality and fellowship.

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The Visual Arts department celebrated students' latest projects at the Rasmussen Art Gallery. Find out which pieces took home top prizes.

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Candidates Speak at Annual SA Election



SA incumbents pose with newly elected officers for the 2023-2024 school year.

By Sherban Cedeno

Polls opened for the annual Student Association (SA) election on April 27, allowing students to vote for officers for the 2023–2024 school year. Candidates took the stage during Community that morning to discuss their goals and motivations for running.

Only one office – the executive vice president, who also oversees the Student Senate – saw a competitive race, between

juniors Olivia Brown and Courtney Asker. Presenting herself as someone closely connected with the interests of the student body, Brown promised to carry those concerns to the SA with the intention to have them heard and acknowledged. “I would like to be like your guys’ microphone,” she said. “I want to put your voices out there, put your voices to the administration.”

Meanwhile, Asker touted her experience as a student senator and expressed her desire to take on bigger responsibilities

as an upperclassman. Drawing from her experience in the Senate, she also promised an open ear to any requests that her classmates might have. “I promise you one-hundred-percent I am open-minded to all new ideas,” Asker said. In the end, Brown won.

The religious vice president office had only one candidate and incumbent Ashley Castro-Rodriguez took the stage to affirm her commitment to maintaining the school’s spiritual atmosphere and

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COMMUNITY



Professor Jim Wibberding and the retreat-goers outside the cabins at Albion.

Students Connect and Canoe on Theology Retreat

By Audry Guzman

Theology majors may not be able to walk on water, but they sure can canoe! On the weekend of April 28, the theology department went to Albion for their yearly retreat. The purpose of the retreat—with the chosen theme of “connection”—is to allow theology and religion students to bond with each other and with God, and to come together to celebrate the accomplishments of the graduating senior religion and theology students. To serve these goals, the theology department scheduled many activities over the course of the weekend.

Canoeing and kayaking were the highlights of the trip. Students bonded by rowing up Albion River together but many also bonded through fighting the mud and quicksand surrounding the water. Senior Audry Guzman and sophomore Eden Salazar reported nearly losing their shoes as they pushed kayaks into the water—

casualties of the quicksand.

Sophomore Christopher Mesa and Luiggi Loconi Cruz also experienced this deep mud while attempting to reach an abandoned house. Students quickly paddled out to help these unfortunate victims to the mud, but they were too late: Christopher’s shoes were lost to the muck. When asked about the experience Mesa laughed and stated, “Scars come with living.”

An array of games kept students connected and entertained on Saturday night as groups broke up to play Bibliopoly, ping pong, and a drawing telephone game. All night there was laughter, jubilation, and bonding.

The weekend was centered around daily worship that brought students together. Starting with Friday vespers, and ending with Sunday morning worship, all the students and professors gather for music and a message from the seniors. The senior

majors were invited to share something about their journey—each relating to the theme of “connection” and its importance in their lives.

On Friday night, Guzman used the story of Ruth and Naomi to illustrate the importance of found family, and how through connection we find the redeemer. Alexander Maceda followed her on

“It is better to pray with belief, than to offer a dead prayer with no belief.”

Saturday morning, speaking to the group on the importance of a calling. As he elaborated on the connection we need to pursue with God, he explained that with this connection comes a calling from him.

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CAMPUS



A morning prayer circle at the Theology retreat.

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Maceda encouraged those in attendance to not only respond to God’s call, but to always choose to connect with God, just as he has with us. He concluded by noting that when His call is accepted we can connect with others through ministry.

The third reflection, presented by Santiago Tamayo-Hernandez, revolved around the importance of praying with conviction. After sharing a personal anecdote about how prayer had shaped the trajectory of his life, he emphasized that “it is better to pray with belief, than to offer a dead prayer with no belief.” Tamayo-Hernandez reminded the group that praying without belief is like not praying at all. He encouraged his listeners to pray with full belief that God will answer—only then can the relationship with God truly deepen.

The time spent near the water and in nature certainly left the group with lasting memories and genuine connections. Students and faculty returned to Angwin with a renewed motivation to finish the 2023 school year strong.

Student Artwork Awarded at Annual Exhibition

By Sherban Cedeno

The Rasmussen Art Gallery opened its doors for the annual student art show on April 14. Visual Arts professors Jon Carstens and Jaymie de la Torre awarded prizes to student artists during the opening session.

Exhibits featured an array of mediums and styles ranging from photography and encaustic to

digital and ceramic. A total of 61 works were presented, with awards broken down into categories based on the medium. Categories included black and white photography, color photography, drawing, watercolor, opaque painting, digital art, sculpture, ceramics, mixed media, encaustic, and graphic design.

Kyler Van Hook, the only student to receive two awards, was recognized for his photorealism. “If This Is It,” a pencil-drawn portrait of 1980s pop star Huey Lewis, won first prize for drawings. Van Hook’s piece

“Sunlit Glass,” a study of light interacting with water, glass and wood, won first prize in digital art. Joy Paulson placed first for her work “Queer,” a piece with simple yet deliberative typography intended to capture the strong resolution of “Death Before Detransition”—a poem by trans poet J. Jennifer Espinoza.

Mani Chavez-Duron’s three-part “Floating World” presented scenes of suburban Japan in textured encaustic and black marker on glass plates.

Though highly varied in its media, nature was a frequent theme at the show. Nat Nguyen’s first-prize watercolor “And You Were Here,” featured a girl in a pale kimono looking at the viewer under the pink roses of a limp branch. Anastasiya Konoplyova’s highly abstract “Water Droplet” placed first in color photography. Her “Red Panda,” in contrast, depicts its subject in a more

conventional way. Melody Park’s pieces continued to feature the original animal characters that appear frequently in her work.

Others expressed their appreciation for various works of fiction. Amy Trenner’s “Wings of Freedom” captured the insignia of the Scout Regiment of “Attack on Titan,” the hit anime, in a row of three alternate colorings, while Christine Lee’s ceramic Elemental Slimes referenced the slime enemies of Genshin Impact, the fantasy role-playing game. Crash Bandicoot, a bright-orange marsupial from the game franchise of the same name, also made an appearance.

Sixteen students won first, second, and third place cash awards, while additional students received honorable mentions. The student art show closed on May 14.

CAMPUS



The 2023-2024 Student Association candidates.

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organizing spiritual life events. “I’m very passionate about creating opportunities for you guys to continue growing, to continue connecting with each other, but for connecting with God most importantly,” she explained. Though she confessed that her responsibilities as the religious vice president are sometimes vague, Castro-Rodriguez did share her wish to organize more events in the upcoming year: “I want to create more events where we can all connect and have fun worshipping. That’s my main priority.”

Aside from these two offices, every other position saw its incumbent introduce only one candidate, similar to elections in years past. The candidate for president, Kaitlyn Nakanishi, shared her love for PUC and its Christian character. “There’s something about this place that is so authentic and so genuine,” she said. “Lots of colleges claim to live with a Christlike character. It’s easy to preach, but this is one of the few places where I’ve met individuals who have actually exemplified it.”

Esteban Ramirez, a junior business administration major with an emphasis in accounting, ran for financial vice president.

A first-generation college student, Ramirez highlighted his experience and competence for the role. During an internship this summer with a prestigious accounting firm, Ramirez hopes to gain exposure to the financial practices of successful businesses and carry them over to the operation of the SA’s wallet. “I will ensure that we are making

“Lots of colleges claim to live with a Christlike character. It’s easy to preach, but this is one of the few places where I’ve met individuals who have actually exemplified it.”

the most out of our resources for school events and other activities,” he promised.

Sharing her love of organizing, creating social spaces, and “making things look pretty,” Bethanee Tabura explained her philosophy of being the social vice president with a demonstration. Opting not to “bore you with my oddball experiences,” she conducted an informal poll of the audience present, both to determine how students

may reach her and to provide them with a look into how she will carry the office.

“If you all vote for me, you can count on many more polls like this,” she said. “I am that one person between SA funds and fun SA events, and I want to know what’s fun for you guys.”

Calling her a “more than qualified candidate,” Natalia Gomez introduced Tessa Hutzkal, a graphic design major, as the candidate for vice president of PR & Marketing. In a brief speech, Hutzkal shared that she takes this opportunity seriously, even as a confirmed victor. “I value meeting deadlines, I enjoy working with the team, and thinking outside the box,” she explained.

The new Student Association officers for the 2023–2024 school year are listed below:

- President: **Kaitlyn Nakanishi**
- Vice President: **Olivia Brown**
- Social Vice President: **Bethanee Tabura**
- Religious Vice President: **Ashley Castro-Rodriguez**
- Financial Vice President: **Esteban Ramirez**
- PR & Marketing Vice President:

CONVERSATION

Fast Food and Fresh Fits: Fundraising Fun with the Class of 2023

By Charlie Kefalos

The seniors at Pacific Union College have been working hard to make their final year on campus memorable with an array of fundraising activities. Representatives of the senior class sold exclusive class merchandise and partnered with local restaurants in an effort to fill the senior class’ coffers.

The operation was a collaborative effort by the senior class’ elected officials, headed by class president Misael Bernard, a History, Political Science, and Ethics major on the Pre-Law track. Bernard is supported by Public Relations VP Christina Joy Apostol, Financial VP Hope Furukawa, and several other committee members who have been actively involved in planning and executing the goals of the class of 2023.

Seniors sold sweatshirts and hoodies with a custom graphic—the exclusive design was an iconic, vintage-inspired look that the PUC seniors jokingly referred to as “college-core.” Sweatshirts were sold

on a first-come, first-served basis, and merchandise went so quickly that Bernard hinted at the possibility of ordering a second batch.

Initially, the senior class was taking pre-orders for \$25 each, but once the merchandise arrived, the price increased to \$30. Proceeds from the sale will go toward the senior class budget, which will fund the traditional senior class gift that they plan to give to the school. The gift will serve as a reminder of the students’ time at PUC and reflect the lasting impact that the class has made on the school.

“We will not be releasing any details about the gift until graduation,” teased Bernard.

In addition to selling senior class merchandise, the seniors also organized a fundraiser at the Panda Express in Napa on Friday, March 3. It was an easy fundraiser for members of the class, school, and community to support. Students presented a flyer or mentioned to the cashier that they were affiliated with PUC, and 20% of their

purchase would be reallocated to the senior class budget.

The seniors also took advantage of Homecoming weekend to hold another fundraiser, this time selling corn dogs out of the Fireside Room on Saturday, April 22. Food-related events have inevitably proved popular with students, and Bernard indicated that they hope to squeeze in at least one more fast-food fundraiser before the year is out.

“We know that students love food, and that they love taking time to go down the hill!” Bernard said. “Why not go get some good food, enjoy good company with friends, and see what Napa Valley has to offer?”

Senior class gear remains available until stock runs out. Those interested in purchasing senior class merch can reach out to the senior class officers on their social media page @pucseniors—follow and stay tuned for more updates on upcoming events and fundraisers!

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



To the PUC Family,

It has been an honor to serve as your Campus Chronicle editor-in-chief. The two years I have been part of this student newspaper — from a staff writer to assistant

editor to now — have been life changing. I hope the importance of the CC in my life has been reflected in the quality of content we produced this year.

Our first issue of Spring Quarter is clearly arriving much later than compared to our usual publication timeline. The CC has weathered many changes and challenges, both throughout the academic year and in this quarter alone.

Though a part of me wishes this year went more smoothly for the CC, I know that what we have faced has built up a better student newspaper. I also had a promise, made in my first letter of this year, to fulfill: that we would address problems facing the student body head on. The many obstacles we have collectively encountered this year, while at times particularly troubling, have only served to strengthen the paper, its team, and its heritage.

I credit two editorial team members with making such vitalization possible. This year’s assistant editor and your incoming editor-in-chief, Charlie Kefalos, and our new faculty advisor Hayley Perry joined the team at a particularly turbulent time, and for that they deserve a special thanks. I am excited to see how Charlie continues to improve upon what has been built and how the paper is transformed under her leadership, and I know I am blessed to have been part of this legacy.

The paper will be 100 years old next year, and I am so thankful to have been part of a century of tradition and to now pass on the torch to its newest leadership.

– Madison Brogan

CONVERSATION

PUC History Professors Hit the Road

By Professor Laura Wibberding



History professors Laura Wibberding, Dr. Howard Munson, and Dr. William Logan at Red Clay State park

How do professors have fun? They read academic papers to one another, of course. On April 13, PUC's history department faculty boarded a plane for Collegedale, Tennessee, to do just that at a gathering of Adventist historians. The Association of Seventh-day Adventist Historians, or ASDAH, meets in person every three years so history professors, archivists, history students and public scholars can compare notes and mutually enthuse about one another's work. Participants gave 20-minute presentations on their latest research, topics that were too newly minted or too specialized to inflict on undergrad students. Any history was fair game, but Adventist history got the most stage time, with topics from Adventist abolitionism in the 19th century to Adventist cookie bakers in the 20th.

PUC was well represented. Professor Howard Munson spoke on conscientious objectors who were also Medal of Honor recipients. Besides the famous Adventist Desmond Doss, two others received the honor for service in Vietnam. Professor William Logan compared early Adventist

attitudes toward new technologies of their time. Apparently, early Adventists were enthused about steam-powered presses that printed church papers faster, neutral about the telegraph, and had mixed feelings about trains--they were great for delivering large numbers of people to camp meetings, but less wonderful as a force in politics.

For my part, I compared Merikay Silver,

What part, in essence, do historians play in making the world a better place?

who sued the Pacific Press over its gendered wage scale in the 1970s, to Jenny Ireland, who supported it in an 1888 investigation of the same wage scale. Adventist women, I claimed, weigh our moment in history when it's time to decide if the church needs loyalty or accountability. Also representing PUC was Associate Academic Dean Lindsay Morton who spoke on "Messy Women and

Messy Histories: the Epistemic and Ethical Implications of Gatekeeping HerStory."

There were plenty of new things for the lovers-of-old-things to learn during the three days. Friday afternoon, the group tried "Reacting to the Past," an experiment in historical gaming with potential in the classroom. At a Friday night dinner, Kevin Burton of the Center for Adventist Research taught us how to ask the FBI for their old records. Because of the Freedom of Information Act, anyone can ask--but it takes time, and researchers often receive documents riddled with blacked-out words, phrases and lines.

In an area tour, a number of us saw the courthouse that hosted the famed Scopes Monkey trial, stared at larger-than-life photos of William Jennings Bryan and Clarence Darrow and even sat in the judge's chair.

In addition, time was set aside to honor those scholars who had passed away since the last meeting, to celebrate the lifetime achievements of scholars still with us, and to feature the work of archives and the online Adventist Encyclopedia project.

Perhaps most meaningful was the Sabbath morning spent at Red Clay State Park, a site of historic and sacred significance to the Cherokee Nation. A local tour guide took us through the spaces and their meanings before we settled down to consider the Bible's teaching on forgiveness and the job of historians. How does one balance the demands of history which requires us to tell the truth about past atrocities and injustices with the here-and-now need of forgiveness and reconciliation? What part, in essence, do historians play in making the world a better place? As with any good classroom thought question, we found no perfect answers, only the reminder that the past and the present are intimately connected. History may be changing at PUC, but it will always be essential.

COMMUNITY

Dreamers and Do-ers Drawn to PUC Arts Festival

By Charlie Kefalos

On Thursday, April 6, the Pacific Union College Art Club hosted a campus-wide Arts Festival from 6 to 9 p.m. Bringing together the campus creative communities to celebrate the talents of PUC students, the event attracted crowds to the Campus Center patio to enjoy the festivities and support their peers. The festival featured booths from various artistic clubs at the school, each showcasing the unique talents and creations of their members.

Joy Paulson, president of the Art Club and the event's primary organizer, joined fellow members of the club at their booth, where they displayed a collection of student work along with some pieces donated by alumni. Paintings, drawings, photographs, and 3-D creations were available for purchase, with the proceeds going to benefit the Art Club. With the wide variety of genres and styles represented, there was something for everyone to appreciate. Students proudly stood by their work, eager to discuss their creative process and inspiration with interested attendees.

The student a capella organization, Mountaintop A Capella, was also present, using their booth to recruit new students. The crowd hoped to see an impromptu performance from the team, but with the rescheduled Jericho Road performance set to open the next day, many club members had to dash to rehearsal.

Members of the English honors society Sigma Tau Delta guided attendees in a popular interactive activity called "haiku vandalism." Sigma Tau members instructed participants in the syllabic art of haiku composition, encouraging them to take lyrical inspiration from the natural beauty of the PUC campus. Vandals were to write their haiku on sticky notes and attach them somewhere on campus for others to contemplate and enjoy.

DeWayne Schooley, an English and mathematics double major and executive member of Sigma Tau Delta, presided over the booth, ready to coordinate students' efforts in verse. He explained how the

officers came up with the idea by taking inspiration from previous quarters and from Dr. Sara Kakazu's poetry class last spring. "We sold books at fall fest, which was super fun. This time we wanted to do something that was very low-key, something that is easy to enjoy at the start of a new quarter," Schooley said.

Aside from the art booths, attendees were treated to a number of entertaining lawn games like croquet and Spikeball. Attendees young and old were delighted by giant versions of classic games like Jenga, chess, and Connect Four.

Squeeze Inn, a Napa Valley institution famous for the layer of crispy American cheese cooked onto their burgers, was invited to the festival, much to the community's delight. Long, eager lines of hungry students stretched from where the food truck was parked in front of the Campus Center nearly to the Rasmussen Art Gallery. The cooks on board flipped

the evening and threatened to dampen spirits, but organizers were able to reorient their booths and carry on with minimal interruption or inconvenience.

Despite the rain, the Pacific Union College Arts Festival was a success—it was evident that the campus community has a deep appreciation for the arts. The festival provided a space for students to showcase their diverse talents and creativity, as well as an opportunity for others to praise and encourage their peers. The event was a reminder of the importance of art in all its forms, and demonstrated the unique power of art to bring people together and foster the spirit of community and collaboration.

"I just had a weird vision."

delicious homemade veggie burgers and fired fresh, hot fries until everyone had had their fill.

Paulson shared that they had been working hard for months to prepare for the festival, and were thrilled to see such a positive response from the community. As this was PUC's first Arts Festival in recent memory, there was no template for organizers to work from. "I just had a weird vision," said Paulson, and the event grew organically out of that.

The Arts Festival happened to coincide with the PUC Elementary Talent Show, which was staged at Paulin Hall shortly before the festival began. Many attendees of the talent show would later work their way through the booths and games at the festival. A light rain began to fall early in

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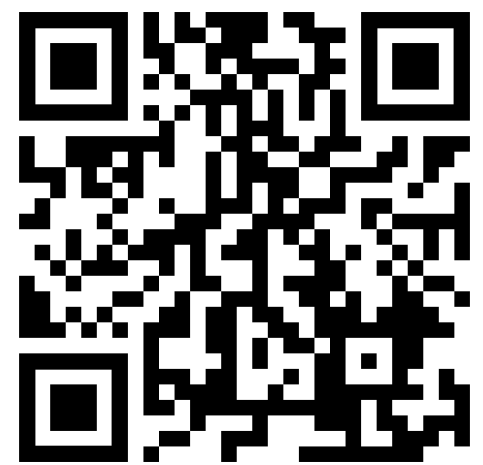
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UPDATES



JOB LISTINGS

The **Facilities Management Department** is hiring students for multiple positions. Use Handshake to view and apply for these available jobs and their specific requirements.



FIND THE ANSWER, WIN FREE COFFEE



Find the answer hidden somewhere in the paper. The first person to DM us on Instagram @pucchronicle will win a free drink at the Grind!

This week's question is:
What was the chosen theme of this year's theology retreat?

JOIN THE CAMPUS CHRONICLE!

Our award-winning newspaper is looking for talented students to round out the editorial team for the 2023-2024 school year. If you're a writer, photographer, artist, designer, grammar nerd, or social media guru, the Campus Chronicle is the place for you!

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