

ViewPoint

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE • VOL 41.1





President's Message

Learn with Purpose. Rise in Faith. Serve with Love.

It is a very interesting time to be leading out in higher education. Spending these last several weeks on an empty campus that would normally be filled with energy, and walking past quiet classrooms that should be filled with students, has certainly made me miss all of the faces and personalities that bring our beautiful College on the Mountain to life. The COVID-19 pandemic has created challenges for all of us. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of those who are impacted by the pandemic.

I am pleased to share that the next issue of ViewPoint will be a very special one dedicated to showing you how our PUC family has been adapting and adjusting to this time in history with an inspiring level of flexibility and resilience. God is still very much alive and working here at PUC in spite of the pandemic.

Here on campus, we are focusing on what is new. There are many things for us to celebrate with you and to keep our focus on the future. I am excited to share several of them with you. In the next pages, you'll read about new programs, new faces, new accreditation, new rankings, new teams, new scholarships, as well as our new PUC Signature Experience and PUC Promise.

Looking over the list of these new blessings and achievements, I am excited about how well they all fit so perfectly with the new messaging we have developed for PUC that you will be able to read about as well.

I hope you noticed the title at the top of the page above: Learn with Purpose. Rise in Faith. Serve with Love. This is our new brand platform that you will be seeing on materials and in messaging for the college moving forward.

These words are more than just another look towards PUC's future. The strength and sustainability of what is ahead for us is supported by very deep roots. There is still much to learn from PUC's rich heritage and we drew much of our inspiration from looking at the college's history as we crafted this messaging.

LEARN WITH PURPOSE

Now more than ever, students are coming to college with plans that go beyond securing a career path—they want to live a life of purpose and meaning. New accreditation for our department of visual arts and a long-term extension of our nursing accreditation affirm the excellence and longevity of a PUC education. New rankings from U.S. News & World Report affirm value for the experience our students receive regarding academics, diversity, and earning potential when they graduate. And the three new academic programs that you will read about were developed specifically for the job opportunities they

provide while providing a renewed sense of purpose for students who study data science, paramedics, and global health at a time when we are experiencing challenges to our global and community health.

RISE IN FAITH

The faith that we share at PUC may exhibit itself differently in the heart of each PUC student, but we are privileged to travel this journey of faith with them as they grow and develop their spiritual gifts and calling.

You will read a Q&A with our campus chaplain who plays a big role in setting the spiritual tone for our campus and you will also meet our new athletics director who views every interaction with his athletes as an opportunity to share his love of Jesus. They are not alone; every member of the PUC campus family plays that role for our students and for each other.

SERVE WITH LOVE

The PUC campus will always nurture a culture of care and compassion. In the same way that we are preparing the next generation to lead, we are also preparing them to serve as missionaries, nurses, humanitarians, pastors, artists, and any other path they are called to follow.

This message is about more than providing training and opportunities for our students to serve; it also speaks to the ways in which we as an institution serve our students, our campus, our community, and our extended Pioneers family. The Signature Experience, PUC Promise, and new scholarships you will read about are all ways that we provide practical support for the journey of every PUC student.

And you will read in these pages about our partnership with Maranatha Volunteers to bring improvements to our campus and about our PUC Forest, which has now become a treasured escape for so many in our surrounding communities during this challenging time. More than ever, people value getting into nature for mental health and spiritual renewal.

We are always happy to share these stories with you, and I hope you will find as much inspiration in the following pages as I have. Thank you for your support of PUC and for always keeping us in your prayers—we are praying for you as well.

Dr. Robert A. Cushman Jr.
President



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Vision Statement:
ViewPoint, the journal of Pacific Union College, connects PUC's alumni and friends in a community that celebrates the college's activities and stories, and supports the continuation of its mission into the future. *ViewPoint* aims to provide quality features about topics relevant to our community; news about the college and alumni; and means to unite, motivate, and inspire.

Produced by the Pacific Union College public relations office for the alumni and friends of the college.

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ViewPoint

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PUC GETS SOCIAL



#PUCAdventures, #PUCFamily, #onePUC

Editors Note: All group photos were taken pre-Covid social distancing orders.



@PUCNow
No caption necessary!



@PUCNow
This kind lady is Deja Bartley. A senior psychology and health sciences major. "I chose PUC based on my major and the location but what I like most about PUC is the beautiful campus, the class sizes, and the professors. PUC is a 'growing' environment. You grow a lot here." #MyPUCReason

« @PUCNow
Day 2 at the medical clinic at Sertanejo Gypsy camp in São José do Tapera. #pucmissions



@PUCNow While aviation major James Yang flew over Angwin, Dept. chair, Chris Cho captured this wonderful image of our College on the Mountain. #pucfamily #pucadventures

« @PUCNow
The entire Pioneers family gathered around the PUC Chaplain team as they blessed our campus and prayed for an amazing year. #onePUC #pucfamily



Pacific Union College
Already the Champion for the CalPac Conference, PUC Pioneer cross-country runner Justin Roosma (center) has reached All-American status! He finished 16th overall ahead of more than 330 other runners at today's Championship Race for NAIA with a time of 25:15

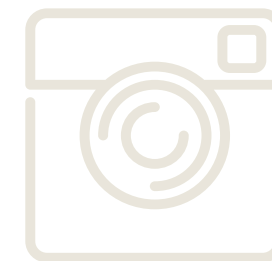


« @PUCNow
While on a @southwestair flight, Michelle Rai discovered her pilot was PUC alum, Troy Ogle! Not only did she stop in and say hi but she convinced him to join us for Career Day!

@PUCNow »
Guess what? PUC has once again found itself ranked in the top ten schools in @usnews Best Colleges list! Isn't that fantastic?



« @PUCNow
Always worshipping, always being blessed.



@PUCNow
Had a blast at @lodi_academy_official! #optoutside #pucadventures



@PUCNow Last night our @pucpioneers won their home opener! Great game, guys!



@pucchem
Getting in the holiday spirit with a "chemist tree!" Follow @pucchem for more quality science puns. #chemistry #christmas #science #sciencepuns



@PUCNow:
Where is your favorite place to hangout on campus? We choose this gorgeous spot!



« @pucphoto
This week, our College Days visitors got to spend some time in the photo lab working on 8x10 paper portraits. Thanks to @pucphoto for showing them such a great time!

Coming Together & Building Up

Maranatha Brings Renovations to the PUC Campus

Becky St. Clair

For three weeks last summer, the PUC campus saw community members and students, as well as active and retired PUC faculty and staff, come together with Maranatha volunteers. Together, the group worked on the renovation of 31 student dorm rooms in Newton Hall, one of PUC’s five residence halls.

Each person had a specific job responsibility, including building and installing cabinets, replacing dressers and countertops, putting in new ceiling lights, wall patching, repainting, and prepping for and laying down new flooring. A total of eighty-one volunteers contributed to the project with an average of 35 to 45 helping each day, and nearly half being first-time volunteers!

Project coordinator Ed Jensen started doing volunteer work about 40 years ago, but became much more involved when he retired. For this project, he helped to register and provide information for volunteers. “When a volunteer comes to the job, their housing and food is provided. They just need to come,” he says. “And when these people work, they really put their heart into it.”

Heidi Lukowicz, graphic designer for the college and first-time Maranatha volunteer, decided to help with this project because she wanted to give her young sons the experience of volunteering and connect them to Maranatha and the larger PUC community. “It’s amazing how fast you can get something done with many hands,” says Lukowicz. “It doesn’t matter if you know how to renovate a dorm; it only matters that you do the task at hand. I only did my small part, which was screwing in the subfloor, and I helped redo an entire dorm!”

Many current and retired faculty were also able to help with the renovations. Sylvia Rasi Gregorutti, professor of world languages, says she wanted to volunteer because she loves PUC and wants students to be comfortable in their on-campus housing. “I was touched to learn that Maranatha volunteers are praying for the future occupants of the Newton Hall rooms they renovated,” she says.

After painting, Gregorutti says she was tired and a little sore, but felt good after helping. “Volunteering is good for both heart and mind,” she commented. “It takes you



outside of yourself, away from your issues and problems.”

Although many of the volunteers were already well acquainted with PUC, some were new to the campus and formed valuable connections while here. Carlos Van Phillips came with his wife, who surprised him by bringing him to California for a Maranatha project—something he had always wanted to do—rather than the vacation he thought they had planned. They helped to measure and map out flooring in each room.

“Everybody there worked together and I loved it. Everybody helped each other, and the camaraderie was wonderful,” Van Phillips says. “PUC is not my alma mater, but I feel connected to PUC now. You can’t help but fall in love with the place!” When asked if he would do more volunteer work in the future, he is very eager to come back again.

“I loved working with Maranatha and I will do another project in a heartbeat!” says Van Phillips. “I would not exchange this experience for anything.”

REGISTER NOW TO VOLUNTEER AUGUST 2020

Maranatha will be back on campus in August 2020 to help lead more Newton Hall dorm room renovations, and they are recruiting volunteers right now!

Overview: Newton Hall renovations will include painting, flooring, ceilings, cabinet rebuilding, plumbing, and electrical work. Workers and helpers of all skill levels are welcome.

Learn more or sign up today at:
maranatha.org/projects/tgid2943

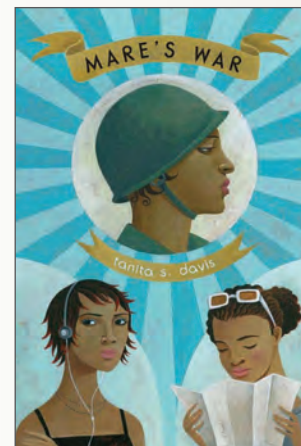
To contribute financially toward PUC’s residence hall renovation projects, please visit puc.edu/give or contact Alumni & Advancement at (707) 965-7500.

9 PUC AUTHORS

YOU CAN FIND ONLINE

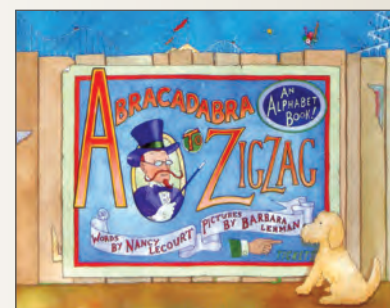
Becky St. Clair

■ **“READING LEAVES:
SELECTED POEMS”**
by Bryan Ness, professor
of biology



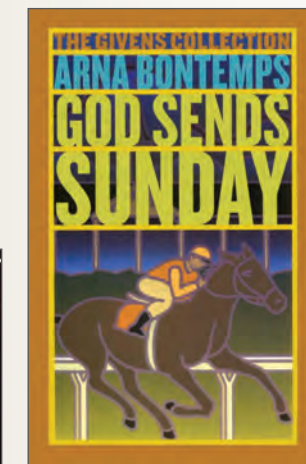
■ **“MARE’S WAR”**
by Tanita S. Davis,
'03, B.A. in English

■ **“ARLO GOES TO THE DENTIST”**
by Karisa Lowe, '08, B.S. in public
relations and journalism



■ **“ABRACADABRA TO ZIG-
ZAG: AN ALPHABET BOOK”**
by Nancy Lecourt, Professor
emerita of English and aca-
demic dean emerita

■ **“I USED TO BE PERFECT:
A STUDY OF SIN AND
SALVATION”** by George R.
Knight, '65, B.A. in religion



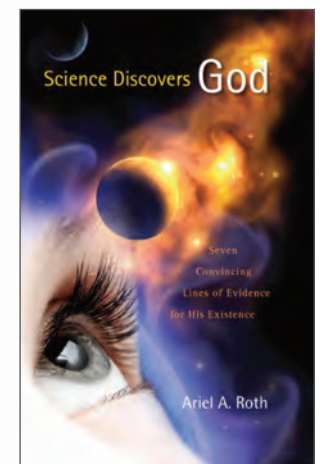
■ **“GOD SENDS SUNDAY: A
NOVEL”** by Arna Bontemps,
'23, B.A. in English

■ **“THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR
(CAMBRIDGE ESSENTIAL
HISTORIES)”** by Stanley G.
Payne, '55, B.A. in history



■ **“RAINBOW OVER
HELL: THE DEATH ROW
DELIVERANCE OF A
WORLD WAR II ASSASSIN”**
by Tsuneyuki Mohri & Sharon
Fujimoto-Johnson, '97, A.S., B.A.
in French

■ **“SCIENCE DISCOVERS
GOD: SEVEN CONVINCING
LINES OF EVIDENCE FOR
HIS EXISTENCE”** by Ariel A.
Roth, '48, B.A. in biology



Nearly everyone talks about “writing a book someday,” and many PUC
Pioneers have done more than talk about it. We’ve compiled a list of
nine PUC authors you can find online.



PUC CONTINUES TO FLOURISH

Here at PUC, God has blessed us with tremendous resources in our mission of furthering Adventist education. Each year, we accept the important task of cultivating Christian scholars and professionals, ensuring each student not only receives a worthwhile education, but also the opportunity to make a difference in the world. Now, we are celebrating some exciting, new things at PUC!

WHAT'S NEW AT



THE PUC SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

» A MEANINGFUL COLLEGE EXPERIENCE FOR EVERY STUDENT

LEARN WITH PURPOSE. RISE IN FAITH. SERVE WITH LOVE.

» NEW MESSAGING FOR PUC

When PUC released new brand messaging in March, the intention was to embrace the college's rich history but also to put the focus on what the school and its students will bring into a flourishing future. The new brand platform reads: Learn with Purpose. Rise in Faith. Serve with Love.

LEARN WITH PURPOSE

Students who enroll in college are already thinking of what's next. Sure, they are planning for a career, but more than that, they expect to embrace a true calling. PUC is prioritizing academic strategies that best support students from day one so they can make the leap from the classroom to a meaningful career as seamlessly as possible. This means providing academic instruction from faculty who inspire, providing opportunities to gain real experience in a supportive environment, and providing support for mentorship and a career network.

RISE IN FAITH

The students in Seventh-day Adventist schools right now are the future of the Church. PUC wants to create opportunities for these students to build Christ-centered lives, as well as help to foster a desire in them for active faith and discipleship. It's inspiring to see students praying together and rising to share their love for Jesus.

SERVE WITH LOVE

The PUC family seeks to serve its students by surrounding them with a community of care and compassion. This helps grow leaders of character who can, in turn, dedicate themselves to serving God and humanity with their whole hearts. The college also considers it part of their service of love to invest in students from day one.

1 SUCCESS TEAM

Be surrounded by a supportive community.

At PUC, you will have a team of mentors who are invested in your success. From day one, you will know who your personal success team mentors are and be able to count on them for support in academics, spiritual growth, financial stability, residential life, and in health and wellness.



2 MISSION & SERVICE

Become a leader with purpose.

- Connect with real opportunities to serve
- Receive training and support for your missions journey
- Join 1,400 student missionaries in worldwide service
- Graduate with a co-curricular transcript that highlights leadership roles, athletics, and especially mission and service roles



3 CAREER NETWORK

Be prepared for your dream job.

- Graduate with a resume and portfolio
- Develop valuable soft skills
- Connect with Alumni mentors who work for notable companies like:

Advent Health
Adventist Health
Airbnb
Apple
Facebook
Jelly Belly
Loma Linda

Lucas Films
LinkedIn
Maranatha
NASA
Pixar
Rip Curl
Stanford

Alumni, we need you. Join Pioneer Connect to support students and catch up with friends. Visit pioneerconnect.org.



» ACCREDITATION FOR VISUAL ARTS

Becky St. Clair

PUC's department of visual arts has received accreditation by the National Association for Schools of Art & Design (NASAD), the primary accrediting body for top art and design schools in the country.

This accreditation puts PUC in association with more than 360 other accredited schools, of which PUC is the only one affiliated with the Adventist Church.

"This accreditation validates the education we have been striving to give the thousands of students who have gone through our hallways, preparing them for careers in the arts and equipping them to find meaning in their vocations," said Rajeev Sigamoney, chair of the department.

» NURSING ACCREDITED THROUGH 2027

PUC has been granted continuing accreditation for its associate nursing program through 2027 by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

"We are very pleased to receive this long-term continuation of our accreditation," said Milbert Mariano, PUC's Academic Dean. "This achievement speaks to the excellence of the program and the trust that ACEN has in our longevity. Most importantly, it validates the commitment we have to our nursing students today and into the future."



» NEW PROGRAMS

While not much can distract from the Northern California spring weather, PUC is focused on fall with the announcement of three new majors for the 2020-2021 school year:

- BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DATA SCIENCE
- BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EMERGENCY SERVICES, PARAMEDICS EMPHASIS
- BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN GLOBAL HEALTH

The new programs were chosen by PUC's Academic Administration for their growing employment opportunities, as well as their potential to put PUC graduates in service to others. The Global Health major is particularly timely and will position students for a smooth transfer to Loma Linda University School of Public Health where PUC has a partnership that grants preferred admission to PUC graduates in this program.

» WOMEN'S SOCCER & MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

PUC has announced two new teams, Women's Soccer and Men's Volleyball, for Fall 2020. PUC Athletics will be the first program at a Seventh-day Adventist college or university to offer Men's Volleyball as an NAIA sport, and the college will now boast men's and women's teams for Basketball, Cross Country, Soccer, and Volleyball.

"There is a positive commotion about the new teams on campus, and I am so happy about the support we are receiving," said PUC Athletics Director, Richie Silie. "This is not just about growing teams, but growing opportunities. PUC is a place where Christian athletes can play and we're building these teams in the way we want to shape them. We welcome serious players who want to play and not worry about Sabbath conflicts."



» MEET THE ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

Becky St. Clair

PUC's new Athletics Director, Richie Silie, grew up in the Dominican Republic and spent his entire childhood running around with his friends, going to the river, and climbing trees. Physical activity was just a part of who he was, so when he got to college at Washington Adventist University, Silie joined the men's volleyball team and got involved with gymnastics. Since then, he has taught Spanish and led sports teams at Spencerville Academy in Maryland, where he built a successful gymnastics/acrobatics team from scratch, and, most recently, Greater Miami Academy in Florida.



"My vision for PUC is to have a very strong Christian athletics program—underline the Christian," Silie says. "When students come here, they need to see Christ pulling on his sneakers to play basketball, grabbing his cleats to play soccer, and serving a volleyball. This is my passion for athletics. This is why I'm here."



» Q&A WITH PUC'S CHAPLAIN

Becky St. Clair

While PUC Chaplain Kent Rufo has been in his position for more than a year, his energy and passion for Jesus are leading a spiritual renewal on the campus. We asked Chaplain Rufo about his plans for PUC and much more—see what he had to say!

What is one thing you want people to know about PUC?

We are unashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Our past is laden with missions and great theologians. We have also had trying times within Adventism. A culture shift is coming. Jesus Christ will be lifted up on all corners of this campus and He will draw all people to Him.

What is your philosophy on spiritual mentorship?

There are three areas that seem to change the direction of a person concerning Christianity: the Word, prayer, and service/evangelism. Mentorship for me is to walk along with people as they buy into and grow in these three areas.

What are some short- and long-term plans you have within your role at PUC?

In the short-term, I aim to connect with all department chairs so I can pray with them and eventually do periodic worships in their department meetings. In the long-term, I long to be part of a culture shift where more students and staff are reading their Bibles with each other. I want to see Christians here choose one person they could read the Bible with at least once a week. I truly believe this one small act could transform our community and campus.

How did your parents influence your life?

They both taught me about Adventism, and they taught me about the important connection between love and discipline.

You and your wife, Anna, have children yourself now, Madison and Jadon, and you're a guide/mentor to many young people here at PUC; what is important to you about being an influencer in the lives of others?

Being present! That is the most important thing. If I'm not available, I can't influence: First with my own kids and next with others' kids.

Tell us about a life-changing moment.

Not being a full-fledged Christian yet, I was asked by an acquaintance to attend a Bible study. I don't even remember what the study was about, but there was a young man with muscular dystrophy that was on fire for Jesus. I just started crying. My acquaintance asked what was wrong. I said, "I don't know. All I do know is that this guy will be made whole in heaven."

TO CONNECT WITH
CHAPLAIN KENT, EMAIL
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VISIT [PUC.EDU/LIFE-AT-PUC](https://puc.edu/life-at-puc)
FOR INFORMATION ABOUT
SPIRITUAL AND OTHER ASPECTS
OF LIFE ON CAMPUS.

MAKING PUC POSSIBLE

» NEW WAYS TO MAKE COLLEGE AFFORDABLE

The benefits of a PUC education are incredibly valuable, but the reality is paying for college can be a challenge. PUC has announced two new ways to make college more affordable, as well as updates to existing merit scholarships



NEW UNION SCHOLARSHIP

Thank you to the Pacific Union Conference for offering a new \$2,000 scholarship for incoming Seventh-day Adventist freshmen undergraduates. This scholarship is an encouragement for students to receive a valuable Adventist education within our union. Visit puc.edu/union-scholarship to apply.



PUC PROMISE

The PUC Promise is an innovative loan payback assurance program that allows new students to follow their calling without the fear of debt. The PUC Promise acts as a financial safety-net that is offered at no cost to prospective students or their families. Open to new students outside of nursing, if a graduate's income is under \$45,000, PUC will help pay back their federal, private, and parent plus loans up to 100 percent. To learn more, visit puc.edu/pucpromise.



MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

Merit scholarships have been updated for the 2020-2021 year and are awarded based on GPA and test scores. This year, all of PUC's merit scholarships have been increased to recognize scholastic achievement and provide more support than ever to prospective students. To learn more, visit puc.edu/scholarships.

EXPLORE ALL SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS AT [PUC.EDU/ADMISSIONS](https://puc.edu/admissions)

» LOOKING FORWARD

With so many new blessings this year, there is a lot to feel grateful for and a lot to celebrate. With every new achievement, new program, and new path to support our students, PUC is looking forward to the future with optimism. We can't wait to see what's next for the Pioneers family! 🙌

**“Let the fields be jubilant, and
everything in them; let all the trees
of the forest sing for joy.”** Psalms 96:12



Discover Your Passion Change Your Future

Ella Melnik's Life Changed With Just One Class

Becky St. Clair

PUC students preparing for a career in medicine are often dedicated to their career goals from the first day of freshman year. That was the case for Ella Melnik, a 2016 biology and Honors graduate. "For a long time I thought I wanted to be a doctor," says Melnik. "I took the MCAT, did all the classes, and a few months before graduation I started considering if I really wanted this. The answer was no."

Melnik's surprise change of plans came after she realized a passion for scientific research on cancer treatment and has led her to some of the most prestigious academic research labs in the nation. "Everything about how this came about has reassured me this is the path I'm meant to be on, and I'm doing what I should be," she says. "A lot of the most valuable experiences that led me here were the smaller classroom environments at PUC, and the ability to interact with professors in and out of class."

It was in a cancer biology class at PUC with Patty Sanchez, Ph.D., that her course began to change. Thanks to her connection with Dr. Sanchez, Melnik was accepted into a research lab at the University of California San Francisco led by Mignon Loh, Ph.D.—a lab that historically only accepts UC Berkeley students. At Loh Lab, Melnik worked with a team to study a sub-type of high-risk pediatric leukemia found in about 2.5 percent of cases.

Her work with Loh led Melnik to find a passion for cell biology and learning more about how drugs are identified and how they work to kill cancer cells. As a next step, Melnik was accepted into Gerstner Sloan Kettering Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, part of a trio of organizations that make up the hospitals, research labs, and grad schools of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Melnik has committed

to the lab led by the chair of the structural biology department working on an exploratory project of biochemistry and cell biology, studying RNA metabolism and the cell cycle. "It's a competitive lab to get into and I'm thrilled to be here," Melnik enthuses. "I'm in one of the best labs in New York City, which is one of the best places in the world for this research. It all goes back to my decision sophomore year to take that one class from Dr. Sanchez. Even deciding to change course nearly at the end of the stream, PUC helped me get where I am, and I'm eternally grateful for that."

At PUC, Melnik says her professors in all disciplines pushed her to think critically, be open-minded, process information analytically, and approach problems creatively. She also appreciates her experience in the honors program at PUC. "Learning how to express my ideas in a way that is coherent and persuasive, as well as developing my ability to read quickly and hold discussion groups have all been hugely beneficial to me," she explains.

Melnik intends to spend five years working toward her Ph.D. in a lab focused on cancer at the atomic level and applying the information she gleans to cancer treatment in a clinical context. "I know I'm doing something I love," she says. "I'm walking around these places playing with extremely expensive scientific equipment and it's fun! I can make mistakes, and I can learn. That's the whole point here."

Studying with medical school in mind was an uphill battle, Melnik admits. She was fighting hard for every test score and every grade. But since starting work in a lab, she doesn't feel like she's worked a single day. "Everything about how this came about has reassured me this is the path I'm meant to be on, and I'm doing what I should be," she says. 🌿



The Majestic PUC Forest

Among the Changing World, One Thing Remains the Same

Peter Lecourt

The PUC Demonstration and Experimental Forest is protected by a conservation easement in partnership with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) and the Land Trust of Napa County. As such, it will always remain forested and provide learning opportunities for PUC students as well as 35 miles of recreational trails—for mountain biking, hiking, horseback riding—for students, college employees, and community members. The rich biodiversity of the PUC forest makes it especially valuable to conservationists and researchers. Our forest truly sets PUC apart and makes Angwin a unique and special place to live, learn, and grow.

**LEARN MORE! VISIT
PUC.EDU/FOREST**



Facebook: /PUCForest

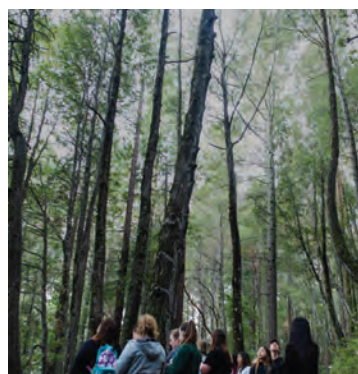
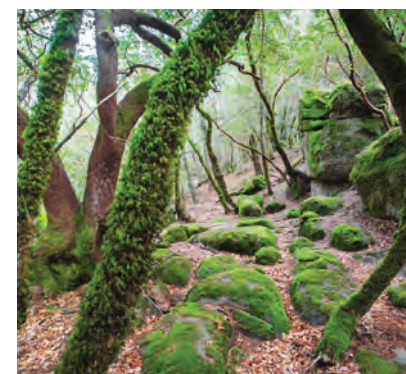


Instagram: @PUCForest



Contact PUC Forest
Management:

Forestry@puc.edu



TRAILS of PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE

Walk or Run the Trails

The Back 40 is home to PUC's most popular running trails. That's a statement PUC's cross country team, faculty, staff, students, and community members just looking to stay fit can attest to. Not interested in working up that much of a sweat? The trails are full of people just out for a nice walk to get some fresh air and sunshine.



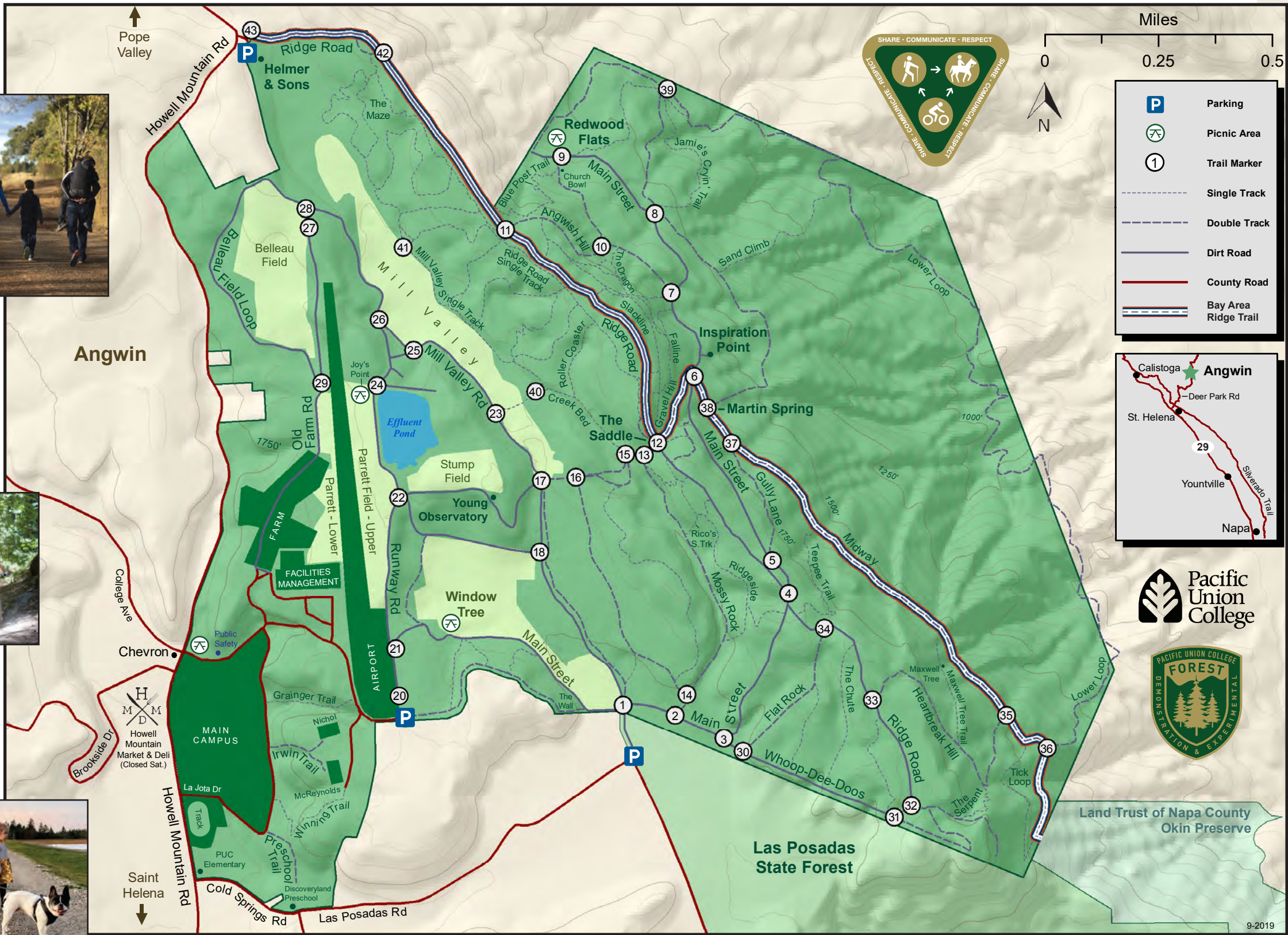
Ride a Bike

Whether you're an avid rider, member of the PUC biking club, or just a casual rider, there are plenty of beautiful trails for you, including our favorite, the officially named Whoop-Dee-Doos.



Pet a Dog or Maybe a Horse

Studies show being in nature can reduce stress. Studies also show petting animals will do the same. One of the best things about being out and about in the PUC forest is coming across lots of pets to pet. Be sure to ask permission first!



FOREST FINDS

Diogenes Lantern

Chosen as the school flower in 1924, the Diogenes Lantern is a special flower that requires the perfect weather, soil, and water combination to grow. PUC's forest just happens to be an environment where they flourish.



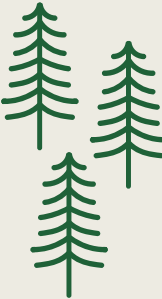
Northern Spotted Owl

The northern spotted owl population has suffered from habitat loss which created a decline in spotted owl numbers, causing this species to be listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act in the 1980s. Helping to preserve their remaining habitat is one of the best ways to protect this species. That's why it's so exciting that the presence of spotted owls has been recorded in our forest on several occasions.



Sequoia Sempervirens

The coastal redwood is a unique type of redwood which spans from Monterey Bay to the Oregon border. The combination of geographic location and topography creates a special ecological niche allowing for the growth of a rare grove of coastal redwoods.



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“I said, “Oh, that I
had wings like a dove!
I would fly away and
be at rest.” Psalms 55:6

Alumni News

CLASS NOTES

1990s



Jake Scheideman, '90, celebrated 20 years of his foundation, Developing Communities, Inc., and its donors with a special trip in January. Scheideman has been leading groups to Empalme de Boaco since 2000 with over 200 volunteers improving lives in Nicaragua. He also was surprised with the honor of having his business, St. Helena Cyclery, be named Business of the Year by the St. Helena Chamber of Commerce.

Andrea Clarke, '93, has been named Napa County's Woman of the Year for 2020 by state Sen. Bill Dodd who had this to say about the physician, "I'm incredibly impressed by Dr. Clarke's numerous contributions to our community. With the health and business challenges we face today, it's comforting to know someone of her caliber is looking out for us in those critical areas. Her leadership is so important as we navigate these uncharted waters and look ahead to recovery."



Michelle (Konn) Rai, '97, has made a career change. After 23 years working at Pacific Union College in roles such as enrollment counselor, public relations director, and assistant professor and chair of the communication department, where she received the prestigious Educator of the Year award in 2016, Rai is embarking on a new professional adventure by joining Inland Empire Health Plan as the Chief Communications and Marketing Officer. In this role, Rai oversees IEHP's communications and marketing programs and guides the health plan in the development of long-term communication and marketing strategies. In addition, Rai also oversees the strategic execution of IEHP's community relations, media relations, internal communications, digital and social media. She and her beautiful family will be relocating to Southern California in the following months.

2000s

Bradley R. McCoy, '02, has recently been named vice president of construction, facilities, and real estate for Huntington Hospital, a 619-bed not-for-profit health care facility in Pasadena, Calif. Before this new assignment, McCoy held a position with Loma Linda University Health in which he oversaw planning, design and construction for the 1,000+ bed health care system and academic institution with \$1 billion in annual net revenue.

Jonathan Garza, '07, recently shifted his professional focus from nursing management to nurse education at Adventist Health St. Helena where he is now the Clinical Nurse Educator of a pilot educational structure Adventist Health deployed in 2020. Garza has been tapped to lead the New Grad Residency Program.



Larissa (Ranzolin) Church, '08, started her dream job this past summer. As an avid animal lover and longtime shelter volunteer, Church accepted the Communication Manager role at House Rabbit Society where she manages donor relations, fundraising campaigns, social media, and is the editor of the House Rabbit Journal. Church loves spending her days helping rabbits find their FURever homes.

2010s

Aren Rennacker, '11, has recently been elected as Youth Director of the Southeastern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. After his graduation from PUC, Rennacker served as youth pastor of the Oceanside Adventist Church. In 2016, he was named youth pastor of the Calimesa Adventist Church, the position he held until his recent election to conference youth leadership.



Dustin Baumbach, '12, is at the end of his academic journey as he is set to defend

his dissertation and prepares to graduate from Loma Linda school of Medicine with a Ph.D. in biology. Over the course of his education, Baumbach has developed two smartphone applications dedicated to the tracking and logging of individual sea turtles. Both apps have been featured in the most recent edition of the online journal, The State Of The World's Sea Turtles.

Avery Lay, '12, will be celebrating two years of dedicated work for Maranatha Volunteers International this July. Lay works in the advancement department and is the company notary. He says working for Maranatha feels like an extension of PUC because many of his coworkers also attended. He is very active in his community and enjoys living with fellow PUC alum, **Jason Silber, '10**, and two precious cats, Chidori and Patches.



Ryan Gullett, '13, accepted a position of Industry Marketing Coordinator at Esri (Environmental Systems Research Institute), an international supplier of geographic information system (GIS) software, web GIS, and geodatabase management applications. His main focus is on the business sector, and collaborates with the industry team to help build campaigns and engage their community. He assists customers in Retail, Real Estate, and Financial Services as they expand their knowledge base with GIS Software.



PUC ALUMNI!

TELL US YOUR NEWS

STAY IN TOUCH

We are saying prayers of gratitude for all of the blessings we've received at our College on the Mountain this year, and we hope you will share in those prayers with us! If you would like to stay updated with all of the latest PUC news, please subscribe to the monthly e-newsletter at puc.edu/newsletter.



facebook.com/PUCalumni

Visit puc.edu/alumni for the latest on your classmates.

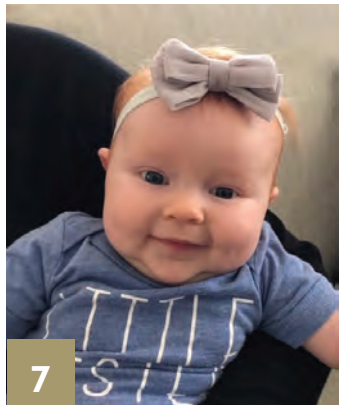
UPDATE US

Let us know about your adventures, careers, family, and service projects! Alumni News come from a variety of sources but we like it best when they come from you. alumni@puc.edu | puc.edu/alumni | (707) 965-7500

WEDDINGS & BIRTHS



- 1 **Kelsey (Drake) Sprattler, '10**, and Jennings Sprattler, in Government Camp, Ore., on September 29, 2019
- 2 **Genevieve (Palafox) Morgan, '05-'07**, and Jeremiah Morgan, in Vacaville, Calif., on January 31, 2018
- 3 **Stephanie (Ward) Mazza, '11**, and Peter Mazza, in Reno, Nev., on June 8, 2019
- 4 **Loni (Johnston) Gile, '11**, and Chad Gile, in Pebble Beach, Calif., on October 26, 2019
- 5 **Jessica (Correa) Valenzuela, '19**, and **Mark Valenzuela, '19**, in Baldwin Park, Calif., on January 12, 2020
- 6 **Karen Vega, '16**, and **Chris Romero Jr., '17**, in Pasadena, Calif., on December 15, 2019



- 1 Leiff Whistler Robinson, son of **Kylee (Brock) Robinson, '13**, and Andrew Robinson, was born in Visalia, Calif., on September 16, 2019
- 2 Quinn Hernandez de la Torre, daughter of **Jaymie (Hernandez) de la Torre, '05**, and **Tim de la Torre, '06**, was born in Ukiah, Calif., on October 21, 2018
- 3 Colin Richard Kelly White, son of **Carrie (Moore) White, '11**, and **Andrew White, '12**, was born in St. Helena, Calif., on July 29, 2019
- 4 Julianne Adeline May Moeller, daughter of **Laurie Sanford Moeller, '08**, and Mark Moeller, was born in Roseville, Calif., on January 3, 2020
- 5 River Nakamura Salvi, son of **Eirene (Nakamura) Salvi, '11**, and Brian Salvi, was born in Chicago, Ill., on November 19, 2019
- 6 Silas Bennett Katz, son of **Amanda Katz, '12**, was born in Las Vegas, Nev., on June 14, 2019
- 7 Eleanor von Pohle, daughter of **Carignane von Pohle '10**, and **Carli (Ashlock) von Pohle, '08**, was born in Loma Linda, Calif., on January 29, 2020.
- 8 Eleanor Minh Hà Guckes, daughter of **Elizabeth (Vo) Guckes, '10**, and Patrick Guckes, was born in Greenwich, Conn., on December 27, 2019

IN MEMORY PUC Alumni & Friends

Pierce Jones Moore Jr., att. 40s
March, 2020

Lloyd Lelland Owens, '42
November 16, 2019

Stanley G. Sturges, '51
July 12, 2019

Allison (Atkins) Vargas, '09
February 6, 2020

Marion (Pasard) Williams, '87
December 20, 2019

Former Faculty & Staff

James Paul Stauffer
January 10, 2020

Adolf, G. Grams
March 20, 2020

We remember our lost brothers and sisters in Christ and pray for the day we are all reunited with our Heavenly Father.

For News Notes and full obituary information, please visit puc.edu/alumni/stay-connected.



James Paul Stauffer
1915-2020

James Paul Stauffer arrived at Pacific Union College by bus from Pennsylvania in 1936. He earned both a bachelor's and a master's degree, taught English, served as Registrar, married Lois Mae Johnson, and fathered 3 children: James in 1942, Thomas in 1945, and Margaret in 1953.

Paul received his Ph.D. in Victorian literature from Harvard in 1952. The next dozen years of teaching were the most stimulating of his career, as he helped develop an innovative general education program, including what became his signature class: Introduction to Western Arts.

In 1964, Paul accepted an invitation to be Dean of the Graduate School at Loma Linda University. He and Lois Mae retired to Angwin in 1978. In retirement, Paul served as chair of the department of English and Associate Academic Dean; he edited the college Bulletin, Walter Utt's history of PUC, and the 1990 WASC accreditation report; and he worked with Fred Veltman on the Desire of Ages project.

In 1986, Paul lost Lois Mae, to breast cancer. The following year he married Sandra Rice, who was the manager of the college bookstore, a former piano pupil of Lois Mae and her devoted friend. Sandra died in 2014.

This last February 10, at the age of 104, Paul fell into a welcome sleep, sure in his belief in the resurrection by faith in Jesus Christ. 🙏

HOMECOMING 2020

It was with heavy hearts that we made the decision to cancel Homecoming Weekend 2020 as we continue to do our part to fight the spread of COVID-19.

Please know this year's honored classes, honored alumni, and everyone who planned to join us for Homecoming Weekend won't be forgotten. We are already looking forward to next April when, together, we'll celebrate what's sure to be our biggest and best Homecoming yet.

Through the uncertainty of the present, I hope you'll still find ways to show up in the lives of the people you love. Write a letter to a friend from your college days or call the roommate you haven't chatted with in years. Above all else, be encouraged by the love of the Creator whose promise remains. He will never leave you or forsake you.

And remember, the PUC family is only ever a click or a tap away. Visit our website, follow us on Instagram and join us on Facebook to stay connected.

May God bless and keep you and continue to watch over our students, our campus and our PUC family.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kellie J. Lind".

Kellie J. Lind '82
Vice President for Alumni
& Advancement



CORONAVIRUS STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND

THE NEED!

PUC students and their families are profoundly impacted by the developing coronavirus situation. Our students rely on consistent financial support to pursue their dreams and many of them work while enrolled to pay their own tuition and cover education expenses. Our action as a global community to reduce the spread of coronavirus by shuttering workplaces means that student jobs whether on-campus at PUC or at local businesses are no longer available. To support our students we are raising money to help them meet their financial needs during this time of worry and uncertainty about the future.

HOW YOU CAN HELP?

We believe we can rally as a network of alumni and friends of the college to support the young men and women pursuing their dreams at PUC. The gift you make today will be immediately used to support our students by allowing PUC's leadership to be flexible in their response to the coronavirus situation.

Please consider generously supporting students who are challenged to afford housing, transportation, basic needs, and access to required resources for remote learning, or who are facing other unforeseen personal difficulties during this time.

» GIVE.PUC.EDU



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If you've never visited Pacific Union College, you're invited to join us through our new PUC Virtual Experience! We'll customize a virtual visit just for you, so get started right now at puc.edu/virtualvisit.

"Visiting PUC was what affirmed my decision because I spent an evening bonding with students who made me feel like I already went to PUC. We laughed and chatted until late, I felt welcomed left and right. When I left they all said, 'So girl, we'll see you next year, right?'. It was just a floodgate of welcome and that was wonderful."

— Shekinah Allison Francis

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We are excited to share our new Virtual PUC Experience with you! Every visit is unique and customized just for you, plus we'll send you some fun, free stuff when you're done. Start your experience now at puc.edu/virtualvisit.



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