

ViewPoint

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE • FALL 2025





President's Message

The Gratifying Impact of Service and Connection

Have you ever walked into a store, restaurant, or business and felt displeased with the customer service? Perhaps the cashier was busy chatting with a friend on the phone, or the waiter had a bad day and, in turn, had a bad attitude. Would you leave a tip, recommend the establishment to a friend, or go back again? To make such a decision, you must reflect on your experience. Were you welcomed with a warm smile and kind eyes, or a harsh attitude and passing glance?

Connection plays an important role in day-to-day interactions, which either attract or repel people to one another. A positive encounter truly makes a lasting impact.

Many students attest that Pacific Union College prepared them for a service-oriented career, to which we proudly uphold as the center of our education and lifestyle.

Our focus is on the individual as a whole, equipping them with a vision to serve within their respective careers and personal lives. When we come across the word “ministry,” we often associate it with connotations of pastoring or working in a church, which surely rings true to those who feel personally called. Still, ministry also calls every one of us to show up and be present in the name of the Lord.

Our degrees are service-oriented because we teach our students how to care for others and feel cared for, and most importantly, feel rewarded by an exposure to mission, ministry, outreach, and worship. The

lasting objective that we want our students to leave with is to feel called to make an impact somewhere, somehow, whether they pursue a business venture, charter flights to care for patients, teach a classroom full of young, inspired people, or tend to sick patients in the hospital. The foundation is to carry selflessness as we focus on serving others. Ensuring this connection can carry a successful notion to ripple into the generations to come.

God asks each one of us to come to Him as we are, and He will make us anew. After all, Christ died for us to assure us that love, growth, transformation, and renewal are possible through Him. Knowing this as a fact can change us in mind, body, and spirit.

Matthew 6:33 says, “Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and He will give you everything you need.”

Our mission at PUC is to follow God with our hearts, leading us into the world with open arms to help impact our communities. Our connection with those around us is earned through service that harbors selflessness and grace—it’s one worth nurturing. It begins with us, and it begins here at PUC.

God Bless!

Ralph Trecartin, Ph.D., MBA
President



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The cover photo was taken by Grant Ordelheide, '13

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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.

viewpoint@puc.edu

Produced by the Marketing & Communication Department for the alumni and friends of the college.

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Printed in the U.S.A.

ViewPoint

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE • FALL 2025



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PUC GETS SOCIAL





 @PUCnow



YouTube: MAY 1, 2025
 We're looking back on a weekend filled with connection, tradition, and unforgettable moments at Homecoming 2025.

From reuniting with familiar faces to creating new memories on campus, it was a true celebration of everything that makes PUC feel like home. Thank you to everyone who came, showed their Pioneer pride, and made it so special. Until next time!



Instagram: JUNE 9, 2025
 "Education should not only inform—but transform."

Congratulations to our 2024-2025 Educator of the Year, Professor Nicolette Piaubert! Her faith-filled leadership, compassion, and unwavering dedication are a true reminder that purpose and passion can change lives!



LinkedIn: JUNE 12, 2025
 An afternoon with our Student Veteran Club.

Over pizza and laughter, this small but mighty group shared military memories and future dreams. It was a time of connection, support, and inspiration.

We are grateful for the strength, resilience, and camaraderie our veterans bring to campus every day.



Instagram: MARCH 27, 2025

BIG NEWS: PUC is now officially a Blue Zones Certified Campus. Thanks to the efforts of our students, faculty, and staff, we've earned certification across three key areas: the Dining Commons, College Market, and our Campus as a whole!

Special thanks to Blue Zones VP Mark Ishikawa and Adventist Health for helping us on this journey.

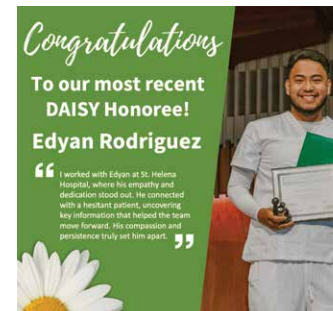
"This milestone shows how faith and health can come together in meaningful, impactful, and lasting ways."
 –Mark Ishikawa, PUC Class of '01



Facebook: JUNE 12, 2025
 A cherished evening with our beloved PUC alumni.

More than 50 alumni gathered for a beautiful night of reconnection. The Giugni juice and Chipotle were a hit—but nothing topped the joy of seeing familiar faces.

Thank you for reminding us what makes the PUC family so special. Our hearts are full. Let's keep the memories (and the meet-ups!) coming!



X: JUNE 18, 2025

We're thrilled to celebrate Edyan Rodriguez, this year's DAISY Award Winner!

"Edyan didn't just administer care—he offered comfort, understanding, & hope. That moment wouldn't have happened without him."



Instagram:

SEPTEMBER 1, 2025

Today, we had the pleasure of visiting with The Philippine Meistersingers and their director, Ramon Lijauco Jr. We loved showing them around campus and sharing a little piece of the PUC experience with this amazing group!



Facebook: JUNE 15, 2025

YOU DID IT!!! A huge, joy-filled congratulations to our newest graduates! We are so proud of you and everything you've achieved – what an incredible journey it's been.

Your light, love, and laughter will be deeply missed on campus, but we know you're going to shine so brightly in the world beyond. This is just the beginning—and we're cheering you on every step of the way.



The PUC Mission Continues

A Vision for our Future

by Marina Maher

2020 represented a watershed moment for Pacific Union College, as it faced the full weight of a long-term decline. Years of compounding deficits, organizational downsizing, declining enrollment, and ongoing financial strain had begun to impact operations severely. The board, administrators, and employees questioned whether PUC could continue to exist. Despite several incremental adjustments, the decline continued. In 2020, it was decided that PUC could not continue with business as usual. In 2021, a new vision plan was implemented.

The goal was simple: recognize our problems and acknowledge the need for significant changes, all while remaining true to Adventism, our historical mission, and the quality of the PUC campus experience.

The vision plan was, in large part, an operational strategy centered on stabilizing the institution, all while maintaining our public image, core mission, and historical legacy. PUC focused on four key areas: renewing our

commitment to the Angwin campus, innovating our academic offerings, expanding our reach and market presence by establishing education centers, and developing online programs.

The 2025-2030 vision continues to sustain these four pillars, but with five more focused, strategic objectives to further underline the operational steps taken to bring PUC into a prosperous footing:



Experiential Learning: prioritizing hands-on learning in fields such as aviation, nursing, and visual arts, as well as mission trips, fellowships, research, and internships to gain a first-hand practical experience of the real world. Forest learning in PUC's 1,100-acre woodland is also one of the largest assets on campus.

Increased and Diversified Revenue Streams: expanding the college's resources to maximize utilization of land and buildings, Angwin Plaza, residence halls, offering online and in-person programs, as well as searching for new streams of educational opportunities, like offering certificates.

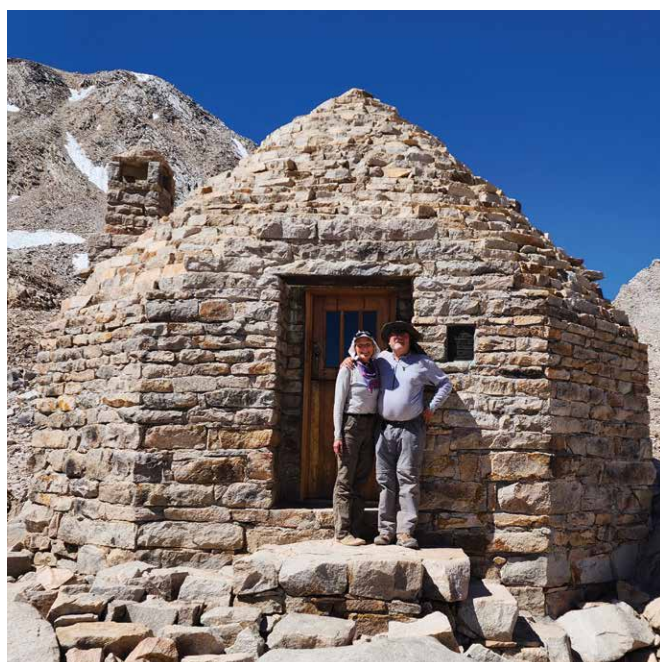
Innovative Academic Program Review and Reinvention: continuing to implement ways to improve the college's general education, degrees, academic year duration and length, and delivery systems to further align with the four pillars and an emphasis on experiential learning.

Restructure PUC Processes, Procedures, and Policies: implementing streamlined procedures across campus, including software and IT support that could save money, reduce workload, and create an overall better culture for student life and campus.

Pursue Academic and Corporate Partnerships: strengthening relationships with the Adventist church, Adventist Health, Loma Linda University, La Sierra University, the Pacific Union, community colleges, and high schools.

PUC's goal is that every student who passes through our educational system makes a positive impact in the church and on humanity, ensuring a well-equipped candidate in any field or market.

Confident in the next steps of our future, we foresee a bright and successful journey for each student, not only to become more than a qualified graduate, but to also become a person who will make a lasting impact and difference in this world and beyond. PUC remains faithful in God's leading as we continue to pray and heed His direction. 🙏



Q&A: President Ralph Trecartin

From Campus to the Trail

by Ally Romanes

This summer, President Ralph Trecartin embarked on a three-week hike on the John Muir Trail. From July 29 to August 18, he, along with his wife, Virginia, and her brother, Dr. Jonathan Bourne, added 20 miles to the existing 210.5-mile trail, averaging 9-15 miles per day. On the last day of the hike, they covered over 20 miles, bringing the total to 230.5 miles.

What inspired you to take this three-week hike on the John Muir Trail?

We love challenges and thrive on physical activity in beautiful natural settings. I am getting older and wondered if I would lose the ability to participate in a long-sustained excursion. I believe the JMT is one of the most famous trails and definitely one of the most breathtaking in beauty. It also does not cross a road as it winds through an expansive wilderness. The sense of accomplishment is very high, and our shared experience is priceless.

How did your physical or mental state change throughout the hike?

My physical state became stronger, and my mental state also improved. However, there were times when I had to concentrate on taking one step at a time, counting to 100 steps so that I could reward myself with a 10-second rest period. On hot, sunny days, I would hike quickly between shaded locations, and then stop for a few seconds in the shade. I've developed several self-motivation techniques to keep my progress going and give me something to look forward to in the near future, rather than longing for the end of the day or the hours ahead.

What surprised you the most during the hike?

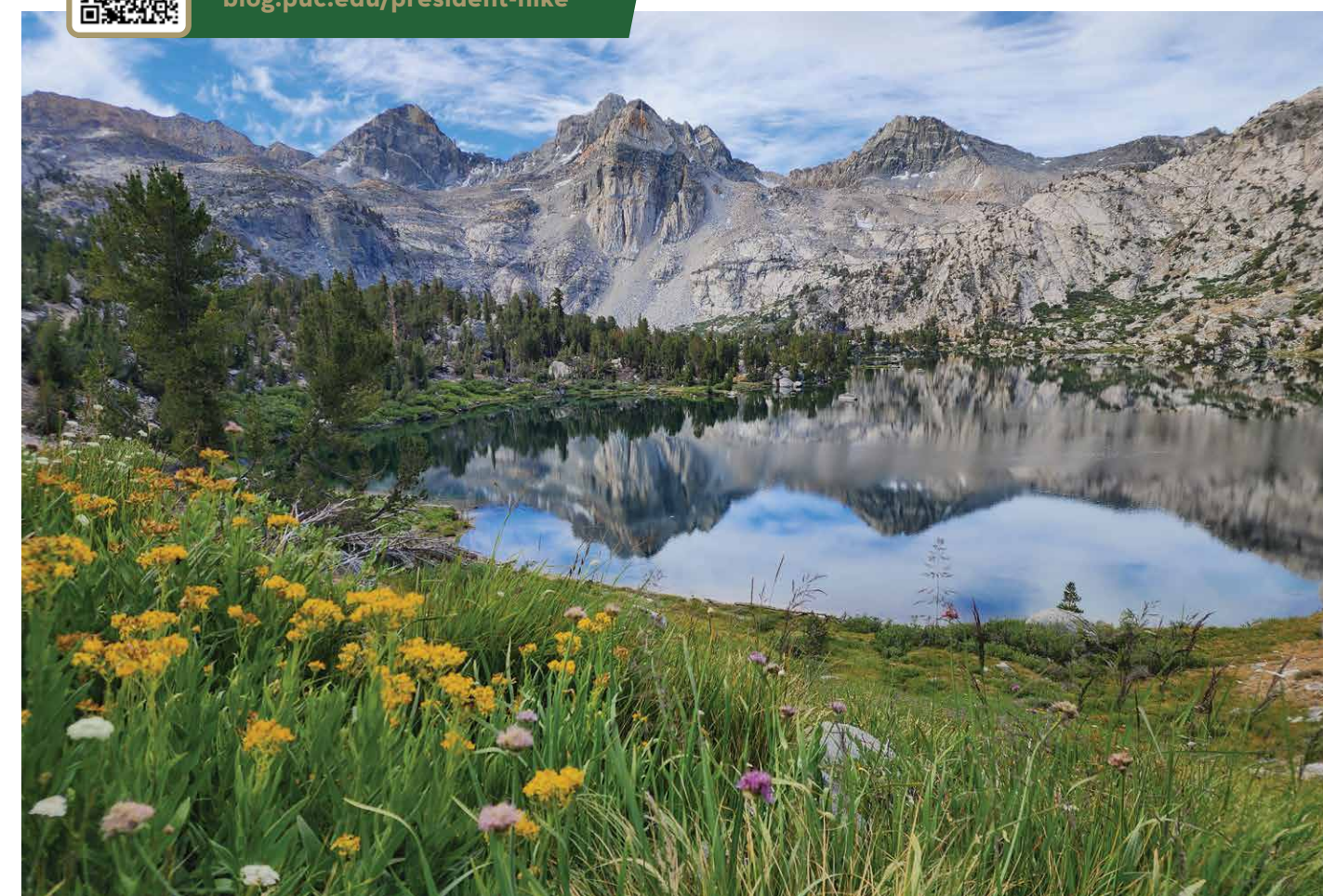
I was not surprised by the beauty, but it was beyond expectations. I was surprised by the number of flower varieties. I have photos of over 100 species – many growing in the most austere places, such as the tops of mountain passes.

What's one thing you look forward to now that you're home?

Creating a stronger environment at PUC so that our students can experience their own adventures, earn credit for them, and grow in character as a result of new experiences. I want students (who choose to do so) to undertake more wilderness adventures like mine, more mission-based adventures, and other similar experiences. I want our students to experience more and build memories for a lifetime while growing in wisdom, strength, and favor with God and man. 🙌



Read this full blog:
blog.puc.edu/president-hike





Nature-Loving and Adventure-Seeking: Alumni Grant Ordelheide Shares His Passion for Photography



by Marina Maher

Growing up in the Colorado Rockies, Montana-based nature and outdoor photographer Grant Ordelheide was immersed in beautiful landscapes and in a family that took every opportunity to be outdoors. This exposure instilled a fire within Ordelheide that was beyond a passion for nature. Ever since then, he has been chasing every scene to capture not only in memory, but on camera to share with the world.

One of the aspects that brought him to PUC was the accessibility and proximity to numerous great places in the scenic Northern California region. “As an aspiring nature photographer, there were so many amazing landscapes that provided the perfect setting to hone my craft,” said Ordelheide. “Within a day’s drive from PUC, you could be in Yosemite, Tahoe, or the Redwoods. That was a huge factor in why I chose to attend PUC in the first place.”

After graduating from PUC in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in photography with a business emphasis, Ordelheide has worked as a freelance outdoor and adventure photographer. He has taken photos for several magazines in the outdoor industry, including Backpacker, Climbing, Outside, National Park Journal, and more. Ordelheide also began teaching photo workshops with his friend and mentor, Jerry Dodrill, a 1997 PUC alumnus and former adjunct instructor of photography who has taught some of Ordelheide’s classes.

Looking back, Ordelheide pays his gratitude to his professors and friends in the art department who have helped shape and mold the way he approaches photography and art. “When I arrived, I felt like I had a grasp on photography, but over my time at PUC, I really came to understand design and composition in a really deep and meaningful way,” he said. “I think that the basis and

application of my education have helped me throughout my career and given me the foundation to continue to grow and get better. I am grateful for my mentors, specifically Tom Turner and Jerry Dodrill, who have always encouraged and challenged me.”

Currently, Ordelheide still shoots for a few magazine projects a year and sells print and licensed photos, but is mostly teaching photography for a photo workshop tour company called Backcountry Journeys. He has led trips to six continents and plans to complete an Antarctica trip to mark his seventh continent this December. “I am driven by all the wild places around the world, but most of all, I am motivated always to be chasing that perfect photo,” Ordelheide said as he recollected how fortunate he has been to witness and photograph some of the world’s most incredible wildlife, including seven of the world’s biggest cats.

“Photography has brought me to some incredible encounters with wildlife,” expressed Ordelheide. “The most memorable have been swimming with humpbacks, hiking with gorillas, and being mere inches away from wild pumas on foot. The best experiences are always when you can photograph a wild animal fully in their environment and on their terms.”

A motto he lives by is that it is never over until it is over. There have been many times when he has given up on an animal appearing or the sun breaking through the clouds, only to see it happen at the last minute. Ordelheide enjoys moments like these where nature lives out its course at its own time.

“I love the entire process of coming up with an idea for a shot, planning, and executing. The pursuit of the next photo is what keeps me wanting more.”

**“Call to Me, and I will answer you,
and show you great and mighty
things, which you do not know.”**

– Jeremiah 33:3

***Our incredible faculty and staff circling
the fountain in prayer—lifting our
students, campus, and the 2025-2026
year to our Lord Jesus Christ.***



Stories Across Generations: The Yee Family Legacy at PUC

by Marina Maher



Top picture:
Alan (right), Siannah, Bryant's daughter (middle), and Bennett, Calvin's son (left)

Bottom pictures:
Calvin (left) and Franklin (right)

The story begins with two brothers, Franklin and Calvin: the first students of three consecutive generations and 10 family members who would graduate from PUC.

Their father, Dr. Henry Yee, who wanted his sons to pursue a career in healthcare, had become aware of PUC's strong educational program and deep spiritual environment and enrolled them at PUC.

Franklin was then enrolled at PUC Academy, now PUC Preparatory, and graduated in 1951. Calvin, on the other hand, attended PUC at the time before he got drafted into the Korean War for two and a half years. Once Calvin returned in 1954 to continue pursuing his biology degree, he decided to reenroll at PUC, where Franklin joined him.

Looking back on their time before graduating together in 1955, they found the campus to be a place where they formed genuine connections with "really good and gentle Christian people." Their PUC experience helped nourish and deepen their faith in Christianity.

After their time at PUC, they both went off to Loma Linda University, where Franklin earned a medical degree and Calvin a dentistry degree, graduating together in 1959.

Unfortunately, Calvin passed away in 1972 from a sudden heart attack. He was only 43. Franklin, now 94 years old and a retired surgeon, is thankful for his time at PUC, speaking on behalf of his brother's experience, too.

The legacy continues with Alan Yee, Calvin and Franklin's nephew. Alan first attended Lodi Academy and graduated in 1967 before attending PUC. He recollects choosing to pursue his biology degree at PUC along with his older brother, Douglas, because he appreciated the intimate focus on the individual student at a smaller school. Alan proudly recalls that it was on campus that he created genuine friendships as well as influential relationships with well-esteemed professors, one of whom was Dr. Donald

Hemphill, a biology professor who made continuous efforts to encourage both biology and pre-med students to succeed in their respective fields.

After graduating from PUC in 1971, Alan pursued his medical degree at Loma Linda University, completing it in 1975. He has since pursued a successful career.

Coming in at the third generation of the Yee family is Siannah, who graduated with an emergency management degree this past June. Her late father, Bryant Yee, Calvin's son, who unfortunately passed away in 2020, was a proud PUC alumnus.

Siannah always considered PUC since her father attended, so she decided to visit to gain the PUC experience by sitting in on Dr. Aimee Wyrick's biology class and enjoying the nature-filled atmosphere on campus. After a friend exposed her to the world of emergency medicine, Siannah's passion began to grow. By the end of that school year, she changed majors and "carved her own path of independence."

Siannah decided to serve as a high school history teacher during her student mission in Micronesia, where her faith began to deepen. Taking this opportunity not only challenged her but also enlightened her biblical perspective and worldview.

She plans to attend paramedic school in January to continue her career in emergency medical services. Like her predecessors, Siannah thanks PUC for its unique culture and wholesome experience, allowing her to seek resilience through challenges and develop a stronger sense of identity. Because of their connection to PUC, several members of the Yee family are making a kind donation in gratitude and in hopes that future generations will also choose to find themselves at PUC. 🌿

YESTERDAY & TODAY



1977

Proud and passionate aviators then and now.

2025



1977

Move-in day is universally stressful for everyone

2025



1977

If PUC can make you do one thing, it is to smile.

2025

FEATURED ALUMNI



THEN



Bassem Alf Rushdy, '04, graduated with a degree in aviation. Today, Bassem is an airline pilot for Atlas Air.



NOW



1977

Timelessness through the ages—even with cars:
A great testament to character.

2025



« READ THE
FULL STORY

NEWS @ PUC

FOR MORE PUC NEWS VISIT [PUC.EDU/NEWS](https://puc.edu/news)

» PUC COLLABORATES WITH WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY TO REVIVE THE ENGINEERING PROGRAM ON CAMPUS

by Keegan Malan

For decades, PUC's Physics Department has cooperated with Walla Walla University's School of Engineering by offering an engineering program at PUC with a clear pathway to transfer to WWU's Bachelor of Science in Engineering program (BSE). That cooperation was recently formalized in a Memorandum of Understanding, providing a strong connection between the two institutions for the benefit of students.

An associate of science degree will be available for PUC students, after which they will be able to transfer to WWU to continue their education and earn the BSE, splitting the four years of college between the two schools. The curriculum thus developed has been carefully tailored to meet the transfer requirements and prerequisites for admission to the BSE program. Additionally, for eligibility purposes, certain conditions must be met.

In addition to applying to WWU and completing the A.S. at PUC, students' GPAs must meet the minimum of a 3.0. They must also meet all non-academic admissions criteria and consult with WWU academic advisors early in their program at PUC to ensure complete alignment of coursework. To help guide students through these conditions, WWU will provide remote or in-person career counseling and academic advising to students as schedules permit, and they will also offer remote instruction and support for specific courses.



Students admitted to the BSE program will also be eligible for the same scholarship opportunities provided to other transfer students, in addition to the Engineering Affiliation Scholarship. All of this ensures that procedures will run smoothly between the two schools along this well-coordinated pathway, allowing students to focus properly on what matters, furthering their education to achieve their dreams, while providing the support needed to succeed. 🙌



» PUC'S BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT SERVES THOUSANDS IN SRI LANKA

by Ally Romanes

From July 7 to 12, PUC Biology Professors Backil Sung, Aimee Wyrick, and Floyd Hayes, along with 10 of their students, served in Kandy, Sri Lanka. They treated 1,825 patients in the medical tent, prescribing medications, manually treating chronic pain patients, and offering spiritual and mental counseling. The cataract surgery team restored the vision of 88 patients by replacing their natural lenses with artificial ones. In addition to the 3,000 pairs of reading glasses they provided, Sung shipped 1,000 more to Kandy.

At the dental camp, students assisted dentists and dental hygienists in providing teeth cleaning and extraction services to over a thousand patients. For the students in the Kandana Branch of Lakpahana Adventist College, Hayes and Wyrick purchased science equipment with the help of the Herber Family Faculty Development Grant to PUC's biology department.

One of the students who volunteered was Marilyn Do, who recalls Sri Lanka as an "unforgettable" experience. "I felt that this mission trip truly polished me as an individual," she said. "I gained essential communication

skills and a reinforced passion for helping others, along with countless memories; I felt evolved in my faith and mental fortitude. Having gained firsthand experience of the new outlook through this mission trip, I am eager to join future ones. I hope to continue advancing my faith and exercising goodwill in these trips."

Sung helped plan this mission trip with the help of his non-profit, All to Heaven, which pledged \$25k to renovate the operating room at Lakeside Adventist Hospital in Kandy and \$20k to improve the boys' dormitory in Lakpahana Adventist College. He also partnered with their hospital, college, and several organizations. From these organizations, professionals from medical, nursing, dental, and public health fields, as well as electricians, volunteers from secondary and higher education institutions, and students, traveled to serve in Kandy.

The biology department's mission trips continue to attract an increasing number of volunteers. Unfortunately, they cannot accept everyone, which is why the organization group is planning two mission trips next year in Africa and Asia. For the PUC students, it was terrific to see them take time out of their summer break to serve in another country and fulfill the Adventist mission. 🙌



MEANING IN MISSION: Jaymes Cheney Appointed as NCC Treasurer

by Marina Maher

On May 7, PUC alumnus Jaymes Cheney was appointed as the next treasurer of the Northern California Conference. Born in Portland, OR, he grew up in Ridgefield, north of Vancouver, WA, with a mom who worked in Adventist education and a dad who worked in plant services at Adventist Health Portland. Watching his parents and extended family devote their lives to the church sparked a desire in Cheney’s heart to do the same, wherever God would lead him. Coming to PUC was a no-brainer for him, considering the deep family ties and roots that lie in Northern California. His mom and her family grew up in Napa, and his family would frequently travel down from Washington. When it was time for him to decide on a college to attend, the fond memories of his childhood and the family history of Pioneers graduates drew him near. Cheney graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration with emphases in accounting and marketing in 2006. When looking back on his college days, he credits his education at PUC for equipping him well for professional growth and success in the workplace. “I was prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation, and I was immediately able to put my education to work at Adventist Health as an internal auditor. As my career progressed and

I stepped into leadership roles, passed the CPA exam, and continued my education with an MBA from UC Davis in 2015, the foundation from which I started at PUC proved solid.” “PUC prepared me for a service-oriented career,” Cheney continued, emphasizing the idea of mission and purpose in his profession as well as his personal life. “The ideas of service, education, and church are part of who I am.” For him, the cultural diversity on campus fostered a deeper sense of appreciation for others with various cultural backgrounds, which continued when he spent a year at Newbold College in England through Adventist Colleges Abroad. There were students from all over the world, whom he enjoyed getting to know. Reflecting on his time at PUC, he notes being surrounded by people who wanted him to spiritually, academically, and socially prosper. “Lary Taylor, Richard Voth, Rodney Hardcastle, Lisa Paulson, and Suzie Ermshar are a few that come to mind who, for various reasons, either encouraged me, challenged me, mentored me, or connected me with others in an important way,” said Cheney. One of the most special connections he made while on the basketball team was with a Lady Pioneer on the women’s volleyball and basketball teams, his wife, Brittany (Collins) Cheney, a 2007 alumna of PUC. They now live near Sacramento and have two young children in elementary school at Sacramento Adventist Academy. Passionate about making a difference, Cheney wholeheartedly strives to see an improvement in whatever project he works on—whether big or small. He continues to be motivated by putting change into action to make a positive impact in whatever he is involved in. A quote that he lives by is one by Martin Luther King Jr. that says, “If you can’t fly, then run, if you can’t run, then walk, if you can’t walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward.” When he is not crunching numbers in the office, he can be found cycling, hiking, road tripping with his family, growing tomatoes in his garden, or going through his childhood baseball card collection. Cheney and his wife continue the Adventist mission in their family and community. “We believe that our churches, schools, and ministries are only as good as we make them, and we feel a responsibility to be involved.”

Announcements

WEDDINGS, BIRTHS, & ENGAGEMENTS



- 1 Marina Maher, ‘22,** and Fernando Campos were married on April 5, 2024, in Napa Valley, CA.
- 2 Amanda (Garcia) Maher Sharobeem, ‘17,** and Anthony Maher Sharobeem were married on May 22, 2025, in Corona Del Mar Beach, CA.



- 3 Sara (Stump) Uhls, ‘10,** and Stephen Duane Uhls were married on July 12, 2024, in Napa, CA.
- 4 Marlowe Stebbins,** daughter of **Leah (Conde) Stebbins, ‘09,** and James Stebbins, was born in Pennngrove, CA.
- 5 Matthew Lutes,** son of **Jillian (Spencer) Lutes, ‘11,** and **Stephen Lutes, ‘11,** was born on June 27, 2022, in West Covina, CA. Jillian and Stephen got married in Yountville, CA, on August 4, 2008.

- 6 Regan Acosta, ‘23,** and Joel Brown will be getting married in April 2026 in Las Cruces, NM. (No photo submitted)
- 7 Victoria Rose Edmond, ‘22,** and **Joseph Siboro, ‘19,** will be getting married in 2026 in Portland, ME.



Please send us your engagements, weddings, and family additions by **February 1, 2026,** to be included in our next issue. alumni@puc.edu (707) 965-7500

Alumni News

CLASS NOTES

Written & Compiled by Herbert Ford, '54

1970



Linda (James) Mowry, '72, lived in Wichita, KS, for 30 years, and then retired in 2022 and moved to Cleveland, TN. She is the head of a Watercolor Workshop with about 12 adults attending. Linda taught drawing for two years at Bowman Hills SDA School, including pencil and charcoal portraiture to students and adults. She loves learning new mediums and watching the “wow” moments when others love it too, making new friends, and teaching kids to love the Jesus who has made this all possible!

Roy E. Gane, '77, Professor of Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near East Languages of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, has just been honored for his 30 years of service at the seminary. A sought-after speaker at large gatherings on six continents, Roy is the author of seven books, in addition to writing scores of other published works. He was the main translator of the Leviticus portion

for The Common Bible and taught in PUC's Theology Department from 1992 to 1994 before moving to Michigan.

1980

Carel Mountain, '80, '85, was recently named by California Governor Gavin Newsom to the California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, for which she has served since 2018. An adjunct faculty member at PUC from 1997 to 2023, Carel has been an Assistant Professor of Nursing at California State University Sacramento since 2022. She has been the director of nursing at Sacramento City College, taught at Shasta College, and has been an online instructor for the University of Phoenix. Carel earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from CSU Fresno and also holds a Master of Science degree in Nursing Administration from CSU Sonoma.

John A. Sackett, '83, now serves as a Board Member of Adventist Health International, a global organization that is working toward better health care in 48 hospitals and more than 100 clinics in 33 countries of the world, in addition to his Adventist Healthcare responsibilities

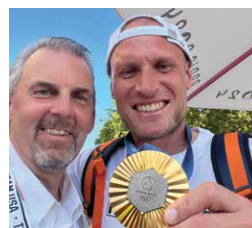
in the United States. John is currently president and chief executive officer of the Adventist HealthCare system in the Washington, D.C., and Maryland areas. He has served in various roles in Adventist healthcare for more than 40 years.

Eric Stevens, '84, '85, has been selected as Chief Operating Officer for the Adventist Health organization in western America. In his new position, Eric leads strategy and operations at Adventist Health facilities in Stockton, Lodi, Yuba City/Marysville, Feather River, Mendocino County, Clear Lake, St. Helena, and Vallejo in California. Eric began his health care career at Glendale Adventist Medical Center and has had more than 40 years of health care experience in Oregon, Tennessee, Florida, and California.

David P. Banks, '87, a longtime healthcare administrator, has recently been appointed as president and CEO of Adventist Health Southeastern United States. In his new role, David assumes leadership of a faith-based healthcare system that includes 55 hospital campuses, more than 2,000 care sites, and 100,000 members. Earlier, David was group

CEO for the Primary Health Division and the Multi-State Division of Adventist Health, which directed the work of 22 campuses across eight states and three regional partnerships.

Geoff Sewell, '88, has recently been ordained to the gospel ministry in the Southern California Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This rite of passage, which usually features a traditional “laying on of hands” by senior ministers, came for Geoff after he had already retired from a 30-year career in the medical field. Geoff's subsequent “call” to the ministry has included education, an internship, and pastoral ministry before the ordination in his new ministry.



Jeff Kolkman, '89, attended his 18th Olympic Games last summer in Paris. (Photo: Jeff Kolkman (left) with Pirmin Blaak, gold medalist in field hockey from the Netherlands.) He has frequently visited France, assisting the Seventh-day Adventist Church in distributing

Christian publications, such as Steps to Christ and The Great Controversy, as well as vegetarian cookbooks, to athletes, coaches, staff of various National Olympic Committees, first responders, and police officers. As a PUC student in the early 1980s, Jeff honors his advisor, Dr. William Van Gritt, for the excellent French language program and his experience at Collonges, Haute-Savoie, France, through Adventist Colleges Abroad.

1990

Timothy (Tim) J. Gillespie, Att. '90s, has been named Vice President for Mission and Ministry of the Rocky Mountain region of AdventHealth, a health care organization in Colorado that consists of five hospitals, numerous other health care facilities, and personnel. Previously, Tim was the lead and teaching pastor of the Crosswalk SDA Church in Redlands, CA.

2000



Richard Alva, '02, (Chicago, IL) and Rebecca (Erick) Alva (Eugene, OR) were married in Portland, OR, in October 2018. Their son, Richard Edward, was born in 2019, their middle daughter, Rosalía Violette Jane, was born in 2023, and their youngest daughter

was born in 2025. Rebecca graduated with her Master of Clinical Social Work from Boston University in May 2025.

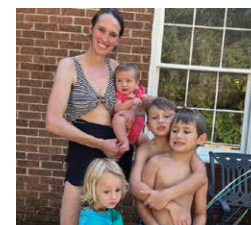
Jesse A. Clark, '03, has recently been hired as Assistant Coach of the California State University Long Beach Women's Basketball team, according to Head Coach Amy Wright. Previously, Jesse was head coach of the Academy of Art's basketball team in San Francisco, CA. His earlier coaching experience was at the University of California, San Diego, and San Diego State University, Point Loma. While at PUC, Jesse was head coach of the college's Pioneers basketball team, where he led them to three Pacific Conference Tournament appearances in five seasons.

2010

Aren Rennacker, '11, was appointed by The Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as the inaugural director of Growing Young Leaders, a newly formed department that focuses on expanded promotion and support for young people preparing for pastoral educational service in the church. Aren was serving as the youth and young adults' director of the Southeastern California Conference of Adventists before being appointed to the new position.



Aliesha (McEvers) Hol-lar, '14, has been married for three years and has moved to South Carolina since graduating from PUC. She works for the Department of Social Services in western North Carolina (six years this year) as a processing assistant, where she helps process paperwork for adoption. Aliesha finds it rewarding and makes her heart happy to see kids get new and happy homes. Her husband, Paul, and she have two cats, Matty and Ethel, and enjoy spending their time attending concerts.



Anja, '15, and **Antonio, '15**, Benevento welcomed a fourth child, daughter Noah, on Thanksgiving Day, 2024. Noah joined big brothers Shiloh (7), Elisha (5), and Arie (2). Anja and Antonio moved to South Carolina in 2017. Antonio is completing his internal medicine residency in North Myrtle Beach, and Anja is home with the kids, tackling her first year of homeschooling.

Tell us about your adventures, accomplishments, weddings, and family additions! Please send us your update and photo by **February 1, 2026**, to be included in our next issue.



puc.edu/alumni-updates
alumni@puc.edu
 (707) 965-7500

IN MEMORY

Written & Compiled by Herbert Ford, '54

FACULTY AND STAFF

Earl Munk Jensen Aagaard, '69, '71, a long-time PUC biology professor, died in Chico, CA, on April 16, 2025. He was born on October 17, 1947, in San Francisco, CA. After earning his bachelor's and master's degrees at PUC, Earl undertook a two-year study of the small mammal populations in the Sierra Nevada National Park in the Venezuelan Andes, a major work that led to his receiving his PhD from Colorado State University. The project was co-sponsored by CSU, the Venezuelan Institute of National Parks, and the Smithsonian Institution, which maintains the project's extensive collections.

Earl taught at Modesto Adventist Academy before he joined the PUC biology faculty in 1982. After 22 years at PUC, he moved to Southern Adventist University in 2004, where he taught until his retirement in 2010. In addition to his Biology Department coursework, Earl taught vegetable gardening and small fruit growing. Known as a demanding teacher, Earl was, nevertheless, loved by his students for his always-open office door and for the numerous other ways in which he demonstrated that he cared deeply for them and their success.

His retirement brought time for travel with his wife,

Gail (Selby) Aagaard, '69 (former PUC nursing faculty), and for visiting and entertaining family. Preceded in death by Gail in 2021, Earl is survived by his siblings, Carla (Aagaard) Martir, Victor Aagaard, and Lola (Aagaard) Boram; daughter, Laura (Aagaard) Camacho; son, Thorvald Aagaard; and by four grandchildren.

Daniel D. (Danny) Harrom, died on January 31, 2025, in Sacramento, CA. He was born on March 11, 1948, in Bloomfield, NE. Daniel worked for several years in the Student Finance Office at PUC. While he served in the U.S. military as a combat medic in Vietnam, Daniel was wounded by a grenade explosion, and as authorized, was awarded the Purple Heart Medal. Daniel is survived by his daughters, Tressa Ohler and Tamara Whitelaw; by six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; by siblings, Cheryl Harrom Ingold, David Harrom, Brenda Harrom, Barbara Harrom Zumwalt, and Charlee Harrom Gerlic.

Leon Floyd Sanders, Former PUC Board Member, died on June 11, 2025, in Denver, CO. He was born on March 5, 1937, in Terre Haute, IN. Leon was employed in various units of the SDA Church in Arkansas and Louisiana; at the White Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles, CA, in the Wyoming Conference of the church; with Adventist Health

Remembering Friends

"In Memory" is our opportunity to honor and remember fellow alumni. We currently receive obituaries from various sources, and information may not always be complete. Family members of alumni who wish to submit obituary information directly can contact the alumni office. alumni@puc.edu | (707) 965-7500

System/West in California; and as treasurer of the Pacific Union Conference of the church. It was during this latter position that he was also a member of the PUC Board of Trustees. Leon is survived by his daughters, Cheryl LeAnn Beauchamp and Teresa Lynn Hochstedler, and by five grandchildren.

Norma Kathleen Scott Momb, Att., died on November 6, 2024, in Lincoln, CA. She was born on October 23, 1925, in Los Angeles, CA. In her early years, Kathleen worked at the Glendale Adventist Hospital. She worked as a cashier at PUC for some time before her retirement. Kathleen is survived by her daughter, Doreen Momb; by her son, Scott Momb; and by 128 nieces and nephews.

Robert Harley Seyle, died on April 17, 2025, in Hayden, ID. A professor of fine arts who was known for his work in sculpture, Bob taught in the PUC Visual Arts Department from 1991 to 2003. One of his works, a sculpture made entirely of nails, is on display in PUC's Fisher Hall, home of the visual arts department. His wife Annie was also a PUC staff member. Previously, he had lived and taught in Loma Linda, CA. Bob is survived by his wife, Anne.

Gwendolyn S. Spuehler, '64, a long-time PUC staff member, died on May 4, 2025, in

Ooltewah, TN. She was born on January 5, 1933. Gwen worked for many years in the PUC Records Office. She also served as assistant treasurer and clerk of the PUC Church, of which she was a member for 58 years. Gwen is survived by her niece, Pam Gaskell.

Norman L. Wendth, former President of Atlantic Union College, died on July 19, 2025, in Worcester, MA. He was born on January 23, 1947, in MA. A graduate of AUC, Norman had a distinguished educational career that included international classroom teaching and educational administration. He taught at Loma Linda University from 1969 until 1971, and then at the Nihon Saniku College in Japan from 1971 to 1974. In 1974, Norman began what was a highly successful, 17-year teaching period as a member of the English Department of PUC. He then moved to Massachusetts in 1991 to serve at AUC until 1997, when he was employed at Kettering Medical College until 2007. In 2007, Norman returned to AUC, serving as its president until 2012. He was a member and chairperson of many important boards and committees, and gave volunteer service to civic organizations in most of the communities in which the institutions he served were located. Norman is survived by his wife, Winona Winkler Wendth, and by their two daughters, Chesley and Astrid.

ALUMNI

Betty Jean (Landstrom) Adams, age 94, passed away on June 22, 2025, in Rockport, ME. Born in San Francisco, CA, she pursued her education at PUC Preparatory School and PUC. Betty studied Education during the summers and taught grades 1-4 at Westlake School between 1950 and 1952 to pay for her PUC tuition.

In 1953, Betty moved to Placerville, CA, where she taught first and second grades at Camino-Placerville Junior Academy, now known as El Dorado Adventist School. Her love for teaching also led her to Colegio Linda Vista in Chiapas, Mexico, where she volunteered to teach English as a second language during the 1960s and 1970s. Betty was an active member of the Placerville SDA Church since 1954, and spent many years serving in Adventist community services. She also enjoyed participating in many mission trips, serving as a translator.

Betty was married to Celian Adams of Placerville for 66 years until his passing in 2020. Together, they made their home in the community of Mosquito when not serving in Mexico. Following Celian's death, Betty relocated to Camden, ME, to live with her daughter, Lanita Medina.

She is survived by her children, Fred Adams, Linda Adams, and Lanita Medina; by stepdaughters Gloria Weldy, June Mitchell, and Janet Taylor; by nine grandchildren; by nine great-grandchildren; and by four great-great-grandchildren.

Bonnie Lou (Potter) Allen, '51, a teacher, died recently. She was born on February 26, 1928, in Walla Walla, WA. After teaching for 28 years, Bonnie retired in 1990 and almost immediately returned to her lifelong passion for the study and practice of art, becoming an accomplished watercolorist. Bonnie was predeceased in death by her parents, by her grandson, Joel Gordon Allen; by her former husband, Richard G. Allen; and by a sister, Donna Butler. She is survived by her daughters, Barbara Allen, Patti (Karl) Kwok, and Joni (Russ) James; and by four grandchildren.

Audrey Amelia (Thompson) Anderson, '60, a nurse and homemaker, died on April 17, 2025, in her home in Angwin, CA. An emergency caused Audrey's birth to be in the family car in Maxwell, NE, on August 28, 1939. After her family moved to California, Audrey graduated valedictorian of her 1958 high school class at Modesto Union Academy. At PUC, she continued to excel academically, graduating with PUC's first nursing class in 1960. On December 30, 1962, she married Bruce Anderson, a PUC pre-med and history student. Audrey and Bruce subsequently lived in Loma Linda, CA, where she obtained her BSN degree. They also lived in Palo Alto, CA; Fort Hood, TX; Worthington, OH; Oak Brook, IL; and, since 1978, in Angwin. Audrey is survived by Bruce, her husband of 62 years; by their children, Steven, Elizabeth, and John; by five grandchildren; and by her brother, Hans.

Margaret Lorraine Erwin Anderson, '63, '66, '70, a retired nurse and educator, died on March 9, 2025, in Fresno, CA. She was born in Los Angeles, CA, on August 5, 1941. After having received multiple degrees from PUC, Margaret served for 62 years in medical, educational, and other service roles. These included St. Helena Sanitarium and Hospital; PUC; Union College; Sunnysdale Adventist Academy; Indiana Adventist Academy; Fresno Adventist Academy, Fresno State University, Fresno Children's Hospital, Cal-West College in Fresno, Georgia-Cumberland Academy, and the Georgia Northwest Technical College. She retired in 2011. Margaret is survived by her husband, Frederick Lee Anderson.

Melvin Axt, '54, died on April 6, 2025, in Glendale, CA. He was born on May 3, 1930, in Goodrich, ND. Melvin is survived by his children: Lonnie Axt, Michelle Heald-Zenz, Bonnie Heald, and Leslie Heald-Smith. He is also survived by his five grandchildren and his nine great-grandchildren, and by his sister, Carol Kirkegaard, and his brother, Lyle Axt.

Carol Jeanne Brooks, '71, died on February 15, 2025, in Loma Linda, CA. She was born on October 26, 1948, in Takoma Park, MD. Carol is survived by her husband, Maurice; by her children: David, Donald, and Debra; by her siblings: Patricia Slattery and James Pedersen; and by her four grandchildren.

Nash Carlisle III, '98, died on January 8, 2025, in Carmichael, CA. He was born

on July 11, 1975, in Rancho Cordova, CA. After graduating from Sacramento Academy in 1993, Nash gave 20 years of volunteer service in the media department of the Sacramento Central SDA Church, where he also taught a class in the Junior Sabbath School. Nash is survived by his wife, Emily Sime.

Colleen Robson Carpenter, '79, a healthcare worker, died on January 8, 2025, in Sonora, CA. She was born on February 8, 1957, in Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada. Colleen was employed for 35 years in the Adventist Health organization, working as a nursing assistant and as a patient accounts biller. She is survived by her husband, Kevin; by her sons, Curtis and Kerry; and by her five grandchildren.

Jacob K. Chang, '55, a businessman, died on May 6, 2024, in Loma Linda, CA. He was born in Shanghai, China, on November 5, 1931. Jacob was an educator at Hawaiian Mission Academy was treasurer of the Rolling Hills SDA Church, and Board chairman of the South Bay Academy. He is survived by his wife, Phoebe Chang, '56; by his daughter, Laura Strauss, '66; by his son, Fred Chang; and by his three grandchildren.

Bonnie Lea June (Tym) Corson, '75, died on April 9, 2025, in Oregon City, OR. She was born on August 18, 1954, in Two Hills, Alberta, Canada. Bonnie is survived by her husband, Dave; by her daughters, Michelle (Corson) Schweitzer, and Cindy Corson; and by her son, David.

Mark A. Crawford, '74, a physician, died on September 24, 2024, in Orting, WA. Mark was born on July 29, 1952.

Donna Jane (Porter) Fisher, '66, an art educator, died on April 9, 2025, in College Place, WA. She was born on November 30, 1942. During her junior year at PUC, Donna was editor of the student director, and she married Allan Fisher, '67, '68, a photographer on her editorial staff. In 1968, Donna began teaching art at San Pasqual Academy in Southern California. In 1971, she and Allan moved north, where she taught at Monterey Bay Academy. She moved to College Place, WA, in 1980, and served in various positions at Walla Walla University. Retirement brought time to pursue her favorite interests, including travel, 2,000 hours of which she logged in airplanes piloted by Allan. Donna was predeceased by her parents, Don and Irene Porter; and by her sister, Julie Thomas. She is survived by her husband, Allan; by her daughters, Diana and Amy; by two grandsons; and by siblings, Doug Porter, Peggy Taylor, and Nancy Newhouse.

Lavell Ford, '64, '73, was born on September 29, 1929, in Thatcher, AZ. He was a cowboy, a church pastor, and an elementary school teacher. He retired as a physician. Lavell is survived by his wife, Olive; by his sons, Ray, Dan, Rob, and Cal; and by many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Howard Eugene Kiesz, '68, a graphics designer and accountant, died in Lodi, CA, on April 9, 2025. He was born on December 3, 1945, in Lodi. A member of the Church of God Seventh Day, Howard was a lover of jazz music and model railroading throughout his life. Howard was predeceased by his parents; by his wife, Dolores, who died in 2005; and by his sister, Violet Stanton. He is survived by his daughters, Heather Griffin and Holly Kiesz.

Robert Evans, '65, '78, '81, an educator, died on October 16, 2024, in Sonora, CA. He was born on October 14, 1932, in Santa Barbara, CA. Robert was a teacher and principal in Seventh-day Adventist schools in the Central, Southern, and Southeastern California conferences of the church. He is survived by his daughter, Terri Deacon; by his two grandchildren; and by his three great-grandchildren.

William Hull, '57, '64, a Seventh-day Adventist clergyman, died on February 15, 2025, in Hemet, CA. He was born on May 29, 1932, in Spearman, TX. William is survived by his children: Cherie Hull-Foster and Randall Hull; by his two grandchildren; and by three great-grandchildren.

Richard "Rick" Charles Jordan, '75, died on November 15, 1924, in Anchorage, AK. He was born on May 16, 1953, in Warsaw, IN. Richard is survived by his spouse, Bonnie (Anderson); by his sons, Nils and Lars; and by two grandchildren.

Deanna Kindrick, '59, a healthcare worker, died on February 14, 2025, in Auburn, CA. She was born on October 28, 1929. Deanna worked for nearly 30 years at the Adventist Health Care headquarters in Roseville, CA. She is survived by her husband, Milton, and by her son, Joel.

Milton Kindrick, '75, a teacher, died on March 23, 2025, in Auburn, CA. He was born on December 9, 1939, in Denver, CO. The lives of many students were enriched by Milton during his teaching career at Sacramento Union Adventist Academy, Pine Hills Junior Academy, and Pleasant Hills Junior Academy. He led many mission trips to Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Peru, and other Latin American countries. Milton is survived by his son, Joel.

Virginia Anne Lindauer-Bergold, '49, died on January 30, 2025. She was born on March 27, 1927. Virginia is survived by her husband, Orlando; by her daughter, Janelle Carlson; by her five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Aaron Ramirez, '63, died on March 6, 2025, in his home in Angwin, CA. He was born in 1936. Aaron is survived by his wife, Mara I. Ramirez; by his children, Myrna Ramirez, Anita Adorador, and Tito Ramirez; by seven grandchildren; by his sister, Esther Freeze; and by seven grandchildren.

Lawrence Eugene (Larry) Ramsey, '73, a retired teacher, died on June 11, 2024. He was born June 29, 1974, in Madera, CA. Larry put his college education at

PUC on hold when he served as a combat medic in the U.S. Army. After his military service, he returned to study at PUC in 1968. He graduated in 1973 with a degree in theology. Teaching in Arkansas, and at Shelton Seventh-day Adventist School, followed his graduation, with additional work as a security officer and computer specialist for the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs. He also taught at Olympia College, and Puget Sound University in Washington. Larry is survived by his wife, Kathy (Bucklund) Ramsey; by his daughter, Dena; and by his son, Christopher.

James B. (Jimmy) Ross, '37, died on July 24, 2025, in Dayton, OH. He was born on January 7, 1930, in Ironton, OH. After his graduation from PUC, James's work included jobs in the business, medical, and mental health fields before his retirement from the Dayton Tire and Rubber Company. He was predeceased by the deaths of his two wives, Rosalie Newton and Peggy Zeitz. James is survived by eight children, by 15 grandchildren, and by 15 great-grandchildren.

Darrell Alan Rott, '75, '85, a Seventh-day Adventist pastor, died on July 5, 2025, in Boulder, CO. He was born on June 19, 1952, in Lodi, CA. After earning his M.Div. degree from Andrews University, Darrell began pastoring Seventh-day Adventist churches, including those in Fortuna, Antioch, and Yuba City, in California; Aiea, in Hawaii; and in Boulder. During his years of service, he led humanitarian trips to Tonga, Fiji, Brazil, Peru,

Rwanda, and Kenya. Because of his keeping close track of parishioners of the churches he had pastored, thousands of them considered Darrell to be their best friend. Darrell is survived by his wife, Karen Thacker; by his children, Matthew, Aaron, and Allison; by his three grandchildren; and by his brother, Steve.

Robert O. Shultz, '79, '80, '81, an educator and entrepreneur, passed away on November 13, 2024. He was born on February 26, 1960, in Lancaster, CA. He taught at Sacramento Adventist Academy, La Sierra Academy, and San Diego Academy. He strengthened each of the school's academic programs by introducing and teaching computer programming, robotics, AP classes, electronics, and STEM, in addition to teaching physics, chemistry, pre-calc, and calculus. He took a 20-year hiatus to help raise his two daughters, forming his own company and designing and fabricating for the California Science Center, Adventist World Radio, Loma Linda University Medical Center, Adventist Heritage Foundation White Estate, Wonderworks, Inc., California State Lottery Commission, PowerBall Lottery Commission, U.C. Irvine, Cal Expo, and The Huntington Library. In addition, he worked with the President Ford Foundation, obtained blueprints, and built a full-size replica of the Oval Office that was part of the 2008 Democratic and Republican Conventions. He is survived by his loving wife, Pam, and as a dedicated father, is survived by his daughters, Mandy and Jaci, and his grandchild, Jackie, with a granddaughter on the way.

James Neilson Slusser, '68, died on January 9, 2025, in Brownsville, OR. He was born on May 22, 1941, in Akron, OH. James is survived by his daughters, Jennifer Crocker and Wendy Cunningham; by his son, Wesley; by 11 grandchildren; and by his brothers, Bob and Jack.

Theron E. Staddon, '68, a Seventh-day Adventist clergyman, died on July 18, 2025, in Fairfield, MT. He was born on June 7, 1945, in Missoula, MT. Theron was a music concert-giver through much of his life, and Sharon, the piano accompanist in his concerts, became his wife. He was the pastor of Adventist churches in Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, and Montana. He also served as the director of a refugee program in Sudan for the Adventist Development and Relief Agency. Theron is survived by his wife, Sharon; by his two sons, Jack and Jeff; by an Eritrean daughter; by five grandchildren; and by his sister, Joyce.

Mildred A. R. Stilson, '42, a missionary and physician, died at the remarkable age of 104 years on January 29, 2025, in Loma Linda, CA. She was born on January 16, 1921, in Lucknow, India. After she graduated from medical school, Mildred and her husband, Donald, also a physician, founded a Seventh-day Adventist hospital in a remote location in Kenya, East Africa. They served in that hospital for nearly a decade. Returning to the U.S., Mildred trained and began serving as a pathologist, an important medical specialty at a time before CTs or MRIs were available for diagnosing

illnesses. During her life, Mildred performed more than 3,000 autopsies. Mildred is survived by her son, Eric; by three grandchildren; and by her three great-grandchildren.

James Duncan White, '62, an agricultural educator, died on March 27, 2025, in Turlock, CA. He was born on October 16, 1940, in Evart Township, Osceola County, MI. After briefly attending dental school, James changed his interest to agriculture and had a highly successful career as a farmer and an educator in the field of agriculture. His interest in farm life may have started with his milking of the cows in the PUC dairy herd, a job that helped pay his way through college. James is survived by his wife, Dorothy Janell (Chesnut); their daughters, Teresa Suzanne Burk and Kristine Michelle Van Bebbler; five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Marylyn Joan Williams, '57, died on March 18, 2025. She was born on July 15, 1932. Marylyn is survived by her daughters, Joni Hollie and Sandy Silvestri; by her sons, Roger and Jim; and by her 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; and by her brother, Jim Young.

M. Elizabeth (Bright) Brandt, Att. '60s, died on October 19, 2024, in Walla Walla, WA. She was born on November 14, 1942, in Coos Bay, OR. Elizabeth is survived by her daughter, Karen Brandt-Mayo; by her son, Curtis; by five grandchildren; and by her sister, Marilynn Westerbeck.

Cynthia Gail Crossen, Att. '60s, died on July 3, 2025, in Fresno, CA. She was born in Chattanooga, TN, on August 16, 1947. Cynthia worked as a medical social worker during her life. A lover of nature, she had numerous animal pets that she treasured. Cynthia is survived by her three children, Jon, Erik, and Adria; by three grandchildren; and by her brother-in-law, Milton, and sister-in-law, Vavy.

Donald Farley, Att. '60s, died on June 23, 2025, in Redlands, CA. He was born on December 30, 1942, in Gardiner, ME. Donald is survived by his wife, Beverly Farley; by his children, Michelle Ballou, John Farley, and James Farley; and by five grandchildren.

Bryce Bobb Hickerson, Att. '40s, a retired Seventh-day Adventist school teacher, died on February 4, 2025. He was born on February 8, 1926. Bryce was a veteran of military service in World War II. Bryce was a teacher in Seventh-day Adventist schools in Northern California for more than 30 years. During his retirement, Bryce worked for the Carmichael SDA Church until he was 93. He is survived by his daughters, Kathy Miller, Ruthie Gage, and Shelli Baze; by 12 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Edwin Anthony Karlow, Att. '60s, an educator, died on March 28, 2025, in Tillamook, OR. He was born on May 13, 1942, in West Hollywood, CA. After attending PUC for three years, Edwin studied at and graduated from Walla Walla

University. He then earned a master's and Ph.D. degrees from Washington State University. In 1971, Edwin began teaching physics at Columbia Union College. Soon thereafter, he was recruited to teach physics at Loma Linda University. He served in numerous duties at the university until his retirement in 2008. Edwin's wife, Marilyn Edna Cross, predeceased him in 2014. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Herdman; by his two sons, Marvin and Norman; and by his granddaughter, Kary Karlow.

Manuel Rodriguez, Att. '60s, died on April 22, 2025, in Grand Terrace, CA. He was born on October 24, 1946, in Bogotá, Colombia. Manuel is survived by his wife, Olga Mejia; by his daughters, Sasha Rodriguez and Sandra Rodriguez-Fortner; and by one grandchild.

Richard Rose, Att. '40s, a recording businessman, died on February 13, 2025, in Placerville, CA. He was born on February 5, 1928, in Sacramento, CA. Richard recorded his music and helped others record theirs. For some time, he was also the audio room operator for the Amazing Facts broadcast.

Bernard Taylor, Att. '60s, died on February 15, 2025, in Loma Linda, CA. Bernard was born on February 25, 1944, in Perth, Australia. He is survived by his wife, Alyn; by his daughter, Danelle Johnston; by his son, Clynton; by his two grandchildren; by his sister, Noelene; and by his brothers, Barry and Kelvin.

Vivian Vonhof, Att. '60s, a Seventh-day Adventist teacher, died on May 31, 2025, in Portland, OR. She was born on February 21, 1932, in Rapelje, MT. Vivian was a teacher for many years in

Adventist schools in Ojai and Buena Vista, California. Vivian is survived by her children, Jill Austin-Dubrovay, Jana Austin-Jacobson, and Greg Austin; and four grandchildren.

Robert Wesley Taylor, Att. '50s, a passionate winemaker and geochemist, died on November 1, 2024. He is survived by his wife, Gloria; by his brother Lenard; by his siblings Wilard and Dorothy; by his sons Aaron and Noah; by his daughters-in-law Salomé and Faera; and by his grandchildren Izzy, Annette, Payton, Wynden, and Owen. A celebration of Taylor's life was held on April 27 at Retzlaff Winery in Livermore, CA.

Charles T. Yoshida, Att. '80s, a dentist, died in early November 2024 in Visalia, CA. He was born on August 29, 1967. He attended and graduated from Mountain View Academy in California

before attending PUC and the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry. Charles is survived by his wife, Cyndi (Weesner) Yosida, and by his four children, Chase, Carson, Camryn, and Cole.

Editorial Note: The latest issue of *Reflections*, the monthly journal of the Retirement Office of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, lists the following Pacific Union College alumni as having died. Whatever information is available to the PUC Alumni Office follows each name:

Hugh Dumbeck, '72; Dillard Greenwood, '66; Judith K. Hanson, Att. '70s; Daniel D. Harrom, Att. '60s; Deanna Kindrick, '59; Aldine H. Miller, '59; Thersia L. Pitts, '55; Aaron Ramirez, '63; Lewis A. Shipowick, '62; Graham Staples, '69, '75, '78; Charles Thompson, '59

PUC FORWARD

A CAMPAIGN FOR TRANSFORMATION

Pacific Union College is moving forward with vision, purpose, and faith.

The PUC Forward Campaign is an investment in our campus and the future of every student who calls it home. This initiative will renew vital spaces, expand academic opportunity, and strengthen the support systems that help our students succeed.

Your gift to PUC Forward helps:

Renovate the Residence Halls: create a more comfortable and modern living space environment

Launch Phase I of the Irwin Hall Remodel: revitalize classrooms, windows, and collaborative spaces

Expand the Aviation Department: prepare students for high-demand careers in flight and aeronautics

Grow the Maxwell Scholarship Fund: improve access to PUC for high-achieving, academically gifted students, ensuring financial barriers do not prevent future leaders from attending

Fulfill the Pioneer Promise: a commitment to student success from enrollment to graduation, especially for students with excellent character and leadership skills and significant financial need

PUC Forward is more than a campaign; it's a vision for tomorrow. We invite you to stand with us, to invest in transformation, and to help shape the future of PUC.

**Every gift moves us forward.
Every commitment builds a legacy.**



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 those prayers with us! If you want to stay updated with the latest PUC news, please subscribe to our e-newsletter at puc.edu/newsletter.

UPDATE US

We love hearing from you, as does the rest of our PUC family. Please send us your update by February 1, 2026, to be included in our next issue. Alumni News comes from a variety of sources, but we prefer news that comes from you. alumni@puc.edu | (707) 965-7500

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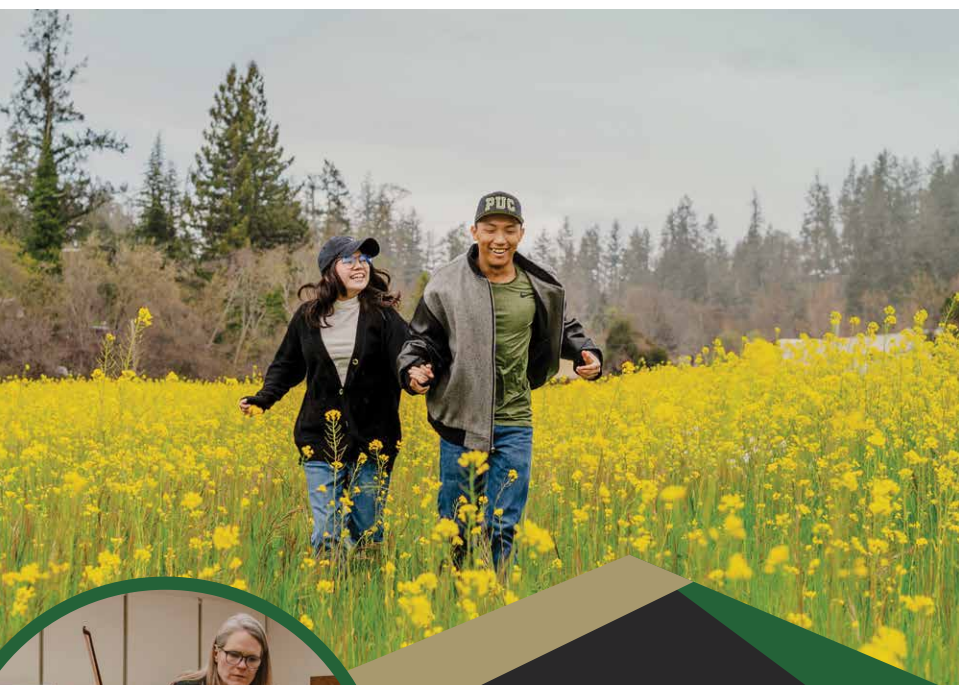
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2025 CHRISTMAS CONCERT SCHEDULE

Admission is free and open to all!

CHRISTMAS ON THE HILL: CANDLELIGHT CONCERT

Friday, December 5, 8 p.m.
Saturday, December 6, 4 p.m. (repeated concert)
PUC Church

PAULIN CENTER FOR THE ARTS HOLIDAY SHOWCASE & FESTIVITIES

Sunday, December 7, 11 a.m.
Paulin Hall

2026 HOMECOMING *is April 17-18*

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