

COMMUNITY

"Historic Aircraft Returns to PUC After 50 Years." A 1976 Cessna U206F Stationair known as "Charlie" has officially landed at Pacific Union College Airport, bringing with it 16,000 flight hours of humanitarian history.

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ATHLETICS

"Pioneers Record Best Season in Three Years" After years of setbacks and forfeited victories, the PUC men's basketball team has turned things around, recording their best season in three years.

P6

STUDENT LIFE

"SA Restructures Officer Roles to Balance Workload" The Student Association has made changes to how the Religious Vice President and Social Vice President offices operate, reducing weekly responsibilities for a better schedule.

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After 50 Years "Charlie" Returns to PUC



Aviation Director Nathan Tasker and Charlie's Pilot

By Jaylyn Drennon and Caleb Kast

Following a remarkable journey across the country from Andrews Airpark, The 1976 Cessna U206F Stationair or "Charlie" has officially landed at Pacific Union College Airport, marking the beginning of an exciting new era.

The 1976 Cessna U206F Stationair carries an extraordinary legacy. 16k flight hours dedicated to delivering medical supplies,

transporting patients, and supporting mission efforts in isolated places like Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu.

"Charlie"'s arrival coincides with PUC's aviation building, which is currently undergoing a major facility upgrade. The vision is ambitious: a humanitarian aviation museum paired with an advanced simulation training center. It's a space

designed to honor the past while actively preparing students for the future. Instead of separating history from innovation, PUC is intentionally weaving them together.

Aviation Director Nathan Tasker shared: "When you touch your hand on that piece of metal, that is the aircraft that all these stories come from."

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FROM THE EDITOR

I grew up in a family of carpenters—those who measured twice, cut once, and fixed almost anything with their hands. I could not.

Hand me a hammer and I'd turn it into a paperweight. Verbal instructions left my brain as quickly as they entered. Family gatherings were paired with sawdust and tool-brand comparisons; I quickly learned the power of the nod.

But give me a stack of paper and a little time? I could disappear all day. While others built houses, I built worlds.

The stories I crafted were not an escape from reality, just my way of shaping it. As I grew older and the stories began to fade, I took these skills and learned the ways of the keyboard.

Everyone's story does not have the same chapters. You may discover your purpose here, or you may be a late bloomer like me.

I implore you not to make the same mistake I did and walk too many miles in shoes made for someone else. Instead, lace up your own and wear them out. And, as you traverse the hallways and bathrooms, which seem to only have one stocked paper towel dispenser, remind yourself: you are here for a reason.

If you are on your first, second, or fifth job; if you are one more Canvas notification away from a meltdown; if this is your first Spring quarter or your last—do not let exhaustion blur your purpose. The greatness of PUC is not defined by our limitations. It is defined by you.



Caleb Kast
Editor-in-Chief

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The Stationair wasn't just symbolic, it was practical. Built for rugged conditions, it could transport both people and critical supplies into short, remote airstrips. From patients needing urgent medical evacuation to boxes of medicine and equipment, this aircraft was designed to carry what mattered most. Seeing that capability up close makes its humanitarian legacy even more real.

While part of the building will preserve history, this aircraft isn't being retired into stillness. It will remain fully flyable and will be used to train advanced pilots right here in Angwin. That balance honoring where aviation has been while actively preparing students for where it's going feels intentional.

Even more meaningful, alumni who

once flew and maintained these planes are expected to return and share their firsthand experiences. It's one thing to read about history. It's another to hear it directly from someone who lived it.

Perhaps the most emotional part of the future exhibit will be a memorial honoring a flight nurse who lost her life in a helicopter crash during a medical mission in the Philippines. Only a few of her belongings were recovered, including her shoes. Her family specifically requested that they be displayed.

Next to them will be her words:

"If only there could be a whole bunch of young people out here to join me and help me in this effort."

This space isn't being designed simply to inform. It's meant to quietly challenge students.

While one section of the remodel reflects on history, another looks boldly toward the future.

The updated facility will include high-tech flight simulators equipped with custom force-feedback systems. Students are actively helping build and refine the software to make training more realistic. From what we learned, they're tackling



Photo Credit: Karen Castro

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challenges even major manufacturers have struggled to perfect.

The goal is simple but powerful: make pilot training more efficient and more affordable by allowing students to master procedures in simulators before ever stepping into a real aircraft.

There's even discussion of PUC potentially developing simulator technology as its own industry in the future, a possibility that could expand the college's impact beyond its campus.

The vision stretches across departments like nursing, engineering, communication, business, theology inviting students from every discipline to think about service.

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One line shared during the presentation captured the heart behind the remodel:

“I didn't come to PUC to train my replacement to make \$400,000 a year. I came back here to train 100 people to go out and serve.”- Nathan Tasker

That perspective defines the mission of PUC's aviation program: preparing Christ-centered pilots for lives of service in both the aviation industry and the mission field. At its core, the space is built around two guiding questions: What has God done in the past?

What can we do now?

Walking away from the airfield, it was clear this remodel is about far more than planes.

It's about legacy. It's about people who risked everything to reach communities most of the world never sees. And now, it's about whether the next generation students sitting in classrooms today will step into that story. From what we witnessed, PUC isn't just preserving history. They're inviting students to help write the next chapter.

Now stationed in Angwin, the aircraft begins its next assignment: equipping and inspiring future pilots committed to service. Its mission of impact continues this time through hands-on training and purpose-driven aviation education.

Following a remarkable journey across the country from Andrews Airpark, The 1976

Cessna U206F Stationair or “Charlie” has officially landed at Pacific Union College Airport, marking the beginning of an exciting new era. Charlie's arrival coincides with a major facility upgrade of PUC's aviation building. The vision is ambitious: a humanitarian aviation museum paired with an advanced simulation training center.

Charlie carries an extraordinary legacy with over 16,000 flight hours dedicated to delivering medical supplies, transporting patients, and supporting mission efforts in isolated places like Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu. Built for rugged conditions, it could transport both people and critical supplies into short, remote airstrips.

“When you touch your hand on that piece of metal, that is the aircraft that all these stories come from,” shared Aviation Director Nathan Tasker. While Charlie will be a part of the new museum, it isn't being retired. It will remain fully flyable and will be used to train advanced pilots right here in Angwin. The updated facility will include high-tech flight simulators equipped with custom force-feedback systems.

Students are actively helping build and refine the software to make training more realistic. The vision stretches across departments like nursing, engineering, communication, business, theology inviting students from every discipline to think about service.

Now stationed in Angwin, Charlie begins its next assignment: equipping and inspiring future pilots committed to service through hands-on training and purpose-driven aviation education. For students with documented medical conditions at Pacific Union College, an emotional support animal [ESA] is not a perk—it is part of how they survive here. ESAs are a vital resource for students with verified diagnoses — but only if the system is used with integrity.

ESAs are not the same as service animals or pets. For those with a diagnosed disability or impairment ESAs can be recommended as part of their treatment plan.

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STUDENT LIFE

SA Restructures Officer Roles

By Ashley Robriguez

In the past two years, the Student Association [SA] and Student Senate have made significant changes to how the Religious Vice President [RVP] and Social Vice President [SVP] offices operate, with the goal of strengthening campus life and involvement. Reallocating responsibilities has created a more balanced workload while maintaining a regular event schedule.

“There was way too much on one office, so responsibilities were reallocated,” SA President Bethanee Tabura explained.

The offices of SVP and RVP have both been granted reduced workloads, moving from weekly events each quarter to a more manageable workload of events scheduled every other week. The roles often required

balancing large-scale programming with a full academic schedule, making it difficult to sustain long-term. The restructuring allows for more intentional planning while aligning with budget and attendance realities.

These structural changes also come at a time of transition in leadership. With incoming president Alexis Villareal stepping into the role, clearer expectations and more manageable workloads aim to provide a stronger foundation for future officers.



Bethanee Tabura

COMMUNITY

More Than A Pet: The Real Purpose of ESA's

By Lillia Albert

For students with documented medical conditions at Pacific Union College, an emotional support animal [ESA] is not a perk—it is part of how they survive here. ESAs are a vital resource for students with verified diagnoses — but only if the system is used with integrity.

ESAs are not the same as service animals or pets. For those with a diagnosed disability or impairment ESAs can be recommended as part of their treatment plan..

Michelle Kendrick, the Director of Title IX and Access Services, discussed the process of approval for an ESA at PUC. In order to apply for an ESA at PUC, students must contact Access Services. The student is then sent paperwork and must fill out all required information, including your diagnosis from a specialized provider who has built a rapport with you.

Kendrick continued by noting that the distinction between a legitimate ESA and a pet matters more than most students realize to

the students who need the accommodation, for the animals themselves, and for the sustainability and integrity of the program as a whole. “An ESA is really there as an accommodation to help in a situation where students are experiencing barriers in their living situation that are keeping them from being able to participate in the educational program,” she said. “It’s not a pet.”

That distinction is not always obvious to students. Online companies offering ESA documentation for a fee has made it easier to obtain paperwork that looks legitimate but is not. Kendrick actively researches the providers behind submitted documentation to ensure they are not transactional. “There are companies out there that will do this for a fee,” she said. “I reach out to the person who provided the documentation to make sure they’ve actually seen the person more than once — that this just isn’t a transactional thing.”

For students thinking about applying for



Yatyn Anderson with Squeakers

an ESA primarily to have their pet with them, Michelle Kendrick has a candid word of caution. If a student is not genuinely needing an ESA to function in their living environment the process could end up adding more burden than benefit. “The

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benefit really needs to outweigh all of this other stuff you're going to have to do for the pet," she said. "You're trying to maintain your GPA, you're trying to have a social life — and now you have to make sure your ESA is not lonely. . . . It's not fair to an ESA to bring them here where they're going to be in a room all day while you're at class and then you want to go to whatever function you want to go to and just leave them."

**"College is stressful,
People have classes,
intramurals, jobs — and
he definitely helps."**

Yatyn Anderson, a Junior studying Multi Media Communications, shared his experience at PUC with his ESA, Squeakers. Anderson's ESA, who has been with him since the COVID pandemic, helps him especially in the weeks after the basketball season ends. Friends leave campus, the adrenaline of games seizes, and PUC gets quieter. "Living on the hill is kind of isolating, especially if you don't have a roommate," he said. "It's just nice to have a companion with you to help you get through those times. I'm just up here by myself," he said, "but I got a friend — and it just makes it not as lonely."

Another athlete on campus who has an ESA is Ryin Le, a senior who is majoring in Biology. Ryin is currently taking 21 credits on top of being captain of the women's volleyball team, and her schedule can feel very stressful and overwhelming. "College is stressful," she said. "People have classes, intramurals, jobs — and he definitely helps." Ryin is referring to her ESA, a short haired miniature dachshund who provides comfort during the most stressful of times like finals week. "Having him helps me not focus too much on specific things," she laughed and said. "He lets me touch grass — literally." Something as simple as taking Colter out to use the restroom or playing with him gives Ryin a moment of peace and a much needed break from study sessions. Ryin however, is candid about the responsibility and realities that come with having an ESA as a college student. Her advice to students romanticizing the idea is straightforward. "You are a parent at the end of the day," she



Ryin Le and Colter. Photo Credit: Abigail Suttan

said. "A lot of people don't understand that."

Squeakers and Colter are not pets—they are necessary for the success of their owners. PUC's ESA policy is not a loophole or a pet policy by another name. It is a resource. And like any resource on a campus this size, how students choose to use it determines whether it remains available for the people

who need it most.

For students who are struggling with a disability or with mental health, PUC offers free counseling services. **To learn more about Access Services and how they can help you, you can reach out to [707] 965-7080.**

ATHLETICS

Pioneers Earn Best Record in Three Years



Photo Credit: Abigail Suttan

By Yatyn Anderson

Pacific Union College earned its first official men's basketball victory in more than three years on January 10, 2026, defeating Stanton University 79–77. In previous seasons their wins were forfeited due to ineligibility.

The win marked a significant milestone for the Pioneers, who had endured a difficult stretch in recent seasons. Freshman guard Kaden Bean credited the team's chemistry for the victory.

"The reason we won this game was because we played together as a team," Bean said. "We had six people in double-figure points, and it felt like everybody was on the same page," he continued, reflecting on the team's emphasis on teamwork on offense as well as ballwork.

Isaiah Harper led the team in scoring with 15 points and added seven rebounds. Ramon Bailey matched Harper with 15 points and collected 10 rebounds to record his first

career double-double at Pacific Union. Yatyn Anderson finished the night with 11 points, three rebounds, two assists, and two steals, in addition to delivering the decisive basket. Hayden Crestwell provided a major boost from the perimeter, scoring 14 points while knocking down four of his five attempts from three-point range.

"It was a relief to finally get that win after having a rough season so far," Bailey shared. "When we got in the locker room, everybody was hyped, even the coach. We went as far as pouring Gatorade on Yatyn's head for hitting the game winner."

With this first official win in over three years now secured, the Pioneers look to build momentum as they continue conference play and work to turn the season around. Playoffs are next as the men take on Cal-Maritime on February 27th.



Photo Credit: Abigail Suttan

STUDENT LIFE

Secret Places to Study on Campus

By Isabella Metcalf

For some students, the answer of where to study when The Grind is full, lies in the quieter, underused corners of campus that one wouldn't think of first when trying to find a place to study outside the dorm or Library.

"I go to The Grind for socializing and coffee," Abigail Roy, a freshman, agrees. "It gets hard to focus there, especially in the afternoon."

She expresses that her personal favorite place to study is the Student Success Center. She says the appeal is in the "private rooms" that are big enough for groups or a spacious, alone study session. She also says the chocolate and hot chocolate found there increase its allure.

Pansy Marjee, another freshman, prefers a warm spot on the grassy lawn, a perfect place to study. Her favorite is the grass patch by the fountain in front of Paulin Hall. She says the warm sun and cool breeze make the environment calm and peaceful, perfect for locking in.

Several anonymous students say they like that the Dining Commons is a convenient place to study while you eat, or while you wait between meals. Besides during lunch and dinner rush, the cafe can be empty, giving enough quiet and solitude. One specifically stated that it had "nice seating" and that it was "very big".

Vanessa Smith, a sophomore, finds her favorite study place in the Gazebo near The Grind. It has plenty of benches to choose from, and a fountain that gives a calm vibe that can help with focus. Formerly known as a prayer garden, the place still carries a quiet, reflective feel that makes it a unique place to study.

Lastly, a freshman guy shared how the Education building classrooms are "cool", he says, and that they are "chill and relaxing" when not being used by teachers. There are tables, desks, and couches in some rooms that make the classroom perfect for a group study session.

Similar to the Education Building, many

other department buildings house lounges, extra classrooms, and specific study rooms. Paulin Hall, for example, has private music rooms with pianos to study music, sing, or play for fun. Stauffer Hall's cozy lounge features plush seating and low lighting.

Studying doesn't have to be in a generic location that everyone uses. The best study locations are often those tucked just out of immediate sight. When The Grind or Library doesn't meet your needs, try looking at these more niche spots to get your studying done:

1. Student Success Center
2. Lawn by Paulin
3. Tables outside The Grind
4. Dining Commons
5. Gazebo outside of The Grind
6. Education Building Classrooms



UPDATES

UPCOMING EVENTS

Internship Fair

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 11:00am to 1:00pm

Crossroads

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 9:30pm to 10:00pm, Newton Chapel

Senoir Thesis Exhibition Opening

Saturday, May 16, 2026 6:00pm to 8:00pm, Art Gallery

Choral Concert

Sunday, May 17, 2026 2:00pm to 3:00pm

No Classes

Monday, May 25, 2026

Movie Night Undeer the Stars

Tuesday, May 26, 2026 11:59am - Wednesday, May 27, 2026 1:00am

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor-in-Chief

Caleb Kast

Assistant Editor

Yatyn Anderson

Journalists

Sabastian Alvarez

Ashley Castro Rodriguez

Isaac Baek

Anneliese Luxton

Jaylyn Drennon

Lilia Albert

Michael Madla

Isabela Metcalf

Layout & Design

Brenna Richards

Photographers

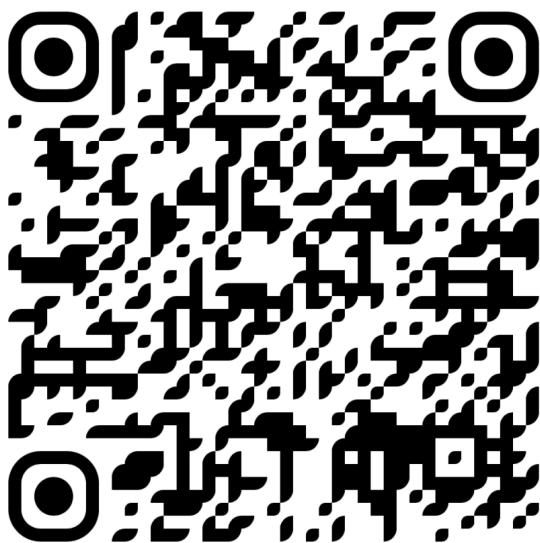
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Karen Castro

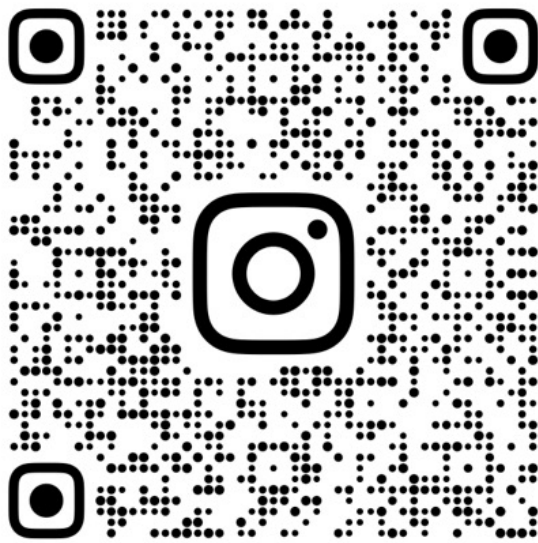
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LOOKING FOR A JOB ON CAMPUS?
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