

COMMUNITY

Thirty PUC students are or will go abroad over the course of this academic year. Sneak a peek at a day in the life of an ACA student.

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After 100 years, Grainger Hall shut its doors at the close of last school year. Read about the building's long and storied history.

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CONVERSATION

Bethanee Tabura, SA's new Social VP, has a vision and a message for her constituents. Learn more about her approach to campus events.

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Go West, East, Anywhere! PUC Students are Studying Abroad



Courtney Russell in front of the famous "house in the shape of a ship" in Annecy, France.



Mari Weber successfully climbs to the the painted Croix de Savoie, which overlooks the campus at Collonges.

By Joli Weber

Over the course of this academic year, there will be about 30 PUC students participating in study abroad, a singular opportunity. What interests most students—besides learning a new language, experiencing a different culture and getting out of their comfort zone—is that credits

are transferable from the Adventist Colleges Abroad program to PUC.

Former ACA student Professor Sylvia Rasi Gregorutti and current ACA Campus Coordinator for PUC is ready to talk to students who are interested in traveling abroad.

"You can take a full load each quarter, and during the academic year you can

even fulfill some GE requirements... I'm happy to help as well," Dr. Rasi Gregorutti explained.

"Planning is key!" she added. "If you stay for the year and move up a level of proficiency from quarter to quarter, you can earn a minor in the host language while you're abroad."

It should be noted that anyone can apply **continues on page 2**

FROM THE EDITOR

I grew up in places where the leaves never really turn in the fall, so I'm always transfixed by the way that the cold night air suddenly sets the Angwin trees aglow in shades of scarlet and gold. In the first few days, before the mighty redwoods and oaks begin to shake loose their old leaves, it can seem like all the world is being held still in one perfect, radiant moment. But as the years go by I sense more and more an acceleration, too, in autumn after the long, languid days of summer, reflected in that changing of the leaves that ends just as quickly as it begins.

The fall season holds so much in its reaches, some of it apparently contradictory: it is a time of both abundance and desiccation, of laying up as well as of letting go. We make our way back to this little mountain just as so many other creatures begin to flee it for warmer climes. It's one of the most

exciting times of the year to be a sports fan, yet the changing temperatures force many of us to make seasonal adjustments to our own routines. During this malleable and unpredictable part of the year I try to focus not on the chaos of change – that can at times be quite overwhelming – but instead on the constant arrival of the unexpected and delightful.

In our first issue of the 2023-2024 school year, you'll find some of the same dichotomies at work (or is it play?). You'll find words of welcome and words to bid adieu, eyes fixed faithfully on the future alongside fond memories of people and places past. You'll hear from voices both fresh and familiar and, I hope, you'll find something within these pages that delights you. Let that steady and calm you amid this season of change, even if only for a moment.



*Cheers,
Charlie Kefalos
Editor-in-Chief*

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to the ACA program: current, former and even non-PUC students. Potential students can apply for any academic quarter—even summer—and up to a full year.

ACA campuses can be found all over the world. Current and graduating students can visit SDA campuses in countries like Argentina, Austria, France, Italy and Spain, alongside many more. In each program, students are immersed in culture through field trips, cafeteria meals and dormitory life with students from the host country.

But what better way to get to know personal experiences than to hear from current students?

Arianne Milosavljevic – Austria (full year)

Q: How does your day-to-day life look compared to back at home?

A: My day to day life here in Austria is honestly pretty different than back home. Still busy, but in a slower sense. Breakfast is at 7 a.m. We have classes from 8:25 a.m. to 1:25 p.m. and the rest of the day from then on is homework, potentially going out to town and work. 6 p.m. is dinner and then comes volleyball practice, orchestra and choir practice. There's always stuff to do,



Arianne Milosavljevic revels in the baroque style Karlskirche (Karl's Church) in Vienna.

but much less obligatory, so you really have to get out there and decide what you want your day to look like.

Q: Are there any classes you should take before going abroad? Language apps or websites you recommend?

A: If you can take a language course for where you want to go, do it. If not, Duolingo is always a great start. There is also a free website called LearnWithOliver, as well as Tandem that is an app where people wanting to learn someone else's language are matched based on interest and skill level to chat.

Also, LEARN THE ALPHABET! So many difficulties come from not knowing how each letter is pronounced. Even if you don't know exactly what you are saying, if you know how to say it, when you actually start learning the language you will be able to read clearly, ask for help with meaning more easily, and your spelling/listening/ accent will come much easier.

Nina Gregorutti – France (full year)

Q: What's one thing you're excited to bring back with you?

A: I love open-air and flea markets because you can get some really cool vintage items for less than in antique stores — and you can also practice speaking in a different language with a lot of people. I'm excited to bring back all the things I've found and all the souvenirs I've bought for my family and friends.

Courtney Russell – France (full year)

Q: Are there any internship opportunities while studying abroad?

A: There are many internship opportunities while studying abroad! Here in France, there are a couple of internships for communication majors and education

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majors, and there is one for health care workers. You can also speak with the director to hopefully get an internship somewhere that is offered, for example I am currently working on getting an internship to use my emergency management degree.

Q: What are your must-haves when packing to study abroad?

A: Some must-haves are adapters for your host country (you cannot use your plugs in many European countries) and clothes for different weather (in France you get hot weather, cold weather, rain, snow, etc.); having something for every type of weather is a must. It is also very helpful to have vacuum-sealed bags to shrink down your clothes to fit more things. AirTags or Tiles are also very helpful as there were a couple of cases where people lost their luggage; having an AirTag or Tile could be useful in getting it back or just having peace of mind.

Mari Weber – France (full year)

Q: What is one thing you did not expect while studying abroad?

A: How tiring it is to learn a new language! I thought I would be tired from traveling and seeing places but after a long morning of classes I'm ready for a nap. Learning a new language, at least for me, is using a part of my brain that's not used to working this hard.

Q: Who can study abroad?

A: ANYONE! I know people who are in different stages of their life here at Collonges. The great thing about the ACA program is that they are there to help you at any point in the process. You don't have to worry about finding a place to stay, figuring out if you need a visa, or blindly going through the process of getting a visa. They provide that information for you. They also take you on a handful of cultural trips, some overnight ones and some day trips. And they're all paid for in your tuition!

Ashley-Malia Rugnao – Italy (1 quarter)

Q: Do you have to study abroad for an entire year?

A: No; you can study abroad for one quarter. This is what I am doing. I graduated with my ASN last year and I am working on my BSN with PUC right now. I am very grateful that I found a way to be able to study abroad before I graduate again from PUC.

Q: What is one piece of advice you would



Ashley Rugnao and roommate sharing a table at one of Barcelona's famous outdoor cafes.



Fabiola Ixcot observes sunbathers at the Monterosso al Mare beach in Liguria, Italy.



Pesto focaccia for Marguerite McHenry, visting the Cinque Terre in Italy.

give to someone who is thinking about studying abroad?

A: Go for it! I was nervous before I came, but since I have settled, I am so glad I decided to come. Make sure to be patient with yourself and patient with learning the culture. Having the opportunity to live in another country is such a unique experience. I learn new things every single day. If you have the opportunity to do it, take the leap and go.

Fabiola "Fabi" Ixcot – Italy (full year)

Q: How are the living spaces? What kind of amenities are provided for you?

A: The living spaces at Villa Aurora are

pretty secure, cozy and have a real Italian charm to them. I live in the dorm with other students, and we have quiet study areas where we can focus on our academic work. We also have common spaces/lounges which are often available for hanging out, studying or relaxing. But let's not forget the amazing view from the window!

Marguerite McHenry – Italy (full year)

Q: What's the cafeteria like?

A: The cafeteria or "mensa" here at Villa Aurora is so good! We have three meals a day with two courses plus bread and fruit or salad depending on the time of day. Breakfast is pretty light, mostly just

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CAMPUS

Words of Welcome from the Deans of the Three Schools



Kimberly Dunker

Earlier this year, the PUC Board of Trustees approved “the three-school model,” an administrative realignment that would organize the university’s academic departments under one of three schools: Nursing & Health Sciences; Arts, Humanities, & Professions; and Sciences. Each school has a newly appointed dean at its helm who has pledged to pursue innovation, excellence and advocacy on behalf of the students and faculty under their purview. As they undertake this first school year in their new roles, each dean offers a warm welcome to incoming and returning students and faculty.

Kimberly Dunker, Dean of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences:

My philosophy for nursing education is to cultivate a holistic learning environment that fosters the personal and professional growth of individuals. I aim to promote a culture of excellence, compassion and innovation where every student and faculty member is empowered to reach their fullest potential. This vision is anchored in my belief that education should impart knowledge and nurture character, ethics and social responsibility.

My mission is to lead my school in cultivating a learning community that fosters excellent academic education with a



Milbert Mariano

spiritual emphasis.

As a nurse leader, I am inspired by faith and guided by a profound sense of purpose, driven by a divine calling to shape and empower those whom I am leading. Rooted in the strength of my convictions and the power of stories, my vision is to cultivate an environment where nursing education transcends the ordinary, creating exceptional nurses who are not only highly skilled but also deeply compassionate and spiritually connected.

I have over 400 students in nine programs, 16 full-time faculty, four administrative assistants and over 20 adjunct faculty. There are many things to consider and think about on a given day. I have to be able to juggle all of these items and know how to manage them all in order to make sure nothing falls to the ground.

My strategy comes from several biblical texts and how I relate to them in my leadership. One is Philippians 4:13 — “For I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me.” This verse grounds me as a leader, and I know that with His help, I can do all things. I have seen this promise throughout my journey and my career.

Proverbs 11:14 tells us that without wise leadership, the “nation” will fall. When I think about this verse, it helps me reflect on my own leadership goals/vision for my



Aimee Wyrick

program as well as my trusted directors and how they help me stay focused. This verse is a great reminder to me to trust the people that I have put in their roles to help ensure our success in the programs that I lead. Without the guidance, the program has more opportunity to fall.

Milbert Mariano, Dean of the School of Arts, Humanities, and Professional Studies:

As the dean of the School of Arts, Humanities, and Professional Studies and the Honors Program director, I extend a warm welcome to both new and returning students. I’m excited to embark on this academic journey with all PUC students and faculty. At PUC’s SoAHP, we foster an environment that values spiritual inspiration, collaboration and an excellent academic community.

I have worked at PUC since 1995, have taught in the visual arts department for 24 years, and chaired the department for 12 years before going into administration. My specialty was graphic design but I loved and taught all aspects of the visual arts. While the visual arts department could be categorized as “arts,” in many ways, it also inhabits the humanities and professional studies. SoAHP consists of nine diverse departments in addition to the Honors

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pastries and fruit, while lunch and dinner usually consist of the stereotypical Italian foods like pasta, risotto or pizza. They make a lot of variations of these staples but rarely repeat the exact same meals, so it's cool to find what new twist they've put on the ingredients every day. Almost all of the food is made fresh on campus with a lot of the fruits and vegetables being grown in the on-campus garden. Even the olive oil we put on our salads comes from olive trees on

campus, which is super cool!

Q: What was the application process like?

A: The process to apply for ACA was pretty straightforward, but it's hard because the application period opens late and is only available for about two months. I waited about 5 months between when I talked to the ACA coordinator at PUC and when I could actually start applying for my preferred program. Then it was a mad dash to get all the right paperwork and forms to

the right people for their signatures. I had a lot of help from professors and friends, but it was still extremely stressful.

There are current PUC students roaming around campus, as well as alumni of PUC, who also have experienced studying abroad. Ask around, talk to Dr. Rasi Gregorutti or visit puc.edu/academics/adventist-colleges-abroad-aca to learn how you can get started on your once-in-a-lifetime experience studying abroad. ■



Marguerite McHenry overlooks the Ponte Vecchio, a medieval stone bridge in Florence, Italy.



One of the colorful villages in the Cinque Terre.

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Program: aviation, business, communication & world languages, education, English, history, music, theology and visual arts.

In the coming year, our focus is on creating meaningful connections with students. I believe that understanding each student's unique strengths and aspirations is crucial for a successful educational experience. Through personalized guidance and a commitment to providing enriching resources, we aim to empower our students to excel academically and spiritually.

I encourage students to explore the wealth of knowledge and opportunities available within the great courses in the school, whether they are students in the school or taking these courses for GE purposes. Our dedicated faculty and staff are here to support students on their academic and personal growth journey.

Aimee Wyrick, Dean of the School of Sciences:

I am going into my 20th year teaching at PUC in the biology department and am a proud alumnus of the same department! You may have me as a teacher in one of several general education courses, like Organic Vegetable Gardening, or one of several biology courses, like BIOL-113. I love teaching and consider many of my former students as friends. My interests include gardening, travel and eating good food. My husband and I have a cat, Cowboy, and 20-ish chickens.

This is my first year as the dean of the School of Sciences and my overall goal is to provide guidance and support to the students, faculty and staff in our school. I also work closely with the two other deans and our Vice President of Academic

Administration Lindsay Hayasaka. The school of sciences includes the biology, chemistry, kinesiology, math/physics and psychology/social work departments. We are blessed to have amazing faculty who are experts in their field, have a genuine love of teaching, and care about each student.

Part of being dean is to expand or create new opportunities for students to learn, to gain real world experience, to realize their calling, and to achieve their goals. The SoS faculty are proud of what we've built and what we're already doing, but we know that we can always be better. I am here to facilitate and advocate for our students and I welcome your feedback. Let me know how your academic experience could be improved — but be prepared to pitch in and help to make those improvements! ■

CAMPUS

Pioneer Madness: Unpacking the Drive of the Fall Sports Season



The PUC women's soccer team psyches up before the Sunday, Oct. 15 match against Lincoln University.

By Charlie Kefalos

Did it feel like your summer vacation ended too soon? Did move-in day creep up on you out of nowhere? Ask a student athlete how they feel! Athletes from all the major sports at PUC – volleyball, soccer, basketball, and cross-country – reported for duty far in advance of week one to begin preparations for the fall sports season. On Sunday, Aug. 20, the Lady Pioneers soccer team defeated Menlo College 2-1, and it's been full steam ahead for student athletes ever since.

The women's soccer team kicked off the season with four straight wins before a defeat to conference opponents from the University of Saint Katherine. Their record was 1-4-2 over the next seven matches. Only two matches remain in the season, against Antelope Valley College on Oct. 20 and against rivals at La Sierra University on

Oct. 22. The Lady Pioneers will face them with an overall record of 6-5-2.

The men's soccer team has struggled a bit more to find its footing, though losses have been narrow and the team has forced more ties, leading to an overall record of 4-6-3. They face the same two opponents in their next two competitions, with an additional final match against the California State University Maritime Academy in Vallejo on Oct. 29.

The cross-country teams welcomed a new coach this year in PUC alumnus Drew Macomber, adding an exciting dynamic to those teams' quests for greatness. Three of the year's four scheduled invitationals have already taken place: at La Sierra University on Sept. 29, at San Francisco State University on Oct. 6, and at home in the Back 40 on Oct. 15.

The women's volleyball team is looking for a strong finish with nine games left on the docket, including an upcoming away game at La Sierra University on Friday, Oct. 20 and the season closer on Nov. 4, against the UC Merced Bobcats. Co-captain Izzy Bandy is out with a high ankle sprain, but that could not stop the Lady Pioneers from defeating Providence Christian College in four sets, led with tenacity by co-captain Claire Harlan-Maghan, junior Olivia Newman, and freshman Jaylee Mills.

Athletics and higher education have been intertwined for over a century, giving college students an opportunity to demonstrate skills and make valuable connections outside of academia. Adventist colleges and universities offer both divisional and recreational sports as a crucial part of a holistic education. This is especially true

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at PUC, where the storied intramurals program has become an integral part of campus life.

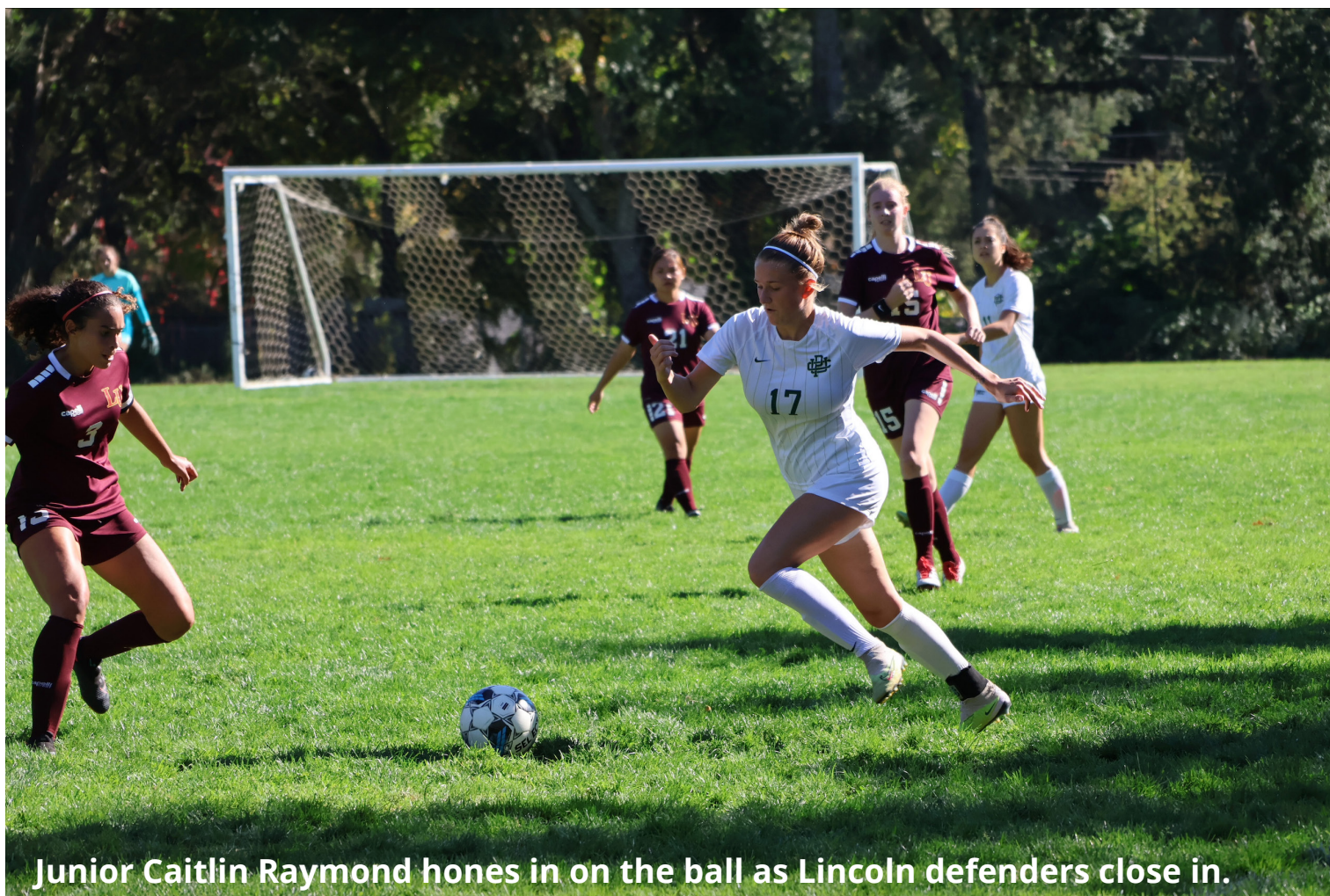
But the benefits of the Pioneers Athletics program extend beyond just the student body. Community members, from both within and without the PUC family, turn out with regularity to fill the stands at volleyball games or to sit and spectate along the track during soccer matches.

And sporting events are also a prime opportunity for professor sightings in the wild. Dr. Tammy McGuire, professor of communication and the appointed faculty athletic representative on campus, can be spotted at various games and matches cheering on student athletes from the sidelines.

“I like to get to as many games and I can to show support for the athletes,” Dr. McGuire said. “Some of the athletes are or have been my students, and that’s another incentive to be present and supportive.”

Even President Trecartin gets in on the action; despite his busy schedule, Dr. Trecartin is known for his enthusiastic support of the Pioneers, often sitting front and center at the various games he can attend.

“This is lots of fun, it’s healthy, and it adds a little excitement to our students’ lives,” he explained, eyes fixed on the pitch



Junior Caitlin Raymond hones in on the ball as Lincoln defenders close in.

as the men’s soccer team took on Lincoln University on Sunday, Oct. 15. “I’m just proud of them.”

“It used to be that I wanted to be out there playing, but now, the older I get, the more I think ‘Ow, that hurts!’” he quipped.

While only a few games remain for the fall sports, have no fear, fans – basketball and men’s volleyball will be picking up soon, in winter quarter. Be sure to turn out

“This is lots of fun, it’s healthy, and it adds a little excitement to our students’ lives.”

in support of our Pioneers any time that you can, and if something in their game inspires you, well – there’s always intramurals. ■



The women’s soccer team thinking outside of the box.

CAMPUS

Looking Back on 100 Years at Grainger Hall



Students outside Grainger after the dormitory's 1957 renovation.

By Sherban Cedeno

After almost a century, Grainger Hall officially closed its doors as a student dormitory in July 2023, with its students joining Newton Hall's resident body. Named after William Grainger—the college's second president—Grainger Hall has weathered many decades of history and development in its perch here on Howell Mountain. To mark the end of its century-long tenure, the *Chronicle* has chosen to publish this retrospective to connect current students with its history.

The Building

By some measure, Grainger Hall is PUC's oldest building, built even before the college stood here. In its previous life, the land on which Grainger Hall now stands was the site of the hotel of Mr. Edwin Angwin's vacation resort. The original hotel was built in the mid 1880s for \$20,000 (about \$650,000 in 2023) and became popular for people traveling through Howell Mountain to Pope Valley, along with the usual visitors seeking relief from city life.

After Healdsburg Academy—PUC's original school, located in Healdsburg—closed its doors in 1906 due to financial trouble, Ellen White urged that a new

location be found to continue its work. After scouting many sites, she decided on a site in Buena Vista near Sonoma, even as negotiations to purchase the place proved troublesome. Meanwhile, Mr. Angwin, wanting to retire, put the entire 1,600 acres of his resort up for sale, and in 1909 White visited the location.

Immediately impressed by its quality, environment and natural resources, White made her final decision for Angwin. "There were a number of buildings in good repair, and such as could be easily adapted to the needs of the school," she wrote her son, Edson. "Everything about the houses and grounds looked clean and wholesome." The purchase was finalized on September 1, 1909, for \$60,000 (\$2 million in 2023), and Angwin's Resort Hotel became a college dormitory.

For the first few years, the Angwin Hotel was the women's dorm; faculty and staff members lived in the old white cottages of the resort, and—as Dr. Walter Utt describes in "A Mountain, A Pickax, A College," his history of PUC—"the boys wound up in tents, barn-lofts, and the dark, damp cellar of the dance hall." He adds that "it was not too bad, as a matter of fact." When Graf

Hall finished construction and became the new women's dorm a few years later, the male students finally moved into the Angwin Hotel. During this time period, it was called "North Hall."

By the early 1920s, the hotel had deteriorated enough that administration agreed a new building was needed. When the school year ended in 1923, the Angwin Hotel was demolished, and by the time the summer was over a new North Hall—built on the foundations of the hotel—was completed. "It took four or five professional carpenters augmented by about 20 students under the direction of Prof. W. B. Taylor 15 weeks to tear down the old building," Merwin Copeland wrote in a 1936 issue of the *Chronicle*. "The present structure was erected at a cost of about \$45,000"—over \$800,000 today. In December 1930, North Hall was officially renamed to "Grainger Hall."

The next significant renovation of Grainger Hall took place in the summer of 1957. An Oct. 16 issue of the *Chronicle* from that year describes a similar effort to that of 1923: a small group of students, a handful of supervising adults and a price tag of \$30,000 (\$328,000 in 2023). The author of the article seems impressed with the new look. "No one would guess that it is the same building underneath the new white stucco and brick finish," they wrote. "The results seem to be gratifying, for all the occupants of Grainger feel that it is a noteworthy improvement." It is this renovated building that, with some changes and more recent minor restorations, still stands today.

The People

Perhaps one of the most important parts of Grainger Hall throughout its history was "Men of Grainger," a student association equivalent to a fraternity or men's club.

Initially founded as the "Knights of the North Hall," the organization changed structure and focus over the course of its life. The original titles given to its officers back then were over-the-top yet appropriate: Grainger residents took turns as "Crown Prince," "King," and "Knight of the Exchequer." In 1930, with the name change of the dorm itself, the Knights finally became

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the MOG, and the offices changed their names in like: “President” and “Sergeant-at-Arms,” titles more recognizable in the parlance of student associations.

According to Dr. Utt, MOG. “provided something to do, a convenient place in which to practice parliamentary procedure, a center around which to plan programs and entertainments, a source of pins to plant on the other side of the campus, and, if the truth must be told, the excuse for a certain amount of foolishness.” To be sure, MOG. had its mature moments: They hosted annual Father-Son (later Parent-Son) banquets and organized social events, much like SA does today.



However, this “certain amount of foolishness” that Dr. Utt mentions cannot be underestimated: Shenanigans and tomfoolery were often the driving ethos not only of the association but of the dorm’s residents as a whole. Even the official MOG. hymn engaged in the tongue-in-cheek poetics of giddy antics: “To the girls whom we have known and loved / who kept us company...” begins the third verse, “here’s hoping they’ll be married soon / to men of MOG.”

Perhaps such an ethos is to be expected: After all, for a long time, Grainger Hall was the residence for undergraduates, and Newton Hall housed the upperclassmen (Newton Hall opened in 1951). Borne out of its driving ethos, the dorm’s residents launched chemical attacks and waged late-night campaigns of terror both within Grainger’s walls and without. Two alumni recount some of these operations (both of whom also wrote for the Chronicle).

Larry Downing, who graduated in 1963 and held the office of MOG president for a time, remembers MOG as simply a catalyst for lighthearted mischief. “All freshmen

are juvenile,” he declares. “I think the best way to classify the structure of the MOG is to say that it wasn’t.” Downing was impeached by a vote of no confidence after pointing out that one of MOG’s members did not have their membership card, and the large gavel that MOG presidents held was even stolen from him by Andre residents and doused in butyric acid. (You can see the gavel today in the Utt Center in the Nelson Memorial Library; Mr. Downing’s name is the most prominent of the names scratched in its head.)

For the most part, Mr. Downing “stayed out of the line of fire” of Grainger’s juvenalia, but the one major operation he was involved in earned him a suspension for the few remaining weeks of the school year. The operation was so major that the San Francisco Examiner published an article about it in its May 29, 1961 issue under the headline “Hijinks in Napa Girls’ Dorm.”

Armed with phenolphthalein, “twenty male students raced through the girls’ dormitory [Andre Hall] at midnight, tossing water-filled balloons at squealing co-eds, cranking the handle of a portable siren,” the Examiner reported. As a model student, Mr. Downing surprised the college’s supervisors by his involvement in the attack — particularly given how closely he knew some of the faculty members — but this didn’t phase him. “There were quite a few people who were upset, but we all survived,” he concludes.

Bruce Anderson, a 1960 graduate who also served as MOG president and who describes himself as having “PUC in my DNA,” affirms that “there was rowdiness going on there.” In one instance, after Grainger operatives set off sticks of sulfur

in a locked Newton Hall, one “really mad” Newton operative shot out some of Grainger Hall’s windows with a .22-caliber rifle in retaliation. Mr. Anderson’s daughter explains the contours of the rivalry in her own time at PUC, the 1980s and 1990s: “The Newton guys were sort of the nerdy, intellectual types, while Grainger guys considered themselves classy, like they were the elite.”

To be sure, Grainger’s foolishness did not only involve Newton Hall. “It was the undergraduate dorm, and some of us acted like undergraduates,” Mr. Anderson conceded. At one point, Mr. Anderson recalls, a burning dresser was thrown from the third floor of the dorm, and “there were also individuals who were known to dump containers of urine on the room below them.” As for MOG’s own operations, Mr. Anderson’s description highlights both the senseless and more meaningful activities that Dr. Utt describes: “What did we do?” Mr. Anderson said. “We had business meetings, we organized banquets, we harassed the freshmen...”

Ultimately, Mr. Anderson recounts his days at Grainger Hall lightheartedly: “It was just home.”

What’s Next For Grainger Hall?

Grainger Hall officially closed on July 1, 2023 when Residence Hall Deans Juan Hidalgo and Hernan Granados left their posts, leaving only David Ringer in charge of the men’s residence halls — a result of dwindling on-campus enrollment. Currently, Grainger Hall is used as guest housing, but Dean Ringer revealed that he is authorized to reopen Grainger Hall for overflow if the situation requires it. “I’ve

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CONVERSATION

Commitment is Scary! Incoming Freshmen on “Why PUC?”

By Colin Russ

After significant gains in enrollment last spring, PUC welcomed a large and diverse freshman class to campus in September. As the 2023-2024 school year heads into full swing, five incoming freshmen summarize their initial impressions of PUC in just six words, and offer insights into what drove them to commit here

Alexis



I found the beautiful scenery comforting.

“In reality, I wasn’t planning to go to any college. I wanted a sign from God that clearly told me to go, but I thought there were none, until someone close to me revealed the potential lurking inside me. They pushed me to give it a try and to give it my all. God took care of the rest.”– Alexis

Juan



PUC is a nice, welcoming environment.

“It was scary, choosing PUC—it came down to being able to accomplish my dream of playing collegiate level soccer and furthering my education.” – Juan


Xavi



Campus was very peaceful and vibrant.

“I like risks!” – Xavi


Victoria



It was a less-known school.

“My mom is going through cancer, so being an hour away from home was something that made me feel better. The nursing program is something really great here, and I’ll hopefully be a part of it in pursuing my career.” – Victoria

Nahomi



Shown me a solid spiritual environment.

“I decided to come to PUC for the nursing program – I heard they had the best one in the Adventist system. Also the fact that this campus is surrounded by nature. I love nature and green scenery!” – Nahomi

CONVERSATION

Fall Quarter Festivities from a Particular Social Vice's Perspective

By Bethanee Tabura

Forgive me for using such a typical prompt for my brief article—on any other given day I would consider this an act of laziness—but I simply cannot resist the overwhelming urge to reference our theme for this academic year: “All In.” When it comes to clichés and cheesy one-liners, I am the last person to utilize such simple statements in any setting. However, in my impatience, I have yet to find a better phrase to describe the energy displayed on campus this year. Maybe it is because the phrase is always on the tip of my tongue, but something about individualized student passions realized through a communal drive toward success just screams “All In.” I have witnessed raw commitment countless times all around me, leaving me with no other choice but to simply go all in.

So, what does this mean for future social events? Put simply, it means I am trying

everything. Among other things, I am an avid organizer, so an entire year's worth of pre-scheduled social events live rent-free on my laptop. However, I have already made numerous adjustments to accommodate

“I have witnessed raw commitment countless times all around me, leaving me with no other choice but to simply go all in.”

specific student's requests. For example, upon his request, I and our more-than-dedicated Financial Vice President Esteban Ramírez have been collaborating to pull together a tailgate cookout next

month! My schedule is always changing, so do not hesitate to reach out to me with any other unique ideas such as this one. Additionally, I have a few quirky events of my own design that you can look forward to, such as pie-eating contests, a lip sync battle, and paintball!

While I continue to devote my time, energy, and experience toward building a campus we can be proud of, I ask only one thing of those involved on our campus: I ask that, in your continual commitment toward the betterment of your own experience here on campus, you seek the betterment of other students' experience at Pacific Union College just the same. Whether that be assisting in events or just showing up and having fun, a campus devoted to supporting one another is a campus that can truly reap the benefits of going “All In.” ■

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worked hard at helping that place look nice for several years now,” he said, explaining that the dorm's rooms are primed and ready for residents should on-campus enrollment tick up again. Ringer first came to PUC in July 2018 after several years of serving as a dean, marking this year as his sixth.

Though the recklessness and countless traditions of Grainger Hall's past have faded into history, the dorm always had its own spirit, even until the end. The “Trials of the Golden Monkey,” which first began in 2012 by then Dean Halversen, is the main tradition that lasted until the dorm's closure. Describing it as “winter dorm Olympics,” Dean Ringer explained that “it gives Grainger Hall residents something to look forward to at a tough time of the year,” when the initial energy of fall quarter has evaporated and the weather grows cloudy and cold. Every winter quarter, students from each floor participated against one another in a variety of “trials” or games, testing intellectual and physical ability,

from tug-of-war to eating contests to Super Smash Bros. matches. A tradition unique to Grainger Hall, Dean Ringer said that the Trials “are resting for now.”

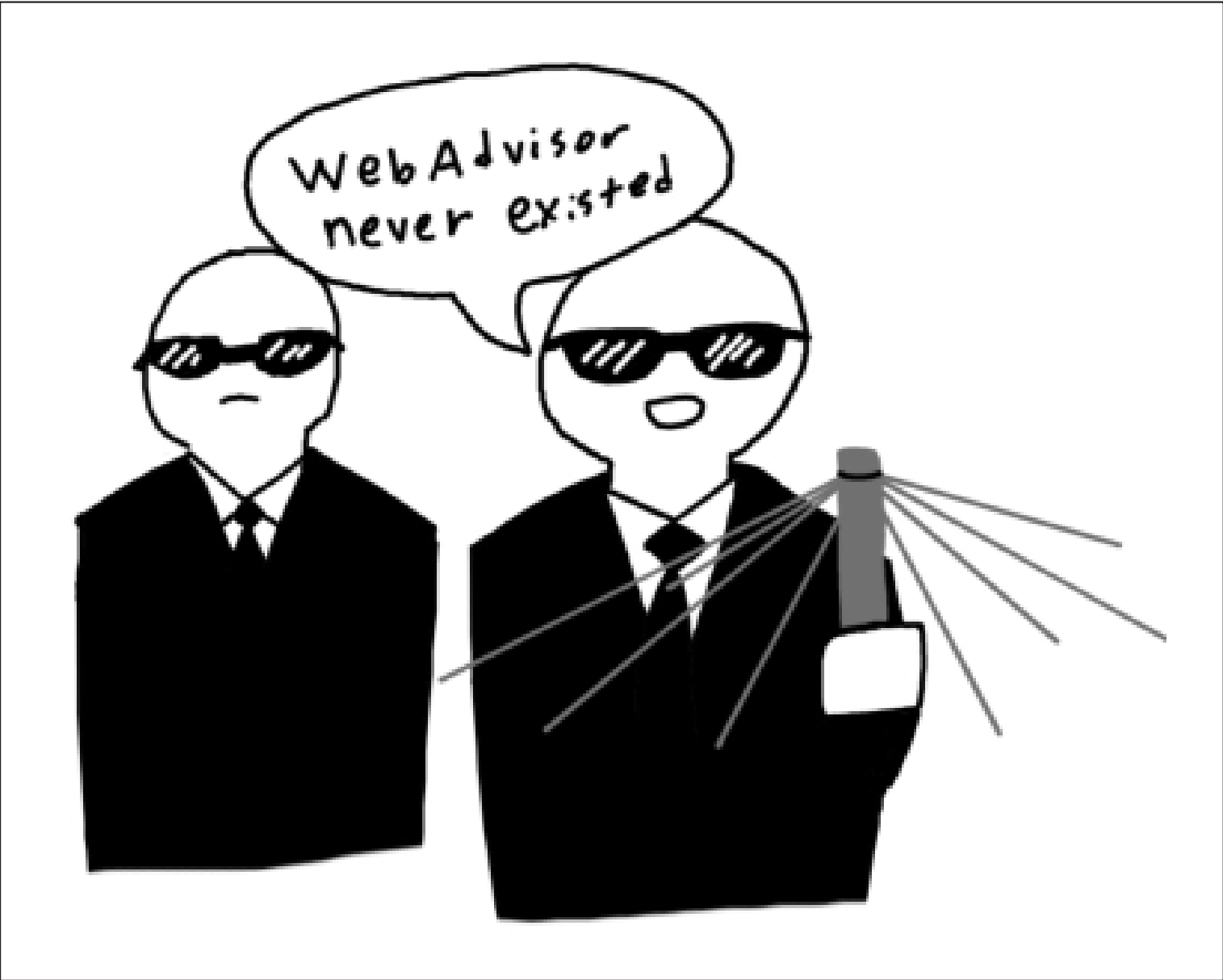
The vicious pranks of the past have also ceased to exist. “It was mostly low-key and relaxed,” Dean Ringer recalled of Grainger's prank scene during his time as its dean. “I'm proud of the guys I've interacted with in the last several years. Sure, there have been some people that haven't used the best of wisdom, but I would say by far people were focused on growing spiritually, on getting an education.” While Mr. Downing and Mr. Anderson remembered the pranks of their past lightheartedly, Dean Ringer took a more somber tone. Holding the driving ethos of respect and not tomfoolery, he is grateful for the dorm residents that he has worked with and looked over.

And, while Dean Ringer was unaware of the organization that used to exist, he did refer to a certain solidarity that previous Grainger Hall residents still harbor. “I do

know that when you hear of MOG, there's a sense of pride when it comes to that,” he said, explaining that Grainger alumni who return to visit the campus still ask the dean to visit their old rooms. Just within the last week, Dean Ringer took a 2013 alumnus to Grainger's laundry room to see its table — a large, black table with several names written in neon-color markers, which the alumnus excitedly reminisced about. Even Ringer himself, it seems, shares in this sense of pride: “I like to say we're not just ‘Men of Grainger,’ but also ‘Men of God.’”

As a student dorm, Grainger Hall might be closed only for a while or for a very long time, depending on how PUC's on-campus enrollment trends. But whatever the case, the men who have lived in its dorms will never forget the time they spent there. As several men of Grainger over the years have sung: “Our college years will soon be gone, / and all of us must part / but mem-o-ries of friends we've made / will never leave our hearts.” ■

UPDATES



UPCOMING EVENTS

<div>Service Day</div> <div>Thursday, Oct. 19 at 8:30 a.m. in Scales Chapel</div>
<div>Raspados Night</div> <div>Thursday, Oct. 19 at 6 p.m. in the Campus Center</div>
<div>Pioneers Soccer vs. Antelope Valley College</div> <div>Friday, Oct. 20 at 12:30 p.m. (men's) and 3:30 p.m. (women's) at the PUC Track</div>
<div>Pioneers Soccer vs. La Sierra University</div> <div>Sunday, Oct. 22 at 11:00 a.m. (men's) and 2:00 p.m. (women's) at the PUC Track</div>
<div>PUC Blood Drive</div> <div>Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 12:30 p.m. in the Dining Commons, Room A</div>
<div>Pumpkin Carving & Costumes</div> <div>Wednesday, Oct. 25 from 6-8 p.m. on the Campus Center Patio</div>

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FIND THE ANSWER,
WIN FREE COFFEE



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

This week's question is:
What totem did the president of the Men of Grainger typically wield?