

Summer 2006

# ViewPoint



One need, One Person,  
One Place at a Time:

*The Plan to  
Change the World*

# editorial viewpoint



THREE WORDS FOR THE ROAD | by Julie Z. Lee

During my pursuit of a bachelor's degree in psychology at Pacific Union College, I was required to take Issues in Religion, Ethics, and the Human Sciences, an upper division course taught by the illustrious Greg Schneider.

Four days a week, I sat in a circle with my classmates as Dr. Schneider led us in discussing philosophical issues that face (as you might have already guessed) religion, ethics and the human sciences. I remember little of what I learned, though my amnesia is not biased towards any one course. After four intense years of saturating in information while sleep deprived, what remains in my brain are few but precious morsels that compete for longevity.

From this class, what persevere are three words: job, career and calling.

They are terms from a book called *Habits of the Heart: Individualism and Commitment in American Life*, one of our required readings. Each describes a category of work that individuals can choose. A job is selected for its practical value in providing an income on which to live. A career is a profession motivated by the goal to attain material success, achievement and recognition. Callings are exactly that—work that calls us through its inherent value to the development of self and society. A calling is rooted in something deeper than our pocketbooks; it is connected to our spirituality and community. It is “a crucial link between the individual and the public world. Work in the sense of calling can never be merely private.”<sup>1</sup>

According to the authors, a calling is particularly important given America's growing culture of individualism that glorifies the mavericks while disintegrating our commitment to one another. The authors ask, if we are taught to believe that the self is all that matters in the race for survival, what becomes of community? Will society subsist by man alone?

The featured articles in this issue of *ViewPoint* focus on individuals who have considered these questions. And though not all have or will choose work that is a calling, they each espouse the idea that humanity depends on the individual's ability to decentralize. *Life is a calling*. So Jake Scheideman builds houses for the impoverished. Mike Murtaugh spends hours advocating human rights for those without. Stephanie Holiman encourages peers to give a part of themselves to save another life.

The motivation for such work comes from an overwhelming sense of mission, instilled by a faith that teaches us how to share existence rather than to hoard it. How we can serve each other rather than be served. It is a faith that is the cornerstone of an education at PUC. From coursework to extracurricular activities to the character of our professors, our college breathes with the mission to “prepare its students for productive lives of useful human service and uncompromising personal integrity.”<sup>11</sup> This is what we carry away from our experience at PUC to share with the world. This is what remains. After all, I may not recall the details of every class, but I do remember what it means to have a calling.

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<sup>1</sup> Robert N. Bellah, Richard Madsen, William M. Sullivan, Ann Swidler, and Steven M. Tipton, *Habits of the Heart: Individualism and Commitment in American Life* (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1985).

<sup>11</sup> PUC mission statement

# viewpoint

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## 4 Changing the World

How an Alumnus Became a Reluctant Hero

---

## 10 Stepping into Service

Students and their Vibrant Ventures

---

## 14 Welcome Home

The President and His Wife Open House

---

## 16 Going to Goa

Professor Receives Fulbright Scholarship

---

## 18 Homecoming 2006

A Look at the Festivities

---

## 20 News

## 23 Commemorative Gifts

## 24 Class Notes

## 27 Obituaries

## 29 Announcements

## 30 President's Corner



# Changing the World One Need at a Time

By Daneen Akers

Jake Scheideman never planned to become a hero. And if you call him one today—or remind him that His Holiness the Dalai Lama honored him as one of 48 unsung heroes of compassion last year—he shrugs off the title modestly. But that’s just what he is to the small village of Empalme de Boaco in Nicaragua—a hero who biked through on vacation and stayed to build a new community.

When Jake graduated from PUC in 1990 with a business degree, he had no idea what to do with his life. Since he didn’t have any career plans, he decided to look for adventure. He spent eight months mountain biking through Central America

with a friend. They camped out in cheap motels, living as inexpensively as possible and occasionally “calling daddy for money” when things got short. He was young and just interested in having a good time. While he didn’t suspect it at the time, this bike trip would change his life.

While in Nicaragua, Jake took a side trip to the small village of Empalme de Boaco to look up a local baseball legend at the request of Baseball for Peace, an organization trying to increase understanding between Nicaragua and the United States through a mutual love of baseball.

In Empalme de Boaco, he met Jorge Tinoco, a grandfatherly type whom Jake says was known as the “Baseball Papa of the area”—which is saying a lot since Nicaragua is a country obsessed with baseball. The day he was planning to leave, Jake came down with giardia, a nasty parasite that wrecks havoc on the intestinal tract. Jorge took him into his home and cared for him until he was well enough to continue his trip. “We formed a bond, a fast friendship,” Jake says. “It was a connection.”

Fast forward eight years. Jake has swapped his bike trip for a bike shop in St. Helena, California. He has gotten married, become a father and gone through a divorce. Life is busy, very busy. Besides the demands of owning a small business and being a dad, Jake coaches Little League and hockey, volunteers as a firefighter, and is an active member of the St. Helena Rotary (to name a few extra commitments). The wild bike trip of his youth is nicely displayed in a travel photo album, but not something he thinks about often anymore.

But all that changed in October of 1998 when

of the chaos, death and damage were people that he knew and loved; people whom he had promised to return to someday. He knew that day had come. “It just hit me,” Jake says. “This was affecting people I knew. I had to do something.”

He called his dad, who had taken Jake on many mission trips through Central America when he was a teenager. Both he and his dad remember Jake saying, “We have to do something. We just have to do something.” So, they did.

Together they found an Adventist Development and Relief Agency trip in Honduras to join. Jake went two days early to take a side trip to Nicaragua so he could look up his old friends. He took as much extra money as he could spare in case they needed help.

He found Jorge still living in Empalme de Boaco and was immediately welcomed home. Luckily, the village seemed to be in pretty good shape, but they did have a need. “They didn’t have major hurricane damage, but they did talk to me about a problem they were having with



Hurricane Mitch cut a devastating path through Central America, and suddenly Jake was confronted with images of Honduras and Nicaragua daily on the television. The pictures weren’t pretty. Hurricane Mitch was the deadliest Atlantic hurricane in over 200 years, killing almost 11,000 people (with almost as many reported missing). Although Mitch never directly hit Nicaragua, the slow-moving rains inundated the entire region with up to 50 inches of rain, causing extensive mudslides and flooding, and displacing hundreds of thousands of people. The land Jake had come to love eight years ago lay submerged, ruined by water and mud.

Suddenly, the connection that Jake had formed with Jorge and his other Central American friends re-emerged. Jake realized that somewhere in the midst of all

the land for their baseball fields being taken,” Jake says. “Their youth didn’t have a place to play, and they were starting to drink and get into trouble.”

He didn’t say anything, but Jake went home and started raising money from friends and family to build a baseball field. He went back six months later with \$5,000 and—he later realized—no idea what he was doing. Three and a half years and \$80,000 later, they had not a mere baseball field, but a baseball stadium—a “field of dreams.”

Soon the baseball stadium was joined by a park and a water tower. Several of the people who had joined the effort wanted to work on housing next, but Jake was more than a little reluctant to start such a big, complex project. He saw houses as problematic. “Houses are hard. I don’t know anything about building a house, building

roads. And I was afraid it would be a splinter issue in the community; it's someone's home we're talking about."

Even though he was hesitant, the sheer need soon convinced him to at least try. "When you look around down there, it's clearly the most obvious need," Jake says. "The villagers were living in shacks that weren't water-proof at all."

Jake expanded his fundraising efforts to start raising money to build homes. Before long, the Nicaragua housing project grew to a \$500,000 effort overseen by the St. Helena Rotary. Jake's fears of the complexities of housing projects proved prophetic—he says it has turned out to be the hardest thing he's ever done, but also the most fulfilling.

The housing project is primarily supported by Napa Valley residents but includes sponsors from all over the country and even some international support. Jake is quick to point out that many of his most faithful supporters are PUC graduates. "A huge portion of help has come from PUC grads," Jake says. "My college friends were some of the first guys I called up."

It's been a four-year process, but now, just up the road from Empalme de Boaco, is "St. Helenacita" (Little St. Helena), the name chosen by the villagers, in part to show their gratitude to the region where so much support has

kids' faces, and I know if I can just help change one kid's future, that will be enough."

Part of the success of St. Helenacita is Jake's firm belief in ownership. He didn't want to be a gringo coming in from the North trying to tell people how to live, so he made sure the local community was heavily involved in the process. Soon-to-be homeowners participate in building their own homes, and a local housing committee acts as Jake's on-site counterpart to run decisions through. To ensure a fair selection process, a lottery system is used. Applicants also come from a wide range of income levels to create a diverse community. "We didn't want to create a ghetto, but we don't want it to turn into an exclusive club either," Jake says. "The goal is a healthy community."

Jake credits his motivation to serve in Nicaragua in part to his Adventist upbringing where mission trip reports and service opportunities were a given. "Unknowingly, being surrounded by the Adventist culture of service had a huge influence on me not thinking twice about doing this," he says. "I didn't realize how unusual that was until I started approaching secular people—not everyone grows up hearing about Maranatha and ADRA projects every week."

He also gives his parents huge credit for modeling the importance of service. He traveled extensively with his



come from. Over forty families now live in new homes on seven acres of donated land. The project plans call for 65 homes, a community center and a soccer field. And Jake is already dreaming about what he wants to build next—a school. He already oversees a scholarship program with over 60 students enrolled; it's getting so large that he's looking to hire somebody locally to supervise. "I see the

father, a dentist, on mission trips. "My dad dragged me all over South America on medical mission trips," Jake says. "My dad is a lot like other dentists I've seen—they can do anything with their hands, whether it's pulling a tooth or building a house."

When you talk to Jake's father, it's clear where Jake got his "can-do" attitude. Oliver Scheideman Jr. graduated

from PUC in 1963 (his father before him graduated in 1938). Oliver caught the mission trip bug when Jake was young. "I originally got talked into going with a friend on a mission trip—pretty much against my will—to Honduras to do dentistry," Oliver remembers. "But I got hooked. When I came back, I told my family, 'I don't care where they're going next, I'm going.'"

The "where" of the next trip was a journey on the Amazon, and Oliver took his teenage son Jake with him. It turned out to be quite an adventure, a little too much of an adventure; they got lost on the Amazon in Brazil. The goal was to find one of the mission boats that traveled up and down the Amazon, but they kept missing it.

Given that the trip was 48 hours by boat in one direction, the longer it took them to find the boat, the more lost they became. Soon they weren't sure where they were, and the safety of one of the women on the trip was put into question. Oliver modeled what has become his motto (and Jake's in turn) for all mission trips: adapt and overcome. He prayed for guidance and within 12 hours found a village with a small Adventist church. "This church was so small and remote that the conference didn't even know they existed," Oliver remembers with a laugh. "But they welcomed us and were thrilled to see us—I think they thought someone finally realized they were there."

takes people outside of their comfort zone where it's easy to become self-absorbed. "Everyday life is like a soap bubble," Oliver says. "In a bubble, everywhere you look, you only see your own reflection. It's so easy to get caught in my problems, my agenda, my wants, my life."

He sees mission trips as transformational bubble-bursting experiences. "When you go someplace to serve, you are forced to go outside of your bubble because of the huge need of the people. You have to think of someone other than yourself. It changes you."

Jake never expected to become involved in such a big project and seems almost surprised to find himself such a passionate advocate for service today. He says that he's changed over the past few years and has become more convinced, as he's seen the lives of the people in Empalme de Boaco change, that individuals can make a real difference in the world. "I didn't used to feel so strongly," he says, "but when you look around the world, or even just a few neighborhoods away, the need is pretty great anywhere you go. As educated people, we have a responsibility to do something."

That something doesn't have to involve saving the world. In fact, Jake admits that if he tries to look at anything bigger than the people of Empalme de Boaco—say, the educational system in Nicaragua—he gets

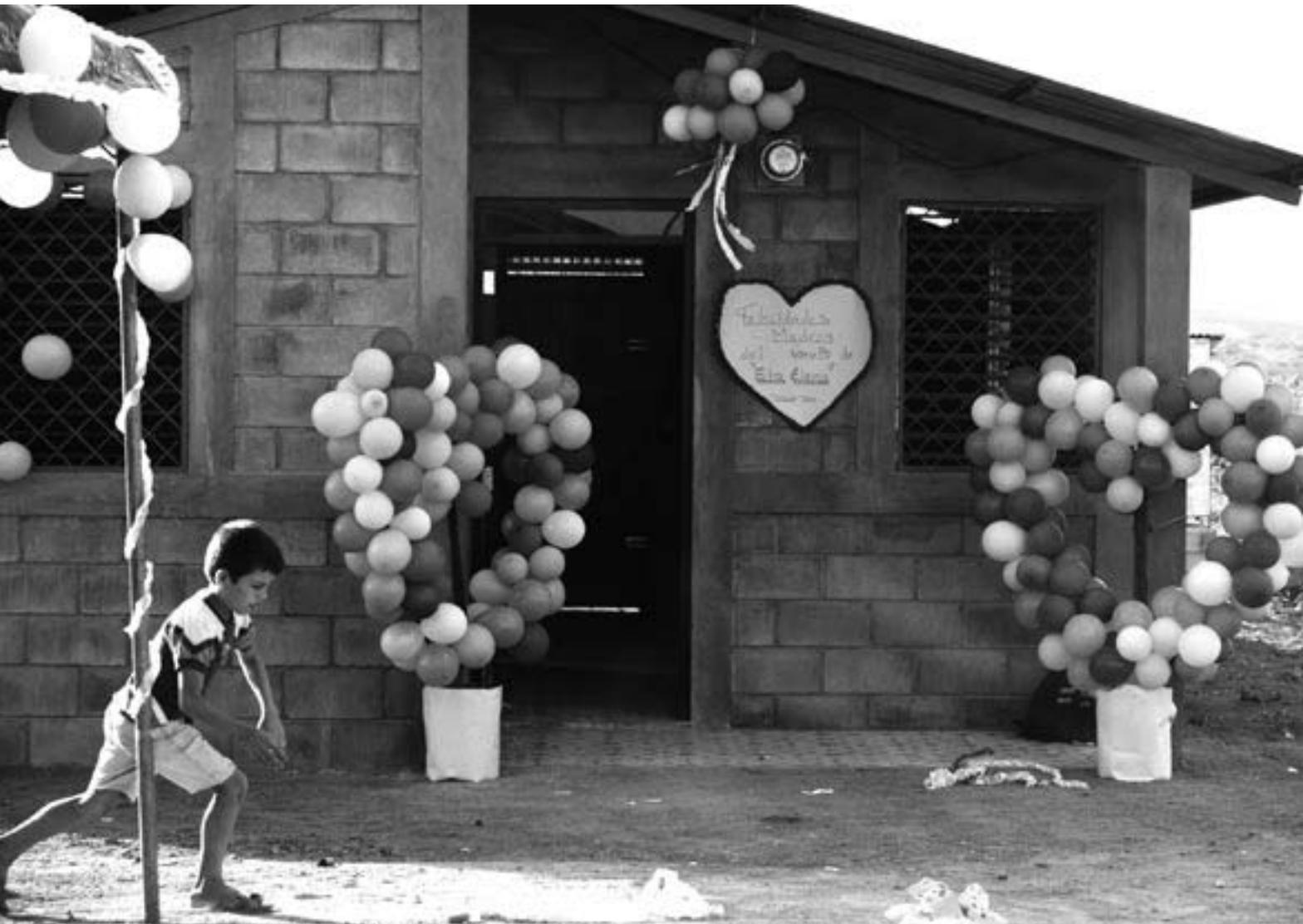


They set up their tents and got to work. (On a later mission trip, Oliver returned with a group of friends to build a church for the village.) This was the first of many mission trips Jake and his dad, and later his sister, took together.

Oliver thinks he, and subsequently Jake, "caught the bug" for service work primarily because serving others

completely overwhelmed. But it's important to start. "We each have opportunities to serve. If we all just started with one need, one person, one place, it would make such a difference."

His dad couldn't agree more. He says he had the worst time trying to figure out Jesus' first miracle at Cana. With all the need in the world, all the cripples waiting to be



healed, why would Jesus make his debut by turning water into wine? "One day it just hit me," Oliver says. "That was the need. Whether it's a baseball field, or a house, or a tooth extraction, you treat the need. And it doesn't always have to be spiritual. Treating the need at hand is what opens the door for everything else."

Oliver thinks the reason why his son has been so influential—even heroic—is simply because he responded to the need that he saw. "Jake doesn't seem to see obstacles," Oliver says, a strong hint of fatherly pride in his voice. "He just does what he thinks needs to be done."

All the hero rhetoric makes Jake uncomfortable. When the word gets bandied about, he's very quick to point out that the Nicaragua project isn't a one-man show, and he would never be able to do anything without a whole group of dedicated people working with him. Besides he says—it's fun. He can't be the type of person to just go to work; he

needs to have meaning in his life. "I get such a kick out of this," he says. "Whenever I go down there, I get such a blessing. It's like a big family reunion every time I'm there. We're family now."

If there's any silver lining in the attention Jake has received for his commitment to Nicaragua (after all, how many people get personally honored by the Dalai Lama), it's that the "act of service" is getting honored. Jake just hopes that stories like his will make others be more aware of the opportunities they have to serve. His advice is direct and simple. "If you see a need, fill it."

Neither Jake nor the residents of Empalme de Boaco could have imagined that a bike trip would end up changing so many lives, but that just might be how real heroism works—no big plan, just a heart of compassion that responds to the need at hand, whether that be a baseball field or a new house.

# Students Join the Team for “St. Helenacita”



Students jumped to participate in Jake Scheideman's Empalme de Boaca project when he shared his story during a February all-school colloquy at Pacific Union College.

After Scheideman concluded the account of his Nicaragua adventures and the “St. Helenacita” housing project, PUC Church senior pastor Tim Mitchell took the mic and said, “I want to strike while the iron is hot.” Mitchell pledged to donate the income he receives from a class he teaches towards funding one of the houses in St. Helenacita, and asked students and faculty to fill out pledge cards as well, even if they could only offer \$5 toward the project.

Mitchell, who finds that giving financially to worthwhile projects is an important aspect of his own life, believes that most people want to be involved if given the opportunity. “People really want to give, and if there’s a leader to step up and take the initiative, people will be very generous,” Mitchell said.

Students, faculty and staff followed his lead, and by the end of the service, \$7,861 in pledges and donations had been collected. Two months later, donations reached a total of \$8,388, and Osborn presented the check to Scheideman at another colloquy program.

“I saw it as a way of positively contributing to one of the most basic needs,” said PUC senior Jean Aldinger, one of the students who contributed. “My parents always told me I would have a roof over my head, and it’s hard to see parents who can’t provide that for their children.”

Scheideman was taken completely by surprise by the spontaneous giving. “I’m beyond words,” said Scheideman. “I didn’t come expecting a dime. It’s just totally humbling to see something like today happen.”

*If you would like to find more information about the Nicaragua Project and how you can get involved, visit [www.rotaryhomesnicaragua.com/](http://www.rotaryhomesnicaragua.com/)*



## STEPPING INTO SERVICE

PUC students have always had an abundance of options for getting involved in ministry and service while they're at college—and many students consistently participate in these opportunities. But some students take it to another level by starting and leading adventuresome new ministries and organizations that impact the community and the world.

With a passion for human rights, kids with troubled families, and mixed-race victims of blood diseases, the students featured on these pages have taken the initiative and committed their energy, their hours, and their hearts to three vibrant ventures at PUC.

Above photo: KidzReach at the Angwin Airport

# KIDZREACH: A WEEKLY GIFT



“Having the opportunity to see these kids clean themselves up inside and out because somebody loved them unconditionally will sell anybody on the need for a church that is a hospital for sinners and not a club for the righteous.”

The early birds are still singing across campus on a Sabbath morning when a group of college students forsake their cherished slumber and head down the hill. They know there’s a group of kids counting on them—a group of kids with rough lives, underprivileged homes, and a distinct need for love.

What began last year as a few college students hanging out with a prison ministries group at the Yountville Seventh-day Adventist Church has now become a full-fledged ministry called KidzReach. Luke and Maria Hamilton (this year’s KidzReach leaders), Karen Ong (last year’s leader) and 15 to 20 other PUC students spend every Sabbath—all day—with kids from a wide spectrum of backgrounds. They go to church, go hiking, take tours of the Angwin Airport or the volunteer fire department, eat together, play, and just give the kids a Sabbath full of fun and mentoring.

Two things seem to keep the crew energized: the need and the fun. “What really drew me is that there’s a genuine need there,” Ong says. “And honestly, we go because we have fun every weekend.”

The KidzReach team has also had the reward of seeing the impact of their service. “Over the last year and a half we have gotten to see the kids grow not just physically but socially and emotionally, overcoming fears from their abusive pasts and building stable relationships with the college students,” says Maria Hamilton. “For many of our kids, this ministry and the college students are the only stable relationship they have.”

The experience has also impacted the college students. Hamilton has found that projects like KidzReach help to break down barriers and prejudices. “Having the opportunity to see these kids clean themselves up inside and out because somebody loved them unconditionally will sell anybody on the need for a church that is a hospital for sinners and not a club for the righteous,” she says.

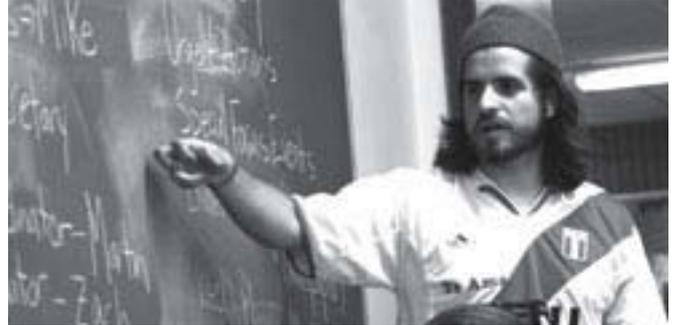
This year, the KidzReach leaders have made an effort to get students involved in ministry at the start of their college experience—and the plan has worked: Next year’s leaders are all freshmen and sophomores this year. “We’re excited that new students are getting involved and getting into leadership positions,” Ong says.

“I believe that campus ministries are the BEST things about PUC,” adds Hamilton. “It doesn’t matter where you see a need—if a PUC student wants to reach out, they will have the support of the chaplain and ministry staff at PUC.”

An entire day spent with 15 to 30 kids ranging in age from 1 to 18 takes a lot of energy. But it’s more than worth it for this committed team. “Our lives are forever changed from having been part of this ministry,” says Hamilton. “I believe that God is going to take ministries like KidzReach wherever the college students who have fallen in love with the KidzReach kids go. We have so much, and there is a huge need for this type of ministry no matter where you go.”

# PURPOSE AT THE END OF THE DAY

“...even when we do a little bit,  
we’re doing something.”



A little over three years ago, Mike Murtaugh started on a quest. For some time, he had been looking for a way to build meaning into his spiritual walk and simply going to church each week wasn't enough. He wasn't interested in passive faith; he wanted to live his conviction.

“I was trying to figure out what it was all about,” remembers Mike. “I needed some sort of mission, some sort of way to make my faith real.”

He began looking for service opportunities but he craved something “off the beaten path of Adventism.” For Mike, it was crucial that his tangible faith be built from an experience authentic to his own spiritual journey.

Then during his first year at Pacific Union College, a friend invited Mike to the PUC Chapter meeting of Amnesty International. He had heard of the organization in passing, and out of curiosity, Mike decided to attend. One meeting was all it took to convince Mike that this was a way to serve.

“Amnesty struck me as progressive, and even though it's not faith based, I saw how it could be,” says Mike. “What drew me to it was the position they took on human rights issues...regardless of race and gender. I found that appealing.”

Mike jumped into club activities, helping to coordinate various events that raised campus awareness of global issues. Mike, a graphic design major, created eye-catching promotional posters for chapter meetings. This year Mike stepped into the role of president. He's been busy working with his team to organize discussions about the war on terrorism and how it relates to Middle Eastern people, the crisis in Darfur, and the arms trade in Africa. The chapter also holds meetings that provide an overview of the human rights struggle facing the world today and how people can get involved.

“I think educating people is a big part of making a difference,” says Mike. “Just by getting people interested in this, it will spark them to read more and be interested in how the world works.”

The ploy to hook people through education seems to be working. In May, the chapter received a small grant from Amnesty to host two screenings of *Lost Boys of Sudan*, an award-winning

documentary that follows two Sudanese refugees on their journey from Africa to America. The first screening took place at a local theater in St. Helena. The second was held at PUC and also welcomed Santini Chuor, one of the two refugees featured in the documentary, for a question and answer session. The event packed the lecture room in Davidian Hall, bringing in not only students but also members of the Napa Valley community.

The success of the events is evidence that Amnesty may have struck a nerve in students who have been searching for an alternative outlet for their faith. While there are several service clubs available on campus, Amnesty is unique in its emphasis on international social justice—an emphasis that Mike sees as integral to his Christianity.

“The ethos behind the organization plays right into my faith and understanding of the gospel,” says Mike. “When Jesus Christ walked the earth, he spoke out for those that had no voice. Human rights should be universal, no matter what race, religion, color or creed.”

It's a statement infused with passion—amazing, given that not too long ago Mike was on the road to spiritual cynicism. But now, he's found a new purpose. In addition to his work with Amnesty, Mike went on a mission trip to Peru with his fellow PUC students this past spring break. Following graduation, he hopes to work with a service-oriented organization such as the Peace Corps. Graduate school is still in the plans with the goal of one day using his graphic design skills to promote social activism, much like he has done in his publicity materials for Amnesty. Service, it appears, has been inextricably woven into his life.

“Working with Amnesty has shown me that even when we do a little bit, we're doing something,” says Mike. “At the end of the day, you did something. Not everything is going to change at once. It's going to take a lot of effort. But it's given me a sense of working with my beliefs and putting effort into something that is not self-serving. And that's fulfilling.”

To learn more about Amnesty International and how you can get involved, visit [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)

# CHANGING THE WORLD THROUGH BONE MARROW



“Encouraging registration is my way of trying to help for the future.”

When PUC senior English major Stefanie Holiman Durbin was a little girl of four, her aunt was diagnosed with chronic myelogenous leukemia and needed a bone marrow transplant. When none of her siblings were matches, the family discovered, to their surprise, that there was not a worldwide source for unrelated bone marrow donation. Luckily a match was found, but Stefanie’s family vowed to help other patients and families in similar situations and started the Japanese Marrow Donation Program.

Four-year-old Stefanie watched attentively as her mother and aunt campaigned for better registration coordination and improved donor numbers. The lessons were not lost on Stefanie; when she got older, she became a blood and bone marrow activist. “I started a blood program in high school that is still active,” she said. “When I came to PUC, they already had a blood donation program, but nothing for bone marrow, so I decided to start it.”

The bone marrow donation campaign at PUC during Stefanie’s tenure proved impressive. For two-day drives during 2004 and 2005, she covered the campus in signs that read: “Things you can do with 15 minutes: Eat breakfast, brush your teeth, or save a life.” It worked. In 2005, 156 students, faculty, staff and community members registered with the National Marrow Donor Program.

When Stefanie tells this story, the pride is evident. She points out that during the same year when the Microsoft Corporation held a bone marrow drive, only 13 people participated. “I’m really proud of the school.”

The biggest obstacle was dispelling the fears around registering—which actually only requires a small blood sample or a tissue swab. “Some students were scared because they thought they had to have surgery when they registered,” she said. “Once students understood the process, they were more than willing to participate.”

Stefanie is particularly passionate about recruiting participants from minority or mixed-race backgrounds because she comes from a diverse family. Most successful bone marrow transplants result when the donor and the patient come from similar racial backgrounds, but currently 80 percent of bone marrow donors are Caucasian. Only two percent of potential bone marrow donors are of mixed heritage. “It’s hard for someone like me, who is Caucasian and Japanese, to find a match because of the limited numbers.”

Stefanie feels especially strong about PUC’s student population participating in bone marrow drives because of the school’s diverse student body. PUC does not have a racial majority and the Asian and mixed-Asian student population is especially diverse.

PUC’s diversity is actually one of the reasons why Stefanie chose to come to PUC. Stefanie grew up in New Hampshire and often felt like she was the only girl who didn’t look like everyone else. When she came to PUC and saw other faces that looked like hers, she knew it was the school for her. “There are so many Asians and people with mixed Asian heritage here,” Stefanie says. “I was actually accepted to two other schools in Boston, but when I came to visit PUC, I just felt like I fit.”

The importance of registering people from mixed backgrounds just got even more personal for Stefanie. Last summer she married a fellow PUC student, Trevor Durbin, who is Caucasian, so she knows that one day her children will also face challenges if they need a bone marrow transplant. “My focus with the bone marrow drive is to recognize that everyone is becoming more integrated,” she said. “I think the diversity is really positive, but things like bone marrow registries need more attention because of our diversity. Encouraging registration is my way of trying to help for the future.”

*To learn more about mixed heritage bone marrow donation, visit [www.mavinfoundation.org/projects/matchmaker.html](http://www.mavinfoundation.org/projects/matchmaker.html)*



# Open House:

## How the president's home is building community

By Liana Amador



The broad windows let in late afternoon sunlight; it highlights the floor, the rich mahogany dining table and the great room. It is quiet now but the clink of silverware and laughter seem to echo here. The warmth of fellowship and connection linger from the many meals and conversations that have taken place over the past year. This is the new Pacific Union College President's House. It will serve to welcome visitors to the college, embrace the faculty, staff and students, and support the community and local church members for years to come.

The home has become a gathering place for relationships to be forged and to flourish, thanks to the hospitality of president Richard Osborn and his wife, Norma. In the last 15 months the home has welcomed over 2,000 guests—from Nobel Prize winner Sydney Brenner, who was a guest speaker at a college event, to numerous student and faculty groups. “The president and Mrs. Osborn are very welcoming,” says Kristen Sylvers, social vice president for the Student Organization of Latinos (SOL). She has held two events for the student club at the president's home, including a barbeque and karaoke party. “They take part in our activities too. I always feel comfortable and at home when I'm over there; it is a good feeling.”

While it helps to have a house designed for entertaining, the success of each event comes mainly from the efforts of Norma, whose talents as a hostess are incomparable. For each event, Norma arranges flowers and selects from her linens and china to create an attractive and comfortable setting unique to each gathering.

“There is something about our president's hospitality that makes you feel like you're at a lovely gathering of close friends,” says Kellie Lind ('82), PUC's alumni director. Pam Sadler, vice president for advancement, commented that the open house she attended during Christmas felt like “a family gathering in the kitchen and catching up on each other's lives.”

The warm atmosphere can also be owed to Norma's eye for casual elegance and her skills as a do-it-yourself decorator. From pillows to lamps to window treatments, Norma's handiwork is in every detail of the home. “I wanted a very beautiful home, but one that is livable and touchable,” says Norma, who is the family ministries pastor for the PUC Church. She also weaves PUC into the home by displaying works by the PUC visual arts faculty on the walls. College history is part of the décor too: the matching dining table, china cabinet and buffet from Ambs Hall have all found a place in the President's House. “The house is enjoyable and so convenient for entertaining. It has gorgeous views, and it is a restful and peaceful place. We love it,” says Norma.

The open, public home is serving the purpose that PUC's board of trustees envisioned. “It is a place where guests, faculty, students and dignitaries are free to come and learn more



about PUC,” says Larry Provonsha ('66), long-time member of the board of trustees. After almost 25 years of administrative experience in higher education, alumnus Russ Nelson ('52) says that entertaining at the president's home is a remarkable tool for building relationships that can positively impact the college in sometimes surprising ways. “There is no doubt that a president's home, particularly when used actively, is a wonderful way for people to get acquainted in a relaxed, friendly and supportive environment.”

The first President's House was Wawona Cottage. Previously located at the bottom of the stairs leading to Irwin Hall, it was home to seven PUC presidents from 1914 to 1958. It was then sold to an Angwin resident and moved to Bay Street in 1958 in order to open up the campus mall. The cottage wasn't replaced but the vision for a new president's home eventually reemerged. In the mid-1980s, alumna Madge Haines Nelson ('29, '35, '42) decided to leave her Angwin home to the college; she affectionately called it the President's House with the belief that it would be the perfect place for a president to comfortably live and entertain.

However when the college obtained the home in 2000 it was determined that it wasn't in a suitable condition for entertaining large groups of people. Her home was sold in 2002, and the proceeds, after expenses, helped to fund the new president's home, constructed on college property off of Las Posadas drive. With the careful vision and patient leadership of Duane Dice, a former project manager and architect for Bechtel Corporation, the home was completed in February of 2005. Says John Collins, vice president of finance at PUC, “We wanted a high-quality, functional home that showcased the beautiful natural setting but lacked extravagance—it is a statement of higher education at PUC.”

*There is no more beautiful valley than the Napa Valley. It is home. Whenever I return to the valley, I revel in its beauty—its tier upon tier of low foothills that give way to the higher mountains that rise one behind the other... While I am away, I long for the hills of home.*

*~Madge Haines Nelson*

Madge Haines Nelson loved her Angwin retirement home. She felt it would be the perfect place for the Pacific Union College president to reside and entertain. In the mid-'80s she created a gift agreement with PUC that ensured the college would attain the home upon her death. “Madge was dedicated in every way. She said the Lord had given her that house and she was determined to give it back to Him to express her gratitude,” says Herb Ford, the vice president of advancement at the time.

Madge's generosity came from a life of service. She went to Panama and Jamaica with her missionary parents in her childhood where she caught the vision to serve. She attended PUC and graduated with a degree in English in 1929 and elementary education in 1935. She taught at PUC in both the education and English departments before receiving her MA from PUC in 1942, making her the first woman to graduate with her master's degree at PUC. She went on to teach for 35 years in public and church schools. From 1970 to 1973 she fulfilled her dream of returning to the mission field and taught at the Kailua Mission School in Hawaii before retiring in Angwin.

“Her Christian faith was all of her life. It was very natural for her to receive and to give from that abundance,” says Ford. The current president's home reflects many of the qualities Madge knew would be important for entertaining. Malcolm Maxwell, former PUC president, thinks she would be pleased with the home, “It has such a beautiful view and is very functional. I think she would have a great sense of satisfaction that she had done something very positive for the college.”



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## PUC Teacher Receives Fulbright Scholarship

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By Daneen Akers

Dr. Victoria Mukerji, associate professor of visual arts at Pacific Union College, has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to teach at Goa University in India for six months.

Mukerji applied for the highly competitive scholarship over nine months ago, but hardly told a soul—she was so sure she didn't stand a chance of winning that she didn't even tell her parents that she had applied. The news that she had been chosen cheerfully took her by surprise. "I'm very, very happy," she says.

The Fulbright Scholar Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and aims to foster understanding between countries through scholarly exchanges. Each year about 800 scholars from the United States are awarded lectureships to schools in more than 150 participating countries. In return, about 800 international scholars are sponsored through the program to teach or conduct research in American universities.

Mukerji will be returning to her first love in India. Although she was raised in the United States, her father is Indian, and she has spent the majority of her adult life in India. While she was working on her dissertation for her Ph.D in anthropology from University of California, Berkeley, she went to India for her research into intellectual identity formation in the post-colonial world. She ended up spending 18 years in India working as an anthropologist, filmmaker and advertising executive. "I made a commitment to India," she says. "I'm thrilled to be going back."

While Mukerji studied many aspects of India, the state of Goa is one geographic and cultural area that remained a bit of a mystery to her. Goa has an unusual colonial history. While most of India was colonized by the British, Goa remained under Portuguese control until 1961. Mukerji produced a documentary about the cathedrals of Goa for the Smithsonian and her experience in Goa left her wanting to know more. "The place I'm going to is unique in India," Mukerji says. "I know India pretty well, having lived there for so long, but this is Christian and Portuguese India—it's very different."

Besides the rich opportunity to explore the cultural influences in Goa, Mukerji is excited about how her film and media background will be put to good use. The International Film Festival of India has just made Goa its permanent home with the goal of becoming the Cannes of Asia. The

anthropologist in Mukerji is anxious to observe the effect of this event on the local population. "What impact is this high profile, globalized, celebrity attraction going to have on the local culture? And how is the indigenous culture going to affect this event?"

Part of Mukerji's primary assignment at Goa University will be to help establish a curriculum in media and culture where such questions can be addressed deliberately. "The university is an ideal place to look at these sorts of things intentionally," she says.

The whole impact of globalization on Indian culture actually has Mukerji a bit worried. She hasn't been to India in eight years, and those eight years have been full of momentous change. The prospect of seeing the golden arches of McDonald's and billboards advertising American products on every street corner has her worried. "I'm going to see India eight years after radical economic globalization," she says. "That frightens me. I know what to expect, but I'm not looking forward to it."

Although she is happy to be returning to India, Mukerji is already feeling nostalgic. She admits to being completely "sappy" about the thought of not seeing her students for most of next school year. "I wonder what I'm going to do without 'my kids,'" she says. "I start thinking about having to say good-bye to the seniors, and not getting to meet the new freshman." Her voice trails off. "I'm really going to miss PUC."

Mukerji started teaching at PUC eight years ago, and her broad background is put to use in several departments. In addition to teaching for the visual arts department, she also teaches for the communication department, the psychology and social work department, and the honors program.

Over the years, she has discovered that she loves teaching. When her documentary film class premiered a film last week, she poignantly talked about how proud she is to see her students' accomplishments. "I thought the highest emotion, the proudest moment, would come from seeing my film completed," she said. "But I was wrong. The proudest moment comes when you see students that you have helped nurture complete their project."

The last Fulbright Scholar at PUC was Dr. Eric Anderson, who taught at Ionian University in Greece in 1992.



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## Mission to Peru: PUC students serve in Peru

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By Chris Togami and Julie Z. Lee

When planning a mission trip, snags are so common that it's probably best to expect a setback or two. So when Sarah Allen and Stacy Herrmann had to scrap their original plan to lead a PUC mission trip in Venezuela (due to safety issues) partway through the process, they took the change in stride. First they prayed about the situation with the rest of the leadership team, and then they contacted several mission organizations and found one ready to accommodate the team in Juliaca, Peru.

"We really liked South America as a location, and we wanted to keep it in the same area," says Stacy, a senior English major. "Maranatha Volunteers International had a project that we could take on, so that worked well."

The new scheme involved painting an elementary school that had been built by other volunteer groups earlier in the year. In addition, the team tracked down a couple of outreach projects to conduct while in Peru. With a second plan in place, students and faculty continued with fundraising.

In March, during spring break, 48 PUC students and staff set off for Juliaca, which is located in the southern part of Peru near Lake Titicaca. The high altitude, upwards of 12,000 feet above sea level, took some adjusting to, but the team managed to finish painting the school building in five days.

While painting the school was the primary goal of the mission project, it turned out to be almost marginal compared to the additional outreach that took place throughout the trip. Each day, a crew of students ran a children's program at a nearby orphanage that housed 80 boys. At the end of the week-long program, the team presented each boy with a new pair of shoes and purchased nets for the orphanage's soccer poles, paid for by donations from the volunteers and friends at home. On top of that, one of the volunteers got a local sporting goods store to donate soccer balls and jerseys for the boys.

The giving didn't stop there. The team also visited with a local public school and handed out gifts that had been collected by the PUC Elementary School. Children and teachers alike swarmed the volunteers for toothbrushes, soap, toys and clothing.

"To be so excited over a hat, to be excited over a jacket or a skirt—it was, wow," says Nancy Jacobo, faculty sponsor of the mission trip and disabilities support service coordinator at PUC. "I could see the expression on the children's faces. They were touched."

At another campus, the volunteers met two young boys who were unable to afford the cost of a Christian education. Inspired, the students emptied their pockets to give \$300—enough to pay a year's worth of tuition for both of the boys.

But despite their generosity, the volunteers didn't go home empty-handed. After finishing the paint job, the Juliaca Adventist community gave a ceremony of gratitude. Following a program of singing and praise, they presented each member of the mission team with hand-made gifts as a token of their appreciation. The gifts, knit pins in the shape of animals, were humble items, but it was the gesture that truly mattered.

"The trip to Peru was amazing, and it really had an impact on my life," says Nic Hubbard, a recent graduate and now Webmaster at PUC. "I am so glad I went; I received a blessing from everyone I met. This trip has inspired me to continue doing missions in my life, and I hope to be able to go again very soon."

# Homecoming 2006



Homecoming 2006 brought the annual April festivities to Angwin, from the strawberry shortcake reception and class socials to a Walter C. Utt Lecture and honorary receptions for retiring biology department chair Terry Trivett and professor emeriti of music James Kempster. There was also a new level of involvement from current students who shared stories and experiences with the alumni during a cross-generational vespers program and Sabbath potluck.

Despite the rain and a low supply of Diogenes' Lanterns, the alumni kept the campus full of good cheer for the celebration of memories, long-time friendships, and campus life.



L-R: Richard Osborn, Carolyn Williams, Carl Williams, John Collins

## 2006 Philanthropists of the Year

### Carolyn and Carl Williams

For over 20 years, Carolyn ('51) and Carl ('51) Williams have faithfully donated to PUC. "In addition to receiving a fine education, the environment at PUC had a positive and spiritual influence on me," says Carl. To ensure that PUC continues to have a positive influence on future students, the Williams have established a charitable remainder unitrust with PUC. They have specified that the funds from the trust shall fund a student loan program. "We wanted to give something back to PUC so the college can reach out to other young people." We honor the Williams today for their commitment to continuing to provide a Christ-centered education to future generations.



## 2006 Honored Alumni

Every year the Alumni Association honors several alumni who exemplify PUC's ideals through their service to others, their caring lives and their leadership. These individuals were recognized as the 2006 Honored Alumni and Honored Pioneers.

### **Glen L. Bobst, '67**

Glen Bobst has served Pacific Union College for 24 years. He is currently the director of Student Financial Services, is a founding member of PUC's Directors of College Services, and is a member of various college committees.

### **Audrey Weir-Graham, Att. '73-75**

Audrey Wier-Graham has served as an educator for over 20 years. Listed in Who's Who Among Teachers and recognized as a California Educator of the Year by the California League of High Schools, Wier-Graham was recently selected to travel to China with the National Consortium of Teachers of Asia.

### **Gary G. Land, '66**

Gary Land, chair of the department of history and political science at Andrews University, has written and edited numerous books and articles, contributed to encyclopedias, presented academic and professional papers, and served on the board of directors of the Berrien County Historical Association.

### **Honored Pioneers | Kathyeleen Oliver and Lois Berry, '23**

At 78 and 102, Kathyeleen Oliver and Lois Berry fill many roles. Oliver volunteers at the church office, fashions floral designs for weddings, parties and banquets, and caters and decorates. Berry methodically lends her help and expertise to every endeavor. Their service has been a vital part of PUC community life since 1989.



L-R: Richard Osborn, Gary G. Land, Audrey Weir-Graham, Glen Bobst

BY LAINEY S. CRONK

## Awards Program Honors Faculty

The annual Faculty Awards colloquy took place on Thursday, April 27, and featured the inauguration of the Herber Family Faculty Development awards. Alumnus and local physician Steve Herber established an endowment with his sisters and father that is now able to annually provide \$10,000 in professional development grants to facilitate teachers in their quest to achieve and sustain innovative, quality instruction.

Herber awards were presented to professors Cheryl Daley, Lynal Ingham, Thomas Morphis, Victoria Mukerji, Amy Rebok Rosenthal, Ross Winkle and Aimee Wyrick-Brownworth. The awards honor these teachers' scholarly achievements and unique contributions to their academic fields and fund their participation in upcoming seminars and workshops.

Keith Neergaard, chair of the Faculty Development Committee, along with Ileana Douglas, the academic vice president and academic dean, presented further awards to faculty for scholarly activities, original works disseminating ideas off-campus, articles, book reviews, presentations, artworks, and performances. A total of 22 faculty members were recognized for contributions that ranged from a public art commission in Alaska and dramatic art performances to articles published in scholarly publications.

Three individuals were also given the status of Professor Emeritus. Terry Trivett, Bill Mundy and Henry Koptizke were presented with certificates in gratitude for helping to build the campus (literally, sometimes) and investing their lives in the college.



**Henry Koptizke, professor of business administration, Terry Trivett, professor of biology, and Bill Mundy, professor of physics, were all given the status of professor emeritus. Each having taught at PUC for over three decades (Trivett nearly four), they collectively represent over 102 years of service to PUC.**

photo: James Robertson



**According to published reports, Bush was in the Napa Valley to rest between meetings and go mountain biking.**

## President Bush Visits Angwin

During President Bush's four-day visit to California in April, Angwin unexpectedly became the center of the media's attention. After days of press speculation as to where George W. Bush would land for his brief visit to the Napa Valley, military helicopters touched down at the Angwin Airport on Friday around 8 p.m. Ten minutes later, a motorcade sped past a modest gathering of citizens who had caught on that the president of the United States would be driving through town.

The excitement continued early Saturday morning when residents noticed a number of law enforcement vehicles making their way to the Los Posadas State Forest. Anticipating that the president, a mountain biking enthusiast, would be riding in Angwin, a handful of people braved the morning cold and fog at the Cold Springs Road and Los Posadas Road junction for a glimpse of the president. At around 10:15 a.m., a small motorcade cruised

down the street; Bush, seated in one of several black SUVs, waved at cheering onlookers.

Soon after, Angwin's residents gathered once more—this time at the airport—in anticipation of the president's departure. At 1 p.m., four enormous choppers landed at the airport. Twenty-five minutes later, the helicopters lifted into the sky, heading for Sacramento where the president was scheduled to have meetings.

Down in the valley, some 2,000 demonstrators lined the Silverado Trail on Friday and a few hundred more throughout the weekend. The crowd had both supporters and those protesting the president's policy, including a handful of students and faculty from PUC.

Bush is the first president to make a to Napa County while in office.

Last year, Vice President Dick Cheney also flew into the Angwin Airport during a visit to St. Helena.

## Introducing the (Big) Class of 2006



This year, 405 graduates marched through Commencement Grove, making it the largest graduating class in the last 20 years. Twenty-four percent of the class graduated with academic distinction, 15 of which were Summa Cum Laude.

## Students Network at Film Festival



PUC Film and Television Production students and faculty celebrated multiple wins at the 2006 SONscreen Festival.

This year's SONscreen Film festival resulted in a collection of film awards, new ideas and information, and plenty of connections for the six PUC students who attended the event in Simi Valley, California.

Created by the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 2002, SONscreen highlights Adventist and Christian young people and adult professionals in media and film. Attendees had the opportunity to meet filmmakers and people in the professional world, watch film screenings, and attend workshops for directing, editing, producing, and screenwriting.

Stephen Eyer, one of the four PUC visual arts professors who attended and a member of the executive planning committee for SONscreen, felt that exposing students to the materials already in place was a good idea. "It is good for students to see what the church has and realize there is a place where they can make powerful stories," he said. Film student Tim de la Torre also appreciated the connections: "The most important thing we walked away with was meeting people."

SONscreen accepts productions from students and industry professionals that display qualities of social awareness, outreach and creative entertainment. PUC had a momentous year with Tim de la Torre's film, *Wanted: God's Character*, winning first place for best drama and Travis Gleason's public service announcement (PSA), *Child on the Internet* winning for best PSA. Several PUC student films won special jury prizes, including Brian Bazemore's documentary, *Everyday People*, Charles Johnson's comedy, *Adventist Drug Culture*, and Jose Torres' PSA, *Price Check*.

## Students & Staff Serve in Mississippi and Louisiana

Youth pastor Jon Cicle from the Pacific Union College Church and a group of 16 volunteers journeyed to New Orleans and Waveland during spring break to take part in continued efforts to get the Gulf States back on track. While most experts are estimating that clearing the devastation and rebuilding will take at least three to five years, the group of PUC students, high school students, and sponsors did their best to make a difference in the lives of some grateful families.

From removing broken toilets and appliances to clearing debris washed in from massive flooding, the group worked tirelessly to gut several houses and apartments in both New Orleans and Waveland. Armed with protective breathing masks and rolls of duct tape, PUC students Zach Gore, Danny Hopgood and Ryan Veness worked on sealing refrigerators for removal by FEMA trucks. Amazingly, some of the refrigerators hadn't been opened since the hurricane struck in late August.

"It took a lot of determination and hard work," said Pastor Cicle. But he added, "The students who participated had a clear sense of accomplishment. We were performing tangible tasks that had a real impact on people's lives."



**Volunteers from the PUC Church spent spring break clearing debris from hurricane ravaged homes in the Gulf States.**

## New Academic Dean Chosen



**Nancy Lecourt will begin her new role as academic dean this summer. She has taught in the PUC English department for 27 years.**

On March 12, Nancy Lecourt accepted the invitation of the Pacific Union College board to serve as vice president for academic administration, starting this summer. Lecourt is a professor of English at PUC. She has been teaching at the college since 1979, serving as chair of the department for ten accumulative years. Lecourt has a Ph.D. in English from the University of New Hampshire.

"Dr. Lecourt has shown as a professor and department chair at PUC that she has the leadership qualities and respect from colleagues needed to make an excellent Academic Dean. She has been serving this year as the writer for the accreditation reports to our regional accrediting body, showing vision as a futurist leader," said President Richard Osborn.

Lecourt will replace current academic dean Ileana Douglas, who is leaving administration to return to the classroom. Douglas has served as vice president for academic administration since 1999. Prior to coming to PUC, Douglas taught history at Atlantic Union College. Next fall, she will begin a teaching appointment in the PUC history department as a professor.

The search for a new academic dean began in January. Osborn chaired the search committee along with membership of one board member, four faculty members chosen by the Academic Senate, and the Student Association president.

## PUC to Remain a “College”

PUC alums and lovers of the school song everywhere can rest easy. They won't have to come up with new words anytime soon. Pacific Union College is going to stay just that—a college. PUC's board voted in February to remain a college in both name and function.

At the beginning of the year, PUC began to examine the question of remaining a college or becoming a university, primarily because Walla Walla College is seriously contemplating a name change. This follows a growing trend both nationally and denominationally to change to a “university” name.

At President Richard Osborn's urging, the board appointed a taskforce chaired by Kelly Bock, director of education for the Pacific Union, to examine the name change question carefully. They didn't have many opinions to deal with—faculty, staff, students and alumni almost uniformly wanted to remain true to the mission of a college focusing on excellent undergraduate education and personal relationships.

Bruce Ivey, professor of computer science and physics, felt that the board made the right decision. He points out that the reward structure of a traditional university with the main focus on research and graduate students is very different from PUC's mission. “In a traditional university, the attitude is ‘publish or perish.’ If you continue to publish, you'll get grants and graduate students,” Ivey said. “But here I'm supposed to know the names of the students in my classes. Tenure isn't decided on research, although that is encouraged, but rather it is decided on whether or not you are a good teacher—you have to genuinely like teaching.”

Bock says he was impressed by the near unanimity of opinion. “I went into this feeling pretty neutral about the issue,” Bock said. “I was impressed at how deeply the faculty and students feel about staying true to the mission of a college. I've come away feeling that PUC really has a niche and is providing the type of nurturing, caring, Christian environment that Adventist parents really want for their undergraduate child.”



**No need for changing the logo. PUC will remain a college, continuing its focus on excellent undergraduate education.**

## Commemorative Gifts



### **Peter E. Hare, '54**

by Eileen & Malcolm Maxwell  
by Cheerie Lou Capman & Vera Capman

### **Carolyn F. Belleau**

by Jo Ann Belleau  
by Carol & Burton Pontynen  
by Margaret A. Knecht  
by Patricia Reynolds  
by Marcia Toledo  
by Jessie & S.R. Van Deusen  
by Nancy & Harry Van Pelt  
by Chateau Calistoga  
by Cedar Lake Academy (Class of 1950)

### **Margaret (Peggy) Bell, '51**

by Marcia Toledo  
by Josephine & Leonard Turner

### **Hilary Gregory-Blount, '00**

by William Richli

### **Noel May, '32**

by Ronald Wu

### **Richard J. Vizcarra, '87**

by Gail & Earl Aagaard  
by Ruby & Dennis O'Brien

### **Merlin McIntyre**

by Patricia & Clinton Emmerson

### **Waldon Tobolt**

by Patricia & Clinton Emmerson

### **In Honor of Dr. Ted Utt and Mrs. Shirley Christian- Utt**

by Sheilah & Charles Potter

### **In Honor of Dr. Terrence L. Trivett**

by Joyce & Robert Rusche  
by Alan R. Yee  
by Laura Taylor

### **In Appreciation of Dr. Charles and Mrs. Eddie**

#### **Bevins-Bell**

by Sheilah & Charles Potter



# class notes

COMPILED BY HERB FORD

## 1940

**Leo Van Dolson, '45**, now makes his home in McDonald, Tenn., after a life of service that found him preaching the Christian gospel on every continent except Antarctica, teaching at five Adventist colleges, including PUC, and serving for 14 years at the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Leo has also authored or co-authored 24 books and 16 Sabbath school quarterlies.

After a distinguished career of service as an educator, church administrator and departmental director that spanned 56 years, **Bert B. Beach, '48**, has retired from the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. A pioneer in inter-church relations and a leader in religious liberty ministry, Bert sat on the General Conference Executive Committee for 45 years. He served for 32 years as secretary of the Conference of Christian World Communions and was a leader for several years in the annual U.S. Church Leaders' Meeting. He is the author of half a dozen books and hundreds of articles for Adventist and other publications. Though he has received many honors and recognitions over the years, it is a special measure of his church's regard for his excellence in service that in connection with his retirement he received the Medallion of Distinction from the church's world Education Department, the Medal of Distinction from its Health Ministries Department, the Bridge Award from its Communication Department, and the American of the Year award by the American Religious Town Hall Meeting. "I am eternally grateful for the years spent at PUC, the lasting friendships made, and the global mission and vision received at this great 'college on the mountain,'" writes Bert, who in 1997 received an Honored Alumnus award from Pacific Union College.

## 1950

**Monroe D. Duerksen, '54**, who now lives in Rio Rancho, N.M., is a co-author of *"To Light a Candle,"* a book describing a family's experiment with a new yet old method of doing missionary work. Monroe may be reached by e-mail at patidale2@juno.com, or 2265 High Desert Circle NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144.

**Vivian Nelson (Smith) Cushman, '56**, at age 98 now makes her home with her daughter, Mitzi Wiggle, in Bennet, Nebr., and admits that she "is slowing down." Vivian served as Dean of Women at La Sierra/Loma Linda University from 1963 to 1976, and earlier was an English teacher at Lynwood Academy in Southern Calif.

For his contribution to education and medicine, and his life-long commitment to public health, **Arthur W. Weaver, '53**, a retired physician who makes home in Northville, Mich., has been granted the Doctor of Science degree, honoris causa, by Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich. Arthur has served as a Seventh-day Adventist missionary in Pakistan, Russia and China. His leadership of smoking cessation programs has led some 100,000 people to "kick the habit." Author of 60 papers in scholarly journals and 23 chapters in various surgery textbooks, Arthur's outstanding service to others has garnered for him a host of honors, including that of the Detroit News' 'Michiganian of the Year' in 1986.

**Bernice and Lloyd White, Att. '51-'52**, recently found their life story being told in the "In The Spotlight" feature in the Tracy (Calif.) Press. The article recounted Bernice's nearly 47 years as choir director and organist for the First Presbyterian Church of Tracy, even though she is a Seventh-day Adventist, and Lloyd's 42 years of work for the Glover Oil Company, which was owned by Audrey Glover, '48. Now, after 53 years of marriage, Lloyd and Bernice

enjoy their retirement with frequent auto trips to California valley, mountain and seashore points of interest that lie close at hand.

## 1960

**Ralph Robertson, '65**, was recently re-elected as director of the Ministerial Association of the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. First elected to the post in 1995, Ralph earlier served as a pastor of Adventist churches in California, Nevada and Colorado, and as an assistant Ministerial Secretary of the Nevada-Utah Conference of Adventists. Ralph's wife, Darlys (Shivers), who has been serving as an assistant to the conference's Ministerial Department, graduated from PUC in 1963.

## 1970

During the early part of 2006, **A. Royce Snyman, '77**, was engaged in relief efforts in Louisiana following hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Royce is the director of Personal Ministries and Evangelism of the Michigan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He also serves as Disaster Response director of the Lake Union Conference of Adventists. Royce's wife, **Laurie (Densky), '77**, earned a master's degree at Wayne State University in 1986, and is now a social worker and owner of AwakeningsFamilyTherapy.com and TheVegetarianExpress.com on the Internet.

At a recent constituency meeting of the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists held on the PUC campus in May, 2006, **James E. Pedersen, '74**, was enthusiastically re-elected as president of the Conference. Previous to his election as president of the Conference, Jim had been the Conference's executive secretary for five years, and before that had served as assistant to the Conference president.

**Samir Berbawy, '79**, has been elected as president of the Egypt Field of Seventh-day Adventists, with headquarters in Heliopolis, Egypt. Samir had been a departmental leader and a member of the Egypt Field's executive committee. Along with his wife, Tanya (Benner), '79, Samir will provide leadership for some 1,000 Adventist Christians who worship in 25 churches in Egypt.

**Wayne Martin, '76**, a sergeant with the St. Helena (Calif.) Police Department, recently

found himself back on campus as a guest lecturer on traffic issues in one of Prof. Henry Kopitzke's business administration classes. The assignment is a familiar one to Wayne since he has presented a similar lecture to this class for each of the last 17 years!

## 1980

**Avery A. Browne, '85**, a lieutenant in the California Highway Patrol (CHP) is now serving as commander of the Patrol's Golden Gate Division Transportation Management Center. He recently directed the emergency management operations of the Angwin Volunteer Fire Department at Angwin's Virgil O. Parrett Field during the landings and take-offs of U.S. president George Bush's and other helicopters in connection with the President's visit to Napa County. Avery, who is chief of the fire department, served as a Special Investigations/Division Operations Sergeant for the CHP's Golden Gate Division prior to his 14-month deployment to Iraq where he served as the headquarters company commander for the Second Division Medical Brigade. During his Iraq service he was awarded the Bronze Star medal and Combat Action Badge, and upon his return to the U.S. was promoted to the rank of major. Avery is currently an instructor in the U.S. Army's Emergency Response to Weapons of Mass Destruction cadre in addition to his CHP and volunteer activities.

The collection and shipment of shoes and socks to orphaned children in many countries (who've never worn a new pair of shoes!) has recently commanded the time of **Dorothy (Bovee) Fletcher, '84**, and fellow members of the Chestatee Seventh-day Adventist Church in Dawsonville, Ga. Through the "Shoes for Orphan Souls" drive ([www.wmbw.org](http://www.wmbw.org)), Dorothy, at [dottyjo1@alltel.net](mailto:dottyjo1@alltel.net), and members of more than 200 participating churches in the southeastern U.S. have seen some 20,000 pairs of shoes and nearly 100,000 pairs of socks collected and shipped to orphans around the world.

In addition to directing his team of 10 staff members who are responsible for the annual giving and stewardship programs of both Loma Linda University (LLU) and the LLU Medical Center, **David Colwell, '82**, volunteers as the every-other-week producer of the television broadcast of the Sabbath school for



**Avery A. Browne, '85**, holds many titles including Chief of the Angwin Fire Department.



**Dorothy (Bovee) Fletcher, '84**, collected over 20,000 pairs of shoes for orphans.

the Loma Linda Broadcasting Network. David, having served as Director of Development of the Medical Center for a number of years, now finds his responsibilities expanded as he takes over more of the administrative functions within Advancement for the two institutions.

Verizon Wireless, operator of one of the nation's largest wireless networks, has named **Tami (Dietrich) Erwin, Att. '82-'83**, as president of the company's top-performing Washington-Baltimore-Virginia region headquarters. Tami is responsible for sales operations and customer service for the regional unit that includes more than 3,000 employees. Previously Tami was president for Verizon's Southwest Region based in Chandler, Ariz., and vice president in the company's West Area. Tami began her career in the wireless industry in 1987 as a customer service representative for US West in Bellevue, Wash. She also worked on an international team responsible for implementing cellular service in Hungary. Following her studies at PUC, Tami did coursework at the Stanford Advanced Management College.

**Jeffery A. Shultz, '89**, was recently introduced and welcomed at the weekly meeting of the Napa County (Calif.) Board of Supervisors as a new member of the Auditor-Controller team of the county. Previously, Jeff had been employed by Bowman and Company, an accounting firm, in Stockton, Calif.

**Clinton, '84, and Gina (Devine), '82, '84, Wahlen** are now serving as faculty members of the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS) at Cavite, Philippines. Clinton is chair of the institution's Biblical Studies department, and is associate professor of New Testament literature and exegesis. He is also associate editor of the *Journal of Asia Adventist Seminary*. In addition to serving as assistant professor of Thesis Research and Writing, and as development officer for the institution, Gina is the editor of *Flags*, an international journal for AIAS' alumni and friends.

Recently re-elected as director of the Northern California Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists is **Dennis Yoshioka, '89**. Dennis has served the Conference since 1997 in various aspects of the Association's work, and earlier was a pastor of the Mountain View (Calif.) Japanese Adventist Church. For three years following his graduation from PUC, Dennis was boys' dean

and Bible teacher at the Far Eastern Academy in Singapore.

## 1990

**Sharon Fujimoto-Johnson, '97**, works as a writer/translator. Her translation of *Rainbow Over Hell*, by award-winning Japanese author Tsuneyukii Mohri, was published by the Pacific Press Publishing Association in March 2006 (rainbowoverhell.com). Sharon lives in Sacramento, Calif., with her husband Jeremy Johnson, '96, who is a senior programmer/analyst at Adventist Health. Her web site is sharonfujimoto-johnson.com.

**Eddie Heinrich, '91**, has been named Youth and Family Ministries director of the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Since his graduation from PUC, Eddie served as youth director of the Kansas-Nebraska Conference, as chaplain of Maplewood Academy, camp director of the Minnesota Conference's North Star Camp, and as pastor of the Adventist church in Crookston, Minn.

According to the Napa (Calif.) Register, **Cory Maticio, Att. '97-'00**, has joined the staff of the Napa Valley Physical Therapy Center as a physical therapist. Cory is a recent graduate of Loma Linda University where he earned a master's degree in physical therapy. Cory's wife, **Aurina Poh, '99**, has joined Darlene Hemmerlin's dental practice in St. Helena, Calif. The two make their home in Napa, Calif.

## 2000

Recently re-elected to the position of director of communication of the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was **Stephanie Kinsey, '00**. Following her graduation from PUC, Stephanie was a music teacher at the Antioch (Calif.) Hilltop Christian School, and then became a graphic designer with the Conference. She has served as the Conference's communication director since 2003.

**Liana Amador, '04**, has recently joined the Pacific Union College Alumni and Advancement team as director of donor and alumni relations for the college. From the time of her PUC graduation until she took up her present duties, Liana was a staff member of the St. Helena (Calif.) Hospital Foundation.



**Sharon Fujimoto-Johnson, '97**, published her translation of a Japanese biography.



# obituaries

COMPILED BY HERB FORD

**Kenneth J. Alexander, Att. '85**, who lived in Gridley, Calif., died October 12, 2005. He was born on April 9, 1965.

**Lucile (Urquhart) Anderson, '31**, who lived in Angwin for many years with her husband, Fred, who was manager of the PUC College Mill, died on February 28, 2006, in Napa, Calif. She was born on April 16, 1910, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Lucile spent a number of years in Korea with her Adventist missionary parents Maude and Edward Urquhart. She is survived by her daughter, Dorothy Morrison-Montelli; sons Fred Jr., Lloyd and Edward; eight grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; and a brother, Stanley.

**John J. Beck, Att. '66-'68**, died October 10, 2005, in Loma Linda, Calif. He was born on March 18, 1914, in Medina, N.D. John was a teacher and school principal in North Dakota, Nevada, Florida, Oklahoma and Texas for 40 years, including 26 years in Seventh-day Adventist schools. He is survived by his wife, Becky; daughter, Sharon Stewart; son, Don Beck; brother, Edwin Beck; sister, Velma McGruder; four grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

**Donald J. Belknap, '48**, who lived in Rising Fawn, Ga., died on August 25, 2005. He was born on May 1, 1920. Donald is survived by his wife, Lydian; daughters Shirley, Kathleen and Carolyn; sons, Lewis and Douglas; and 15 grandchildren.

**Harley A. Boehm, '48**, a beloved teacher and administrator for four decades at Loma Linda Academy in Southern California, died March 25, 2006, in Loma Linda, Calif. Of their sense of loss at his death, friends, family, colleagues and former students declared that "Harley's shoes were too big to fill." Born in Chowchilla, Calif., on July 2, 1924, Harley grew up in Brazil where his parents were Seventh-day Adventist missionaries. After his graduation from PUC, he and his wife, Howardine, went to South America as missionaries. Upon their return from missionary service, Harley taught at the Calexico Mission School on the California-Mexico border. In September 1963, he joined Loma Linda Academy and served as registrar, counselor, librarian,

public relations secretary, historian and head of the school's work-study program. For many years Harley also served as PUC's Class Agent for the Class of '48. He is survived by his wife, Howardine; two daughters, Harlene Issa and Haidee Dancer; five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

**E. Don Brehm, '50**, died April 24, 2006, in St. Helena, Calif. He was born on August 28, 1923, in Modesto, Calif. Don is survived by his wife, Ruth; a daughter, Bonnie; and a son, Edward.

**William A. Carter, '65**, a retired attorney who lived in Kingman, Ariz., died October 10, 2005. He was born on May 2, 1943. William is survived by his wife, Teresa.

**Jennie F. Ford, '64**, who lived in Fair Oaks, Calif., died on April 3, 2006. She was born on October 12, 1921. Jennie is survived by her two daughters, Betty Jo Boran and Nadine Laythe.

**Martha June (Gardner) Horsley, '41**, a retired physician who lived in Ukiah, Calif., died April 25, 2006. She was born on June 12, 1921, and spent her childhood years with her medical missionary parents in Penang, Malaysia. After spending a year at school in Cologne, France, June came to PUC as a sophomore at age sixteen and a half. Following graduation as a medical doctor from Loma Linda University School of Medicine, June married Tom Horsley. Together they bought and ran the Mojave (Calif.) Hospital. In 1958 she began work with Sunset Kaiser Permanente health care in Los Angeles, continuing until her retirement at age 75 in 1996. June is survived by two daughters, Candace Ross and Janeth Wesselmann.

**Margaret G. (Gannon) Jensen, '98**, a psychotherapist and nurse who lived in Willets, Calif., died January 3, 2006. She was born on December 31, 1946. Margaret earned a Ed.D. degree from the University of Southern California. She is survived by two daughters, Mary and Kristen; and a son, Murdoch.

**Robert L. Kinzer, '54**, a dentist and educator, died December 10, 2005, in Redlands, Calif. He was born on October 9, 1932, in Keene, Texas. Following his PUC graduation, Robert completed dental training at Loma Linda University's School

of Dentistry (LLUSD), and joined in the faculty of the school even as he began a private dental practice in Montclair, Calif. Robert served for 47 years as a teacher, chairing LLUSD's restorative dentistry department for 22 years. From 1969 to 1975, he was a faculty member of the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, serving as director of operative dentistry and chairing the restorative dentistry department. Robert was named LLUSD's Teacher of the Year in 2004, and in 1977 Loma Linda University presented to him its Distinguished Service Award. He held leadership posts in several professional groups. Robert is survived by his wife, DuAnn; a daughter, Shelley L. Kinzer-Corley; a son, Craig; four grandchildren; and a step-brother, Daniel Mayer.

**Helen Knittle, Att. '43**, who lived in Sonora, Calif., died on December 1, 2005.

**Barbara J. (Parsons) Knoeffler, '43**, who lived in Bangor, Calif., died February 2, 2006. Barbara is survived by her husband, Harold; two daughters, Marsha and Linda; and a son, Steven.

**Enok Lohne, '57**, a physician who made his home in Fresno, Calif., died August 22, 2005. Enok was one of several young men who had served in the Norwegian underground during World War II and who thereafter came to study at PUC in the late 1940s and 1950s.

**Morris Harold Richard Lukens, '36**, a retired physician who lived in Angwin, Calif., died on March 20, 2006, in Angwin. He was born on April 13, 1915. He is survived by his daughters, Dixie and Betty; and a son, Richard.

**Wilma F. (Bridwell) Mathe, '40**, a retired nurse who lived in Napa, Calif., died February 21, 2006, in Napa. She was born March 19, 1921, in Marietta, Texas. Wilma is survived by her husband, Gordon; three sons, Glen, Wayne and Myron; and four grandchildren.

**Margaret Noel (Culhane) May, '32**, a nurse and musician whose philanthropy played a major role in the successful reconstruction of PUC's Clark Hall in the late 1990s, died February 22, 2006, in Glendale, Calif. She was born December 25, 1911, in Oakland, Calif. After completing her nurses

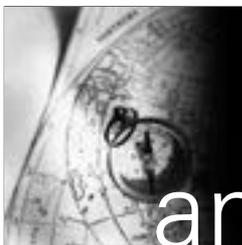
training at White Memorial Hospital, Los Angeles, Noel married Stanton May, a physician, and they began service as medical missionaries in China at the Adventist hospitals in Kalgan, North China, and Wuhan, Central China. Returning to the United States because of World War II, Noel began service as a nurse at Glendale Adventist Medical Center while her husband was in U.S. Army service in Australia. Following completion of his service and post-graduate study, Glendale became the Mays' permanent home. An accomplished pianist and organist, Noel possessed a perfect musical pitch voice during her student days at PUC, which led to her being asked to utilize her gift by giving correct pitch while the PUC A Cappella Choir was on tours. She served for many years as organist of the Glendale City Seventh-day Adventist Church, retiring as Organist Emeritus in 1989. Noel is survived by a daughter, Julie Ann Seltzer; a son, Thomas; a sister, Eleanor June Casebeer; a granddaughter and four great-grandchildren.

**Fern Logan Maynor, SHSHSN '32**, a nurse, died in December 2005 in Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. She was born on December 24, 1909, in Fresno, Calif. Fern is survived by her husband, Earnest; a daughter, Sharon Nakacawa; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Shawna Gates-Naines, '79**, a nurse and businesswoman, died March 15, 2006, in Deer Park, Calif. She was born April 1, 1956, in Portland, Ore. Shawna is survived by her husband, Ron; her mother, Delta Gates; and a brother, Wesley Gates.

**Olavi J. Rouhe, '29**, a physician, died March 1, 2006, in Paradise, Calif. He was born in Savonlinna, Finland, on February 20, 1908. Olavi is survived by his wife, Shirley; a daughter, Suzanne; five sons, Edgar, Lyndon, Olavi, Richard and Stanley; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

**Nathan O. Shaw, '40**, who was president and owner of All American Products Company, died February 16, 2006, in Glendale, Calif. He was born in Battle Creek, Mich., on October 17, 1919. Nathan is survived by his wife, Margaret; a daughter, Sylvia Bond; a son, Bruce; and four grandchildren.



# announcements

## BIRTHS:

**1. Lindsey Yumiko Ching,** daughter of Julie (Hata), '98, and Brian Ching, '92, of Oroville, Calif. Born: 5-18-06.

**2. Nicole Elizabeth Butler,** daughter of Luminita (Iorga), '87, and David Butler of Jellico, Tenn. Born: 11-5-05.

**3. Rowan Elliot Dumitru,** son of Tori att. '95-'97, and Kevin att. '88-'92, Dumitru of Rocklin, Calif. Born: 9-26-05.

**4. Elena Noelani Freitas,** daughter of Christie and Joey Freitas, '95, of Kamuela, Hawaii. Born: 5-8-06

**5. Lucas Padro Youngman,** son of Ruthie (Padro), '02, and Ryan Youngman, '01, of Redlands, Calif. Born 1-23-06.

**6. Jared Sean Yamamoto,** son of Christine (Minnick), '96, and Sean Yamamoto of Azusa, Calif. Born: 3-15-06.



1



2



3



4



5



6



1



2



3



4



5

## WEDDINGS:

**1. Esther Chung, '03 and Daniel Lee, '02** in Grand Terrace, Calif., 6-11-06.

**2. Kelly (Heidenreich) and Matt Murray, '01** in Temecula, Calif., 5-7-06.

**3. Krista (Hutchins), '93, and Todd Peterson, '91,** in Pleasant Hill, Calif., 12-4-05.

**4. Becky Mercill, '96,** and Dan Truesdell in Kailua, Hawaii, 12-27-05.

**5. Angela Sugihara, '04, and Demetrio Villar Jr., '03,** in Pleasant Hill, Calif., 3-19-06.

Have a birth or wedding announcement? Send your good news to [ViewPoint@puc.edu](mailto:ViewPoint@puc.edu). Be sure to include a photo.

# president's corner



GLOBETROTTERS | by Richard C. Osborn

There's a joke that goes like this:

What do you call someone who knows two languages? Bilingual.

What do you call someone who knows three languages? Trilingual.

What do you call someone who only knows one language?

An American.

Jokes often speak truth, but when it comes to the large number of Pacific Union College's globetrotting undergraduates, this one does not ring true. Over spring break, my wife, Norma, and I visited PUC students who disprove the punchline. As vice chair of the Adventist Colleges Abroad board, I was asked to pay an official visit to Universidad del Rio de la Plata, the Adventist university in Argentina. Over sixty American students are learning Spanish at Universidad del Rio de la Plata; twelve are from PUC.

What did we find in Argentina? Although I have been part of many accreditation teams in North America, I have never found a happier and more fulfilled group of students than the American students in Argentina. Our PUC students were all speaking fluent Spanish, a result of a total immersion environment. They have also traveled extensively throughout South America, shopping, eating and roaming in a country where few people speak English.

We had the opportunity to have a mini-immersion experience by interacting with the American students. Eve Lynch, a PUC student, introduced us to *matte*, a South American tea mixed in its cold version with Tang. We drank from a shared straw as we sat visiting in a park.

On Sabbath we ran into several of our students at church in Buenos Aires. Many of the members had already become their friends, inviting them home for a Sabbath meal. Earlier a specially formed ACA choir had led the worship service, singing and preaching in Spanish.

When I was going through college most of us were required to learn another language—a requirement that has been minimized in recent years as students have

increasingly shifted their majors from the humanities over to pre-professional programs that don't have a modern language requisite. I find this unfortunate; I have always argued for the importance of learning at least a second language, particularly in this shrinking global community. Additionally, you learn a lot about the structure of your own language by studying another.

Yet learning another language is about more than sharing vocabulary with another part of the world. It's about enhancing your global perspective. In a well-taught language class, you learn about the culture, literature, history and religion of another country. Taking a class at an ACA campus enhances this to an even greater degree as you see a worldwide church in action.

Fortunately language is still an important emphasis at PUC. There are a large number of students who take a modern language with an average of forty or more attending ACA programs each year. PUC is known throughout North America for its outstanding modern languages department.

And when our globetrotting students return to campus, they come back as citizens of the world—not just the secular world but as citizens with a vision for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in its global dimension, mission and outreach. When they think of carrying the message of Jesus Christ to the world, not only can they carry this mission out in another language, but they now have a global vision of what it means to be an Adventist. What a great legacy this is to the current generation of "globetrotters" from PUC.

S. LAWRENCE MAXWELL

Dear Fellow Class Member:

I want to share a suggestion with you. It is not one that I would ordinarily make, but an experience from last September convinced me to share with you.

I was staying at the home of Pauline Maxwell, Mervyn's widow. I awakened feeling okay and dressed. Soon I started to shiver and shake, but I still ate breakfast—a decision some nurses soon came to regret. A friend rushed me to the hospital in St. Jo, Michigan, and I don't really know what happened in the next five days. The doctors told me I had a type of pneumonia that is more often fatal than not. My worried daughters stayed by my side, and at one point felt the need to ask the prudent question: "Dad, have you made a will?" I had to admit that I hadn't. (It's my next project.)

It's a project that I think we should all undertake. Look around at our class. We aren't all here anymore. Have you made your will? Have you left something for PUC? Let's make a generous gift this year. And then, for our wills, let's consult an expert.

It's amazing what people in the know can do to reduce taxes and make contributions expand. If you don't know one, remember that the conference treasurer is trained to help, and PUC has its own expert in this field: Eckhard Hubin. Phone him at 707-965-6596 or e-mail [estateplanning@puc.edu](mailto:estateplanning@puc.edu).

It was good to see those of you who could come to our both class reunion at PUC in April. It's always good to reminisce and catch up on each other's lives. Remember: "We're PUC-ites where'er we go. May we always be, dear Old PUC, Loyal to Thee," Loyal, yes, and generous too. God bless us all.

Sincerely,

*S. Lawrence Maxwell*

S. Lawrence Maxwell, class of 1946

**Make life easier  
for you and your family —  
and your alma mater.**



To learn more about how you can make a difference for PUC, call 707-965-6596 or email us at [estateplanning@puc.edu](mailto:estateplanning@puc.edu).

# STAY CONNECTED

The Pacific Union College Alumni Association invites you to visit the new alumni website.

- Keep in touch with PUC and your classmates.
- Read stories about alumni, donors and current students who make us proud.
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- And much more!



We'd love a visit! Check out [alumni.puc.edu](http://alumni.puc.edu) today.

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