

pacific

THE MAGAZINE OF PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

OREGON

COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY



CELEBRATING

75
YEARS

OF FOCUSING ON PUPILS
1945 TO 2020



College Leaders Saw A Path To The Future

Fall 2020

5 PACIFIC IN A PANDEMIC
Students continue learning amid changes

21 OUTSTANDING ALUMNI
Alumni award recipients represent the best



HOMECOMING 2020

Join us for a reimagined Homecoming Oct. 9-10, 2020. Stock up on your favorite food and beverages, make sure to wear your Boxer gear, and take a virtual tour of campus before connecting at virtual events designed to support lifelong learning and connection. ▶ pacificu.edu/homecoming



SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, OCT. 9

2-3 p.m. HST • 5-6 p.m. PDT • 8-9 p.m. EDT

Welcome & Alumni Association Highlights

The Alumni Association Board of Representatives will present a look back at the last year, including an update on who we are, where we are and what we have studied, along with a snapshot of Alumni Association goals for the coming year.

SATURDAY, OCT. 10

7-8 a.m. HST • 10-11 a.m. PDT • 1-2 p.m. EDT

Alumni Forum with President Hallick

President Hallick will present a State of the University tailored just for alumni in this adapted version of her annual breakfast forum. Guests will have the opportunity to ask about the present and future of Pacific University.

8-9 a.m. HST • 11 a.m. - Noon PDT • 2-3 p.m. EDT

Study & Sip — For Keeps

Our host Rachael Woody '05 is an independently employed consultant for archives, museums and heritage organizations. During Study & Sip, Rachael will use insights from the world of historical museum archiving to walk guests through the process of deciding which personal items should be kept for posterity. She will help answer the question, "are we tossing too much out or keeping too many things?" She will also aid guests in processing how to keep heirlooms for our families and how to come to terms with the mementos we leave behind.

9-10 a.m. HST • noon - 1 p.m. PDT • 3-4 p.m. EDT

Athletics Hour with Keith Buckley

Athletic Director Keith Buckley will present the latest information on Boxer sports.

10-11 a.m. HST • 1-2 p.m. PDT • 4-5 p.m. EDT

Back to Class with Professor Jim Moore

With just three weeks to election day, our very own political pundit, Jim Moore, will present a lecture titled, "The 2020 Election: Three weeks before Election Day, can we do better at predicting than in 2016?"

11 a.m. - noon HST • 2-3 p.m. PDT • 5-6 p.m. EDT

Alumni Book Club

The Alumni Book Club will read and discuss the 2020 First Year Seminar selection, *Make Your Home Among Strangers*, a novel by Jennine Capó Crucet.

Noon - 12:30 p.m. HST • 3-3:30 p.m. PDT • 6-6:30 p.m. EDT

Student Life in the Time of Hashtags,

Protests & Coronavirus

Much like their predecessors in the early 1970s, students today focus on academics, athletics and social interactions. Students today also learn and grow in a climate fraught with divisive struggles, just like those who attended college 50 years ago. But this year they are doing it all with face masks and social distancing. Join representatives from the undergraduate student government, who will share an account of what life is like on a college campus in 2020.

1-2:30 p.m. HST • 4-5:30 p.m. PDT • 7-8:30 p.m. EDT

Class of 1965 Happy Hour — Pacific & '60s Trivia

Get your favorite beverage ready and prepare for a heavy dose of nostalgia. Cam Perry '65 will host this special 55th reunion and lead guests in a game of trivia designed just for alumni who appreciated mid-century modern furniture, bell-bottoms and the Fab Four the first time they were popular.

1-2:30 p.m. HST • 4-5:30 p.m. PDT • 7-8:30 p.m. EDT

Class of 1970 Happy Hour

Members of the Class of 1970 are invited to gather online to view a slideshow designed to spark great college memories, followed by a chance to visit as a group. We look forward to an in-person celebration and Golden Guard induction when circumstances allow.

NUTS & BOLTS

There is no charge for participation in virtual Homecoming events. All events will be offered via a secure Zoom channel. Advance registration is required. Registered guests will receive Zoom links and additional details the week of Homecoming 2020.

▶ pacificu.edu/homecoming



Letter From The President

Seventy-five years ago, in the midst of World War II, Pacific University was struggling.

Enrollment had plummeted with young men enlisted in the war effort, and with it had gone stability and security. Even as potential students returned home, it was hard to imagine how Pacific would take its next steps forward.

But the university persevered, taking advantage of an opportunity to bring on a local optometry school and launch its first graduate degree.

It was a strategic risk — attempting growth in a time of uncertainty, investing in a new kind of education after nearly 100 years of focus on the liberal arts.

It paid off.

Today, as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the College of Optometry, the foray into health professions and graduate programs seems portentous. Pacific has become heralded for its unique blend of undergraduate, graduate and professional pathways for students, as well as its diversity of healthcare expertise and service.

The College of Optometry has extended the university's reputation and reach internationally. Faculty and alumni have earned distinction as leaders in the profession in every state. In 2018, Pacific was named the National Optometric Association's School of the Year.

It is an interesting moment to look back on our history.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are again at a moment of uncertainty. We have all had to explore new ways of working, teaching, learning and living.

Here at Pacific, that has meant temporarily shifting to more online delivery of courses, re-examining day-to-day business practices, and creating new support systems for our students and alumni, employees and communities — often at a distance.

I believe we will, again, persevere. This fall, despite so many changes to campus life and the world around us, most of our students returned — eager to continue to pursue the opportunities that a Pacific education affords. Our faculty and staff stepped up to transform learning environments and find creative ways to continue to forge the personal, nurturing relationships that are core to our mission. Our alumni and friends committed to supporting students through hardship with more than \$136,000 in donations to the Student Emergency Fund.

The challenges are not behind us. We continue to need to adapt and innovate — and we will. We continue to need to support our students and our Boxer family through circumstances beyond any of our control — and we will.

But we must also continue to build on our foundations and our successes, because Pacific is committed to helping create a brighter future — and we will.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lesley M. Hallick". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and elegant.

Lesley M. Hallick, President
president@pacificu.edu

Extras

VISIT US ONLINE

A thread that ties together several generations of Pacific optometric care is the Carkner family. It started with Clarence "Clary" Carkner '41, who, along with Newton Wesley '39, Hon. '86 and Roy Clunes '39 owned the charter for the North Pacific College of Optometry.

READ MORE | Carkners' contributions
▶ pacificu.edu/magazine

Willard "Wid" Bleything '51, OD '52, MS '54 was dean of the College of Optometry and a pioneer in establishing new clinical experiences for students and international partnerships that continue today. In a 2016 interview, he told us some stories about the development of the College of Optometry.

LISTEN | Wid Bleything oral history
▶ pacificu.edu/magazine

Pacific provides a range of healthcare services to its student-athletes, from optometric screenings to injury rehabilitation.

LEARN MORE | Caring for student-athletes
▶ pacificu.edu/AthleteCare

See the College of Optometry's EyeVan in action

WATCH | The EyeVan serve the community
▶ pacificu.edu/EyeVan

Pacific Gear! Boxer spirit products are now just a few clicks away.

BUY | Find Pacific gear here
▶ pacificu.edu/PacificGear

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Julian Bunch '21 observes new guidelines as he prepares for his senior year on Pacific University's Forest Grove Campus on Aug. 19, 2020.

NEWS & COMMUNITY

Pacific Rises To Meet The Pandemic 5

Pacific has made numerous adjustments to welcome students back to campus during the novel coronavirus pandemic. It's a new school year like none in living memory.

Line Up 6

The news in Boxer Athletics is all off the field. The Northwest Conference, to which Pacific belongs, has canceled all sporting competitions until at least Jan. 1.

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Online ▶ pacificu.edu/KeepInTouch

Email ▶ classnotes@pacificu.edu

In Memoriam 31

Editor's note: This issue of Pacific magazine was scheduled to go to press in May 2020, but the pandemic forced a change of plans. As a result, many of the class notes and in memoriam published in this issue were submitted as long ago as the fall of 2019.

▶ Virtual Events | DETAILS & REGISTRATION INFORMATION ▶ pacificu.edu/AlumniEvents

SEPTEMBER

19 College of Optometry
▶ *Class of 1995 Virtual Reunion*

19 Athletics Hour
▶ *with Athletic Director Keith Buckley*

26 Alumni Writers Group
▶ *Online. Register today!*

OCTOBER

9-11 Virtual Homecoming
▶ pacificu.edu/homecoming

NOVEMBER

12 Alumni Remembrance Ceremony

14 Alumni & Faculty Authors Series
▶ *Featuring Tim Tran '74*

14 Athletics Hour
▶ *with Athletic Director Keith Buckley*

DECEMBER

12 Study & Sip
▶ *The Beatles*



FEATURES

How Optometry Came To Pacific 8

The optometry program launched at Pacific in 1945 as a result of a combination of postwar challenges and unexpected opportunities. The needs of a small, temporarily shuttered optometry college in Northeast Portland helped meet the demands of a university that had limped through the war years. The outcome was the beginning of Pacific's focus on the health professions.

He Was Driven Away, But Wesley Stuck With Pacific..... 10

The remarkable Newton Wesley '39, Hon. '86, born Newton Uyesugi to immigrant parents, was a founding father of the College of Optometry. Forced from his home by Japanese-American internment policy during World War II, Wesley nevertheless laid the foundation for the College of Optometry and became a giant in the field of contact lenses.

Pacific Optometry: The Years We Made Contacts 12

The earliest contact lenses were made of glass and could be worn only for a few hours at a time. Today's contact lenses are engineering marvels, and Pacific's College of Optometry is at the vanguard of contact lens research and design.

Taking It To The Streets: Vision Care On The Move 14

Pacific has built on a tradition of taking eye care to the community, where students and faculty provide real-world vision screening and treatment to underserved members of the community. The most visible symbol of this outreach is the Pacific EyeVan, an advanced mobile clinic that sees patients in church parking lots, migrant camps and schools.

Pediatric Eye Care Leads To Early Intervention For Children... 16

When it comes to detecting problems with vision, it pays to start early, before brains are hardwired. In InfantSEE, a public health program in which Pacific participates, the patients may be as young as 6 months old.

Eating For Eye Health 17

Sandra (Coutts) Young '82, OD '84 created a business called Visionary Kitchen, which connects nutrition with eye health. She is the author of *Visionary Kitchen: A Cookbook for Eye Health*.

Sports Vision Puts Focus on the Field 18

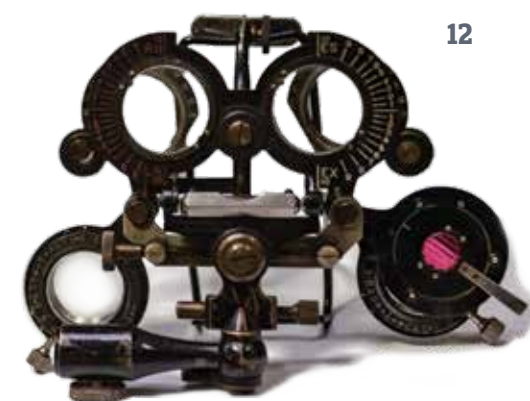
Within the field of optometry, sports vision has emerged as a fast-moving specialty. And within sports vision, Pacific is a leader.

Eye Care Offers A Window To Athletes' Concussions 19

DeAnn Fitzgerald '81, OD '84 of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has become well known for her focus on using optometry as a way to manage athletes' concussions. She has developed protocols for young athletes who suffer head injuries, and her work has been widely shared and emulated around the country.

Alumni Awards..... 21

Selected by their peers, this year's alumni award winners include Dennis Carline '79, MST '88; Breanne McGhee OD '16, MEd '16, PhDEL '21; Matthew Meyer '75; and Scott Pike '68, OD '70.

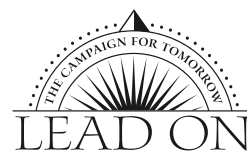


8

12

14

17



PACIFIC UNIVERSITY STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND

IN THE WAKE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, Pacific University students are struggling.

For many, stay-home orders have resulted in lost jobs, unexpected moves, and changes to family finances.

Since March, more than 250 Pacific University students have applied for emergency assistance to help with rent, food, utilities, medical costs, and childcare.

And the Pacific community has stepped up.

Your generosity — coupled with reallocation of student activity funds — has provided more than \$136,000 for the Pacific University Student Emergency Fund.

But the challenge isn't behind us. While students have already received that money, there are at least \$50,000 worth of needs remaining — and the impact of this pandemic is far from over.

Every gift to the Pacific University Student Emergency Fund goes to a student in need. Your support helps our students not only make ends meet, but also stay in school and continue on their pathway to careers in education, healthcare, and community leadership. ■

MAKE A GIFT TO THE STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND TODAY

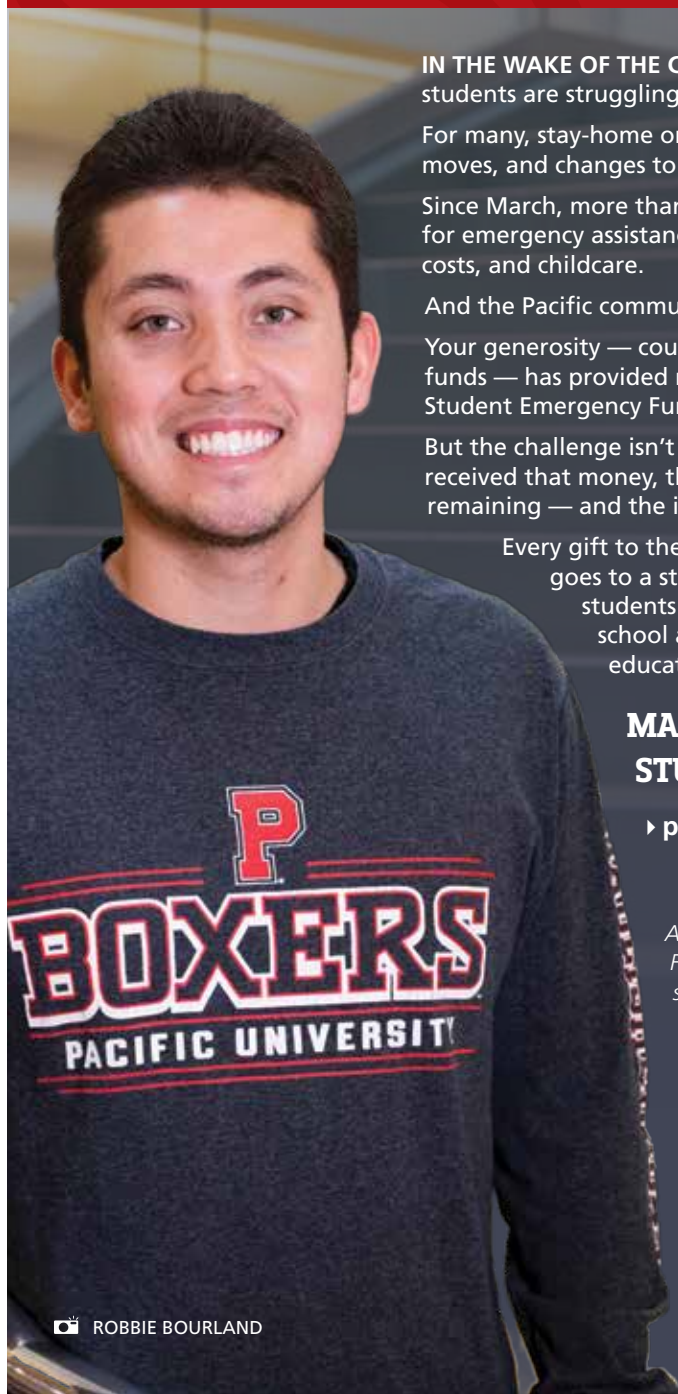
► pacificu.edu/StudentEmergencyFund

As president of the Undergraduate Student Senate, Fernando Lira '21 helped lead the reallocation of student activity dollars to the Student Emergency Fund.

He didn't imagine he would actually need help himself.

In April, he moved home to Brookings, Ore., to continue his finance and marketing studies online and help in his family's Mexican restaurant. Stay-at-home orders hit the family business hard, and Lira found himself applying for an emergency grant to help pay bills and buy food.

"I don't really need much. I just want to be able to help my family," Lira said. "It was extremely awesome."



ROBBIE BOURLAND

News & Notes

Pacific Rises To Meet The Pandemic

When Savannah Tran PA '22 started her studies in Pacific University's physician assistant program back in May, it was under unusual circumstances, to say the least.

In mid-March, the university had quickly moved all courses online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For most of Pacific's students, that meant about six weeks of online courses to finish up the academic year.

But some of Pacific's graduate programs run year-round — and brand new PA students were set to begin their program in May, just as other students were wrapping up for the summer.

"Our cohort started all online back in May, so we have not been able to physically meet each other or be in the same classroom together since starting our program," Tran said.

Gradually over the summer, some health professions programs resumed limited in-person activities — specifically those clinical skills that students must learn in a hands-on setting to become healthcare providers.


Now, Pacific's campuses are opening back up more, though still with lots of modifications. Classes that can be delivered effectively remotely remain online, but there are courses meeting on Pacific's campuses — in modified

spaces with lots of cleaning, physical distancing and other precautions.

"Being on campus has definitely been a unique experience," Tran said. "The students are spaced six feet apart from each other in the classroom, and there are arrows on the floor throughout the building to direct foot traffic into, around, and out of the building. Once we have completed our classes for the day, we use the provided cleaning supplies to wipe down our workspaces and follow the taped arrows to exit the classroom and building."

And yet, the vast majority of students have chosen to return to school in person, eager to face the modifications in order to keep moving forward toward their goals — which for Tran means preparing to help fight the disease that has so changed her world.

"Continuing my education during this time means that I am one step closer to being able to join the community of healthcare providers currently working hard to care for those who need them most during this pandemic." ■

 ROBBIE BOURLAND





Line Up

GAMES OFF THE NORTHWEST CONFERENCE HAS POSTPONED COMPETITION AND CHAMPIONSHIPS IN ALL SPORTS THROUGH JAN. 1, due to concerns about health and safety amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The NWC is working to develop a schedule for competition for these sports in the spring. At Pacific, student-athletes are focusing on their studies, as the Athletic Department prepares protocols that will allow them to begin practices and team activities. Stay on top of athletics news at goboxers.com, and watch for information about new regular virtual get-togethers with Athletic Director Keith Buckley.



WELCOME NEW & FAMILIAR FACES

KEITH BUCKLEY TOOK THE REINS JULY 1 AS THE NEW DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS, succeeding the retiring Ken Schumann. Buckley

joined Pacific in 2009 to lead the return of football to the Boxer roster. In 2018, he was appointed assistant athletic director, leading the department's student-athlete success initiatives. In the wake of the transition, former Assistant Head Coach IAN FALCONER, who has been with the Boxer football program since 2010, takes over as head coach. Pacific also is pleased to welcome new men's soccer coach BRANDON PORTER '09 and new sports information director MIKE SMITH.



NO. 2 SEED

BACK IN FEBRUARY, THE BOXER WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM, seeded No. 2 in the Northwest Conference, hosted George Fox for an NWC Tournament game. It was the first time the Boxers reached the tournament since 2009 and the first time they hosted a game since 1996. The Boxers finished third in the conference after the tournament.

Briefly Noted

OUTSTANDING EDUCATION |

Pacific University's teacher preparation programs have received three commendations from Oregon's Teacher Standards and Practices Commission. The commission singled out Pacific for its "real-world focused and practice-based learning experiences, the work of its faculty data team in developing teaching instruments collaboratively, and for "setting a high bar" for candidates by requiring double the mandated minimum student-teaching time. Pacific offers undergraduate and graduate

pathways to teacher licensure at its campuses in Forest Grove, Eugene and Woodburn. The Eugene Campus — also home to Pacific's master of social work program — recently relocated to the Lane Community College campus, where students now have access to a broader range of student services and more direct pathways from community college to advanced degrees and career licensure.

EXCELLENCE IN HEALTHCARE | U.S. *News & World Report* ranked three Pacific University graduate programs among the best graduate health programs in the United States. The School of Occupational

Therapy tied for 36th out of 198 schools nationally and was the only Oregon program ranked in its field. The School of Physical Therapy ranked 71st of 239, or in the top third of all physical therapy programs in the country — and No. 1 in Oregon. And the master of speech-language pathology program was in the top half of the nation's comparable programs. *U.S. News* last fall ranked Pacific as one of the top universities in the nation, ahead of all other Oregon private universities. It called out Pacific as one of the best values for college education, one of the best for veterans, and one of the top schools for

Honors & Awards



DR. HELEN SHARP, Communication Sciences and Disorders, was awarded the 2020 Distinguished Service Award for her individual service to the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association. Her service with the association includes eight years on the board of directors, ACPA president in 2014, 11 years as the ethics and health policy section editor of the *Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal*, and service on 11 committees and task forces. Pacific's CSD program was recently ranked near the top third in *U.S. News & World Report's* ranking of 2021 Best Speech-Language Pathology Programs.



PAUL SNELL, Politics and Government, has emerged as a national voice in proposing a civilian board of police commissioners for the City of Portland in the wake of the May 25 murder of George Floyd. The nine-member commission would hire or fire police chiefs, control the police budget, review police complaints and make discipline recommendations. Fellow Politics & Government Professor **JULES BOYKOFF** has been both a participant and commentator on the social unrest in Portland. "Democracy is incredibly messy," he said in a July interview with *The Oregonian*. Boykoff also published an interview June 25 in *The Nation* with Kent Ford, founder of the Black Panther Party's Oregon Chapter.



DEBRA GWARTNEY, MFA Nonfiction, is an Oregon Book Award in Creative Nonfiction finalist for 2020. Gwartney's novel, *I am a Stranger Here Myself*, is a hybrid memoir-history of 19th century western expansion, and what it means to be a woman of the West. MFA Poetry instructor **DORIANNE LAUX** was selected as a finalist for the 2020 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry for her collection, *Only as the Day Is Long: New and Selected Poems*, a collection of 20 odes that pay homage to Laux's mother, an ordinary and extraordinary woman of the Depression era.



Pacific has welcomed several new leaders in recent months. **RICK KIMBROUGH** is vice president of University Advancement, overseeing Pacific's fundraising, marketing & communications, alumni and community engagement, and conference and event planning work. **SCOTT KORB** is director of the MFA program, where he has been teaching since 2013. **NARCE RODRIGUEZ**, Chief Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Officer, is now also the Student Affairs vice president. In her new role, Rodriguez, who joined Pacific in 2017, oversees student services including the dean of students, the Student Counseling Center, on-campus housing, Residential Life, Outdoor Pursuits, Accessibility & Accommodation Services, and Student Support Services.

aiding social mobility. Also this spring, GradReports, a data-driven research product out of Washington, ranked Pacific's dental hygiene program as No. 1 in the country based on the program's cost-to-student-debt ratio and graduates' median salaries.

REVAMPING KINESIOLOGY | Pacific's undergraduate major in exercise science has been renamed kinesiology, emphasizing the program's strong focus in the natural and social sciences and aligning to a curriculum update focused on making the program more accessible to students. The program,

part of the College of Arts & Sciences, has consistently been one of the most-pursued majors at Pacific, graduating between 40 and 60 students a year.

WELCOME NEW ALUMNI | In May and August, Pacific celebrated virtual commencement ceremonies, marking the graduation of more than 1,100 new alumni. In May, about 380 undergraduates earned bachelor degrees, while more than 440 earned master's and doctorate degrees. In August, about 300 students graduated from health-related fields, primarily from the College of Health Professions.

August's Commencement exercises also recognized the university's first graduating classes in the bachelor of applied vision science program — a partnership with institutions in China and Taiwan designed to train medical professionals in what is an emerging optometry field there — and in the PhD in education and leadership program, a low-residency program to advance the careers of experienced teachers and administrators in education and healthcare. The virtual commencement ceremonies are available to watch on Pacific's YouTube channel at youtube.com/pacuniv. ■



CELEBRATING
75
YEARS
OF FOCUSING ON PUPILS
1945 TO 2020

Advanced equipment enhances collaborative learning.

Left to right: Artin Monghate '23, Shelby Borstmayer '23, Avisa Mohammad-Hassani '23

BY MIKE FRANCIS

ROBBIE BOURLAND

How Optometry Came To Pacific

In 1945, Pacific University faced dramatic change — and some momentous choices.

World War II had come to an end, and a tidal wave of young people, mostly men, were coming home. The promise of a college education, abetted by the new G.I. Bill, beckoned.

But many universities, like Pacific, weren't prepared to enroll all of them.

Universities in the United States had struggled through the war years. At Pacific, enrollment had languished. Faculty and staff wages stagnated. Building repairs were deferred.

But opportunity was emerging.

In Northeast Portland's Hollywood District, the North Pacific College of Optometry sat shuttered after a couple of decades of operations. The owners, including Newton Wesley '39, Hon. '86 (*Page 10*), wanted to revive it by affiliating it with a recognized institution of higher learning. They offered the charter, along with about \$5,000 worth of equipment, to Pacific. In exchange, Pacific would operate the college, which was thought to be able to educate from 75 to 125 new students.

On Sept. 19, 1945, students started taking the first optometry classes in Marsh Hall on Pacific's Forest Grove Campus in what would eventually become the College of Optometry, Pacific's first health professions program.

Optometry Practitioners Fight Headwinds

In the middle of the 20th century, optometry was still seeking acceptance as a legitimate form of healthcare. Earlier in the century, optometrists were generally sneered at by the medical establishment, which thought of them as glorified jewelers. Indeed, early optometrists frequently operated inside jewelry shops, offering corrective lenses while their colleagues hawked bracelets and pendants.

Optometrists suffered "constant attacks" by medical groups as part of "their efforts to eliminate Optometry as a profession," wrote Albert Fitch in his 1955 memoir *My Fifty Years in Optometry*. Fitch was among a band of optometrists who fought to turn back an effort by organized medicine to take over optometry as "a minor branch of medical practice."

A 1914 letter to "brother optometrists" by Albert Myer, president of the American Optical Association, sounded a call to arms. "Tell your patrons that we are a body of technical experts who are developing a very important science — vitally important to them," he wrote. "That the proud lineage of Optometry dates back to Copernicus and Galileo, and must not be shackled to Medicine."



Willard "Wid" Bleything '51, OD '52, MS '54 earned three degrees from Pacific University on his way to becoming an optometrist. He served in the Air Force and Air Reserves, retiring as a colonel, and he also worked in private practice for many years before eventually returning to Pacific, where he became the dean of the College of Optometry. He helped overhaul the college's clinical experiences for students and launched international partnerships that continue to thrive today. In 2016, we sat down with Bleything to record some of his memories. Listen to his stories online ► pacificu.edu/magazine

The optometrists' resistance paid off. The practice gained stature, and accredited schools began to emerge. Major universities like The Ohio State University and the University of California-Berkeley began opening optometry colleges of their own. When Pacific University absorbed the North Pacific School of Optometry, it was the ninth such school in the United States.

Part of the push for more optometry colleges was the profession's recognition that it needed new recruits. *The Oregon Optometrist*, the publication of the Oregon Optometric Association, said in 1945 that "optometry is losing ground, there being fewer optometrists today than they were 15 years ago." If Pacific University could produce more optometrists, the editors argued, the entire Northwest would benefit.

Yet even at Pacific, optometry wasn't wholeheartedly embraced. The university faculty at the time prided itself on offering a traditional liberal arts education and worried that by opening the doors to a school of optometry, Pacific would become a trade school.

President Walter Giersbach, who had presided over the university during the difficult war years, lamented this attitude. He noted that the optometry school had 200 applicants, but had capped the first class at 50.

"Two hundred students could have been brought on the campus. At \$350 each, for instruction alone, the income of the university would increase \$70,000 per year," he wrote in his 1945 report. He called for Pacific to be bolder as it entered its second century. "We have the vision of a new day in education. We have the plans. We have the sturdy history so often coveted; what we need now are resources to make tangible the ideas and ideals which possess us."

Willard "Wid" Bleything '51, OD '52, MS '54, and later dean of the College of Optometry, praised Giersbach's vision.

"He saw the future," Bleything said. "The vision people saw its value. The English Literature people didn't understand. We weren't training technicians: We were training people who care about people."

Eyes Forward

In the 75 years since the College of Optometry opened at Pacific, the university has not only become a respected leader in research and practice, producing optometrists who practice around the world, but also in graduate and professional programs from healthcare to education to business.

From its hardscrabble origins, optometry has become a \$17 billion industry, according to IBIS World, a market research firm. More than 37,000 people practice optometry in the United States, earning a mean annual wage of about \$120,000, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Pacific's College of Optometry has awarded more than 5,000 degrees, many of them doctorates in optometry. It also counts among its ranks 41 graduates from 1927 to 1944.

Today, the college serves about 400 students, including students on the doctor of optometry track, as well as in vision science master's and PhD programs and in an emerging bachelor of applied vision sciences program that is providing optometry training for doctors in China, where optometry is not yet a distinct profession.

"We have a global view. We teach the full scope of optometry," said Interim Dean Fraser Horn '00, OD '04. Pacific also has established a strong focus on vision therapy as well as a "contact lens team is one of the best in the nation, if not the world," he said.

Optometry has become a cornerstone in a diverse spectrum of graduate and professional programs that build on Pacific's liberal arts base. Students and faculty collaborate closely with the College of Education, where future optometrists can specialize in the impact of vision on learning, and the College of Health Professions, where optometry students connect with other allied health professionals as part of a comprehensive care team. ■

WOMEN IN OPTOMETRY

Men made up the bulk of the enrollment for the Pacific University College of Optometry for its first several decades, but in the mid-1970s that started to change.

When Kathleen S. Torrey '74, OD '75 first enrolled in the College of Optometry, she was the only woman in her class. Another couple of women joined soon afterward, and then the picture began to shift in a big way.

By 1999, the 50th anniversary of the College of Optometry, 40 women were in the graduating class. Today, 387 students are enrolled in the programs of the College of Optometry. Of these, 243 — nearly two-thirds — are women.

Pacific's women optometrists have made a mark on the college and on their profession. Among them:

► **Anna Berliner** was an optometrist, visual researcher, psychologist, anthropologist and sociologist who taught at Pacific from 1949 to 1963. pacificu.edu/AnnaBerliner



► **Jenny Coyle '90, OD '93, MS '00**, former College of Optometry Dean, was the first female president of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry, Oregon



Optometrist of the Year, chair of the Oregon Optometric Physicians Association Advocacy Committee, and one of Vision Monday's 50 Most Influential Women in Optical. pacificu.edu/JennyCoyle

► **Carol Zolkewitz Rymer OD '92**, now associate dean of clinical programs in the College of Optometry, was the first woman optometrist to achieve the rank of full colonel in the U.S. Army. pacificu.edu/CarolRymer





BY MIKE FRANCIS

photos courtesy of Roy Wesley

He Was Driven Away, But Wesley Stuck With Pacific

Wesley Book On The Way

Newton Wesley's biography, written by his son, Roy Wesley, will be published later this year by Pacific University's Bee Tree Books imprint. "I never got to know my father in the way that I wanted," the younger Wesley, a research scientist and doctor of optometry, told the *Windy City Times* in 2017. "I decided to write his biography on his 100th birthday as a way of coming to grips with who my dad was as a person." Roy Wesley completed the manuscript this spring, and Dean of University Libraries Isaac Gilman says he expects the book to be in print by the end of 2020.

Newton Wesley '39, Hon. '86 never was a student at Pacific University, nor was he a faculty member. Yet he was one of the most remarkable figures in the history of the university's College of Optometry. He had a transformational role in its establishment and was a leader in the contact lens field, all at a time when he also was persecuted as a Japanese-American amid and following World War II.

Wesley was born in Westport, Ore., in 1917, as Newton Uyesugi. As a youth, he was a top youth athlete, particularly in basketball. But he suffered from declining eyesight due to a progressive eye disease known as keratoconus, which results in distorted vision.

His family moved to Portland in 1925, and 11 years later, Uyesugi enrolled at the North Pacific College of Optometry. Following his graduation, he opened his practice in Portland in 1939, changing his last name to Wesley, he said, so his patients could find his name in the phone book.

Just a year later, he was offered an unexpected opportunity: His former teacher, Harry Lee Fording, offered to sell North Pacific College to Wesley for \$5,000. Then only 22, Wesley joined two classmates, Roy Clunes '39 and Clarence Carkner '41, in purchasing the school in 1940. Wesley '39, Hon. '86 taught classes there in the mornings and ran his own practice in the afternoons.

The three young men operated the school until the summer of 1942, when they were forced to close. Just after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the U.S. government began interning people of Japanese descent in isolated camps, particularly along the West Coast.

Wesley, the first licensed Japanese-American optometrist in Oregon, was forced into the Portland Assembly Center in north Portland, on the site of the present-day Expo Center.

With help from advocates with the Japanese American Student Relocation Councils, which helped inmates in American internment camps relocate to colleges in the Midwest and East Coast, Newton and his brother Edward were accepted into Earlham College in Richmond, Ind.

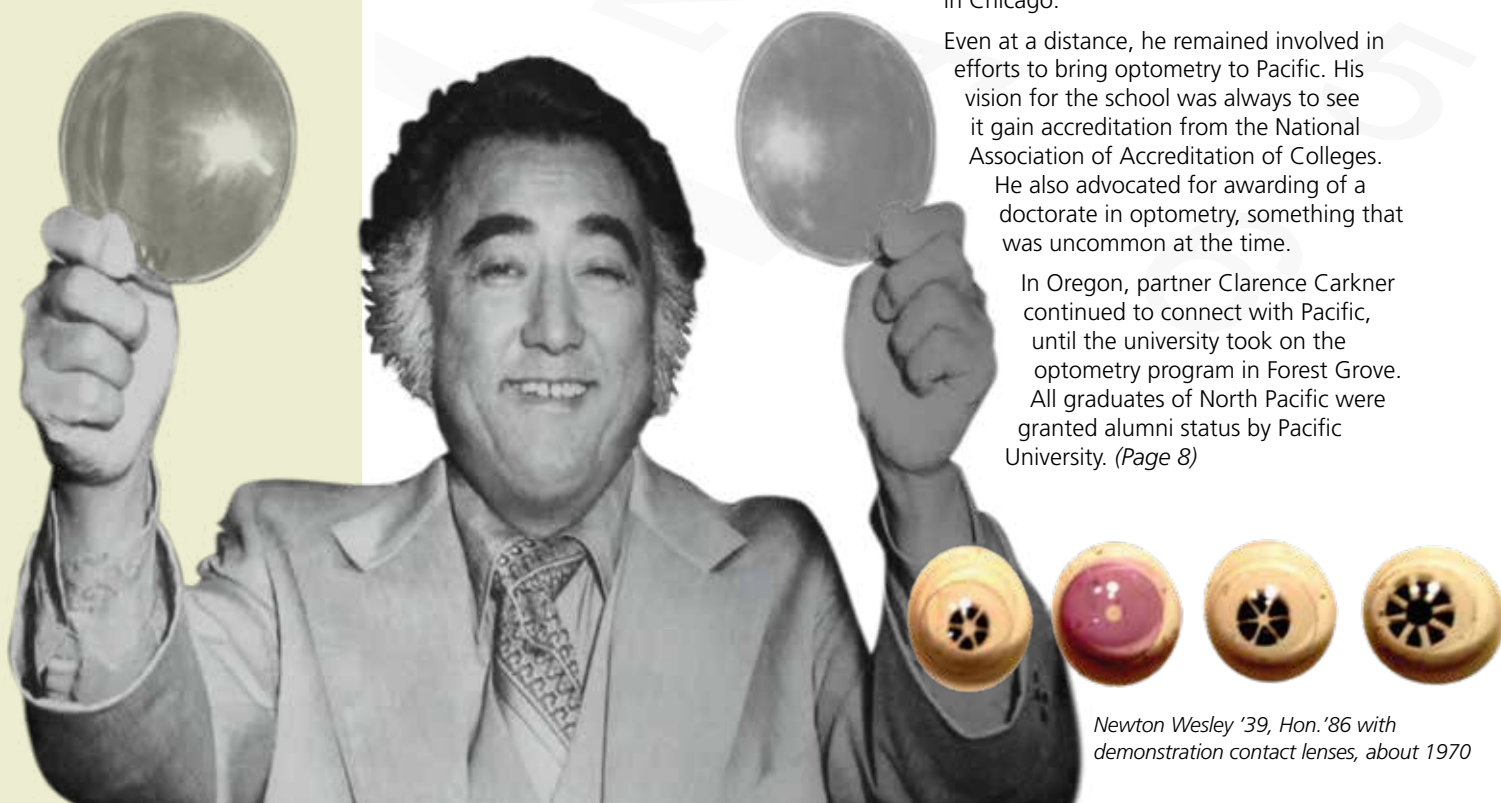
His parents remained in the Minidoka internment camp in Idaho.

"There was a time when I could not discuss evacuation — it made me choke up inside of me," Newton Wesley told an audience in Indiana in 1943, a year later. "Time has been a great healer and I can look at it more objectively."

Wesley attended Earlham for two years, then transferred to Loyola College in Chicago.

Even at a distance, he remained involved in efforts to bring optometry to Pacific. His vision for the school was always to see it gain accreditation from the National Association of Accreditation of Colleges. He also advocated for awarding of a doctorate in optometry, something that was uncommon at the time.

In Oregon, partner Clarence Carkner continued to connect with Pacific, until the university took on the optometry program in Forest Grove. All graduates of North Pacific were granted alumni status by Pacific University. (Page 8)



Newton Wesley '39, Hon. '86 with demonstration contact lenses, about 1970

The Wesley brothers never returned to practice optometry in the Northwest, but Newton Wesley's influence on the profession continued, driven by his own deteriorating vision.

"Newton had an idea to use contact lenses to treat his keratoconus just as one would use a truss to treat a hernia," explain historical papers collected at Earlham. "This treatment necessitated extended wear of lenses of the eye and was not possible with technology at the time."

Few shared his interest in the idea, but it would make him one of the foremost researchers and developers in contact lenses.

Wesley partnered with George Jessen, raising money and building a business called the Plastic Contact Lens Company, later Wesley-Jessen.

The company pioneered gas-permeable lenses that could correct distorted vision and be worn for extended periods. They developed and sold a variety of fitted contact lenses, including bifocals. They also developed a device called the photoelectronic keratoscope, which optometrists used to measure the eye.

Wesley-Jessen was later acquired by CIBA Vision, an industry giant, while Wesley and Jessen went on to create the National Eye Research Foundation (NERF), which worked to create affiliates and partnerships to spread the fitting of contact lenses around the world.

In 1986, Pacific University bestowed upon Wesley an honorary doctor of science degree.



Newton Wesley '39, Hon., '86 observes as his wife, Cecilia Uyesugi, gives a young girl corrective optical exercises.

Wesley died in 2011 at age 93. He was widely mourned by professional optometrists, who offered tributes such as the one written by Cary Herzberg, an optometrist who ran NERF for a time. He credited Wesley, among others, for pushing the practice of orthokeratology — using contact lenses to temporarily reshape the cornea of the eye — into the optometric mainstream. The government first opposed the practice, but eventually gave regulatory approval. That initiative, Herzberg wrote in 2011, "brought us into the exciting era we now reside in."

Herzberg, who had professional disagreements with Wesley, also honored the man's energy and kindness.

"My best memories of Newton however had to do with his graciousness," he wrote. "Whether you were invited to one of his many dinners he held or a guest visitor at his foundation he never let you leave without a personal word from himself and a robust handshake. Attending the NERF meetings in Las Vegas every October were lots of fun and learning because Newton would have it no other way." ■

Earlham College maintains the Uyesugi Japanese American Collection, documenting the experiences of Japanese-Americans who were forcibly interned during World War II. The collection is named for Newton Wesley's brother, Edward.

Optometry Through The Decades

1921 North Pacific College of Optometry founded in Northeast Portland



1940 Alumni Newton Wesley '39, Hon. '86, Roy Clunes and Clarence Carkner '41 buy North Pacific's charter, operating the school until 1942



1945 Pacific University agrees to acquire the shuttered school, offers first classes in Marsh Hall

1947 Pacific issues first doctor of optometry degree



1952 Jefferson Hall opens as new home for College of Optometry

1975 AMIGOS Eye Care, a nonprofit organization of students, doctors and lay people affiliated with the College of Optometry, is established. It will become one of the largest eye care providing organizations in the world, now affiliated with VOSH International



1986 Newton Wesley '39, Hon. '86, awarded honorary doctor of science degree



2002 Vision Performance Institute founded (originally at The Ohio State University, though it would later move to Pacific)

2003 College of Optometry launches its first EyeVan, a retrofitted delivery van that served as a mobile clinic



2017 Pacific dedicates brand new EyeVan, a 33-foot recreational vehicle that provides care for underserved people in Oregon and Southwest Washington



2018 College of Optometry named School of the Year by the National Optometric Association

2020 College of Optometry confers its first three bachelor's in vision science degrees

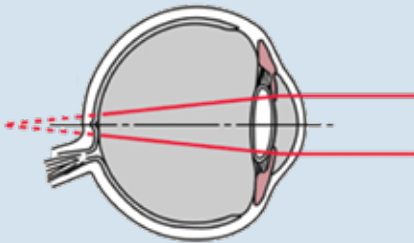


Wesley-Jessen designs for bifocal and multifocal contact lenses.

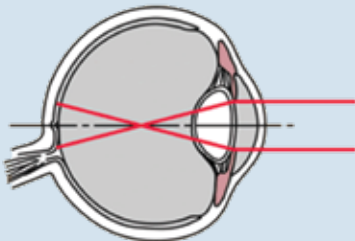


Common Vision Defects

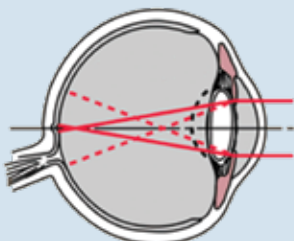
Common eye defects showing the handling of parallel input rays, as if from a very distant object. This diagram presumes a relaxed eye.



Farsighted | Insufficient refractive power to focus rays on retina



Nearsighted | Excess refractive power focuses rays before they reach the retina



Astigmatism | Asymmetric refraction focuses light in different planes at different points

Source: National Keratoconus Foundation



Pacific Optometry: The

Humans have corrected their imperfect vision with eyeglasses for as many as 10 centuries, but for some, eyeglasses weren't adequate.

"There are a number of corneal conditions that can only be corrected with contact lenses," said Patrick Caroline, a council member of the International Society for Contact Lens Research, as well as a member of the International Association of Contact Lens Educators and the American Association of Optometric Educators.

Caroline is also the cofounder and proud proprietor of the Contact Lens Museum, located just across the street from Pacific University's Forest Grove Campus.

The museum, though compact, houses a collection of contact lens artifacts that Caroline has been collecting for decades. The artifacts, from evolving versions of contact lenses to exam chairs to a vintage machine used to mold contact lenses, tell the story of advancing research and technology.

"I started getting involved in contact lenses and found it was a passion that grows and grows," he said. "I'm a crazy, crazy collector."

It's no mystery why the museum is just steps from Pacific University's College of Optometry, where Caroline is an associate professor and member of one of the pre-eminent contact lens teams in the country. In its 75-year history, the college has been connected to some of the most notable names in the field.

Newton Wesley '39. Hon. '86 was one of the owners of the North Pacific College of Optometry in the 1940s and had a significant role in bringing the college to Pacific. (Page 10) He also was the cofounder of Wesley-Jessen, which created lenses that could be worn for extended periods of time. (Previously,

BY MIKE FRANCIS
 JAREN KERR '22



Years We Made Contacts

contacts were made of glass, rested on the eyeball, and could only be worn a couple of hours at a time.) Wesley's son, Roy, is on the board of the museum.

Fraser Horn, the interim dean of the College of Optometry, said the university's contact lens team is the equal of any team in the country, and possibly the world. It has long been an incubator for groundbreaking work.

Kenji Hamada OD '72 is one of the foremost researchers to study and teach at Pacific. Until retiring, Hamada ran a thriving optometry practice in Southern Oregon and served as an adjunct professor at Pacific, while also primary investigator for 50 contact lens studies for at least eight different contact lens manufacturers. A sought-after expert on contact lenses, he remains a supporter of Pacific's College of Optometry. He has been named Young OD of the Year, OD of the Year and three-time President's Award winner by the Oregon Optometric Physician Association, received the 2001 National Distinguished Service Award from the American Optometric Association, and was inducted into the National Academies of Practice as a Distinguished Practitioner in Optometry.

Today, Pacific University faculty conduct research through the Vision Performance Institute, enhancing product development, support and clinical care in optometry, with specialties that include contact lenses. The college also offers a competitive post-graduate residency program in cornea and contact lenses.

The Contact Lens Museum, meanwhile, documents the evolution of a technology that continues to change how people see. ■

"I started getting involved in contact lenses and found it was a passion that grows and grows. I'm a crazy, crazy collector."
 — PATRICK CAROLINE



Artifacts in the Contact Lens Museum include early lenses and a vintage optometrist's chair and equipment.



BY MIKE FRANCIS
 & ROBBIE BOURLAND

Optometry student Nhung Do OD '21 provides an eye exam for Martin Hill as a part of Project Homeless Connect on Jan. 24, 2020, at Sunrise Church in Hillsboro, Ore.

Taking It To The Streets: Vision Care on the Move

Learn more about the College of Optometry's EyeVan and see how it serves the community. You'll see that the EyeVan takes eye care to underserved populations including children, seniors and migrant workers.

► pacificu.edu/EyeVan

The woman standing at the optometry table was picking out a pair of eyeglass frames.

"I'll be too hard on these," she said, testing the temples of a pair of sample glasses. She picked up another pair. "Do you think this shape is good for me?" she asked an optometry student.

It was one small encounter among many at the 2020 Project Homeless Connect event in Hillsboro. The outreach program conducted by the Pacific University College of Optometry, School of Dental Hygiene, and School of Occupational Therapy, which collaborated to provide

no-cost health services to underserved members of the community.

Faculty and students in the College of Optometry and the College of Health Professions regularly

demonstrate that effective healthcare — and real-world education opportunities — happen in the community, not only in brick-and-mortar clinics. They can occur at nearby churches and community centers, or anywhere around the world.

The EyeVan, a state-of-the-art mobile clinic run out of a converted RV, is probably the most visible way Pacific's College of Optometry reaches into the community. At events like Project Homeless Connect, veterans stand downs, the Special Olympics and others, optometry students bring patients in for evaluations where they do a kind of triage.

Does this person need a more extensive medical examination? Do his eyes reveal incipient diabetes? Can her vision be easily corrected, or should she be referred for more specialized evaluation?

"As you might imagine, the outreach program is such a valuable resource for our community and an enriching learning experience for our students," said Jamy Borbidge, assistant professor and director



of community outreach for the College of Optometry. “We do see a lot of disease on the EyeVan because we are reaching people who frequently don’t have access to healthcare. In particular, we see a high rate of diabetic eye complications, cataracts and glaucoma, all of which need to be treated or closely monitored.”

For many people, a visit to the EyeVan is the first time they realize they have an eye problem.

“We have people come to the EyeVan with vision at the level of legal blindness that our students are able to correct to 20/20 with a simple pair of glasses. This can change a person’s life,” Borbidge said.

While the EyeVan is closely associated with the College of Optometry, it’s also an illustration of the way Pacific’s health professions programs collaborate. For example, the EyeVan often finds itself in the company of the Smile Care Everywhere vehicle, another RV-sized van where dental hygiene students and faculty members can provide dental care to underserved clients. Thanks to generous support from donors and sponsors, the EyeVan went into service in December 2016; the dental van started operating in February 2018.

In 2019-2020 academic year, the EyeVan’s third full academic year, the Optometry Outreach Program provided vision screenings to more than 2,200 people, many of them elementary and preschool-aged children. The program also distributed more than 640 no-cost eyeglasses to those who sought eye care. Students volunteered almost 3,000 hours of community service time. That’s even with a four-month shutdown because of the novel coronavirus.

But Pacific optometry students also provide service outside the Pacific Northwest, visiting underserved areas of China, Senegal, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Thailand, Belize, Romania and elsewhere through AMIGOS Eye Care, a non-profit consisting of students, faculty members and others affiliated with the College of Optometry.

It regularly sends teams of students and faculty to faraway places where eye care isn’t readily available. On average, students spend about eight to 10 hours per day over three to four days helping patients during an AMIGOS trip.

In May last year, AMIGOS was named the Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity International (VOSH/International) Student Chapter of the Month. The recognition came after AMIGOS had conducted four overseas trips.

“No doubt the experiences for students have been invaluable for their clinical practice as well as instilling a life-long commitment to the kind of humanitarian efforts long supported by VOSH,” the organization wrote in bestowing the award. “And no doubt you had great joy and sheer fun in your adventures while impacting the lives of more than 1,700 patients.” ■



Project Homeless Connect brings a variety of critical services to individuals and families struggling with homelessness.

Two of this year’s four Alumni Award recipients are optometrists using their profession to give back to their community.

Breanne McGhee OD '16, MEd '16, PhDEL '21, winner of the Pacific University Alumni Association's 2020 Emerging Leader Award ▶ Page 22

Outstanding 2020 Outstanding Alumni Award winner Scott Pike '68, OD '70 ▶ Page 24



BY MIKE FRANCIS

ROBBIE BOURLAND & PARRISH EVANS '11

WHEN TO GET EYE EXAMS FOR KIDS

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, an independent clinical body, recommends all children have a vision screening between the ages of 3 and 5 to detect any vision problems. The American Optometric Association encourages an even earlier start, calling for screenings for infants between six and 12 months.

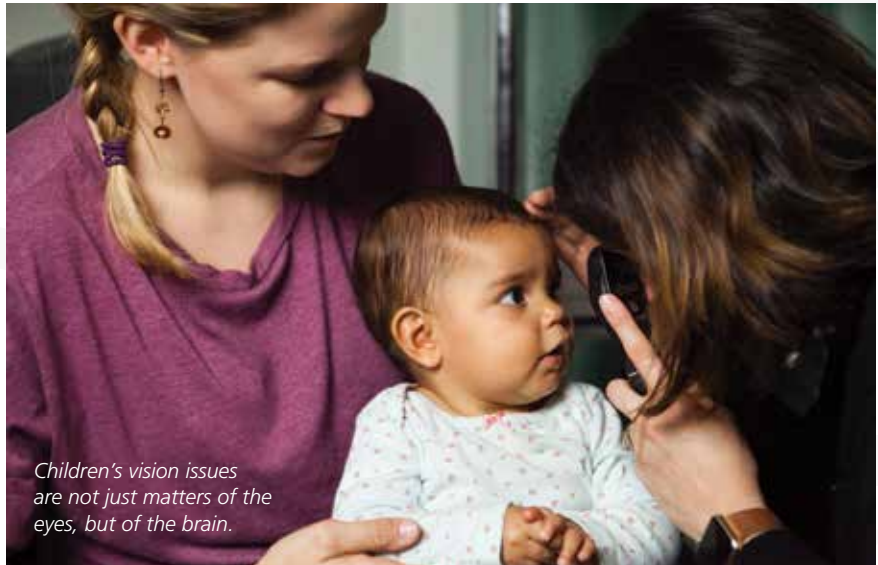
Through InfantSEE, a public health program managed by the AOA foundation, participating optometrists nationwide (including Pacific University's EyeClinics), provide no-cost screenings for infants across the country.

Here are some of the signs that a baby may have a vision problem:

- ▶ Excessive tearing may indicate blocked tear ducts
- ▶ Red or encrusted eyelids could indicate an infection
- ▶ Constant eye turning may signal a problem with muscle control
- ▶ Extreme sensitivity to light may indicate elevated eye pressure
- ▶ A white pupil may indicate the presence of an eye cancer

If parents notice any of these signs, they should consult an optometrist immediately.

Sources: The American Optometric Association, Pacific University, the USPSTF



Children's vision issues are not just matters of the eyes, but of the brain.

Pediatric Eye Care Leads To Early Intervention For Children

Pacific's College of Optometry has a message for parents: Don't wait until your child can read before taking him or her to the optometrist. A visit with very young patients can reveal issues that otherwise wouldn't be discovered until later.

That's because children's vision issues are not just matters of the eyes, but of the brain.

"As a baby grows and develops, if they have good eyes, those eyes will provide a good image to the brain and the brain learns ... how to process that information," Professor J.P. Lowery OD '93, MEd '96, chief of pediatric services for Pacific's College of Optometry, said in an earlier interview. "But if they're born with one eye that's weak or an eye that's cloudy because of cataracts, that eye will literally be left out of the brain's wiring as the brain develops."

Lowery and others on the optometry team practice infant optometry through programs like InfantSEE, an initiative of the American Optometric Association that provides comprehensive exams to babies free of charge.

Pediatric optometry isn't like adult optometry, where well-behaved patients put their faces up to a device

that guides them to peer through lenses. A comprehensive exam for a baby means placing the baby on a familiar lap, using toys and excessively friendly tones of voice to hold her attention, and making a diagnosis based on a baby's physical cues, such as a glance to the side.

In another initiative, Pacific researchers are participating in a national study called CHAMP, for Childhood Atropine for Myopia Progression, which seeks to slow or stop the progression of childhood myopia, or nearsightedness, through the use of eye drops.

Myopia cases around the world have skyrocketed, and in some cases, patients will go on to develop more serious eye diseases. In the study at Pacific, researchers are studying children ages 3 to 10. The children receive their treatments and exams for free, along with a yearly allowance for glasses or contact lenses.

"We want to catch kids as early as possible," said Pacific CHAMP Study project lead and associate professor Chunming Liu OD, PhD.

As the National Institutes of Health puts it: "The good news is that early treatment works well and usually prevents long-term vision problems."



Kyle McLain '10 holds his daughter, Ellen, during an infant optometry exam.

Pacific optometry students work with children through the Master of Education/Vision Function in Learning (MEd/VFL) program, a joint program offered by the College of Optometry and the College of Education. It focuses on the way vision problems can affect children's ability to read and learn. It's intended for students who expect to work in schools, or with pediatric patients.

"Without this, I probably would have seen peds, prescribed glasses and they would have been out the door," Nikita Katoozi OD '18, MEd '18, said in a 2017 interview about the Visual Function and Learning program. "But I wouldn't have ever thought, 'Are they wearing them in school? Does their teacher know when they have to wear them, why they wear them? Do teachers even understand how this kid is functioning?'"

Katoozi said the way the program builds relationships between optometry students and teachers would "change my care of pediatrics completely, for the better."

Along with students from other programs, including occupational therapy, pharmacy, physical therapy, dental hygiene and others, optometry students also provide care to children through events such as Give Kids a Smile. That's when mobile dental care and vision care vans roll out to churches, schools and community centers to offer services provided by Pacific students and faculty members.

On those occasions, half the mission is to acquaint children who may be medically underserved with the idea of someone shining lights in their eyes, probing their mouths and conducting other medical routines. That helps set lifetime habits that can improve health.

As well as providing glasses, dental care and other pediatric treatments, another part of the mission on those one-day events is to catch problems that might otherwise have gone undiagnosed, such as diabetes and certain cancers.

An optometry exam, while perhaps not a window to the soul, can indeed be a medically helpful way to see more deeply into the body.

And it's never too early to begin. ■



Photo from Visionary Kitchen: A Cookbook for Eye Health

Eating For Eye Health

Sandra (Coutts) Young '82, OD '84 took her optometry degree in a non-intuitive direction: She created Visionary Kitchen, a business devoted to promoting eye health through nutrition. It's work that combines her love for cooking with her professional practice.

The asparagus and bell pepper frittata recipe here is drawn with permission from her cookbook, *Visionary Kitchen: A Cookbook for Eye Health*.

Dr. Young explains: "Egg yolks have important nutrients for eye wellness: lutein, zeaxanthin and DHA omega-3 fatty acids. In fact, the deeper yellow/orange the yolk is, the more lutein and zeaxanthin present in the yolk. Lutein and zeaxanthin accumulate in the lens and macula of the eye, where they act to reduce oxidative stress and help absorb blue and UV light. DHA omega-3 supports brain and retinal tissues with the added benefit of healthier tears and less inflammation. Eat with and **for** your eyes!"

Asparagus And Bell Pepper Frittata | Serves 6

Ingredients

7 omega-3 enriched eggs, such as Organic Valley Smart Eggs
2 Tbsp water
3 Tbsp fresh parsley, minced
3 scallions, finely minced
¼ tsp sea salt
¼ tsp black pepper
1 orange bell pepper, diced
7 spears asparagus, diced
1 garlic clove, finely minced
1 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil
1 Roma tomato, diced
¼ cup freshly grated Romano or Parmesan cheese

Steps

1. In a mixing bowl, whisk together eggs, water, parsley, scallions, salt and pepper. Set aside. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
2. Preheat a 10-inch, nonstick, oven-safe skillet to medium. Sauté bell pepper, asparagus, and garlic in olive oil until softened, 2-3 minutes.
3. Reduce heat to medium-low and pour egg mixture into the pan. Gently stir eggs occasionally, tilting the pan to allow the uncooked eggs to run to the edges until they begin to set.
4. Decorate with tomatoes and sprinkle with cheese. Bake in oven until puffed and golden, about 10-12 minutes.
5. Slice frittata into 6 wedges. Garnish with additional parsley, if desired.



BY MIKE FRANCIS

DOMINIC SAMPAULESI '19

Sports Vision Puts Focus On The Field

Think of it: What could be a greater challenge for your eyes than picking out the seams on a 95 mph fastball, or responding to developing plays on a soccer field in real time?

The science of sports vision is all about optimizing the body's agility and responsiveness to rapidly changing game activity. It aims to improve a person's depth perception, hand-eye coordination, and concentration, among other things. It

can be important for high-performance athletes, as well as anybody who drives a car, takes photographs or performs other routine but complex tasks.

At Pacific's College of Optometry, faculty members like Graham Erickson '88, OD '90 and Interim Dean Fraser Horn '00, OD, '04, have pioneered new approaches to treating, enhancing and maintaining vision for athletes. Their work has involved testing and treating athletes, while helping in the development of improved soccer balls, sports vision goggles and other vision products.

"The sports vision elective course offered at Pacific was the first of its kind anywhere, and I believe was first offered in 1979 or 1980," Erickson said.

It started, like many things in the College of Optometry, because Alan Reichow '78, OD '81, MAEd '95 was particularly interested in the topic, along with colleague Bradley Coffey '79, OD '81. At the time, sports vision was little-discussed in the standard optometry curriculum. It's not little-discussed anymore.

Reichow, now professor emeritus, cofounded Pacific's sports vision program, the first of its kind in the world. While working with footwear and apparel giant Nike Inc., he published multiple papers and was awarded patents for everything from visual testing under stress conditions to motion graphics on soccer balls. The Sports Vision program at Pacific has grown ever since.

Erickson began teaching Pacific's sports vision elective in 2001. He has published a series of papers on sports vision, including, recently "Nutraceuticals for Visual Performance," published

in December 2019 in *Vision Development & Rehabilitation*.

Horn, the interim dean, also operates Sports Vision Pros, a sports vision resource, with three partners. He has consulted with Nike, provided screenings and serves as team optometrist for Boxer athletic teams. When he was an undergrad, he was on the golf team, and his enthusiasm for sports vision is apparent still in even the most casual conversation.

"I just enjoy working with athletes to help them reach their visual potential and to learn from my colleagues," Horn said.

Sports vision, said Erickson, "is a passion for many of us who work in this area." ■

Caring for Student-Athletes

At Pacific, student-athletes benefit from the skills taught in the College of Optometry, as well as other university programs. Athletic competitions are postponed this fall due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but check out this 2017 feature about Caring for Student-Athletes at Pacific.

► pacificu.edu/AthleteCare

Eye Care Offers A Window To Athletes' Concussions

For DeAnn Fitzgerald '81, OD '84, optometry isn't just about eye care, but about the mysteries beyond.

"The eyes are the windows to the body," she tells audiences. "One hundred percent of our brain is dedicated to vision in some fashion, 80 percent of all sensory goes through eyes. ... We need to be at the table of rehab services."

While operating a thriving optometry practice in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Fitzgerald has become a leader in developing concussion protocols for athletes in Iowa and far beyond.

After graduating from Pacific, where she played softball and studied visual science and

optometry, Fitzgerald moved to Cedar Rapids and eventually opened her own practice. That practice has expanded to include three clinics, including one called Active Evolution Studio for high-performing athletes, people recovering from brain injuries and others.

Much of the damage of a concussion occurs

after the initial impact, as the primary injury sets off a string of biological changes that can continue for weeks, according to the American Optometric Association. And vision impairments are often the first signs or symptoms of a traumatic brain injury.

In Iowa, Fitzgerald led the development of a widely accepted baseline screening protocol for young football players. Her Active Evolution Studio also has trained amateur and professional sports teams to improve their ability to compete. As the studio's website puts it, "an athlete's ability to see, think and react quickly can make all the difference between winning and losing!"

She is nationally recognized for her work as a sports vision optometrist and on concussion protocols. She was a keynote speaker, for example, at

The Ultimate Concussion Conference in Hollywood Beach, Fla., in 2016.

At the conference, she praised the National Football League, long criticized for overlooking or obscuring football's damaging effects on the brain.

"I'm very appreciative of the NFL. The NFL has put concussion on the board," she told attendees, applauding the league's adoption of concussion management protocols for its players.

She went on to say more people suffer brain injuries in routine ways — by falling, or in vehicle accidents — but sports injuries get the headlines.

She's the vice president of the Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation

Association, or NORA.

The organization's fall conference, which has been moved online, will focus on the ways practitioners in different disciplines, including optometry, can work together to achieve better results for patients, she said.

That is necessary because brain injuries involve so many disciplines, from

neurology to occupational therapy.

Optometry offers a way for providers to assess the extent of the damage and to monitor a patient's improvement.

In addition to being in demand as an expert on sports vision and concussion protocols, Fitzgerald founded Spanda Inc., a nonprofit that provides eye care in Iowa and around the world.

"I have always appreciated my education at Pacific both undergrad and grad," she wrote in an email. "And am very grateful I am getting to do what I thoroughly enjoy — practicing optometry and being able to offer patients therapies that enrich their life, whether it's a thorough routine eye exam, prescribing glasses and contacts, and offering therapies for people that have a more difficult life because of concussion, TBI, stroke or neuro-degenerative disease." ■

Vision impairments are often the first signs or symptoms of a traumatic brain injury.

CONCUSSION PROTOCOLS

Here are some signs and symptoms of concussions in young athletes, along with care recommendations.

The athlete says:

- ▶ I have a headache, or I feel pressure in my head
- ▶ I threw up, or I feel like I'm going to vomit
- ▶ I'm dizzy, or my vision is blurry, or double
- ▶ Sounds seem loud, and lights seem too bright
- ▶ I feel groggy
- ▶ I can't remember what I was doing
- ▶ I'm not feeling right

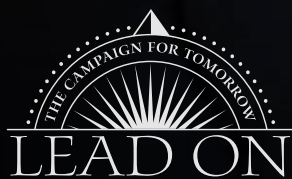
Others observe:

- ▶ She can't remember things that happened before or after the hit
- ▶ He seems dazed
- ▶ They forget what they were told, or seem confused
- ▶ She's moving clumsily
- ▶ He's answering questions slowly
- ▶ They lost consciousness
- ▶ She is behaving differently, or is in a different mood

What to do:

- ▶ Take the athlete out of the competition
- ▶ Seek medical attention immediately
- ▶ Consult with a medical professional about whether and when an athlete can return to play. (The athlete shouldn't return until she is back to doing regular activities and not showing symptoms.)
- ▶ Be familiar with state laws for sideline care in organized sports.

Source: The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

CELEBRATING

75
YEARS



OF FOCUSING ON PUPILS
1945 TO 2020

Pacific University offers its sincere thanks to the sponsors who are helping us celebrate the 75th anniversary of the College of Optometry. Though a gala event marking the occasion was canceled this month, these loyal supporters continue to contribute to the future of the college and the profession through their generosity.

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OUTSTANDING ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



BY MIKE FRANCIS

Carline Reached Kids At Risk Of Failure

Dennis Carline '79, MST '88 remembers the day the basketball world almost lost Mfon Udoka.

The 6-foot-tall Nigerian-American student at Portland's Benson Polytechnic High School had just experienced a brutally tough sequence under the basket: She had outjumped everyone to win a rebound, then went up again for a layup, and missed.

Six straight times.

Carline, one of the 2020 recipients of the Pacific University Alumni Association's **Outstanding Alumni Achievement Awards** and coach of that Benson women's basketball

team, clearly remembers watching the frustration of his sophomore student-athlete.

She walked away from the floor to the bench. Don't put me back in, Carline said she told him. I missed six layups, she said.

"You got six rebounds," Carline reminded her. But he knew her confidence was shattered.

The next day, she didn't show up for practice.

Carline saw Udoka standing and watching the practice, but decided not to say anything until practice ended. When he approached her afterward, she told him "I didn't want to come. I'm thinking about quitting."

He told her he understood. But, he added, "if you quit now, you're throwing it all away. You're going to be a Division I player."

Udoka returned to the team. She went on to become an all-state, first-team selection in high school, then played four years for DePaul University in Chicago, then was drafted into the Women's National Basketball Association. She went on to play professionally in the United States, Spain, Israel, Russia and China. She played on the Nigerian Olympic team and now coaches high school basketball in Texas.

Carline made a long career coaching sports and counseling kids at all levels of Portland-area school systems, focusing on schools with underserved students. He coached and taught for 39 years. He has been named coach of the year multiple times and also has been honored with teaching and service awards given by parents and students.

"A lot of coaches misinterpret those kids," he explained of Udoka and hundreds of others like her. "I never turn my back on them. I think that's the art of coaching — reaching the kid."

Coaching, commuting and chaperoning was a huge commitment of time, but when he married his wife Debra Low '80, whom he met at Pacific, she knew what she was getting, he said.

Debra and the couples' children, Denetia, Daedra, Delissa and Dennis Jr., have been supportive at every step. Carline, in fact, has coached his kids along the way, so his coaching included a lot of family time.

For Carline, working with kids involved a lot more than sports. He's been a health and physical education teacher, a drug and alcohol counselor, a student advocate, an integration specialist, and a mentor. He donated a \$5,000 coaching award from NBC Comcast to sending student-athletes to sports summer camps, an opportunity many wouldn't have otherwise.

Now that he is mostly retired, Carline has taken on a role as a teacher of Black history. When he visits a class, he tells the students, "Everybody in this room has greatness in them." ■

2020 EMERGING LEADER AWARD

BY MIKE FRANCIS



McGhee's Life Is Guided By 'Graceful Persistence'

Nobody who knows **Breanne McGhee OD '16, MED '16, PhDEL '21** would be surprised to know how she responded to a COVID-19 setback.

Because of the business closures mandated by the pandemic, she was temporarily furloughed this spring from her job as an optometrist in her native New Orleans. So she volunteered at a food bank.

"I like to plan for rainy days. I'll be OK," she said in a phone interview at the time. "Other families were not."

McGhee is a born helper. And encourager. And hugger.

And the pandemic is cramping her style.

"I can't really hug people," she lamented. "I am definitely a hugger."

For her leadership as an optometrist, a mentor and volunteer, McGhee was named the winner of the Pacific University Alumni Association's **2020 Emerging Leader Award**. When she got the news, she said, "it was a shock."

Only to her. Faculty members in the College of Optometry smile at the mention of her name. "She was one of my favorite students," said Scott Pike '68, OD '70, who until the just-concluded school year was a professor in the college. McGhee was nominated for the award by former Dean Jenny Coyle '90, OD '93, MS '00, who wrote, "She has shown graceful persistence, maturity and dedication not only to the profession of optometry, but the greater world around her that is unique and infectious."

When the pandemic restrictions first were imposed in New Orleans, McGhee joined the volunteers helping to manage the crush of people wanting to be tested for the novel coronavirus. She would show up early at the testing sites, where 200 to 300 cars would line up for tests. Because initially tests were scarce, it fell to McGhee and others to screen the people waiting in their cars. Did they have symptoms? How bad are they? She had to turn a lot of people away.

Testing capacity since has improved and the number of people being screened has declined. McGhee has returned to her job and is no longer needed as a screening volunteer, but she's ready for the next opportunity to lend a hand. This fall, she started teaching part time with the College of Optometry.

McGhee founded and operates a nonprofit called E.Y.E.S., which offers free comprehensive eye exams and eyeglasses to disadvantaged, underserved community members. She also plants the seeds in students who might someday be optometrists themselves.

For McGhee, the road to kindness and volunteerism started even before she was born.

"My parents instilled in me at an early age, you go so far in life by helping other people," she said. "You get joy, literally, by helping somebody else."

"I am the first college graduate in my family, and the first graduate doctor," she said. "My grandmother was the daughter of two sharecroppers," and the granddaughter of slaves, said McGhee. "She was a maid her whole life."

Her grandmother got as far as second grade. Her mother got as far as high school.

"All I have to do is run the road," McGhee said. "It's like a relay race, passing the baton. I have the easy stretch." ■

DAVID & SANDY LOWE OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD



BY MIKE FRANCIS

A Lifelong Volunteer, Meyer Gives Back To Pacific

Matthew Meyer '75 is the consummate Pacific University alumnus and volunteer. He leads campus tours for young kids, serves faithfully on the University Council, and says he delights in the opportunities to rub shoulders with university luminaries like Lesley Hallick, Ann Barr-Gillespie and John Miller.

For his unflagging engagement with and devotion to Pacific, Meyer has been named the 2020 recipient of the Alumni Association's **David and Sandy Lowe Outstanding Service Award**.

The University Council is not exactly high on drama or entertainment value. It serves largely to ratify decisions made by deans, vice presidents and others who work in the weeds of university governance. But the council acts as an essential backstop and last check on changes in academic programs, new policies and other matters of university interest. Meyer is the Alumni Association representative on the council.

Meyer says he wouldn't miss the chance to serve. In his full-time job as a southwest Portland-based property appraiser, he sometimes finds himself gnashing his teeth about the need to drive to other quadrants of the city.

But he says he never resents driving to Forest Grove for meetings, tours or other business.

"There's never been once when I'd rather be doing something else," he said in a Zoom interview.

The minutes of University Council meetings show that Meyer arrives thoroughly prepared. He can tell you how many condolence cards were sent to the families of deceased alumni, how many people attended PUB Night, and who's scheduled to speak at the next meeting of the Alumni Book Club. It's part of his job to give the council an update on the activities of Pacific's alumni.

Meyer says when he talks about his experience as a leader of K-8 campus tours, it grabs the attention of other council members.

"When I tell them about how the kids responded to a tour, everybody's eyes are up and they're listening," he said.

The tours are uplifting, both for Meyer and, he hopes, for the kids, mostly young middle-schoolers. When Meyer shows them around Pacific's Forest Grove Campus, he knows he's introducing many of them to the very idea of attending college.

"I tell them, 'You don't need to know what it costs. But if you work hard and get good grades, it can happen,'" he said. "We're planting seeds."

For Meyer, being a Pacific student was generally a happy experience. He met his future wife on campus, and "we're still clicking" 45 years later. He played basketball, blessed with skill, interest and a 6-foot-5 frame. And now he's completing his fifth term on the University Council.

Being honored with the David & Sandy Lowe Outstanding Alumni Service Award is "so humbling," he said. As a volunteer, he says, he never expects acclaim, but knows he is well appreciated.

"You're doing it because you're a volunteer," he said. "Doing right feels good." ■

2020 OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARD

BY MIKE FRANCIS



Pike Found His Life's Course In Guatemala

For Scott Pike '68, OD '70, it started almost as a fluke; a one-off favor for a man in Guatemala whose uncorrected vision was funneling him into a life that would become more and more limited. Their chance meeting would eventually lead Pike to form a nonprofit, providing vision care and healthcare worker training in the country's Ixcán region.

Thanks to that commitment to care, Pike will receive Pacific University's **2020 Outstanding Alumni Award**.

In 1996, Pike paid a visit to a friend in Ixcán, where he met Pedro Chom, who was being interviewed for a history project. It was immediately apparent to Pike that Chom's life would change for the worse, simply because he needed reading glasses and there was no easy way in Ixcán to get them.

When Pike got home to Portland, he set about crafting a pair of glasses for Chom.

"They didn't have the ability to get things that are so simple for us," Pike said in a Zoom interview from his Hillsboro home. "Down there, you realize how life-changing a pair of glasses can be."

Moved by Chom's plight, which he knew represented that of many of his fellow Guatemalan citizens, Pike started arranging to return to the region regularly, settling into a routine of making two visits a year, usually in February and August. The February trips were mainly for the training of eye health promoters. He led the August trips under the banner of AMIGOS Eye Care, taking a delegation of Pacific University optometry students. They've been going to Ixcán every year since 2003 — until this year, when the novel coronavirus stalled their travel plans. Pike hopes to return again in February and to resume taking students next summer.

In 2006, Pike formed a nonprofit called Enfoque Ixcán to provide eye care in the remote region, separated from the capital city by 10 to 12 hours by bus. In 2016, in conjunction with a Guatemala City-based ophthalmology clinic, it became a nonprofit in Guatemala.

Today the nonprofit employs three Guatemalan eye health promoters who provide basic eye care year round. As of late May, Pike said, the eye health promoters, along with AMIGOS Eye Care, had examined the eyes of almost 20,000 Guatemalan people, provided 9,200 pairs of eyeglasses, and funded more than 800 surgeries, which were performed first in Guatemala City and later, in northern Guatemala.

When he surveys the arc that took him from a conventional professional career in the United States to a continuing presence in a remote part of Guatemala, Pike said he dwells on the words of Joseph Campbell, who was quoted in a posthumous collection as saying: "We must be willing to let go of the life we have planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us."

"That's pretty much on the money for me," Pike said. ■

Class Notes



Which way do you read Pacific magazine?

Front to back or back to front? Anecdotal evidence suggests that most readers start with class notes.

Help us keep you connected with your classmates by submitting a class note or a memorial for a departed alumni for publication in the next issue of *Pacific* magazine. You will even get a gift from the Alumni Association in honor of marriages, births and adoptions, or new jobs! We honor those who have passed with the quarterly Alumni Remembrance Ceremony. ▶ pacificu.edu/alumni-events

Send Us Your Updates

Online ▶ pacificu.edu/KeepInTouch

Email ▶ classnotes@pacificu.edu

We publish class notes and in memoriam online all year, and submissions received by Oct. 16, 2020, will be published in our winter edition.

1964

Carmen (Michaels)

Bryant '64 has been appointed to the Lausanne North America Group for ISM (International Student Ministry), which promotes and creates resources for churches to become involved in providing services for international students. Bryant and her husband, Don, live in Hillsboro, Ore., where she continues to work full-time for Missions Door, a non-profit based in Denver.

1967

Bob Crane '67 and Vic Pickering '67 recently connected to reminisce on their time at Pacific, U.S. Army days, mutual acquaintances and much more.

1968

Mary (Lay) Schuster '68 published a new book, *The Victim's Voice in the Sexual Misconduct Crisis: Identity, Credibility, and Proof*, which discusses sexual harassment, laws and Title IX requirements and standards.

1969

Clara Louise '69 is retired from Ventura County Library in Ventura, Calif. Louise resides in California. She enjoys spending time with her family, including her four children, three grandchildren and her niece and her niece's two children.

1973

Kalvin Garton '73

retired from Garton & Associates Realtors, LLC.

Robert Meisel OD '73 was awarded the San Diego County Optometric Society 2019 Optometrist of the Year Award. Meisel retired in 2007 but was honored for his continued involvement in the optometry field, exemplified by running clinics across the world to ongoing volunteering, among other accomplishments.

Ken Scott '73 finished the creation of his fourth and final airplane. Scott lives on an airstrip with his wife. He has built three airplanes, and his last one was made with the assistance of some of Scott's neighbors. It was flown in February 2019.

Steven Shute '73, OD '74 has built an optometry legacy with his family in Central Valley, Calif. A member of Shute's family has attended each of three optometry colleges on the West Coast. In total, Shute has been serving patients for more than 45 years.

1974

Richard Rowland '74 earned his bachelor's in ceramics, then traveled the world before settling in Astoria, Ore. There, Rowland has taken part in a bowl-making project for women's

resource centers, donating bowls to help raise funds.

1979

Steve Paranto

'79, MST '84 was featured on Fox 12 News, highlighting his pickleball career. He moved to the Willamette Valley to attend Pacific and play pickleball. Paranto has also created the business ProLite, which sells composite pickleball paddles.

Robert Rothbard '79, OD '81 published a new optometry book November 2019, *Looking Good: My Passion for Optometry and the Lives I've Changed*.

Howard Sullivan '79, MST '84 retired from his role as director of the Forest Grove/Cornelius Chamber of Commerce.

1980

John Jewett '80 presents his new blog project *J Howard Cahill*, dedicated to expressions of the human imagination through poetry, haiku, imagery, stories, legends and myths.

Jake Von Scherrer

'80 has been named as the 2020-2021 president of the Florida Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, which serves more than 700 athletic directors in Florida.

1981

Kathy Cole '81 was hired as the tribal librarian in Grande Ronde, Ore. Cole has worked for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde for the past 16 years as a Chinuk Wawa language teacher, instructing students in preschool through adult classes.

Lincoln Daynes '81, OD '83 has been helping patients with their vision for 35 years. Daynes owns and operates a practice with his brother in Tucson, Ariz. When he isn't at his practice, Daynes travels to Mexico yearly to conduct eye exams and provide children in orphanages with glasses.

DeAnn Fitzgerald '81, OD '84

has been serving the eye care community for more than 35 years. Fitzgerald runs a primary care clinic where she provides comprehensive eye exams and treats vision diseases and disorders. Over the years, she has expanded the resources and programs available to her patients to include concussion management, low-vision aids, multi-system therapy and massage therapy. Fitzgerald's focus on sports vision performance and concussion management stems from her own background in competitive sports, when she played softball for Pacific. (Page 19)

Class Notes

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1982

Brenda (Heinke) Montecalvo '82, OD '85 was featured in a podcast April 2020 on *Dailyauthors.com*, discussing visual secrets for school success. Montecalvo is the author of "Visual Secrets for School Success: Read Faster, Write Better, Master Math and Spelling."

1983

Frank Giardina '83, OD '86 earned certification in medical optometry from the American Board of Certification in Medical Optometry. Certification requires an optometrist to complete an accredited postgraduate residency training program and pass a written examination.

1988

Toni Collins '88 was featured in a *Blaine County Journal News-Opinion* (Mont.)

story about a volunteer project to collect data about short-eared owls in Montana.

1989

Marie Kernie OD '89 was featured in a *South Sound* magazine article that included tips for protecting your eyes while working from home. The tips include avoiding glare, eating fruits and drinking lots of water.

Kathryn (Walters) Koch '89 has 30-year anniversaries to boast about this year. She will celebrate 30 years of marriage Sept. 22, 2020. And as of March 15, Koch has worked 30 years at the Portland Water Bureau.

1990

Todd Geiler '90, OD '91 was approved by the Arizona State Senate to an appointment on the Arizona Game and Fish Commission in

February 2020. Geiler has partnered with the City of Prescott and Arizona Game and Fish to create a Kids Free Fishing Day, showcasing his enthusiasm for the outdoors.

Dean Wetzel '90, OD '92 is an optometrist at Mayo Clinic Health System, seeing patients in Eau Claire, Wisc., Caledonia, Minn., and Onalaska, Wisc.

1991

Rev. Dr. Chuck Currie '91 is the Chicago Theological Seminary's 2020 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient. Currie is director for the Pacific University Center for Peace and Spirituality, university chaplain and assistant professor of religious studies. He previously spent 17 years working on issues related to homelessness and housing.

Eva (Johnson)

LaBonte '91 was named assistant director of the Washington County (Ore.) Department of Support Services. She joined Washington County in 2015 as manager of the risk management division, then became human resources manager. In her new role, she will continue to oversee human resources and risk management as well as emergency management and support services administration.

1996

Dawn (Kuhlmann) Harflinger '96 will become CEO and president of Lili'uokalani Trust in February 2021. She is currently executive vice president and chief operating officer.

1998

Dorota Haber-Lehigh '98 created artwork featured in the Columbia Memorial Hospital Medical Group located in the Seaside, Ore. Outlet Mall. Haber-Lehigh uses colored pencils and watercolor to create artworks that focus on the unique culture of the Oregon Coast.

Tony Rocklin PT '98, PT '09 was featured in a podcast on *The Podcast Factory*. The podcast, "Oh sh*t, I launched 2 weeks before the virus!," discusses Rocklin's

experience launching a product at the beginning of COVID-19 and the solutions he is using to boost his company into a stronger position during quarantine.

Blake Timm '98

was inducted into the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Hall of Fame.

Amy Waterman '98 can be heard on the online Rocket Languages Spanish courses. Waterman creates friendly interactive audio lessons for the program.

1999

Kristin McVay PT '99 transitioned her career as a physical therapist from skilled care to outpatient. McVay started at Infinity Rehab in 2002, providing skilled care, and then moved to outpatient care, which hadn't been fully established at the time. Kristin became the outpatient clinical director at Country Meadows in Woodburn, Ore.

Jane (Terrazas) Murphy MAT '99 has retired from teaching. Before pursuing her MAT at Pacific, Murphy worked for 16 years in accounting and five years in business management.

2000

Kelly Garrett '00 received a 2020 Oregon Literary Fellowship. Her debut young adult

novel, *The Last to Die*, was a 2018 Oregon Book awards finalist. She has signed a three-book deal with Kensington Books in New York to publish her first mystery for adults. The first book in her Ground Rules series will publish in April 2021.

2001

Bonita (Smeby) Burke '01 won an All-Inclusive Award for showing outstanding achievement in the advancement of *Employee Resource Groups* (ERGs). Burke is an assistant leader of the Counter-Weapons of Mass Destruction Group at MIT's Lincoln Laboratory. The All-Inclusive Awards are put on by Color magazine, which is based in downtown Boston.

Katie (Shields) Felix '01 is an HP Teaching Fellow, a position that will help her teach young students about the importance and usage of technology. Felix is a kindergarten teacher at Point Defiance Elementary in Tacoma, Wash. She has also been recognized as a Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert and a Skype Master Teacher.

2002

Rebecca (Johnson) Campbell '02 is a pioneer for women in the 3D printing industry. Campbell

works for Hewlett-Packard and has had the opportunity to work in HP offices around the world, including Barcelona, where she resides with her family.

Christopher Casey PA '02 was spotlighted in an online article in *Physician Assistants for Global Health* in 2017. The article was focused on physician assistants who are employed internationally. Casey grew up in the UK and now practices in such farflung locations as Madagascar and Albania.

Amanda (Miller) Iverson '02 was chosen as one of Tucson's 40 Under 40. The award recognizes young leaders in Tucson, Ariz., who have made an impact on the community. Iverson was selected for her professional career and involvement in the community, which includes her more than 15 years of experience in the financial accounting and retirement plan service industry.

2003

Robert DeCou '05 travelled to India in January with HOPE61 to help provide human trafficking prevention trainings. The trip kicked off a year-long campaign committed to fighting human trafficking in partnership with Rotary National.

Staci Walters OD '03 helped open a new practice of Space Coast Ophthalmology in Viera, Fla., in September. Walters is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and a Diplomate of the American Board of Optometry.

2004

Alecia Sundsmo MS '04, PsyD '08 is the director of Counseling and Psychological Services at Cornell Health. As part of the leadership team at Cornell, Sundsmo will provide oversight for mental health services for students and work with peers in medical services.

2005

Amanda (Bender) Olson '05 was featured on the *Mountain Land Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation* podcast. The podcast discussed home pelvic therapy devices and the research that backs it up.

Erin Shepherd MAT '05 was appointed federal programs director for the Gresham-Barlow (Ore.) School District.

Rachael Woody '05 announced the publication of her second book, *How to Select, Buy, and Use a CMS Museum*, which explains how to search for, select, buy, implement and maximize the value of a museum collections management system.

2006

Patrick Dacquel '06 joined St. James Hospital in Hornell, N.Y., as an emergency medicine physician.

Chris Frazier OD '06 was selected to join the SageWest Health Care Board of Trustees. Frazier is an optometrist at Riverton Vision Center in Dubois, Wyo., and is joining the board to help expand services and advance the mission of making communities healthier.

2007

Molly Fischer '07 and **Audra (Lavender) Stave '09, MS '13, PsyD '16** enjoyed a day hiking together in the Sandia Mountains of New Mexico. The two alumni are best friends.

Jeannine (Hall) Gailey MFA '07 had a poem, "Irradiate," published in the Spring 2020 issue of *Ploughshares*, an award-winning journal of new writing from Emerson College.

Ryan Moore '07, PT '10 was named 2019 Employee of the Year by The Queen's Medical Center in Honolulu. At Pacific, Moore used his undergraduate degree in exercise science as a platform to get into the School of Physical Therapy's doctorate program. He has worked at The Queen's Medical Center for seven years as a physical therapist

for the sports medicine and orthopedics departments. "I do work with a very broad range of patients, as our hospital mission is to especially service the underserved people of Hawai'i, which I really enjoy a lot," he wrote. For more on Moore visit pacificu.edu/RyanMoore

2008

MaryBeth (Shoemaker) Bailey '08 and **Marcel Bailey '09** welcomed son Ellis Jerome Bailey on Aug. 15, 2019. He joins big sister Kiara, who turned 2 in December.

Bob '08 and **Lacy Todd Fitzmorris '08** welcomed the birth of their daughter, Benta Mae, on Nov. 2, 2019.

Michelle Lee '08 and Benjamin Morris married Aug. 5, 2018. In attendance was the maid of honor, **Brittany Cuff Carvalho '09**, and fellow alumni **Kellie Ivison '09** and **Mindy Ingebreton-Wolowicz '09**.

Lee and **Morris** welcomed the birth of their first child, Patrick Morris, on Jan. 11, 2020.

Caitlyn Tateishi '08 is a 2020 Olympics marathon trials qualifier. She runs marathons regularly, and placed first in both the Hilo to Volcano 50k run and the Baltimore Marathon in 2016. Tateishi ran cross country and track

Class Notes

at Pacific. When she is not running, she is either working as a legal operations business analyst or exploring the outdoors with her husband and dog.

Callie Vandeweile '08 and Dr. Cornelis Drost married on Oct. 6, 2019, in Ambleside, England. Family and friends from over a dozen countries attended.

 **8 Lehua Watanabe '08** and **Bryson Vivas '10** welcomed son Rydge Ikaikamauloa on Jan. 21, 2019. Rydge joins big brothers Ryder, 9, and Bryden, 6.

2009

Kitty Jospe MFA '09 had a poem published online in *Zingara Poetry Review*. The poem "Ugliness Came Up" was posted on Nov. 20, 2019.

LeAnna Nash '09 and **Frankie Guros '09** married Oct. 5, 2019, in Troutdale, Ore., after 10 years together. **Sarah Azril '09**, **Adam Azril '09**, **Kyle Barksdale '09**, **Korey Yost '09**, **Rhonda Yost '10**, **Valerie Kitamori '11**, **OD '15** and **Kelly Hartley '08** attended.

Bridgett Pride '09 is an Andrew W. Mellon Fellow for Diversity, Inclusion & Cultural Heritage. The fellowship provides professional development opportunities for early-to-mid career

professionals working in a special collections library, archive or other cultural heritage institution in the United States. Pride is a reference librarian at the New York Public Library.

2010

AJ Gaulton '10 is the business development and events director for Civic Park in Eugene, Ore. Gaulton oversees rentals, sponsorship, events, and other operations at Civic Park.

Mallory Goldammer '10, **MAT '11** is the girls' basketball coach at Tigard (Ore.) High School. She was previously varsity assistant and also coached at Glencoe High School for three seasons.

Ellen Michaelson MFA '10 will publish her first book, *The Care of Strangers* in November. It follows a friendship that takes place in a Brooklyn hospital, where a young woman learns to take charge of her life after taking care of others. Her novel also was the winner of the 2019 Miami Book Fair/de Groot Prize.

 **9 Ashley Schalow '10** and **Perry Kent '10** welcomed their daughter, Juliet Zenith Kent, on June 13, 2020 in Seattle, Wash.

2011

Juno Ann Apalla '11 is performing arts manager at University of Hawai'i Kauai Community College. Apalla has returned to the performing arts field after working in finance, banking and healthcare.

Blair (Tyler) Hamel MS '11, **PsyD '14** was cited in an article in *Her Family* about the benefits of co-sleeping.

Elizabeth Levinson MFA '11 published "The Waters: 4 Poems" on *Entropy*, a website featuring literary content. Levinson expects to publish her second chapbook in October 2020.

2012

Sophia Cardwell PharmD '12 was chosen as one of The Pew's Charitable Trusts' Stand Up To Superbugs Ambassadors. Cardwell is one of 40 other ambassadors who will work to increase funding to fight the growing threat of antibiotic-resistant infections.

Meredith (Brunette) Christiansen PT '12 has been honored by the American College of Rheumatology as an individual who has made significant contributions to the community. Christiansen's research currently

focuses on PT utilization for knee osteoarthritis.

Claire Foster MFA '12 was featured in *The Shair Podcast* about gender identity and living life true to yourself. She also released a new collection of short stories, "Shine of the Ever," set in Portland, Ore.

Christopher Hewitt OD '12 and **Nicole (Holihan) Hewitt OD '12** became the new owners of Sooke Optometry Practice, effective September 2019. They have practiced optometry in Sooke, British Columbia, since 2015.

Keleigh Kremers '12 was featured in an article in *Voyage LA* magazine about her life and career in film. Kremers wrapped production July 2019 on her first feature film, *The Pharm*.

Emma (Jacobsen) Lawsen '12 is the U.S. and international college applications coordinator at King's College London Mathematics School, helping students seek out global opportunities for university. Lawsen also sits on the Service Committee at the college to encourage opportunities to use their research to help communities beyond traditional roles of education.

Leanna Olennikov '12, **OD '15** Leanna Olennikov '12, OD '15 is an optometrist with Virginia Eye Consultants in Norfolk, Va. Her specialties are vitreoretinal disease, diabetes and macular degeneration, peri-operative and ocular emergency care.

Jesse (Max) Price '11, **MAT '12** and **Brandi (Palmer) Price '12** welcomed son Bailey Rex Price on Aug. 4, 2019.

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Submit your class note and photo for the next issue of *Pacific* magazine by Oct. 16.

▶ classnotes@pacificu.edu
▶ pacificu.edu/KeepInTouch



Class Notes

2013

Aaron Bergman MA '13, MS '15, PhD '19 joined UMass Emergency Medicine Research in a post-doctoral fellowship with the departments of Emergency Medicine and Psychiatry. His clinical interests include implementation science and behavioral health.

David James MFA '13 published a new chapbook, *Flip Requiem*, containing a wide range of poetry, from haiku to jazz, with content such as meditations on aging and the beauty of the natural world.

Corey Kisser OD '13 and **Amanda Klinger MS '09, PsyD '12** married on Feb. 2, 2020.

Bryan Lang PT '13, MHA '14 was featured in an online series through *ArtStation Magazine* offering tips for working from home. In the post, Lang demonstrates in eight videos massages and exercises to do for pain that can arise from sitting in one position and looking at computer screens for extended periods of time.

Janelle Rainer MFA '13 released her second poetry collection, *Woke to Birds*, focusing on abstract anxieties, such as faith, spirit and mortality. *Woke to Birds* follows Rainer's first collection, *Two*

Cups of Tomatoes. The poems are interspersed with watercolor portraits that act as visual extensions of her poetry.

2014

Jodi (Ozaki) Armstrong '14 and husband Adam welcomed son Cullen Armstrong on April 9, 2020.

Bryan Mills '14 was hired as Eastern Oregon University's football defensive coordinator. Mills brings more than seven years of experience to EOU.

Julie Paradine '14, OD '16 joined the staff of Virden Eye Care in Virden, Manitoba. The eyecare center also went through some renovations recently with the expansion of office space, so Paradine's new position will benefit the growing clinic.

Sara Rauch MFA '14 won an award for her debut collection of 11 stories, "What Shines from It: Stories," which won the Electric Book Award and was published in March 2020 by Alternating Current Press. She was featured in an online interview on *Fiction Writers Review*, discussing finding her inspiration in the literary arts, the role of writers in the public sphere and showing how we're all connected.

Justin Roney '14 and his wife, Alicia Olson, welcomed baby Maverick Dean Roney on Aug. 30, 2019.

Kate Sheeran Swed MFA '14 published a new book titled "Alter Ego." The novel is labeled as a twisty superhero saga and is the first in the *League of Independent Operatives* series. Swed was recently featured in an interview in Baj Goodson's blog.

2015

Riley Grandinetti '15 is the head men's basketball coach at Southwestern Oregon Community College. He was the assistant coach for the past five seasons.

Carly Trepagnier Flynn MFA '15 is admissions and alumni director for St. Charles Catholic High School in Laplace, La., within the Archdiocese of New Orleans. She is a 2009 graduate of the school.

Heather Hale '15 accepted a position as a behavior intervention specialist for Twin Rivers Unified School District in Sacramento, Calif.

Traci Skuce MFA '15 published her first story collection, *Hunger Moon*, comprised of 13 emotionally charged stories, all of which set out on a quest to satisfy emotional hunger.

2016

Kennedy Antoniuk '16, OD '19 wrote an optometry article about children's eye

exams, featured on the website *Life of Dr. Mom*.

Kyle Dickens '16, MHA '19, PharmD '19 and **Sarah Stutzman MSW '21** married in May 2020 in a "microceremony" that was officiated, photographed and witnessed by Pacific alumnae. Due to COVID-19, the couple had to downsize their wedding plans.

Kailey Falcon MS '16 joined Play Works in Hood River, Ore., as a speech team member. Play Works is a pediatric therapy clinic that provides speech and language therapy, among other services, for children with behavioral disorders.

Nicole George '16 started a position as a Tlingit Language Project coordinator at Sealaska Heritage Institute in Juneau, Alaska.

Lana Helm MFA '16 published her poem "Canis" in the *Were-Traveler*, an e-zine dedicated to short fiction.

Alec Lugo '16 acted as Horton in *Seussical* June 2020, in an online production for the Northwest Children's Theater and School. Lugo has wanted to perform this role for over a decade. His last performance was at NWCT last season, as Bert in *Mary Poppins*.

Andrew Waite MFA '16 climbed Mount Rainer wearing the same gear as John Graham, a Harvard student who climbed Denali in 1963.

Molly (Billingham) Weinbender PT '16 joined Big Sky Physical Therapy in November 2019. She specializes in treating pelvic floor dysfunction, including incontinence, pelvic pain, leakage with exercise, and postpartum conditions. Weinbender also treats a variety of musculoskeletal conditions, such as lumbosacral dysfunction and hip pain.

Daniel Yazzolino '16, MBA '20 was featured on the Instagram channel for Young Professionals in *Business Aviation*. He is the fixed base operator and facilities manager at Hillsboro Aviation.

2017

Garrett Brown '17 was accepted into the Third Rail Repertory Theatre 2019-2020 Mentorship program. It is a competitive program that allows people to shadow and work with well-regarded theatrical artists.

Joshua Huppert AuD '17 was featured in an article that highlights unconventional paths to becoming an audiologist. The article was published online by the Student Academy of Audiology and focuses on the journeys of students.

Jennifer Saunders

MFA '17 was the winner of the 2020 Gregory O'Donoghue International Poetry Prize judged by Kim Addonizio. Her poem, "Crosswalk," was featured in the March 2020 edition of *Southword*, an online journal. She was unable to read her work at the 2020 Cork International Poetry Festival in Cork, Ireland, because it was canceled due to the novel coronavirus.

2018

Amanda Hasan MAT '18 welcomed son Musa Mohamed on July 13, 2019.

Haley McKinnon '18 had a poem "the way to a man's heart is through his stomach" featured on the poetry website *Elephants Never*.

Teo Mungaray MFA '18 had a poem, "Jackhammer," published in the January 2020 online edition of *Glass: A Journal of Poetry*.

2019

Nicole Barney MFA '19 wrote an online hybrid interview for *CRAFT* interviewing author Garth Greenwell. *CRAFT* is a website that explores the art of fiction. Barney also is writing a novel.

Tyree Dingle '17 joined Portland Psychotherapy in 2019. Dingle joined the

team as the practicum student from the PhD clinical psychology program at Pacific.

Erin Guidarelli '19 is working through Work-Fit, an onsite injury prevention and management program at the Boeing Defense and Space Program in Seattle, Wash. She also was accepted a position on the Washington Athletic Trainer's Association Public Relations Committee.

Adam Katz '19 opened a dog training business called Katz K9. In his business, Katz will train dogs for rehabilitation, tracking, scent detection and protection.

Patrick Lagier '19 was featured in an interview on a film website, Potboiler Story Co. The article talked about Lagier's filmmaking endeavors since graduation, which include starting to work at Potboiler, and traveling to places such as Nepal for filming.

Josh Oppenheim PA '19 started a new job at Prism Health. He is working in LGBTQ+ primary care, HIV and gender affirming care.

Victor Pollak MFA '19 published his debut book, *Saving the Light at Chartres: How the Great Cathedral and Its Stained-Glass Treasures Were Rescued during World War II*. The book

is centered on the cathedral in Chartres, France, the damage it sustained during World War II, and how it was restored over time.

Jeffery Szabo OT '19 and his spouse welcomed daughter Jemma Joyelle Szabo on May 2, 2020.

2020

Alvin Leung PharmD '20 was awarded the Samuel H. Kalman Scholarship by the American Pharmacists Association Foundation. He was active in the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists locally and nationally, serving as chapter president. He also serves on the 2019-2020 National Standing Committee on Policy.

Annie Yu OD '20 is a full-time optometrist at Seattle's Broadway Vision Source, where she worked as a technician before earning her OD. Yu is a member of the Optometric Honor Society, Beta Sigma Kappa.

Dr. Jasmine Dhesi OD '20 joined Valley Vision Optometry in Port Alberni, B.C., as an associate optometrist. During her training, Dhesi volunteered with AMIGOS Eye Care, a non-profit organization that took her to Senegal and Belize to provide eye care. ■

In Memoriam

Friends

Dr. Bob "Doc" Bonn, former men's basketball coach and athletic director at Pacific University, died June 26, 2020, at age 68. Bonn most recently served as athletic director for Carthage College, where he retired in 2018 after an illustrious career. Before moving to Carthage, Bonn served as head men's basketball coach and athletic director at Pacific from 1984 to 1992. When Bonn joined Pacific's athletics staff in 1984, he took on a men's basketball program that had gone 0-26 the previous season. Over the next eight years, the team won two Northwest Conference Championships. He was named Northwest Conference Coach of the Year in 1991 and ranks third in all-time wins in the history of men's basketball at Pacific. He also advocated for increased athletics recruiting efforts to help grow the College of Arts & Sciences at Pacific and to increase the competitiveness of Pacific's sports programs. Bonn later served as the National Association of Athletic Development Directors president in 2001-2002. Last year, he was honored with the organization's Lifetime Achievement Award as well as induction into the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics Hall of Fame.

Mike Charles, longtime Pacific University education professor, died March 6, 2020, following a lengthy battle with cancer. He was a caring and beloved teacher, colleague and friend who spent the last 19 years as a member of Pacific's College of Education. Previously, he was a K-6 teacher in Phoenix, Ariz., and a faculty member at Eastern Michigan University. Charles was known for his innovation and dedication to improving education for children and for future teachers. At Pacific, he designed and led global study abroad experiences in New Zealand and Ecuador that included immersive time in schools. He was also instrumental in developing a dynamic partnership with Forest Grove High School to offer the Pacific Geospatial Semester, which provides Forest Grove High School students with the opportunity to learn how to use GIS technology to research real-world issues and obtain college credit. Some of these projects have received national recognition. He was a mentor to students and devoted extra

In Memoriam

time to his role as an advisor, helping undergraduates in particular see their way to becoming teachers. Whenever traveling either for pleasure or for the university, Charles would look up Pacific alumni and visit with them in their classrooms, coming back excited to share stories of their successes. It was rare to not see him in the stands at sporting events, theater performances, and concerts, cheering on Pacific students and reveling in their accomplishments.

Jimmy Conway, former Pacific University men's head soccer coach, died Feb. 14, 2020, at age 73. He fought a decade-long battle against trauma-induced dementia. Conway coached the Boxers for five seasons, beginning in 1983. By the time he arrived in Forest Grove, Conway already had Hall of Fame credentials as both a player and coach in top-tier leagues in the U.S., England and his native Ireland. Conway began his senior career in 1964 with his hometown Bohemian FC, before a move to the Football League in 1966 with Fulham FC, one of the major London clubs. He spent 10 seasons with the Cottagers, then moved to Manchester City for two years. In 1978, the Portland Timbers signed him as both a midfielder and captain and he led the club back to the playoffs with a 20-10 record. In 1980, his final year as a player, the club gave him the added responsibility of assistant coach. In 1981, Conway became director of coaching for the Oregon Youth Soccer Association. He held the job for 28 years, guiding elite youth teams in regional play and training parents in proper coaching techniques. In 1983, he took over the Pacific program, finishing as the Boxers' second-winningest coach in program history with a 51-37-9 record. After leaving Pacific, he was hired as Oregon State University's first head coach of its men's varsity program, a position he would retain for 11 years. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Noeleen; sons Paul and Mark; daughter Laura; eight grandchildren; and 10 siblings.

Sandra Garcia, a longtime Pacific University Japanese instructor, died March 8, 2020, after a lengthy illness and recent stroke. Garcia, known to her students as Garcia sensei, came to Pacific University in 1987. She briefly taught introductory Spanish here, but she is best known for her passion and leadership in teaching Japanese. In addition to teaching at Pacific, she also taught students kanji (Japanese writing) outside of class and taught at Banks High School and Clark Community College. Her students remember her dedication, creativity and enthusiasm for teaching. She also served on the National Council of Japanese Language Teachers, the Confederation in Oregon for Language Teaching, and the Association of Teachers of Japanese in Oregon for many years, holding leadership positions in each organization. The Confederation in Oregon for Language Teaching granted her its Lifetime Achievement Award the day before her death. She also was instrumental in the City of Forest Grove's relationship with its sister city in Nyūzen, Japan, as well as for supporting official and youth delegations between the United States and Japan.

1945

Charles Furumasu '45 died June 8, 2020, at the age of 98. He attended Pacific in 1941, until his family was ordered to move or be interned as Japanese-Americans during World War II. His family chose to move to Coeur d' Alene, Idaho. While many friends were held in internment camps, Furumasu joined the U.S. Army, rising to the rank of sergeant first class and earning the Bronze Star. He served with the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the famed "Go For Broke" unit that consisted mostly of Japanese-American men who fought in Europe. He and other surviving members of the 442nd were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the nation's highest civilian honor, in 2011. After the war, he returned to Gaston, Ore., to farm with his family. In 1950, he

married Amy Furukawa, and they settled in Spokane, Wash., where he operated a barber shop for 57 years. He was preceded in death by his parents, aunt, three brothers, and three sisters. He is survived by his wife, Amy; sons Brian (and Nancy), Larry (and Marylin), and Mark (and Laurie); daughter Linda (and Gene) Yamashita; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law Fujie and Sadie; and numerous nieces and nephews.

1949

Mary Ruth (Erdmann) Christensen '49 died June 29, 2020 in McMinnville, Ore. She attended high school in both Banks and Forest Grove, graduating in 1945. Mary then attended Pacific studying pre-nursing. She went on to earn a nursing degree at the University of Oregon in 1950. Mary married Stanley Christensen in 1951. She was a nurse at various hospitals and care centers in the Salem area and Yamhill County, Ore. Christensen was preceded in death by her husband; parents; sisters Martha A. Cheney and Sarah Roberta (Bert) Flabetich; and brother, William (Bill) F. Erdmann. She is survived by daughters, Janice (and Howard) Bellows, Lora (and Tarry) Brockman, and Lynn Slater of McMinnville; sons, Jerry (and Janna) and Lyle (and Cynthia); 10 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Juanita (Shinn) Klusman '49 died March 25, 2020. After attending Pacific, Klusman received her BA from Southern Oregon College and taught at Central Point Elementary School in Central Point, Ore. for many years. She later opened a fabric store and operated it until her retirement. Klusman and her husband, Bob, were active within their local church community and within the canine community, raising and training Labrador retrievers for hunting and fielding. Klusman was honored as one of two surviving founding members of the Umpqua Valley Republican Women at the

Oregon Federation of Republican Women Convention banquet. Klusman was preceded in death by her husband, Bob. She is survived by her son, Thomas Klusman; grandchildren Benjamin Klusman, Joseph Klusman, Cassandra Sundholm and Caroline Foulard; and brother Charles C. Shinn.

Jesse Miller OD '49 died on Feb. 7, 2020, at age 95. After serving in World War II, Miller decided to follow in his father's footsteps and study optometry. After graduating from Pacific, he was one of only two optometrists in the Navy. Miller and his wife settled in Springfield, Ore., where he opened his own practice, focusing on developmental vision and vision therapy to overcome reading and learning difficulties. Miller is survived by his wife, Phyllis Beisma; his five children, Mervin Miller, Mark Miller, Myrna Miller, Myron Miller and Myrna Miller; as well as many loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Terri Samuel, Sheri (and Tim) Jones, and Marianne (and Scott) Stone; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and brother Robert (and Terry) Samuel.

Roberta "Jean" Pullen '49 died Dec. 29, 2019, at age 90. Pullen earned a bachelor's degree in religion. She later enrolled in Portland State University's Division of Continuing Education with the certificate program in social services. Pullen spent her life working for Adult and Family Services, and her career spanned many branches and programs across Gresham, Portland and Salem. She was proud of her work with the refugee program. Pullen is preceded in death by her husband, Ken; her parents; and her brother, John Culverson. She is survived by her three children, David (Joanne) Pullen, Ann Pullen and Barry (Deanne Froehlich) Pullen; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and her brother Kenneth Culverson.

1950

Jack Hilbourne '50, OD '51 died June 14, 2020, at age 95. After

enlisting and fighting in World War II, Hilbourne graduated from Pacific with a doctorate in optometry. Kaiser Permanente immediately hired Hilbourne as its first optometrist. When he wasn't working, Hilbourne was skiing. He became the president of Oregon's Cascade Ski Club in 1960. Hilbourne is survived by his wife, Irene; sons Jason and Zachary; grandchildren Kai, Sam, Tristan and Cyrus; and two nieces and three nephews.

Richard Devine '50 died Dec. 10, 2019, at age 92. DeVine served in Italy during the end of World War II and then attended Pacific. He went on to the University of Washington to complete his BA in business. He settled with his wife, Clare, in Fircrest, Wash., where they raised three children. DeVine built his lifelong career with Raleigh, Mann and Powell insurance brokerage firm in Tacoma, Wash. DeVine is survived by his wife; sister Virginia Fitzpatrick; daughter Victoria DeVine; son Craig DeVine; daughter Sally Wright; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

1952

Lael (Peters) Kovtun '52, OD '53 died April 5, 2020. Kovtun and her husband settled in San Diego, where she devoted herself both to her work and to her community. Kovtun spent nearly every weekend for the past 40 years attending fundraising events of numerous charitable organizations. Kovtun is survived by her husband, Jay; son Gordon; and grandchildren Melina, Mikael and Nikolas.

1953

Jerry Groff '53, OD '54 died March 22, 2020. He was an optometrist for more than 60 years, first in the U.S. Army and later in private practice in Winlock, Wash. His next private practice opened in Goleta, Calif., where he also enjoyed many years of community engagement. Groff was a volunteer with three different groups throughout his life that provided free eye care to the poor in remote areas. Groff is survived by his wife, Marian;

daughter Tessa; stepchildren Cyndi and Mike; step-grandsons Lane and Neal; brother Ron; and sister Jo.

1954

Martin Laderman '54, OD '55 died May 5, 2020, at age 88. After graduating from Pacific with a degree in optometry, Laderman moved to New York, where he met his wife. They moved to Phoenix, where he practiced optometry until retiring in 2002. Laderman served as the president of the Arizona Optometric Association and was also on the board of many other optometry associations in the state. Laderman is survived by his wife, Willa; brother Stanley; daughters Sandra, Ellen and Anne; sons-in-law; grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

1955

Carol Heusser-Collard '55 died Dec. 8, 2019, at age 86. Heusser-Collard had a long singing career, starting with singing along with her mother and three aunts, harmonizing at church services. Her first solo was at 10 or 11, singing *O Holy Night* for the Odd Fellows Lodge Christmas program. Heusser-Collard was a long-time alto one soloist and member of the Ensemble à Coeur Joie de Toulouse, under the directorship of Alix Bourbon. Heusser-Collard was preceded in death by her sister. She is survived by her three children, four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and her brother.

1956

Charles "Chuck" Samuel '56, OD '57 died June 29, 2020, at age 84, after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. At the time of his death, his home was in Bullhead City, Ariz. He married his high school sweetheart, Donna Jean Pickett, in March 1956. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1957 to 1968 as an optometrist and radio operator. He later worked as a manufacturing engineer at Tektronix. In 1971, he opened his own optometric practice in Tigard and Beaverton. He was executive secretary of the Oregon State Board of Optometry from 1977

In Memoriam

to 1983. In 1987, he joined Kaiser Permanente N.W. Division as the Chief of Optometry, from which he retired in 1999. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Donna; children Chris (and Terri) Samuel, Sheri (and Tim) Jones, and Marianne (and Scott) Stone; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and brother Robert (and Terry) Samuel.

1957

Wallace Henry Ruch Jr. '57, OD '58 died Oct. 1, 2019, at age 90. After Pacific, he returned to Modesto, Calif., to begin his optometry practice, which he ran for 40 years. Ruch and his wife Catherine raised three sons and three daughters and were active in their community. He was a member of the choir at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, as well as a board member and president of the Modesto Community Concert Association. He is survived by his six children, Wallace III (and Kathi), Stephen (and Kathleen), John (and Leah), Elizabeth (and Dave) Gates, Louise (and Anthony) Wortham, and Mary (and David) Cline; 17 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

1958

Janet (Zimmerman) Markee '58 died April 5, 2020, at age 83. Markee studied history at Pacific, while also participating on the cheer team and as her class's Homecoming Queen. She spent her career teaching at many junior high and high schools in Ca. and Ore. Her interests included poetry, making documentaries, hiking and photography. Markee is survived by her husband, Mike; their five children and partners; and their nine grandchildren.

1959

Neil Bowden '59, OD '60 died Aug. 17, 2019, at age 83. Bowden received his doctorate in optometry from Pacific and went on to practice in Vancouver and Kamloops, B.C., Canada. Bowden was preceded in death by his brothers, Ian and Daryl, and his sister Louise. He is survived by his sister, Doreen, and his nieces and nephews.

1960

Jack Fenton '60 died on Jan. 20, 2020, at age 85. After Fenton's discharge from the Army, he came to Pacific, where he met his wife, **Louise Hill Fenton '59**. They eventually settled in Dallas, Ore., to raise their family. Fenton was preceded in death by his mother, father, and sister, Donna Glee. He is survived by his wife, Louise; son Jeffrey; daughter Jennifer; brother Allen Fenton; sister Neva Jo Suhadolnik; granddaughter Anne Fenton; and grandson Jay Fenton.

1961

Robert J. Fadhl '61, OD '62 died July 22, 2019, in Surprise, Ariz., at age 80. Fadhl worked in an optical lab before receiving his optometry degree. Thereafter, he committed 20 years to the Army. Bob loved playing cards, boating, and most of all story telling. Fadhl was preceded in death by his parents and sister Betty Lund. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Fadhl; children Jon Fadhl, Michael Fadhl, Paula Fadhl-Pohl, Kimberly Fadhl-Blood; and five grandchildren.

Richard Mannila '61 died Oct. 23, 2019, at age 81. He paid for his own college education at Pacific with a football scholarship and multiple jobs, including firefighting. In 1968 Mannila served in Vietnam as Company Commander of Alpha Company 1st Battalion 4th Marines. He was wounded in action near Khe Sanh. Mannila was awarded a Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" for Valor and a Purple Heart before medically retiring from the USMC as a major in 1969. He also was a successful restaurateur. He opened and ran seaside family restaurants, the 22nd Landing Seafood Grill and Bar in San Pedro. Mannila was predeceased by his parents and his brother, John. He is survived by his wife, Anita; daughters Amy and Missy; granddaughter Adelyn; and extended family members.

Terry Trevillyan '61, OD '63 died Oct. 14, 2019, at age 85. Trevillyan served in the Army from 1954 to

1956, stationed in England as a high speed radio operator. He then attended the University of South Dakota, before studying optometry at Pacific. Trevillyan served three years as an optometrist in the Army at Ft. Wainwright, Alaska. Terry and his wife later moved to Hermiston, Ore., where he served his community through his optometry practice. After retirement in 1999, Trevillyan moved to the Oregon Coast, where he lived out the rest of his life exploring. He is survived by Alice, his wife of 58 years; son Mike Trevillyan; daughter Sherri (and Greg) Romano; grandchildren Silvan, Trevan, and Halli Romano; and brother-in-law Keith Prestis.

1962

Kay (Kienstra) Cushman '62 died Jan. 18, 2020, at age 79. Cushman worked as a Presbyterian minister for most of her life and retired 15 years ago. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Charles Cushman. She is survived by her children, Thomas Cushman and John Cushman; a sister, Diane Robins; and three grandchildren.

Larry Sanders '62 died Dec. 10, 2019, at age 84. After serving in the military and marrying his wife Miekko in Japan, Sanders moved to Forest Grove, where he received a bachelor's degree in history from Pacific. He began a teaching and coaching career in Oregon. Sanders and his family finally settled in the Los Angeles area, where he continued to coach and teach. Sanders was preceded in death by his wife, Miekko. He is survived by his sons, Terry (and Motoe), Gary (and Yumiko), and Larry (and Elizabeth), as well as many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

1963

Michael Armstrong '63 died May 4, 2020, of complications related to COVID-19. He was 79. His wife, Dnyia, died of the same disease a month earlier. Armstrong majored in journalism and political science at Pacific, where he met his first wife, **Anita Lee Taylor '63**. He was the sports

editor for the *Forest-Grove News Times*, *The Oregonian* and *The Columbian* newspapers. In his senior year, he served in the Army National Guard, and he worked for the university as assistant public relations director. After his graduation, he received his master's degree at Boston University, then went to New York City, where he took a job in public relations. In 1970, he ran a congressional campaign and later ran as a candidate for New York Assembly. Armstrong started the Brooklyn Phoenix and owned it through the early 1990s. Also, in 1977, Armstrong took over *The Villager*, Greenwich Village's weekly newspaper, owning it until 1992. In 1981, Armstrong married Dnyia Bauman, who was working at the Phoenix on the advertising and business side. They would spend the rest of their lives together. After leaving journalism, he used his public relations talents while working for Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden for nearly 10 years and began his own consulting firm, Armstrong & Associates. He is survived by his daughter, Arija Noel; stepson Aram Bauman; stepdaughter Aisha Ricca; brother Steve Armstrong; and sister Jan Strickland; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Yolanda "Yolie" (Lewandowicz)

Randlett '63 died Nov. 12, 2019.

During her time at Pacific, Randlett was a Theta sorority sister. Randlett was also the first ever artificial heart valve recipient at OHSU. Randlett is survived by her husband, **John Randlett '62**.

1964

Gerald Ihrke OD '64 died on Dec. 23, 2019, at the age of 81. After receiving his doctorate in optometry from Pacific, Ihrke moved to Le Mars, Iowa, to become a partner at an optometry clinic, where he remained until retirement at age 62. He also served as the president of the Iowa Optometric Association and on the boards of Floyd Valley Hospital and Westmar College in Le

Mars. Ihrke was preceded in death by his wife, Sandy Ihrke; his parents; a granddaughter; and a brother. He is survived by his children and their spouses, Julie and Kevin Kennedy, Scott and Delana Ihrke, and Shelly and Alan Schultz; seven grandchildren; and sister Betty Hoeft.

1965

Fred Willis '65 died Aug. 1, 2019, at age 76. Willis graduated with a degree in mathematics from Pacific, while also earning 11 varsity letters in three sports. Later, he went on to earn a master's degree in teaching from the University of Oregon before becoming an educator for the rest of his life. Willis is survived by his wife, Tonya; daughters Wendy and Amy; sisters and brothers and other family members.

1968

Steven Wagner OD '68 died March 4, 2020. Wagner served as an Army optometrist at Fort Gordon then had a brief stint in private practice before joining Kaiser Permanente. During his lifetime, he explored the seven continents with his camera in hand. Other passions of his included baking, woodworking and kayaking. Wagner is survived by his wife, Mary Wagner; sons Richard and Michael; and brothers Jim and Kelly Wagner.

1971

James "Jimmy" Warren Langford OD

'71 died June 23, 2020, at age 78. He spent most of his school years in Cokeville, Wyo., and served a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from 1961 to 1964. He then earned his bachelor's degree from Utah State University in pre-dental zoology and went on to earn his doctorate from Pacific University College of Optometry. He provided eye care with the Indian Health Service in New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, and Idaho, where he retired after 33 years. He was preceded in death by his father, Ralph Leslie Langford. He is survived by his wife, Yvonne; children Carrie (and Glade) Howell,

Todd Langford, David Langford, Janae Langford, Douglas (and Michelle) Langford, and Elisabeth (and Ray) Barlow; mother June Oakey Langford; sister Carol Ann (and Richard) Dayton; 18 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Michael Ben '71 died Jan. 5, 2020, at age 70. He was a retired director for the County of Hawai'i Department of Human Resources and founding board member of the Holualoa Foundation for Arts and Culture, among many other accomplishments. Ben is survived by his wife, Betty Ben; brothers Gerald Ben and Robert Ben; sister Cheryl Ben-Brady; and many nieces and nephews.

1973

Roger De Leon '73 died April 29, 2020, at age 68. After graduating from Pacific, De Leon moved to the Treasure Valley area of Idaho until 1982, when he returned to Oregon. De Leon was preceded in death by his mother, Pauline; father Rogelio; son Michael; brother Gilbert; and sister Alice. He is survived by his wife, Joan; daughter Cassandra; son Rogelio; three brothers; a sister; and many nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

William Erickson '73 died May 28, 2020, at age 68. After graduating from Pacific, Erickson went on to become a respected electrician, working on countless commercial projects throughout his career. He also built three homes during his lifetime, first on his family farm, followed by the house he built with his wife to raise their daughter, and finally a beachfront home in Ocean Park, Wash., where he and his wife retired. Erickson spent his time at his beachfront house clamming, crabbing, fishing and enjoying time out on the open water. Erickson was preceded in death by his parents, his brother and his sister-in-law. He is survived by his wife, Jan; daughter Abigail; sister Ardis; brother Robert; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

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1977

Grant Nakamoto '77 died July 19, 2016, at age 60. He was a self-employed businessman. Nakamoto was preceded in death by his mother, Lillian Nakamoto. He is survived by his father, Henry Nakamoto; brother Crayton Nakamoto; sisters Doreen Ranne and Cynthia Shimabuku; and many nieces and nephews.

1978

James Ruch '78, OD '80 died Jan. 28, 2020, at age 65. After graduating with a doctorate in optometry from Pacific, Ruch moved back to his hometown of Britton, SD. He practiced at Vision Care Associates until 1982, then continued to practice optometry in Nebraska, Kansas, Texas and Arizona. Ruch was preceded in death by his son, father, stepfather and grandparents. He is survived by his wife, sister, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins, as well as his two pugs.

1979

Geoffrey Rath '79, OD '81 died April 10, 2020, at age 62. Rath practiced optometry, serving the towns of Oakes, Ellendale, Forman, LaMoure and Ashley, ND. Rath also enjoyed golfing, fly-fishing and traveling. Rath is survived by his wife, Dorothea; sons Tyler, Andrew and Geoffrey; mother Delores; and brother Greg.

1983

Ronald Cuevas '83, OD '86 died Dec. 16, 2019, at age 58. After receiving his doctorate in optometry at Pacific, Cuevas went on to practice in Eugene, Ore., for more than 30 years.

Karen Jaggar PT '83 died Nov. 20, 2019, at age 59. Jaggar graduated from Pacific with a BS in science-physical therapy, and was awarded the President's Award of Highest Academic Achievement. She moved to the California Bay area to further her education and work as a physical therapist. Jaggar was preceded in death by her father, Samuel Jaggar. She is survived by her brother, Charles Jaggar; her mother, Nancy Black; and stepfather Harvey Black.

1990

Lisa Howlett '90 died March 9, 2020. After graduating from Pacific University, Howlett began a career in social services. She also spent much of her time volunteering with the Maui Academy of Performing Arts. Howlett is survived by her parents, Jim and Linda Howlett, and many family and friends.

1992

John Galindo MS '92, PsyD '98 died Nov. 10, 2019, at age 68. Galindo went back to school later in life. His passion was helping others. An avid golfer, Galindo found any excuse to get out on the course. This past year he achieved his lifelong dream of a hole-in-one. Galindo was preceded in death by his mother and his grandmother. He is survived by his wife, Nancy; children Sarah (and John) and Laura; four grandchildren Isabel, Maya, Laylah and Quincy; and his brother, Dale (and Shirley).

Secily Malia (Meyer) Gray '92 died Jan. 4, 2020, at age 49. A life-long hula dancer, she embodied the essence and vibrancy of the mele she danced. Gray is survived by her husband, Todd; son Akili; daughter Meleana; parents Lyman and Delleen Meyer; sisters Danene and Kaleinani; brother Kaniau; and numerous nieces and nephews.

1995

Christina Smith OD '95 died Aug. 31, 2019, at age 50. Smith received her doctorate in optometry from Pacific, then went to raise her family and start an optometry practice in Black Mountain, NC. She organized many optometric mission trips over her lifetime, traveling to places like Grenada and Trinidad to help bring better vision to underserved populations. Smith is survived by her husband, Chris German; sons Sean and Will; parents Ann and Richard Smith; sister and brother-in-law Julia and Jacob Caselli; and many other loving family members.

2001

William Lynch III MAT '02 died Sept. 29, 2019, at age 46. After receiving his degree from Pacific, Lynch went on to become a beloved English teacher at Lincoln High School in Portland, Ore. He was Teacher of the Year and also represented Oregon at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. Lynch was preceded in death by his grandparents, William H. and Jean Babbitt Lynch, and Anthony C. and Raffaelina DeBellis; and his father, William Lynch II. He is survived by his mother, Deanna Lynch; brother Jeffrey Lynch; children Hazel and William Henry Lynch IV; and nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and many cousins.

2005

Joseph Halloran MAT '05 died Nov. 18, 2019, at age 69. After serving in the military, Halloran spent the majority of his career with Nalco Chemical Company and, in 2004, retired to follow his dream of teaching. Halloran received his master's in teaching in 2005, then taught for five years. Halloran is survived by his wife, Ellie Halloran; daughters Nicole Williamson and Sarah Pierson; and grandchildren.

2010

Kristin Diaz Hang PharmD '10 died June 1, 2020, at age 37, due to pregnancy complications. She was known as a woman of integrity, commitment and passion. She loved the simple things in life and spending time with her precious family. She loved to help those in need. Diaz is survived by her daughter, Sofia, and her husband, Sov.

2016

Alison Shafer PharmD '16 died June 4, 2020, at the age of 44. She was an engaged alumna of Pacific's pharmacy program and returned to Pacific in February as a guest speaker to teach first-year students about oncology. ■

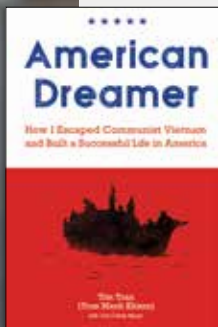
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Plus, join us for the Alumni Book Club for monthly reads and discussions or register for our newest virtual events, a series featuring alumni and faculty authors events.

► pacificu.edu/AlumniEvents



American Dreamer: How I Escaped Communist Vietnam and Built a Successful Life in America

By Tim Tran '74

Published through Pacific University, American Dreamer is the memoir of Pacific alumnus and trustee Khiem "Tim" Tran '74, tracing his path from rural Vietnam to his escape to America and his rise as CFO of a multi-billion-dollar company. Tran will be the guest author at Pacific's first alumni and faculty author event, a virtual gathering Nov. 14.



Leaving the Boys: A Story of Motherhood and Career, Feminism and Romance

By Mindy Cameron '65

Alumna Mindy Cameron '65 made her name as a journalist in the Northwest. Now, she tells the rest of the story. After retirement and a seven-year stint as chair of the Pacific University Board of Trustees, she returned to Pacific as a student in the MFA in Writing Program. The result is this captivating memoir illuminating the tension between motherhood, desire, and regret. Cameron will be the guest author at Pacific's second alumni and faculty author event, a virtual gathering on Jan. 16.



Make Your Home Among Strangers

By Jennine Capó Crucet

This debut novel focuses on a first-generation college student who struggles with feelings of belonging. Pacific students in First-Year Seminar have read the book over the summer and will discuss it as part of their introductory coursework at Pacific, and it also will be the selected reading for the Alumni Book Club meeting during virtual Homecoming on Oct. 10.

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**Vision is the
art of seeing
what is invisible
to others.**

— JONATHAN SWIFT

