A Brighter Tomorrow

Tim & Cathy Tran found hope at Pacific — and they are sharing the Pacific promise with a new generation
Pacific University will confer an honorary doctor of humane letters degree upon Tommy Thayer at Commencement this spring. Thayer is best known for his role as guitarist for the legendary rock band KISS. For 10 years, Thayer hosted Legends, Pacific’s signature fundraising event, bringing widespread visibility to the university and generating more than $3.5 million. The culminating Legends event in 2016 launched the Tommy Thayer Endowment for Athletics and Music. Thayer continues to serve as a Pacific University trustee and friend. #DrTommyThayer
Nearly 50 years ago, Tim ’74 and Cathy Tran ’74 came to Pacific University as bright-eyed international students. At the top of their classes at home in Vietnam, they were intent on gaining U.S. college degrees and expanding the opportunities available for their futures. Little did they dream that the educations — and relationships — they found at Pacific would ultimately carry them through escape from political upheaval and war and into new starts in the United States. (See page 9.)

The students who come to Pacific today may not all have experiences as dramatic as the Trans, but their dreams are no smaller. They are students like Jahan Asad, who plans to enroll in the fall. She is not only the first in her immediate family to attend college; she is one of the first women in her family to ever graduate from high school.

She dreams of becoming a neurosurgeon and giving hope to people like her, who have struggled with unexpected medical issues. (See page 16.)

At Pacific, we see so many dreams. Whether they are the children and grandchildren of Pacific Boxer and Badger alumni or, like 20 percent of our students, the first in their families to attend college, our students are striving for a better tomorrow.

That’s what Lead On: The Campaign for Tomorrow at Pacific University is all about. It is about creating possibilities and opportunities for those students, today and in perpetuity, to achieve their dreams.

It is about creating learning environments and resources that provide the spaces and tools to deliver the education of tomorrow. It is about adapting in order to maintain the core of who we are at Pacific while taking hold of new ideas and innovations.

It is about delivering on the Pacific promise, that no matter who you are or what your background, Pacific is a place where you will find caring staff and nurturing faculty, an inspirational and supportive environment, and the opportunity to create a better tomorrow, for yourself and for others.

Warmest Regards,

Lesley M. Hallick, President
president@pacificu.edu
All of my children’s teachers have been Pacific University alumni.

My husband and I have been incredibly fortunate to be able to send our children to the Early Learning Community, a preschool through second-grade demonstration school on the Forest Grove Campus.

At the ELC, children are taught by highly qualified, master’s level teachers, who also serve as mentors for students in Pacific’s College of Education. It is a place where future teachers discover best practices and have the chance to observe and try out their own teaching skills.

At the ELC, my children have always been valued for who they are and what they bring to their learning community. This spring, my son is wrapping up his final year there (sniffle!), and I am absolutely confident he is moving on not only with the academic skills to succeed in future grades, but also with confidence, social skills and a true love of learning.

The ELC, celebrating its 10th anniversary this summer, is the best learning environment I can imagine for my children. It’s what I would wish for every child. I’m lucky to be able to send my kids there, but I also know that other children will benefit from the experience that our College of Education students have there as well.

When I think about how Pacific changes lives, one by one, I think — of course — of our undergraduate and graduate students. But I also think about the lives they will touch in turn: the clients they will serve, the patients they will care for, and the children they will teach.

My children may not be Pacific students (yet), but they are already among the thousands whose lives have been touched by this place. For that, I am eternally grateful.

JENNI M. LUCKETT
Editor | pacifimag@pacificu.edu
PHILANTHROPY EDITION

8 ......................... lead on: campaign for tomorrow
Lead On: The Campaign for Tomorrow at Pacific University carries the heart of our mission to the next generations of students and alumni.

9 .............................. a journey home
In 1970, Khiem “Tim” and Thuy “Cathy” (Trinh) Tran came to Pacific as bright-eyed international students. Less than a decade later, they were refugees. With the help of friends at Pacific, they made it — and today, the successful retirees are saying thank you with perpetual support for the university they love.

13 ........................................ a passion to serve
Alex (Bing) Marchbanks ’14, SLP ’18 found her passion for speech-language pathology at Pacific. A scholarship funded by donors helped turn her dreams to reality as she completes her master’s degree this spring.
WATCH | See how Pacific faculty members inspired Alex’s career choices
▶ magazine.pacificu.edu

14 ........................................... the care to save lives
With the right education and training, optometrists can save lives. That’s why two recently retired College of Optometry professors have created an award to inspire future generations of doctoral students.

15 ................................. smiles delivered
Pacific’s new EyeSmile program partners the colleges of optometry and health professions, allowing students to practice their skills while taking their care into local communities with brand new mobile eye care and dental care clinics.

16 .............................. the chance for a boundless future
To Jahan Asad, Pacific’s historic buildings and green lawns have always looked like a fairy tale. Now, Jahan’s wish is coming true. This fall, with the help of a scholarship, Jahan will become the first woman in her immediate family to attend college.
WATCH | See Jahan’s journey first-hand ▶ magazine.pacificu.edu

pacificu.edu/calendar

20-24 AOA Optometry’s Meeting Optometry Alumni Gathering
▶ Denver, Colo.

21 Alumni & Friends Gathering
▶ Denver, Colo.

21-24 Class of 1968 Summer Reunion
▶ Forest Grove Campus

27 Providence Employees Alumni & Friends Gathering
▶ Portland, Ore.

29 Alumni Night with the Hillsboro Hops
▶ Hillsboro, Ore.

10 Friends of Pacific Lunch
▶ Forest Grove Campus

JULY

19 Boxer ‘Ohana Golf Tournament
▶ Ewa Beach, Hawai’i

21 Boxer ‘Ohana Reception
▶ Honolulu, Hawai’i

21 Physical Therapy Class of 2008 Reunion
▶ Portland, Ore.

28 Alumni Book Club
▶ Hillsboro, Ore.

29 Southern California Boxer Social
▶ Tarzana, Calif.
“I am so grateful to be able to call Pacific home, to call fellow Boxers my family, and to one day join the thousands of alumni who came before me and have committed to supporting the next generation of Boxers, like me.”

– Matt Shimabukuro ’20

Make your gift to the Pacific Excellence Fund today and help our students thrive.

› pacificu.edu/excellence
Mahalo Aunty Edna

When Edna (Doar) Gehring ’70, MSEd ’72 retires this spring, it will mark the end of an era at Pacific University. “Aunty Edna” has been a stalwart figure in the lives of Pacific students for more than three decades.

As a Pacific student, she was a Delta Chi Delta and danced in the Lu’au, while her older brother, Bill Doar ’69, pitched with Coach Chuck Bafaro’s baseball team. She married classmate Hans Gehring ’70, and one of their children, Christie, also attended Pacific, graduating in 2002.

Professionally, Gehring taught and offered career and college planning support to students at Mililani High School from 1973 to 1981, before returning to her alma mater.

In the past 35 years, her job title has changed several times, but her role as “Aunty” — beacon of advice, guidance, support and a little tough love — never has. She has served as advisor for Nā Haumāna O Hawai‘i and its annual Lu’au since 1983, touching the lives of thousands of students.

“She is nurturing yet determined to guide us to find our path in life,” said Trey Kodama ’17. “She recognizes our potential to succeed and supports all of our endeavors.”

As her day-to-day interactions with students come to a close, though, Aunty Edna’s impact on Pacific students never will. This fall, she started working to create the Aunty Edna Endowed Scholarship Fund, which will support NHOH students returning to Pacific for their junior or senior years. As part of her retirement, she is inviting friends, colleagues and alumni to contribute to the effort.

MAKE A GIFT

▶ pacificu.edu/AuntyEdna
LIGHTS, CAMERa, ACTION | Pacific University’s Forest Grove Campus was transformed into the fictional town of Beacon Heights in March as film crews shot the pilot of The Perfectionists, a spinoff of Pretty Little Liars TV series. The filming brought visibility to the university and gave some students the chance to serve as extras and learn from professional filmmakers.

DACA IN FOCUS | “Dreamers of Oregon: Out of the Shadows” — a photo exhibit examining the lives of immigrants under the embattled Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program — opened at Pacific this spring. A collaboration between photographer Holly Andres and the nonprofit Bienestar, the exhibit includes dramatic portraits of DACA recipients, including mother-of-two Brianda Alcazar Polvos ’17, who earned a chemistry degree at Pacific and is set to start pharmacy school this fall.

SPALSHY CELEBRATION | The Forest Grove Aquatic Center — home to Pacific’s Swim Team — will celebrate its 50th anniversary at a special celebration.

briefly noted

NATE OLOWO ’18
MEN’S BASKETBALL
Nate Olowo (Rancho Cucamonga, Calif) secured first team all-Northwest Conference honors for his efforts in 2017-2018. Olowo scored 362 points for an average of 14.5 points per game, made 59.3 percent of his shots from the field, grabbed 233 rebounds for an average of 9.3 rebounds per game on the season, and posted nine double-double performances in 25 games. He is the first Pacific player since Mitch Wettig in 2014-2015 to secure first team all-Northwest Conference honors.

OSCAR WIGHT ’18
MEN’S TENNIS
Oscar Wight (Adelaide, Australia) was named first team all-Northwest Conference during his senior season. He posted an 8-9 record, playing primarily at the No. 1 flight for the Boxers. Wight teamed up with Rayden Murata to post a 7-5 record in doubles play. In his four-year career, he has 34 singles wins and 51 doubles to date. The total 92 wins by Wight ranks among the most in school history.

KAREN DU ’19
WOMEN’S TRACK & FIELD
Karen Du (Santa Clarita, Calif.) at the 2018 Northwest Conference Championships won the women’s shot put (42-0.75) after finishing third in 2017. Earlier this year, she eclipsed the 38-year-old school record in the discus, held previously by Andrea Heilman, with a throw of 135-11. Her effort earned her Northwest Conference Field Student-Athlete of the Week honors. Twice in 2017-2018, she has been named the Boxer Club Female Athlete of the Month.

BRIANA FINAU ’20
WOMEN’S GOLF
Briana Finau (Kāne‘ohe, Hawai‘i) hit a hole-in-one during the Northwest Conference Spring Classic. Finau aced No. 9 from 148 yards out on the par 3 en route to a share of 15th-place finish at the tournament. Later this spring, she finished 20th at the Northwest Conference Championships. She was the top finisher for Pacific in all 10 events including seven top 10 finishes and five top finishes. She had a team-best scoring average of 82.63.

KOLBY NIKOLAISEN ’20
MEN’S TRACK & FIELD
Kolby Nikolaisen (Sumner, Wash.) broke one of the longest standing records in Pacific history, setting a new record in the pole vault. He later went on to break his own record, one week later, with a clearance of 15-7.75 at the Pacific Lu’au Invitational on April 7. Following his record-setting performance, he was named the Boxer Club Male Athlete of the Month in March. Nikolaisen won the pole vault competition at both the Pacific Lu’au Invitational and won the Puget Sound Scoring Meet.

Detailed information about the sports achievements of Karen Du and Oscar Wight is also included.
Michael Burch-Pesses, Music, received the 2018 John C. McManus Distinguished Teacher Award from the Oregon Music Education Association. The award recognizes lifetime service to music education and notable professional accomplishment. Burch-Pesses is Pacific’s longtime director of bands, as well as the musical director of the Oregon Symphonic Band. This spring, he will conduct during the university’s 70th anniversary Music in May festival, which attracts the finest high school musicians from around the country.

Stacey Halpern, Biology, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar Fellowship to study factors that contribute to a plant’s invasiveness in a non-native habitat. Beginning in June, Halpern will spend seven months in Japan working alongside other researchers studying Carolina horsenettle, a plant native to the U.S. but invasive in Japan. Halpern, an evolutionary ecologist, has studied Carolina horsenettle in Florida since 2005 as part of a long-term collaboration with ecologists there.

Brent Norris, Physician Assistant Studies, received a grant worth $36,000 from Johnson & Johnson subsidiary Ethicon to help train PA students in suturing and wound closure in simulated emergency, surgical and hospital settings. The funds will allow the School of Physician Assistant Studies to update its equipment and provide sufficient suture supplies to ensure students are proficient in this skill at the time they enter their clinical rotations.

Matthew Minicucci, English, is one of just 18 writers to have received a 2018 Oregon Literary Fellowship. Fellows are awarded a grant to help initiate, develop, or complete a literary project. Minicucci teaches writing and literature courses and is the senior poetry editor of Silk Road Review, a literary magazine published by the university. He is the author of two collections of poetry, and his work has also appeared in numerous journals and anthologies.

Mike Charles, Education, received an Endeavor Executive Fellowship from the Australian government to lead a professional development project at the Australian Science and Mathematics School (ASMS) at Flinders University in Adelaide. For three months this year, Charles led a team, which included Pacific’s Steve Rhine, Education, Rich Van Buskirk, Biology, and James Butler, Physics, that enhanced the teaching skills of Flinders faculty. The project also connected ASMS students with the Forest Grove High School students of Pacific alumna Briana VanRoekel ’16, MAT ’17.

WRITE STUFF | The Master of Fine Arts in Writing Program hosts its annual summer residency on the Forest Grove Campus in June. Renowned author-mentors serve as faculty for the low-residency program. Guest speakers at the residency will include author Barry Lopez, memoirist Claire Dederer, the National Book Foundation’s Lisa Lucas and essayist Sarah Gerard. pacificu.edu/MFA-writing

CAP & GOWN | Pacific University celebrates its spring commencement on May 19, welcoming 740 new members to the Alumni Association. Highlights of the celebration include the conferral of an honorary degree upon Trustee Tommy Thayer, best known as the guitarist for KISS, and the awarding of the Kamelia Massih Prize to Shinji Seki ’77, OD ’79.
It all started with Tabitha Brown, an aging and near-penniless widow who crossed the Oregon Trail and found a calling in taking in orphans, giving them a place to live and an education to help start their lives.

For 169 years, Pacific University has been a place where students have found a home and an opportunity to launch their own dreams.

Today, with Lead On: The Campaign for Tomorrow at Pacific University, we look to the future and to continuing and expanding that mission for generations of students to come.

Our $80 million fundraising campaign focuses on creating world-class learning environments for the 21st century, exploring new ideas and innovations, and expanding the Pacific promise in perpetuity as we inspire students to think, care, create, and pursue justice in the world.

Discover how Pacific University is changing lives, one by one, and join us in creating a brighter future for our students tomorrow.
In 1970, Khiem “Tim” Tran and Thuy “Cathy” Trinh said goodbye to their families in war-torn South Vietnam and headed to America for a college education. Neither could have imagined that five years later they would be back in Vietnam, trying desperately to escape the Communist takeover, nor that they would return to their friends at Pacific with little more than the clothes on their backs.

Like so many refugees of war and political persecution, they found themselves starting over. But in nearly 40 years, both Tim and Cathy have found...
by her oldest brother to pursue higher education. “He saw that I was a bright young kid,” she told Pacific magazine in a 2004 interview. “To him, it didn’t matter if I was a boy or a girl.” At Pacific, they embraced college life, making friends easily and becoming known for their intellectual curiosity and eagerness to learn about American culture and history.

Tim joined the Gamma Sigma fraternity and the Speech & Debate Team and wrote for The Pacific Index and the Pacific Review literary magazine. A voracious reader who had limited access to books as a child, he spent long hours in the campus library, which he came to consider his “second dormitory.” His constant companion was an English dictionary used to decipher unfamiliar words. Visiting campus earlier this year, he walked through what are now offices in what is now Scott Hall — the library from his Pacific years — and pointed to a corner where he used to fall asleep reading.

“I always got the impression that Tim felt blessed to be given the opportunity to have a good education in America and took every opportunity to take full advantage of it,” said fellow Speech & Debate Team member Ronald Johnston ’72.

**SEIZING OPPORTUNITY**

Tim grew up the son of a civil servant and homemaker. Cathy was one of eight children, raised by her mother after her father died at age 36. She was encouraged by her oldest brother to pursue higher education. “He saw that I was a bright young kid,” she told Pacific magazine in a 2004 interview. “To him, it didn’t matter if I was a boy or a girl.” At Pacific, they embraced college life, making friends easily and becoming known for their intellectual curiosity and eagerness to learn about American culture and history.

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“I always got the impression that Tim felt blessed to be given the opportunity to have a good education in America and took every opportunity to take full advantage of it,” said fellow Speech & Debate Team member Ronald Johnston ’72.

Cathy, too, blossomed at Pacific. She joined Theta Nu Alpha sorority and the Boxerettes women’s service group and often visited the homes of fellow students and professors, bringing Vietnamese dishes to share or cooking them on site.

“It became apparent to me pretty quickly that Khiem and Thuy were not the average international students,” said Professor Emeritus George Evans, who taught the Trans literature and writing.

“They read and read and asked countless questions about not just the texts, but the culture that produced them. I think in time they knew more about American culture than our American students did.”

**A TOUGH CHOICE**

After two years at Pacific, both Tim and Cathy opted to finish their educations at larger institutions. Tim studied accounting and finance at the University of California Berkeley, and Cathy went to the University of Oregon to complete her bachelor’s in finance.

Tim was accepted into the MBA program at Berkley, but the federal agency that awarded his international scholarship wouldn’t extend his student visa. And so he faced a difficult dilemma: stay in the United States illegally, enroll in a master’s program in Canada, as some friends suggested, or return to war-ravaged South Vietnam, as he and Cathy were supposed to under the terms of their scholarships.

“I concluded that returning to South Vietnam was the honorable thing to do,” Tim said. “I owed the South Vietnamese and the American governments a lot for my education.”

Tim and Cathy went home. Each landed a good job with U.S.-based firms: Tim as an internal auditor for Shell oil company and Cathy as a financial analyst for Esso.

In April 1975, though, Saigon fell to the North Vietnamese army and chaos ensued.

Tim, who had been a rising star at Shell, lost his job after the country’s Communist regime
nationalized foreign-owned companies and fired workers suspected of being “unfriendly” to the government.

Cathy was assigned a book-keeping position at another nationalized entity but found herself reporting to former North Vietnamese soldiers who had been given plum jobs at the company, despite little education and few qualifications.

“He tried to escape many times and failed. We lost money trying to escape and were lucky not to get arrested.” — TIM TRAN

SEARCHING FOR A WAY OUT

In the aftermath of the war, hundreds of thousands of people fled Vietnam, and the country’s economy collapsed.

Tim and Cathy married quietly in a family-only ceremony just a month after the fall of Saigon. And they plotted their escape, each day filled with worry that their U.S. educations and ties to Western employers would lead to arrest.

“We tried to escape many times and failed,” Tim recalled. “We lost money trying to escape and were lucky not to get arrested.”

Two of Cathy’s brothers and her uncle were sent to Communist “re-education camps.” Tim’s sister Thao was the only member of his family to get out before the country fell, landing in a refugee camp in the Philippines, where she was eventually able to contact his friends at Pacific for help.

She wrote a letter, addressed only to “Paul Hebb, Pacific University, Oregon.” Somehow, the missive arrived in Forest Grove.

Nickels did manage to sponsor Thao. The women became roommates and close friends. Thao improved her English-language skills and eventually earned a scholarship to study math at Pacific, graduating in 1980.

TAKING TO THE SEA

In 1979, on a stormy night, Tim and Cathy passed themselves off as ethnic Chinese, joining 350 on a wooden boat designed to carry some 50 people. They would eventually cross the Gulf of Thailand into Malaysia.

Over the course of seven days, the boat was attacked by seven groups of pirates, armed with guns, grenades and machetes. The first group made off with buckets of gold, diamonds and money.

By the time the seventh group boarded the boat, there was little left to steal. One of the pirates demanded Tim’s prescription glasses and his Levi jeans at knife point. He quickly complied.

Frustrated that there wasn’t much to steal, the pirates destroyed the water and food supplies, as well as one of the boat’s engines.

For two days, the refugee passengers had no food or water. One didn’t survive.

“Everybody was hungry, but the worst thing was the thirst,” Cathy said. “Suddenly, somebody said, ‘I see land.'”

The group waited until nightfall to approach the Malaysian coast. As their boat inched toward the shore, Tim persuaded the group to slam the boat into a rock, hoping to damage the vessel so that Malaysian authorities couldn’t tow it back out to sea.

The collision resulted in only minor damage, so the refugees jumped off and destroyed their boat by hand, reducing it to a pile of floating lumber.

Once ashore, the group was corralled by authorities into a makeshift, barbed-wire prison and later taken to an overcrowded refugee camp on an island off the coast. There, food was scarce and

continues
characteristic dry humor and said, “I travel light.”

Getting re-established wasn’t easy. Tim borrowed $300 from Nickels, later repaid with interest, and friends co-signed for an apartment. He began applying to entry-level jobs, landing a low-level accounting position with Portland’s Johnston Supply.

He earned an MBA in night school and worked his way up the corporate ladder at Johnston, retiring in 2003 as chief financial officer. Since then, he has taught business, finance and taxes at colleges in the Portland area.

Cathy had an impressive career as well. She spent 18 years with U.S. Bank and 15 years at Standard Insurance. A Certified Public Accountant, she retired from the company in 2015 as a tax manager.

In 2017, the Trans returned to Pacific once again, their circumstances far different. Tim is now a trustee for the university, and the couple has established the Khiem “Tim” ’74 and Thuy “Cathy” Tran ’74 Library Endowment, providing perpetual support for learning at Pacific. The new campus library, built in 2005, was named in their honor.

Thirty-eight years after fleeing Vietnam, Tim stood at a podium in Trombley Square to say thank you for the inspiration, education and support he received at Pacific.

“Coming here today and attending this dedication is the completion of a long journey of 38 years and more than 10,000 miles,” he said. “I’m glad it ended right here.”

— TIM TRAN

A robust endowment is the foundation of a university. The perpetual support that endowments provide allow us to keep and grow the Pacific promise, carrying our mission into tomorrow by funding financial aid, innovative programs, and faculty research. Pacific’s endowments currently total about $71 million, with a goal of reaching $100 million as part of Lead On: The Campaign for Tomorrow at Pacific University. Learn how to start or contribute to an endowed fund at Pacific.

pacificu.edu/LeadOn
During her first two years at Pacific University, Alex (Bing) Marchbanks ’14, SLP ’18 had only a vague sense of what she hoped to do after graduation. It wasn’t until her junior year — when she added a minor in communication sciences and disorders — that she discovered her passion for speech-language pathology, a field she’d hardly known existed.

“The minor, for me, really ignited this passion of wanting to work with people with speech and language impairments,” said Marchbanks, now a second-year student in Pacific’s master of science in speech-language pathology program. Marchbanks is a recipient of the Aurora “Rae” Peters ’65 Endowed Scholarship for undergraduate students who complete the CSD minor and are admitted to the SLP program. Peters, a speech therapist, and her husband, Clark ’65, MSEd ’70, met as students at Pacific. In 2011, they established an endowed scholarship to honor her support of the SLP program.

Like Rae Peters, Marchbanks was inspired by her professors at Pacific to pursue a career in the field. “The professors in the CSD program are extremely passionate. They made me feel as if I could really make a difference in the field.” — Alex Marchbanks ’14, SLP ’18

Marchbanks has taken full advantage of the community-based clinical experiences available to students in the SLP program. In 2017, she was among a group of graduate students from Pacific who partnered with the Aphasia Network to offer a weekend camp at the Oregon Coast for couples affected by aphasia, a common disruption to the language center of the brain, often caused by a stroke. She’s also worked with older adults in an assisted-living facility, residents of a memory-care community, and children with brain injury in her full-time externship at Randall Children’s Hospital in Portland.

Of all her clinical experiences, Marchbanks has found it especially rewarding to work with individuals with memory loss related to Alzheimer’s and dementia. “We’re not there to restore their lost memories,” she explained. “We are there to maintain the function that they do have and increase their quality of life so their days can be more enjoyable.”

Watch | See how Pacific faculty members inspired Alex’s career choices ▶ magazine.pacificu.edu

Scholarships are a critical tool in helping students attain and expand their educations. Supported by donor gifts, scholarships not only help incoming undergraduates start their college years — they also are especially important in allowing students to stay at Pacific in order to complete their degrees or go on to graduate programs, where financial aid may be harder to access. Learn how you can support our students’ futures.

▶ pacificu.edu/LeadOn
THE CARE TO SAVE LIVES

Dennis Smith MS ’87 and Nada Lingel ’79, OD ’81, MS ’88, ’00 have longed believed in the impact their profession could have with the right education and training.

That’s why the husband-and-wife duo have spent a combined 62 years teaching in the Pacific University College of Optometry, providing guidance to future optometrists. Though their activities have run the gamut — from Lingel’s position as assistant dean for clinical programs to Smith’s involvement with the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center board, its clinic and its partnerships with the university — both have emphasized systemic disease and the way eye care directly relates to overall health.

“In my experience, patients don’t present only wanting to talk only about their eyes,” Lingel said. “Patients want to talk about everything from how their bowels are working to the tingling in their fingers. If the optometric physician isn’t aware of the connections between such symptoms and systemic disease, he or she could be doing a disservice to patients, one that could cost lives.”

That lesson has been core to what they’ve passed on to students.

“In addition to addressing ocular and visual concerns, I’ve always expected our students to be concerned if a patient walked in with swollen ankles, skin lesions, inflamed gums” or other symptoms that could be signs of serious health conditions, Smith said. “I want our students to care enough about the health of the patient that they will perform a few basic tests to get the patient to the appropriate healthcare provider.”

Smith and Lingel retired from Pacific in 2015 and 2017, respectively, but their commitment to systemic disease education lives on.

They recently established the Drs. Dennis L. Smith and Nada J. Lingel Award for Excellence in Systemic Disease. The annual award will recognize one or more fourth-year optometry students for their hard work, skill and dedication to understanding systemic disease and providing comprehensive patient care.

“We hope to honor the student who is interested in the welfare of patients so much that they are willing to make the sacrifices in time and energy needed to stay current in systemic disease and demonstrate a commitment to applying their knowledge” in practice, Lingel said.

Faculty and staff at Pacific are among the first to step up and support our students. Almost two-thirds of Pacific employees make financial gifts to the university each year, giving us one of the highest employee giving rates among our peers. This dedication by employees speaks to the faith that Pacific faculty and staff have in their students. Join Pacific employees in support our students with a gift today.

pacificu.edu/LeadOn
In early spring 2018, dozens of people descended on St. Cecilia Parish in Beaverton, Ore. — not to attend to their spiritual needs, but their healthcare needs.

Inside the church, they sat down with trained volunteers from Providence Health’s Promotores program, who provided nutritional coaching, blood-pressure checks and information on health insurance programs for low-income families, among other vital services.

EyeSmile unites mobile healthcare programs run by Pacific’s College of Optometry and School of Dental Hygiene Studies. The new mobile clinics, funded by generous donations, have allowed both schools to expand their outreach to underserved populations, both individually and collectively through EyeSmile. Students work under the supervision of faculty members to get clinical experience in their respective fields and through EyeSmile learn from one another as a result of interprofessional collaboration.

The College of Optometry dedicated its new 33-foot mobile clinic in the spring of 2017. Later, the School of Dental Hygiene Studies received philanthropic support to build a similar mobile unit for its Smile Care Everywhere program, which partners with community organizations like Promotores to provide services and patient education.

Many of the people who visited the clinic at St. Cecilia Parish received services they otherwise wouldn’t have been able to access — because of language and cultural barriers, lack of health insurance and/or work schedules.

Meanwhile, students like Megan Fox ’18, a senior in Pacific’s Dental Hygiene program, got hands-on experience and a chance to practice her Spanish with many of the patients. For the first time ever, she also did eye exams, coached by students and faculty from the College of Optometry. Many conditions, like diabetes, affect both dental and eye health.

“It’s important to be comfortable working in all types of settings and to be able to work with Spanish-speaking patients,” Fox said. “It’s experience I’ll be taking out into the real world” after graduation.

One of the three pillars of Lead On: The Campaign for Tomorrow at Pacific University is the expansion of outstanding, 21st century learning environments for our students. From residence halls to science labs, athletic facilities to mobile health clinics, the spaces where our students live, learn and grow set us apart from the rest. Discover what the future holds for Pacific’s four campuses and its network of clinics and outreach opportunities, and learn how you can help build the learning environments of tomorrow. pacificu.edu/LeadOn
When she was 13 years old, Jahan Asad woke from a nap to a terrifying discovery: She was paralyzed from the neck down and struggling to breathe. She began to scream.

Her family rushed her to the hospital — where she spent the next week undergoing tests and, with the help of pain medication and physical therapy, regained the ability to walk and do other routine tasks. Her doctors couldn’t figure out what had caused the temporary paralysis, and she left the hospital assuming it was an isolated incident.

That turned out to be wishful thinking. By the time Asad was a freshman at Aloha (Ore.) High School, she had suffered almost a hundred episodes of paralysis, which caused severe back pain, and had been in and out of the hospital many times, once for two months.

“The pain eventually became unbearable, and I started to lose hope,” said Asad, an incoming Pacific University student. “As I started becoming weaker, my team of doctors became stronger and was determined not to give up on me.”
AN ANGUISHING CHOICE
In 2015, Asad’s neurosurgeon proposed a risky, experimental surgery that might alleviate her back pain. Feeling it was her only option, she chose the surgery and went under the knife during finals week her sophomore year.

Her recovery took months — and lots of intense physical therapy — but Asad was back on her feet by the start of the next academic year.

“My brain had completely forgotten how to do basic life activities, such as changing my clothes, writing and even speaking to others,” she said. “After many tears and intense physical therapy, I was walking on my own once again.”

Asad’s struggles have only strengthened her resolve to make the most of life and help others — partly as a way of repaying the strong support she’s received from her close-knit family, her healthcare providers and others.

Today, she hopes to become a neurosurgeon, and a full-ride scholarship to Pacific will help pave the way.

A henna heartbeat drawn on Asad during recovery gave her hope.

A NEW BEGINNING
When she enrolls at Pacific in the fall of 2018, Asad, the daughter of Pakistani immigrants, will be the first person in her immediate family to attend college, and one of the first women in her family to have completed high school.

She’s the recipient of Pacific’s scholarship for graduates of the Beaverton School District’s Early College High School program, which she entered her junior year because it gave her the flexibility she needed to attend to her healthcare needs and continue her education.

“After my surgery, I realized that I could come back stronger and inspire other people,” she said.

SPREADING HOPE
In early 2017, she founded Henna is Hope, a club that aims to bring a little joy to people struggling with emotional or physical issues through temporary body art. As part of her volunteer work at a rehabilitation center in Forest Grove and nearby hospitals, Asad does henna art on patients.

“Healing can be physical and emotional,” said Asad, who taught herself henna art during her two-month hospital stay and found that it helped her cope with loneliness, boredom and fear. It also helped to steady her shaky hands.

One day she had an epiphany when a physical therapist visiting her hospital room took an interest in her henna art and decided to give it a try. He drew a heartbeat sound wave pattern on one of her wrists. It’s a design she has recreated many times since.

“It clicked for me that henna can be a way of healing,” she said, recalling the laughter and the warmth she felt during that interaction.

“You see the intricate designs [of henna art] and that’s all you’re thinking about. The other worries” melt away, she explained.

“My brain had completely forgotten how to do basic life activities, such as changing my clothes, writing and even speaking to others.” — JAHAN ASAD

“I want to go into neurosurgery and help people and give them the hope that I once had lost,” said Asad, who’s quick with a smile and exudes quiet confidence.

“To be accepted to Pacific, I am not only breaking barriers for myself, but also creating a path for my cousins and siblings who look up to me. It would have been really hard for me to attend Pacific without the financial help.”

Following her surgery, Asad did more than just resume her education. She became an exceptional student academically and a difference-maker in more ways than one.

magazine.pacificu.edu
18

Pacific University transforms lives, one at a time, for our students and the people they touch. When you make an unrestricted gift to the Pacific Excellence Fund, you give the university the flexibility and opportunity to respond to students’ most pressing needs and expand educational opportunities for students who may otherwise not be able to access higher education. Every gift to the Pacific Excellence Fund supports students like Jahan Asad in pursuing their dreams and embarking on a brighter future.

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Music in May

Pacific University Music in May, one of the longest-running high school music festivals in the U.S., celebrates its 70th anniversary this year. Some 34,000 students have participated since its inception in 1948. Former music Professor Richard Greenfield founded the festival to encourage the development of string music in public schools. Band and choir were added at the suggestion of high school music directors. The festival, which takes place May 24-26 this year, has attracted many distinguished guest conductors, including the late Carmen Dragon — whose hand-written notes on the string parts for “America the Beautiful” are still used in the final concert. In honor of the festival’s 70th anniversary, this year’s conductors are acclaimed Pacific faculty members Michael Burch-Pesses, Dijana Ihas and Scott Tuomi. Images courtesy of Pacific University Music Department.

BY ANNA ROBATON-WINTHROP
The following Pacific University faculty and staff members are retiring this year. Our thanks for their years of service to Pacific students.

Chris Brems
School of Graduate Psychology

Patsy Charlesworth
Purchasing

Kathryn Eisenbarth
Health Services

James Flory
College of Arts & Sciences

Edna Gehring '70, MEd '72
Office of Hawai‘i Outreach & Programming

James Lane
School of Graduate Psychology

Hannu Laukkanen '83, OD '84, MEd '83
College of Optometry

Carole Londeree
School of Graduate Psychology

Rick London
College of Optometry

Chris MacFarlane
College of Education

Ann Matschner
College of Education

Cathy Moonshine
School of Graduate Psychology

Jeanne Oliver
College of Optometry

John Suroviak
College of Business

Carole Timpone
College of Optometry

1952

James Clunes '52, OD '54 celebrated his 90th birthday on June 28, 2017, with family and friends in Clovis, Calif. A retired optometrist, Clunes established the Albany (Ore.) Vision Clinic with fellow Boxer William Shackelford '50, OD '51, who passed away in 1994, and the late Merle Landes. They retired after 35 years in business together. Clunes, who emigrated from Scotland in 1949, now lives in an active retirement home in Clovis, near his daughter. He still plays bagpipes and is remembered for entertaining on many occasions at conferences hosted by the Oregon Optometric Physicians Association.

1968

Gary Wheeler '68, OD '68, mayor of Medford, Ore., since 2004, was featured in an installment of the Medford Mail Tribune’s “Community Builder” Q&A series.

1970

Mark Slegers '70 recently retired as minister of music at First Unitarian Church of Portland after 39 years of service. During his tenure, the music program grew to more than 300 member musicians singing or ringing hand bells.

Andrew Maeda OD '70 has published two novels, When Love Never Ends and The Women of Harrington Hall. Maeda, of Hilo, Hawai‘i, has been in practice for 48 years and is semi-retired. His daughter and fellow Boxer Jennifer Maeda OD '02 has taken over his practice.

1972

Brian Douglass '72 received the inaugural Pioneer Award from the Fremont District of the Boy Scouts in 2017 for creating the business model for the Scouts’ longtime Christmas tree recycling program in Central Oregon. Douglas first created the model in Portland in 1987 and brought the project to Bend when he and his family relocated there in 1990. Funds generated by the program support local troops. Local Scout leaders estimate that the program raises thousands of dollars each year. Douglas, who served as student ombudsman during his time at Pacific, has earned the moniker “Dr. Squirrel,” due to his work to boost the campus squirrel population in the 1970s and to now collect alumni memories of Pacific’s friendly squirrels.

1977

Pacific University Trustee Michael Hudson Sr. ’77 is serving as temporary director of human resources for the Santa Monica (Calif.) Community College District. He assumed the role on Jan. 1, 2018. Hudson has been substituting in a variety of human resources positions for the Santa Monica College since his 2011 retirement from the Los Angeles Unified District. He and his wife are also enjoying spending time with their first grandson, Mikel Hudson-Fernandez, born June 6, 2017.

1980

James “Jim” Radcliffe ’80 helped lead the U.S. Women’s National Hockey Team to a gold medal in the 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea. Radcliffe has been the team’s strength and training coach since 2016. He is also the longtime head of the University of Oregon’s strength and training program. Radcliffe played four seasons for the Boxer’s football team as a student at Pacific.

1981

Frank Barter ’81 released his first album, Ready, last year on the Valley Entertainment label. According to the independent label, Barter “writes and sings like a guy who’s been beat up and still won’t quit, like a guy who’s been dumped but still has hope for a happy ending. There’s gravel and silk, triumph and longing, celebration and regret.”

1982

Nely (Agbulos) Caberto ’82 of Kekaha, Hawai‘i, has spent more time in Oregon lately now that her son, Keane, is a student at Western Oregon University. During her visits to Oregon, she has reconnected with other members of the Pacific community.
including former athletic director and softball coach Judy Sherman, and visited the Forest Grove Campus. While the campus has changed a lot since she was a student, Caberto says that it still has a warm, welcoming feeling.

1984 Michael Ford '84 has been named chief operating officer of the Denver Regional Transportation District. Ford brings extensive leadership in public and private transportation to the newly created position. As chief operating officer, he oversees the agency’s bus and rail operations while meeting the needs of the growing metro region.

1987 Maria (Burak) Huppi '87 was featured in an October 2017 article in The Times, a newspaper serving parts of Washington County, Ore. Huppi became a quadriplegic in 2000 when a tree fell on the minivan she and her husband were driving. She has gone on to become an artist, using her mouth to hold a paintbrush as she paints scenes inspired by the garden and pond in her backyard.

1988 Ken Kondo '88 won four gold medals in Masters Swimming, representing the State of California in the 50-yard breaststroke and the 50-, 100- and 200-yard backstroke during the 2017 State Games of America in Grand Rapids, Mich., in August. He has qualified for the 2019 State Games of America to be held in Virginia. He swam on the Boxer men’s swim team from 1984 to 1988.

1991 Mark Beck '91 has joined the board of Idex Corp. The publicly traded company is best known for its expertise in highly engineered fluidics systems and components, as well as for its expertise in fire and safety products, including the Jaws of Life family of rescue tools.

1994 Mike Kimber '94 is a teacher and head wrestling coach at Mt. Edgcumbe High School in Sitka, Alaska. He recently completed his 18th year as the school’s head wrestling coach. In 2017, his girls wrestling team was awarded a team championship trophy. The team qualified 14 wrestlers to the state tournament and won with 193 points. Kimber graduated from Mt. Edgcumbe in 1988. In recent years, the school has built the largest girls wrestling program in Alaska.

2002 Tawnya (Wilson) Pastuck '02, OD '06 has published her first children’s book, Buddy Gets His First Pair of Glasses. Pastuck wrote the book to help alleviate the anxiety that often surrounds a child’s first eye doctor visit. Her book was published by Bee Tree Books, a Pacific University Libraries’ publishing service.

2004 Jesse Jimenez '04 was married on Nov. 11, 2017, to the now Cassie Jimenez.

2005 Sally Roberts ’05 appeared on NBC’s Megyn Kelly Today show in January 2018 to discuss Wrestle Like A Girl, the group she founded to promote female wrestling and cultivate the whole athlete in the developmental process. Roberts is a two-time World bronze medal winner and three-time U.S. National Champion wrestler.

2006 Justin Arnold ’06 was hired in late 2017 as a communications specialist for 38 North, a program of the U.S.-Korea Institute at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, D.C. In his role, he formats interview requests, manages social media and sets strategic media goals for the program, a source of non-partisan, fact-based analysis of North Korea. He says he feels like he has finally “made it” in D.C.

2007 Dana Zurcher ’07 and Ian Eyzen were married Aug. 19, 2017, in Vernon, Ore. In attendance were Pacific alumni Bree Davis ’07, Lisa (Kjostad) Roche ’06, Michelle (Doherty) Hickey ’07, MAT ’08, Rochelle Schwartz ’09, MA ’13, Tiffany Sorenson ’08, Cassie Lutz MS ’17, Nicole Burgess ’12, Jennifer Eaves-Velez ’12, Melissa Lund ’15, Cub Shulund ’88, Tania (Glasscock) Hand ’04, MBA ’17, Angela Skjeie ’10, MBA ’17, Peter ’69, MAT ’83 and Patricia (Yorks) Truax ’69, BEd ’79 and Jeffrey Grundon ’80.

Danish Shulund, lead coordinator for Pacific’s Office of Undergraduate Admissions, and Karen Dunston, assistant vice president of Undergraduate Admissions, also attended the wedding. Emily (Dueker) Coats ‘11 and Michelle (Bose) Humphrey ‘11 served as photographers.

2008 Juno Ann Apalla ’07 was recently named an associate director at Bayada Home Health Care. She oversees the operations of the home care business for the island of Kaua‘i. Her office, which has a staff of seven full-time managers and 200 field personnel, recently received the 2018 Best of Home Care — Provider of Choice Award from Home Care Pulse, an independent satisfaction research firm for home care. In January 2018, Apalla also received the Board Member of the Year award from the Kaua‘i Filipino Chamber of Commerce. This year, she plans to graduate from the executive master of business administration program at the University of Hawai‘i’s Shidler College of Business.
The article appeared in the Independent Record. He is a board-certified infectious disease pharmacist.

2011
Mike Garber '11 and Amanda Littlewood Garber '07, OT '11 welcomed their first son, Kai Daniel, on Nov. 15, 2017.

Marta Stueve '11, PharmD/MHA '16 recently began her pharmacy residency at Yale New Haven Health System in New Haven, Conn. She is enjoying exploring New England with her rescue dog, Athena.

Rebecca (Lopez) Moua '11 was admitted to the Washington State Bar in October 2017 and is currently practicing law in Seattle. She graduated from Seattle University School of Law in May 2011.

Patrick Jordan MAT '11, was awarded the 2017 GED (General Education Diploma) Educator of the Year Award by the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission. He is the lead teacher at the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council campus in Redmond, Ore. The article appeared in the Helena (Mont.) Independent Record. He is a board-certified infectious disease pharmacist.

2012
Priscilla Radar '12 and Ryan Culp '12 were married Sept. 22, 2017, in Portland. In attendance were fellow Boxer alumnus Iain Culp '09, Kathleen (Green) Macomber '12, Edward Maconer III '10, Chris McLinden '14, Max Seiler '13, Evan Cooper '13, Simone (Giess) Iverson '12, Sean Iverson '13, Kelly (Schulstad) Hattab '12, Hunter Dassonville '14, Chris Johnson '15, Guthrie Straw '12, as well as Associate Professor of Philosophy Ramona Ilea.

Chelsea Yarbor '12 and Jose Saettone were married Aug. 12, 2017, in Scappoose, Ore. They live in Anchorage, Alaska, with their two cats.

Savannah Rose DHS '12 has been hired as an adjunct faculty member for the dental hygiene program at the University of Alaska.


Tabitha Blankenbiller MFA '12 released her debut essay collection in March 2018. Published by Alternating Current Press, "Eats of Eden" follows a year of attempting to write a novel — and the daily life, occasional revelations and passions that feed, distract, complicate, and enrich that process, according to publisher Alternating Current Press. The book made The Rumpus's 2018 What to Read list and The Coil's Books We Can't Wait to Read in 2018 roundup.

2013
David Hagerty MFA '13 recently published the third book in his series of political murder mysteries. "They Tell Me You Are Brutal" continues the story of fictional Illinois Gov. Duncan Cochrane, who has a murderous family secret to conceal and a saboteur to capture. Hagerty says he owes much to the instructors in Pacific's Master of Fine Arts In Writing program (especially David Long and Frank Gaspar), who helped him revise the first volume in his series. Besides making him a better writer, their input helped him find his publisher, Evolved.

David James MFA '13 has published his seventh poetry collection, "If God were gentle," with Dos Madres Press. James, whose nom de plume is D.R. James, has been teaching writing, literature and peace-making at Hope College in Holland, Mich., for 33 years. He lives in Saugatuck, Mich., with his wife, psychotherapist Suzy Doyle.

Erin McElhone '13 is slated to graduate from Touro University California's medical school this spring. McElhone has been accepted into the anesthesia residency program at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., where she will begin her active duty military career as an Army captain.

2014
Alexandra Bing '14, SLP '18 and William Marchbanks '14 were married July 15, 2017, at Mt. Pisgah Arboretum in Eugene, Ore. The groom, originally from Brownsville, Ore., played football for Pacific and majored in public health. The bride, originally from Roseburg, Ore., is a past member of the Pacific women's swimming team and majored in sociology as an undergrad. Boxer alumnus Gabriel Flory '14, Rupa Patel '14, Kristine Valdez '14 and Nicole Koch '13 attended the wedding.

Michael Henderson '14 has been hired as an administrative assistant for the town of Dresden, Maine.
Submit your class note and photo for the next issue of Pacific magazine by July 1.

- magazine.pacificu.edu
- classnotes@pacificu.edu
He has a bachelor’s in environmental studies from Pacific and a master’s in public administration from Portland State University.

2015

Shaun Keylock '15 recently launched The Shaun Keylock Company, a contemporary dance and performance company dedicated to new movement research and cross-disciplinary collaboration. He began his formal dance training at Pacific, where he majored in dance and art history. Keylock is a recipient of a 2018 artist residency at New Expressive Works in Portland.

2016

Natalie (Stewart) Kiefer PT '16 recently received the first-ever Early-Professional Scholarship from the American Physical Therapy Association’s – Section on Women’s Health. The scholarship helped to support her attendance at the profession’s largest annual conference, Combined Sections Meeting, in February 2018 in New Orleans. She currently works at Warm Springs Holistic Health in Warm Springs, Ore.

Michael Duncan '15, PA '16 appeared in a Corvallis (Ore.) Gazette-Times story, later picked up by Stars and Stripes, the U.S. military newspaper, about an Army veteran who was injured in the search for fellow soldier Bowe Bergdahl. Bergdahl is the controversial Army sergeant who was imprisoned and tortured by the Taliban after abandoning his post in Afghanistan.

2017

Fernando Careaga '17 works as a youth and family development coordinator for the Arizona Youth Partnership in Tucson. He organizes and markets life-skill classes and other programs for youth, ages 11 to 21. The goal of the classes, held in schools and other settings, is to empower young people by giving them tools to help them live healthy, successful lives and make a positive impact on society. Careaga also compiles data reports used to evaluate the effectiveness of the partnership’s programs and serves on various committees and other groups within the organization.

Friend

Jacqueline M. "Jackie" Bafaro, wife of the late Pacific baseball coach Charles R. "Chuck" Bafaro, died Dec. 20, 2017, at age 86. She worked at Timmreck & McNicol Jewelers for many years and was also involved in the Forest Grove community, running the chorus line for the annual Ballad Town USA competition for years and teaching tap dancing. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 46 years; and her daughter Julie (Bafaro) McMullin ’81.

She is survived by her sons, Bradley "Brad" ’80, MST ’86 and Blayne ’87 (and Anne); son-in-law, Gerald McMullin; siblings, Robert (and Donna) Wrenn, Betty Lesher, and Donna (and Dick) Wiles; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and an extended family.

Marques “Mark” Clarence McClanahan died Jan. 2, 2018, at age 87. A former Pacific University trustee, McClanahan earned a bachelor’s and law degree from Willamette University. He practiced with Miller Nash Graham & Dunn from 1954 to 1995, then went into private practice. He enjoyed golf, skiing, tennis, travel, bridge, supporting the Assistance League of Greater Portland, monthly dances at the Portland Heights Dance Club, and friendships at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church. McClanahan was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Eloise (McClanahan) Griesmeyer. He is survived by his loving wife of 69 years, Faye (Wheeler) McClanahan; his five children, Craig (and Ruth), David, Julie Baugh, Edward (and Melanie), and Kathleen (and Doug) Wolfe; his brother-in-law and best man, Don Griesmeyer; six grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and many nieces and nephews.

1945

Joyce (Kellington) Osborn '45 died Feb. 5, 2018, at age 94. Osborn was a fourth-generation descendant of the Butler and Sigler pioneer families of Washington County. After World War II, she married Army Air Corps veteran and ex-POW Clinton Gruber ’47, who died in 2011. Osborn worked for U.S. National Bank, where she operated an offset printing press to support banking operations. She had a lifelong interest in music, particularly
opera, and sang in several ensembles. In 1964, she married Warren R. Osborn, a machinist and deep-sea charter sport fishing captain. While holding down her job at the bank, she also worked in the family business, maintaining and preparing fishing boats during the off-season and supporting fishing operations during summers. She was preceded in death by her husband, Warren, and is survived by a son, Dwight Gruber; Jerrilyn Blodgett; survived by a son, Dwight Gruber; Jerrilyn Blodgett; and an extended family.

1952 
Raymond K. Reutlinger '52 died Dec. 30, 2017, at age 90. He joined the Navy at age 17 as a medic just after World War II. He spent several years in the Pacific on an aircraft carrier and then attended college on the GI Bill, first at Pacific and then at Monmouth College in Illinois. In 1952, he married Helen Douthit of Grand Island, Neb., and they moved to Portland. He had a successful career in pharmaceutical sales for Hoffman-La Roche and spent many contented hours fishing with his friends and family, rooting for the Blazers and Ducks, and playing golf. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Helen; sons, Ted (and Catherine) and Tom (and Michael Waid); and two grandchildren.

1954 
Thomas E. Picard '54 died in September 2017 at the age of 84. At Pacific, he studied theater and art, and he built sets for many school plays. After graduating, he went to the East Coast, where he worked in summer stock and spent 12 years working on sets for New York stage plays. He studied at Yale, Boston University, The Parsons School of Design and The Art Students League of New York in Manhattan. He has 73 pieces of art in the Coast Guard's permanent art collection, and his work has been displayed worldwide. In 2011, he was awarded the Coast Guard Distinguished Public Service Award. In November, the Salmagundi Club and U.S. Coast Guard hosted a memorial for Tom in New York, displaying his work. He is survived by sister and brother-in-law, Malva (Picard) '56 and Col. William Smith '56.

1955 
Ronald "Ron" Hoodenpyl '55 died Dec. 20, 2017, at age 85. After graduating from Pacific with a bachelor's in business, he joined the Gaston Rural Fire District. He began serving as fire chief in 1958 and retired nearly 40 years later in 1995. He was a life member of the Oregon Fire Chief's Association and enjoyed traveling, camping and gardening. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Loretta; father and stepmother, Irvin and Sally; mother and stepfather, Edith and Sally; and stepchildren, Jenny (and Tony) Shore and Dan (and Dolly) Null; seven grandchildren; and an extended family.

1957 
Thomas G. Guthrie '57 died Jan. 17, 2018, at age 83. He served in the Army as a young man and later worked for Tektronix, started his own cabinet-building business and finally as a craftsman at Good Shepard Homes. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and backpacking with his family. He was also a talented baker and a skilled woodworker. He was preceded in death by his brother, Robert. He is survived by his wife, Theo; children, Zemey, Levi, Crystal, Kelly and Carolyn; siblings, Ben '57, Jerry, Linda, Bill, and Alan; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.
1958
Alfred "Al" Furie '58, OD '60 died Jan. 11, 2018, at age 87. He earned a bachelor's in animal husbandry from Delaware Valley College before attending Pacific for his doctor of optometry. He settled in Hillsboro, Ore., where he practiced for 48 years. He was also an associate professor at Pacific's College of Optometry and an Air Force veteran. In 2008, he received the Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award from Pacific's Alumni Association. He is survived by his wife of more than 55 years, Carole; daughters, JoAnn Eden, Linda, and Betty (and Dennis) Paulsen; and two grandchildren.

1959
Thomas "Tom" T. Thompson Jr. '59 died March 16, 2018, at age 80. At Pacific, Thompson was one of the top offensive linemen in the history of the football program. In 1958, he was named by the Williamson System to the Little All-America football team, one of only two players from Pacific to earn the All-American title. He majored in physical education and was named to the Northwest All Conference team and was invited to try out with the NFL's Pittsburgh Steelers. In October 2011, he was inducted into Pacific's Athletic Hall of Fame. He taught math, science and coached sports at Tillamook Junior High School, before moving on to a distinguished career with the Tillamook County Education Service District. In 1990, he received the Oregon governor's award for outstanding volunteerism. He was preceded in death by his parents and eldest brother, William Nelson. He is survived by his wife, Carol Ann, of more than 51 years; daughters, Gretchen Annce (and Andrew) Peterson and Tonya Kaye Hobbs; brother, Paul Anthony; sister, Michele Jean (and Jerome) Kallberg; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Charles "Charlie" Brown '59, OD '60 died Jan. 24, 2017, at age 86. He attended Commercial College in Omaha, Neb., in the late 1940s and entered the Air Force in 1951, working for the Office of Special Investigations. After his discharge, he studied at the University of Iowa, before enrolling at Pacific University's College of Optometry. He also served as a firefighter in Forest Grove. He went on to practice optometry in Ashland for more than four decades. He was an active member of the Ashland Lions Club and Ashland First United Methodist Church, and he supported the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, volunteering as a "redcoat" usher for some 25 years. He is survived by his wife, Glenda; sisters, Donna and Judy; children, Charles (and Terry), Rachel Brown-Wagner (and Aron) and Susan (and Doug) Cavanaugh; grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

1960
William "Bill" G. Macklin 60 died Dec. 26, 2017, at age 81. He worked in a plywood mill before deciding to attend Pacific, where he studied journalism and business and met his future wife, Virginia Dean '62. After graduation, he went to work for the Internal Revenue Service. He retired in 1985, and four years later he and his wife returned to Tillamook County, where he lived out the rest of his life. Macklin loved to golf and did so in high school, college and later in life. He also enjoyed fishing, hunting and playing bridge. Macklin is survived by his wife of 58 years, Virginia "Ginger"; children, Susan (and Keith) Johnson, Dean and Shawn Michelle; two grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Donald V. Printz '62 died Nov. 24, 2017, at age 72. He was named "Best All Around Athlete" his senior year of high school and continued to excel in sports during his time at Pacific. In 1960, he married his childhood love, Barbara, and they spent the next 30 years together before her death in 1990. In 1995, he met his second love, Nancy, and the two moved to Sisters, Ore., in 2000, when Printz retired after more than 35 years as a longshoreman. They married in 2008. He enjoyed fishing and taking the family on boat rides. He was preceded in death by his son, Todd; first wife, Barbara; brother, Gay; sister, Phyllis; and his parents. Printz is survived by his wife of more than 40 years, Linda; daughter, Lyndse; mother, Mildred; and sisters, Patricia Stangeland and Kathleen Baratelli.

Gordon Lee Lindley OD '62 died Aug. 29, 2017, at age 82. He enlisted in the Navy in 1954 and after his honorable discharge attended Pacific's College of Optometry on the GI Bill. He owned and operated a private practice in Grants Pass, Ore., until 1992, when he moved his practice to Grants Pass, and in public relations in Oregon. He was editor of the Coquille Valley Sentinel on three separate occasions, among other positions. He also had a lifelong passion for fishing and black-and-white photography. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Sharon. He is survived by his children, Blair (and Jana), Paige (and Aredha), and Chris (and Elyna); and an extended family.

Dennis Jay Celorie '62 died Oct. 19, 2017, at age 78. He worked with organizations including Easter Seals and Make-A-Wish Foundation over a career that spanned more than 30 years. He is survived by his wife of more than 40 years, Linda; daughter, Lyndse; mother, Mildred; and sisters, Patricia Stangeland and Kathleen Baratelli.

1962
Bradford "Brad" G. Ross '62 died Feb. 18, 2018, at age 80. Ross majored in journalism at Pacific, where he met and married Terri Traugher '64 (now Terri Gibson). He was a member of the Phi Beta Tau fraternity and an accomplished tennis player. He spent most of his career in the newspaper business and in public relations in Oregon. He was a Walmart Vision Center.

in memoriam
1970
Lonnie Sisson OD '70 died Dec. 26, 2017, at age 78. After graduating from Pacific, Sisson became the first African American licensed to practice optometry in Nevada. He opened his optometry practice in 1975 and retired in 2002. He served as clinical director of the Operation Life Community Health Center, vice president of the Nevada Public Health Association, chair of the Clark County Planning Commission, director of the American Society of Planning Officials, and was also a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. He enjoyed hunting, fly fishing and spending time with family and friends. He is survived by his wife of nearly 50 years, Linda; daughter, Malina; and brother, Ron.

1971
Calvin L. Downey '71 died Dec. 29, 2017, at age 71. He had a 36-year career with the Washington County (Ore.) Juvenile Department, where he held several positions. He also served as volunteer president of a statewide committee in Oregon for the prevention of child abuse and worked with other organizations to pass legislation protecting children from abuse and to establish the Children’s Trust Fund. He enjoyed football, good food, playing poker with friends, photography, music and the theater. He is survived by his wife of nearly 50 years, Linda; daughter, Malina; and brother, Ron.

1972
Chadwick “Chad” B. Debnam '72 died Nov. 26, 2017, at age 67. At Pacific, he studied political science and economics, played football (setting several records) and was a student activist. His varied interests and careers included managing the hit recording group Pleasure in the 1970s, concert promotion and real estate development. He was active in politics and business development in the Portland area and on a national level. A tireless advocate for small business ownership and black economic development, he was a past president of the Portland NAACP, a member of the National Black Business League, past chairman of the Oregon Civil Service Board, and was involved with the National Black Chamber of Commerce. He was also a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He was preceded in death by his sisters; his wife, Erma; and eldest grandson, Leif. He is survived by his children, Jane Baird, Janet Jacob and Bill Henriksen; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

James Clifford “Jim” Henriksen MSEd '71 died Nov. 23, 2017, at age 92. He enlisted in the military at age 18 and served honorably as a second lieutenant in the Army Air Corps from November 1944 to October 1945. One of the joys of his life was flying. After completing his active military service, he served in the reserves and attended the University of Washington, earning a bachelor's in forestry engineering. In the mid-1950s, Henriksen and his wife, Erma '61, MSEd '71, moved to Forest Grove, where they started a family and enrolled at Pacific to study education. Later, they moved with their three children to Alaska, where they taught in small communities. After retiring, they moved to Sequim, Wash., and spent much of their time traveling. The couple returned to Alaska in 1994 to be closer to their children and grandchildren and remained in Anchorage for the rest of their days. He was preceded in death by his sisters; his wife, Erma; and eldest grandson, Leif. He is survived by his children, Jane Baird, Janet Jacob and Bill Henriksen; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

1973
Claudell Katherine (Patzkowski) Giesbers '73 died Nov. 25, 2017, at age 75. She earned a bachelor's in music education from Pacific and loved teaching young musicians how to play the piano, violin and viola. She also loved playing the piano, stringed instruments and percussion instruments in chamber groups, musical theater pit orchestras and community groups. She met her husband of 29 years, Eldon, in Forest Grove in 1982. She is remembered as an "exceptional wife" and amazing mother to her two daughters, Pamela and Sherrill. She is also remembered as selfless, kind and soft-hearted.

Arlen I. Hallbacka '72 died July 19, 2017, at age 68 in Pahrump, Nev., leaving to mourn family and friends. Hallback, an Oregon native, is survived by his wife, Arlene.

1974
Ben A. Miller '74 died Dec. 30, 2017, at age 69. Miller — nicknamed “Benny Badger” at Pacific in a nod to the university’s former mascot — pitched for the conference champion Badgers in 1968. He was active in the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia music fraternity, singing bass in the Sinfonia Glee Club and barbershop quartet. He was also a member of the Pacific University Singers, participating in...
Elliot ’79, OD ’82
Charles Richard “Doc” Knepp
1979

Byron Knepp ’74
who loved baseball
Pacific friends remember
theater productions. His
and participated in local
yearbook
Heart of Oak
photographer for the
he was also a staff
A music theory major,
to finish his degree.
break from Pacific in the
1971. He could often
their tour to Hawai’i in
1971. He could often
be found playing tuba
in bands, orchestras and
parades. He collected
renaissance recorders
and later played hammer
dulcimer. After taking a
break from Pacific in the
early 1970s, he returned
to finish his degree.
A music theory major,
he was also a staff
photographer for the
Heart of Oak yearbook
and participated in local
theater productions. His
Pacific friends remember
him as a gentle soul
who loved baseball
and music.

Byron Knepp ’74
died Dec. 18, 2017, at age
74. He started his career
as an educator and later
was self-employed, most
recently as owner of
DCP Sharpening Service
in Beaverton. He was
also a member of Elks
Lodge No. 660. He was
preceded in death by his
parents and a grandson,
Justin Morrison. Knepp
is survived by his wife,
Darlene; children, Paul
(and Valerie) and Donna
McDaniel (and Rick
Pears); a brother, Donald
Jack; six grandchildren;
and two great-grandchildren.

1979
Charles Richard “Doc”
Elliot ’79, OD ’82
died Feb. 21, 2018, at age
78. He was a well-
known optometrist and
resident of Yerington,
Nev., having moved
there from Reno in
1987. He went on
to open additional
optometry practices in
Fallon, Hawthorne and
Reno. He was known
by his friends and family
as a life-long student
of nature and science.
He also played several
instruments, including
piano and guitar. He
is survived by his wife
of more than 50 years,
Linda; children, Kimberly
(and Charles) and Sean
(and Sherilyn); adopted
daughters, Lorena
Morgan and Olga
Jaramillo; a grandson,
Aidan; four adopted
grandchildren; and an
extended family.

1981
Belinda S. (Raymond)
Uhall ’81
died May
11, 2017, at age 58,
following a two-year
battle with brain cancer.
She graduated in the top
of her class at Pacific,
then went on to become
d a doctor of internal
medicine through the
University of Arizona
Medical School. Her
daughters were the
center of her life. She
was a great cook, a lover
of animals, and an active
member of My Church
in Tucson, Ariz. She
enjoyed sports, outdoor
recreation, all things
Oregon, music and the
arts. She is survived by
her daughters, Brianna
and Alena; father of
her children, Phil Uhall;
mother, Stella Pelletier/
Braastad; and brothers,
John Raymond IV and
James Raymond.

1987
Jeffrey “Jeff” Speiser
’87
died July 16, 2017,
at age 51. He was a
standout high school
football player and went
on to play at Pacific and
Carroll College in Helena,
Mont. He also attended
the University of Montana
in Missoula. He married
Margaret Packer in 1993
and started a family.
After relocating to Boise,
Idaho, he landed a job
at Micron Technology
Inc. as a journeyman
pipefitter, a position
that involved travel
throughout the United
States. He was a proud
member of Plumbers and
Pipefitters Local 296. His
first grandchild, Declan,
was born in 2016 and
quickly became one of
the greatest joys of his
life. He was preceded
in death by his parents.
He is survived by his
children, Sarah and Ryan;
grandson, Declan; and
siblings, Jon, LaDonna,
and Bruce Wilson.

2006
Ceridwyn “Ceri”
(Gipson) Burke MAT
’06
died Jan. 14, 2018,
at age 41. She majored
in theater and minored
in French at the University
of Oregon. She was involved
with the Actors Cabaret
of Eugene for a number
of years. After earning a
master of arts in teaching
from Pacific, she spent 12
years teaching at Oaklea
Middle School in Junction
City, Ore., where she was
a mentor, teacher leader
and respected member of
the staff. She also wrote
two young adult mystery
novels under the pen
name C.G. Burke. She
married Nathan Burke in
2010 and they enjoyed
hiking, camping, hunting
mushrooms, cooking
and traveling. She was
a talented gardener and
a gutsy home project-
er. She also enjoyed
reading, knitting, yoga
and spending time with
family. She is survived by
her husband, Nathan;
parents, siblings, in-laws;
and an extended family.

2016
Leah A. Leighter
MAT ’16
died Dec. 3,
2017, at age 29. She
attended Oregon State
University for two years
and then finished her
undergraduate degree
in biology at University
of Oregon in 2010. She
later received her master
of arts in teaching
degree from Pacific and
began her first full-time
position as a math
teacher at Early College
& Career Options High
School. She enjoyed
the outdoors, including
cycling, backpacking,
camping, hiking,
snowshoeing, cross
country skiing and
swimming in the state’s
many rivers and lakes.
She participated in
many community runs in
Eugene and was also an
avid gardener. She was
preceded in death by her
grandparents, Date and
Opal Strehlow. She is
survived by her parents;
siblings, Jacob and
Rachel; grandparents,
Charles and Barbara;
and an extended family.

Stay in touch with Pacific and your
classmates by updating your contact
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milestones in your life.
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› classnotes@pacificu.edu

Pacific honors alumni who have passed
with a quarterly ceremony in Old College
Hall, where the bell rings one time for each
person. Find upcoming ceremony dates
› pacificu.edu/calendar
College of Business student Hannah Hulse ’18 started fighting fires for the U.S. Forest Service as a way to help pay for college. But the job ignited a passion and now Hannah is getting ready to put her new business administration degree to work on the administrative end of fire management.

WATCH | Hannah Hulse shares her passion for firefighting

magazine.pacificu.edu
“What we have done is just a small way to pay back what we received from Pacific — the kindness and the support from the university and from some very special people.”

— TIM TRAN