

pacific

THE MAGAZINE OF PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

OREGON

Why We Help

Pacific Boxers Embrace Their Communities

Winter 2020

12 RISING TO THE CHALLENGE
*Alumni Fight Homelessness
In Washington County*

15 IN THE AGE OF COVID-19
*Pacific University Has Adjusted
In Many Ways*

Leiana Petlewski '21 (right) and Erin Melia '21 (left) are among Pacific University theatre students who got extra creative this fall in the wake of COVID-19. Though their theatre classes are taking place in modified in-person environments, traditional performances weren't possible this fall. Instead, the Theatre & Dance Department is presenting streaming performances online.

"I think situations like this garner a different kind of support, especially within the theatre community," Petlewski said. "We're all trying to figure it out ... and creating new ways to do what we love, which is really beautiful." Petlewski is an applied theatre and dance double-major who also plays the cello with Pacific's music ensembles.

WATCH | *Petlewski do what she loves at Pacific, pre-pandemic* ▶ pacificu.edu/magazine





Letter From The President

Education is not a luxury.

When COVID-19 forced us to close our campuses in March, we acted quickly to keep our students and employees safe.

But we also knew we could not simply wait out this pandemic. We could not press pause on our mission until it was safe to go back to business as usual. We had to change what usual meant.

We had to adapt — immediately — to keep our promise to our students; our promise that a Pacific education leads to a better future.

A lot of our courses this fall have been online. But Pacific is not an online school. Our undergraduate liberal arts tradition is centered on students coming together from all backgrounds, learning from each other in a common, supportive environment.

Our science programs demand hands-on investigation and discovery in labs. Our theatre, dance and music programs require the opportunity to take the stage. Our healthcare and education programs necessitate students practicing their skills in order to care for patients and children.

We have been successful in keeping our campuses safe through, I believe, a combination of preparation and luck. With mask and physical distancing requirements, testing protocols for students and employees, and in-depth support and monitoring programs to sustain isolation and quarantine protocols, we have kept our campus infection rate well below the communities around us.

But that success has required sacrifice, none more than that of our students. They wear masks, all the time. They spend inordinate amounts of time in their dorm rooms. Others have opted to study remotely. They all miss out on sports, performances and simply “hanging out” with friends in spontaneous gatherings — all things that make the college experience more than classes.

And they miss out on trips home to visit family — and even paychecks, if they are at risk of exposure and need to miss work to keep the community safe.

These are sacrifices that students (and faculty and staff) have made because they value education. They know that the degrees they earn at Pacific give them the chance to advance opportunities for themselves and for their families. And they know that we — our state, our country, our world — need them too. We need them to become healthcare providers, teachers, scientists, public health professionals, and civic leaders. We need them to be their best to make our world better.

Their education and their success is not a luxury; it is a promise.

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

Lesley M. Hallick, President
president@pacificu.edu

Extras

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Pacific University Choirs

joined other local singers to present a virtual holiday variety show, featuring holiday favorites and selections from the Jewish tradition. The show was streamed live on Dec. 3 and is still available to view.

WATCH | Holiday performance

► pacificu.edu/HolidayConcert2020

In November, Pacific celebrated Veterans Day

with a series of stories from our alumni, students and employees. Explore stories from veterans in the Boxer community.

VIEW | Military Wall of Honor online

► pacificu.edu/WallOfHonor

Pacific University Libraries

hosted a traveling exhibition Museum at (Our Place): *This IS Kalapuyan Land*, on the Forest Grove Campus in November, during Indigenous Peoples' Month. The exhibition was also on display in downtown Hillsboro and is planned for Beaverton and at OMSI.

LEARN MORE | Kalapuyan culture and history online

► pacificu.edu/Kalapuyan

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Shawn Cardwell '96, MAT '98 and Celeste Goulding '10 are not just looking for ways to shelter people in western Washington County, Ore.; They're looking for longer-term solutions to one of the region's most enduring problems.



From Pacific To The Frontlines: Pacific Optometry Professor Responds To COVID-19 With Kansas Air Guard 14

Pacific optometry alumnus and professor Bill Hefner OD '96, MEd '97 is a commander in the Kansas Air National Guard. He played a key role in the state's response to the spread of COVID-19.



Rhony Bhopla MFA '22 Creates Art For A Cause 14

Buy a piece; help a student. It's the way the poet and visual artist gives back.

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Things were different at Pacific University in 2020, the year of COVID-19.

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Pacific recognizes the generosity of donors Evona Brim; Kim and Barb Ledbetter; Clark '65, '70 and Rae (Salvadore) '65 Peters; John Roloff; the Teagle Foundation; and the Pew Charitable Trusts.

Photo by Sgt. Joseph Thompson

Your Voices

Still In The Family

Thank you and your staff for that memorable feature, "How Optometry Came to Pacific," (Fall 2020). It was highly personal for me as the son of Dr. Walter C. Giersbach and living in Forest Grove from 1941-53.

I remember the college going through difficult times in those early years. I was told there were just 12 male students during the war years. Dad said that at one of his first board meetings, a trustee asked, "Well, have you gotten any money yet?" But one of my first memories was as a 6-year-old becoming a patient of the optometry faculty and students who fitted me for bifocals to alleviate my nearsightedness. I was known as "Four Eyes" in school, but I could see!

And, yes, I remember Anna Berliner, as well as Wheelock Marsh, son of Sidney Harper Marsh, who was a frequent guest at our home. Thanks again for bringing back delightful memories.

Cordially,

WALTER F. GIERSBACH

P.S. Pacific remains a part of my life which is why I contribute to the school's annual fund.

Instagram Star

"Fraser Horn '00, OD '04 isn't just the interim dean of the Pacific University College of Optometry — he also started his college experience here. As an undergrad, he was on the golf team, and his enthusiasm for sports continues. As an optometrist, he operates a sports vision resource, has consulted with Nike, and serves as the team optometrist for Boxer athletic teams. **#75YearsOfVision**"
Horn was named dean in November.



french_eskimo congrats, fraser! from the best era in boxer history 🥳
impactptbanks Hi Dr. Horn!!!! 🥳
Thank you for all your hard work!!!
heidmannholly A man that also imprints on many lives in positive ways 🥳👏👏



bfit189 My grandfather was in the Army and attended Pacific University for his Doctorate in Optometry. Dr. Bill Preston. After my 4 years in the Marines I'm now attending Pacific with hopes of attending the DPT program. Kinda crazy how similar our lives have been.

Optometry Celebrates 75 Years

As **#PacificUniversity** celebrates the 75th anniversary of its College of Optometry, professor, former dean and alumnus Wid Bleything '51, OD '52, MS '54 remembers his early days studying at Pacific and practicing optometry with the Air Force. "The veterans were good students, and they were serious about it. The vast majority were studying optometry, not other majors. I think they got a good value for their GI Bill for doing that." Listen to his memories ▶ [pacificu.edu/magazine](https://www.pacificu.edu/magazine) **#75yearsofvision**



Abigail Schmidt '22 dances from her home in Colorado.

In Case You Missed It

With more virtual events, recognitions and resources, our YouTube pages are busier than ever. Check out some of these recent video highlights that you may have missed, and subscribe now to stay up-to-date with the latest from Pacific.

Watch ▶ [youtube.com/pacuniv](https://www.youtube.com/pacuniv)

Just Dance

Members of the Pacific Dance Ensemble recorded themselves performing over the summer, wherever they were. The result is three compilations showing that, even when separated, Pacific Dance Ensemble members are united in their craft.

A Jubilant Day

The Pacific University Chamber Singers perform *A Jubilant Day*, by composer Judy A. Rose. After performing the piece in concert several times in Fall 2019, the university choir compiled this virtual performance, with singers sharing their clips from across the country.

A Year of Support

The Pacific University Alumni Association presents its 2020 Annual Report, chronicling the extraordinary 2019-2020 year and the strength of the Pacific University family.

News & Notes

Welcome to Baker Hall



Pacific University's Hillsboro Campus is growing.

Baker Hall, the newest addition to Pacific's campuses, will be shared by the College of Health Professions and College of Business.

The building is named for Drs. James and Diane Baker, longtime Portland-area physicians who sold it to the university below value as a gift to support Pacific. The doctors

determined the building no longer met the needs of their combined practice, but that it might be useful to Pacific.

Pacific agreed.

The renovated building will provide clinical space for the College of Health Professions and its partners. There will be an interprofessional clinic with three patient exam rooms, three simulation suites, physical therapy clinic space and office space. The Interdisciplinary Diabetes Clinic, a collaboration between the colleges of Optometry and Health Professions, will be placed there, and the schools of Physician Assistant Studies and Graduate Psychology will get new clinics, labs and classrooms.

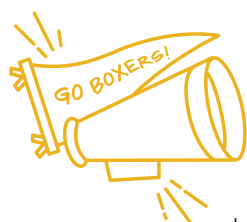
Baker Hall will also serve as the cornerstone of the College of Business's MBA program, including the new MBA in Healthcare Management. Baker Hall's proximity to the university's health professions programs will benefit students who are pursuing business degrees along with degrees in pharmacy or other health fields.

Baker Hall is not yet open but programs are gradually moving in, and a celebration of the new space and the Bakers' support will be planned when gatherings are possible. ■

Line Up



Boxer athletes continued training while following public health guidelines.



ATHLETIC GIVING DAYS

YOUR OUTPOURING OF SUPPORT FOR BOXER STUDENT-ATHLETES on the first Athletic Giving Days was amazing! We surpassed our goal of 250 donors in the first two hours of the 36-hour giving challenge. By the end of Oct. 21, 841 donors had contributed more than \$115,000 to Boxer Athletics, teams and support programs. More than a quarter of all Pacific undergraduates play sports at Pacific, and while competition is currently suspended due to COVID-19, the team-

building, workouts and coach mentorship our student-athletes experience remains a critical piece of their college experience. Support from Athletic Giving Days will provide travel, training, equipment and care for student-athletes.

FOR OUR FANS

BOXER STUDENT-ATHLETES AND COACHES HAVE MISSED FANS THIS FALL as competition has been halted for safety. New Athletic Director Keith Buckley is keeping in touch with fans through monthly Athletic Hour virtual events on Zoom and is sharing the latest news through a new monthly e-newsletter for Boxer alumni, parents and friends. Register now to attend the next Athletic Hour at noon Pacific Time on Saturday, Jan. 16, 2021. ▶ pacificu.edu/AthleticHour



ALUMNI SUCCESS

PACIFIC STUDENT-ATHLETES DON'T JUST PLAY BALL

— they gain a world-class education on their way to pursuing their career and life goals. **DANTE REID '20** is a great example. A stand-out athlete at Tualatin (Ore.) High School, he had a walk-on offer from a Division I school, but chose to attend Pacific for its substantial financial aid package, including a scholarship from the Black United Fund. He played Division III football for three years as quarterback and wide receiver, and after graduation in the spring of 2020, gained admission to the University of Southern California's physical therapy program. He's on his way to living his dream, he says. ▶ pacificu.edu/DanteReid

Briefly Noted

STILL AT THE TOP | Pacific University remains among the top recognized universities in the country. *U.S. News & World Report* placed Pacific at 187th among all National Universities — the highest ranking of any Oregon private college. The category includes institutions that offer a full range of undergraduate programs, along with doctorate and master's programs and that also focus on research. Pacific joins about 400 institutions, including powerhouses like Harvard and

Princeton, in the ranked National Universities category. This year's rankings also lists Pacific as a Best Value School in the country, as well as a Best College for Veterans. ▶ pacificu.edu/rankings

SPEAK OUT | *Washington Monthly* magazine named Pacific among its 2020 Best Colleges for Student Voting Honor Roll. The honor roll recognizes American colleges that help young Americans become active political citizens by developing plans to bolster student voter registration. Pacific

ranked 122nd in the country, based on student voter registration rates, and is the only Oregon university on the 2020 list. This fall, Pacific's Tom McCall Center for Civic Engagement hosted virtual activities, organized voter registration "couch party" drives, and debuted a series of student-produced civic engagement videos focused on the November election. The goal is never to influence how students vote, explained McCall Center Director Stephanie Stokamer. Instead, it's about making sure students have the information,

Honors & Awards



RYAN GIBBARD, Pharmacy, was featured in a KPTV News story about President Trump's positive COVID-19 test and treatment. Gibbard outlined the use and cost of treatments provided to the president, as well as their availability to the public. He explained the president received treatments including Dexamethasone, Remdesivir and Regeneron, which isn't available in most cases. Gibbard told the station the president got his Regeneron treatment through the company's "compassionate use" policy.



FRASER HORN '00, OD '04, Optometry, has been named dean of the College of Optometry, where he has been interim dean since November 2019. He earned a bachelor's in biology and his doctor of optometry from Pacific before completing a residency in primary care and ocular disease in Maryland. In 2005, he joined Pacific's faculty, and has served as director of Pacific EyeClinics in Washington County and associate dean of academic programs.



RUTH ZÚÑIGA, Graduate Psychology, has been awarded two grants, totaling more than \$20,000, to support student and faculty efforts to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate mental health training to members of LatinX-oriented organizations. Among the projects is Charlas Comunitarias, a program that provides emotional-health support for Spanish-speakers via Facebook.



ERICA ANDREE, Center for Languages & International Collaboration, and **JANN PURDY**, French, led a proposal that resulted in a nearly \$200,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The grant will launch a Global Scholars Program that broadens travel experiences, second language education, and global learning for undergraduate students. Though altered due to COVID-19, the Global Scholars Program launched with a First-Year Seminar course this fall and virtual travel experiences planned for January.



LISA CARSTENS, Academic Affairs, wrote a grant application that resulted in a \$1.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to expand retention, promote science and math fields, and tailor academic support for undergraduate students, particularly first-generation, low-income and underrepresented populations. The grant is connected to Pacific's designation as an Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution.

resources and reminders to take part in civic discourse and get their voices heard. ▶ pacificu.edu/Vote2020

ACCREDITED | The Pacific University College of Business has received accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). The process includes an application, preliminary visit, self-study, site visit and review by the ACBSP Board of Commissioners. Building on more than 70 years of excellence in business education, the college was established in 1913 and

has since launched an MBA program, expanded degree and emphasis offerings, and opened a placement services office to build networking opportunities for students and alumni and to connect with local and regional business leaders.

SUCH GENEROSITY | Pacific donors made 2019-2020 the most successful fundraising year in the university's history. Donors contributed more than \$14.4 million to the university last academic year, growing scholarship funds, enabling facility enhancements,

and championing innovations for Pacific students. By early December, Pacific had raised more than \$71.7 million toward its \$80 million goal for Lead On: The Campaign for Tomorrow at Pacific University. This year's gifts are especially important, as students face growing economic pressures due to COVID-19. Make a gift to the **Student Emergency Fund** to support Pacific students as they continue striving to become healthcare professionals, community leaders, teachers and entrepreneurs. ▶ pacificu.edu/give

BY MIKE FRANCIS

Pacific Students Drop Notepads And Grab Tools To Fight Oregon Wildfires

Hunter Murphy '23 says one of the highlights of his time on the Oregon fire line occurred after dark, when the people who lived in one of the houses he and his fellow crew members had protected emerged to give them hugs.

"It was great," said the criminal justice major and Pacific University basketball player, who volunteered to fight fires in the Estacada area of Clackamas County, Ore., this fall. The area wasn't very far south of his own family's home in Sandy, Ore., where family members evacuated rather than risk being overrun by the fires that swept across Oregon in September.

Murphy, along with Joseph Schmitz '23, a business management major from Silverton, Ore., left campus in September to fight wildfires in separate locations in Oregon. Murphy was a volunteer who had some firefighting training; Schmitz was a trained firefighter employed by a company called Miller Timber Services, which contracts with public agencies to provide fire crews.

Both jumped when the call arose for firefighters. Murphy went with a friend to the area where fires had crept closest to his home; Schmitz was sent to Lincoln County on the Oregon Coast, where the Echo Mountain fire was burning around the towns of Otis and Rose Lodge. They battled fires in sharply different circumstances. Murphy was a fairly raw volunteer, racing to join community members who had rallied to protect their own homes and homes of their neighbors. Schmitz, on the other hand, rejoined his trained firefighting teammates, who had a clear command structure and firefighting protocols they had honed in training together.

"There was no way I could focus on classes," said Schmitz, especially since his own family was evacuating from their Silverton home. While he was paid for his time fighting fires, "honestly, I would have done it anyway," he said.

Oregon has never seen such a scourge of wildfire as it experienced this fall. Typically, seasonal fires caused by lightning strikes, human carelessness and, sometimes, arson, burn up extended acreage, especially in the dry brush country east of the Cascade Mountains. *continues on page 10*



Some underground fires can barely be seen, but pose dangers to unwary passersby.



o Their heir on Fires



Photos submitted by Hunter Murphy '23

healthcare · humanitarian assistance

But this year, an unprecedented combination of circumstances ignited fires that threatened vast parts of western Oregon, including the population centers of Medford, Salem and the southeastern portion of the Portland metropolitan area. Fires destroyed the towns of Phoenix and Talent, near Medford, in the southern part of the state, and mountain towns like Detroit and Gates in the Santiam Canyon area west of Salem.

As of mid-October, an estimated 1 million acres had burned in Oregon and 11 people were killed as a result of the wildfires. Smoke from the fires was so extreme that it gave the Portland area the world's most dangerous air quality for

about a week, leading Pacific University to halt all activities and ask students to remain in their rooms or houses.

More than 40,000 Oregonians evacuated their homes, with about 500,000 living in variously rated evacuation zones. Firefighters rushed to the state from a range of places, including neighboring states and the Oregon National Guard. In many places, the only firefighters were local residents with construction equipment and shovels, often with insufficient water.

"Those were the true heroes," Schmitz said.

Such people made up Murphy's crew, which consisted of about 10 people, from relatively raw recruits to people with firefighting experience. When Murphy showed up wearing a nylon jacket, an experienced crew member advised him to take it off. Burning embers could melt it to his skin, he said.

He also learned about the dangers of unseen fires burning through the organic fuel under the surface of the ground, beneath tree roots. They can liquefy the earth, creating traps for unwary firefighters.

Murphy plunged his foot through one such soft spot and, he said with raised eyebrows, "it was hot." By the time

he extracted himself, the sole of his boot had melted. Another firefighter on his crew suffered third-degree burns the same way.

But in general, Murphy and Schmitz avoided extreme danger while cutting brush and digging lines to arrest the fires. They saw and heard significant damage —

smoking ruins of houses, exploding propane tanks and ravaged natural areas — but did their parts to keep it from being even worse.

Schmitz emailed his professors when he got the call for help, and he said they were very lenient with him, allowing him to make up work when he returned. And every professor, he said, "asked me how my family was doing."

"It breaks my heart to see what climate change is doing to our planet."

— JOSEPH SCHMITZ '23

Murphy somehow managed to not miss any schoolwork. He said he attended his classes remotely from the field — a silver lining, perhaps, to Pacific's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has forced a hybrid of online and in-person study options.

Both men say the fires exposed serious shortcomings in the region's preparation for devastating fire, and both said climate change is a key contributor.

Murphy said climate change has worsened the spread and reach of wildfire, but that the forest floors are also full of fuel, waiting for a spark to burst into flame. Something has to be done to correct the buildup at the federal and state levels, he said.

"It breaks my heart to see what climate change is doing to our planet," Schmitz said. He cited the damage done to the Opal Creek Wilderness Area, in the Willamette National Forest east of Salem. Some of Oregon's oldest trees and most appealing natural areas were destroyed by fire.

"I really hope one of the products of this is a conversation locally about forest management," he said. ■



Karen Diaz-Carmona '21 was hired by the Newberg (Ore.) Public Library as Latinx Resource Historian shortly before she began the undergraduate teaching program at Pacific's Woodburn Campus. With the arrival of the pandemic, she has taken her storytelling sessions online. They are visible at the City of Newberg's Newberg Public Library channel on YouTube. "I tend to select traditional folk songs and rhymes that Latinx families identify with," she says. ■

Sandy Ramirez PsyD '93 Renders Disaster Aid

After 22 years as a Red Cross volunteer providing mental health help to people in crisis, Sandy Ramirez PsyD '93 was in a new place in the fall of 2020. It was her third "virtual deployment" to disaster areas since the beginning of the year, and this time, the crisis was close to home.

After responding remotely to natural disasters in Michigan and Iowa, she was working in her own backyard.

The Oregon wildfires of the fall of 2020 made up a "highly unusual and spectacular-in-a-bad-way disaster," she said from her home in southwest Portland. The size of the Red Cross response to the crisis was unprecedented, she said.

The fires affected much of the state, and Ramirez was assigned oversight of a district that covered Portland, Salem and Bend, as well as other smaller towns in between. In those areas, fires had devastated vast swaths, forcing many to flee their houses. And many homes were lost to the flames.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, she wasn't on the scene of the 2020 disasters in Michigan, Iowa and Oregon. But she was able to virtually work with some clients, and also to tend to the emotional health of front-line Red Cross volunteers. Many of them need help, too.

"There's a whole layer of the pandemic that's been wearing on everybody," Ramirez said. "Everyone is my client."

In fact, that's the idea that has animated Ramirez, 72, ever since she started babysitting more than 60 years ago. She likes people and wants to help them.

"I'm very relationship-oriented," she said. Helping people is "beneficial for them and also for me."

In Portland, she belongs to the congregation Havurah Shalom, which cultivates personal action in social ministry. She lives the Judaic value of Tikkun Olam — repair the

world. She has served on professional bodies and taken part in volunteer initiatives. She is involved in works of generational equity, or passing wisdom, skills and values to the next generation. She has returned to Pacific, for example, to join in Senior Projects Day, Career Day and other activities. She is delighted to see the emergence of "really brilliant students" who care about issues of social equity.



Ramirez earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at William & Mary in Williamsburg, Va. She moved to Portland to go to work as a school psychologist. She was working for Portland Public Schools in the early 1980s when Portland began to experience gang violence. In time, she said, "I became less interested in learning disabilities and more interested in the emotional well-being of kids."

During a sabbatical from her school district, she enrolled at Pacific in what was then the Graduate School of Professional Psychology. She earned her PsyD in 1993. Her dissertation was about children and gangs.

"I really loved it," she said, citing faculty members and former students who remain friends. "I really liked the values. And it was small, and personal."

Pacific was an important part of a lifetime journey that Ramirez began many years ago.

"I've always liked to be a helper," she said, and her faith and experience have guided her to greater and greater involvement.

"We have to do something," she said. "It's like the saying 'If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem.'"

"We have to get outside of ourselves and take some action." ■

Alumni Offer Beds To Houseless, Seek Lasting Solution

BY MIKE FRANCIS
ROBBIE BOURLAND

Shawn Cardwell '96, MAT '98 is just one guy with limited resources up against a stubborn societal problem, but he is undaunted.

"I think we can end homelessness in Forest Grove and Cornelius," he said, "or at least make the biggest dent in it."

Cardwell and fellow Pacific University alumna, Celeste Goulding '10, both are working to address houselessness in western Washington County; first by providing cold-weather shelter for people without places to live, and second by developing transitional housing that can provide a longer-term solution.

They have made progress, but these are parlous times. The spread of the novel coronavirus has changed the way they provide shelter, and money, supplies and equipment are seemingly always stretched thin.

"It tends to be us vs. them. My job is to make that boundary fuzzy."

— SHAWN CARDWELL
'96, MAT '98

Cardwell now is the director of the Coalition on Rural Housing Insecurity, a bare-bones, Forest Grove-based coordinator of cold-weather shelters and advocate for transitional housing. It's an organization that

was launched by Goulding, who now sits on the board of the Forest Grove Foundation, which supports the Coalition.

Their work evolved from Washington County's Severe Weather Shelter System, a network of three local churches — Forest Grove's United Church of Christ, Old Town Church and Emanuel Lutheran Church in Cornelius — that offered the houseless a place to stay overnight. Since 2015 Goulding

directed the severe weather shelters at United Church of Christ and Emanuel Lutheran until she had to shut their doors in March because of the dangers posed by COVID-19.

Beginning this winter, with the novel coronavirus unchecked, people in need of shelter will stay in hotel rooms in the area. The new arrangement represents what Cardwell calls a shift from a congregate shelter model to a non-congregate model. It's a more costly way to get people out of the cold, but it avoids putting a group of strangers in close quarters in a single room.



Celeste Goulding says one of the models for transitional housing can be seen in the housing pods at the Clackamas Veterans Village, operated by Do Good Multnomah. (Photo credit: Kimberly Hunt, Do Good Multnomah)

During the 2019-2020 shelter season, the churches provided cold-weather shelter for a few more than 200 people. This season's approach, with hotel rooms, promises to provide fewer clients a place to stay for a longer period of time, meaning that homeless people won't have to pack up and look for a different shelter the next night. It's an



improvement in some ways, but an unsustainable approach to the bigger problem.

Cardwell cites the work being done in Eugene, Ore., and elsewhere where social workers and others are providing stable, transitional housing in impermanent “villages.” He thinks western Washington County could easily house a set of pods, or tiny houses, or some other way to let people shelter in place while they seek jobs or more permanent housing.

The Coalition on Rural Housing Insecurity is funded by a grant from the City of Forest Grove and by whatever additional grants Cardwell and the Forest Grove Foundation can wrangle. Both Goulding and Cardwell have employed Pacific University master of social work students and graduates to reach people in the places where they camp or congregate. They have learned to stretch every resource in order to provide everything from socks to meals to overnight shelter.

“So many things are hanging on the edge,” said Goulding, citing the pandemic and its attendant shutdowns of housing and public buildings, as well as shifting resources from one crisis to another. But the needs are constant, she noted.

One of the things that makes being unhoused such a persistent societal issue, Cardwell believes, is that it’s easy to treat it as something that happens to other people — maybe people who are addicted to drugs or alcohol, or who have had brushes with the law.

When he talks to government officials or anyone who’s interested in the problem, Cardwell tries to make it clear that homelessness isn’t a government problem, or a non-profit problem — it’s my problem.

“These are my friends,” he said. While some may have addictions that tend to keep them outdoors, for others it may be a death in the family, a lost job, an expensive illness or some other catastrophe that can strike anyone, he said.

“It tends to be us vs. them,” he said. “My job is to make that boundary fuzzy.”

Opportunity and circumstance have combined to place Goulding and Cardwell in this initiative to ease human suffering in western Washington County. Goulding was visiting Forest Grove when she came in touch with the United Church of Christ’s former pastor Jennifer Yocum, whose church was offering two nights of shelter per week for the winter months. Goulding then became the first paid staff in the Severe Weather Shelter system before stepping away from the Coalition on Rural Housing Insecurity in July. Now she primarily recruits host homes for youth experiencing housing insecurity in western Washington County for Second Home, a program of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

Cardwell, who grew up in Cornelius and recently returned to the area with his wife, has been a part-time math instructor at Pacific. But the opportunity to take over the Coalition, with all its limitations, was irresistibly appealing.

“It’s a joy to do it,” he said. ■

From Pacific To The Frontlines

Pacific Optometry Professor Responds To COVID-19 With Kansas Air Guard

Pacific University Optometry Professor Bill Hefner OD '96, MEd '97 knows he's just a single player in a massive national response to the pandemic. But he also knows that, partly because of his work, COVID-19 patients in places like Kansas City, Wichita, and elsewhere had ventilators when they were needed, and their caregivers had gowns, masks, gloves and N95 respirators.

Hefner serves in the Kansas Air National Guard. He played a key role this year as his state braced for a surge in patients afflicted with the virus.

Hefner was a trainmaster of a sort, making sure the machinery of the pandemic response was functioning smoothly. He came to that role by virtue of his position in the state's military department.

As commander of the Kansas Air National Guard's 190th Medical Group, 190th Air Refueling Wing, Hefner oversaw a multi-pronged regional response to the pandemic. He and his Airmen and Airwomen, along with members of the Kansas Army National Guard, oversaw thousands of screenings, including more than 13,000 of inmates of the Kansas Correctional Facility in Lansing. It was a broad mission involving hundreds of National



Guard members — from medics to interpreters — and equipment, including military helicopters.

"I'm very happy to say we contributed more than we consumed," Hefner said in October, after handing off his duties to Kansas state health and emergency officials.

Hefner said he is preparing for the next phase in the fight against the novel coronavirus.

"There's always a chance" Hefner will be activated again to manage a new phase of the response, he said. But this time, he said, it will be easier. He likened it to launching a rocket. The first time they do it, members of the support team have to build scaffolding, import equipment, manage logistics, and oversee the launch and delivery.

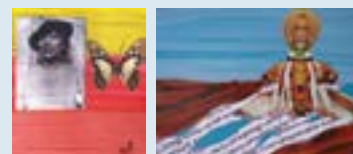
The next time, he said, "we're not going to have to build the whole rocket." ■

Rhony Bhopla MFA '22 is using her passion to support Pacific students. Bhopla, who is studying poetry in the university's low-residency Master of Fine Arts in Writing program, is a British Indo-American artist who displays and sells her visual art on her Facebook page.

She often turns those sales to fundraising for nonprofits. "Fundraising is something I enjoy, especially when there is a need and the organization has a great mission."

This year, she has offered half the proceeds from her art sales to the Pacific University Student Emergency Fund.

"I am studying ekphrasis, the confluence of visual and literary art. So my visual art pieces are motivated by my intense study in the program," she said. ■



Pacific Community Aims To Stop Community Spread

Life has changed at Pacific University in the shadow of the novel coronavirus pandemic. Many students attend classes online; many student-athletes practice their sports, but don't compete; and university faculty, staff and students are strictly observing COVID-19 protocols, wearing face masks or other protective gear and maintaining physical distance from one another. Even Boxer is sticking with the program. ■



Orientation 2020 Leaders

(from left)

Rachel Guthrie '22

Kasey Jarvis '21

Becca Rustand '21

Esme Alvarez '23

Antoine Stitt '22 (seated)

Ellen Cruise '24

Ian Shigezawa '22

Selina Rojas '23



"I think my biggest motivation is not letting the pandemic be a setback. You know, we're here learning how to overcome adversity and so overcoming a pandemic is just another thing to do."

- RACHEL HAKIM '21



"It's a really good time to just practice one's flexibility. It's kind of strange, but I think it's been a good way to sort of bring the campus community together. It's been a bit of a bonding experience, I feel."

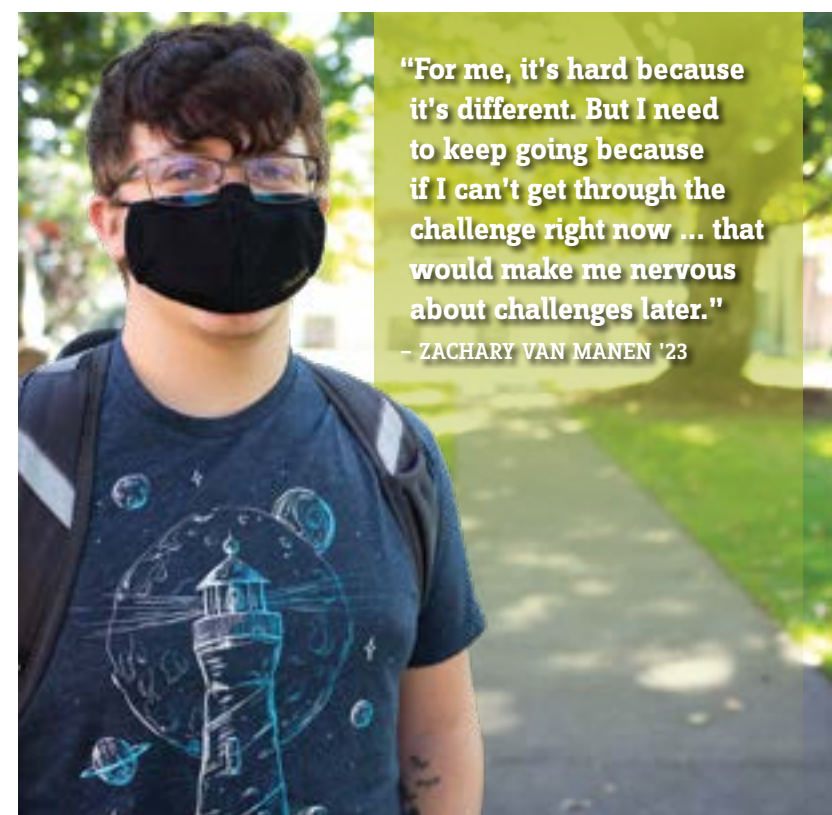
- CHARLIE KERNS '21



Tony Walther, Assistant Athletic Training Coach



17





Pacific Donors Make Big Impacts

BY JENNI LUCKETT

Pacific University donors make a tremendous difference in the everyday lives of students.

From funding new learning facilities to helping launch innovative programs to establishing scholarships, Pacific's supporters make sure that the Boxer experience is always growing, always evolving — and always available to students, no matter their background.

In 2019-2020, despite the beginnings of the COVID-19 pandemic, Pacific donors made record-breaking gifts to the university to continue paving the way to a brighter future. The \$14.4 million in gifts last year was more than \$2 million beyond the university's previous high-water mark. And by early December of this year, the university had received \$71.7 million in gifts and pledges

toward its \$80 million goal in Lead On: The Campaign for Tomorrow at Pacific University.

Every gift — from a \$20 monthly donation to the Student Emergency Fund to a \$1 million facility investment — matters to Pacific students.

We are especially honored to recognize our most generous donors this year with induction into the university's giving societies. Typically recognized at the President's Celebration of Giving — on hiatus this year due to the pandemic — these inductees represent transformational gifts that will create opportunities for Pacific students for generations to come.





Photos submitted by Mark Bailey

Transforming Education

On Fridays, families arrive one by one at the Brim Family Outdoor Learning Center at Pacific University.

Completed just last year, the outdoor learning space and gazebo classroom were meant to augment hands-on discovery and nature opportunities for students in the university's Early Learning Community — a preschool through second-grade demonstration school operated by Pacific's College of Education.

With the ELC operating remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic this fall, the space has instead temporarily become an unexpected checkpoint for continuing students' connections with school.

In brief 15-minute windows, students and families meet up with teachers — outdoors and masked — to say hello, touch base on students' wellbeing, exchange supplies for the week ahead, and even check out books in the gazebo-turned-popup-library.

The Brim Family Outdoor Learning Center is just one of many endeavors at Pacific University supported by Evona Brim, who is being inducted this year into the Platinum Level of the university's

1849 Society — recognizing the tremendous generosity of donors who have given \$5 million or more in their lifetimes.

Brim currently serves on the Pacific University Board of Trustees, as her late husband, A.E. "Gene" Brim, did from 1984 until his death in 2002. Their daughter, Julia Brim-Edwards, also serves on the board.

Together, the family has supported Pacific for more than 35 years, with gifts to the Pacific Excellence Fund, the Tom McCall Forum, and the construction of Berglund Hall (home to the ELC, College of Education and College of Business). They have backed initiatives in the Tran Library, College of Health Professions, College of Business, and College of Education.

And, they have supported students directly through a scholarship for students in the College of Optometry and College of Health Professions, a fund supporting health professions student participation in workshops and conferences, and a fund supporting professional development and research in healthcare.

The New York-based **Teagle Foundation** will be inducted into the President's Circle after issuing a grant of \$300,000 to the Pacific University College of Arts & Sciences, Willamette University and the College of Idaho. The foundation, which strives to improve the quality and value of education in the arts and sciences, offered the grant to help the universities streamline curriculum and reduce overlapping course requirements.

Launching Careers

Four recent Pacific University alumni are pursuing careers in business thanks in large part to the Ledbetter Endowed Scholarship, which provides support for juniors or seniors in the College of Business.

The fund was created in 2013 by Kim and Barb Ledbetter — and it's just one example of their quiet and steadfast support of the university. This year, they are being inducted into the Gold Level of the university's 1849 Society — recognizing donors who have given \$1 million or more in their lifetimes.

Kim Ledbetter, the retired senior vice president of The Standard's Asset Management Group, is an emeritus member of the Pacific University Board of Trustees.

The Ledbetters are the "what do you need" type of university friend. Their most visible contribution to Pacific is the upgraded turf field at Hanson Stadium, which now bears the name Ledbetter Field. But behind the scenes, they also have supported the Pacific Excellence Fund, the renovation of Jefferson Hall, the College of Business, and the Creighton Endowed Scholarship.

Most recently, they pledged a major gift to the President's Discretionary Fund, which will allow the university to continue to respond to evolving needs and take advantage of innovative ideas for the future.

Reaching Potential

Former baseball player and current assistant coach Dusty Meyer '19 is a recipient of a scholarship from the Roloff family.

Meyer came to Pacific for its prestigious science programs, and the opportunity to play baseball under outstanding coaches was a big bonus. He studied exercise science (now kinesiology), was a starting infielder for Boxer Baseball, and started coaching summer baseball after his first year — sparking a passion.

"Not only did it help me see the game of baseball in a different point of view, but it also dramatically shaped the way I played the game," he said.

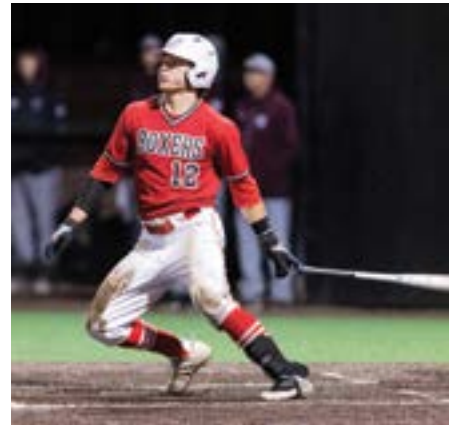
Now, as a recent alumnus, he's working full time at a local physical therapy clinic, and he's back at Pacific helping future generations as an assistant coach for the baseball team.

Scholarships, Meyer said, gave him security as a student — but the Harvey J. Roloff Scholarship for Pedagogy and Coaching was especially meaningful.

Harvey Roloff, for whom the scholarship was named, played football and basketball at Pacific and went on to coach basketball and track & field for the then-Badgers. He was inducted into the Pacific University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1995 and also is a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics District II Hall of Fame and the NAIA District II Coaches Hall of Fame.

Roloff's son, John Roloff, is an acclaimed artist who started the scholarship in his father's honor. The younger Roloff's work has been shown at the Whitney Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, San Francisco Museum of Art and elsewhere, and he is the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment of the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation. For his contributions to Pacific, John Roloff is being inducted into the President's Circle, honoring donors who give more than \$100,000 in their lifetime.

"I'm very happy to see the Roloff family getting this recognition, as this scholarship is very special to me



Dusty Meyer '19 received the Harvey J. Roloff Scholarship as a student. Now, he's an assistant coach for Boxer Baseball.

Rachel Hartshorn
SLP '19 works with
children during a
workshop at the
Early Learning
Center on Pacific
University's Forest
Grove Campus in
2018. The Aurora
Peters Speech
Pathology Endowed
Scholarship supports
students in Pacific's
speech-language
pathology program.



ROBBIE BOURLAND

and has meant a lot for my teaching and coaching career," Meyer said. "It was like a validation for me, that my professors, peers and coaches saw me in the same light that I did."

Modeling Success

Clark '65, MEd '70 and Rae Peters '65 found love at Pacific — love of teaching, love of speech, and love of each other. And more than 50 years later, they're not letting go.

"I wanted to help students who have a desire to work with kids with special disorders, and I wanted to support our alma mater," said Rae Peters.

That's hardly their only cause, though. They give to Boxer Club and individual sports teams, to the Friends of Speech, and to the Pacific Excellence Fund. Clark has served on multiple advisory councils for the university, and in 2012 received the David and Sandy Lowe Outstanding Alumni Service Award.

They're regularly on campus, visiting with students or meeting up with fellow alumni — and they're dedicated examples of the power of alumni in shaping the future for future students: "Dare to care, dare to share," Rae said. "Give it away." ■

"I wanted to help students who have a desire to work with kids with special disorders, and I wanted to support our alma mater."

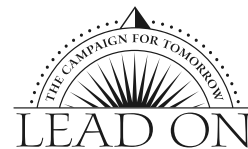
— RAE PETERS '65

Studying under Hap Hingston, renowned speech professor and one of the early founders of the Nā Haumāna O Hawai'i in the 1960s, Clark earned his degree in speech, then education, and Rae studied speech and speech pathology. Both went on to careers in teaching, but they never left their alma mater behind.

In 1966, they made their first gift to the university — a \$2 donation to the Hap Hingston Scholarship. Three years later, they increased their gift to \$5. Today, Rae has an endowed scholarship in her name, and the couple is being inducted into the President's Circle, recognizing donors who have given more than \$100,000 in their lifetimes.

Their passion is still speech, and the Aurora Peters Speech Pathology Endowed Scholarship provides financial assistance to students in Pacific's modernized and relaunched speech-pathology program.

The Pew Charitable Trust will be inducted into the President's Circle after serving as lead donor on a pilot program in dental therapy. Pacific University and Willamette Dental Group has partnered on the pilot program, which is training restorative dental hygienists as dental therapists, hoping to expand the professionals' scope or practice and make dental care more affordable and accessible to people in underserved areas.



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 \$149,000 for the Pacific University Student Emergency Fund.

But the challenge isn't behind us. While students have already received that money, more needs remain — 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

Class Notes

1974

Denis Humphreys OD '74 retired from his multiple roles in the optometry field in 2020. In 1998, Humphreys was selected to serve as the optometry director for VSP of Nevada, serving until 2020. He was also elected to serve as the optometry director for Cigna Vision from 2007 to 2020. Humphreys steps back from these roles after 46 years in the practice of optometry.

1976

Lyman "Buzz" Brown '76, MAT '04, and proud grandpa, visited the Forest Grove Campus for a family picnic in August, which also included grandma **Anne (Bolger) '76, MAT '93**, and daughter **Sarah (Brown) Cowan MAT '04**.

1977

Trustee Michael Hudson '77 published a new book titled *Les Chansons pour Jennifer*, on July 27, 2020. It is a sequel to *Three Seconds of Black*, which was published in February 2017. The sequel looks into the world of television during the 1980s and offers hidden clues about real places and events in California, Hawai'i and Texas.

1981

DeAnn Fitzgerald '81, OD '84 was promoted

to president of the Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association in September 2020. Fitzgerald has been providing eye care to eastern Iowa since graduating from Pacific. The Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association helps patients who have physical or cognitive disabilities as a result of an acquired brain injury.

1988

Toni (Walker) Hecksel '88, PT '91 of Hood River, Ore., was featured online in the Swimmer Spotlight of *Oregon Masters Swimming* in July 2020. She swam for Pacific and went on to become assistant coach for the Forest Grove Dragons Swim Club as well as Forest Grove High School swim teams.

1998

Patricia Runkles-Pearson '98, a Portland lawyer, was appointed in July 2020 to Oregon Gov. Kate Brown's task force for law enforcement training and de-escalation practices. The task force will review the best practices and data that govern standards for law enforcement training, certification and decertification processes and provide recommendations for improving training

for Oregon law enforcement officers.

1999

Trisha Haskins '99 welcomed her son Miles David Ross Haskins on Sept. 11, 2020. Haskins is a nurse practitioner at The Portland Clinic in Beaverton, Ore., practicing family medicine. Haskins earned a bachelor of science degree, and majored in Spanish while studying at Pacific University.

2001

Nicole Rush OD '01 was named as one of *Vision Monday's* "Most Influential Women in Optical," in August 2020. Rush is the owner of Bandon and Coquille Vision Center in Bandon, Ore. She is one of 50 women chosen nationally for the distinction and was recognized in the Executive Suite category.

2002

Matt Steele '02 received the 2020 Yale Educator Award in September. Steele graduated from Pacific with a degree in social work and is a senior counselor at Glencoe High School in Hillsboro, Ore. He is one of 24 counselors to receive this award.

Walter "Walt" Whitley OD '02 joined Leo Lens Pharma Scientific Advisory Board in August 2020. Leo



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 recognition of marriages, births and adoptions, or new jobs. We honor those who have passed with the quarterly Alumni Remembrance Ceremony. ▶ pacificu.edu/AlumniEvents

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Email ▶ classnotes@pacificu.edu

We publish class notes and in memoriam online all year, and submissions received by Feb. 15, 2021, will be published in our spring edition.

Lens Pharma is an emerging San Diego-based pharmaceutical company that is focused on helping protect sight. Currently, Whitley serves as the chair of the American Academy of Optometry Anterior Segment Section, co-chief medical editor of *Collaborative Eye*, and contributing editor for the *Review of Optometry*. In 2020, he was voted the Optometrist of the Year by the Virginia Optometric Association.

2004

Jim Pickering '04 helped launch a new global publication, *Linkage*, a quarterly magazine for automotive enthusiasts published by the Audrain Automobile

Museum. Pickering is a columnist, editor and book author based in Beaverton, Ore., who grew up around trucks, street rods and muscle cars.

Alecia Sundsmo MS '04, PsyD '08 was named director of Counseling and Psychological Services at Cornell Health effective July 2020. The facility serves Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. Before joining Cornell, Sundsmo was clinical director of mental health services at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Suzanne (Urban) Zamberlan OD '04 was named 2020 OD of the Year by the Optometric Physicians of Washington in September. The award honors an optometrist

Class Notes

who has demonstrated exemplary service to the community, the general public and to the optometric profession. Zamberlan, who is a part-time professor at Pacific University's College of Optometry, is also one of the owners at Evergreen Eye Care in Vancouver, Wash.

2007

Adam Fox '07 and Samma (LaComb) Fox '07 celebrated several milestones in 2020. The couple celebrated their 10th anniversary in October. Earlier in the year, Samma was honored with the Assistant of the Year Award from the Colorado City & County Management Association. Adam was recently promoted to deputy director of the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative.

Christian Henry '07 was featured in an online article about fortitude during the pandemic. Henry is an independent filmmaker, as well as a writer and producer for KGW News in Portland, Ore. The article appeared Oct. 6 in *OMPA, Oregon Media Production Association*, which serves as the collective voice of media professionals.

Becky (McIlonie) Vandenberg OD '07 is accepting patients at Essentia Health-South University Clinic in

Fargo, N.D. She joined the team in October 2020. Vandenberg loves that optometry is an area that makes a direct difference on someone's quality of life.

2008


Molly Lampros MAT '08 was one of six Clark College faculty members named "Exceptional Faculty" by the Vancouver, Wash., college in July 2020. The college said Lampros has "given her energy and expertise to enrich the college beyond her classes, serving as a Phi Theta Kappa faculty advisor, serving on scholarship and awards committees, and serving as a faculty mentor for student interns." She also is co-owner of the Helvetia Tavern in Hillsboro.

Chelsea (Rowe) Marshall PA '08 joined Mountain Peaks Family Practice in Orem, Utah, as a physician assistant. Marshall has experience in family practice and general surgery. Her areas of specialty include abdominal pain, bladders, hernias, and all things related to bowels.

Jordan Osborn '08, MAT '10 and his wife, Alicia Osborn of Klamath Falls, Ore., welcomed their second child, Tucker Jones Osborn, on May 27, 2020. He is the little brother to

Blaine Elyse Osborn. Jordan Osborn is principal of Bonanza (Ore.) High School.

2009

 **5 Josh Masagatani '09** was named the interim junior school principal at Le Jardin Academy in Oahu, effective July 2020. Masagatani will serve in this capacity for the 2020-2021 school year. His previous experience includes serving as summer school vice principal at Le Jardin.

2010

Kaeo Lau Hee '10 returned to his alma mater after graduating from Pacific and is now the Kamehameha Schools Maui baseball coach. Lau Hee became an assistant coach for the Warriors in 2010 and took over as head coach in 2015.

2011

 **6 Adrienne Christian MFA '11** is scheduled to publish her third collection of poetry, *Worn*, during National Poetry Month in April 2021. The new collection explores the role of clothing in life, love and longing.

Allissun (Morgan) Hoppert OD '11 joined Eyes on Hayden, an optometry clinic in Scottsdale, Ariz., in August 2020. After graduating from the Pacific optometry program, she completed a primary care residency in

New Mexico. Dr. Hoppert became a fellow of the American Academy of Optometry in 2014.

Elizabeth Levinson MFA '11 published a new poetry book this fall, titled *Running Aground*. Advance praise for *Running Aground* describes it as a collection to be re-read again and again. Levinson has published work in many journals, and her chapbook, *As Wild Animals*, is available through Dancing Girl Press & Studio.

Heather Sappenfield MFA '11 published a prize-winning short story collection, *Lyrics for Rock Stars*, on Sept. 21, 2020. The collection illuminates the American West in 17 stories. Sappenfield has been nominated three times for the Pushcart Prize, which honors the best poetry, short fiction and essays published in small presses over the previous year.

2012

Amanda Kabak '12 is one of the contributors for *The Massachusetts Review*. Kabak is the author of the novels *The Mathematics of Change* and *Upended*, which will be published in 2021. She has also won multiple awards, such as the Lascaux Review fiction award, Arcturus Review's Al-Simāk

award for fiction, the Betty Gabehart prize from the Kentucky Women Writers Conference, and multiple Pushcart Prize nominations.

2013

Chris Bailey-Greene '13 joined Gonzaga University's women's rowing team as the assistant coach in August 2020. Bailey-Greene has a background in psychology and therapy, which he said has helped him in his development as a coach.

Erin Galarza PT '13 moved from Washington to Vermont in 2020 and joined Dan Wyand Physical Therapy & Associates in St. Johnsbury, Vt. Galarza has more than seven years of experience as an outpatient orthopedic therapist treating orthopedic conditions, aquatic therapy, and pelvic health.

2014

 **4 Alysha (Hitzman) Cabral '14 and Benjamin Cabral '15** welcomed daughter, Charlie Kay, on Feb. 20, 2020. The couple also celebrated their second wedding anniversary on Sept. 1.

 **9 Jon Larson '14** plays for the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Band in San Diego, Calif. He majored in music education at Pacific and serves as a piano instrumentalist,

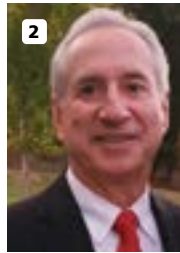


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Submit your class note and photo for the next issue of *Pacific* magazine by Feb. 15.

► classnotes@pacificu.edu
 ► pacificu.edu/KeepInTouch

team leader, arranger and is also in charge of staging for the band. Sgt. Larson plays in Ceremonial Band, Ceremonial Duo, Cleared Hot, and Brass Check.

 **10 Anne (Schmitt) Vandecoevering '14** and her husband Taylor Vandecoevering of Hillsboro welcomed daughter Jo Vandecoevering on May 9, 2020.

2016

Bruno Gegenhuber '16 was awarded the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Individual Fellowship from the National Institute of Mental Health in June 2020. Gegenhuber is in his fourth year of a PhD program in neurobiology at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in Long Island, N.Y.

 **8 Breanne (McLain) McGhee OD '16 MEd '16, PhDEL '21** received the Young OD award at the 2020 Theia Awards of Excellence Ceremony on Oct. 15, 2020. McGhee, who is an assistant professor at Pacific, researched diversity and inclusion and the impact of educational inequities and inequalities in Black and Latino communities for her doctorate.

Megan (Moll) Thorpe '16 stage managed Portland's CoHo production *From These Streets I Rise*, which

was live streamed Sept. 11-13, 2020. The production weaves stories and music, which honor the diverse experiences of *Portland Street Roots'* vendors impacted by homelessness. Thorpe is also the stage manager for Chamber Music Northwest's summer festival.

2017

Nicole Chang OD '17 joined the Jenkins Eye Care team in Honolulu, Hawai'i, in September 2020. Chang received her doctor of optometry degree from Pacific's College of Optometry after earning her bachelor's in biology from the University of Southern California.

Etosha Fegan OD '17 joined the Central Oregon Eyecare team of doctors in August 2020. While in optometry school, Fegan developed a passion for advanced eye care techniques, especially orthokeratology. Orthokeratology uses rigid contact lenses to reshape the front surface of the eye, or the cornea.

Rachel Thompson DHS '17 joined the Dentists at Orenco team in Hillsboro, Ore., in October 2020. While in dental hygiene school at Pacific, Thompson co-authored a Silver Diamine Fluoride Protocol and

presented continuing education courses on the subject. The course included the most up-to-date research on the microbiology, risks, benefits and suggested protocol for use.

2018

Sierra Barnes '18 was invited in October 2019 to join the Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action & Service, which oversees all AmeriCorps programs. A month later, she was confirmed by the Oregon Senate as a commission member, filling the role of Participant or Supervisor of a National Service Program, between the ages of 16-25.

2019

Ana Michalowsky MFA '19 published a poem, "Cinderella's Plenty," online at the *Measure Review* in September 2020. Michalowsky's work has earned a Vaclav Havel Scholarship from the Prague Writers Program and she was a finalist in the *Atlanta Review's* 2017 International Poetry Contest.

2020

Kia Addison '20 joined Tananawit and The Warm Springs Community Action Team in August 2020 as the arts business development and

outreach specialist. She plans to expand Tanawit by recruiting Warm Springs artists and helping them market their artwork through local and social media outreach. Addison also wants to expand the business training programs and opportunities for artists so they may sustain their work and practice.

Morgan Bradshaw MSW '20 was hired as a social worker October 2020 by MindTree Holistic Counseling and Wellness Center in Portland, Ore. Bradshaw specializes in treating depression and anxiety, helping people through major life changes, shifts or grieving, assisting with processing trauma or significant past events, fostering emotional development, and encouraging personal growth and self-development.

Britnee Howard '20 was named assistant social media coordinator for Trione Winery in Geyserville, Calif., effective July 2020. At Pacific, she studied business administration with concentrations in accounting and marketing.

Aundrea Hufana '20 was hired over the summer by St. Mary's Home for Boys in Beaverton, Ore. Hufana, who graduated with a

degree from the School of Graduate Psychology, will serve as the institution's new Day Treatment case manager.

Kristina Lubliner '20 joined Sensible Rehab, a speech and occupational therapy clinic in Salem, Ore., in August 2020. As an immigrant from Bulgaria, Lubliner is fascinated by the mastery of the English language. It is her goal to serve children in the community who do not have a voice to express their wants and needs.

 **7 Molly Salamunovich OT '20** started a position as a full-time occupational therapist at Summerfield Healthcare in Santa Rosa, Calif., in August 2020. Salamunovich was offered two positions following her virtual commencement and ended up signing her offer letter for occupational therapy.

Tyson Tagami '20 was hired by Albert C. Kobayashi construction company in Waipahu, Hawai'i, shortly after graduation. Tagami, who was a physics major at Pacific, is a project engineer working on the construction of two 45-story towers for a hotel and residential complex called Sky Ala Moana. ■

In Memoriam

Friends

Former Trustee Robert "Bob" Epler '50 died on Aug. 28, 2020 at age 93. Epler was deeply involved in the Forest Grove community throughout his life. He was owner of Epler Farms and, along with his wife Nell, formed EF Nursery, which specializes in growing ornamental fruit trees in Forest Grove. After retirement, Epler and his wife continued to work in the agricultural sector, raising blueberries for commercial packaging and sales to Japan and other foreign markets. He was very community minded, serving on the Forest Grove Rotary Club as a past president from 1992 to 1993. Epler also filled roles as a board member for the following organizations; Forest Grove Senior and Community Center, Forest Grove School District, Northwest Farm Credit Services, Forest Grove Rural Fire Board, and Pacific University in Forest Grove. Epler was preceded in death by his parents, Glen and Ethel Epler; two sisters, Betty Dryden and Ruth Nettles; and son, Douglas Epler. He is survived by his wife, Nell; five children and their spouses, Mary Jo Epler, Thomas "Tom" (and Lori) Epler, Robert Schwarz, Gloria Laskey, and Sammy Schwarz.

1948

Betty Koberstein Harrahill '48 died July 7, 2020, at age 94. Harrahill graduated from Pacific with a degree in biology and secondary education, and then went on to Klamath Falls, where she lived with her husband until her death. Harrahill had many interests, including bird-watching, ice skating and cross country skiing. Harrahill was preceded in death by her

husband, Robert. She is survived by four children, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

1949

William Studdiford '49 died on Aug. 15, 2020, at the age of 93. After receiving his degree in journalism and art, Studdiford went on to work for IBM World Trade, where he was able to travel the world. After an early retirement, Studdiford started writing plays about Romantic poets. These plays were performed in Belgium, England, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Italy, Luxembourg, Scotland, Switzerland, and the United States.

1950

Charles Moeller '50 died Sept. 4, 2020, at age 93. After returning from the Marine Corps, he attended Pacific and worked for a car dealer assisting with repairs. Moeller had an interest in building and fixing things. In his family home, Moeller was constantly remodeling, adding on and building. Moeller is survived by his wife Helen; and sons and their wives, David (and Lindy), Steven (and Jill), and Douglas (and Paula); and eight grandchildren.

1955

Billie Perkins Morris '55 died July 1, 2020, at age 85. She was raised on a pear and apple farm in the lower Hood River Valley. He earned a teaching degree at Pacific. In the early 1970s, she began her career as a counselor and business teacher with Hood River Valley High School. He taught until her retirement in 1989. She was preceded in death by her parents and stepmother Leota Perkins; grandson Michael Boyle;

daughter Joni; brother Ray; and husband Bob. She is survived by her children and their spouses, Jeff (and Sue) Doke, Mike (and Janice Willy) Doke, and Patti (and Dave) Trail; grandchildren, Sarah and George McCann, Hannah McFadden, Marti Doke and Jesse Doke; sister Velma Smith; sister-in-law Phyllis Perkins; nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

David T. Parry '55, died July 13, 2020, following a short illness. He had recently celebrated his 87th birthday and 60th wedding anniversary with wife Susan Myers Parry. David Parry received his bachelor's degree from Pacific University in 1955, majoring in history. Following college, he served in the Army in Baumholder, Germany. Parry taught political science at Pacific from 1962 to 1964, then returned to Washington, D.C., where he received his master's from American University in 1965. David then worked for the Washington Center for Metropolitan Studies and directed AU's summer school before acquiring Academic Travel Abroad. From 1981 to 2017, David enjoyed leading an annual hiking tour exploring the Alps. He was active in several railroad history societies. He was a member of Heidelberg International, the University Club of Washington, and American Battlefield Trust. He was preceded in death by his parents, George Stanley Parry and Elizabeth (Jones) Parry; sister, Margaret; and brother, Stan. He is survived by wife Susan; sons Thomas (and Christina Whitcomb) Parry and Joseph (and Emily Pierce) Parry; and grandchildren, Georgia and Evan Parry.

In Memoriam

1958

Charles "Bill" Thorpe '58 died Sept. 11, 2020, at age 84. During his time at Pacific, Thorpe played both basketball and baseball. He went on to work at the U.S Postal Service after graduating and was an active league bowler. Thorpe is preceded in death by his sister, Laverne, and his brother, Melvin. He is survived by his wife, Lois; children, Charlie, Linda, Scott, Tom and Julie; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and his siblings, Kenny, Wayne, JoAnne and Wendy.

1959

Jacob Walsh '59 died Aug. 7, 2020, at age 83. Walsh pursued pre-law studies during his time at Pacific, but ended up with a career in information systems and programming at PGE. Walsh was a pioneer in programming. He made his home in Forest Grove, Ore., where he raised his eight children with his wife, Jewell. Walsh was preceded in death by his wife; son Michael; his parents, Maurice and Mary Walsh; and two sisters, Winifred Elliott and Mary Yung. He is survived by his children, Kristi, Mark, Kelly, Shannon, Ted, Jacob and Patrick; sister Maurine; 24 grandchildren and 48 great-grandchildren with one more on the way; plus many nieces and nephews.

Edward Morrison '59 died June 10, 2020, at age 94. After his graduation from Pacific, Morrison began interning as a student pastor at churches in Gaston and Butteville, Ore., while holding a variety of part-time jobs to support his studies. He later went on to Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Calif. Morrison spent

more than 30 years in the pulpit in his beloved Ingle Chapel Church in Milton-Freewater, Ore. Morrison was preceded in death by his wife and pastoring partner, Ella, and his oldest son, Michael. He is survived by two sons and many grandchildren.

1963

Bruce Hara '63 died July 10, 2020, at age 79. Hara attended Pacific and received a bachelor's degree in finance and economics. With his education, Hara pursued a career as an insurance broker. Hara is survived by his wife of 58 years, Edith; sons, Bruce Hara Jr. and Lyndon Mako Hara; five grandchildren, Nate Hara, Jaime and Jarrett Hirtz, Kai Hollstein-Hara, and Joey Hara; two great-grandchildren, Sydney Hara and Makana Hara; twin sister, Betty Uyema; and brother, Kenneth Hara.

1967

David Blatchford '67 died Sept. 4, 2020, at age 75. During his time at Pacific, Blatchford was named all-conference catcher all four years under Coach Chuck Bafaro. Upon graduating from Pacific, Blatchford was a potato and wheat farmer for nearly 50 years and was able to enjoy seeing the wheat harvested this year. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Jennifer; son Jess; brothers, Bill and Jim; seven nieces and nephews; and two grandchildren.

Katherine Records '67 died Aug. 31, 2020, at age 75. After receiving her bachelor's in education from Pacific, Records went on to teach at many schools and touch many lives. After retiring, she split her time between Maui and Reno, enabling her and her husband

to catch up with many former colleagues and friends. Records was preceded in death by her mother, father, and her husband, Skip Records. She is survived by daughters, Joa and Allison; brother-in-law John; sister-in-law Micki; niece Stephanie; nephew Jeremy; and grandchildren.

1974

Gary Bukovec '74, OD '76 died Sept. 11, 2020, at age 68. After graduating from Pacific with a doctorate in optometry, Bukovec moved to sunny San Diego, Calif., and worked for Kaiser for 37 years. Upon retirement, Bukovec traveled and became an accomplished amateur photographer. Bukovec was preceded in death by his parents, and his sister Carol. He is survived by his siblings, Richard, Mary Lee, Glen, and William; nieces, a nephew and many grandnieces and grandnephews.

1981

James Bradley '81 died Sept. 24, 2020, at age 63. His passion was vision therapy, and he became a fellow in the College of Optometrists in Vision Development in 2005. Bradley was preceded in death by his wife, Carol, and his parents, Melvin and Mary. He is survived by his two children, James Mayer Jr. and Jalyn.

1990

Joel Thomas '90 died on April 28, 2020 in Japan at the age of 54. Thomas, who majored in business administration and world languages at Pacific, taught English to students in Japan. In *Pacific* magazine's spring 1992 edition, Thomas talked about his experience teaching in Japan, and the cultural adaptations he brought to the classroom. ■

Looking For Your Next Great Read?

Check out what's on our reading list right now, or dig into the titles you may have missed at the Alumni Association's Goodreads page [Goodreads.com/BoxerAlumni](https://www.goodreads.com/BoxerAlumni).

You also can join the Alumni Book Club for monthly reads and discussions, or register for our newest virtual events, a series featuring alumni and faculty authors. Next up: Mindy Cameron '65, MFA '18 discusses her memoir *Leaving the Boys: A Story of Motherhood and Career, Feminism and Romance* on Jan. 16. ▶ pacificu.edu/AlumniEvents

A few more suggestions:

Reflections of Robert E. Lee in American Culture

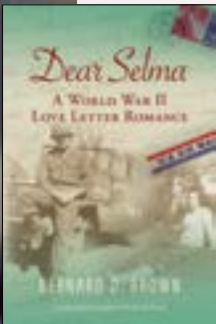
By Mike Steele

Professor Mike Steele joined the faculty at Pacific 45 years ago. In that time he has become well known for thoughtful consideration of topics ranging from Notre Dame football to the Holocaust. *In Reflections of Robert E. Lee in American Culture*, Steele turns that same careful thought to one of the most polarizing figures in American history. This meditation offers an opportunity to contemplate the darkest parts of America, past and present. Steele focuses on the last years of Lee's life, in which he sees important lessons that can help us "achieve the bright promise of a united people in the future." He will be the special guest at the Alumni & Faculty Authors Series on March 13.

Dear Selma: A World War II Love Letter Romance

By Bernard Brown '49, OD '50

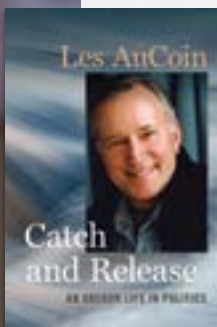
Bernard Brown wrote 246 letters to his future wife Selma while serving in the Army during World War II. Compiled by him and his daughter, Shelley, this new book retells their long-distance romance in the midst of turmoil and his endless faith that fate would prevail. **Read and watch Bernard Brown's story** ▶ pacificu.edu/BernardBrown



Catch & Release: An Oregon Life in Politics

By Les AuCoin

With the election over, it's a more comfortable time to go back and look at the political career of former Rep. Les AuCoin '69. The first Democrat to win a U.S. House seat in Oregon's District 1, AuCoin saw Oregon and the country through everything from nuclear arms negotiations to the spotted owl debate. In addition to publishing this autobiography, AuCoin also is working with Pacific to create and digitize a collection of his history in the Pacific University Libraries. **Learn More** ▶ pacificu.edu/aucoin



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for the helpers.
There's always
someone who is
trying to help."**

— FRED ROGERS

