

PACIFIC

New provost appointed

Students go green

NAIA track
championships
a success

PIECES *of the* WHOLE

president's message

D. Merrill Ewert



Godspeed to a colleague, an educator and a friend

Pat Anderson's expertise helped FPU in many ways

This issue of Pacific magazine coincides with the successful conclusion of one academic year and the start of preparations for the next. It also marks the transition in academic leadership at Fresno Pacific University. Provost Pat Anderson is retiring from her position as chief academic officer. A distinguished leader in Christian higher education circles, she has also become a good friend.

Pat's career in higher education has included teaching and research, program development and administration, community outreach and contributions to public policy. Her professional journey took her from administrative positions at universities in the Midwest to leadership on the West Coast. Before coming to Fresno Pacific, she had served as dean, associate provost and provost at Azusa Pacific University. This experience, together with a doctorate in higher education, has made her a leader among academic administrators in the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU).

Because of her deep, first-hand knowledge of higher education, Pat is a regular speaker and workshop leader at CCCU seminars for new deans and provosts. She has been regularly shadowed by participants in CCCU's leadership development program, some of whom have gone on to serve as deans, provosts and presidents. Just recently, one of them, a university president, described Pat to me as his mentor.

Pat's experience in a variety of leadership roles in both Christian and non-religious higher education institutions was enormously helpful during the recent restructuring of Fresno Pacific's academic programs. Her understanding of the role of regional centers not only helped FPU develop and position our Bakersfield, Visalia and North Fresno campuses, but also made them profitable. She was the primary architect and author of our \$1.8 million Title III technology grant, as well as a significant contributor to several other successful funding proposals. She also provided leadership for the revision of our academic policy manual (faculty handbook) and the planning process that resulted in the completion and adoption of FPU's new strategic plan.

Pat not only understands higher education from the inside-out, she knows how to get from "point A" to "point B." This made her a leader in her profession and a highly effective provost at Fresno Pacific. As she begins this next phase of her life's journey, we say thank you and Godspeed!



Fresno Pacific University develops students for leadership and service through excellence in Christian higher education.

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What the pieces tell



Paul ran the automotive department at a chain discount store long since swallowed by a larger fish in the retail sea. Older, around for years and out of favor with the current leadership, he was admired by employees who respected his experience and saw quiet nobility in the way he weathered marginalization by lesser managers.

Paul recruited one young man from neighboring paint and hardware, encouraging him with fatherly conversation and a small commission on each tire he sold.

Now, this young man was no hero. Concealing his ineptitude under a bubble of arrogance, he was woefully over his head in his job and his life. He was kind of a jerk. Paul saw the struggle and reached out, offering a compassionate face and an encouraging ear.

Months went by and the young man got what he deserved: forced unemployment. All that pierced his shock at the news was how the store manager explained the termination. The words came verbatim from confidences the young man had shared with Paul. The young man never got a chance to ask Paul why he had betrayed him. But he remembers Paul. The way Paul was in the hidden pieces of his life.

The young man ended up where he belonged, back in college, and lives to advise his sons, already smarter than he, to avoid his mistakes.

No longer so young, that man is now at Fresno Pacific University, and he finds the pieces comprise a healthier whole. Lesser-known programs mirror marquee majors in their academic quality and faculty live their ethical focus as well as their professional expertise. All are lit by the same light and do more than stand scrutiny—they glorify.

The pieces of our lives tell who we really are, as individuals and institutions.

—Wayne Steffen

Herma Williams appointed FPU provost

*Distinguished scholar,
dynamic leader begins August 1*

Herma B. Williams will join FPU as provost and academic vice president August 1, 2006. Williams is currently associate provost at Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts.

"Dr. Williams brings the skills, talents and personal qualities that Fresno Pacific needs at this time," said President D. Merrill Ewert in making the announcement June 14. "A highly respected leader in Christian higher education, Dr. Williams' deep commitment to student learning, her strong record of faculty development and her passion for mobilizing universities to help transform the culture led to this appointment."

While Williams worked at Gordon, the college not only grew from 1,270 students to over 1,700, it became a much more diverse and inclusive place, while at the same time raising its entrance standards and attracting more merit scholars. Gordon began graduate and undergraduate majors and concentrations in areas such as education, drama and science; it also created a new honors program on the Christian intellectual tradition. Participation in off-campus programs nearly tripled and new study options were developed.

As associate provost, Williams helped build enrollments of under-represented minorities, recruit a more diverse faculty and engage students in studying Boston's problems and in working with local organizations to help transform their communities. These efforts helped Gordon College earn the Council of Christian Colleges and University's prestigious Racial Harmony Award.

Williams has published one book and written numerous articles and papers. She is deeply committed to strengthening faculty scholarship and promoting student research. As a Fulbright Scholar, she directed a program to strengthen academic excellence at the University of the Western Cape and the University of Cape Town in South Africa. In high demand as a speaker, Williams delivered the 2006 commencement address at Malone College (Canton, Ohio).



Prior to assuming her role at Gordon, Williams held various other faculty and administrative positions in higher education. At James Madison University, she was a professor and chair of the department of education, leadership and human development, and served as the coordinator of faculty development. She worked as assistant provost at Ithaca College, as special assistant to the president at Bryn Mawr College and as a member of the faculty and chair of the department of human ecology at Morgan State College.

Williams earned her bachelor's and master's of science in education from Southern Illinois University, and her Ph.D. in education from Iowa State University. She also completed post-doctoral studies at Harvard University and was named a Kellogg Foundation and Ford Foundation fellow. She is a member of the American Educational Research Association, the Association of American Colleges, the American Council on Education, the American Association of Higher Education, the Association of Teacher Educators and the National Association of Multicultural Education.

She is married to Eric Williams, Ph.D., a professor of education at Howard University. They have two grown children. Their son, Eric Jr., graduated from Bowdoin College and Columbia University and is now a consultant with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Their daughter, Dana, is a graduate of Wellesley College and Harvard University.

faculty&staff

FOCUS



Richard Wiebe, professor in philosophy, was invited to present a lecture at the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff May 15 titled "The Architecture of Navajo Space-Place." He spent May as a research associate in residence at the museum, working on Navajo philosophy and ethics. He was also invited to give a lecture called "Words from the Wild" at the LeConte Memorial Lodge in Yosemite Valley in June, and will be part of a colloquium there titled "Beauty and Environmental Consciousness" September 15 and 16.



Zenebe Abebe, dean of students, published "Unique discipline process empowers students to resolve conflict" in the April 2006 issue of *Student Affairs Today*. In June, Abebe gave a presentation on the process at the Association of Christians in Student Development conference at Indiana Wesleyan University. The workshop was titled "Restorative Discipline: A Unique Prospective to Solving Conflict on College Campuses."



Duane Ruth-Hefflebower, business faculty and director of training and services at the Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies, has made several presentations. They include: "Engaging victims of minor crimes in healing processes" at the Fourth Annual Symposium of the American Society of Victimology at Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, March 2006; "Rukun: the

Javanese vision of harmony" at the Victim Offender Mediation Association annual conference, Philadelphia, October 2005; and "Conflict Between Refugees and Receiving Communities: Lessons Learned and a Proposed Conflict Resolution Methodology" at the Association for Conflict Resolution annual conference, Minneapolis, September 2005.



Ken Martens Friesen, political science/history faculty, presented "Growing Coffee and Brewing Conflict: Economic Reform and Ethnic Minorities in Vietnam" at the International Studies Association Conference March 22-25 in San Diego.



An article by **Eleanor Hersey**, English faculty, titled "It'll Always Be Burma to Me": J. Peterman on Seinfeld" is included in *Seinfeld, Master of Its Domain: Revisiting Television's Greatest Sitcom*, edited by David Lavery, with Sara Lewis Dunne, Middle Tennessee State University, and published in 2006 by Continuum Press. The article was previously published in *Studies in Popular Culture* and won the 2000 Whatley Award for the best article in that journal. An essay on the Lavery book and related topics by Robert Fulford, "Seinfeld Among the Academics," appeared in the March 21, 2006, electronic edition of *National Post*.



Jay Pope, psychology faculty, published "An 'Errorful' Learning Deficit in Schizophrenia?" in the *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology*, 28:101-110, 2006.



Ron Claassen, director of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, has been on the road. He traveled to San Diego in November 2005 and March 2006 to present a victim offender restoration program volunteer training to members of the Catholic Diocese. In January he spoke at the Provincial Chapter meeting of the Franciscan Friars at Mission San Luis Rey. In February Claassen presented

a plenary session at the Institute on Law, Religion, and Ethics at Pepperdine University School of Law. Also in February he met in Washington, D.C., with the Prison Fellowship Internationale Centre for Justice and Reconciliation to complete a model called Restorative Justice City, a community where all crime would be dealt with restoratively. In March he was a guest lecturer in the restorative justice class at the Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley.

Edmund Janzen, emeritus biblical and religious studies faculty and former president, published a commentary on the Book of Acts titled *Turning the World Upside Down* with Kindred Press in May 2005. The book is part of the Luminaire Commentary Series.

SIFE wins contest

In January four members of the FPU SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) team won second place at a competition at the University of Nevada, Reno. The students were Karl Strube, Luke Tos, Christa Dean and Bethany Fredrick. Teams from five schools were assigned a personal finance case study to analyze. The case involved a couple in their late 20s with mounting debt who were considering purchasing a home. The teams were to give a 19-minute presentation detailing a plan of action for the family. Other competing schools were Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; California State University, Hayward; CSU, Chico; Northwest University; and Northwest Nazarene University (winner). FPU's prize was \$2,000 for the school.

BOARD NOTEBOOK:

FPU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trustees approve strategic plan, budget and tuition

June 2-3

- Approved a university-wide strategic plan for 2006-2011. The document sets out six goals on preparing students through challenging programs; recruiting and equipping diverse faculty, staff, students and administrators; enhancing the delivery and use of resources; generating revenues to meet the needs of a growing university; and implementing a master plan for new and renovated facilities. Strategies for achieving those goals are also contained in the plan, which was developed over the course of approximately one year by faculty and staff. The process was facilitated by the President's Council, made up of administrators, faculty and staff.
- Published bylaws collecting policies and other documents outlining board actions, and the revised faculty handbook.
- Authorized hiring a consulting firm to determine readiness for a capital campaign for the construction of new facilities. Campus leaders are interviewing firms.

March 3-4

- Set the FPU budget for 2006-2007 at \$32 million, about 5 percent more than the previous year. Overall expenses and revenues are expected to grow 5.5 percent. Traditional undergraduate tuition will be \$20,550, up 5.8 percent. The institutional financial aid discount was also raised, so the increase for an average student will be 4.6 percent. Tuition increases for graduate and degree-completion will also range around 5 percent, depending on the program. In 2005-2006 FPU was fifth-lowest in combined tuition and room and board costs among the 12 California colleges and universities campus administrators use as benchmarks.

FPU FOUNDATION BOARD

Foundation celebrates audit, growth

June 2

- Celebrated a good audit and expanded managed assets. Assets under management are now \$48,150,719, up from \$47,112,034 last year. The board also voted to accept three major trusts and develop three more.

March 3

- Placed the \$4.7 million university endowment with Nelson Capital Management, Inc., to be invested in socially responsible funds, as determined by the foundation's ethical parameters and the firm's screening criteria.

Admissions organization honors FPU website

NRCCUA gives functionality award

The university website received top marks from a national admissions organization.

The National Research Center for College & University Admissions gave the FPU site an "A" for admissions functionality. "The grade you were given by college-bound high school students signifies that your website features are helping take them from prospect to enrolled student," NRCCUA President Don Muncie wrote to the university.

FPU put together solid research about what students wanted. "Based on that information we designed the site to make it user-friendly and user-successful," said Efrain Tovar, electronic admissions counselor. "It proved to be effective."

The award is the result of NRCCUA's Enrollment Power Index® ranking of every college website in the country. Through its annual surveys, NRCCUA gathers information from more than 5.5 million high school students. This research is published and distributed to more than 1,000 colleges and universities.

NRCCUA is not the only organization that has honored the FPU website. CampusTours.com 4-Star gave FPU the Virtual College Tour Award for April 2005.



FPU connects students with employers

Students and alumni connected with potential employers at two events March 23 and 24. First, the Career Fair attracted about 60 organizations ranging from financial institutions to non-profits. Some 165 students from different areas of study (around 21 percent of non-education majors) came to this first event of its kind, sponsored by the university Career Services Center. Several were hired on the spot or called back for further interviews. The next day more than 50 school districts and about 80 students and alumni came to the annual Teacher Education Job Fair, hosted by the university School of Education. Both events were in the Special Events Center.



Nearly 400 graduate May 6

Pete Mehas addresses ceremonies

Spring commencement ceremonies were Saturday, May 6, on the university campus.

Bachelor's degrees were awarded to approximately 280 students and master's degrees to 117 students in two ceremonies—10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.—in the Special Events Center. Receptions for graduates, family and friends on the campus Green followed the morning commencement and preceded the afternoon ceremony.

In his commencement speech, titled "Now What?," Fresno County Superintendent of Schools Peter Mehas praised FPU for its strong core values and "culture of giving back." He then compared the journey new graduates were beginning to the quest of the characters in *The Wizard of Oz*. "Each of the characters sought the very thing that seemed most elusive," he said: love, wisdom, courage, power and security. "In the end they find, to their great surprise, like you, that it was with them all along.

"Be yourself, only more so," Mehas urged his audience. And remain dreamers and risk takers. "The person who does not risk does nothing, has nothing and is worth nothing," he said. "The limits of today are the frontiers of tomorrow."

Your actions may not only shape the world, Mehas said, "they may save it."

Several people were honored during commencement. Peng Wen, business professor, received the Nickel Excellence in Teaching Award. Brian DiPalma, B.A. graduate, won the first Harold Haak Academic Achievement Award and William Kimbley, credential student and 2005 B.A. graduate, the Outstanding Scholarship Award.

The invocation for both ceremonies was given by Dr. Donald Gregory (BA '75), the 2006 Outstanding Alumnus. Student responses came from Tim Haydock, undergraduate student body president, and Dinorah Olmos, M.A. graduate. Scripture was read by Christopher and Alisa Cook, B.A. graduates, and Reba Joyner, M.A. graduate.

Alpha Chi researchers

Three FPU students gave research papers at the Alpha Chi National Society regional convention in February at the University of LaVerne. Dulce Romero presented "Women in Science: Meeting the Challenges for a Successful Career," Pulkit Sawroop presented "Measuring the Dipole Potential of the Lipid Bilayer" and Jacquelyn Hayek presented "'What Birds Were They'—Stephen Dedalus' Artistic Journey and the Parallel Symbolism of Bird Imagery." Romero was also elected Region VII student representative to the National Alpha Chi Council. Richard Rawls, director of the library and history faculty, and Fay Nielsen, associate dean of mentoring and retention, co-sponsor the 53-member FPU Alpha Chi chapter. From left, Romero, Swaroop, Hayek.



Acting on AIDS

Students, faculty and staff dramatized the plight of children orphaned by AIDS with "Do You See Orange?"

The 60 participants donned bright orange shirts with "orphan" written on the front March 22, to symbolize the 5 percent of children in sub-Saharan Africa whose parents die of AIDS. This event was sponsored by Acting on Aids, a program of World Vision. From left, Patricia Anderson, provost; Amanda Rodriguez, then grants and research associate/advance-ment data and support specialist; and student Christa Dean meet in Anderson's office. World Vision is a Christian relief and development organization.



Kinesiology students win competition

FPU kinesiology students won first place in a college bowl at the California Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance conference in Los Angeles on March 11, defeating such schools as California State University, Sacramento, and Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. The victorious students were Sarah Campbell, Jeremy Warkentin, Adrian Lopez, Federico Santillan and Megan Holbert.



Students return to El Faro

Some 40 students from Amigos Unidos participated in the sixth annual trip to the El Faro Orphanage and villages in Tijuana, Mexico, February 18-20. Students ministered and brought food and clothing. Donations from students, faculty and staff helped finance the effort.

Local sale helps world

Poor and hungry people around the world benefited from a sale at FPU April 7-8. The West Coast Mennonite Sale and Auction for World Relief, sponsored by Mennonite Central Committee and hosted by the university, raised \$290,000 from the sale of quilts, classic cars, food, books, handicrafts and tickets to children's games. Participants and visitors came from throughout the Central Valley, including Bakersfield, Dinuba, Lodi, Reedley, Shafter and Wasco. MCC is a ministry of Mennonite and related churches and is supported by congregations, individuals and nearly 50 sales throughout the U.S. and Canada. FPU is affiliated with the Pacific District Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches.



Fried fritter fired drive across America

To demonstrate practical alternatives to fossil fuels and raise money for charity, Ken Martens Friesen, history/political science professor, and friend Steve Friesen drove across the United States in a Volkswagen Jetta TDI powered by leftover vegetable oil from the fritter booth at the West Coast Mennonite Central Committee Sale & Auction for World Relief. They started from the Golden Gate bridge in San Francisco May 26, and reached the Atlantic Ocean beachside town of Rehoboth Beach, Delaware May 29. The trip has so far raised more than \$10,000 in per-mile pledges for MCC. The fuel is free, so all proceeds went to MCC's work with the poor around the world. From left, Ken and Steve begin their journey.



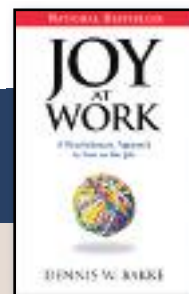
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From left, Lorraine Weller and Jaime Hazelwood

Green House balances need and stewardship

Residents don't have to give up TV

By Conlan Spangler

If every American recycled just one tenth of their newspapers, 25 million trees would be saved every year—that's according to the sheet of "Recycling Facts" on the wall. Lorraine Weller's house is probably the only one at Fresno Pacific University with environmental factoids taped up every few feet. "Those are left over from the open house," the graduating senior explains. So are the books on the table in the living room: *50 Simple Ways You Can Save the Earth*, *Our Green and Living World* and *Walden*.

This is obviously student housing—juniors Katie Haskin and Suzie Roseno sit on the floor, surrounded by open textbooks and notes—but something is different about this three-bedroom, 1.5-bath home with the yellow exterior. Despite the paint job, this is The Green House.

"It just started out as an idea," Weller says. In 2005, members of the Green Club student organization learned the university had acquired a new house for student residence. They suggested making it an environmental house.

"I'd been talking to a lot of people about how I really wanted to live sustainably," says Weller, Green Club president. Sustainable living doesn't mean renouncing all material possessions, but simply living with less impact on the environment. "It was kind of hard to do that on-campus, or anywhere," she says.

The housing application process made the Green House's mission clear—to provide students with "a residential setting in which stewardship and care of creation can be practiced and demonstrated to the community at

large." Senior Jamie Hazelwood, junior Stephanie Wiest and sophomore Nicole King joined Weller, Haskin and Roseno to launch the house in the fall of 2005.

The shift to sustainable living has not been strenuous. "It's mostly been changing our habits," Weller says, "and just the way we go about things."

What's striking about the Green House is how simple those things are. There are no uncomfortable extremes; television is still considered an acceptable use of electricity (as long as someone is watching it). The greenness is in the little matters.

"We've changed how we use water," Weller says. "We make sure that when we wash dishes, or our hands and faces, that the water's not running, because that can actually save hundreds of gallons per week." Low-flow showerheads help reduce waste, and a toilet displacement device saves two liters of water per flush.

Energy-efficient bulbs fill the light sockets and Weller points to the line of recycling bins where a kitchen wastebasket would typically be. Three bins are labeled "Trash," "Recycling" and "Recycling for \$." "We have three times as much recycling as we do trash, most weeks."

Every week the house gets a box of organic vegetables from T&D Willey Farms, a Community Supported Agriculture farm in Madera. "This way, we're not supporting the pesticides and less sustainable agriculture. We're supporting a local farm that is dedicated to being organic. They grow what's in season, and give us a box of seasonal vegetables and we've been learning to cook them," Weller says.

The residents are also learning to garden. Across from a composter, an organic garden brims with growing strawberries, lettuce, garlic, tomatoes and onions mixed with brilliant orange poppies. Weller removes a slug from the lettuce and flings it to the other corner of the yard. "We don't use pesticides," she says. "We've been learning as we go," she says. "It's trial and error."

Beyond the everyday conservation and gardening, the Green House plays a role in a number of Green Club projects, such as the open house for students and faculty. "We want to educate people on the campus about what kind of things they can do to reduce their waste and energy, and kind of set an example for the rest of the houses," Weller says.

After all, education is one of the main goals of the Green House, and not just education for outsiders. "My lifestyle now is totally different," Hazelwood says. On an ecology field trip she learned how much everything is interconnected. "It just makes sense to me that you would want to care for things that have been given to you," she says.

Hazelwood calls sustainable living, "a way to live with better balance in your life."

PIECES of the whole



Courses help prisoners learn to be students and citizens

*Program plays on FPU's
academic strengths,
educational expertise*

by Wayne Steffen

Little-known
programs form a
picture of what
FPU is about

Under the influence
of alcohol and
in trouble with
the law since he
was 12, Jason

Jones received an unforgettable 21st birthday present: criminal charges on three counts of burglary. He got 37 months and on September 11, 2001, transferred from Twin Towers Correctional Facility in downtown Los Angeles to the California Department of Corrections. "I thought it was symbolic," Jones says today of his incarceration date.

Jones was joining some scary statistics. “In the past three decades the U.S. prison population has grown to historical proportions,” writes Gary Greene, professor of special education at California State University, Long Beach, and evaluator of the Incarcerated Youth Offender (IYO) program. Once home mostly to violent offenders, prisons now primarily house people who abuse substances and suffer from mental illness, poverty and fatherless homes, according to Greene. And those who go once tend to return. “Nationally, 62 percent of those released from state prisons are re-arrested within three years,” Greene notes. In California that figure is over 67 percent within two years, he adds.

California prisons also mirror the national trend of having too many bodies for the beds: In January 2001, for example, the California Department of Corrections had 160,655 prisoners in facilities designed to hold 80,467. People under 25, people like Jones, are the largest growing part of the prison population, and the part most likely to be repeat offenders—90 percent are arrested again. With little education and few skills they have no clue how to cope with life.

In Avenal State Prison, Jones discovered the Fresno Pacific University Life Skills Program, part of the IYO. The rest is a life in progress.

Avenal is one of 15 state correctional institutions that use the life skills program. The curriculum comprises one course each in psychology, mathematics, literature, history, health and sociology. Graduates earn a certificate they can put on the wall and 3 units they can transfer to community college.

Students like Jones have special limitations as well as special needs. Lessons go snail mail because prisoners lack computer access, and officials scrutinize the packages as carefully as students study the



texts. “At one point they wouldn’t allow clear plastic folders because they can be melted down,” says Kathleen Childress, special projects coordinator in the FPU Office of Continuing Education. “One prison won’t allow pens unless they can see through them.”

“Anything can be used as a weapon,” adds Larry Perryman, continuing education office director. These are schools with razor wire, rather than ivy, on the walls.

Into this atmosphere came FPU’s strong academic reputation and focus on character formation. Perryman visited a Correctional Education Association conference in 1997, becoming the first official from any college or university do so. “I got swarmed by all these teachers from the prison system,” he said. They knew of FPU’s expertise in distance learning, and many had taken classes. “That’s what they needed,” Perryman says. “I bet I handed out 35 business cards.”

Within a year the state contacted FPU. Classes began in November 1999. The program is funded by a federal grant administered by CSU, Long Beach. Though prisons offer education in several areas, the life skills program is by far the largest college credit program free to the students.

Incarcerated Youth Offender representatives are the link between student, prison and university. “They’re the eyes and ears,” Childress says of these credentialed teachers. “They are the ones who assess prisoners’ needs and send them in the right direction,” Perryman adds.

Maureen Anderson—who earned her teaching credential and master’s degree at FPU—is the IYO representative at Valley State Prison and Central California Women’s Facility, Chowchilla. The program benefits inmates who have not been exposed to college, she says. “It helps them see, Oh maybe I can do this. I think the psych course is a really good introduction.”

To be eligible, students must have between six months and five years to serve, be scheduled for parole prior to their 26th birthday and have a high school diploma or GED. Students can be removed if they get into disciplinary trouble. “They have to behave,” Childress says.

Students get one semester, 15 weeks, to complete each course. Packets include textbooks, assignments and postage-paid return envelopes.

Psychology is always first, and there’s a reason. “This opens the door for them to see where they were going,” Childress says. Students can

“Now my role has changed from ex-con to father, husband, son-in-law, student, counselor.”

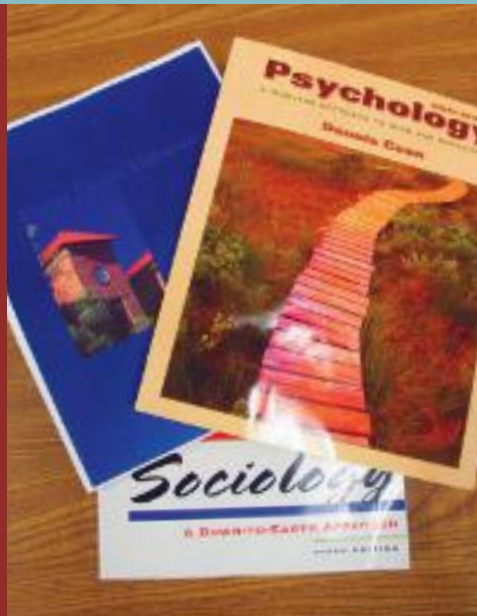


figure out how they got to prison and how to avoid going back. Personal responsibility is a basic lesson. “Many of these kids have grown up blaming everyone else, and their parents have, too,” Perryman says.

Students do see themselves in the lessons, says Anderson. “Most of the people in here are quick to react and see the worst. (The class) helps them step back and see that it could be another way.”

Over at Avenal, Jones saw that ray of light through the bars. “It caused me to evaluate myself,” he says of the psychology class. “I can know my place in society and be comfortable.” With insight came encouragement. “I know I don’t have to be discouraged and get all bummed out when I fail.”

Other courses follow the same pattern of practicality and hope. Math instruction includes making budgets, preparing taxes and buying a home.

True hope, however, takes more than memorizing facts and figures. Freedom for these inmates means destroying the hatred and suspicion that imprisoned them long before they arrived in the penal system, and can still chain them after they leave. Not only are people on the outside suspicious of prisoners, those in the cells are suspicious of one another. Gangs, grounded in ignorance and divided by race, form the social structure.

“In education you try to break down ignorance. You allow students to work through some of their prejudices so they see people from different ethnic groups in a new way,” says Scott Key, an education and history professor who helped create the life skills curriculum.

Asians, Latinos, African Americans and American Indians see that members of their group have contributed to society in art, science and business, and white prisoners see the same. “You have people who have not been a part of the American story; even though their group has done something significant. They get this idea that only one group has done anything and that their group is...less,” Key says.

“The hope is people will rethink their assumptions about people from other groups, and about themselves,” he adds.

So some readings in history and literature look at the lives of people who defeated adversity. “They are definitely impressed with the obstacles people overcome,” Anderson says. A favorite book is *Makes Me Wanna Holler: A Young Black Man in America*, a memoir by Nathan McCall, who went from gang member to respected journalist.

Those roadblocks and the people who face them still bring a catch

to Childress’s voice. “They are not non-violent people, but they’re not beyond redemption,” she says.

Key sees the life skills program as central to FPU’s role to use education to change the world. “This could be a piece of helping these people transform,” he says.

Jones is working to stay one of the transformed. Married in April 2005, he works as an addictions counselor at First Baptist Church, Long Beach, and studies full-time at El Camino Community College, majoring in speech communication and planning to earn a university degree.

He’s not the only one. As of January 2005, just over 3,300 inmates had taken the psychology course. The last two life skills courses became available in 2004 and the completion rate for the whole program is nearing 50 percent. From Anderson’s perspective the system is on track after some early logistical problems. “Now it’s just zip, zip, zip they can finish (a course) in two-and-one-half to three months,” she says. In addition to doing good for the prisoners, the program is doing well for the university, netting \$50,000-70,000 per year.

And the life skills program is no fluke. Single and multi-state studies in Alabama, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah and Canada all show that those who get education in prison rarely return. Oklahoma prisoners who took college courses had a recidivism rate of 8 percent. In New York, women prisoners who took college courses had less than an 8 percent recidivism rate, compared to nearly 30 percent for women overall.

Incriminated by one set of statistics, Jones is exonerated by another. “Now my role has changed from ex-con to father, husband, son-in-law, student, counselor,” he says. “I can keep on keeping on.”

Now that he has the skills.



FPU and MCC join to educate international peacemakers

*Cooperative effort flows
from Anabaptist tradition*

by Katie Fries

In a world in conflict—from our country's own war in the Middle East to civil wars in Africa and South America—the need for international peace education is greater than ever.

Fresno Pacific University and Menonite Central Committee (MCC) have a history of building peace. Now, a partnership between the university's Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies (CPACS) and the MCC Peace Office allows students from countries in conflict to obtain their master's degrees in peacemaking and conflict studies so they may return home as leaders in peace education.

MCC committed \$89,500 for 2003-2008 to assist students in FPU's International Peace Education Project. The annual sum is the equivalent of tuition for one student for one full calendar year—although the funds may be combined with other aid to assist multiple students.

Students complete a master of arts in peacemaking and conflict studies. "The program includes a mix of theory and practice which prepares persons to teach and train others in the work of peacemaking in their home countries, as well as do the actual work of peacemaking through practices such as mediation," said Dalton Reimer, CPACS coordinator of international programs.

"It changed my personal understanding of peacemaking [and] provided me a time to prepare a teaching curriculum that I am teaching now," said Ernst Janzen of Brazil, the first person to complete the degree under the cooperative program.

"The program has equipped me with a broad perspective of peace building at a local and global approach," added current student Hien Vu Thi of Vietnam.

The program's roots date back to the late 1990s, when Pascal Kulungu of Congo studied for a master's degree

in the leadership and peacemaking and conflict studies programs, Reimer explained. His experience, as well as that of fellow student Giedre Gadeikyte of Lithuania, laid the foundation for the cooperative program, which was formally initiated in 2002.

Judy Zimmerman Herr, co-director of the MCC Peace Office in Akron, Pennsylvania, said they chose to join with CPACS because one of the goals of MCC international programs is to, “help partners around the world build their capacity to respond to conflict and build peace.”

In order to accomplish this goal, MCC provides study and training assistance for staff of churches and

organizations around the world. These programs have generally been at the certificate level, she said, but “we’ve also recognized the strategic need to educate some persons at a degree level.

“One of the especially attractive things about this program,” Zimmerman Herr said, “is that the persons being trained are already tied to local institutions and churches to which they will return, so that in giving them the skills we are not only building the capacity of these individuals, but also increasing the strength of these emerging institutions.”

Since his return to Brazil, Janzen has put these skills to use. A pastor and faculty member of Faculdade Fidelis—a Mennonite college in Curitiba—he now teaches courses in peace and conflict studies, a new area for the college. “I also am teaching courses to help schools with discipline [and] as a pastor I am invited to preach in some churches about this issue,” Janzen said from Brazil. He also leads seminars for local businesses, and is writing a book on peace and conflict.

In addition to Brazil, the program has attracted students from other regions of the world, each with its unique circumstances. “The students being trained in this program come from settings where societies are dealing with conflicts, and in some cases are living with the aftermath of war,” Zimmerman Herr said. “They can be instrumental in helping their home societies find new skills and patterns of relating, and in training pastors and other leaders in their societies in these skills.”

These leaders include 2006 graduate Girma Kelecha Oda, who returned to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In a leadership position in missions and evangelism for the Meserete Kristos Church, he will educate pastors and church leaders.

Vu Thi plans to return to Vietnam upon completion of her degree later this year. “I used to work in human resources, so conflict, peacemaking and mediation fit perfectly in staff relations, staff grievances and staff

development if I go back to the HR field,” she said. “I plan to work for peace-building programs with some non-government, humanitarian organization or UN organization. I also want to provide training on peacemaking and conflict resolution skills to the Vietnamese.”

Due to the limited funding and focused nature of the program, Reimer said, recruitment doesn’t work as it does for other programs, which may receive numerous applications from prospective students each year; instead, recruitment is an institution-to-institution effort. “Generally, it begins with a relationship between FPU’s center for peacemaking and an institution of higher education in another country.

“[The] institution nominates a person for the program, who may already be a member of the faculty of the institution, or a leadership person in the church,” Reimer said. “Candidates nominated for the program are approved by both MCC and the center for peacemaking.”

Vu Thi heard about the program when she attended the Conflict Resolution Skills Conference in Hanoi. CPACS Director Ron Claassen and his wife and collaborator Roxanne, who has a master’s degree in peacemaking and conflict studies, were the facilitators. “Though the ideas and concepts were foreign and Western to me, I thought this will work for the Vietnamese too if we know how to use them. I felt the need of these skills for my Vietnamese people,” she said.

Reimer said that with the new MCC funding they anticipate two more students—one from Ethiopia and one from India—will begin studies soon.

Those who have completed the program found it rewarding. “[My] most positive experience [has been] to hear people share about how they are dealing with conflicts in a new way,” Janzen said. “[I am] grateful to teach in this area that is not very well known in our country and see how it is influencing people to live as peacemakers.”



Pascal Kulungu’s graduate study at FPU in leadership and peacemaking and conflict studies paved the way for the cooperative program between the university and MCC. Kulungu, right, stands with Duane Ruth-Heffelbower, director of training and services at the Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies.



Christina Asheervadam, right, an incoming student, was part of a peace training hosted by the Mennonite Brethren India Conference in February at the MB Bible College in Shamshabad.

Man on a Mission—

Dennis Falk likes to push beyond the comfort zone

by Jaime Huss



ALUMNI PROFILE

DENNIS FALK

**BA 1975
FRESNO,
CALIFORNIA**

It was January of 1973, and Ken Isaak (BA '76) had just transferred to Fresno Pacific College from British Columbia's Simon Fraser University. Moving into student housing's Kriegbaum Hall, it wasn't long before Isaak met his neighbor and fellow Canadian Dennis Falk. Isaak was quick to notice his classmate's studiousness. "Dennis was a disciplined student," Isaak said. "He was here on a mission."

In coming to FPC, Falk was on a mission—a mission to venture out of the familiar. Raised on a farm six miles outside of Niverville, Manitoba, Falk was itching to explore. "Coming to Fresno Pacific was an act of rebellion with my parents' blessing," he said. "I just wanted to get away and to see another place."

Falk took the fast track with his studies at FPC, finishing his undergraduate education in three years. As focused as Falk was on his schoolwork, he also noticed something distinctive about FPC's atmosphere. "There was a prevailing attitude among faculty and staff. I was looked on as an individual, not a number," Falk said.

He graduated with a degree in natural science. "My education was well-rounded, and it was based on values,"

Falk said. "It gave me a better foundation for going on in my profession."

Falk followed his passion for medicine and the sciences, completed dentistry training at University of the Pacific School of Dentistry in San Francisco, and returned to Fresno to establish his practice. But another mission was soon calling him to places far away from the Central Valley. A national dental convention more than 17 years ago sparked Falk's interest in taking his dentistry skills to some of the world's most needy.

Over the years, Falk has traveled with organizations like the Christian Dental Society and Rotary International to Honduras, Guatemala, Romania and Siberia. The one-to-two week stints Falk spends abroad each year focus on helping teach and further train local dentists. "We also work with local missions, supply them and help with dental clinics," he said.

While some may consider a one-to-two week mission trip short-term, the aftereffects of Falk's work have been far-reaching. Take for instance his first mission trip, spent in Guatemala. Though frustrated initially by the overwhelming needs around him, Falk met 14-year-old Reyna, a young girl who helped serve as "gopher" during the group's dental

projects. She dreamed of someday ministering to her people. Falk recognized this passion and responded.

Over the years, he's made it financially possible for Reyna to further her education and ultimately attend a university 50 miles from her hometown. Today, Reyna is fluent in English and continues to work with Falk on return mission trips to the region. Reyna is now married and the proud mother of a young boy. Falk proudly bears the title "honorary grandfather."

Back on the home front, Falk continues to respond to other missions. He has been an avid supporter of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team in Training Program, a national program that raises funds for leukemia, lymphoma and melanoma research. Since 1999, Falk has been active in the team's century (100 mile) cycling events and has helped train new team members.

And although not tied to track and field sports while a student at FPC, Falk took on the mission to build a

new track, which was unveiled in 2001. He was the first major donor to the campaign, followed by numerous other supporters like Don Gregory, Dennis Anderson and Max and Charlotte Steinert.

Isaak, now the sports information director at Fresno Pacific University, vividly remembers meeting Falk at Fresno's Silver Dollar Hofbrau to ask for his support as the track's fund-raiser kicked off. "He really had no connection to the track. It made more sense for him to support something like the AIMS Hall of Mathematics and Science, but we needed a start," Isaak said.

No sooner had Isaak asked and Falk agreed. Mission accomplished. Falk quickly retorted, "Now let's visit."

"The world needs more Dennis Falks," Isaak said. "He understands that he was a beneficiary of education, now he's in a position to make a difference, and he does."

DINNER FOR SIX

Were you looking for a guide for life at and after FPU?

***Be that person now!
Join Dinner for Six***

Host six students for dinner November 10, 2006, or February 23, 2007. Get to know them and give the gift of a home-cooked meal and your experiences, knowledge and thoughts.

Email your name, address, telephone number and email address to alumni@fresno.edu, or call the Alumni Office at 559-453-2080.

Alumni Cruise to Mexico

Enjoy a weekend away January 19-22, 2007,
and don't worry about hotel or dinner reservations!

This three-day Carnival Cruise to Baja, Mexico, is in conjunction with Azusa Pacific University and Biola University alumni. Meet new friends all over the ship, then mix and mingle with fellow alumni at mealtimes in a reserved section.

Costs are \$304.71 per person for interior cabins and \$344.71 per person for ocean view cabins. All costs based on double occupancy. Third and fourth passengers are \$221.71/\$231.71 per person. Cost is the same for children, no matter their age.

Make reservations by calling 866-721-3225 and giving the FPU group number of BKG # 2LB723. (Number required for the group rate and inclusion with the tour group.) A \$150 per person deposit is required for reservations.

Please contact the Alumni Office with any questions at 559-453-2080.

BIRTHS

Mark (BA '91) and Bethany (BA '93 Pfeiffer) Meadors announce the birth of Nathan Pierce Meadors on October 27, 2005. He weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 20 inches long. He joins sister Jordan, 8, and brothers Jacob, 10, and Gabriel, 5.

Ben (BA '96) and Heather (BA '97 Scheid) Pando announce the birth of Julian Benjamin on May 21, 2005, in Tarzana.

Janna (BA '96 Styer) MacIntosh and husband Ian announce the birth of Tatum on June 3, 2005.

Jeff Schrock (BA '97) and wife Hillorie announce the birth of Audra Joy on July 12, 2005. The couple's first daughter, she arrived two months early but she is healthy today.

Dustin (BA '99) and Coral (BA '99 Henry) Haley announce the birth of Faith Anne on May 3, 2005.

Vickie (BA '00 Ochsenbein) Robberstad and husband Bryan announce the birth of Rylee on July 17, 2005. She is the couple's first daughter.

Kristin (BA '01 Hurt) Andrews and husband Brian announce the birth of Tabitha Paige on January 17, 2006.

David (BA '02) and Brady (BA '02 Hilscher) Rainbow announce the birth of Hazel on January 20, 2006.

Jesus (BA '02) and Jessica (BA '02 Hackler) Ortuno announce the birth of Kira Isabel on April 8, 2006. Kira weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces, and was 19 inches long.

June (BA '02 Mar) Callahan and husband Joseph announce the birth of Katelyn Danielle on May 19, 2005.

Alexandria (BA '03 Hamilton) Brandenburg and husband Michael announce the birth of Uriah on March 22, 2006. He is the couple's second son.

Andrea (BA '03 Bogart) Cole and husband Matthew announce the birth of Brady Nathan on May 7, 2006, at 12 p.m. He weighed 7 pounds and was 18 inches long.

Claudia (BA '03 Davenport) Fransen and husband Tim announce the birth of Hannah on May 26, 2005.

Chelsea (BA '04 Garrett) Eklund and husband Jeffrey announce the birth of Miriam Elizabeth on October 26, 2005. She is the couple's first child.

MARRIAGES

Eric Snook (BA '97) married Tara Taylor in September of 2005. Eric graduated from veterinary school, and when Tara finishes her veterinary residency they will move to Louisiana so he can start his residency in pathology.

Christine (BA '03 Williams) Eichblatt and husband David married on April 29, 2006.

Tiffany (BA '03 Fabbian) and Phillip (BA '03) Kopper married on May 17, 2003.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Doreen Ewert (BA '78) received her Ph.D. from the department of linguistics at Indiana University. Her dissertation was titled, *The Expression of Temporality in the Non-narrative Written Discourse of L2 Learners of English: Distinguishing Texttypes and Textpassages*. A member of the FPU languages and linguistics faculty, Ewert chairs the humanities division and directs the intensive English language program.

Arthur (BA '95) and Melissa (BA '95 Liddle) Stewart have served with NieuCommunities in South Africa for three years. NieuCommunities is a 42-week mission experience. Each year eight to 12 participants join resident staff to form a community that lives and does mission work together. NieuCommunities is a division of Church Resource Ministries.

2006 HOMECOMING OCTOBER 7

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THESE EVENTS

Athletics

Women's soccer—1 p.m.
Men's soccer—3 p.m.
Women's volleyball—7 p.m.

All teams will play Point Loma Nazarene University.

Tailgate Dinner

5:30 p.m.
For location, contact the Alumni Office at 559-453-2080

Reunions

4 p.m.
Classes of '46, '51, '56, '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96 and '01
To coordinate a reunion, please fill out the online form at www.fresno.edu/dept/alumni.

Jana Fleming (FS '97) is completing teaching second grade and coaching at Grace International School in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Michael Rucks (BA '98) completed his M.A. in history at California State University, Bakersfield. His thesis was titled, *In the Time of Much Great Danger: The Pequots' Contribution to the Antinomian Controversy in Massachusetts, 1634-1638*.

Terry Anderson (MA '99) is director of instructional services for Riverdale Joint Unified School District. He previously served as principal of Laton High School.

Jonathan Waltmire (BA '00) is employed by the Fresno County Public Library and is enrolled in the master's in library information science program at San Jose State University.

Matthew White (BA '00) is completing a master's degree in history at California State University, Fresno.

Audrey Hindes (BA '01) was admitted into a Ph.D. program at the London School of Theology. Her concentration will be Old Testament studies. She teaches at FPU.

Nathan Miller (BA '02) graduated from San Joaquin College of Law and joined a Fresno law firm.

Robert Crow (BA '02) was promoted from learning director to assistant principal at Orange Cove High School. He also serves as the school's athletic director.

Adam Juarez (BA '03) teaches seventh grade world history at El Monte Junior High in Orsi. He also coaches girl's soccer.

Dave Lockridge (BA '03) was admitted into Pepperdine University's Graziadio School of Business to pursue graduate studies. He is currently employed by Adidas as a sales representative and is planning a wedding. When he's not busy with other things, he enjoys his new hobby: rugby.

Lisa Freeman (BA '03) is serving with the Peace Corps in Tajikistan and learning Russian in preparation for graduate study in international relations and a potential career in the foreign service.

Gustavo Maya (BA '04) is completing his first year at Princeton Theological Seminary. He noted in an email that he felt FPU prepared him well for everything but the cold weather.

Muhawu Lumeya (BA '04) plans to study at American University, Washington, D.C., in its School of International Service. He will pursue a master's degree in comparative politics and regional studies in preparation for possible service with an international agency.

Leandra Rayford (BA '05) plans to pursue a J.D. degree at Regent University in the fall and prepare for a career in law.

Mark Petersen (BA '05) plans to pursue a Ph.D. in political science with an emphasis in international relations at Purdue University in preparation for a possible teaching career.

Shacola Phillipps (BA '06) was admitted into the M.A. program in history at California State University, Fresno. She plans to begin in fall 2006.

AND THE SURVEY WINNER IS...

Thanks to the nearly 850 alumni who responded to the electronic survey hosted by the Alumni Office. Your answers will help the university better serve all alumni. Congratulations to Nathan Yoder (BA '06) and Laural (BA '79 Heinrichs) Pannabecker, winners of the survey cash prize drawing!

Want to hear more about the survey, get in on future activities and keep up with FPU via email and the Web? Update your contact information at www.fresno.edu/dept/alumni.

ALUMNI CHANGES — LINDER, BROWN SHIFT ROLES

Nicole Linder and Charity Brown, co-directors of alumni and church relations since August of 2005, have accepted different positions within the Advancement Office.

Linder, who joined FPU as director of alumni and church relations in 2002, will become director of annual giving and donor relations. Linda Calandra, who held the post for five years, took a new position in May with the Fresno County Public Library.

Brown, who moved to advancement after working in the degree completion program, will become director of church relations. FPU is interviewing candidates for the position of director of alumni relations.

IN TOUCH WITH ALUMNI

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

HOME TELEPHONE

WORK TELEPHONE

EMAIL

GRADUATION YEAR

OCCUPATION

WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?
Information for Pacific Magazine:



Volunteers get to the heart of children's education

FPU students help ReadFresno

Fresno's third grade students scored below grade level in reading, according to the ReadFresno website (www.readfresno.org). The goal of ReadFresno is that every child will read on grade level by the end of third grade.

Tutors attend a two- to three-hour orientation, where they are trained in ways to encourage a child in reading. They carry a bag of donated books each week to elementary schools throughout Fresno. Over a 15-week period, they follow a curriculum that begins by reading to the children. By week 15, the children are reading to them. Children who complete the program receive a certificate and may keep one of their favorite books.

In September, President D. Merrill Ewert introduced the program to the university. Rici Skei, director of student ministries, is in charge of organizing the student volunteers. Two schools within a few miles of FPU, Burroughs and Greenberg, participate in the program, Skei explained. These schools are in "our neighborhood," and students and administrators felt responsible, she said.

The beginning was slow going, according to Santillan. "They had supplies," he said of ReadFresno, "but no [student volunteers] showed up." Once word got out, however, students like Santillan took the opportunity to help. FPU students spend a few hours one day a week at the schools. Those without transportation get rides from campus safety.

Santillan has been volunteering since September. He enjoys spending time with the kids. "They're cute," he says. "It's fun."

Elizabeth, the third grader, reads to Santillan quietly. At times her voice is drowned out by passing children, but she keeps reading. Santillan leans in to hear. He corrects mispronounced words and says "good job" often as

she navigates difficult passages.

Between books, Santillan asks what the story was about, and encourages her to try more difficult works. Elizabeth leaves with a smile on her face after the half-hour session.

First grader Avery greets Santillan with a high-five. Avery likes reading: "It's a fun thing, kind of," so he enjoys his weekly ReadFresno sessions. They even "kind of" help him in school.

Avery sweeps his thick brown hair out of his eyes with one hand. With the other, he traces a line under the words as he reads confidently.

He stops in the middle of a line to rub his eyes.

"What's wrong?" Santillan asks.

"Nothing," says Avery. "Just that my eye is itchy."

"Do you want to put some water in your eye?"

"No thanks," Avery says, "but thanks for the offer."

Nothing will keep him from reading.

Dawn Griffin, known to the children as "Ms. G.," is the site coordinator in charge of the after-school program at Greenberg. "The kids love to go to ReadFresno," she says, giving a thumbs-up. "It's an excellent program for the kids." While Griffin believes she has seen improvement in reading, the interaction with volunteers also helps the children with social skills. "They're a good group of people," she says of those who come to help.

Avery's session is almost over, as he finishes his third book. He still follows along with his finger as he reads: "'We've traveled through shapes, but before we're through, I have one more shape and it's just for you.'"

He laughs and points to the page. "It's a heart!"

Santillan smiles.

By Conlan Spangler

The fluorescent lights inside the Greenberg Elementary School cafeteria tinge everything a hazy green. Children shout and the soles of their sneakers squeak as they dart among the long tables. It is three o'clock and school is out, but the kids are here for the after-school program. On the stage, behind a blue curtain, a soft piano accompanies a wary flute.

Beyond the shouting, squeaking and music, at the end of a table in the corner, FPU sophomore Federico Santillan sits. He has spread a colorful assortment of books on the table before him. He fingers the white identification badge that hangs on a lanyard around his neck. The noise in the cafeteria dissipates as children go outside to play. The piano and flute continue behind the curtain, and third grader Elizabeth sits down next to Santillan. "Hi," he says. "Do you want to read some books?" Elizabeth nods.

Santillan is one of 35 FPU students volunteering as part of ReadFresno, a project of One by One Leadership, a Fresno organization committed to economic, educational and spiritual transformation. Eighty-one percent of

Janzen lecturer explores political meaning of faith to ask 'How many can you serve?'

Jost challenges notions of allegiance

By Conlan Spangler

There is more to the Bible than individual spirituality, says scholar Lynn Jost.

In the New Testament epistles, words like 'savior,' 'Son of God,' and even 'church' are political terms. "We've spiritualized them and personalized them, but we're missing this political dimension, which says we will have only one allegiance, and that allegiance is going to be to Jesus, Lord—not Caesar, Lord," Jost said.

On March 30 and 31, Jost presented two talks as part of Fresno Pacific University's Janzen Lectureship in Biblical Studies. The March 30 event was sponsored by MB Biblical Seminary.

The Janzen Lectureship was established in 2003 to honor Edmund Janzen's 35 years of service to the university as president and faculty member. It is meant to incorporate "academia and biblical scholarship" with a practical "face towards the church," Janzen explained. "That comes together in speakers like [Jost]."

Jost joins MBBS as academic dean and professor of Old Testament July 1. He spent 13 years as professor of biblical and religious studies and chair of the humanities division at Tabor College. He received a Ph.D. and an M.A. from Vanderbilt University, as well as an M.Div. from MBBS. He pastored congregations in Kansas and California prior to joining Tabor College.

While New Testament scholars are developing the idea of the epistles as a "confrontation of Caesar," Jost explained, he has returned to the Old Testament to search for similar themes. In his first lecture, on Psalm 33, Jost asserted, "King David is confessing that he's been pursuing empire when he should have been pursuing

Yahweh as king."

Jost pointed to verses 4 and 5: "For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord."

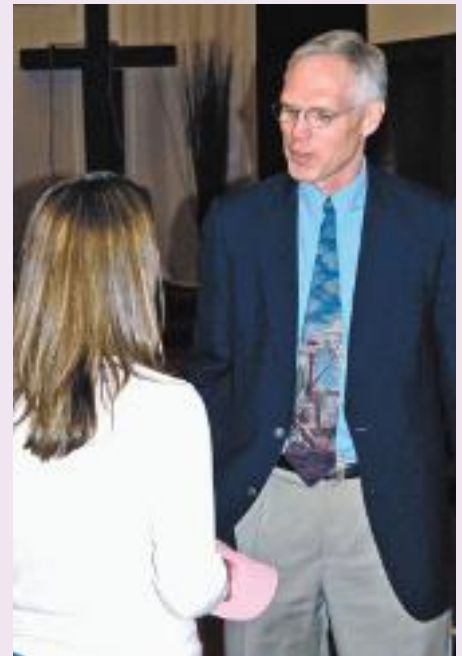
"That's the thesis statement," Jost said. "God is in favor of righteousness, justice and covenant love." God should be our source of security, he added. "It seems to me that American culture, at this point, has been pretty heavily influenced by the idea that in fact military equipment is essential to protecting our—not only security, but prosperity, from the rest of the world."

The following day's lecture, presented as part of College Hour, focused on the Book of Esther. He drew parallels to Paraguay, with stories of that country's current administration's struggles—and successes—in combating the corruption that has for so long been the status quo. President Nicanor Duarte Frutos is a follower of Jesus, and his wife, Maria Gloria Penayo de Frutos, is a Mennonite convert. "I think the Paraguayan Mennonite Church has given us a really good example of how to use power properly," Jost said. "Esther seemed to use her power in a way that brought good, and I think the Paraguayan Mennonites have done the same."

In the fourth chapter of Esther, she is told, as Jost put it, "Deliverance is going to come from somewhere. If you don't step up at a moment like this, you and your father's house will perish."

Jost recalled the words of civil rights activist Rosa Parks on refusing to relinquish her seat on the bus: "It was just a day like any other day."

"That's how most of our days are," Jost said. The only question is, "Is this



the day we're going to take a seat for justice?"

Jost sought to leave his audience with questions—questions about loyalty. "The thrust of my message is to ask, where is our primary allegiance?" Jost said. "We're pretty well persuaded that multiple allegiance works OK. I can pledge allegiance to the flag and still say I'm a follower of Jesus. And I want to raise questions about that."

For Jost, identity and fealty run together. "Where does my identity come from?" Jost asked. "To whom is my allegiance given? And then the implications of that have to do with how we treat the people on the margins."

On July 1, Jost's professional allegiance will change when he becomes academic dean of MBBS. "To be able to join that group of people is a wonderful opportunity for me," he said. He wants to help prepare pastoral leaders that understand the times. "And that especially has to do with our theological identity," he said.

"I've enjoyed teaching," Jost said. "So it's going to be an adjustment for me to try to figure out how this administration aspect of ministry goes. But I think there's an opportunity also to help shape the direction of theological education among Mennonite Brethren, and I'm looking forward to that."

Sunbird Athletics



TENNIS

New program makes mark as men, women go to nationals

FPU's first tennis season in more than 30 years got off to a bright start for the Sunbirds.

WOMEN

The women started inauspiciously on a blustery January 24 with a 4-3 loss at NCAA Division I California State University, Northridge. They ended May 19 in high style.

The Sunbirds rolled off 25 consecutive wins, including a Golden State Athletic Conference championship (April 19), an Ojai Tournament championship and a Region II championship (May 5).

The team entered the NAIA National Championship in Mobile, Alabama, as the second seed, eased through their first match with a 5-0 win over No. 15 Brenau of Georgia, blanked No. 7 Berry of Georgia 5-0 in the quarterfinals and breezed to a 5-1 win over GSAC-member No. 3 Azusa Pacific.

In the finals, all eyes were on the Sunbirds—could the first-year upstarts

possibly unseat perennial power University Auburn, Montgomery, in the national championship match?

Not quite: When the dust finally settled the Senators owned a 6-1 win and their third consecutive NAIA national championship banner.

"We gave it a shot," said FPU coach Neil Castro. "But I am so proud of the way we battled all season."

Jelena Pandzic, a junior from Split, Croatia, received the Marvin P. Richmond trophy as the national tournament's Most Outstanding Player. Pandzic, 30-0 in singles during the season and 24-1 in doubles, was later named to the NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete Team.

Teammates Angelina Minova and Anna Karavayeva, both sophomores from Kiev, Ukraine, made the NAIA All-

America Second Team. Junior Janelle Jackson, Kingsburg, was also a scholar athlete.

MEN

Lead by All-America honoree Matt Carroll, the men registered a 15-10 overall record that included runner-up finishes in both the Golden State Athletic Conference (10-2) and NAIA Region II championship.

The Sunbirds qualified for the NAIA National Championship in Mobile, Alabama, as fifth seed. They advanced to the quarterfinals with a 5-1 win over Shorter of Georgia, but lost to No. 4 Freed-Hardeman of Tennessee (5-1).

Marco Foelz, a junior from Hamburg, Germany, was named to the NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete Team.

TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS EXCEED EXPECTATIONS

NAIA meet introduces Fresno to national audience

The bar was high as FPU hosted the NAIA Outdoor Track & Field National Championships May 25-27. But like a pole vaulter reaching for a record, the university scored a personal best.

The 1,500 athletes, coaches and spectators from 100 teams across the U.S. and Canada were expected to generate nearly \$1 million in hotel, restaurant and other revenue. The actual figure was more like \$1.5 million, according to Kelly Carr, Fresno Sports Council manager.

"Man, it totally exceeded our expectations," Carr said. The Fresno Sports Council/SMG co-sponsored the meet. "We were absolutely thrilled to see how many families came to this event," he said.

"Every student-athlete that I spoke to commented on how great the track was and how well done the event was," he said, "FPU did an excellent job—we're just thrilled."

The Fresno area was introduced to a national audience. People slept here, ate here and visited the national parks. "People went out into the community," he said.



BASEBALL



CRISP

Crisp goes the distance for first-year Sunbirds

Left fielder Justin Crisp made the last day of FPU's first baseball season one to remember.

In the third inning of the first game of a double-header against ninth-ranked Biola, Crisp climbed the wall to snag a high fly ball. Crisp caught the ball, but his momentum carried him over the wall—home run Eagles. To make matters worse, Crisp tangled his hand in the wall on the way over and left the game a short time later. Sunbirds lose game one, 7-2.

At a local clinic Crisp learned he had a broken bone in his throwing hand. He was, however, cleared to play and arrived back at the ball park just prior to the start of game two.

"We thought he had a dislocation, but wanted to be sure," said FPU coach Oscar Hirschorn. "I was surprised that he had a broken bone, but more that he was cleared to play anyway."

With the Eagles leading 3-2, Mike Pierce opened the Sunbirds' half of the sixth with a solo home run. On the next pitch Crisp sent a shot well over the right field wall. FPU pitcher Jerrod Wood set down the Eagles in order in the top of the seventh to pick up the victory.

"How amazing is that?" Hirschorn asked of Crisp's home run. "I think that was the best-hit ball of the day. What a great way to fight back and get the win."

Crisp, who lead FPU in hits (51), runs (39), walks (24), doubles (9) home runs (9), batting average (.340) and slugging percentage (.620) was later named to the All-Golden State Athletic Conference team.

The win, FPU's first over a ranked opponent, closed the Sunbird season with an 18-26 record.



PIERCE

Pierce trades Sunbirds for Orioles

Mike Pierce, a junior catcher from Fresno, was drafted by the Baltimore Orioles in the Major League Baseball draft June 7. He was the eighth player selected in the 28th round.

Pierce worked out for the Philadelphia Phillies, Arizona Diamondbacks and Florida Marlins prior to the draft. He is expected to join the Delmarva (Maryland) Shorebirds of the single-A New York-Penn League.

A total of 1,502 players were selected in 50 rounds of the two-day draft. Pierce is the third FPU athlete drafted by pro sports. On January 14, 2005, Orlando Ramirez was selected by the San Jose Earthquakes in the Major League Soccer SuperDraft. Eight days later the Rochester Raging Rhinos of the United Soccer League's First Division selected Gaston Cignetti.

Pierce is the son of Fresno County Sheriff Richard Pierce and the older brother of Brittany Pierce, a member of FPU's Golden State Athletic Conference champion volleyball team.

KALINICH



Perseverance gives Sunbirds something to cheer about

The path wasn't smooth for FPU athletes, but they went the distance—long distance.

The first day was forgettable for the Sunbirds. Karley Kalinich, a junior from Victorville, entered the women's hammer throw

with the second-best mark in the country at 191-00. Natalie Friesen's season-best was 19-00.75 in the long jump.

Kalinich fouled out. Friesen finished 10th, almost six inches short of her top mark.

But on the second day Kalinich uncorked a 159-06 effort in the discus. Friesen, a sophomore from Reedley, soared an FPU-record 40-07.75 in the triple jump. Both finished third and stood on the victory podium.

Their efforts, combined with an eighth-place finish by Dia Mathews in the discus, gave the Sunbirds a 16th-place finish in team scoring.

More on the championships at www.fresno.edu/trackandfield

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