

PACIFIC

Fiddler tradition returns | Sunbirds take to the water | 2006 Donor Honor Roll

DISTANCE EDUCATION TAKES ACADEMICS EVERYWHERE

education
without walls





Continuing education raises the curtain to enlighten the mind

A number of years ago, I interviewed a 70-year-old woman as part of a research project on how participation in continuing education affects people's lives. I will never forget her words: "It raised the curtain on the window of my mind. It has let the light shine into my life."

Education has become big business. We know that at least 17 million people are currently enrolled in higher education in the U.S. The data on continuing education are harder to assess. At a recent conference of independent college and university presidents, Michael Dolence presented the findings of his research suggesting that more than 127 million learners are part of the education marketplace. There are more than 35,000 courses indexed on the Internet. The Apollo Group, Inc. (parent company of the University of Phoenix) now enrolls more than 300,000 students and generates more than \$2 billion in annual revenue.

Several things have changed the learning landscape. The knowledge explosion means that we all find it more difficult to stay up-to-date in our fields. In many professions, practitioners must enroll in courses as a requirement for maintaining their credentials. Adults are preparing to work in jobs that didn't exist when they went to school. A recent study by a human relations firm (Ajilon Finance) concluded that more than 70 million baby boomers will retire in the next 15 years. Falling birthrates mean that fewer people will be attending college at a time when new leaders are urgently needed.

In 1904, the University of Wisconsin's legendary president, Charles Van Hise, announced the *Wisconsin Idea*, which held that the boundaries of the university should be the boundaries of the state. This bold statement helped establish the university community's ongoing role in continuing education. Our own Fresno Pacific mission statement calls this university to develop students for leadership and service through excellence in Christian higher education. This includes our traditional undergraduate students, graduate students and adult degree-completion students.

Continuing education is more than a business that prepares students for vocation or helps adults update their skills and credentials. Each course is an opportunity for people to "raise the curtain" of their minds and explore new ideas under the guidance of expert, caring, Christian mentors.

Since the 1970s, Fresno Pacific's commitment to continuing education has reflected our calling as a university to think Christianly, build communities of learning and contribute to the transformation of our society.

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

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Pacific is sent to alumni and friends of Fresno Pacific University and to members of the Pacific District Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Churches.

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Learning to fly— with the right kind of help

“The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterwards.”

—Anatole France, novelist, essayist, Nobel laureate (1844-1924)

Joe was two years old and his question was simple: “Can I fly?”

An experiment was called for. Joe crawled up on the saddle of his red Radio Flyer tricycle—the kind with the seat well above the 12-inch front wheel, not some low-slung plastic Big Wheel where the rider is barely above ground—stood to his full height, spread his arms over the concrete patio, turned his face to the heavens and said “To infinity, and beyond.”

Results, fortunately, were inconclusive. At that moment, his mother looked through the patio door from the kitchen and acted quickly to avert disaster.

Kids are born curious, but need guidance. Real education cultivates that curiosity and channels it into lifelong interests. Real teachers are life savers.


Education comes from many sources: books, conversations, classrooms, pulpits, mailboxes and the Internet. Teachers have many faces: parents, professional educators, pastors and friends.

Each year 14,000 people across the Valley and around the country get an education from the FPU Office of Continuing Education. Few of these students will meet their teachers and fewer still will visit campus. Yet since most are educators themselves, what they learn will reverberate for generations and their instructors will influence unseen classrooms and school districts.

Joe may or may not learn to fly, but the right kind of education and the right kind of teaching throughout life will help his spirit soar.

—Wayne Steffen

Fiddler on the Roof



FRIDAY & SATURDAY

**March 23 & 24
and 30 & 31**

7:30 P.M.

SPECIAL EVENTS CENTER

Tradition!

Come with us to Anatevka and laugh and cry with Tevye and Golde as they try to raise five daughters and maintain family and religious traditions in the face of a changing world.

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Debra Sauer-Ferrand
as Golde

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Joseph Stein. Based on *Tevye and
his Daughters*, or *Tevye the Milkman* by
Sholom Aleichem.

faculty & staff

FOCUS



Esther Klassen-Isaak, director of the Counseling Office, passed her final marriage and family therapist exam and is licensed by the State of California. She is the first licensed therapist to head the office.



Bobbi Jentes Mason, education/reading faculty, with graduate students Oscar Hernández, Yadira González and Jason Roche, made a presentation at the National Council of Teachers of English Teachers' Conference in Nashville in November titled "The New Four R's—Relationships, Relevance, Rigor and Reflection: Implications for Working with English Learners."



Arlene Steffen, adjunct music faculty, published the article "Fingering numbers should never be a substitute for solid reading" in the Winter 2006 *Keyboard Companion* magazine for piano teachers.



Kevin Enns-Rempel, archivist and history faculty, received the Russell and Pat Fey Memorial Preservationist of the Year Award in December from the city of Fresno. Enns-Rempel has served on the city's Historic Preservation Commission for 10 years and maintains the website, "A Guide to Historic Architecture in Fresno, California," which includes data for the Local Register of Historic Resources, the National Register of Historic Places and biographical essays on local architects.



Jay Pope, psychology faculty, spoke at the Christian Association for Psychological Studies conference November 17. The name of his presentation was "Clinical Issues in Treating the Self-sabotaging Client." The event was at Link Care in Fresno.

The Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies was well represented at the Association for Conflict Resolution annual conference in Philadelphia October 25-28.



Ron Claassen (pictured), center director, co-presented a day-long pre-conference session "Advanced Principles of Restorative Justice: Widening the Scope of Practice." He also co-presented "Embedding Conflict Resolution and Restorative Justice in

University, School and Government Structures." In that session,

Jason Ekk and Dave Obwald (graduate students) presented the FPU restorative discipline system; Roxanne Claassen, (MA '04) presented the Raisin City School restorative discipline system; and Arthur Wint, visiting scholar, presented the restorative justice structure in the Fresno County criminal justice system.

Duane Ruth-Heffelbower, director of training and services, presented "Reframing From Skill to Artistry: How to Use Reframing to Transform a Mediation Session." He was also named chair of the Family Section training committee.



Richard Wiebe, philosophy faculty, received the University of the Wilderness Award October 26 for his work in environmental education, both in the field and in public presentations. The award honors Joseph LeConte and John Muir and expresses appreciation for service to the LeConte Memorial Lodge in Yosemite. This is the second time Wiebe was given the award.



Yammilette G. Rodriguez, director of undergraduate admissions, gave a Web conference in November through Academic Impressions titled "Understanding & Recruiting Latino Students." In July she spoke at the Stamats Strategic Integrated Marketing Conference in Chicago and in June at the North American Coalition for Christian Admissions Professionals Annual Conference in Kentucky. Her sessions were titled "Overcoming the Obstacles in Latino Recruitment."



Denise Rae (pictured), education faculty, and **Sandra Mercuri**, language, literacy and culture faculty, collaborated on the book *Research-Based Strategies for English Language Learners: How to Reach Goals and Meet Standards, K-8*, published in October by Heinemann Press.



Eleanor Nickel, English faculty, had the article "Love and Microphones: Romantic Comedy Heroines as Public Speakers" accepted by *The Journal of Popular Film and Television*. "'Everything Was Contested': Teaching Print and Television Biographies of Willa Cather" will be in the book *Teaching the Works of Willa Cather*. She also wrote "'The World Hasn't Changed Very Much':

Romantic Love in Film and Television Versions of *Anne of Green Gables*" for the book *L.M. Montgomery's Anne of Green Gables: A Children's Classic at 100*. The latter book is a centennial study of *Anne of Green Gables*; the novel was published in 1908 and the book is due to appear in 2008.



Duane Ruth-Heffelbower, business and CPACS faculty, participated in a panel called "Giving Victims a Voice" sponsored by the Texas Public Policy Foundation in Austin September 12. He also offered a workshop July 4 in Tokyo for Anabaptist churches on the uses of victim-offender dialogue in the community and churches.



Jill Schellenberg, CPACS faculty, co-wrote an article in the November issue of *Christian Leader* titled "Church Boards: Boring or Fulfilling?" and co-presented on non-profit boards at the Kings View Community Services annual meeting November 4. She spoke at a conference hosted by Mennonite Central Committee on conflict management

for developmentally disabled children at Stillwood, British Columbia, October 6-8 and presented a paper on the FPU restorative discipline process in August at the World Society of Victimology in Orlando.



Walter Saul, music faculty, received an ASCAPPLUS Award in September from the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers (ASCAP). Awards are granted by an independent panel based upon "the unique prestige value of each writer's catalog of original compositions, as well as recent performances... "



Breck Harris, business faculty, published "The Importance of Creating a Sense of Community" in the September 2006 *Journal of College Student Retention: Research, Theory & Practice* (Volume 8, number 1).

WILLIAMS CHOSEN FOR HONOR BAND

Marissa Williams, junior, Fresno, will play flute in the College Band Directors National Conference (CBDNC) Small College/University Intercollegiate Honor Band.

She was one of more than 275 musicians who auditioned for the 80-piece band and one of two students chosen from California. The band will perform during the CBDNC in March at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where auditions took place in November. Frank Ticheli will conduct the honor band. He teaches at the University of Southern California and is a highly acclaimed composer of wind band music.



Conference gives voice to crime victims

by Kristin Deffenbacher

Giving voice to the victim was the goal of the 12th Annual Restorative Justice Conference.

The title of the October 20-21 event: "The Victim in Focus" signaled a new approach. "People get focused on offenders," said Duane Ruth-Heffelbower, director of training and services for the Center for Peacemaking & Conflict Studies. "Victims want to know 'Why me?' 'Why then?' 'Was it my fault?' The only person who can answer those questions is the offender and the only process to accomplish that is the restorative justice approach."

Restorative justice is a biblically based method that holds offenders accountable, repairs harm suffered by the victim and engages the community in the search for solutions. The current criminal justice system separates victim and offender. "Victims, offenders and communities who suffer from a criminal offense never get the closure they need," said Jill Schellenberg, CPACS staff member and conference moderator.

But restorative justice allows the offender to see who they have hurt. "You can imagine if you got in trouble: the difference between paying a monetary fine versus sitting and answering the person you hurt and paying them back and making sure the promises you made are kept—that is harder," Schellenberg said.

Speakers were: John Dussich, Ph.D., director of the Tokiwa International Victimology Institute at Tokiwa University in Mito, Japan, and associate professor at California State University, Fresno; Mario Gaboury, Ph.D., director of the Center for the Study of Crime Victims' Rights, Remedies and Resources at the University of New Haven; Arthur Wint, J.D., professor of criminology and coordinator of the peace and conflict studies program at CSUF; and Bernadette Muscat, Ph.D., assistant professor in criminology at CSUF. The audience was made up of professionals in education, ministry, law, politics and business. Sponsors were FPU and the West Coast Mennonite Central Committee.

"I saw restorative justice in a new light," said Vernon Janzen, conference participant and retired pastor and educator. "Not that it is the easy way out of difficult situations, but that it is the right way, which brings healing and change."

With restorative justice, the offender pays a debt to the victim as well as society.



VICTIM VOICES PANEL

A group of survivors of serious violent crime told their stories during the 2006 Restorative Justice Conference. They are pictured here with Ron Claassen, director of the Center for Peacemaking & Conflict Studies, and Lisa Rea, director of the Justice and Reconciliation Project. Left to right: Cheryl Ward Kaiser, Stephen Watt, Rea, Claassen, Russell Turner and Michelle Renee.

Commencement speaker challenges with a question

Graduates charged to begin a journey of discovery



Jo Ellen Misakian (left), interim dean of the School of Education, shares a smile with a new graduate.

Graduates were asked the question of a lifetime at fall commencement December 15.

“Who Are You on Your Way to Becoming?” was the title of the graduation speech by Beto Gonzalez. Finding and sharing the answer in ways that help others was the charge Gonzalez presented the students.

“Today you are a reflection of the mission,

vision, commission and values of Fresno Pacific University,” he told about 180 graduates in the Special Events Center. “What’s next?”

Ceremonies began at 7:00 p.m., following a reception for graduates, families and friends in Steinert Campus Center. Just over 100 students received bachelor’s degrees through degree completion programs, 55 through traditional undergraduate programs and 20 earned master’s degrees.

Nervousness is normal on such an important evening, Gonzalez said. Though classes and examinations are over, life has just begun. “We are expecting many more accomplishments to come,” he said.

But success is a journey, not a destination. “You need to ask yourself every day of your life—who am I on the way to becoming?” Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez has become many things in his life. Now superintendent of Temple (Texas) Independent School District and recently an administrator with the U.S. Department of Education, he was born into a family of migrant farm workers. The Bakersfield native earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from California State University, Bakersfield.

Earlier in his career, Gonzalez was dean of students and student services at Bakersfield College and adjunct faculty in the FPU School of Education. He has also taught high school in Wasco and Bakersfield.

Several graduates were honored for what they became while students. Lynn Davis-Wyatt, Cynthia Sowell and Jhason Wint earned distinguished service awards. Posthumous degrees went to Norma Gutierrez and Floyd Wells. The invocation was given by Lisa Benevidez, M.A. graduate. Francisco Brian Milian, B.A. graduate, and his father, Luis Milian, read the Scripture.



A new graduate gets help with his look before commencement ceremonies.

Hiebert Library receives grant for information literacy

Hiebert Library recently received a grant by the Council of Independent Colleges titled “Transformation of the University Through Information Literacy.” The first phase of the grant defrays the cost of travel for Provost Herma Williams, Hiebert Library director Richard Rawls and General Education Coordinator Greg Camp to the March CIC conference in Portland.

“Pat Anderson (former FPU provost, now retired) encouraged me to be patient and to apply again after our application was declined last year,” said Rawls, who wrote the grant. “I figured we had a chance, but I also recognized that this was a highly competitive process.”

The conference’s aims include preparing libraries to function as university change agents, teaching university administrators how to think through issues surrounding information literacy and showing libraries how to make such transformations on limited budgets.

“This grant also dovetails nicely with Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary’s upcoming accreditation, which will focus among other things on the library’s role in information,” Rawls said. The grant is partly funded by the Andrew Mellon Foundation.



Alpha Chi chapter stars nationally

The FPU chapter of Alpha Chi earned a Star Chapter Award for 2005-2006. The students will be honored at the Alpha Chi National Convention in San Antonio in March. This is the first time the university has qualified for this award.

Star chapters are named each academic year and are recognized at regional and national conventions. Among the qualifications, chapters must send one sponsor and one student delegate to the yearly regional/national convention, have at least one student give a presentation at the regional/national convention, sponsor at least one scholarly program on campus during the academic year and induct and register new members during the academic year.

Alpha Chi is a general honor society that admits students from all academic disciplines. Membership is limited to the top 10 percent of an institution’s juniors and seniors. Some 300 chapters, located in almost every state and in Puerto Rico, induct more than 11,000 members annually.

Richard Rawls, director of Hiebert Library, and Fay Nielsen, associate dean of mentoring and retention, sponsor the FPU chapter. Rawls was a member of the university’s first Alpha Chi chapter in 1987.



From left: Dina Gonzales-Piña, Williams, Mares.

FPU GOES TO THE IVYS

FPU has joined the ranks of the University of Notre Dame, UC Berkeley, Princeton, Brown, Yale, Harvard, UCLA and Stanford, at least in the eyes of students at Parlier Junior High School. The school named its library after FPU, and university

officials, led by Provost Herma Williams, visited the school to celebrate October 20. The naming of buildings after universities is part of an effort by PJHS Principal Martin Mares, an FPU alumnus, to encourage his 551 students to attend college. Since opening seven years ago, the junior high has sent almost 90 students to East Coast schools, even though Parlier is among the poorest communities in California.

Building a Culture of Peace Week looks at Christian responses to poverty

Drama, discussion, poetry, prayer, music and food were some of the tools employed to combat poverty during Building a Culture of Peace Week, October 2-6.

Among the highlights were an International Food Festival, panel discussions, live performances and a College Hour chapel presentation by Keith Phillips, president of World Impact.

Ongoing events during the week included prayer stations with information on poverty as well as prayer requests.

Donna Callahan, social work faculty, and Shelby Bue, student coordinator, led the organizing committee.



Left to right: Christine Penner, Cheryl Young, Melody Whiteaker (all women of Troy), Maureen LeDesma (Hecuba), Brianne Vogt (Cassandra).

Trojan Women

The Trojan Women was performed November 9-11 and 16-18 in Ashley Auditorium. After the Greeks destroy Troy and its army, the survivors—Troy's womenfolk—await their fate. Euripides'

ancient play, translated by Nicholas Rudall, resonates today as wars continue to catch noncombatants in the crossfire. Julia Reimer, drama faculty, directed.

Songs of Requited Love celebrates range of emotion

Love in its many forms is the subject of a new CD and a special concert by faculty and friends.

Songs of Requited Love was created by Walter Saul and Larry Warkentin, who composed all the music and performed piano on all tracks. They were joined by vocalists Milton Friesen, baritone, Daphne Saul and Charity Saul McCallum, both sopranos. Lyrics come from works by Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Lord Byron, Edna St. Vincent Millay, the Bible and other authors.

"The focus of the CD is on lasting love, not only the romantic kind but of God's love for us, which is the foundation of love that lasts," Saul said. The composers set out to explore the topic from several angles as a way to prepare for Valentine's Day.

Walter Saul has been a music professor at FPU since 2003. His works include the CDs *From Alpha to Omega* and *Out of Darkness Into His Marvelous Light*. His doctorate in music is from Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester.

Warkentin served as music faculty and department chair from 1962 to 2002. He has a DMA from the University of Southern California and has won numerous awards for his compositions.

Friesen joined the music faculty in 2006. He has a master's degree from California State University, Fresno, and a long background in church music.

Daphne Saul sings and directs the Full Court Pres youth choir at First Presbyterian Church, Fresno. Charity Saul McCallum, daughter of Walter and Daphne, is a freelance artist and musician in Portland, Oregon.



FACING A CRISIS

To raise awareness of the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa for World AIDS Day December 1, freshman senators staked up a square of 250



photos of children—10 children, 25 photos each—whose lives are affected by AIDS. Students could take a photo from the display, located in front of Steinert Campus Center, and pray for and/or contribute money toward the welfare of that child. That same day Tim Neufeld, contemporary Christian ministries faculty, and a group of students from the Theology, Culture and U2 class gave a College Hour chapel presentation and signed people up for the One Campaign against poverty and disease. Pictured in the square are: Lucia Camozzi, senior from Lake Tahoe (kneeling), and April Alkema, senior from Merced.

THOSE WHO SERVE MUST RESPECT THOSE THEY HELP

African MCC leader speaks

by Mary Anne Saul



Tesfa Dallelew's passion for Africa is apparent even to those who don't know he is from Ethiopia or about his years with World Vision and the Mennonite Central Committee, where he is co-director for the continent.

Dallelew opened his February 6 brown-bag lunch talk at FPU, sponsored by MCC, with a warning: "Sometimes I get too preachy," he said. "Beware."

His resonant voice takes a sermon tone when Dallelew talks about United Nations policies and non-governmental organization relief projects in Sudan and Kenya. Some of these well-meaning attempts to help have gone wrong.

After decades of conflict, a peace treaty was signed in Sudan in May 2006. Shortly after, he decided to visit Sudan and Kenya, curious to see the situation among those who lost their homes in the conflict: "Internally Displaced Persons" or IDPs.

He was shocked at the hostility awaiting him. The camp was packed with cars and SUVs. Staff seemed more concerned with taking care of the camp than the people.

Elders scolded him and his UN compatriots, demanding the UN make good on its promises. "You take our pictures and you disappear," they said. Homeless adults slept in the open and under trees. Only children got shelter.

The problem is that "experts" find a "need" and then, without consulting the community, "fix" the problem. The community has no connection with this project, so it dies out. "I have read of failed project after failed project after failed project," he said.

In Kenya Dallelew found success: sand dams. The people built sand dams—concrete barriers that purify and collect water in underground channels—with their own hands. Now instead of walking for hours to find a spring, they have water close by.

Dallelew ended his talk with this hope: There are solutions to the problems of Africa, if only those who want to help will listen to the people. Respect will solve problems more quickly.



With a prophet's voice and a comedian's timing, Reggie McNeal brought the importance and characteristics of, not just leaders, but extraordinary leaders, to the 2007 Central Valley Ministry Forum.

The scene was the Special Events Center, where McNeal spoke to a record crowd of nearly 400 pastors and lay leaders from a variety of churches and organizations February 15. McNeal is part of Leadership Network, a church-leadership agency.

Christians get squeamish talking about becoming great leaders, as though it smacks too much of personal ambition. "They just don't think they ought to be concerned about it," McNeal said.

Jesus did not deny the desire to lead; he just redefined leadership. After all, the need has never been greater. "We are desperate in our culture for great leaders," McNeal said.

McNeal's career has been about building great leaders. Before joining Leadership Network, he was director of leadership development for the South Carolina Baptist Convention. He has been a pastor and consultant and has lectured or served as adjunct faculty in seminaries in Texas, California, Illinois and South Carolina. His books include *The Present Future: Six Tough Questions for the Church* and *Practicing Greatness: 7 Disciplines of Extraordinary Spiritual Leaders*.

Leadership is also the business of forum sponsors: MB Biblical Seminary, One by One Leadership, Growing Healthy Churches, Pacific District Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches and Strongtower Financial.

The word "great" must accompany "leader." "Good leaders get things done," McNeal said. "Great leaders bless people."

Though the forum's title was "Disciplines for Extraordinary Spiritual Leaders," McNeal presented his seven points as habits: self-awareness, self-management, self-development, mission, decisioning, belonging and aloneness.

The list is not a menu. "You don't get to pick five," McNeal said.

All seven spring from Jesus' redefinition of leadership as service and humility. For Jesus, service is a challenge as well as a comfort. "He served the Pharisees when he whupped them out of the temple," McNeal said.

Humility? That's knowing the source of your strength and grounding. "Humility is a posture of the heart," McNeal said.

DISTANCE EDUCATION TAKES ACADEMICS EVERYWHERE

education without walls

by Wayne Steffen



There's an entire university on the third floor of East Hall. There are no classrooms. No residence halls. No co-curricular activities.

Dining services are a corner room with a refrigerator, sink, table, TV and microwave. The library is a windowless room with one wall of shelved binders, a copy machine and a paper cutter. Athletics consist of skipping the elevator for a sprint up or down two flights of stairs.

Spartan facilities may be, yet 14,000 students enroll each year for 269 classes in 18 fields. More than 55 instructors teach in the school and many stay for decades, even bringing in their children. The school's operating budget is \$2.5 million and revenues are \$4.5 million.

Students come from across the United States and beyond, but they physically go no further than their home computer or mailbox unless they choose to vacation with their laptop or study at an Internet cafe. The Office of Continuing Education comes to them, through mail correspondence and the Internet.

Pioneering the field

Distance learning is big business today as the University of California and the University of Chicago compete with the University of Phoenix and National University. FPU pioneered the field in the early 1970s, carving out a niche by teaching teachers. “The original vision was to take the university to classroom teachers,” says Matt Gehrett, executive director of continuing education.

Gehrett wants to keep educating educators while expanding to other fields. He says continuing education can work with all the academic schools—Business, Natural Sciences and Humanities, Religion and Social Sciences—the same way it does with the School of Education.

“We’re the people that go outside campus,” Gehrett says. “That’s what drew me to this position.” Gehrett came to the main campus in January 2007 after two-and-one-half-years as director of the FPU Bakersfield Center and 13 years as a teacher and administrator in Bakersfield schools.

And outside campus the center goes. Educators in

California, Pennsylvania and Ohio are major clients, and the office also focuses on New York, Illinois, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Michigan, Connecticut, Georgia, Nevada, Maryland, Virginia and Florida. Courses have reached from the Pacific islands to the Arctic icecap.

For most continuing education students, this is their first introduction—and only connection—with FPU. “For me that’s a big area of responsibility,” Gehrett says.

That responsibility is part of what drives Gehrett to ask, “How do we bring our courses into the 21st century, but still respect and incorporate the rich history and great content?”

The Internet is one way to respectfully build on the past. Bob Jost started the first online class, a guide to the Internet, in January 1997 with a mix of online and printed materials. “It was pretty primitive,” he says. The course, revised several times, is still around, with nine others available and more planned.

Online courses feature near immediate communication that straddles time zones. Jost, a technology educator in Fresno Unified School District, teaches distance students in Germany, Pennsylvania,

Colorado and Clovis. Most are elementary school teachers, but others are pre-school, middle school, high school and community college educators.

Like their correspondence cousins, online courses are self-paced, with students given a year to complete the work. “Some log on and work like beavers and finish in a few weeks. Some procrastinate and do it all at the end,” Jost says. Two or three months is the average.

Living courses inspire

Whether students and instructors communicate through an online provider or the U.S. Postal Service, Carol Gossett and Peggi Kriegbaum are the academic nerve center and the operational hands and feet of continuing education. Gossett is director of independent study. “I’m in charge of the curriculum,” she says.

A former kindergarten teacher, Gossett helps turn ideas into new courses, reviews existing courses and

ensures smooth relations between students and instructors. "I just keep them inspired," she says.

Inspiration comes to Gossett through curriculum directors from several counties and districts. She attends their regular meetings and is hosting a regional advisory council to better connect FPU with districts in Fresno, Kings, Kern, Madera, Merced and Tulare counties. She is not going in with an agenda. "We're going to listen," she says.

Every continuing education course—from Adaptive Physical Education to Understanding Geometric Concepts, from Ancient Rome to Video Production—must stress critical thinking and reflective writing. Courses are regularly revised. "They're living documents," she says.

Instructors must be as relevant as the courses. Successful candidates must have a master's degree, experience in elementary or high school teaching and the ability to relate to adult students. They need to mail course materials within 24 hours of enrollment, respond to questions within 48 hours and submit grades within two weeks after a course is completed.

Christian commitment is also crucial. "We have opportunities to share Jesus' model in how we deal with students," Gossett says.

Getting it done

As director of operations, Kriegbaum is all about implementation. "It's making it happen," she says.

That means customer service. "We handle the enrollment needs of thousands of students," she says. All 14,000 students contact continuing education at least twice a year. Kriegbaum's staff consists of Becky Allen, marketing specialist; Joanie Brackett, administrative assistant; Kathleen Childress, special projects coordinator; graphic designer Vladimir Perepelyuk; and Sylvia Schultz, independent study coordinator.

The sign on Schultz's office says "work room," and no space on campus is better named. Garlands of artificial flowers, a painting of sunflowers and one last Christmas stocking brighten the painted block walls and cloth-sided cubicles. Schultz sits at a desk at one end while six students work out of the cubicles. The atmosphere is like a boiler room operation pushing time shares or credit cards, but the purpose is educational, not commercial.

Students register online, by telephone or through the mail. Instructors send course materials and assess assignments. The continuing education staff mails grades, processes registrations and payments and shares marketing duties with the instructors. The university Business Office reconciles the checks and credit card charges and the Registrar's Office deals with transcripts.

Among the most popular subjects during Kriegbaum's 15 years in continuing education have been mathematics, physical education, literature and technology. Art, once a staple, is on the decline. Human character classes, which address classroom behavior, have a seasonal rush at the beginning of each semester. "I can always tell September and January, when there's a big push for discipline in the classroom," she says.

Reaching out

More than helping educators fathom the mysteries of math integers or class management, continuing education touches lives.

Bob Kirchner started with the Office of Continuing Education in 1976. He was a teacher and principal in Sanger schools for 28 years.

Kirchner's bus adventures to historic California sites quickly became popular as educators could see where history happened. "We would get here at 5:00-6:30 a.m. when the bus got here. We'd have five or six people sitting on the curb hoping someone didn't show up so they could go," he says.

Narratives were later taped and the original five or six sets of cassettes grew to 50 or 60 sets constantly on loan all over the state and as far away as Guam. Today there are CD and PowerPoint versions and many oral histories assembled by Kirchner and Don Dorough.



BOB
KIRCHNER



DON DOROUGH



MARVIN HARMS

“It just blossomed in nothing flat,” Kirchner says.

Another former Sanger teacher and administrator, Dorough began his career teaching junior high school history in Los Angeles County and started as a continuing education instructor in the late 1970s. “It was kind of a gradual thing. I was superintendent of schools in Sanger; I retired from that and continued in education,” he says.

Dorough enjoys the freedom to teach what he loves and the ability to reach beyond boundaries. “At Fresno Pacific University you can make an impact on curriculum all over the country,” he says. “I’ve had students take classes from the North Pole.”

Marvin Harms was also brought into the fold by Kirchner in 1978 after teaching junior high in Sanger schools. He specializes in science with a practical approach. “The big thing is hands-on experiments. It’s amazing how many teachers just lecture, and the kids are going ballistic because there’s apparently no purpose,” he says.

He estimates his courses have gone to more than 8,000 teachers—some of whom have kept in touch.

Coming back around

Doug Bartsch is a relative newcomer from pioneer stock. He is an FPU graduate whose father, Silas Bartsch, is the founder of continuing education at the university. The younger Bartsch started as an instructor in about 1989 while an elementary school principal in Hanford. Today he is area administrator for elementary schools in Visalia Unified School District and was instrumental in creating the extension program that became the FPU Visalia Center.

Like Harms, Bartsch values the relationships distance education can forge between students and instructors. Despite his father’s enthusiasm, Bartsch admits having reservations about the quality of student-instructor communication when he began.

That uncertainty disappeared. “Obviously, when a person is in Ohio or Pennsylvania, you don’t have the face-to-face contact. But email and telephone provides plenty of contact,” he says.

Teachers apply what they learn, then reflect on results and revise activities. Bartsch goes through that with them, providing feedback nearly every day. He finds students very candid. “When you are communicating with them it’s one-on-one,” Bartsch says.

Distance and classroom education each have their strengths and drawbacks, according to Bartsch. People in Pennsylvania, for example,

can’t come to FPU. And lecture courses he’s had with 200-300 students are far from intimate. “We were face to face, and I can’t say that was a superior experience,” he adds.

So as instructors touch students and students return the favor, layers are added to relationships that foster academic, professional and personal growth. Being a distance learning instructor has widened Bartsch’s professional perspective. “It’s allowed me to have a broader outlook on public education. That really informs me in my work in Visalia,” he says.

Dorough and Kirchner are among those who brought in their children to assist or teach. “We have freedom and it’s a real wholesome environment. We’ve had some great people there who welcome new ideas,” Kirchner says.

Mandated challenges

New ideas are still welcome as administrators and instructors address what they call the major change in continuing education: adapting to state and federal government requirements, particularly the national No Child Left Behind Act. “All our courses have to be aligned to national standards,” Matt Gehrett says.

That alignment must be authentic. “Not just a cursory connection, but a real one,” says Carol Gossett.

One problem is many schools only fund development for teachers in very specific areas. A few teach-

ers have been disciplined for using supplemental materials, Gehrett says.

Still, continuing education helps teachers meet objectives and gain assurance. "They need confidence that they're doing a good job. This

whole thing of No Child Left Behind is killing off teachers," Harms says.

Instructors and staff will continue to adjust to improvements in technology and the demands of society. "The commitment to the students and

instructors has not changed at all," Peggi Kriegbaum says.

Whatever the need, the Office of Continuing Education will continue to reach the world from East Hall third.

THE HISTORY OF CONTINUING ED IS

the story of Silas Bartsch



SILAS
BARTSCH

Any conversation about FPU continuing education comes around to Silas Bartsch.

Several names have graced office doors—In-Service Education Program, Center for Professional Development, School of Professional Studies, Office of Continuing Education—but one spirit has endured: listen to what teachers need and find new ways to help them reach students. Bartsch embodied that spirit.

To exist in academia, something has to be in the catalog. The In-Service Education Program makes its first appearance in the 1972-1973 edition. Bartsch is listed a year earlier as director of extension education. Arthur Wiebe, then university president, recalled asking Bartsch to perhaps serve on a board or advisory committee. Bartsch offered to leave his post as superintendent of Kings Canyon Unified School District. "He said, 'During the past few years I have been increasingly convicted that the greatest need in education is for an infusion of Christian teachers,'" Wiebe said at a campus memorial service shortly after Bartsch's death in October 2001.

Teachers needed continuing education and few were supplying it, said Doug Bartsch. "My dad was a pretty visionary guy."

What started as a series of workshops expanded into a summer program that brought FPU honor and recognition. At Bartsch's memorial another former

president, Edmund Janzen, remembered giving talks to community groups. "People said, 'You represent the school where Silas Bartsch is,'" Janzen said.

Bartsch also boosted the bottom line. "(In-service) became a pretty important segment of the college's finances," Doug Bartsch said. But for his father, the goal was to do good. "It was about serving teachers and school districts," he added.

It was about innovation. One early effort was a bus trip to the Gold Country. Teachers loved the activity and the lectures were recorded as a self-guided tour. Every experiment needs a test, however, and Bartsch happily supplied the guinea pigs. "My dad said, 'Why don't we as a family take this trip?'" Doug said. "It was really exciting."

It was about communication. FPU's few early competitors sold pre-fab programs where one size fitted all, or else. Bartsch listened to what districts needed. "Through that constant contact he would keep his finger on the pulse," Doug said.

He also heard instructors. "Si had confidence in you and let you go ahead and do your job. He had a way of supporting you without squelching you," Dorough said.

Doug Bartsch calls Marvin Harms part of the Mount Rushmore of FPU distance education, along with Dorough, Kirchner, science instructor Harold Silvani and the late Larry Ecklund. Harms calls Silas Bartsch a jewel. "He had the vision for something that countless universities are copying," Harms said.

Dean Lee's road to an M.D./Ph.D. began at FPU

By Katie Fries

To hear Dean Lee, M.D./Ph.D. tell it, he “never had a real job until three years ago.”

The 1987 graduate, now a pediatric oncologist, has spent most of his adult life as a student, working toward his current position as an assistant professor at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

Lee's road to MD Anderson, which began at Fresno Pacific, where he was a natural science major, took him to Loma Linda University in Southern California, where he completed a combined M.D./Ph.D. and his pediatric residency. After another year as chief resident, he relocated to the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. He spent three more years there completing a pediatric oncology fellowship, then stayed on as an assistant professor in the college's Center for Cell and Gene Therapy in the Department of Pediatrics, Hematology/Oncology section. In November of 2006, Lee began his new position at MD Anderson.

Rick Bartlett, now dean of students at MB Biblical Seminary, grew up with Lee in Oakhurst and attended the same high school youth group; they continued their friendship as Fresno Pacific students. Bartlett isn't surprised at the direction his friend's life has taken. “Dean was always very committed to his goals,” he says, “and his commitment to his coursework reflected that. At the same time, he was also involved on campus in a number of ministries. I saw a glimpse of his future calling in his commitment to study and to people.”

“He was an optimistic student whose abilities were evident in everything he attempted,” adds Lee's advisor Larry Warkentin, music professor emeritus, who



remembers Lee as an outgoing person who excelled in academics and as a singer in the choir. “I am not at all surprised he has earned a doctorate and is succeeding in his profession.”

In the world of academic medicine, Lee's time is divided between research and taking care of patients. He estimates about 80 percent of his time is spent in the lab, where he studies immunotherapy and immune responses for acute myelogenous leukemia (AML), the third most common cause of cancer death in children. In this type of leukemia, small amounts of the cancer hide in the bone marrow following chemotherapy. The goal of his research, he says, is to “develop and improve cancer treatments that use cells from the immune system... including developing cancer vaccines, transferring healthy immune cells from a donor to kill the cancer in a patient and using gene therapy on immune cells to make them recognize cancer cells.” The rest of Lee's time is spent caring for bone marrow transplant patients.

When not working, Lee is a family man. As husband to Sharon—a CSU Fresno graduate, although Lee says she was present as his guest at Fresno Pacific events almost as often as other FPU students—and father to Stephen, Kirstin and Jonathan, he spends most of his time outside of work coaching his childrens' soccer and basketball teams, playing in the family music room (he played trombone in the jazz band and brass choir at

ALUMNI PROFILE DEAN LEE

BA 1987
HOUSTON,
TEXAS

FPU, and all his children play instruments) and building things with the kids in his workshop. He and Sharon also aspire to take up sailing. The family attends Grace Community Church in Houston, where all three children are active in youth programs.

For Lee, it is difficult to separate his profession from his Christian faith. "I don't think I have a job where you can do that, or (think) that you should leave your faith at home," he says. "A fairly common part of what I do is to deal with kids who are dying. I don't think you can go through the process of dying and not have it [faith] be part of what you do."

In speaking of the integration of faith and medicine, Lee also describes one of his biggest frustrations: "How do you help parents not blame God for not curing their child? It's awkward sometimes in church [when] people use cancer as a model—evidence of God's power in healing. I feel a little defensive. The idea that faith involves not believing what is real in the world has bled into medicine as well. God never asked us to deny reality as a part of faith.

"In the world of Christian faith and faith healing," he adds, "cancer doctors aren't really the heroes."

In April of 2006, Lee filmed an episode of *Doctor to Doctor*, a Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN) program on which Christian healthcare providers discuss issues pertaining to medicine and faith. "I prepared a series of eight-minute talks on biblical approaches to health based on applying the principles of the armor of God, described in Ephesians 6, to our physical protection," Lee says. He is waiting to hear if and when the first episode will air.

"He is seeking to bring his commitment and faith into an arena where a lot of work is needed," says Bartlett. "I admire his dedication to his call." Bartlett recalls a story Lee told him about treating a child who needed stitches. "...to alleviate his anxiety, Dean allowed the boy to put a stitch in his own arm. By offering his own arm for the procedure, Dean calmed the child enough to receive the stitches he needed. I want that kind of doctor for my children."

Being a father, Lee says some of his worst moments as a doctor are sitting with the family of a dying child. "Some past mentors have said the only way to make it is not to be too involved," he says. "If I come to the point where I don't cry with families, it's time to do something else.

"At the same time," he adds, "[those are] some of the best [moments]. It's when people are really struggling the most that makes God so close and so big. I appreciate families who give God the glory."

He continues, "God has given us a little bit of knowledge about how the human body works when it is well. What little we know [when it is not well] he has given us—I'm happy to use it when I can."

Ali Sena assisted in the preparation of this story.

40th West Coast MCC Sale April 13-14

Have fun helping others at the 40th West Coast Mennonite Sale & Auction for World Relief. Alumni can volunteer in a variety of ways:

- Always wanted to be a barista? Help out at the Alumni Café. Serve a cup of hospitality to your fellow alumni.
- Check out what's new and recall good memories at the Alumni Information Booth. Fill out an update card and receive coupons for coffee and merchandise.

Good coffee, good music and good company make great reasons to come to the sale.

Email david.bacci@fresno.edu or call 559-453-2080.

The event is sponsored by West Coast Mennonite Central Committee and hosted by FPU.



Picture the new baby

Come on, proud parents—and grandparents—*Pacific* is looking for pictures of your newest additions. Please email a high-resolution image to alumni@fresno.edu when you send in your birth announcement. We'll run as many as we can in the magazine.

BIRTHS

Kellie (BA '91 Fry) Thomson and husband Bob announce the birth of son Andrew Leonard on February 15, 2006. He joins sisters Sarah, 4 ½; and Katie, 3.

Alicia (BA '94, TC '95 Vom Steeg) DeVore and husband Nicholas announce the adoption of daughter Bethany Jane Enya Devore from Taiwan. The adoption took place on August 7, 2006.

Debra (BA '96, TC '97 Templeton) Fear and husband Peter announce the birth of their son Caleb Michael on March 29, 2006.

Doug (BA '96) and Brenda (BA '96 Davis) Round announce the birth and adoption of Liana Zoey, who was born on July 25, 2006. She weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces and was 19.5 inches long.

Joshua (BA '97) and Maren (BA '95 Hvass) Vance announce the birth of daughter Megan on October 25, 2006. She joins one brother, Kyle.



John (BA '99) and Emily (TC '00 Bowie) Berg announce the birth of son Jeffrey William on August 22, 2006. He weighed 8 pounds, 15 ounces.

Julianne (AA '99 Mott) Thomas and husband Daryl announce the birth of son Jonathan on October 27, 2006.

Michael (BA '99, TC '00) and Sarah (BA '00 Watters) Johnson announce the birth of daughter Hannah in March 2006.

Aaron (BA '00) and Christa (TC '00 Bryan) Wiens announce the birth of daughter Charlotte on September 19, 2006. She weighed 9 pounds, 2 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Michelle (BA '00 Renfro) de Mercado and husband Jose announce the birth of daughter Grace Kathaleana on August 23, 2006. She weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces and was 20 inches long. She joins brother Jesse, 7.

ALUMNI CHOIR REUNION & PERFORMANCE

Saturday, April 14, 2007

10:00 a.m. – Reunion, AIMS Hall Foyer

10:45 a.m. – Rehearsal, Marpeck 103

11:30 a.m. – Performance at MCC Sale, Campus Green

Relive fond memories and reconnect with choir friends and faculty—join the Alumni Choir as we perform at the MCC Sale. All choir alumni from 1944-2006 are invited to join current choir students for this annual reunion and performance. We'll see you there!



RSVPs required to 559-453-2080, or alumni@fresno.edu

Jennifer (BA '00 Enns) Ogden and husband Phil announce the birth of son Ryan Douglas on September 17, 2006. He weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches long.

Zach (BA '00) and Jeanette (BA '99 Lollis) Toelke announce the birth of their first child, Anderson David, on September 2, 2006. He weighed 8 pounds and was 19 inches long. Jeanette is a third grade teacher for the Panama Buena Vista Union School District in Bakersfield, and Zach is a computer support specialist for Granite Construction.

Allen (BA '01) and Sara (BA '01 Brown) Schwamb announce the birth of their first son, Gideon Edmund, on October 16, 2006.

Dan (BA '01) and Kerrie (BA '01 McPherson) Rich announce the birth of daughter Lauren Amy on October 1, 2006. She weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Dave (BA '02) and Brady (Hilscher BA '02) Rainbow announce the birth of daughter Hazel in January 2006. Dave earned his M.A. in history from Drew University and began studying Russian in St. Petersburg in September 2006. He plans to return to the U.S. and complete his Ph.D.

MARRIAGES

David Brown (BA '91) married Tracie Dunn on May 20, 2006. Dave is currently director of the Family Life Center in Fresno.

Jennifer Toler (BA '03) married Ryan Smith on September 3, 2006, in Kauai, Hawaii. They will live in Pasadena as she continues graduate studies in clinical psychology.

Veronica Villalobos (BA '03) married Brock Meadors on November 18, 2006.

Cindy Neufeld (BA '05) married Doug Houchin in Bakersfield on October 28, 2006. The couple resides in Buttonwillow.

Felicia Burrell (BA '05) married Oliver Mitchell, Jr. on July 15, 2006. She received her first teaching assignment from Fresno Unified School District with the special education department to teach functional skills for seventh- and eighth-grade students.

Nicole Persicke (BA '06) married Gunnery Sergeant Wade Campbell, United States Marine Corps, on August 13, 2006.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Braun (BA '71) is pastor of College Community MB Church in Clovis. He is also a member of Mennonite Central Committee's United States Board. Bill and wife **Joyce (FS '67 Neufeld)** have been married since 1973. Joyce teaches elementary school in Sanger Unified School District.

Wilma (BA '79 Dick) Wall announces the release of her second book, *The Jade Bracelet*. It is an inspirational historical novel, set in China and the San Joaquin Valley.

Hollie (BA '83 Shambaugh) Stanley's husband Kent, former staff and faculty, is director of athletics at Fort Lewis College, an NCAA Division II institution, in Durango, Colorado. Hollie continues to enjoy her role as a stay-at-home mom to Zachariah, 7; and Mikayla, 4. Kent was FPU women's basketball coach from 1987-1995. His teams won four GSAC conference titles and made five NAIA national tournament appearances. He remains the winningest women's basketball coach in Sunbird history.

Timothy Karber (BA '89, MA '00) has been working for the Internal Revenue Service for five years.

Brian Henderer (BA '92) started his doctoral dissertation. The working title is *Training Youth Workers for Vocational Ministry: Foundations for Undergraduate Youth Ministry Programs*. He hopes to finish in late 2007.

Nanci (BA '92 Burns) Gardner was honored as a California League of High School Educators Region 7 Top Ten Finalist for Educator of the Year. She teaches English at Sunnyside High School in Fresno. She and husband **Ron (BA '92)** live in Fresno with son Gunnar, 9.

Bruce Evans (BA '93) is music and fine arts catalog librarian and bibliographic access unit leader at the Baylor University Libraries in Waco, Texas. He earned his MLS Degree from the University of North Texas in 1995. He is married to **Terri (BA '93 McCarron)** who teaches third grade. They have two children, Mikhayla and Chandler.

Enika (BA '93 Bessinger) Dobbs is the library director for the Hamilton North Public Library in Cicero, Indiana. She began working there on January 8, 2007.

Brenda Tsudama (BA '00) is medical imaging supervisor at Community Medical Center.

Wendy (BA '00 Turley) Cano was hired by Thunderbird, the Garvin Graduate School of International Business Management, as program coordinator for Eastern and Central Europe. She resides in Arizona with her husband **Cesar (BA '99)** and their children Damian, 4; and Gabriel, 17 months.

Doug Noll (MA '02) and co-author John Boogaert published *Sex, Politics & Religion at the Office* in June 2006. The authors hope to give employers new tools for creating a better workplace. This 170-page book earned a spot in a book club on Forbes.com and a review in *Echelon*, an online magazine.

Larkin (BA '02 Hand) McGowan and husband Jonathan are involved in opening the International House of Prayer in Dublin, California.

Stephen Strand (BA '04) is working on his M.A. in pure mathematics at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Mary-Anne (BA '05 Born) Douglas announces that her husband Deandare was hired by the Fresno Fire Department in February 2007.

ANNIVERSARIES

Wesley (FS '63) and Ann (AA '61 Queen) Heinrichs celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in March 2006. Prior to retirement, Wes served as a Sunday school superintendent at Butler Church. He was also chairman of the deacon board and previously worked in commercial and domestic construction. Ann completed her master's degree and received her administrative credential in 1969 from California State University, Fresno. She served as an elected northern convener for the California Psychological Association for two years and was on the Fresno Pacific University Board of Trustees for six years. Wes and Ann also spent 10 years co-directing projects for Mennonite Disaster Service. They live on their ranch in Coarsegold.

IN TOUCH WITH ALUMNI

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GRADUATION YEAR

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



With a gardener's heart, Al and Dotty Warkentine tend to FPU

by Katie Fries

Al Warkentine is in the business of growing things. A farmer and a gardener, he and wife Dotty know it takes time, effort and resources to produce a crop of corn or a garden of flowers. They have applied this nurturing outlook to their involvement with FPU. For more than 40 years, they have helped the university grow and flourish.

It's difficult to walk across the main campus without encountering a building, athletic complex or open space on which the Warkentines have not left their mark. This consistent cultivation of FPU and other community institutions was acknowledged in November by the Fresno chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, which gave the couple its Outstanding Philanthropists of the Year Award.

Married for 46 years, the Warkentines first became involved with the FPU community in 1965, when Al (a graduate of Tabor College and the College of Physicians and

Surgeons in San Francisco) established a dental practice in Fresno. "I met Dr. Arthur Wiebe (president of what was then Pacific College) my first year here... he had a way of involving people," Al says.

With Wiebe's encouragement, Al soon found himself involved in various projects. He especially recalls establishing the Pacific Gardens convalescent facility and a campus residence hall (later named Warkentine Hall). In 1971, he was asked to serve on the first board of trustees. Among that board's accomplishments was to bring in Edmund Janzen as college president. "I was involved in all facets of the school. I spent as many as 23-30 hours a week on the campus. We felt it was important to maintain a high quality standard to remain a Christian liberal arts college," Al says. Dotty, meanwhile, was busy raising the couple's four children (two of whom are alumni). Son Don (BA '89) is on the boards of the university and its foundation. Daughter Dayla also attended.

Since Al left the board in 1985, he and Dotty have continued to sow seeds of stewardship. They contributed to major campus facilities including McDonald Hall, the student lounge in the Steinert Campus Center, AIMS Hall of Mathematics and Science and the volleyball court. They made one of the first gifts toward the planned fine arts facility.

The Warkentines are avid supporters of FPU athletic and performing arts programs. "You will often see them at volleyball matches, basketball games, concerts or other activities such as the business forum," says President D. Merrill Ewert.

Dotty, a harpist, often provides accompaniment for the university flute choir. "We love the volleyball games and the music productions," she says. "Any time they do a special production, we're there."

Al, in particular, enjoys the basketball games, and fondly recalls the early teams that featured players such as Ron Adams, now an

assistant coach with the Chicago Bulls. “Those guys gave 150-percent,” he says. “That’s something I can say about a lot of (FPU) students.”

Indeed, the Warkentines’ respect for FPU’s academic and extracurricular programs—and the students they attract—is one thing that has inspired their continued involvement. “We’re very proud of the school...the education young people get is so outstanding,” Dotty says.

Her husband adds, “I’m happiest about the number of students who have gone there and found the Lord. It (FPU) does better than some of the churches.” He is quick to credit this to the university faculty. “The faculty,” he says, “are the real heroes.”

Since Al’s retirement from dentistry in 1998, he and Dotty stay active. Although he maintains farming interests throughout California and Eastern Colorado, Al found the time to become a master gardener through the University of California Extension. With their 10 grandchildren, he enjoys maintaining the three acres of land on which he and Dotty live. He often volunteers his gardening expertise around Fresno, and the Warkentine home is frequently a stop on the UC Extension garden tour. In addition to the time she volunteers as a harpist, Dotty enjoys quilting. The couple has traveled extensively, enjoying trips to South America, Australia and New Zealand. They are also active members of North Fresno Church.

The importance of longtime supporters such as the Warkentines cannot be understated. “They have helped many people understand the institutional priorities and roots,” says Mark Deffenbacher, vice president for advancement and university relations.

Ewert often taps their knowledge. “Generous people who give their time, talent, influence and money are the bedrock of a university’s support,” he says. “In addition to these very substantive contributions, they also provide a very powerful signal to others that this is a worthwhile investment.”

More than an investment, Al Warkentine sees the contributions he and his wife have made to FPU and other places as a way to practice Christian stewardship. “We’ve been blessed with these things here on earth, but we’re only stewards,” he says.

As Christians and as gardeners, the Warkentines know the nature of nurture.

2006 DONOR HONOR ROLL

THANKING ALL WHO SUPPORT FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

ABOUT THIS REPORT

THIS IS A SPECIAL REPORT to the supporters of Fresno Pacific University. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this report. Please call to our attention any omissions or errors by contacting the Advancement Office at 559-453-2080.

Information in this report covers calendar year 2006.

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Aquatics make a splash New teams in swimming, water polo

Beginning this fall Sunbirds will study their backstrokes and egg beaters as well as their spikes, free kicks, lay-ups and infield fly rules as the university adds men's and women's swimming/diving and water polo for the 2007-2008 academic year.

The sports are a good fit for FPU. "The Valley has a rich aquatics tradition and there is definitely a need for intercollegiate programs in Central California," said Dennis Janzen, athletics director. "We expect to develop

competitive schedules that will include some of the best programs in both the NCAA and the NAIA."

The Sunbirds tapped that tradition in hiring the men's and women's swimming and diving coach. Peter L. Richardson, teacher and coach at Sanger High School in Fresno County, accepted the position February 6.

"Peter is a young, energetic and enthusiastic coach. He was also a highly successful high school and collegiate athlete. He has been equally successful as a club and high school swim coach," Janzen said. "Peter is someone who possesses the attributes to develop Fresno Pacific swimming into a nationally known program."

A graduate of Buchanan High School, Clovis, and the University of the Pacific, Richardson is scheduled to complete a master of arts at California State University, Fresno, in August.

In high school Richardson was a

member and captain of Valley Championship squads. At UOP he led teams that won Big Ten West Team Championships in 2002 and 2003, breaking UC Santa Barbara's 22-year winning streak. He was also named a four-time scholar-athlete.

Richardson served as an assistant coach with the Clovis Swim Club for six years and head coach of the Sanger Seal Swim Club since May 2006. In three seasons at SHS he grew the swim program from 30 to 75 athletes. The boys and girls teams have won West Yosemite League championships the past two seasons.

"I am excited for the opportunity to build the program at Fresno Pacific. I am just as excited to invest in the lives of collegiate student athletes in a Christian environment," Richardson said.

Events will take place at Sunnyside High School. Water polo coaching candidates are being interviewed.

Patty Project

FPU baseball players and coaches gave instruction in sports and life to students at Webster Elementary School in October. The event was part of the Patty Project, a ministry of New Harvest Church that includes a Saturday sports program. By the end of the day, 81 children were taking part with Oscar Hirschhorn, head baseball coach, and his staff and players. (Photo by Ann Castro)



Pandzic Unbeaten in NAIA

Jelena Pandzic, graduates in May with a perfect record in NAIA tennis play. This fall she won the NAIA national women's championship and the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Small Schools Super Bowl. She made it to the final round of the ITA national indoor tournament, for NCAA Division I members, falling to Audra Cohen of the University of Miami, the No.1 player in the country.





PLAYERS LINEUP PRIOR TO THE START OF THE FIRST GAME OF THE 2007 SEASON..

Opening Day Split

The Sunbirds baseball team split an opening day doubleheader with Patten University February 6. FPU dropped the first game 13-10 in 11 innings, but came back to win the second game 7-4. The teams played at Pete Beiden Field at California State University, Fresno. At right, senior first baseman Justin Rhoades holds a runner.



Stadium for Spring

Construction of the FPU baseball field is scheduled to be completed in April. The stadium will provide a home for the Sunbirds team coached by Oscar Hirschhorn. At left, concrete crews do their part.

Volleyball team makes finals

Boasting a 36-2 final record, the Sunbirds won their seventh consecutive Golden State Athletic Conference and fourth consecutive National Association for Intercollegiate Athletics Region II titles. They earned a 13th consecutive trip to the NAIA national tournament. FPU's bid for a third championship banner fell just short in a four-game loss to National American University of Rapid City, South Dakota, in the finals. Setter Sue Liu and outside hitter Fabiana Leomil were named to the NAIA All-American First Team, Ke Ke Wang made the second team and Marin Canaday was an honorable mention. Canaday and Janelle Jackson were named to the NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete Team.



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