

PACIFIC

FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY | VOL. 21, NO. 2

Reaching new heights

THE BUILDING ON
EXCELLENCE CAPITAL
CAMPAIGN



**A guide to our
\$36 million vision**

**Three generations
of Janzens share
more than a name**

**Tennis teams go
to national finals**

president's message



D. MERRILL EWERT

Commencement is my favorite day of the year.

I was reminded once again in May that conferring degrees upon new graduates is my greatest privilege as president. I get to see up close their big smiles and hear their whispered words of appreciation. Many students, particularly older adults with families, have tears in their eyes as they tell me how much FPU has meant to them.

As I hand graduates their diplomas, I remember our mission: "Fresno Pacific University develops students for leadership and service through excellence in Christian higher education."

This university's roots go back to Pacific Bible Institute in 1944. The institution grew into a junior college before becoming a four-year college built in a cotton field in southeast Fresno. Today, FPU offers graduate programs, multiple schools (education; business; natural sciences; and humanities, religion and social sciences) and regional centers in Bakersfield, Visalia and North Fresno.

Through the growth, our mission has remained the same, sustained by the prayer and financial support of alumni and friends.

Now, the launch of *Building on Excellence*, a campaign for Fresno Pacific University, marks another step in the university's development. The first phase includes a performing arts center and School of Education building. The former will not only include a concert hall and theater stage but music classrooms, practice rooms and teaching studios. A new education building will provide space for classes, continuing education programs and developing curriculum. The campaign's second phase will expand the library. Scholarships are also an important part of this effort, to ensure Christian higher education is accessible to students with limited means.

To continue our mission, Fresno Pacific urgently needs new and expanded facilities. But at the heart of everything we do will always be people like the one I heard about at a luncheon the day before commencement. The mother of one of our graduating seniors told me about her daughter's experience at FPU after transferring from another school. She described how her daughter had been encouraged and mentored by her professors, had grown in her faith and had found a new sense of direction and a clear call to service. In fact, the mother was so impressed by her daughter's experience that mom has now enrolled in a graduate program at Fresno Pacific!

This campaign is not about buildings. It's about our mission, and keeping that mission real commencement after commencement. It's about students and leadership, excellence and ethics, serving God and making a difference.

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

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*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



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Remember the paperless office?

Never happened, as the top of my desk demonstrates. Paper is here to stay, as much in the Internet age as it was when Gutenberg set his first page of type and invented mass communication.

Paper comes from trees, a natural resource. Trees, water, air and all what we call “natural resources” come from God, and should be treasured as well as used. Maybe we should call them “natural treasures.”



In large ways and small, we at FPU work to honor all God saw as good and entrusted to humanity. As we plan buildings, we explore methods and materials that account for future needs. As we publish a magazine, we do the same.

With this issue we begin a new chapter in stewardship, thanks to our friends at Dumont Printing, which prints *Pacific* and many other projects for the university. Dumont has earned Forest Stewardship Council certification, and we are now using papers that meet standards from forest to print shop.

The FSC (fsc.org) is an international organization dedicated to ensuring wood and pulp are grown, harvested and manufactured to high environmental standards from sustainable forests and/or recycled sources. Each part of the process, from the forest through the printing company, is certified by independent agencies. If all standards are met, projects can be considered FSC certified and contain the FSC tree and checkmark logo.

Paper is more than the material of a magazine. Paper is a natural resource—a national treasure—and is, like God’s grace, a gift.

—Wayne Steffen

FPU HOSTS NATIONAL CONFERENCES



John Dussich

Victimologists pursue new definitions of crime and punishment

by Ikuma Lumeya

Think of Fresno and the image is not of a pioneer in victimology—but that is exactly what it is, thanks in large part to John Dussich and Ron Claassen (BA '67).

Dussich, president of the World Society of Victimology and professor at California State University, Fresno, helped found the American Society of Victimology (ASV). Claassen co-founded FPU's Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies (CPACS) and the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) of the Central Valley.

Fresno became the first place offering certificates in victimology and the only place to get a B.A. in the field. So it's no stretch to say the ASV came home to Fresno March 5-7 for its sixth annual symposium, hosted by CPACS.

While the legal system has made strides to protect victims, there is still much to be done, Dussich said. "Victims have just come into our system."

At issue is the definition of crime itself. "When crime is understood as more than a violation of law and primarily as a violation of people and relationships, then suddenly the victim moves into a central role," Claassen said.

FPU provided several symposium presenters. Noelle Daoudian, graduate student and Central Valley VORP director, surveyed victims on what they hope to gain from VORP. "The majority of victims wanted to know that the kids would get their lives back on track," she said. Find more about the presentations at american-society-victimology.us.

Symposiums like this are needed, said Jill Schellenberg (BA '01, MA '03), director of the FPU criminology and restorative justice program. "Victims are not a part of the criminal justice system," she said.

Changing that is the role of victimology. "[These symposiums] bring together people who study victims scientifically," Dussich said.

Autism experts seek to bring together parents, schools to help kids

by Wayne Steffen

Remember that guy in high school?

You know: never looked you in the eye, baggy clothes day after day, never seemed to get it? We called him a nerd, or worse, laughed at him or pitied him.

What if he was autistic?

Autism is more than as seen on TV. People with autism don't just stare into space. They go to school; more of them, in fact, than ever.

What to do? Answering that question was the goal of "Community Autism Partnership—Research, Early Diagnosis and Treatment." More than 350 parents and educators came to the Special Events Center for the two-day event, the first of its kind in the Valley.

The March 6-7 conference was sponsored by the FPU School of Education, Focus on Unity, Fresno County Special Education Local Plan Area, the Fresno County Office of Education and Diagnostic Center, Central California.

Presenters were area professionals and Fred Volkmar, M.D., a child psychiatrist at the Yale University Disabilities Clinic.

The event brought the community together, according to Ananda Aspen, autism consultant for Fresno County SELPA. "It wasn't geared to one profession," she said.

Participants learned to provide an environment where students with autism can learn to improve their lives, said Diana Taylor-Gillham, special education faculty and conference organizer. "When they are comfortable they learn better, just like all of us."

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SPRING DAYS BRING SPIRITUAL PLAYS



Creation of the Heavenly Beings
(Left to right) Jacob Bailey,
Sara Beth Albee, Maureen
LeDesma and Lesley Ogle.

One spring week brought three plays with spiritual themes.

The Mainstage play, *Parable: A Reflection on Waiting and Story*, was presented the evenings of March 27-29 in Ashley Auditorium. On the afternoon of March 28, students in LIT 380: World Theater performed *The Creation of the Heavenly Beings* and *The Creation of Man on the Hiebert Library Green*.

Based on the biblical parables, *Parable* focused on six disciples of Jesus—not THE disciples—between the Ascension and Pentecost. Told to wait, they act out stories they remember Jesus telling and try to figure who He was, what He was about and what it is they are waiting for. The creation plays were done in the style of Medieval mystery plays as seen in places such as York, England, in the 15th century.

The productions were the inspiration of Drama Professor Julia Reimer, who directed the plays and wrote *Parable* with some contributions from the cast. "I have always liked the spring semester for the way it invites us to reflect on the life and death and resurrection of Jesus. We can do that at a Christian university!" Reimer said.

Tornado tumbles buildings, foundation survives

by Pam Schock

It was shortly after 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 5; I was on my way to a basketball game when I received the call. All I remember was Kathy, my friend and former boss from Union University, saying "Everyone is OK."

Somewhere in my mind I remembered saying those same words to her back in 2002, when I was a residence director at Union, and had called her shortly after midnight to tell her we had just been hit by a tornado. She continued..."Union's been hit again."

Saturday I left for Jackson, Tennessee.

Sunday was a sad day. It's hard to describe standing amidst the rubble...so many wonderful memories flooding in...the people and events all represented in the piles of bricks, broken furniture, cement, siding, clothes, wood, dirt and gaping holes in what used to be walls, doors and windows. Then the overwhelming, incomprehensible bewilderment—how did they all make it out alive? There really is no other answer: God.

Later that day I met with some of the residence life staff. I was welcomed with hugs...there was a deep unspoken understanding. From that moment life began to play on fast forward. A Baptist church leased a hotel it owned to house displaced students. The remainder of my week was filled with the details of transforming a hotel into university housing.

Tuesday morning, Ema, the residence director of Hurt Complex, which now stood in ruins, returned from resting for a few days—after all she was five months pregnant. When she came into the Residence Life Command Center nothing was more important: Ema was my girl; my right hand and my left foot when I worked at Union, which made her the perfect replacement as the residence director. I hugged her. I didn't want to let her go...we could have lost her that night.

Later, I went to visit Ema at her temporary campus apartment. As I drove onto campus I saw the SUB and the Penick buildings. Before February 5 you couldn't have seen them from there. Two entire residence complexes—16 buildings—had been leveled and taken away.

Unbelievable! It was overwhelmingly devastating! I couldn't imagine how the students would feel when they came back to campus the next day.

I was invited to a worship service with the residence life staff. It was the first time they were all together since the night of the tornado. I was sitting in a room full of heroes. Just a few days more than a week ago these young men and women saved the lives of all the students in campus housing. When the tornado sirens began they followed emergency procedures, directed their friends and building



mates to the apartments below and gently but firmly encouraged everyone to take shelter. Because of this everyone made it out. Even more, some of these students had been buried in the rubble and some dug their friends out with their bare hands. I will never forget this moment. That night the speaker encouraged them, saying they have saved lives, saved belongings and now it was time to save souls.

Looking back over the rubble, there is a foundation at Union that will never be destroyed. It's the Kingdom. Buildings will be rebuilt, programs will continue, students, staff and faculty will come and go, but Union will continue to, in the words of its statement of purpose: "equip persons to think Christianly and serve faithfully in ways consistent with its core values of being Christ-centered, people-focused, excellence-driven and future directed."

Pam Schock has been director of residence life and housing at FPU since 2004. She was a residence director at Union University from 1999-2004.



Harry Siemens



Adam Wall

Art and craft meet in the wood shop

by Wayne Steffen, photos by John Mark

The difference between a tradesperson's shop and an artist's studio is often a matter of attitude.

Open the door in the rear of the Facilities Maintenance Building and the aroma of wood tells you where you are. A tamed forest of boards, planks and chunks of alder, Pacific Coast maple, cherry, pine, Douglas fir, redwood and hard maple stick out of bins, line walls and overtake the office.

One wall is every workshop's peg board, holding hand drills, chisels, saws, levels, glue bottles, sanders and enough clamps to bind the campus together. The hum of the table saw splits the silence and the edgy grind of blade meeting wood kills it completely.

The sign says Cabinet Shop, but the crew calls it the wood shop. "We do everything," Adam Wall says.

Adam and Harry Siemens staff the shop, but the know-how and experience of many others stand at their shoulders. Both favor cloth jackets, blue jeans, bill caps (bill forward), once-white sneakers and T-shirts under work shirts. Not the get-up of a TV woodworker whose catalog-fresh attire apparently never sees sawdust.

Both men saw, smelled and swept their share of sawdust before coming to FPU. Harry started in 1999, the same year Adam (BA '03) entered as a freshman.

As a kid, Harry bought wooden orange crates for a nickel to build little houses and barns. He also made wood and paper airplane models. A good high school shop teacher put him on the path, but an approving eye kept him there. "My Grandpa Siemens came over and complimented my work. That was something, coming from him," Harry says.

Before he ran his own shop, Harry worked at a planing mill, which had a cabinet shop. "I'd go down at lunch time and see how the guys were building cabinets, then go home and build things," he says. Harry also read books and looked at pictures. "I still do that," he adds.

Adam joined Harry part-time as for two years as a student worker, then came on full-time when he graduated. Adam's uncle Sam ran a shop for more than three decades, where Adam's father worked for more than 20 years. Both Adam's grandfathers worked in or dabbled with woodworking. "My summer job until I got out of high school was in the cabinet shop. We started young: we would sweep, clean up, cut dowels. Every year you got older and you learned more," Adam says.

Even so, Adam didn't enter FPU planning to be a woodworker. He majored in mathematics, but dreams change. "I'd say this is my career goal now," he says.

It's a career he's serious about. Adam has shown his wood-working as part of Fresno's Art Hop and has been accepted into the furniture design program at Rochester Institute of Technology.

Campus clients give the work rave reviews. Among the desks, bookshelves, tables, track long jump boards and even a small bridge, a couple of projects stand out.

There's the front counter, including check-out and reference desks for Hiebert Library. "I don't think we could have afforded to do the project without them," said Library Director Richard Rawls, who estimates they saved the university \$30,000. The architects were skeptical when Richard told them FPU could do the work in-house. "But when they saw it, they were impressed—it's hard to impress architects," he says.

While Harry credits Adam with taking the lead on the library project, Harry was the main builder on an office suite for his old Tabor College soccer teammate, President D. Merrill Ewert.

Based on Merrill's furniture at Cornell University, the desk, table, shelves and storage cabinet converted the office into another conference room. Unable to find anything ready-made, Merrill showed Harry photos. "He said, 'I can do that,'" Merrill remembers.

And Harry did it better. "People who come in here and know how it used to look accuse me of adding space to the room," Merrill says.

Harry and Adam work sometimes together, sometimes separately, but they always consult. "We consider ourselves equals," Harry says.

"I'm better," Adam can't help but add, smiling.

"I'm older and wiser," Harry finishes.

Through the routine of student furniture and repairs, something—aside from Adam's comments—has to keep things fresh. For these two it's their material, their medium: wood. "We get excited about grain," Siemens says.

A skilled hand, an eye for form and a heart for quality. A desire to try new things and a drive to do better. Call the place a shop or a studio, call the people artists or craftspeople, it's all creation with a purpose.

faculty & staff focus



The University String Quartet, with **Dieter Wulforst**, music faculty, and **Susan Doering**, music faculty, performed on Valley Public Radio KVPR (89.3 FM) April 16 as part of Young Artists' Spotlight. Wulforst directs the quartet and played cello. Doering played violin. Quartet members, all students, are Tiffany Nyberg, violin; Vanessa Ronk, violin; Bryan Taylor, cello; and Tori Trefzger, viola.



Boeckel



Lake



Key



Ovando-Knutson



Wiebe

Five faculty presented at "Conversations Toward Wholeness: Creating and Sustaining Climates in which Women and Men can Flourish in Christian Higher Education" April 9-11 at Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU). They were: **Bruce Boeckel**, English; **Elizabeth Lake**, psychology; **Scott Key**, education; **Cynthia Ovando-Knutson**, Spanish; and **Richard Wiebe** (BA '74), philosophy. The Council of Christian Colleges and Universities, Mes-

siah College and PLNU sponsored this first

national conference about gender issues across all aspects of the university. Boeckel and Lake led "Gender and Religious Diversity in the Humanities and Social Sciences: Teaching and Mentoring at Fresno Pacific University." Boeckel presented a paper titled "Odd Man Out in an Old Girls' Network: The Male Teacher in a Female-Rich Classroom." Lake presented "Gendered Teaching: Experiences of an Embodied Educator." Key, Ovando-Knutson and Wiebe led a panel in a session titled "Gender Dynamics in Action: Social Justice Projects in/at/around a Christian University." Wiebe discussed the American Wilderness Literature and Philosophy class he teaches every other year in conjunction with the Ecology class for a joint field trip to Yosemite, Mono Lake, White Mountains, Death Valley and the transverse ranges. Ovando-Knutson presented "Borders, Brokenness and Bridges" on the U.S.-Mexico border. Key addressed contexts where he faces the challenging gender dynamics of being a male professor and mentor working with predominantly female students.



Brian Schultz, biblical and religious studies faculty, was interviewed for *Jesus: The Missing History*, a Discovery Channel documentary broadcast in March.



Ken Martens Friesen (BA '84), political science and history faculty, visited India in early February to explore possible connections between FPU and the Mennonite Brethren Centenary

Bible College in Shamshabad.



David Youngs, mathematics education faculty, presented at the European League of Middle Level Education (ELMLE) Conference in Vienna, Austria, January 24-27. He gave a number of sessions for middle school teachers promoting

a hands-on, minds-on approach to teaching math and science using AIMS materials. After the conference he spent two days at the American International School in Vienna working with grades six-eight students and teachers. He also published "Have You Done a Good Math Problem Lately?" in the December 2007 issue of the ELMLE journal *A Bridge to the Middle*.



Two faculty were heard on "Valley Writer's Read" on KVPR in January. **Larry Warkentin**, music faculty emeritus, read his "A Coat of Many Patches" January 23. The story is based on his father's experiences when, because of his family's economic difficulties during the Great Depression, he hopped a train to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he found work but almost lost his life. A well worn-coat, which his mother insisted he take, kept him warm throughout the adventure. **Hope Nisly**, Hiebert Library, read "Season of Doubt" January 16. The story is a coming-of-age tale set in the Midwest during the Vietnam War.



Dalton Reimer, Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies, co-edited *Christian Peacemaking and Conflict Resolution* (English title translation). This Russian-language anthol-

ogy of readings in peacemaking is part of the Bible Pulpit Series for pastors, teachers, students and others in the former Soviet Union countries published by The Bible for Everybody Publishing House in Russia for the Euro-Asian Accrediting Association of Theological Schools.

Passion for teaching spans the generations

by Ikuma Lumeya

A last name, a dedication to education and a connection to FPU link a grandfather, father and son:

- Vernon Janzen, now a retired teacher, administrator and minister, is a former dean of students and speech and psychology instructor
- Rod Janzen (BA '75) is a history professor and university senior scholar
- Chris Janzen, in his first professional position, teaches art and directs the jazz ensemble

"When we really get into something, we get into it very passionately but in different areas and how that came about I don't know," Rod says.

All three agree a great teacher is enthusiastic. Vernon asked which teacher would be more memorable: the one who looked like he would rather be somewhere else, or the one who was excited to share what they knew.

"Enthusiasm in a teacher can inspire students to learn and give a chance to a subject they might not enjoy," Vernon says. "When a student sees that the teacher really believes that they have potential...it goes a long way."

Each Janzen pointed to teachers who influenced them. For Vernon it was J.B. Toews and Waldo Hiebert at MB Biblical Seminary. "People like these were an inspiration to me because of their encouragement," he says.

Rod recalls when Paul Toews, history faculty, told Rod he saw his potential. "When a teacher can encourage students in such a way, it makes a big difference," Rod says.

Chris credits Gail Lutsch at Bethel College and Craig Owens at Wichita State University. "Both encouraged me to experiment freely with art and music, giving me the courage to take artistic leaps into the unknown," he says.

Then there are the challenges of teaching, and the experience and education each Janzen draws on to address them.

Rod's students come to his classroom questioning the value of studying history and expecting it to be difficult. His role is to help them realize the relevance of what they learn. Before returning to FPU, Rod taught history at Freeman College and was principal at Freeman Academy. He



also taught and served as principal at Iowa Mennonite School.

In Chris's case students expect art courses to be easy, but discover drawing and painting require the same time and energy as any other university class. He encourages students to creatively question their surroundings. His B.A. is from Bethel College and his master of fine arts is from the University of South Dakota.

What troubles Vernon is people's love for material things instead of God and others. This makes it harder to motivate students to serve, he says. Vernon split a 50-year career between the pastorate and education. In addition to his work at FPU (then Pacific College), where he was also on the Board of Trustees, he was principal at Immanuel High School and president of Tabor College. He was also minister of Christian education at Reedley Mennonite Brethren Church and pastor of the Neighborhood Church in Visalia and Vinewood Community Church in Lodi.

"What I am doing now is enjoying retirement," Vernon says, though he hasn't given up learning. He is active in Senior Professionals, a group of former faculty and others who meet for educational presentations.

Three generations of Janzens—careers in different stages, interests in different fields, the same passion.

Cornell professor speaks on civil rights, faith and history as part of Black History Month at FPU, MBBS

A visit by a Cornell University historian and a student art show were among the highlights of Black History Month at FPU and MB Biblical Seminary.

Nick Salvatore spoke February 22 and 23. Presentations were “C.L. Franklin, the African-American Churches and the Transformation of American Society” Friday in College Hour and “Faith and the Historian” Saturday at the seminary. C.L. Franklin, the father of singer Aretha Franklin, was minister of the largest black congregation in Detroit through much of the Civil Rights era. Salvatore is the Maurice and Hinda Neufeld Founders Profes-



Artist Will Portis judged the art show for Black History Month.

sor of Industrial and Labor Relations and Professor of American Studies at Cornell University.

An art show titled “I Have a Dream” took place February 21 in the AIMS Hall Atrium. The juried exhibit featured FPU student works illustrating passages from Martin Luther King, Jr.’s, “I Have a Dream”

speech. Winners were Jeanna Burdine (drawing), Kevin FauntLeroy (graphic design) and Vanesa Contreras (painting). Awards were presented by painter Will Portis, artist-in-residence of the Fresno African American Cultural and Historical Museum. The FPU Gospel Choir also performed.

National Conferences continued from page 3

Some people once simply labeled “strange” are now diagnosed with autism. “They have a wiring mechanism that makes it difficult for them to understand social subtleties,” Taylor-Gillham said. “It’s like having a beautifully functioning computer, but having a keyboard with a short.”

Speak to a person with autism and he or she may look at your mouth instead of your eyes, missing much of the communication. Distractions are also harder to ignore. Taylor-Gillham recalled a student who wore a hooded sweatshirt every day with the hood always up. “They just don’t have the same command of managing their input, or output,” she said.

Autism is on the rise, no one knows the cause, there is no cure and few educators are trained in the field. But treatment to help people with autism work their mental keyboard doesn’t have to cost a fortune.

With early intervention, parents and educators can work as a team. “So the child gets that sense of support at home and at school,” Taylor-Gillham said.

The entire community would be supported if this first conference became an annual event, Aspen said. “This was very much needed.”

PACIFIC JOURNAL CREATES SCHOLARLY NICHE



Pacific Journal is a scholarly journal with a special place.

Many colleges and universities sponsor scholarly publications, but the *Journal*—published annually by FPU—uses a thematic approach that offers a larger perspective than a classics, philosophy or other specialized journal. “This is an opportunity to work outside those niches,” said Marshall Johnston, classics faculty and *Journal* board member.

For its third issue, to be published in July, the *Journal* explores the theme “The church and the environment.” The idea is to show how action on even the hottest issue of the day must be built on a solid foundation of thought and research.

“It’s all pretty relevant stuff,” said Rod Janzen, senior scholar and *Journal* editor. “We’re looking at the subject from different angles.” Articles address economic development, sustainability, energy alternatives and other areas. Authors examine and draw conclusions from modern science, biblical studies, political science and ancient history. Contributors come from the University of

Wyoming and California State University, Fresno, as well as FPU.

The *Journal* began in 2006 with a look at the definitions of scholarship. The theme of the second issue was “The Church Confronts Slavery, Race, and Gender.”

Submissions are reviewed by two academic readers, at least one of whom is not on the FPU faculty. Information on submissions, style and format is available at fresno.edu/pacificjournal. Beginning with the 2008 issue, subscriptions are \$10 a year for print and \$5 a year for the online version. Future themes will be the arts (2009) and pedagogy (2010). Past issues can be downloaded free of charge.

JANZEN LECTURESHIP

John E. Toews discusses politics in Paul

by Megan E. Richard



MB Biblical Seminary President Jim Holm unveiled a portrait of John E. Toews honoring his service to the seminary as academic dean, professor of New Testament and acting president. From left are Holm, Arlene Toews and John E. Toews.

Paul and politics was the subject of John E. Toews, featured speaker for the Janzen Lectureship in Biblical Studies, March 27-28.

"The Politics of Romans" was the title of Toews' lecture Thursday evening at MB Biblical Seminary. Claiming Romans is profoundly political as well as theological, he compared Paul's language with that of the imperial language of the day; showing how words meant for the emperor were now being ascribed to Christ. According to Toews, Paul was countering imperial ideology to build up house church members in Rome as followers of Messiah Jesus, and in the process committing treason. More than 100 people attended the event.

In College Hour Friday, Toews presented "The Politics of Confession." "The confessions of the early church were simultaneously theological and political," he said. Again comparing Paul's language to imperial language, Toews challenged students to discover with him what it means to live with allegiance to Christ alone.

A symposium and banquet celebrated Toews' 40-year contribution to the Mennonite Church, Mennonite higher education and scholarship. Speakers were Valerie Rempel, MBBS associate professor of history and theology; Jon Isaak, MBBS associate professor of New Testament; Gordon Zerbe, associate professor of New Testament at Canadian Mennonite University; and Jim Pankratz, academic dean at Conrad Grebel University College.

Events were hosted by FPU, MB Biblical Seminary and the Council of Senior Professionals. The lectureship was created in 2003 in honor of Edmund Janzen, former FPU president and faculty member, to promote careful scholarship in biblical interpretation, as well as the witness of the Christian church.

Toews was at FPU from 1961-1968 and MB Biblical Seminary from 1977-1995, and still teaches at both. He was at Tabor College from 1973-1977 and president of Conrad Grebel University College from 1996 until his retirement in 2002. Toews served on the Mennonite Brethren Board of Reference (later Board of Faith and Life) from 1984-1996 and was secretary of the General Conference of MB Churches from 1993-1995. He wrote *Romans for the Believers Church Bible Commentary Series* and edited *The Power of the Lamb* and *Your Daughters Shall Prophesy*. He and his wife, Arlene, attend College Community Mennonite Brethren Church.



FPU SCORES WITH ALPHA CHI

A half dozen students presented papers at the Region VII Alpha Chi Conference March 7-8, in Portland, Oregon. Participants and their papers were: Javier Aguilera, "Soil Investigations: Analysis of Pesticides via GC-MS"; Lacy Chastain, "Trees in Religion"; Nichole Corless, "Neuropilin-1 and Regulatory T-cells"; Elena Guravova, "The 'AFRICA' Trap: Does It Exist and Is Foreign Aid The Way Out?"; Meredith Hise, "Ancient Greek Art: Reflections of a Developing Identity"; Christel Tee Sy, "The Effects of Different Sugars on the Growth Rate of E. Coli"; Tee Sy and Corless, "The Effects of Metals on Clay Soil." Also at the conference, the FPU chapter received its second consecutive Star Chapter Award. Chapter faculty advisors are Fay Nielsen, associate dean of mentoring and retention, and Richard Rawls (BA '87), director of Hiebert Library and history faculty. (Left to right: Rawls, Hise, Chastain, Nielsen, Corless and Aguilera.)

MY FPU EXPERIENCE

Students, faculty and alumni share their Fresno Pacific University experience

The goals of *Building on Excellence*, a campaign for Fresno Pacific University, are to support students and faculty and enhance the education and values that make us who we are.

Here are the words of those who matter: the people at the heart of FPU. For more from these and other alumni, faculty and students, go to buildingonexcellence.org.



Roy Klassen
Music program director
Choral music director

"Choral music has always been a passion of mine and being able to teach it to others is a realization of God's calling in my life. The job of the performer is to connect with individuals in the audience and affect

their attitude toward life. In this way, choral music can change people and eventually change the world.

"Since I travel a lot with my students, we experience a familial bond that transcends the classroom experience. This common interaction is a great atmosphere for mentoring. Whilst I mentor some of my students as music education majors, the times of individual, less formal contact are most rewarding.

"At a private institution one must rely on gifts from donors to make things happen. I believe this interaction with people who love the university and have the capability to donate money give the brick and mortar a more personal ownership. It means a great deal to me that there are people in our supportive community who care enough about Fresno Pacific to give their hard-earned money to make the dreams of the fine arts department come to a higher level of reality."



Jo Ellen Priest Misakian
School library/technology
program director

"I absolutely love working at a Christian university. The ethos here at FPU is food for the soul and soothing to the spirit.

"Instructors challenge and encourage students to stretch their minds in multiple ways. Students can expect to work very hard and courses are extremely rigorous, but when they complete the program they are well-prepared.

"The new School of Education building...will encompass the latest of educational strategies and technologies to best prepare teachers to enter classrooms and libraries. This addition makes a strong statement to the community that we are serious about making an impact."



Vanessa Ronk (BA '08)
English major
secondary teaching
emphasis

"Coming from the public junior college system, I found FPU amazing. I couldn't get over the fact that we could pray in class, and there were Scripture

verses actually posted on campus!

"My education has given me all the tools I need. It was beneficial to not only be given classroom knowledge but hands-on skills. My professors helped me find avenues to practice my discipline. I was able to tutor in the writing lab, and I also had the opportunity to present at a writing conference.

"Attending a Christian university took the pressure off me to defend my faith, so I was given the freedom to ask questions. What does it mean to me? How do I live out my beliefs? I learned how to interface my faith in today's world with what I learned in class."

high NOTES NEWSLETTER

Spirits soar at capital campaign kick-off



A campaign for
FRESNO PACIFIC
UNIVERSITY



More than half the \$36 million goal already pledged

by Wayne Steffen

The banner showed \$5 million. "Is that enough?" came the voice from bullhorn.

"No!" yelled about 275 students, faculty, staff, administrators, supporters and community guests.

The scissor lift rose another few feet and the banner unfurled to \$10 million.

"Enough?"

"No!"

The motor buzzed, the lift ascended further, passengers President D. Merrill Ewert and Sunny the Sunbird continued to wave. As the lift reached 24 feet in the sun and breeze above East Hall Green, the banner inched past \$20 million.

"One more!"

"\$20.2 million," said the man with the bullhorn, and the crowd's roar ended the quiet phase of the *Building on Excellence*, a campaign for Fresno Pacific University. The \$36-million effort to build a fine arts

center and School of Education Building, as well as increase scholarships, academic programs and endowments was very, very public.

The June 6 campaign kick-off was a morning of colorful balloons, rousing music and soaring spirits. The ceremony began in Steinert Campus Center with a fond look at where FPU has been and a confident view of the future. Throughout the 50-minute event ran affirmation of what the university stands for, who it serves and all who have made it possible. "We will succeed. With God's help—and with yours," Ewert said.

Among the speakers were co-chairs Larry and Paula Warkentin and J. Scott and Deborah Leonard. Larry Warkentin, emeritus music faculty, recalled hearing a student ensemble when he was 10 years old. "Without that outreach...the university certainly wouldn't be what it is today," he said.

Scott Leonard, CEO of Guarantee Real Estate, and others talked about how faith and knowledge transform students into professionally prepared and ethical leaders. "Buildings without people are just shells," he said.

Faculty, staff and trustees have already participated in the campaign. Over the next year, the invitation will go out to alumni, foundations, the community and the region.

There is exciting work ahead. "Thirty six million dollars is nothing for God," Scott Leonard said.

What We're Building

The priorities of *Building on Excellence* are the facilities and services FPU needs to keep developing students academically, professionally and ethically.

PRIORITIES	GOALS	PLEDGES
General campaign (unrestricted)	—	\$2.4 million
Fine Arts Center	\$21 million	\$5.5 million
School of Education	\$5 million	\$6 million
Scholarships and programs	\$3 million	\$1.9 million
Building endowments	\$3 million	—
Academic program development/ general campaign	\$4 million	\$4.2 million
Total	\$36 million	\$20.2 million

BUILDING ON EXCELLENCE campaign



EXCELLENCE

At Fresno Pacific University, excellence means:

- Giving first-generation college students the academic foundation for study at Ivy League universities.
- Serving school districts with the teachers and administrators they want to hire first.
- Preparing ministers, missionaries and lay leaders for service around the globe.
- Developing performers for nationally known ensembles and conservatories.

Excellence is worth building on

FPU builds the community, the region and the world through the professional and personal excellence of more than 15,000 alumni. Many of our most successful graduates emerged from the most humble circumstances to become leaders in business, medicine, education, science, media, ministry and the arts. These influential servant-leaders were shaped, as one said, by "...the way faith and ethics are woven into the learning experience."

How were they shaped? Challenging academics presented by a qualified and involved faculty. Baccalaureate and graduate programs built on an ethical foundation with numerous opportunities for practical experience. An atmosphere that helps students develop as whole individuals ready and able to make a difference.

Why we're building

Today the need for educated, ethical leaders is more intense, and the pursuit of educational excellence is more demanding, than ever. FPU must continue to be innovative and assertive to fulfill its mission to develop students for leadership and service through excellence in Christian higher education.

To do this, we must expand programs, buildings, scholarships and endowments. Now, in the most comprehensive way in its history, the university has established priorities to meet the future. Careful long-range planning by university faculty, staff, trustees, administrators and knowledgeable friends resulted in a comprehensive plan to prepare for an exciting future.

What we're building

The priorities of the *Building on Excellence* campaign are the facilities and services FPU requires to continue developing students academically, professionally and ethically.

Fine Arts Center

A fine arts center is the centerpiece of the campaign. The design calls for separate customized venues for musical performances and dramatic presentations, a worship center and a fine arts gallery encompassing sculpture, painting, photography and graphic arts. Soundproof practice rooms, faculty offices and classrooms are incorporated into the master plan for the facility, which will be located at the edge of the campus to allow easy access for visitors.

n will give FPU what it needs to soar



School of Education

A new home for the School of Education will bring synergy between the school and the AIMS Educational Foundation for research and development for math and science education. There will be classrooms, labs and studio quality electronic and video equipment.

Scholarships, endowment and academic development

Superior private higher education is costly to provide. Many students face financial hurdles. It has always been a goal of FPU to be available to any deserving student, without regard to financial ability. Income from endowment supports:

- Scholarships to encourage our best and brightest students as well as those with financial need to continue the quest for academic excellence.
- Faculty development to attract and retain faculty on the leading edge of their fields through endowed department chairs, professorships and other support.
- Program enrichment to incorporate relevant experiential learning throughout campus life.
- Maintenance for the upkeep and upgrading of facilities.

What we build on

As the only independent, comprehensive university based in the Central Valley offering bachelor's and master's degrees, FPU serves a highly diverse student body. All programs

emphasize the importance of values, ethics and character development—an affirmation that we are and always will be a distinctively Christian institution.

FPU began as Pacific Bible Institute in 1944 with seven staff members and 28 students in a single building. The institution began awarding bachelor's degrees in the mid-1960s, opened graduate programs in the 1970s and became a university in 1997. Today we are composed of four academic schools: the School of Business, the School of Education, the School of Natural Sciences and the School of Humanities, Religion and Social Sciences. More than 290 faculty and staff and 2,300 students work and learn in 17 major buildings, as well as centers in North Fresno, Visalia and Bakersfield. Students and faculty come from 12 states, 30 denominations, 31 nations and a variety of ethnic groups.

The university is affiliated with the Pacific District Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Churches and accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The university has been recognized by such publications as *U.S. News & World Report*, which lists it in the top tier among master's universities—west.

Build with us

Please join us in this adventure, as we continue...

building leaders.

building the Kingdom.

building on excellence.

Like Fresno Pacific University, *Building on Excellence* is centered on people. Leaders and participants will propel this campaign and make possible its success.



Leading that effort will be two couples whose lives represent the professional achievement and personal servant-leadership reflected in the university's core values. Larry and Paula Warkentin and Scott and Deborah Leonard are respected on the campus and in the community, and we are proud they have generously agreed to serve as campaign chairs.

Scott Leonard is president and CEO of Guarantee Real Estate, Fresno's largest agency in the field, with 400 employees and more than \$1 billion in transactions annually. Among Deborah's many services to church and community are preparing meals for people convalescing from illness and missions to Costa Rica to assemble and deliver wheelchairs to the disabled through Rotary International. Larry and Paula Warkentin have given their careers to education, Larry as music faculty and department chair at FPU, and Paula as an elementary teacher. Larry has a wide reputation as a composer and concert performer, winning numerous awards.

Let these accomplished leaders tell you why they got involved in the campaign:

Scott and Deborah Leonard

Deborah: It is an exciting opportunity to see what God will do in His Kingdom when believers join together for his glory. We believe this effort is in line with God's plan. We are encouraged to see the university build on its excellence in education and further reach the world.

Scott: As this campaign funds the growth and needs for the future of Fresno Pacific, God is at work doing amazing things through its graduates. They are being prepared to change the world for Christ's glory, making an impact in ways we can't even imagine today.

Larry and Paula Warkentin

Paula: A commitment to excellence has been evident from the very beginning. A strong faculty, dedicated students and generous donors have made possible the campus and university we have today.

Larry: During 40 years on the faculty we have seen students progress toward vocations in music, the arts, medicine, science, education and service in community and church. Now that we are retired we want to support the Building on Excellence campaign so that the educational life of the university can be enriched with buildings that inspire and encourage excellence.

MY FPU EXPERIENCE



Hannah Hernandez
Liberal studies major,
English minor

"Last fall, I lost a younger cousin to leukemia. It was a very tough semester for me, and I struggled personally. My professors were very

concerned not just because I missed some classes, but they were really concerned with how I was doing. FPU professors are a special breed, not just your average professors. They have a lifestyle of servant leadership which is evident in their teaching.

"I've realized since being here that my goals are attainable, and I am capable. FPU has given me the resources to be successful, not only in my career but spiritually and emotionally. They've given me the extra push and the positive encouragement."



John Klose
Communications major,
multimedia production
emphasis

"This is a great place to learn, and students walk away with good experiences all around. Scholarships can be the key factor

in enabling someone to have this experience. I know they made a huge difference in my life.

"I enjoy my classes and am learning a lot. My professors work to stimulate thought and interest in their subject area. Although the classes can be challenging and even difficult, I'm receiving hands-on, practical knowledge.



Sarah Carter (BA '08)
Music major, performance/composition and
secondary teaching emphases

"Right away I fell in love with the faculty at FPU and the way things were done. They were not intimidating because their kindness was disarming. They are professors with the love of Christ in their hearts.

"I plan to continue playing in the Fresno Pacific Community Wind Ensemble conducted by Patricia DeBenedetto. We were invited to play in Carnegie Hall, and it is a big deal to be invited. My

summer project is transcribing a Beethoven piece. If I do it well, it will be added to our repertoire and I might have the opportunity to conduct it in concert.

"I don't think I would have received this kind of education somewhere else. I could have got a degree, but not the chance to work with these kind of people. They have made me who I am and shaped the well-rounded individual I am becoming."

Alumni in professions report to students

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS HOSTS Q & A

By Ikuma Lumeya



Sheila Kamps

Susana Garcia

Martin Acree

Students got a progress report on life beyond graduation during a February 10 College Hour. The School of Business hosted Sheila Kamps (BA '04), Martin Acree (BA '07) and Susana Garcia (current MA student).

Kamps majored in business administration with an emphasis on marketing and management. She was also on the basketball and track teams. Kamps is currently a self-employed agent for Farmers Insurance.

"I knew that I wanted to go into sales because I love talking to people and I also wanted to be an independent business owner," Kamps said. "When I started really looking for jobs I realized that owning my own insurance agency would allow me to achieve both of these goals."

FPU equipped her with a solid foundation, Kamps said. "Through my classes at FPU I got a glimpse of what business in the real world was like," she said.

Now a risk manager at the California Risk Management Authority, Acree majored in organizational leadership through the degree completion program. "I didn't exactly choose the field, I kind of fell into it," Acree said of his job. "Once I'd been in it about six months I knew I would do it the rest of my life."

Acree offered a couple of suggestions for students after the presentations. "First, don't be afraid to try some different things before settling in on a long-term career. Secondly, when you're in a job, accept any assignment and volunteer for everything. No experience is a bad one."

Garcia is working on her master's in leadership and organizational studies. She is a healthcare ombudsman/mediator at Kaiser Permanente who has been in the healthcare industry more than 25 years. She advised students to find a job they really loved. "What class do you really get excited about?" she asked.

MEXICO CRUISE

*Annual Alumni & Friends
Cruise to Ensenada*

JANUARY 9-12, 2009

Bring your whole family and call your friends for a great weekend!

Sleep in, enjoy gourmet meals, take the kids to the pool and take a stroll to enjoy the 360-degree ocean views. Exclusively for alumni on board the ship, Jim Burns, president of HomeWord, will lead seminars on couples' relationships and raising children.

Costs: \$281.94/person, interior cabins
\$321.94 per person, ocean view cabins

Call 559-453-2237 or visit fresno.edu/alumni/cruise to find out how you can take advantage of our special pricing offer.



HOMEcoming 2008
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Andrew Barling (BA '74) completed a victim chaplain certificate from the Victim Chaplain Training Academy in 2007 as part of professional first-responder training from the Victim Chaplain and Counselors Association of America. Earlier this year, he also received a lifetime membership with the National Eagle Scout Association of the Boy Scouts of America.

Mary Mason (BA '81) earned her Ed.D. in educational administration from the department of education at UC Irvine in 2007. Her dissertation was: *Preservice Teachers' Perception about Teaching Reading: Patterns, Perspectives, and Persistence*.

Craig Forney (BA '82) published a book in 2007 with Mercer University Press. *The Holy Trinity of American Sports: Civil Religion in Football, Baseball and Basketball* "explores how football, baseball, and basketball interact to illustrate civil religion in the U.S. These three sports mark movement through one year in the country, providing extended seasons to supplement holidays like Memorial Day and the Fourth of July... They generate ritual actions of daily, weekly, yearly, and once-in-a-lifetime significance." Forney earned his M.A. (religious studies, 1986) and Ph.D. (history of Christianity, 2002) at the University of Chicago. He teaches at Palomar College and is working on another manuscript, *The Tribes of Sports in the United States*.

Greg Chamberlain (MA '89) will become president of Bakersfield College July 1. "The Board of Trustees is confident that Dr. Chamberlain will foster academic excellence and promote the success of Bakersfield College, its students, and the communities it serves," said KCCCD Board of Trustees President Kay Meek in a media release. "He has comprehensive experience as a community college faculty member, as a dean and as an academic and student services officer." Chamberlain began teaching at Washington Union High School, Fresno, in 1984. He was an

adjunct faculty at Fresno City College from 1987 to 1989 and began teaching full time at Bakersfield College in fall 1989. At BC he has been director of academic computing, computer studies department chair, lead faculty in instructional technology and dean of learning resources and information technology. He has served as vice chancellor of educational services for the Kern Community College District. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Northern Colorado in 1999.

Francis Theophilus (BA '92) graduated from the Regent University School of Divinity in 1999, and was ordained a priest in the Anglican Church Worldwide on February 24, 2008, in Belleville, Illinois.

Anthony Velez (BA '95) is a tutoring and resource coordinator at FPU's Center for Writing and Learning. He also teaches written communication and advises the student newspaper, *The Syrinx*. He earned his M.A. in theology from Wharton College and is studying for an M.A. in literature at CSU Fresno.

John W. Berg (BA '99, TC '00) earned his M.A. in history from CSU Fresno in 2005. He is the lead teacher in the social studies department at Edison High School, Fresno, and serves as adjunct faculty at local colleges and universities.

Dave Rainbow (BA '02) received a National Defense Language grant from the U.S. State Department to study in Russia this summer for two months. He is in doctoral studies at New York University.

Dave Lockridge (BA '03) owns Ashland Longboards in Redondo Beach. The store carries classic longboards and skateboards as well as other skate-related products. Products are also available online at ashlandlongboards.com.

Veronica (Villalobos BA '03) Meadors received her M.A. in education in May 2007 from Point Loma Nazarene University.

Mark Petersen (BA '05) is a Ph.D. candidate at Purdue University.

John Posten (BA '05) has been accepted to the 2008 medical school entering class at Touro University in Vallejo.

Jelena Pandzic (FS '06) and adjunct faculty Christopher Rosik published the lead article in the *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*. "Marital Satisfaction Among Christian Missionaries: A Longitudinal Analysis from Candidacy to Second Furlough" is in the spring 2008 issue (volume 27 Number 1).

Lorraine Weller (BA '06) has been accepted to UC Riverside's graduate program in plant biology. She will begin Ph.D. study there in September and will be researching desert ecosystems and urban ecology.

Karen Ball (BA '07) was hired as program director for Porterville College Child Development Programs and Services on February 1, 2008.

Jeffrey M. Garcia (BA '07) became vice president of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) in October 2007. He had been assistant vice president since October 2000. Garcia directs more than 75 employees at the AAA's Western Case Management Center in Fresno. The AAA is a not-for-profit and public service organization, offering dispute resolution services to individuals and public and private organizations.

Crystal Wendt (BA '07) is working toward an M.A. in Old Testament theology at MB Biblical Seminary

in Fresno. She also trains horses in Tulare.

Meredith Hise (BA '08) was admitted into Baylor University's M.A. program in history with tuition plus a stipend.

IN THE NEWS

Celebrating alumni featured in print and broadcast media.

Richard Unruh (BA '67), political science faculty, was on an ABC 30 report January 21, 2008, "California Party Lines Changing."

Ken Friesen (BA '84), political science and history faculty, appeared on an ABC 30 KFSN television report May 8 on vegetable oil-powered vehicles and state regulations. Also on the report was Marshall Johnston, history and classics faculty.

Beto Gonzalez (FS '99) was in the *Brownsville Herald* on March 10, 2008. He is deputy superintendent of the Brownsville Independent School District. He had served as a deputy secretary of education in the first George W. Bush administration, and as superintendent of the Temple School District in Texas.

ENGAGEMENT

Joanne Geweke (TC '06) and Joel Green plan to wed in July 2008 at the Cornerstone Gardens in Sonoma. Joanne is a kindergarten teacher at Mattie Washburn Elementary School in the Windsor School District. Joel works as a winemaker at Safe Harbor Wines in Napa. Both reside in Santa Rosa.

IN TOUCH WITH ALUMNI

WHAT'S GOING ON? It's so easy to let your classmates and friends know what's happening in your life. Send your news—job, marriage, children, new address, awards—to alumni updates.

Email
alumni@fresno.edu

Fax
559-453-2033
(attention: alumni updates)

Mail
David Bacci
Director of Alumni Relations
Fresno Pacific University
1717 S. Chestnut Ave.
Fresno, CA 93702

Please include your graduation year(s) with your update. Photos must be 1 megabyte for digital files and at least 3x4 inches for prints.

MARRIAGES

Cassie Huffman (MA '87) married Joseph Travo in July 2007. The couple resides in Visalia.

Anitra Williams (BA '95) married Gregory Joseph Smee on January 31, 2008. The couple resides in Corona.

Alissa Robison (FS '00) married Sergeant Jonathan Vargas of California National Guard 270th Military Police on March 15, 2008. Alissa works at Yolo County Office of Education as a science teacher at a juvenile hall in Woodland.

Megan Steinert (BA '02) married Mark R. Cardenas on February 29, 2008.

Jennifer Strid (BA '05) married Michael Elliott on December 22, 2007. The couple resides in Fresno.

Stephanie Childress (BA '06) married Sahurep "Pep" Salas on June 17, 2006. They reside in Visalia and bought their first home.



Jennifer Miller (BA '08) married Simon Stockford on February 2, 2008.

BIRTHS

Matthew (BA '95) and Lisa (Schrock BA '93) Poppen announce the birth of daughter Annie Elisabeth on March 18, 2007. She joins brother Samuel, 3.

Janine (Selph BA '96) Jenista and her husband, Todd, announce the birth of son Wesley Michael on the September 11, 2007. He joins sister Sophia, 2.



Nicole (White BA '97) Allen and her husband, Justin, announce the birth of son Micah George on April 24, 2008. Micah joins brothers Elijah, 4, and Isaac, 2.

Maribel (Ramírez BA '97) and Felipe (BA '99) Hinojosa announce the birth of daughter Ariana Saraí on August 4, 2007. Ariana joins brother Samuel Alejandro, 3. Maribel and Felipe live in South Texas, where Maribel works as a clinical psychologist and Felipe is completing his dissertation on Latino religious identity during the Civil Rights era. Felipe is the recipient of the Hispanic Theological Initiative dissertation fellowship at Princeton Theological Seminary for the 2008-2009 academic year.



Brad (BA '98, TC '99) and Betsy (Barnes BA '02) Robb announce the birth of daughter Brooklyn on December 5, 2006.

Ben (BA '00) and Michelle (Miller, BA '99) Higgins announce the birth of son Samuel Thomas on February 8, 2008. He joins Olivia, 2. Ben and Michelle continue to reside in Anchorage, Alaska, where Ben teaches fourth grade and Michelle is an occupational therapist currently on leave to be a stay-at-home mom.



Chad (BA '02) and Teresa (Kamps BA '02) Downey announce the birth of son James William on March 15, 2008. Chad and Teresa live in Placerville, where Chad is the vice president of MaxPreps and Teresa is a CPA.



Larkin (Hand BA '02) McGowan and husband, Jonathan, announce the birth of daughter Seanna Francine on January 21, 2008. She weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 19.75 inches long.

Andrea (Bogart BA '03) Cole and her husband, Matt, announce the birth of son Jarin Matthew on January 26, 2008. Jarin joins brother Brady, 21 months.



Dawn (Chidester BA '03, TC '03) Mustin and husband, Aaron, announce the birth of son Jackson Christopher on August 18, 2007. He weighed 10 pounds and was 21.25 inches long.



Chris (BA '04) and Christine (Fridolfs BA '97, TC '98, MA '07) Johnson announce the birth of son Caleb Rodney on August 31, 2007. He weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces and was 20 inches long.



Jeremy Inocencio (BA '06) and wife, Ruth, announce the birth of daughter Zuriaa Starr on April 29, 2008.

MOVING

Michael (BA '99, TC '00) and Sarah (Watters BA '00) Johnson are moving to Papua New Guinea in July 2008 to begin work with Wycliffe Bible Translators. The goal of Wycliffe Bible Translators is to see God's Word in the language that each person understands best. There are about 2,200 languages without an adequate translation of the Scriptures, representing nearly 200 million people.

Pulkit Bose (BA '07) mixing science and real life

Since graduating in June and getting married in July, transitions and changes have kept me busy. As you may know, Emily and I moved to Pennsylvania after our wedding for my job at Merck Research Laboratories in West Point, Pa. We are in suburban Philadelphia.

I joined a vaccine group and initially started by supporting the HIV vaccine trial that has now been stopped. This was a devastating thing for a lot of scientists at Merck and worldwide (especially our trial in South Africa). It broke our hearts, and continues to, as a lot of people give up hope for a vaccine in the future.

The truth is, HIV is a tough virus to fight and a vaccine is not a very practical possibility in the near future (at least 10 years). Moreover, I am learning that the world of HIV/AIDS medicine is (as expected) a complex one with various political, cultural and health policy issues influencing it.

Nonetheless, things move fast in the field of science. I am in the same group now supporting pre-clinical development of a cancer vaccine candidate for breast, colorectal, ovarian and non-small cell lung cancers that is in clinical trials, and another cancer vac-

cine candidate that is not in trial yet.

I am also supporting pre-clinical development of a therapeutic protein for anemia caused by kidney failure (diabetes) or treatment of cancer, etc.

I am enjoying my work and development in the “real world,” so I want to thank

each one of you for your invaluable contribution in my life—for teaching me wonderful things, for all the encouragement and love, for all the hard exams, for all the fun.

Emily is pursuing nursing and started college in January. We are still getting used to the East Coast culture and weather, but doing well.

Pulkit and his wife, Emily, in New York City

You are more than welcome to our place if you ever want to visit or are visiting the East Coast. I'd also love to hear from you. God bless you.

Contact Pulkit and Emily at paul.sawroop@gmail.com



The forum was split into three sections. During “Let Story Guide you,” Miller spoke about looking at our lives as stories God designed for us.

Standing on a stage at the front of the gym in the same blue shirt and jeans he had worn for 48 hours (his luggage was delayed) Miller recalled seeing *Rocky III* in the theater. Expecting the movie to be full of fight scenes, Miller became frustrated when after 40 minutes there had not yet been any boxing. Instead most scenes were about Rocky’s everyday life. Miller said it was only later he understood the director’s intent: he wanted the audience to get to know Rocky so that they would care about him.

In “The Nature of the Gospel” Miller told ministry leaders to make sure everyone in their congregation fit into the big picture of the church’s story. He also said conflict was a good thing. “Effort and conflict are what give value to what we are doing,” he said.

Throughout the forum, Miller gave examples of how life is set up as a story where there needs to be a goal, a conflict then a resolution. The whole point of a story, such as in life, is “How has story changed a person’s character? Characters only change if they are put through pain,” said Miller.

When asked during closing Q&A about sharing Christ,

Miller brings sense of story to Christian spirituality

By Ikuma Lumeya

MINISTRY FORUM SELLS OUT

Sold Out. The doors opened at 8:00 a.m. and the throng of pastors, students, teachers and ministry leaders filled the Special Events Center April 17. In the coffee and bagel line the crowd took the time to catch up with old friends and maybe talk about who they were here to hear: Donald Miller had come to speak at the 2008 Central Valley Ministry Forum.

Miller has written: *Prayer and the Art of Volkswagen Maintenance*, *Through Painted Deserts*, *Searching for God Knows What*, *To Own a Dragon* and *Blue Like Jazz*, a *New York Times* bestseller. *Let Story Guide You* is due later this year.

In the back of the room, next to the drinks and book tables sat Scott Metcalf, Jasmin Ignacio and Brendon James. Metcalf is a senior at FPU. Ignacio is a senior at CSU Bakersfield and James is a sophomore at the Art Institute in Orange County. All had read Miller’s books and were curious to hear him.

The roar of conversations became a soft hum a few minutes past 9:00 a.m. as Gary Wall, district minister of the Pacific District Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, introduced Miller. “I believe this forum is sold out for a reason,” Wall said. “It grieves us to see that the world is disinterested in the Jesus we are presenting.”

Miller told his story about a non-Christian friend. “Laura had a question about Jesus, I gave her a Bible and told her to read the book of John, and then to tell me what she thinks. She wrote me an email and said that she believed he was the son of God and was now a Christian. I set her up on a blind date with Jesus.”


In the back row, Miller has gained one fan and solidified two more. “After reading his books,” Ignacio said. “I have been going through a change. I grew up in church and went to youth group. I focused more on service and did not do enough with the nurturing [end of] my relationship with God. Right now I am taking a step back from service to work on the relationship, so that the service can come naturally.”

“I wish he would get out of my brain. It was like he was putting my thoughts or struggles into words,” Metcalf said.

“There were places during the presentation that I just wished I was at a table with him so that I could ask him some questions,” James said.

This ability to put abstract concepts and complex ideas into layman’s terms has gained Miller the success apparent today: sold out lectures and crowds eager to see how to reach more people to Christ.

The 2008 Central Valley Ministry Forum will be February 26. The speaker will be Ray Bakke.



Graduates challenged for what's next in life

Christel Balanay Tee Sy, B.A. graduate in chemistry, won the award for the highest grade-point average with a perfect 4.0.

Graduation is a milestone, not a finish line. “I want to challenge you that while you are done with this stage, in a very real sense you are never finished,” Rod Reed, campus pastor and dean of spiritual formation, told graduates during commencement May 3.

In all, 374 new alumni—153 traditional undergraduates, 165 bachelor’s degree completion and 56 master’s degree—received degrees in morning and afternoon ceremonies in the Special Events Center. Richard Unruh (BA ’67), political science professor, received the Nickel Excellence in Teaching Award. Christel Balanay Tee Sy, B.A. graduate in chemistry, won the award for the highest grade-point average with a perfect 4.0. Vanessa Cathleen Ronk, B.A. graduate in English with a secondary teaching emphasis, was given the Harold H. Haak Award for Academic Achievement.

Reed’s talk, “Done, But Never Finished,” held special significance since Reed is taking his own advice: after a decade at FPU, he is moving to a similar position at John Brown University.

Reed called on students to be resilient. “When life is hard you don’t get bent out of shape for too long. You are able to bounce back and even get stronger,” he said.

Graduates must recognize they are never finished in three areas:

• Learning

“Most of what I learned in college and seminary is still relevant and incredibly helpful, but if I rely solely on the content of my classes from 15 or 20 years ago, my effectiveness is going to decrease every year. But my professors, like your professors, taught me more than content. They taught me how to learn and keep on learning.”

• Community

“For as much as you’ve gotten tired of hearing the word ‘community,’ you’ve come to realize how important it is. You need people around you to encourage you and support you as you try to figure out career and relationships and life. You need people who will ask how you’re doing and wait around for the answer, no matter how long it takes.”

• Spiritual (personal) formation

“The benefit of being at FPU is there are people around you challenging you to grow in all areas of your life. When you leave here it is very easy to get caught up in all the tangible demands of life. In the midst of all of those responsibilities knocking on your door every day, it is easy to neglect the important work of personal, spiritual, character formation.”

Board notebook: Trustees set budget, plan fitness center Foundation earns highest audit

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 7-8

- The board approved building a fitness center. The location will be the west side of the first floor of East Hall. Construction will begin this summer and is to be completed in the fall.
- A budget of \$35.7 million was set for 2008-2009.
- To streamline board oversight, two committees were combined and a new committee was created. The Student Life Committee was merged with the Academic Committee. The new Enrollment Management Committee will oversee student recruitment and retention of all undergraduate and graduate programs.
- The board welcomed three new trustees:
 - Skip Suess was appointed moderator of Pacific District Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches in November. A pastor for 20 years, Suess recently completed 13 years at the Good News Fellowship in Ferndale, Washington, and now divides his time between a private counseling practice in Bellingham, Washington, and his family's nut business in Lodi.
 - Bud Klassen is an independent insurance agent in Reedley who served as PDC moderator for the last six years.
 - Michael Eldridge has been a piano teacher for 25 years. He has also been an adjunct college faculty and staff member of Lincoln Glen Church in San Jose.
- A new faculty handbook was approved.

June 6-7

- Two trustees received emeritus status: Max Steinert served 25 years and Peter Klassen served 20 years.
- Four faculty were awarded continuing status: Ken Friesen, political science and history; Eleanor Nickel, English; Julia Reimer, theater; and Alan Thompson, biology.
- Ruth Heinrichs, retired business faculty, was given emeritus status.

FOUNDATION BOARD

March 7-8

- About \$500,000 will be placed with the Mennonite Brethren Foundation. The move was very well received by the university board, as well. "The boards felt we must embrace our roots and work together whenever we are able," said Mark Deffenbacher, foundation executive director and university vice president for advancement and university relations. FPU is affiliated with the Pacific District Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Churches.

June 6-7

- The foundation was given a positive audit by Moore, Grider & Company. Examiners gave the foundation their highest rating.

NEW PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE MEMBERS FOR A NEW YEAR

The new year brought several individuals and families to first-time membership in the Fresno Pacific University President's Circle. Welcome to all those who joined between January and April 2008.

- Dale and Priscilla Flaming
- Dennis and Dianne Harrison
- Dr. Gerald and Valerie Pieroni
- Aleksandr and Yelena Plukchi
- Jim Saia
- Ryan and Wendy Turner

The President's Circle is a special group of friends who promote FPU whenever possible, pray for its people and needs, encourage students to attend, give at least \$1,000 annually and offer advice and encouragement.

2008 BUSINESS FORUM

TOM MORRIS “The Art of Achievement”

Date: October 22, 2008
 Place: Fresno Convention & Entertainment Center
 Time: 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. breakfast
 Cost: Tickets are \$40 each or \$350 for a table of 10

For reservations, call 559-453-7139. For more information, visit the FPU website at fresno.edu/businessforum



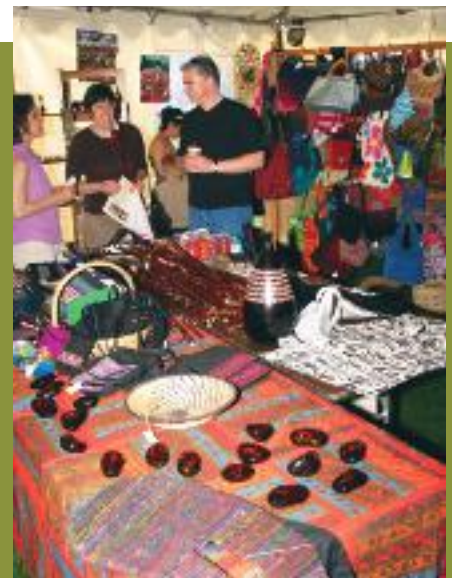
Tom Morris, Ph.D., author of *If Aristotle Ran General Motors: The New Soul of Business*, *The Stoic Art of Living* and *True Success*, brings the greatest wisdom of the past into the challenges currently found in our organizations. After 15 years as professor of philosophy at the Univer-

sity of Notre Dame, Morris founded the Morris Institute, where he now serves thousands of business leaders each year with “practical wisdom.” More about Morris and his work is available at morrisinstitute.com.

The annual Business Forum is among the largest events of its kind in the region, attracting sold-out audiences and nationally known speakers, including Ken Blanchard, Patrick Lencioni, John Maxwell and John Wooden.

MCC SALE RAISES \$220,000

The 41st annual West Coast Mennonite Sale & Auction for World Relief generated about \$220,000 April 4 and 5. Hundreds of volunteers and thousands of guests came to campus for the event, which raises funds for people living with natural and man-made disasters around the world. The auction of more than 500 quilts and comforters brought \$77,000. Other highlights include hand made crafts from Ten Thousand Villages, antiques, furniture, plants and fine art—including work by Margaret Hudson, Chris Janzen and Lynette Ratzlaff. The sale is organized by the West Coast Mennonite Central Committee, part of an international organization dedicated to answering human needs “In the name of Christ.”





CHRIS SCHWINDEN



DANIEL BRODIE



JUSTIN KENNEY



JOSH JACKSON

Third year charmed for Sunbirds baseball

A record 36 wins brought the baseball squad national recognition.

For the first time in the program's three-year history, the Sunbirds opened the season in a place called home. FPU Field hosted its first opening day on February 9 as FPU swept the 13th-ranked Lancers of California Baptist.

The team cracked the NAIA's top 25 national poll for the first time on February 27. Four wins in five games placed the Sunbirds 23rd on the list.

Another run of eight straight wins kept the squad climbing the charts. A sweep of the fourth-ranked Cougars of Azusa Pacific highlighted the streak, which moved the Sunbirds up to 12th in the nation. The squad would reach the top ten before post-season play.

A second-place finish in the Golden State Athletic Conference gave the Sunbirds a first-round bye in the NAIA Region II Playoffs. This marked the first time the team was awarded the bid to play in the post-season. A 21-14 slugfest against Concordia ended FPU's hopes in the semi-final round.

The Sunbirds finished the 2008 campaign with a 36-14 record overall and a 26-10 mark in GSAC. Oscar Hirschhorn was named GSAC Coach of the Year and Chris Schwinden was pitcher of the year. Daniel Brodie, Justin Kenney and Josh Jackson all earned conference first-team honors.



OSCAR
HIRSCHHORN

MVP SHARES THOUGHTS ON CHARACTER

A former World Series MVP talked about character March 11.

Robert Clinton "Bobby" Richardson spoke at the Night of Champions event in the Special Events Center. Richardson was named MVP of the 1960 World Series while playing for the New York Yankees.



Today he is a born-again Christian who travels the country sharing the word of God with thousands of people. Richardson is also known for his national leadership in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA).

While in major league baseball, Richardson won five Gold Glove awards and played in seven all-star games. In 1962 he was runner-up to Mickey Mantle for MVP honors and later delivered the eulogy at Mantle's funeral.

After Richardson's playing days he coached for the University of South Carolina from 1969-1976, where he accumulated a 220-91-2 record and took the team to the 1975 College World Series. He also led teams at Coastal Carolina University from 1984-1986 and Liberty University from 1986-1990. At Liberty, Richardson was athletic director as well as coach.

At Night of Champions, Richardson's topic was how to live life like a champion. He was also available for photographs and autographs.

Men's and women's tennis teams national runners-up

The men's and women's tennis programs reached new heights in 2008, sweeping the Golden State Athletic Conference title and the NAIA Region II crown, giving both squads berths in the 2008 NAIA national championships.

Both teams ended their seasons as national runners-up, each losing to Auburn-Montgomery in the finals May 16.

Through the season, the women's squad carried its success from the past two years and extended its GSAC winning streak to 36 straight wins and a third consecutive Region II championship, hosted by FPU. The men scored their first GSAC and Region II championships and their first trip to the nationals by running off 22 consecutive wins.

Multiple players were awarded post-season national honors: Matt Carroll, Vicente Joli, Anna Karavayeva, Angie Minova, Katie Sabate and Fabio Silva were all named to the NAIA's All-American first team. Marco Foelz and Maria Klokotzky earned second-team honors. Carroll, Joli, Karavayeva and Silva also received GSAC honors. Head coach Neil Castro was named GSAC Coach of the Year on both the men's and women's side.



MATT CARROLL



VICENTE JOLI



ANNA KARAVAYEVA



ANGIE MINOVA



KATIE SABATE



FABIO SILVA



MARCO FOELZ



MARIA KLOKOTZKY



NEIL CASTRO

MORE ON SUNBIRD SPORTS AT FRESNO.EDU/ATHLETICS

NAIA national track roundup

Several FPU track team members competed in the NAIA Men's and Women's Outdoor National Track & Field Championships May 22-24 in Edwardsville, Illinois.

WOMEN'S RESULTS

Natalie Friesen | 4th | triple jump
Amanda Straw | 8th | high jump | 10th | heptathlon
Samantha Hearnese | 12th | long jump
Michelle Warkentin | 16th | 400 hurdles
Kaili Zink | 20th | 10,000 meter run

MEN'S RESULTS

Robert Skipper | 4th | 110 hurdles
(new school record of 14.37)
Robert Hernandez | 5th | marathon
Wes Wells | 10th | high jump
Anthony Puente | 11th | pole vault
Benny Madrigal | 17th | 3000 steeple chase
Anthony Clark | 19th | 400 dash

THE STUDENTS OF FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY—
we have them only for a short time—
but our influence will last a lifetime.

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