

PACIFIC

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**Degree completion
students tour Europe**

**New majors broaden
curriculum**

**FPU to host national
soccer championship**

A new season
TO REFLECT ON THE *Idea*

president's message



D. MERRILL EWERT

Change is a chance to honor the past and welcome the future

Change is the only constant in life. Although this observation does not originate with me, it certainly reflects my experience. I've taught and held leadership roles at three other universities, and lived and worked with international organizations in several other countries. Each of these experiences changed me in significant ways; they enlarged my worldview, gave me opportunities to learn and helped me develop new skills. Healthy organizations also change as new leaders bring their knowledge and experience to the table.

Continuity is usually more comfortable than change for people and organizations. However, as someone has noted, without change there would be no butterflies!

Fresno Pacific has changed significantly over the years. Founded as a Bible institute, the school evolved into a junior college, then a four-year institution. The addition of graduate and professional development programs transformed it into a university with multiple schools and off-campus centers. What began as a small, denominational Bible school broadened to include students from other church traditions. The core values, however, have remained unchanged: Fresno Pacific is a Christian university. Our logo says it all—*Founded on Christ*. Those words not only reflect our historical roots but articulate our most basic commitment and set our future direction.

Only those who whole-heartedly embrace Fresno Pacific's place as a Christian university—and all this implies—are invited into leadership roles. We acknowledge the faithful service of all those faculty, staff and institutional leaders who helped to bring us to where we stand. Following the university's restructuring into four disciplinary-based schools in 2005, Janita Rawls assumed leadership for the new School of Business. Interim deans were selected to help shape the new schools of Education (Jo Ellen Misakian), Natural Sciences (Lorin Neufeld) and Humanities, Religion and Social Sciences (Will Friesen). They agreed to lead the transition until "permanent" deans could be appointed. All served with distinction and effectiveness; we owe them a deep debt of gratitude.

This fall, we welcomed three new academic deans to FPU: Karen Cianci to the School of Natural Sciences, Gary Gramenz to the School of Education and Kent Eaton to the School of Humanities, Religion and Social Sciences. Angulus Wilson became our new university pastor and Randy Worden the new dean of Student Life.

These new leaders bring excitement, energy and a whole range of new experiences. Though they came because of our core values and commitments, they will also influence the university's future. At the same time, they will learn, grow and be shaped by Fresno Pacific, as well.

Times of transition and change are not always easy, but that's when butterflies emerge.



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



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A happy adoption

I didn't grow up Mennonite. Following a great tradition of evangelism, I married in. Well, sort of. My wife isn't ethnic Mennonite, but she's gone to Mennonite schools and churches since childhood. She doesn't quilt, but she can make zwieback.

Given this, at the Mennonite college I worked for back East I called myself the adopted kid.

Coming to FPU complicated things further since I belong to the Mennonite Church-USA, not the Mennonite Brethren. Out here I call myself the adopted kid working for the cousins.

So I empathize with our new deans: Karen Cianci in the School of Natural Sciences; Kent Eaton in the School of Humanities, Religion and Social Sciences; Gary Gramenz in the School of Education; and Randy Worden in student life. (Angulus Wilson, university pastor, and Garry Prieb, director of stewardship, who you will also meet or reacquaint yourself with in this issue, are alumni and already know more than I can tell them.)

There's great news for the new folks—I have been embraced by Mennonites. Oh, sometimes I miss something. I never mastered the Name Game. One person thought my last name was “Stoltzfus” (as common back home as “Friesen” is here). When he found out it wasn't, he had no reference for further conversation.

Never, however, have I known people more sensitive to others, or more focused on matching their faith, words and actions.

Not to mention, the cooking rocks.

Welcome.

—Wayne Steffen

Correction: The graduate pictured in the commencement article in the June 2008 *Pacific* was misidentified. She is Abzoua Vang. We apologize for any inconvenience caused by our error.



TRIP TO EUROPE OFFERS DEGREE COMPLETION STUDENTS A DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE

What does the phrase “degree completion” bring to mind?

Night classes and weekend study?

Adults balancing work and family responsibilities to achieve their dream of a bachelor’s degree?

A trip to Europe?

That’s right—a trip to Europe.

Allen Carden led a tour for students in the bachelor’s degree completion program, along with family and friends, June 28 through July 19. In all, 18 people went to the Netherlands, Germany, Austria and Italy, seeing everything from cathedrals to concentration camps.

The 12-day trip can be used for up to 9 units of credit in three classes (Western Civilization 1 and 2 and The European Union). “The purpose is to broaden the cultural and historical horizons of our students, and educate them about the new Europe—the European Union,” said Carden, degree completion academic coordinator and liberal arts program director and faculty.

The mix of structured activities and free time encouraged students to mingle with the locals. “This wasn’t meant to be a bunch of American tourists sticking together,” he said.

Highlights included Rothenberg, which Carden called “probably the best preserved Medieval city in Germany,” a half-day at the Dachau concentration camp and the bus trip from Salzburg to Venice, “a beautiful drive through the Alps,” he added. Except for a train ride from Amsterdam to Frankfurt, charter buses took the group from city to city, where participants walked six to eight miles a day and took public transportation. “It was not a luxury tour,” Carden said.

Dates were selected so students would miss only one regular degree completion class period. Though Carden agreed that “I missed class because I was in Europe” is at least a more creative excuse than “the dog ate my homework.”

ECONOMY AFFECTS ENROLLMENT

More working adults are completing their bachelor's degrees at FPU, according to fall 2008 enrollment figures. Graduate attendance also remains strong, but a soft economy has had its effect on traditional undergraduate students.

A total of 2,377 students began classes this fall, the same number as fall 2007. The shift came in the type of students. The 16-day census saw 733 in bachelor's degree completion programs, up from 652. Graduate students were up three to 784, while 860 traditional undergraduates began classes, compared to 944 in 2007.

Based on past performance and expected conditions, university administrators projected 90 more traditional undergraduates and 40 more degree completion students would enroll. The university bases its budget on those estimates.

A number of both traditional and degree completion students were signed up for classes and had financial aid contracts, but changed their mind at the last minute due to gas prices and job insecurity. "Some told us they planned to come next semester or next year, others went to community colleges and will eventually transfer," President D. Merrill Ewert said.

The economic downturn disproportionately touched California's Central Valley, which most FPU students call home. "Many of our students are the first in their families to go to college, and come from families with few financial resources," Ewert said. "Those are the very families first affected by the weak economy."

The "yield," the percent of applicants who enroll, went up this fall. "This is a testament to our undergraduate admission staff," Ewert said.

Also on the positive side, freshman return was 77 percent, whereas the goal had been 75 percent. In addition, *U.S. News & World Report* again listed FPU on its top tier of master's degree universities in the West.

FPU is not alone this fall. "I've attended meetings over the past year in which authorities called these the most difficult days in more than a century for the private, not-for-profit institutions," Ewert said.

Admissions staff members are looking at new ways to reach potential students and faculty, staff and administration have developed a plan to balance the current budget. This plan includes temporary reductions in employee benefits and adjustments in capital spending.

A new degree completion program to allow registered nurses to earn their bachelor's degree (RN to BSN) begins in February. FPU has also contracted with Noel-Levitz, a premier enrollment organization, to better make FPU affordable to as many academically qualified students as possible.

"The economy goes up and down. We need to make sure we're doing everything we can to get the word out about the lifelong benefits of our education," Ewert said.

FACULTY IN SCIENCE, BUSINESS AND BIBLICAL STUDIES JOIN FPU

Provost's assistant, nursing consultant also welcome



Ruth Dahlquist



Justin Derron



Quentin Kinnison



Karen Crozier



Mariamma Mathai

New full-time faculty began this fall in science, business and biblical and religious studies. **Ruth Dahlquist** teaches biology. Her B.A. is from the University of California at Los Angeles and her doctorate from the University of Idaho. Raised in Kingsburg, she was a laboratory assistant at the U.C. Co-op Extension of the Kearney Agricultural Center.

Justin Derron, business, comes back to Fresno from Marseille, France. He has a doctorate in economics from the Universite d'Aix-Marseille and taught at Euromed and other schools in France.

Quentin Kinnison joins the contemporary Christian ministries program. He has a bachelor's in Bible and English literature from Grand Canyon University, an M.Div. from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Karen Crozier is at FPU for one year as special assistant to the provost for spiritual formation for the community, students, faculty and staff. She works as a liaison with Reading and Beyond, READ Fresno, the Westside Church of God and the Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies. Crozier grew up in Fresno and has a B.A. from the University of California at Los Angeles, a diploma from MB Biblical Seminary, M.A.s from California State University, Fresno, and the Claremont School of Theology and a Ph.D. from Claremont. She has taught at CSUF, Azusa Pacific University and Claremont and is an ordained minister with the Church of God and the National Baptist Convention.

Mariamma Mathai is lead consultant for the bachelor of science in nursing program. Mathai has taught nursing at California State University, Fresno, for more than 20 years. Her bachelor's is from Kerala University, Trivandrum, India, and her master's and Ed.D. are from Teacher's College, Columbia University, New York.

faculty & staff focus



Chris Janzen, art faculty, debuted three new compositions and three new arrangements for jazz sextet at the Sioux Falls Jazz Festival on September 19. *Ballad, Chow, Copper Daughter, Forbidden Fruit,*

Kisor Sensei and *Wino's Waltz* were performed by the Dakota Jazz Collective with Janzen on guitar. His solo art exhibit, *Recent Works* ran October 2-31 at the Bethel (Kansas) College's Fine Arts Center Gallery. The debut of a poetry/music/visual art performance called *Dinner: (Or, A Deranged Event Staged in a Theoretical Mansion, in Which Time and History Have Been Grossly Suspended and What We Know as Laws of Physics Wildly Subverted, Conducted as an Inquiry into the Genius of Madness and the Art of the Faux Pas, and Having as a First Course to be Served to a Cast of Sixteen Eccentrics A Dish of Carrot Cabbage Salad meant to Tickle Every Palate)* was at Bethel's Krehbiel Auditorium October 6. The project is a collaboration by Janzen and Jesse Nathan, a poet living in Berkeley.



Stephen Varvis, vice president for enrollment management and history faculty, reviewed *The Europeanization of the World: On the Origins of Human Rights and Democracy* by John H. Headley (Princeton

2008) in *Fides et Historia*. The review is to be published in 2008.



Breck A. Harris, business professor, was a member of a panel that presented "Ready or Not, Here They Come: Older Adults in Higher Education" at the 2008 Christian Adult Higher Education Association

(CAHEA) Conference in Overland Park, Kansas in July.



Pamela Delia Johnston, history and classics professor, published *The Military Consilium in Republican Rome*, with Gorgias Press in June. The book researches the

consilium, an advisory council, which had an important function in the daily activities of Roman magistrates in their duties as military commanders.



Peter Kopriva, special education faculty, was one of 17 members of a Board of Institutional Reviewers for the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing's accreditation review of the University of California,

Riverside, and its teacher credential programs. His focus during the May visit was the specialist credentials in special education.



Hope Nisly, Hiebert Library acquisitions and community relations, was named first runner-up in a writing contest honoring the centennial of William Saroyan. Her article "Heat, Pain, and Life in the Valley" was

entered in the creative nonfiction category. The contest was sponsored by the William Saroyan Society and the San Joaquin Valley Writing Project. Winners receive a cash prize and have their work published in *In the Grove* (a literary journal) and broadcast on KFCF, FM 88.1.



Julia Reimer, theater professor, and several students performed at the Christians in Theater Arts national conference June 10-13 at Azusa Pacific University. The group performed the play *Parable*

in a workshop session. The student cast was Jacob Bailey (replacing original cast member Thomas Wise), Stephen Kodur, Maya Osel-sky, Jennifer Smith, Jessica Velasquez and

Stephanie Wasemiller. Reimer created the script and directed *Parable*, the story of several disciples of Jesus between the ascension and Pentecost. Student Maureen LeDesma also attended the conference on a scholarship for the "Drama in Worship" track. The group has also performed *Parable* at churches in Fresno, Clovis and Sacramento.



Kevin Enns-Rempel, archivist and history faculty, was a member of the local planning committee for the 2008 annual conference of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, which met in Fresno on May 7-10.

He was one of the editors of a book published for the conference, *Architecture, Ethnicity and Historic Landmarks of California's Central Valley*, and wrote two articles in the book: "The Eucalyptus in California" and "The City of Fresno: A Brief History of its Growth and Development." The book received a 2008 Preservation Design Award by the California Preservation Foundation.



Rod Janzen, university distinguished scholar, reviewed Tim Guest's *My Life in Orange: Growing up with the Guru* in the March 2008 *Communal Studies*, which he edits. He also reviewed Arlene M.

Sanchez Walsh's *Latino Pentecostal Identity* in the spring 2008 *Nova Religio* and Amy Hill Shevitz's *Jewish Communities on the Ohio River* in the August 2008 *The History Teacher*.



W. Marshall Johnston, history and classics professor, presented the paper "The Fifth Gospel in Film" at the Southwest Texas Popular Culture Association section meeting of the

American Popular Culture Association February 14 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

RN TO BSN PROGRAM TO BEGIN

Registered nurses can complete a bachelor of science in nursing with a focus on leadership through FPU.

An RN to BSN degree completion program has been approved by the university board. The first cohorts begin in February at the centers in North Fresno and Visalia.

Both the need and audience for the program are huge. More than 3,000 RNs have graduated in the nurse-starved Central Valley in the last five years, according to program consultant Mariamma Mathai and Karen Cianci, dean of the School of Natural Sciences, which hosts the RN to BSN.

The RN designation, however, trains nurses only for entry-level work, mainly in hospitals. A bachelor's degree is needed for supervision, administration and research, for careers as school and occupational nurses and for further study.

FPU's program will strengthen clinical skills and provide a broad academic foundation, as well as education in community and public health nursing. "BSN is the first level of higher education," Mathai said. "If they have a BSN they can go on to their master's and Ph.D."

Other schools have BSN programs, but FPU offers added benefits. Cianci described discussions with 20 nursing leaders, who cited the need for instruction in leadership and conflict resolution skills. "It's a servant leadership," Mathai added.

Courses will be organized like other FPU degree completion programs: cohorts of 12 to 20 students will meet usually weekly for 18 months. Graduates will be able to better themselves and their communities. "They can move out of the bottom rung," Cianci said.



WING WINS — Student Meredith Wing won the Aran Varpantanian Memorial Prize during the Central Valley Youth Performance Awards Competition May 18 in California State University, Fresno, Concert Hall. The contest was sponsored by the Phillip Lorenz Memorial Keyboard Competition and the San Joaquin Valley Chapter, American Guild of Organists. Wing, a senior

from Kingsburg, is the student of Laurel Huber, FPU music adjunct.

Ewert calls university to action

President D. Merrill Ewert used the prophet Micah to call FPU to action for the 2008-2009 school year.

The theme for the year—"Changing Communities: Cross-town, Cross-borders, Cross-cultures"—is a response to Micah 6:8: "Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don't take yourself too seriously; take God seriously!"

Before an audience of new and returning students, faculty in academic garb and staff, board members and visitors, Ewert said Micah would see in our modern world what he saw in his own eighth century Israel. Ewert spoke August 27 in the Special Events Center.



- A broken world—where 852 million people are chronically hungry, where 33 million live with HIV/AIDS and where war rages in Afghanistan, Iraq and Darfur. "We are called to be agents of reconciliation, to do justice, to carry out acts of mercy," Ewert said.
- A broken nation—where 45 million people are uninsured, where 35 million people are hungry or at risk of hunger, where 12.5 percent of the population live below the poverty line, all while talk shows spew hatred. "Civil society has become uncivil," he said.
- A broken community—where Fresno County is the most agriculturally productive in the United States, yet the part of Fresno County in which FPU sits, California Congressional District 20, is the poorest in the nation by life expectancy, high school/college graduation rates and median household income. "There you have it—great wealth, enormous poverty—side by side," he said.

"These times cry out for hope, they cry out for peace, they cry out for justice," Ewert said. "Society needs ethical leaders and moral citizens."

Micah was nobody special by the usual standards of success. "He was a working class dude," Ewert said. Micah didn't rant, and neither should we.

Instead we should commit ourselves to learning, take moral and ethical positions on things that matter and get involved. Tables waited right outside the gymnasium where students could register to vote and sign up for ministry opportunities through the Office of Spiritual Formation.

"Before you go to lunch today, go by, see how you can make a difference," Ewert said.

ART SET FOR MAJOR IMPACT

AFTER YEARS IN THE MINORS, ART IS BECOMING A MAJOR PLAYER AT FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY.

This fall the university upgraded its art minor to a full major, with concentrations in art administration, graphic arts and studio arts. Faculty members are Rebecca McMillen and Chris Janzen.

Students will exhibit their work, tour museums, explore internships and become a part of area art events. Small class sizes will encourage individual attention.

Work on the major began in fall 2007. Research had shown many prospective students were interested in art.

The content of the program will equal that of a large university, Janzen said, “but with a community-action based component.”

McMillen and Janzen plan to continue FPU’s history of producing teachers. “Our goal is to get these out-of-the-box skills to the next generation,” Janzen said.

“The state system has pulled art out of the system,” McMillen said. “That makes a huge deficit.”

In addition to education, many fields are open to art graduates. Common job titles include animator, art buyer/consultant, art director, graphic designer, creative director, critic, fine artist, illustrator and industrial designer.



Janzen told of friends who found visual art and music studies even helped them get into medical school. “They have the ability to improvise,” he said.

Art uses parts of the brain other disciplines do not. It also has a history of challenging society and improving it. “Art is very important to move us forward,” Janzen said.

“Art is part of the bigger picture,” McMillen said. Part of that bigger picture is faith. “Christianity and the church have had a somewhat negative view of art, particularly the visual arts, and the arts can unleash so many positive things,” she added.

Creativity comes from God, so Christians should be creative. “We shouldn’t be afraid of that,” McMillen said. The question is: “How will I express myself in a way God has called me?”

McMillen is program director. She teaches art appreciation, history of Western art, art and religion, world art, museum studies, exhibition and gallery design and has a B.A. and an M.A. from the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, where she is working on her doctorate.

Janzen earned a B.A. from Bethel College, Kansas, and an M.F.A. from the University of South Dakota. He teaches drawing and painting and also directs the FPU Jazz Ensemble.

PEACE WEEK IMAGINES, ACTS

Symbols and action combined during Building a Culture of Peace Week September 29 through October 3. Highlights included raising money for Break the Barriers, a local sports-arts center that unites people of all abilities. A cloth wall representing barriers that people use to divide themselves was also transformed into a cross representing Christ’s love and the week’s theme: Ephesians 2:11-22. Everything came together at the Intercultural Festival October 3 in Encore Amphitheater. In addition to food and entertainment from many cultures, members of Break the Barriers performed a routine and the cross was presented. Other events included talks by Nabeel Jabbour, a Christian Syrian and author of *The Crescent Through the Eyes of the Cross*, and Robb Davis, director of research evaluation and monitoring for Freedom from Hunger, and a workshop by Tim Neufeld, contemporary Christian ministries professor, and student Jessica Padilla. (From left: Padilla, Kevin FauntLeRoy, cross designer, and Noé Hernandez, festival emcee)



MIDDLE EASTERN CHURCH LEADER SEEKS transformation for his homeland THROUGH WORK WITH FPU

Transformed by his time at FPU, a Middle Eastern church leader hopes to bring that transformation to his homeland.

Andrea Stephanous, vice president of the Protestant churches in Egypt and director of the conflict management and peace building program of the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS), was at the Center for peace-making and Conflict Studies August 4-9.

The agenda included taking the Basic Institute in Conflict Management and Mediation. Stephanous, himself a lecturer at the Evangelical Seminary in Cairo, praised the course for its strong combination of biblical understanding and practical elements. "It's a transformational experience," he said.

He was impressed by the teachers as well as what was taught. "The way Ron Claassen and Dalton Reimer put their materials together was a brilliant one," Stephanous said. Claassen is the director of CPACS and Reimer, faculty emeritus and former dean, is senior associate.

Stephanous talks about bringing Claassen and Reimer to Egypt, or having his colleagues study here. Connections like this interest Reimer. "What potentially can develop out of this would be a cooperative relationship," he said.



One goal of CEOSS is to create a peace center in Cairo to serve the Middle East and North Africa. Church leaders of various denominations would train to become mediators and peacemakers for congregations, organizations and societies. "This is what brings me here," Stephanous said.

Mennonite Central Committee supports this project and advised Stephanous to come to FPU. He is also working with Eastern Mennonite University.

Construction on the peace center is scheduled to begin in 2009. Reimer looks forward to relationships beyond a building. "The potential for influence with people like Andrea is very significant," he said.

A connection with Stephanous gives CPACS the opportunity to know everyone he knows. "What is exciting about this is we have these critical contacts that give us access to larger systems," Reimer said.

Stephanous communicated with part of the wider Fresno community by giving two public presentations. "Civil Society in the Arab World" took place August 8 at the Reedley Peace Center. "Christian Presence in the Middle East" was August 9 in Steinert Campus Center, sponsored by CPACS and the Council of Senior Professionals, a group of retired faculty and community members. "I was touched by the spirit of the people here," he said. "They were humble, committed and helpful."

MORRIS BRINGS ANCIENT WISDOM TO MODERN BUSINESS



Everybody wants to be a philosopher—and should be. So said Tom Morris at the 2008 Business Forum October 22.

Today more of us wonder about the meaning of success. "People are suddenly asking deep questions," said Morris, a former professor of philosophy at the University of Notre Dame who now dispenses practical wisdom through his Morris Institute of Human Values. "Having tried everything else, we've turned to ancient wisdom," he added.

As he has in 20 books, Morris distilled the ideas of the ancients for about 1,000 business and professional leaders. His "Seven Cs of Success" are conception, confidence, concentration, consistency, commitment, character and the capacity to enjoy. In the end the shortest piece of advice ever given is the most profound: know thyself.

Morris is the author of *True Success* and *If Aristotle Ran General Motors*. The annual Business Forum breakfast is among the largest events of its kind in the region. Audiences enjoy nationally known speakers, including Ken Blanchard, Patrick Lencioni, John Maxwell and John Wooden.



New deans embrace the Idea that defines FPU

The Fresno Pacific Idea is FPU's statement of identity. It calls the university to be a Christian university, a community of learners and prophetic to the church and society.

by Wayne Steffen

Benefiting from change means trusting God and remembering core values.

That's the lesson FPU leaders take from a summer that saw four new deans, a university pastor and a director of stewardship join the campus community. It was the end of a season of change, both planned for and unanticipated.

The planned-for process began in 2005 when the university reorganized from three schools—undergraduate, graduate and professional studies—into four: business, education, natural sciences and humanities, religion and social sciences.

A faculty member was named dean of each school. School of Business Dean Janita Rawls was given a permanent appointment, while Will Friesen (HRSS), Jo Ellen Priest Misakian (Education) and Lorin Neufeld (Natural Sciences) were designated interims to get the new structure off the ground. Not every interim applied for the permanent position, and Neufeld and Misakian have resumed their work as computer science professor and director of the school library/educational technology programs, respectively.

All interim deans received the President's Distinguished Service Award for 2008. "We owe them a debt of gratitude," President D. Merrill Ewert says. "What they did will serve the university and its students for years to come."

The new leaders began work in summer 2008. Karen Ciani is dean of the School of Natural Sciences; Kent Eaton is dean of the School of Humanities, Religion and Social Sciences; and Gary Gramenz is dean of the School of Education.

The twist

Then the unexpected: Searches for a new dean of Student Life (Randy Worden) and campus pastor had to be added to the plan, as did a new position as director of stewardship. (See related article, page 15.)

That's a lot all at once. "This is a changing of the guard," says Provost Herma Williams.

Still, Ewert is able to lean back in his office chair, lace his hands behind his head and look back with a satisfied nod. "I'm very excited at the level of experience these new deans bring," he says.

Williams sees a story of faith and a reminder that the future is in God's hands. "This is the right group, this is the right time," she says.

Christian colleges and universities nationwide are having trouble filling vacancies, often due to pay and location, Williams says. When she told members of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities what FPU was looking for, "they said 'We wish you luck, we wish you luck. We've struggled, we've struggled,'" she remembers.

The selection process included national searches led by university committees as well as personal contacts. Success came not because of luck but because FPU began at the beginning, Ewert says. "Our starting point is always people's core values: What do candidates believe about Jesus? How do they view the Christian university? What is their response to the Fresno Pacific Idea?"

Though the deans come from different denominational backgrounds, each resonated with the Idea. "They know who we are and want to join with us in carrying out the university's mission," Ewert said.

The new deans share:

- A respect for Mennonite Brethren traditions and an interest in peace and justice
- Having, or completing, the highest degrees in their field
- Experience
- Vision and energy
- Training in technology
- National connections
- Accreditation experience

Building a team

Now that positions are filled, a team must be forged. "Any time you bring in a number of new people to an organization you need to you need to form a new sense of teamwork," Ewert says.

The results, however, are more than worth the effort.

"The process produced a wonderful cadre of leaders for Fresno Pacific," he says. "This was not simply the result of good recruiting; this process was bathed in prayer."

Williams sees God in the balance between new people and central Idea. "Every time I get up and speak I talk about standing on the shoulders of those who have come before. I'm very careful that we don't throw the baby out with the bathwater," she says.

God has often surprised people. "God has given us gifts we never anticipated," she says.

Great things came from this transformation because the university found people who share the Fresno Pacific Idea. "We were clear about the values they must hold, the skills they must bring and the experience they each have," Ewert said. "I look forward to seeing the ways these new deans reflect and carry out the Idea."

Still deep in their own change—settling into offices, meeting colleagues and getting the lay of the land—the deans graciously stopped to talk about what brought them here, what they look forward to and what to expect from them as leaders.



Karen Cianci comes to FPU from High Falls, New York, where she was co-director of Epworth Camp and Retreat Center for the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. She has taught biology and served as the vice president of academic affairs at Northwestern College. She also taught biology at Houghton College and was a visiting professor in psychology at Franklin and Marshall College. Cianci holds a B.S. from Cornell University, an MRE from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. from Bryn Mawr College.

Karen Cianci

SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES

What brought you here?

The region; particularly its economic and educational needs. "If Jesus was picking a place he would pick the poor. This area is not oriented toward higher education."

The founding traditions of FPU. "I'm very interested in and aware of the Mennonite stand for peace and justice. It's not just talk, it's mobilized."

What do you look forward to?

Seeing God's plan. "I'm looking forward to seeing what brothers and sisters in Christ can do. I do feel God is going to do something wonderful and marvelous on our watch."

Communicating the place of science in society. "We have got to have Christians speaking to the issues of the future. Science is a huge issue, not just for science majors but for everyone out there."

Working with the faculty and students. "We've got a tremendous faculty and a great faculty. We can't just sit on this light."

What can we expect from you as a leader?

"I thrive on the big picture, moving resources towards addressing serious needs. I'm a connector, bringing expertise and gifted teaching to young people who are looking for a call they can give their lives to. I love the classroom, I love connecting students to the real life implications of the science."

Farewell, with thanks

Former faculty pursue new challenges

The same summer breeze that brought some people took others away.

Will Friesen, interim dean of the School of Humanities, Religion & Social Sciences, took a position as provost and academic vice president at Malone University.

Friesen joined the biblical and religious studies and psychology faculties in 1982. He left in 1988 to pursue doctoral studies at McGill University, returning in 1992 to biblical and religious studies.

"Will has been a faithful servant leader with a focus toward a Kingdom agenda. He has been a tremendous blessing to FPU," said Provost Herma Williams.

Richard Rawls became associate professor of history at Georgia Gwinnett College. He joined the history faculty in 1997, helped create the classics minor and became director of Hiebert Library in 2005. He and Fay Nielsen sponsored the campus Alpha Chi chapter. "He challenged and encouraged many of our students to go on to graduate school; some of those he mentored went on to study at some of this nation's top universities," President D. Merrill Ewert said.

Rod Reed, campus pastor, became university chaplain/associate dean of students at John Brown University. During a decade at FPU, Reed also served as interim dean of students.

"He is a good listener, wise counselor and wonderful encourager. I've watched him comfort the grieving, befriend the lonely, encourage the despondent, counsel the confused and walk along side people during some of the most difficult moments of life," Ewert said.

Zenebe Abebe became vice president of equity and inclusion at Marian University after four years at FPU. "Zenebe constantly reminded us how important it is for our students to have a global experience," Williams said.



Will Friesen



Richard Rawls



Rod Reed



Zenebe Abebe

Kent Eaton

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES, RELIGION AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

What brought you here?

A desire to make a difference at FPU and in the community. “Wanting to be a force for transformation and justice, both in Fresno and in the Valley. I want us to move toward having students in the community in a way that lets their academics speak to the community.”

The university’s core values. “I do find the Fresno Pacific Idea very compelling and something that is worth investing in.”

What do you look forward to?

Making what students study more relevant to their needs and today’s issues. “The creative programming of the curriculum to address social and demographic changes.”

Discovering the best use of technology and the different forms of delivering classes to students. “That’s moving the school—staff, faculty and students—out into the field.” Giving students the multicultural/global experience they need to thrive in the future. “What are we doing in all our various divisions to bring the world to our students as well as bringing our students to the world?”

*“I do love
the question—
What if?”*



Kent Eaton comes from Bethel Seminary San Diego, where he was associate dean and professor of pastoral ministry. A B.A. graduate of Texas Christian University, he also earned a diploma from the Universidad de Barcelona, a Th.M. in from Dallas Seminary and a Ph.D. from the University of Wales at Lampeter. He previously taught church history and served as dean of students and interim dean of the faculty at the Spanish Bible Institute and Theological Seminary in Barcelona, Spain.

What can we expect from you as a leader?

A style that is collaborative and consensus-building with an interest in shared values. Eaton’s background is history but he says he “always has a view to the future.” The past informs the present and helps us toward the future. “I do love the question—What if?”

Gary Gramenz

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

“The Fresno Pacific Idea is a remarkable document...”



Gary Gramenz earned a bachelor's degree from Azusa Pacific University, an M.A. from Fuller Theological Seminary, a teacher credential from the University of Washington and a Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University. He served as associate dean of instruction, director of institutional research, chair of the department of arts and letters, director of teacher education and professor of education at Life Pacific College. Prior to that he taught seventh-grade mathematics and sixth grade in the Sequim School District, was a lecturer at St. Paul's College, Republic of South Africa, and director of Christian education at Christian Assembly Church.

What brought you here?

The way FPU carries out its mission. “The Fresno Pacific Idea is a remarkable document, not only in its wording but in its legacy.”

The institutional memory. “All that past is alive in the present. It was obvious to me in the application process that those are not dead ideas.”

A link with Mennonite Brethren beliefs. “The Christ they serve is a Christ I recognize. That's who I am. Those are the goals I aspire to.”

The importance of compassion. “That fits with the School of Education, where education is called a redemptive service.”

What do you look forward to?

Implementing the strategic plans of the university and the School of Education. “I look forward to embracing the strategic plan.” Also reaching out to the community, improving assessment, exploring national accreditation and increasing diversity among faculty. “That's right up my alley.”

What can we expect from you as a leader?

“I truly believe in the structure of collaborative leadership and the disposition of servant leadership. These twin approaches, I believe, not only provide the best environment for productive effort, but also lead to the greatest joy in work because we were created to work with each other this way.”

Randy Worden

STUDENT LIFE

What brought you here?

A connection with the values and traditions of FPU. "A good fit with the Mennonite Brethren balance between being an evangelical and being an interested in social action." The Fresno Pacific Idea's focus on "Christian university", "community of learners" and being "prophetic" means to him "involvement," "input" and "opportunity." "For me that's what the (Idea) gets at."

That people are called. "Not just a one-time commitment, but a continuing commitment to life, justice, love and compassion."

What do you look forward to?

The memories we can help students make around learning, experiences and relationships. "As students remember and reflect they can have a sense of what FPU really means to them. If they don't have memories of this place that changed them, then that was a lost opportunity."

Giving students involvement and a voice. "Students have to be involved in things that are challenging and nurturing. If people don't feel heard it's hard for them to be included. If they don't feel included they don't want to be involved."

What can we expect from you as a leader?

"I believe that the best leaders go first to encourage the growth of others, to help, listen, seek understanding, care, serve, value the contributions of others, point out the importance of community and give praise to the author and finisher of our faith."

Randy Worden has been a career counselor at Azusa Pacific University; residence director, director of residence life and campus ministries at California Baptist University; dean of students at Northwest Christian College and Simpson University; and assistant vice president for student life at Houston Baptist University. He earned his B.A. from Seattle Pacific University, his master's of education from Azusa Pacific University and is working on his doctorate from George Fox University.

*"Students
have to be
involved..."*



Two alumni return to share their talents in new, expanded roles

DIRECTOR OF
STEWARDSHIP

*Garry
Prieb*



Garry Prieb (BA '71) brings an international life to a newly created position.

Prieb will nurture relationships between FPU and churches in the Pacific District Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches as well as other congregations.

This reconnection interested Prieb. "One of the things that attracted me was coming back to the MB constituency," he said.

A member of the Advancement Office, he will also work as part of *Building on Excellence* capital campaign. Growing up in Congo as the son of missionaries, Prieb later served there himself. He has been a pastor, church planter and missions executive. Somehow he found time to earn an M.Div. from MB Seminary.

Prieb returns to FPU from Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, where he was director of development. Meeting Mark Deffenbacher, FPU vice president for advancement and university relations, at an October 2007 Mennonite Foundation Meeting in Littiz, Pennsylvania, turned into more than a casual conversation. While Prieb wasn't looking for a job, he was looking for a way back. "I didn't mention it to Mark, but about a month later he sent me an email and asked me to prayerfully consider joining the advancement team," Prieb said.

Another attraction is the chance to give back to the school he and his four siblings attended. "It's not so much getting any more, it's about giving. I'm really a minister at heart," Prieb said.

Being in a new position, Prieb expects to build his job description as he goes. He'll start close to home. "I'd like to meet all the pastors of the PDC every year," he said.

As things move along he'll relate to other churches that support FPU. "That's my emphasis, to meet friends and donors in the churches," Prieb said.

UNIVERSITY
PASTOR

*Angulus
Wilson*



From street to pulpit, Angulus Wilson (BA '89) has been there, done that and is glad to be back at FPU.

"I'm humbled, man...I'm very humbled to come back to the place where it all began," he said.

Between earning his diploma and starting his new job, Wilson worked in law enforcement, including a stint as a prison guard, and earned a master's at Wheaton College, where he directed the prison ministries program. He later pastored a church in Alabama and was campus minister for Samford University. He is now pursuing doctoral studies at Birmingham Theological Seminary.

But Wilson's story starts in his native Los Angeles—on the other side of the law. A gang banger, he met the Lord in juvenile hall. A woman from Fresno who befriended him there enrolled him in Fresno City College, where he played basketball.

Problems followed him from Southern California to the Central Valley, and Wilson was thrown off the team for being (in his words) "uncoachable." After his FCC coach brought him to FPU, students and faculty brought him back from the edge. "I was 'saved' in juvie but my life was transformed at Fresno Pacific," he said.

Today Wilson calls himself a son of FPU. He returns to his campus family because he felt, "the call to ministry here in the Valley and the opportunity to serve and give back to the institution," he said.

Wilson's title has expanded from campus pastor to university pastor. Plans are to reach out more to students and faculty in degree completion and graduate programs. "I'm trying to build a model that would influence and encourage spiritual development in the Fresno Pacific community," he said.

"I'm very pleased to build on the legacy of what this place stands for," Wilson said.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

James Barnes (BA '71, MA '87) spent July teaching conversational English at Shandong University to 20 middle school students with Travel China Roads in Weihai, China. While in China he rode with some of his students and participated in a couple of night rides with the University Bicycle Association.

John Williams (BA '74) was elected executive minister of the American Baptist Churches in the Central Region for a term beginning January 1, 2008. The Central Region is home to more than 230 American Baptist Churches in Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. He had served three churches in Kansas and held a region staff position for the past nine years as Western Area Minister. He and wife Connie have four adult children and two grandchildren. They reside in Topeka, Kansas.

Debra (Findley BA '79) Brayfindley earned a special education teaching credential (mild/moderate) from Humboldt State University and has been K-3 special day class teacher at Dow's Prairie Elementary in McKinleyville. She plans to earn a second special education credential (moderate/severe).

Wendy (Turley BA '00) Cano is employed by Thunderbird School of Global Management and was promoted to senior program coordinator for the Executive MBA Europe program.

Andrea Domingo (BA '02, TC '03) earned her master's degree in education and credential in administration and supervision from California State University, Fresno, in May 2008.

Brian Evans (BA '02) earned his master of arts degree in organizational behavior from Alliant International University.

Vanessa Cadiz (BA '03) earned her master's degree in biology from CSUF. She is working as a public health microbiologist for Tulare County.

Oksana (Ignatkova MA '03) Bezv co-edited *Christian Peacemaking and Conflict Resolution* (English title translation). The Russian-language anthology was published in 2008 by The Bible for Everybody publishing House in St. Petersburg as part of the Bible Pulpit Series. Bezv is a doctor of psychiatry, former adjunct faculty member at Donetsk Christian University and Kremenchug Bible College, Ukraine, and currently research librarian at Fuller Theological Seminary. She is exploring using the book as the basis of an Internet course.

Ernst Janzen's (MA '04) book *Conflitos Oportunidade ou Perigo?* was chosen by the Brazilian Association of Christian Publishers, as the best book written in 2007 in the counseling category. He is currently working on his third book.

Gustavo Maya (BA '04) received the master of divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary at the school's 196th commencement on May 17, 2008.

Hanna Nielsen (BA '04) earned her master of arts in vocal performance from CSUF. She is currently running a voice studio out of her home and is also involved with the Fresno Grand Opera and Sierra Chamber Opera Companies.

Heather (Browning BA '04, TC '05) Wood received her master's degree in reading with a reading certificate from National University in October 2007.

Yamilette (Gutierrez MA '06) Rodriguez is regional director, Central Valley, for the Latino Issues Forum.

Lorraine Weller (BA '06) was accepted to University of California Riverside's plant biology graduate program and will pursue her Ph.D. in plant ecology.

IN THE NEWS

Celebrating alumni featured in print and broadcast media.

Kevin Enns-Rempel (BA '82), FPU archivist and history faculty, was in a *Fresno Bee* article titled "Birds of a Feather" June 20, 2008.

David Meek (MA '00) was in a *Northwest Voice* article titled "The Blanket of Freedom" August 13, 2008.

ENGAGEMENT

Holly Mattos (BA '96, MA '06) and **Cliff McFarlin** plan to wed November 1, 2008, at University Presbyterian Church in Fresno. She will continue working as the administrator for the FPU Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies. He is a teacher/farmer in Orosi, where the couple plans to reside.

MARRIAGES



Patty Brown (BA '97, TC '98) married **Norman Morrison** on May 24, 2008.

Daphne Eck (BA '97) married **Caleb Coppock** on May 31, 2008. Daphne is the international associate director of advocacy for Word Made Flesh, a Christian organization serving among the most vulnerable of the world's poor. She has worked with Word Made Flesh for nine years. Caleb is an artist and graphic designer. The couple resides in Omaha, Nebraska.



Jacob Anderson (BA '01) married **Rebecca Stiglich (BA '02)** June 21, 2008. The couple resides in Cañon City, Colorado, where Becky teaches at an alternative high school and Jay is enrolled in a master's program at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs.

Chad Boling (BA '00) married **Michelle Ediger (BA '02)** on November 17, 2007. Chad and Michelle are both employed by

FPU, where Chad is a financial aid counselor and Michelle is the administrative assistant to the athletic director. The couple resides in Clovis.



Adam Juarez (BA '03, TC '05) married **Alina Villarreal (BA '03, TC '03)** on November 24, 2007.

Wayne Richardson (BA '04) married **Rebekah Mora (BA '04, TC '07)** on June 2, 2007, in Visalia. Rebekah teaches at Lincoln Elementary in Sanger, and Wayne teaches at Sanger High School.

Chad Ens (BA '08) married Kennen Barber on September 20, 2008. The couple plans to attend a Presbyterian theological seminary.



Vanessa Ledbetter (BA '06) married Timothy Comfort on December 1, 2006.

Phillip Mackey (BA '06, TC '07) married **Rebecca Facciani (BA '08)** on June 21, 2008.



Lorena Zuleta (BA '06) married Mirko Moriconi on June 21, 2008, in Fossato di Vico, Umbria. The couple resides in Bologna.



Kristen Zemlicka (BA '07) married Zachery Bullock on August 1, 2008.

BIRTHS

Jeanie (Sale BA '94) and Chris Ebury (BA '94) announce the birth of daughter Emily Grace on July 3, 2008. She weighed 7 pounds and was 19.5 inches long. Emily joins brothers Isaiah, 15; and Isaac, 11.

Marcelo Warkentin (BA '98) and wife Clarice announce the birth of daughter Isabella Ens on May 6, 2008. The family resides in Goshen, Indiana.



John (BA '99, TC '00) and Emily (TC '00) Berg announce the birth of son Jacob Daniel on March 29, 2008. Jacob joins brother Jeffrey, 17 months. John teaches history at Edison High School and Fresno City College, and Emily will teach English at Reedley College.



Melissa (Walterscheid BA '99) Culver and husband Jason announce the birth of son Dax Nathaniel on July 11, 2008. He weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 inches long. Dax joins siblings Rachel, Kohen and Reese.

Teri (Piper '01) Foster and husband Doug announce the birth of Samuel Douglas on September 20, 2007. He weighed 3 pounds, 3 ounces and was 15 inches long. Sam joins brother Owen.

Chelsea (Garrett BA '04) Eklund and husband Jeff announce the birth of daughter Abigail Evangeline on May 3, 2008. Abigail joins big sister Miriam Elizabeth, 2 1/2.

DEATHS

Judy (Forrest FS '66) Ross died September 23, 2007, at the age of 64 after a short illness. She is survived by her husband Ken and sons Kevon and Daron.

Kyle Simonson (BA '05) died in a traffic accident on June 8, 2008. He is survived by his mother and father, Lenore and Joe Simonson of Lemoore; his twin brother and sister-in-law, Sean and Ann Simonson of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; his brother Trevor Simonson of Lemoore; his grandparents, John and Janet Simonson, also of Lemoore; and his fiancée, Chelsea Belardo of Costa Mesa.

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

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

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

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



ATHLETICS AND AUTOMOBILES

Athletic victories and automotive showmanship were the highlights of the 2008 Homecoming September 26-27. More than two dozen American and European classic and alternative-fuel cars and trucks graced the East Hall Green Saturday as visitors enjoyed a chicken and tri-tip dinner. Earlier Saturday the Sunbird volleyball and

men's soccer teams defeated Point Loma University: volleyball in its 12th sweep of the season (25-20, 25-13, 25-15) against the No. 13 Sea Lions, and soccer 3-0 for the Sunbirds. Events began Friday evening with a crab feed and silent auction at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Clovis. Proceeds benefited the women's the basketball team.

FPU MUSICIANS PLAY CHRISTIAN CONCERT

Asia Smith (BA '01) and the University String Quartet performed at the Fourth Annual Christian Music Awards August 23 in Warner's Theater. Described as the "Christian Version of American Idol Meets the Grammy Awards," the event included Christian contemporary and gospel recording artists and a competition for non-professionals. Of the three contest soloists, Asia was the only female and the only singer from the Fresno area.

The quartet played for Matthew West, Bethany Dillon and Amy Berna. Quartet personnel for the concert were Tiffany Nyberg (BA '07), violin; Vanessa Ronk (BA '08), violin; Bryan Taylor (BA '05), cello; and Tori Trefzger (current student), viola. Dieter Wulfhorst, music professor, is the director.

The concert was televised on the Gospel Music Channel. Proceeds benefited Bringing Broken Neighborhoods Back to Life and Christian Performing Arts. United One Productions was the organizer.

Asia teaches students with learning disabilities at Firebaugh Middle School.



Mathematicians Are People, Too, a two-volume collection of stories about famous mathematicians by Luetta (Feil BA '66) and Wilbert Reimer, faculty emeriti in English and mathematics, respectively, has been translated into Chinese and Korean.

The books were first published in 1990 and 1994 by Dale Seymour Publications, now an imprint of Pearson Learning Group. Widely used in classrooms throughout the country, they have been praised for their readable style and motivational power.

The Chinese edition, translated by Jiang Ouyang, was published in January 2008 by Harbin Institute of Technology Press in arrangement with Pearson Education Asian Ltd. The Reimers have been invited to write a preface for a reprint.

While the Chinese combined both volumes into one book, the Korean edition was published in a two-volume set by the Theory and Praxis Publishing Company. Both versions include art from the American edition, supplemented with additional maps and illustrations.



Carter seeing state government from the inside

By Jaime Huss

Second from FPU to win fellowship

An educator in the making, Leigh Carter (BA '07) is getting a lesson of a lifetime. Her classroom: the State Capitol.

Carter was among 18 participants in the 2007-2008 class of the Jesse Marvin Unruh Assembly Fellowship Program (California State Assembly Fellowship Program), one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious legislative fellowships. Those who have been shaped by this fellowship include members of Congress and the State Legislature, among other notables.

The 11-month course gives participants first-hand experience in public policy development. Fellows work full time in an Assembly member's office or on a policy committee, earning 12 graduate units in government or public policy and administration

from California State University, Sacramento.

Competition to win a seat in the program, which includes opportunities in legislative, executive and judicial offices, was intense. Carter, a social science secondary teaching graduate, was among 1,200 applicants; only 5 percent were chosen.

Carter heard about the program through Richard Unruh, political science faculty, and jumped at the opportunity to learn about education policy making from the ground up. Following her acceptance, Carter's opportunities only grew. After interviewing with 17 offices, she chose to work for Assemblyman Alan Nakanishi (R-Lodi) because of his membership in the education committee and his ties to the Valley. Serving under Assemblyman Nakanishi, Carter's days were spent researching bills, drafting leg-

islation, writing speeches and press releases and meeting with constituents.

"Our fellows do real, substantive work," Jeff Hale, Nakanishi's chief of staff, said. "We know our fellows have gone through a rigorous screening process, and they're the cream of the crop."

By fellowship's end in September 2008, Carter had become resident expert on education in Nakanishi's office and was hired full time. During her months at the Capitol, she had six of her bills reach the governor's desk, including three that were signed.

Lessons for Carter have also translated beyond preparing for being in the classroom one day. "I've learned to be a good citizen and advocate, and learned how to get my voice heard," she said.

Richard Unruh sees the big-picture lessons, as well.

"It's a significant growing experience, being thrust into the world of fast-paced action," he said. "You're given the same responsibilities as hired staff and expected to be a professional."

Carter is the second alumna to be part of the program. "It's a real credit to FPU that our students have been selected for this program, competing with students from universities and colleges throughout the state," Unruh said. "We prepare students to succeed, compete and be selected."

With Assemblyman Nakanishi's term finishing at year's end, Carter's future at the Capitol is uncertain. But she is hopeful that more learning opportunities in Sacramento are ahead.

"The fellowship prepares you so well ... but it would be good to stay and learn more," Carter said.



BUILDING ON EXCELLENCE

A campaign for

FRESNO PACIFIC
UNIVERSITY

TO SEE, HEAR AND TOUCH A DREAM

Catch the Vision concert transports audience to the future

Friends of the university came face to face with their dream at the Catch the Vision concert October 12. From the moment the crowd of about 500 entered the Paul Shaghoian Concert Hall at Clovis North High School, what they'd envisioned about a campus arts center came to life.

Shaghoian Hall's 750-seat auditorium, 50-foot ceilings, futuristic acoustics and black box theater, is the template for the facility outlined in Building on Excellence, a \$36 million capital campaign for Fresno Pacific University.

"Dreams fulfilled," is what Larry Warkentin, campaign co-chair and music faculty emeritus, called the evening. "We've waited and been eager for a building on campus that could be a tribute to the quality of the students we have."

Student and faculty performers rose to the occasion. Arlene Steffen played a Steinway concert grand piano donated for the event by Fresno Piano, part of plans to become a Steinway campus. Roy Klassen conducted the Concert Choir and Patricia DeBenedetto the Community Wind Ensemble. The evening began with a reception where Lifetime President's Circle and Heritage Society members enjoyed the University String Quartet.

Speakers included Marty Dietz from co-sponsors Darden & Associates and Sheriff Margaret Mims, alumni campaign honorary chair.

See and hear more at buildingonexcellence.org



Above, the interior of Shaghoian Hall. Below, clockwise from left: Brent Mosher, CUSD, and Marty Dietz, Darden & Associates; Ed Darden, President D. Merrill Ewert; Larry and Paula Warkentin, Paula and Roy Klassen; Sheriff Margaret Mims, honorary campaign alumni chair.



FPU to host national soccer championship

FPU will host the 2008 NAIA Men's Soccer National Championship December 1-6

Sixteen teams, including the Sunbirds, will square off at Ramirez Field. Monday-Wednesday games will be at 11:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Semi-finals will be at 5:00 and 7:30 p.m. Friday. The championship match will be at 6:00 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are available at fpuathletics.com or by calling 559-453-2009.

Those who want to do more than watch are invited to volunteer. Ticket-takers, hospitality booth workers and team hosts are needed. Volunteers will receive a national championship tee-shirt and an all-access day pass. Contact Mike Rupcich, associate athletic director, at mike.rupcich@fresno.edu by November 10.



SEE MORE ON ALL SUNBIRD SPORTS AT FRESNO.EDU/ATHLETICS



SUNBIRDS WIN "THE BATTLE OF FRESNO" BEAT BULLDOGS IN STRAIGHT SETS

The Sunbirds traveled across town to take on friendly rival Fresno State September 3 at the Save Mart Center. Wins in three straight matches stretched FPU's streak to three years.

Senior Shu Liu paced the Sunbirds with 33 assists, while Thias Julio nabbed eight kills, going 8 for 17 on the night.

Set One saw FPU take comfortable lead that turned into a 25-17 win. In the next set the Sunbirds jumped out to an impressive 5-0 lead, but the Bulldogs mounted a 21-13 run to take their first lead of the night. A late 7-2 rally and the Sunbirds stole the set.

Within that rally, seniors Fabian Leomil, Liu and sophomore Lisa Shilling each came up with timely plays. Liu was able to catch the Bulldogs sleeping for two quick kills while Leomil and Shilling each came up with monstrous blocks.

The momentum stayed on the Sunbirds side as they headed into the final set. Another quick start allowed the Sunbirds to build a cushion, with the defense carrying the Sunbirds to the 25-18 victory.

Schwinden's success blossoms on the professional level

by Rustin Pickett

From Golden State Athletic Conference Pitcher of the Year to a spot on the Brooklyn Cyclones, Chris Schwinden has continued to dazzle on the mound.

After 10 appearances for the Class A (short season) Cyclones, Schwinden accumulated a 3-1 record, with 45 strikeouts, over 41.1 innings pitched and an impressive 1.09 earned-run average. His efforts landed him on the National League All-Star roster for the New York-Penn League.

Some might think going from Sunbird starter to Cyclone reliever would be a hard transition, but Schwinden was able to lean on earlier experience. "I had been in a closing role before," he said. "Not that it was easy to come out of the bullpen, but the transition was not much different."

July 24 marked Schwinden's first professional start—one he would remember. "My first time was very nerve-wracking. There were a lot of people and the atmosphere was great, which helped me settle down," he said.

Now taking the hill as a starter brings more excitement than nervousness. "I'm used to the increased fan base, and now I'm back to having fun on the mound," he said.

The spotlight shines bright on all professional athletes. Signing baseballs, talking with the media and making public appearances are among the new tasks that may be thrown on a rookie's plate. For Schwinden this is an honor.

"It's nice to have kids wanting your autograph," he said. "It allows me to revert back to my childhood, when I wanted to be that athlete giving out his signature. It puts me at a loss for words."





BUILDING ON EXCELLENCE

A campaign for

FRESNO PACIFIC
UNIVERSITY

At Fresno Pacific, excellence is preparing a generation of college students for Ivy League graduate studies, providing school districts the educators they want to hire first and developing performers for nationally known ensembles. Excellence is worth building on.

WHAT WE'RE BUILDING

Building on Excellence, a campaign for Fresno Pacific University, is raising \$36 million to provide:

Fine Arts Center
School of Education building
Scholarships and programs
Endowment
Academic Program Development

BUILD WITH US

Charitable trusts and planned gifts are a welcome addition to *Building on Excellence*.

"A superior academic environment with a Christian base."

—Scott Leonard, business leader and campaign co-chair

"Now it is our opportunity and responsibility to build for the future."

—Larry Warkentin, music faculty emeritus and campaign co-chair

GOAL
**\$36
MILLION**

\$30,000,000

\$25,000,000

**\$20.6
MILLION**
Total To Date

\$20,000,000

\$15,000,000

\$10,000,000

\$5,000,000

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