

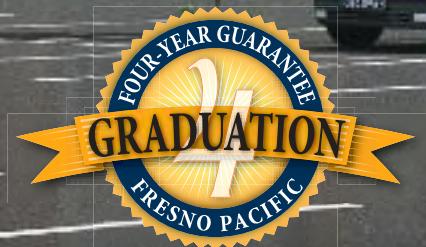
PACIFIC

FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY | VOL. 22, NO. 1

Ageless Learning

NEW CENTERS SERVE ADULTS
WHERE THEY ARE

FPU BAKERSFIELD



■ **New majors
broaden
curriculum**

■ **Donor Honor
Roll**

■ **FPU offers four-year
graduation guarantee**

president's message



D. MERRILL EWERT

New students require new ways to deliver on FPU's mission

"You go, Nana!" "That's my Mommy!" "Daddy, you rock!"

These shouts from the stands in the Special Events Center bring laughter and applause from the audience during graduation ceremonies. From my vantage point on the stage, I often see tears welling up in the eyes of our graduates, particularly among students who returned to school as adults. As I hand them their diplomas, many whisper quiet words of appreciation for what this university has meant to them. This is why I consider the opportunity to confer degrees upon our graduates my greatest privilege as President of Fresno Pacific.

The changing face of higher education was again obvious at our December commencement. These graduates were older, more culturally diverse and more experienced than those who came before. Many hold jobs, have families and carry other responsibilities in their churches and communities. For the first time in May 2008, more students earned diplomas through our degree completion program than graduates of our traditional undergraduate program. This reflects a national trend. More people are starting college or returning to school later in life. For some, circumstances had made it impossible to attend earlier; others want to change careers, develop new skills or break through a "glass ceiling" that has reduced opportunities for promotions at work.

More students also start and stop their programs several times before they graduate. Many transfer from one institution to another; others enroll in courses at more than one university at the same time—a process called "swirling." They expect their degrees will lead to jobs. Today's students are more consumer-savvy than ever before. They expect convenience, easy access to resources (books, journals, magazines) and immediate feedback from professors. This is fueling the exploding demand for "blended" and online courses, particularly among adults.

The growing numbers of students with greater life experience is changing how universities think and work. These new students see themselves as "customers," so they shop around for convenience and value. This means we must be more responsive to the marketplace, nimble and service-oriented.

Some critics complain universities are compromising the process of learning by adopting "the business model" of higher education. Actually, the changing composition of our student body is helping us become more efficient, better stewards of our resources and more focused on learning outcomes.

Our calling and mission, however, remain unchanged. Fresno Pacific University was founded on Christ and exists to prepare students for lives of ministry and service through excellence in Christian higher education.

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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Let's talk

What do you want to know, how do you want to know it?

Help!

Pacific is about communication and connections. Meaning how we answer two questions: What's going on at FPU? and What does it mean to you, the reader?

When you remove *Pacific* from your mail box three times a year you can read now, read later or recycle immediately. We whose names grace the masthead on the previous page warmly thank each of you who choose solution one or two.

The mission of *Pacific* is to give readers a straightforward, accurate, thoughtful and lively view of university events, issues and people. Like any good statement of purposes, that can be interpreted several ways. The resulting discussion makes life, and we hope the magazine, interesting.

Communication and connections are a balancing act. Some things we at the university want readers to know, some things you readers have told us you want to know.

Complicating matters, there are more of you readers than there used to be—20,000 now. And you come from more places: alumni, parents of students, donors, members of the Pacific District Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Churches, other Mennonite colleges and universities, the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities, community leaders, government and media folks and others I'm forgetting.

So what do you all want to know? Better yet, how do you want to know about it?

More people, especially the young adults that are the majority of FPU alumni, get their information from the Internet. The latest iteration of our website, coming this spring to fresno.edu, will offer new features to let you know what's happening on campus.

So what are you willing to wait maybe four months to know? What do you want to know now?

Here's your invitation to tell us what you want to see in *Pacific* and what you want to see on the website. My email address is wsteffen@fresno.edu and my mailing address is Wayne Steffen, Fresno Pacific University, 1717 S. Chestnut Ave., Fresno, CA 93702. I look forward to being overwhelmed by your response.

—Wayne Steffen



SUNBIRDS REPEAT NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP EARN RECORD FOR NUMBER OF WINS

It wasn't just one national championship the Sunbird volleyball team celebrated December 10 in the Special Events Center.

- It was two championships in a row and four overall—a record in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. Championship banners for 1989, 2003, 2007 and 2008 now adorn the gymnasium wall.
- It was the latest chapter in a GSAC rivalry. Concordia (Cal.) College, was the Sunbirds opponent. Neither team wanted to give up, and the match went to five games—another record.
- It was a group of talented athletes who are also women of humility and faith.

“National champions—don't you love the way those words roll off the tongue?” President D. Merrill Ewert asked the team and the supporters present.

Ewert, coach Dennis Janzen and other speakers agreed this team is a class act on the court and in the classroom. “You have shown yourselves to be champions of character,” Ewert said.

The women themselves took turns showing appreciation to others. “Victories are awesome, but its relationships you build,” said Lisa Shilling.

“This is the best team I've ever played for,” added Thais Julio.

Janzen, who was named coach of the year, was a master of understatement: “A lot of things go through your mind,” he said. Amidst the mental jumble the university's Bible verse for the year often stood out—Micah 6:8. “They're humble, but they're confident,” he said of his players.

The last and best piece of advice came from his wife, Jeanne, before the final, Janzen said: “The horses need to run, let them run.”

The national championships took place December 2-6 in Sioux City, Iowa. FPU was the favorite going in, with a 30-0 regular season record and a Number 1 ranking in every coaches' top 25 poll during the season.

Two dozen teams began pool play in the Tyson Events Center/Gateway Arena for the 29th annual tournament. FPU and Columbia, the other three-time champ, were each making their 15th-consecutive appearance.

Six seniors—Julia De Jager, Thais Julio, Fabiana Leomil, Shu Liu, Britany Pierce and Tarin Tartaglia—competed in the final matches of their FPU careers. In four years, these athletes and their teammates racked up impressive accomplishments:

- Win-loss record: 145-5
- Home court win-loss record: 62-0
- GSAC win-loss record: 77-2
- Weeks spent ranked #1 nationally: 26
- Nationally ranked in the top three their entire collegiate career
- GSAC championships: 4
- “Elite eight” finish: 1 (2005)
- National runner-up: 1 (2006)
- Current winning streak: 42

For more on the team, as well as individual honors, visit fresno.edu/athletics/women/volleyball

Awareness, work and faith are the answer to Congo's pain

By Doug Kulungu

I am Doug Kulungu, from the Democratic Republic of Congo. I am a junior majoring in business at Fresno Pacific University and preparing myself to serve my country. Congo has been at war for about 10 years now and has lost around 5 million of its population. Children are regarded as good targets for rebels to use in the fight. Many parents lose their kids and many children are forced to serve in the army. Rape is also used as a weapon against women.

In a country where more than 80 percent of the population is Christian, peace is not welcomed by those who rule. Congolese people are willing to pay any price so they can enjoy and live a peaceful and lovely life.

Colonized by Belgium, Congo's history causes guilt in the international community. People will regret what they are doing to those who do not deserve this taste of hell.

Congo is naturally rich and has around 80 percent of the world's coltan, a mineral which is used to make electronic devices. But whenever there is a new discovery of natural resources, it opens the door to war. People do not talk about this. War has become a business and the news media does not have good coverage when business funds war.

Many Western companies have been listed among the groups supporting rebellion so they can get its benefits. We already suffered this injustice when King Leopold of Belgium killed more than 10 million people in 1800. Brussels was built with Congolese resources.

My reason to be in the United States is to study. I strongly believe that the slogan of "change" used here during the election is more needed in Congo than it is in the U.S.A. I am willing to work with my government and use my knowledge and education for Congo because I believe with John F. Kennedy that we should "ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." I came to America because I believe this is a place where anyone willing can make it.

I am enjoying the freedom of speech that the U.S. offers. Back in Congo, I was involved in protesting as a student, with the risk of being arrested or even killed. But here and now I can speak and even cry loud for my country because I believe that there is nowhere better than home.

In a country where the unemployment rate is over 50 percent, starvation is a daily enemy that Congolese people need to confront: the average Congolese man is expected to live no more than 45 years. Broken by the 32 years of dictatorship by



Mobutu, Congo has not found a better ground yet to build on. People are leaving the country to find food, clothes, jobs, etc. Many friends lost their families during this war. My dad works as a peace maker and he always goes to the eastern part of the country, where the war is being fought, so he can help.

We need prayer in Congo, and more awareness that the situation there is even worse than Darfur. In Darfur 400,000 to 500,000 human lives have been lost, but in Congo 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 have died. So let all stand and say "No!" to Rwanda, the country that is backing our enemies. Some people believe in the excuse the rebels use that they protect the Tutsi minority—this is a lie: how can you kill millions to protect thousands?

Congo has 450 tribes, and let the world know that in Congo there is no discrimination. I come from different tribes than my friends, but we get along.

I hope the administration of President Obama will support Congo and free it from its exploiters. Obama already supported a bill for Congo that passed the U.S. Senate last year.

God is my passion, school is my road to public office and politics are my philosophy. I am looking forward to serving my country in a passionate and patriotic way.

Doug Kulungu is from Kinshasa, Congo's capital. His father is Pascal Kulungu, (B.A. 1997, M.A. 1998).

faculty & staff focus



Ron Claassen, director of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, and wife Roxanne, a public school teacher and mediator, published *Discipline That Restores: Strategies*

to Create Respect, Cooperation, and Responsibility in the Classroom. The book blends conflict resolution, peacemaking and restorative justice into a process geared to schools. Call 800-909-8677, email pacs@fresno.edu or go to disciplinethatrestores.org for more information.



Brian Schultz, biblical and religious studies faculty, gave the paper "From 'Edah' to Yahad to 'Edah'" at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in Boston

November 22-25. The paper was delivered to the Qumran (Dead Sea Scrolls) section.



Walter Saul, music faculty, received a 2008-2009 ASCAPLUS award in the concert music division. The prizes are based on the number of public performances of a composer's work.



Janette Erickson, music faculty, was named Artist of the Month in November by Miyazawa Flutes. Erickson is principal flute of the Fresno Philharmonic and leads Flautas Pacifica, the university flute choir.



Rod Janzen, senior scholar, signed a contract with Wipf & Stock Publishers for a book titled *Paul Tschetter: The Story of a Hutterite Minister and Pioneer*, scheduled for publication in

June 2009. In July 2009 the book will be formally introduced at the Hutterite-Mennonite Centennial Committee in Freeman, South Dakota. Tschetter was one of 12 Anabaptist delegates sent from Russia in 1873 to explore settlement possibilities in the United States and Canada. *Communal Societies*, the academic journal of the Communal Studies Association, which Janzen edits, began publishing two issues per year for the first time in 2008.



Allen Carden, degree completion academic coordinator and liberal arts program director and faculty, delivered a lecture series "Great Presidential Campaigns" at the Osher

Lieflore Learning Institute at California State University, Fresno. The presentations were on Washington, John Adams and Jefferson, John Quincy Adams and Jackson and William Henry Harrison (October 7); Lincoln, Grant, Hayes, Cleveland and Cleveland and Benjamin Harrison (October 14); Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson and Theodore Roosevelt (October 21); Truman, Kennedy, Nixon, Carter and Reagan and George W. Bush (October 28). The institute is a program of life-learning experiences for people 50 years old and older.



The Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies was well represented at the Association for Conflict Resolution annual conference in Austin the week of September 22. Director **Ron Claassen** (left) was joined by students Noelle Daoudian (victim offender reconciliation program director), Jason Ekk (restorative justice initiative director) and Jessica Wood (Campus Mediation Center director). The group made four presentations: "Embedding Restorative Justice into the Juvenile Justice System: a Practical and Working Model" by Daoudian and Ekk; "Turning Aspiration into Reality: Creation of a Multi-faceted Conflict Resolution Organization" by Claassen, Wood, Ekk and Daoudian; "Discipline that Restores: an Unconditional Commitment to be constructive" by Claassen; and "Advanced Principles of Restorative justice," a half-day preconference training by Claassen. At the same time **Duane Ruth-Heffelflower** (right), CPACS graduate program director, was in Colorado Springs providing two-and-one-half days of cross-cultural conflict training to 150 Vineyard Church mission leaders at their annual Missions Leaders Conference.



Richard Wiebe, philosophy professor, presented two lectures September 12 and 13 at the Sierra Club education center in Yosemite Valley, LeConte Memorial Lodge: "Gary

Snyder: The Practice of the Wild" and "Terry Tempest Williams: Refuge, an Unnatural History of Family and Place."



GRADS TOLD TO WELCOME ADVERSITY

FPU welcomed 237 new alumni December 12. The graduates, many fresh from balancing work, family and higher education, were familiar with the speaker's subject: adversity. What they may not have expected was his contention that it's to be rejoiced in rather than feared.

So said Larry Powell, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, to 237 graduates, their family and friends during fall commencement December 12 in the Special Events Center.

Among those receiving degrees were graduates of two new programs. Alicia Hinton, Fresno, was the first to earn a J.D. from San Joaquin College of Law and a master's in peacemaking and conflict studies from FPU through the first such cooperative program in the nation. On the undergraduate side, the first five graduates of the B.A. degree completion program in criminology and restorative justice were Denise Doyle, Fresno; Roxanne Farias, Fresno; Stuart Jensen, Clovis; Rafael Kasdorf, Reedley; and Nicole Magano, Pinedale.

Adversity is a synonym for opportunity, according to Powell. "What we truly are comes out when we go through difficult times."

One visual made the point. Pulling out a \$20 bill, Powell asked who wanted it. Many applauded. He then crumpled the bill, dropped it on the stage and stepped on it, all the while asking people if they were still interested. At last, he gave the straightened money to one of the soon-to-be-grads. "No matter what happens to you, you never lose your value," Powell said.

Powell is in his 38th year in public education. A Fresno County native, he has a B.A. from California State University, Fresno, and an M.A. from FPU, where he is a member of the board of trustees. Powell has received Superintendent of the Year honors from the Association of California School Administrators Region 9.

RAWLS LEAVES FPU TO JOIN FAMILY

Janita Rawls, dean of the School of Business, left the university in November to join husband Richard Rawls and their family in Georgia.

Joining the FPU faculty in 1997, Janita Rawls taught business and directed the traditional undergraduate program before taking the role of interim undergraduate dean in 2003. She became founding dean of the School of Business in 2005.

Rawls was involved in the Business Forum, a series of annual community presentations featuring speakers such as Ken Blanchard, Patrick Lencioni, John Maxwell and John Wooden that regularly attracts more than 1,000 business and community leaders. She also launched the school's corporate training venture, helped lead curriculum development projects and played a key role in accreditation activities.

"She is known for her high level of energy and strategic thinking," President D. Merrill Ewert said. "Thank you, Janita, for a job done exceptionally well."

Richard Rawls (BA '87), history and classics professor and director of Hiebert Library, left FPU in August for a post as associate professor of history at Georgia Gwinnett College. Janita is completing her FPU teaching online.



PIPES & BRASS

Faculty, students and community musicians marked the International Year of the Organ January 25 in a concert at First Congregational Church, Fresno. Local organists, faculty and FPU's Pacific Brass performed before more than 250 people. Performers were, from left; Richard Kunz and Thomas Adlard, students; Wayne Huber, faculty;

Isaac Comelli and Meredith Wing, students; Susan Berg (BA '70); Beatrice Fleming, former faculty; Constance Ellenberger (BA '79); Laurell Huber, faculty; Scott Horton (BA '91); Shawna Nyberg, area musician; and Vincent Moretto, Michelle Marshall and Stephen Mathews, students. (Photo by John Ellenberger)



Demystifying financial aid (Part I)

Facts and friends guide families through the financial aid maze—don't leave home without your FAFSA

UNIVERSITY FINANCIAL AID—it may look like a jungle out there, but a few simple facts and friendly, knowledgeable faces will guide prospective students and their families through the underbrush.

Paying for a quality higher education is mission possible, and no one has to go through it alone. “Our counselors work with students to create the best financial aid package possible,” said Ken Isaak, director of financial aid. “At Fresno Pacific, we are



Ken Isaak

committed to making an excellent university education affordable.”

FPU counselors are experienced guides. “More than 98 percent of our traditional undergraduate students receive financial aid, and last year we awarded over \$32 million, including more than \$8 million in Fresno Pacific grants and scholarships, to help students like you achieve their goals,” said April Powell, associate director of financial aid.



April Powell

Several types of aid are available:

Scholarships—do not have to be repaid. Fresno Pacific University offers more than 100 scholarships based on areas including grades, field of study, community and church service, ethnicity and participation in music, drama and athletics. Students can also find scholarships at Internet sites such as fresno.edu/scholarships.

Grants—are state and federal government money and do not have to be repaid. Most are based on financial need and/or grades. Some of the more well-known grants are the Pell Grant and the Cal Grant.

Loans—must be repaid, but often have a very low interest rate. Most loans require no payments until you are out of school, and there are loan forgiveness programs for graduates entering selected careers.

Campus jobs—departments on campus hire students to do everything from show high school students around to set up chairs for events. Money for these positions comes from the federal or institutional work-study program.

For 2009-2010, FPU's top academic awards have been raised to:

- \$10,000 for the President's Scholarships
- \$7,500 for the Dean's Scholarships
- \$5,000 for Faculty Scholarships
- \$2,500 for Founder's Scholarships
- Scholarships for transfer students range from \$2,500-8,000
- Music and drama scholarships range up to \$10,000 and athletic scholarships up to full tuition

In addition 40 percent of our traditional undergraduate students get Cal Grants ranging from \$9,708 to \$11,259 per year. There is also good news for those concerned about loans. Nationwide, the average student with loans owes \$22,000 after four years. That average for FPU graduates is \$15,588.

Every journey needs a map. The one for this adventure is called the FAFSA.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is used by colleges and universities to qualify prospective students for all forms of financial aid. The form is online at fafsa.ed.gov, or a paper form is available by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID. FPU's school code is 001253.

To apply for a Cal Grant, California residents should submit their completed FAFSA between January 1 and March 2. The spring Cal Grant deadline for students transferring from a community college is September 2.

California residents interested in a Cal Grant must also file a GPA Verification Form by March 2. High schools and colleges may automatically submit GPA's to the California Student Aid Commission. If not, students can find the GPA Verification Form online at csac.ca.gov.

But, Cal Grant or not, all aid is based on the FAFSA. “FAFSA is the student's key,” Powell said.

In short, money need not be a roadblock to an academically challenging education that prepares graduates professionally and ethically to be leaders in their careers, communities and congregations. “Apply early, keep a copy of everything you submit and ask questions. We know this process can be confusing, and we are here to help,” Isaak said.

For more information, see fresno.edu or experiencefpu.com. Admissions and financial aid counselors are available at ugadmis@fresno.edu and sfs@fresno.edu or 1-800-660-6089 and 1-866-321-7502.

Four-year graduation guarantee builds on record of success



Students who earn their bachelor's degree in four years get a head start toward entering top graduate schools or becoming leaders in their careers, communities and congregations. Beginning in January 2009, Fresno Pacific University is offering a new way to help those students with a four-year graduation guarantee.

FPU already has the highest four-year graduation rate in the Central Valley, two or three times that of other schools in the region. "Fresno Pacific has always been dedicated to giving students what they need to succeed. Our faculty are not only enthusiastic professors and experts in their fields, they also mentor and guide students toward academic success" said Stephen Varvis, vice president of enrollment management. "The four-year guarantee will give students and families some assurance as they plan for the future—it puts our dedication to student success in writing."

The university will guarantee graduation within four years to qualified students entering the traditional undergraduate program. "We commit to providing the courses, advising, instruc-

"This guarantee further demonstrates that a degree from FPU is an excellent investment in academic quality as well as professional, ethical and spiritual development," Varvis said.

tion and preparation," Varvis said. Students who fulfill their responsibilities and are not able to graduate in four years will receive the needed courses in the next semester at no cost in tuition or student fees.

The guarantee is limited to basic graduation requirements for a single major with no minor. Transfer, degree completion and graduate students are not part of the guarantee. Student responsibilities include:

- Signing up for the guarantee during the freshman year, choose a major by the second semester of the freshman year and keep that major until graduation.
- Make course plans with their advisor, follow those plans and meet all advising, registration and financial aid deadlines.
- Complete at least 32 units per year with passing grades in each course and remain in good standing behaviorally.

FALL PERFORMANCES MIX COMEDY, OPERA

A Noel Coward comedy and a classic Christmas opera made an eclectic mix this fall.

Hay Fever was performed in November in Ashley Auditorium as the Mainstage theater production, and *Amahl & the Night Visitors* was presented in December by the Vocal Performance Workshop.

Coward's play centers on the eccentric Bliss family, which invites company for a weekend of fun, frolic and frightfully bad manners. Jennifer Sampson was the director and Bethany Rader was assistant director. Actors were Donna Carr as Judith Bliss, Loren Nikkel as David Bliss, Ben Carr as Simon Bliss, Ava Nicole Pacino as Sorel Bliss, Lauren Bagato as Clara, Maya Oselsky as Myra Arundel, Stephanie Wasemiller as Jackie Coryton, Tony Saragosa as Sandy Tyrell and Jacob Bailey/Robert Sanchez as Richard Greatham.

Set near Bethlehem shortly after the birth of Christ, *Amahl* revolves around a poor crippled boy who lives with his mother and becomes host to three mysterious kings. Katie Holloway was Amahl, Melinda Ramos (BA '02) was his mother, Andrew Geist was Kaspar,



Stephanie Wasemiller and Loren Nikkel in *Hay Fever*



The cast of *Amahl*

Joel Wissner was Melchior and Gene Sperling (BA '66) was Balthazar.

Deborah Sauer-Ferrand (general director) is vocal coordinator and professor of voice. Accompanist Doris Payne is an adjunct instructor. Performances took place at New Hope Community Church, Clovis.

Amahl and the Night Visitors, by Gian Carlo Menotti, was first performed in 1951 as the debut of the Hallmark Hall of Fame.



VISALIA CENTER

Ageless Learning: Adult students making history at FPU

New facilities and majors spread school's influence

by Wayne Steffen

A NATIONAL TREND marked a new milestone at FPU May 3, 2008. It looked like any other spring graduation—sunny and warm, speeches and special music inside the Special Events Center, refreshments and photo ops with loved ones outside on the Green—but history was happening. For the first time at a spring commencement, more of those who crossed the stage graduated from degree-completion programs than traditional ones.

Of 374 people welcomed to the alumni association, 162 earned bachelor's through degree-completion (DC) programs and 56 earned master's degrees. Traditional graduates, who attended classes for recent high-school graduates, numbered 153.

Adults have been a growing part of higher education in the Valley, California and the nation since the early 1990s. FPU, in fact, added a December commencement in 2005 to serve primarily DC and graduate students.

Figures and terms are slippery. The classic adult student is someone in his, or more often her, late 30s. DC students dropped out of college or stopped after an associate degree and now look to re-enter or rise in the workforce. Graduate students are professionals needing advanced education.

Some people past their 20s, however, study among traditionals and more folks under 30 are coming back to school. But the trend is clear: like the rest of America, the college population is getting older.

FPU was part of the first wave of adult programs in 1991. Since then the university has consistently invested in the facilities, instruction and services adults need. And those needs are often more different in form than in substance. Adults say No to dorm rooms, meal plans and sports teams, but still Yes to topflight academics, expert faculty and ethical development.

As audience cries of “That’s my Mom!” ring from the stands more often at both commencements, adult students figure more often into what FPU does, from the kind of buildings we build to the brand of coffee we buy.

OK, not the coffee. But certainly:



Facilities

ADULT CLASSES first sprouted in various locations in Fresno, Visalia and Bakersfield. Centers opened in Bakersfield in 1998 and in Visalia in 2003. The North Fresno Center was added in 2005 and centers came to the College of the Sequoias in Hanford and West Hills College in Lemoore in 2006 and 2007, respectively.

As FPU has built centers, students have come. In March the new Bakersfield Center is set to open on Stockdale Highway across from the new Riverwalk, a development on the west side of the city planned for upscale restaurants and shopping. “It will be right on the corner as people turn in,” says Cindy Steele, executive director of regional centers.

The 22,000-square-foot structure will have 13 classrooms, a computer lab, and a student lounge. This replaces the current downtown center, which has only four classrooms.

A new Visalia Center is scheduled to open in May, with 35,000 square feet, 22 classrooms and two computer labs. The location at Plaza Drive and Hwy 198 allows easy access for people from adjoining communities like Hanford and Tulare. “It truly is a regional campus for that area,” Steele says. It also improves on the existing center’s seven classrooms.

Consolidating classes increases services to students. Technology will be improved as all classrooms will have wireless Internet access. Professors can use the computer labs during class, and students can come in at their convenience for research and homework.

Academics

TEACHING ADULTS takes more than a new set of lecture notes; it’s a new mindset. “Really my role is a facilitator,” says Breck Harris, business professor. In addition to being involved with about 40 cohorts of adult students, Harris has written a dozen articles and given several presentations on adult higher education.

“Adult students require basically more involvement with their learning,” he says. They prefer case studies and small-group activities to lecture. One activity Harris likes is “the whip.” Several people speak for a minute or two each on an assignment. “We whip around the room,” he says. Talking about what they’ve learned helps students learn more, and makes knowledge deeper.

Then there’s the life experience adults are eager to share. Traditional students, on the other hand, are more receivers of knowledge from the teacher.

On the graduate side, teacher education takes facilitation to another level as adult students prepare to become teachers and facilitators for K-12 students. “As an undergraduate person, you’re the learner. As the graduate person, you become responsible as a teacher,” says Vickie Bigler, director of teacher education at the Visalia Center.

Teacher candidates become the scholars, the professionals, the peacemakers and the leaders of their classrooms. “It empowers them to own the curriculum, and the choices they make to teach it,” Bigler said.

More adults are internally motivated by the desire for professional improvement, the joy of learning and a search for community. “They’re seeking contact with others like them outside of work,” Harris says, which fits FPU’s ethos.

Some students seek to make amends for not taking college seriously earlier in life. “They realize this was an incomplete area of their lives, and it hasn’t gone away,” Harris says.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Here is a short list of the subjects covered in adult programs. Not all programs are available at all locations. Complete information is at fresno.edu/academics

Bachelor's degree completion

- Business management
- Christian ministries
- Criminology & restorative justice
- Early childhood development
- Liberal arts
- Organizational leadership
- RN to BSN

Master's degrees

- Education
 - Administrative services
 - Curriculum & teaching
 - Educational technology
 - Integrated mathematics/science education
 - Mathematics education
 - School counseling
 - School psychology
 - Reading/ESL
 - Reading/language arts
 - School library & information technology
 - Special education
- Individualized program
- Kinesiology
- Leadership and organizational studies
- Peacemaking and conflict studies
- Reading/language arts
- School counseling
- School psychology
- Special education
- Teacher librarian services
- TESOL

Credentials

- Administrative services
- Multiple & single subject
- School counseling
- School psychology
- Reading/language arts
- Special education
- Teacher librarian services

Certificates

- Board Certified Behavior Analyst
- Church conflict resolution
- Mediation
- Restorative Justice
- School conflict resolution
- Workplace conflict management
- Reading
- Resource specialist
- TESOL

Ethical development figures as strongly in adult programs as in traditional ones. Faculty mentoring is still important to older students. Many students do make lifelong decisions based on study at FPU. "They make those decisions because of what they see from me and other professors here," Harris says.

Teacher candidates learn to see teaching as a calling to redemptive service. Teachers ask: "How can I serve this student as an individual?" Bigler says.

As for Harris, he is inspired as he sees students sacrifice for education. "My own life has been changed as an instructor as I've seen the obstructions they've overcome," he says.

Recruiting

UNDERSTANDING the motivations of adult students is the key to drawing them. "They (adults) are often more intentional. They have specific needs and wants, and we have to respond to those," says Stephen Varvis, vice president for enrollment management.

High school students are looking for experiences, asking what God wants them to do. Their emphasis is on majors and activities such as music and athletics. "It's about being at a certain place," Varvis says.

Adult students are about goals and access—can I get a good program at a place and time that fits my work and family schedule? Information meetings are as important as campus visits are to traditional students. "If they go to a meeting, they're probably pretty interested," Varvis says.

At information meetings FPU representatives describe programs and help students map their routes. "The adult student often wants to know step-by-step what it's going to take," Varvis says.

The increase in adult students is national and local. "That's been a growing trend nationally, as well. For a decade at least," Varvis says. About 40 percent of the 16 million college students in the United States are 25 and older, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

The Central Valley is a strong market for adult programs because, compared to other parts of California, it has fewer residents with bachelor's degrees but more with an associate degree or some college credit—the target degree-completion student. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 25.9 percent of Americans 25 or over have bachelor's degrees. California is 13th among the states with a 28.5 percent. Within the state, San Francisco County has a 47.8 percent graduation rate, while Fresno County's rate is 19 percent, Kern County's is 15.2 percent and Tulare County's is 10.5 percent.

FPU has a strong academic reputation, and its adult programs are priced competitively with National University and the University of Phoenix, Varvis says. "We have to compete on cost. We have to be known for the highest quality—not only by students but by employers," he adds.

“Learning gained from FPU provides our adult graduates with continual opportunity to represent our university’s most cherished ethics and values.”

Once academics and cost are determined, adults want to hear what defines FPU: ethical development. “Employers know about the values that are emphasized at FPU. They trust our students to bring those sound ethical values when they hire them,” Varvis says.

Word about FPU’s adult programs has gotten around. At orientation sessions new students are asked if they know someone who has gone through an FPU program. Routinely 90 percent raise their hands. “That’s exactly what we want to see,” Varvis says. “Students who have been here have had a positive experience: They’ve learned something, they’ve grown and they’ve accomplished their goals.”

Outreach

ADULT STUDENTS represent uncharted territory for many universities when it comes to services and support. “It’s been a struggle for many institutions. It’s a whole different kind of student,” says Nicole Linder, director of the annual fund.

Different, however, does not mean uninterested. “They’re almost the first to respond after graduation with a gift,” she adds. Graduate and degree completion alumni make up 30 percent of alumni donors.

This generosity may spring from means and experience. Linder suspects adult graduates may have gotten a promotion or better job through their degree, and are already involved in charitable work. Traditional alumni, on the other hand, are starting or looking for jobs, paying off loans and perhaps getting married.

The challenge is to match the interests of adult graduates to FPU. Adults learn in many locations and don’t identify with the main campus. “A lot of them have only been to the main campus for registration and commencement,” says David Bacci, former director of alumni relations. They never ate in Shehadey Dining Hall or Alumni Hall, didn’t attend Homecoming and may not know the MCC Sale. “All the parts of campus life we see every day are not part of their lives,” he adds.

“They’re connected to the program, the center, the major professor,” says Charity Brown, director of church relations and herself a degree-completion graduate.

Same goes for cocurriculars. “They are so grateful for this experience with FPU: the degree, the cohort, the interest of

faculty,” Linder says. “However, they weren’t in the choir.”

One way to connect with adult alumni is to reach out to the places they live and work. “If we are going to expect our support from these regions, we need to be involved in those communities,” Linder says. Examples include visits to Visalia and Bakersfield and the Business

Forum, which attracts business alumni.

The alumni e-newsletter, *Pacific* magazine and the Career Resources Center are among the services both adult and traditional alumni receive. “The hope is it will connect them with some awareness of events, even if they don’t attend,” Bacci says. “We’ve had a few go on the cruises. They tend to bring spouses and kids and make it more of a family thing.”

The university is taking seriously its role to bring students at the centers into the FPU family. “We equally value their experience,” Linder said.

Spirituality

WHEN ANGULUS WILSON (BA ’89) joined FPU in the summer of 2008, the title of his position changed from campus pastor to university pastor. This represented more than a new sign on his office door: part of his job is expressly to reach out to students in nontraditional programs and at the centers.

FPU is a pioneer in this area. “Most university pastors don’t see themselves as serving the graduate community. We serve everybody,” Wilson says.

The standard undergraduate experience consists of College Hour chapels, student ministries (Bible studies, etc.), applications to academics and cocurriculars—seeing Christ in, say, biology, or living spirituality through athletics—and a mission trip. Plans for adult outreach include weekly visits to the centers, Wilson’s blog and College Hour online: audio podcasts of services in Butler Church and two-three-minute weekly devotional videos. “A manna moment from the pastor,” he says.

Other ideas are an annual retreat for students from each center at Casa Pacifica, the university’s cabin in the Sierras, and gathering a group of pastors, perhaps retirees or seminary students, to serve the centers. Some adult students have even asked to join mission trips.

Issues for adult students are children, money, health and spiritual concerns. "Normal parishioner struggles," Wilson says.

Wilson's role is to point students to the right resources, either at FPU or in their communities. "It's a form of social work," he says.

The job is large, and largely Wilson's to explore. "It's a big task to be a university pastor. I don't think we've defined that, especially since we're a university that is spread throughout the Valley," he says.

Educational values

IN THE END, adult programs are another expression of the university's foundation. "Serving our adult students connects us with the larger world by uniting our Christian belief with an education that contributes to personal and social wholeness," Breck Harris says. "Learning gained from FPU provides our adult graduates with a continual opportunity to represent our university's most cherished ethics and values."

Students from afar spice up adult studies

Most adults don't travel far to attend FPU, convenience being one advantage of the programs. Three interesting exceptions are earning M.A.'s in leadership and organizational studies:



Perry Bensen, Jr.
CHICAGO

Two years of library research led Bensen to FPU. Once he was down to 25 schools, he started making telephone calls. Recruiter Marie Sather called back and Bensen was hooked. "She was just very warm and I heard God in the messages she left."

Bensen has been a social worker, minister, community activist and youth worker. "The program is enhancing my ability to do those things. It gives me more tools."



Chirine Jrab
LEBANON

Jrab discovered FPU online. She was already in the United States and accepted at another university when she was told most of her undergraduate credits would not transfer. "That was a big shock for me."

She called FPU's program "enlightened." "I feel more mature, with a greater knowledge and more experience."

After graduation, Jrab plans to work, then go for a doctorate. "My dream job is to be a university professor."



Flavia Tincu
ROMANIA

Tincu heard about FPU from a friend who graduated. Before coming to the United States, Tincu earned a master's in economics and worked in two banks. Leadership is her interest. "There is a huge difference between way the United States and Romania approach leadership."

Her biggest lesson has been that job titles don't make leaders. "You can be a leader in any position because you can influence the people around you."

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jan (Neufeld BA '73) Young's novel *The Orange Slipknot* won third-place for pre-teen intermediate fiction in the 2008 Moonbeam Children's Book Awards. It was also a *ForeWord Magazine* 2007 Book of the Year Award Finalist. The novel is about 12-year-old Ben, who lives on a ranch with his cowboy father. Jan is a writer, K-4 remediation tutor and piano teacher. For more information, visit www.janyoungauthor.com

Kim (Ewert BA '80) Suderman was appointed director of the Yolo County Department of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health. A behavioral health official who most recently served as deputy director of San Joaquin County's Behavioral Health Department, Kim previously worked for San Joaquin and Yolo counties' Children's System of Care departments and in several public positions in Yuba County.

Rev. Gordon Kroeker (BA '81) joined the pastoral staff at First Baptist Church in Minot, North Dakota, as the pastor of discipleship and community life.

Jina Brenneman-Pierce (BA '86) was appointed curator at Harwood Museum of Art of the University of New Mexico. She had been curator of visual arts at the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center in Pueblo, Colorado, and executive director of the Tri Lakes Center for the Arts.

Susan (Phariss FS '94) Sommers is a senior lecturer at Southern Methodist University. She will also become director of the master's of science in accounting program.

Michael (BA '99, TC '00) and Sarah (Watters BA '00) Johnson moved to Papua New Guinea in January 2009 to work for Wycliffe Bible Translators; translating Bibles. They'd love to hear from friends at michael_johnson@sil.org or sarah_johnson@sil.org

Christina (Maule BA '06) Baltazar is a staff accountant at Noell, Agnew & Morse, LLP in Visalia after spending two-and-one-half years with Deloitte & Touche, LLP in Fresno as a senior auditor.

Karl Strube (BA '06) was promoted to senior auditor at Deloitte & Touche, LLP in Fresno in September 2008.

Leigh Carter (BA '07) is legislative director for assemblywoman-elect Connie Conway of the 34th Assembly District.

Heather Franco (BA '08) is attending San Joaquin College of Law and working full time at a Fresno law firm as a records clerk.



Katelin Williams (BA '08) began a one-year term of Mennonite Voluntary Service September 2008 in Washington, D.C. She is an early childhood instructor with Even Start. MVS invites adults, age 20 and older, to join together in Christian ministry for one- or two-year terms in more than 20 locations in the United States and one international site. For more information, visit www.service.mennonitemission.net

IN THE NEWS

Celebrating alumni featured in print and broadcast media.

Brett Richards (BA '02) was in a *Marinij.com* article titled "Ross Valley sewage district names new top executive" on November 12, 2008. He will be the new district manager for the Ross Valley Sanitary District. He had worked for Madera County as special district manager, overseeing 30 water districts and 12 waste water districts.

ENGAGEMENT

Rochelle Payne (BA '08) and Andrew Smith plan to wed May 30, 2009, at the Visalia Country Club. Rochelle is employed at Valhalla, her family's restaurant, and Andrew is employed at his family's Rent-to-Own business. After a honeymoon in the Riviera Maya, the couple plans to live in Visalia.

MARRIAGES

Brian Henderer (BA '92) married Dasha Voloshina on June 28, 2008. Brian also completed a doctorate of ministry at Fuller Theological Seminary in youth, family and culture. His thesis is *Training Youthworkers for Vocational Youth Ministry: Foundations for Undergraduate Degree Programs*.

Becky Wehmuller (BA '01) married Darin Van Stavern July 28, 2007, in Pismo Beach. Becky works at Southwest Baptist University as an admissions counselor. The couple resides in Willard, Missouri.

Jennifer Strid (BA '05) married Michael Elliot on December 22, 2007, in Tulare. Jennifer

received her doctorate in physical therapy from Loma Linda University in 2008 and joined Visalia Medical Clinic. Michael received his bachelor of science in criminology from California State University, Fresno, after serving five years in the United States Army. The couple resides in Fresno.



Shondra Roxanne Davison (BA '08) married Ryan Dean Walker on July 26, 2008. Shondra is working on a master's degree in composition theory at California State University, Fresno, and Ryan is also pursuing his master's degree while working as assistant coach to the FPU men's basketball team.

Mitch Mulligan (BA '08) married Nicole Searby on September 20, 2008, at the Mission San Luis Obispo. Mitch is working on his single subject teaching credential at California State University, Fresno, and Nicole is employed as a technical assistant in the CSUF Human Resources Office. The couple resides in Fresno.



Brooke Wininger (BA '08) married Jose Luis Espindola on October 4, 2008. Brooke is pursuing a master's in social work at California State University, Fresno, and Jose is a sales representative for Ochoa Seed. The couple resides in Fresno.

BIRTHS



Amanda (Voris BA '92, TC '93) Lewis and husband Stephen announce the birth of son Zachary Gray on January 25, 2008. He joins sisters Nadine, 22; Ariadne, 10; Kyrie, 8; and brothers Peter Edmund, 6; and Calvin Stephen, 4. The family resides in Salem, Oregon, where Stephen pastors Evergreen Presbyterian Church PCA and Amanda enjoys homeschooling and teaching children's art classes.

Dora (Zaragoza BA '98, TC '99) Childers and husband David announce the birth of daughter Emily Grace on August 22, 2008. She weighed 7 pounds 8 ounces and joins sister Lauren, 7.



Allison (Steinert BA '98) McNeely and husband Kevin announce the birth of daughter Macey Charlotte on September 12, 2008. The family lives in Garland, Texas.

Wendy (Miller BA '98) Warnes and husband Colin announce the birth of son Lucas Edward on October 26, 2008. Born 13 weeks premature, he weighed 2 pounds, 11 ounces and was 12 7/8 in. long. Lucas had to spend two months in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Children's Hospital of Central California and came home weighing 6 pounds, 8 ounces, and measuring at 17 1/2 inches. He joins brother, Jacob, 5.



Heidi (Ott BA '01, TC '06) Anderson and husband Christian announce the birth of twins on September 27, 2008. Cody Ray weighed 5 pounds, 5 ounces and was 18.5 inches long and Clara Rose weighed 3 pounds, 13 ounces and was 16 inches long.



Joel (BA '00, TC '03) and Kristen (Mewhirter BA '02) Gilster announce the birth of daughter Evie Liora on May 4, 2008. She weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20 inches long. Joel teaches science at Washington Middle School in Dinuba and Kristen works with West Coast Mennonite Central Committee.



Carlos (BA '00, MA '06) and Anna (Bauer MA '05) Gutierrez announce the birth of son Charles William on July 18, 2008. Carlos is an assistant professor of business and Anna directs the piano program at Goshen College.



Megan (Roberts BA '01) Richard and husband Erik announce the birth of son Maddox Jude on October 15, 2008. He weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce and was 19 1/4 inches long.



Anne (Sippel BA '03) Bruce and husband Cory announce the birth of daughter Bee on October 13, 2008. They were married on June 17, 2006, and reside in New York.



Tiffany (Kliever BA '06) Champness and husband Danny announce the birth of son Kaden Daniel on September 1, 2008. Kaden joins his big sister Karly, 22 months.

ATTENTION ALUMNI!

Enter to win a Ruth's Chris gift certificate



Become a fan of the official FPU alumni Facebook page (If you see a picture of Alumni Hall, you're there!) and you will be entered to win a \$150 gift certificate for Ruth's Chris Steak House.

3 EASY STEPS TO ENTER:

LOG ON TO FACEBOOK

1. Search for Fresno Pacific University Alumni
2. Click on become a fan
3. You're done!

All fans will be entered into a drawing for the gift certificate. Winners will be announced via the Alumni Facebook page on April 15.



"HISTORIC" MEETING IN MANHATTAN

A group of history alumni met in New York City for dinner and conversation. From left: Audrey Hinds DiPalma (BA '01), a Ph.D. student at the London School of Theology; Brian DiPalma (BA '06), pursuing an M. Div. at Princeton Theological Seminary; Dave Rainbow (BA '02), a Ph.D. student in history at New York University; Andrey Ivanov (BA '01), now in the doctoral history program at Yale University; and Richard Rawls (BA '87) former FPU history and classics professor and director of Hiebert Library, now an associate professor of history at Georgia Gwinnett College. "That's a lot of brainpower sitting around one table—even by Manhattan standards!" Rawls said of the January 2 meeting. (Photo courtesy of Richard Rawls)

Margaret Mims (BA '95) is always ready for duty—in Fresno or in Washington, D.C.

On a trip February 11 with other county officials to lobby for federal funds Mims, Fresno County sheriff, and Judy Case, a county supervisor and registered nurse, gave CPR to a man suffering an apparent heart attack inside a Capitol Hill metro station.

The delegation was headed to the Hilton Garden Inn to prepare for an evening reception after a day of meetings. They found the man lying face down on the ground, bleeding from the mouth.

Mims said, "As I'm giving this young man chest compressions, I hear a lot of people standing around ... there are prayers. A lot of people I heard crying. Many people I'm sure felt helpless and the only thing they could think of do was pray."

By the time emergency crews arrived, the man was breathing again.

"They're heroes, man," said Firebaugh City Manager Jose Ramirez, who was with the group.

—information from *The Fresno Bee* and KFSN ABC 30

DEATHS

Anna (Thiessen PBI '46)

Workentin, a charter student of Pacific Bible Institute, died on April 24, 2008, in Blaine, Washington, after a six-week battle with cancer. She is survived by daughters Judy Workentin (BA '72) and Kathy (Workentin) Richardson (BA '76), both of Blaine, Washington; sons Ron Workentin of Birch Bay, Washington, and John Workentin of Lynden, Washington. She is also survived by six grandchildren and five great

grandchildren. Workentin frequently spoke of the time she spent at PBI and was truly enriched by the many former classmates, and instructors she met.

Roy Vogt (BA '73) passed away on December 20, 2008, in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, at the age of 75. He was Visalia fire chief from 1967-1980. He is survived by his wife, Jennie; two sons, Carl and Jack, both of Visalia; one daughter, Debra Reinhart of Highland Ranch, Colorado; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

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
Charity Brown
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.



Lisa Freeman finds plans can change for the better

by Ed Boling (BA '96)

Like many students, Lisa Freeman (BA '03) entered FPU with a plan. Like many students, that plan changed.

Freeman started as a political science and contemporary Christian ministries major, but her first class in foreign policy piqued her curiosity. This new interest quickly grew, leading her to the Peace Corps after graduation, then to studies at American University in Washington, D.C.

The class that changed her direction was America in a Global Community, taught by Richard Unruh (BA '67), political science professor. Freeman says, "I was fascinated by the concept of global interest, and I began to care about U.S. policies and their impact on the world." Of Unruh she says, "He was my mentor from the beginning, and his classes really challenged me to rethink my views on politics, and reframe my ideas within a biblical worldview, not just a conservative evangelical Republican one. I loved every single class I took from him."

Eventually, Freeman changed her major to intercultural studies and not long after leaving FPU joined the Peace Corps for two years of first-hand, real-world experience teaching English in Kyrgyzstan. As a result of her time at FPU and in Kyrgyzstan, she is now pursuing her master's degree in international peace & conflict resolution at American University in Washington, D.C.

The relationship between Freeman and Unruh has remained strong even after graduation. Freeman recalls when the Unruhs invited her over for dinner after she returned from the Peace Corps, and they spent several hours together talking about the things she had seen and learned. "He's been very supportive of all my endeavors. I am so thankful for his continuing involvement in my life," she adds. He also helped her navigate the path to graduate school.

Unruh said that he is proud of Freeman for taking on the challenge of the Peace Corps and gratified about her choice to pursue graduate work in the program she chose at AU. He believes it is the right choice for who she is and who she wants to be.

Another major influence at FPU was Katrina Poetker, professor of intercultural studies and biblical and religious studies. Calling Poetker's classes some of the most challenging of her college career, Freeman says, "They helped me begin to understand the differences between cultures, and see a broader picture of God and the way He works in the world."

Freeman's time teaching English in Kyrgyzstan really affected the way she sees things and the way she sees God. "My time in Kyrgyzstan was very challenging. Of course, it was also very rewarding, but there were some very difficult times. There were periods when there was just one problem after another, and it seemed like I would barely catch my breath after one challenge when another would

spring up," she says. "After Kyrgyzstan, I worry less about what could go wrong in the future."

Close friend Becky Kruse says, "She really struggled with finding people to connect with overseas. Another struggle was dealing with the questions about her faith in a non-Christian environment. She had to deal with those questions personally. The time in Kyrgyzstan clarified the direction Lisa wanted to head in the field of peacemaking. Though she's still processing through what that will look like in a practical sense in the future, she knows she wants to focus on the least of these, as stated in the book of Matthew, chapter 25."

Before Fresno Pacific, Randy Mewhirter, of Buchanan High School's Campus Life Club, played a significant role in shaping Freeman's life. "I always knew I was loved by Randy, and I learned a lot from him in terms of loving others, especially people who are different from me," she says.

Freeman kept working under Mewhirter for Youth for Christ while at FPU. Mewhirter has known her for 12 years as his daughter's best friend. He has always viewed Freeman as spiritually in tune, but he says her relationship with Christ now shows in every area of her life rather than one aspect. "Christ's Lordship is more evident now in her decision-making. Further, she has moved from being a peace seeker to someone who sees herself as a peace maker. It has become an integral part of who she is," he adds.

NETA award builds on family's commitment to higher education

An annual teaching award reflects a family's dedication to higher education.

During each May commencement since 2004 the Nickel Excellence in Teaching Award (NETA) has been presented to a faculty member selected by his or her peers. Keep that acronym in mind—it's important.

An anonymous gift sparked the award, which was tentatively going to be called the Ted Nickel or Nickel Award. Nickel, among the most respected FPU faculty members, was delighted at the idea, "but I definitely did not want it to be the Ted Nickel Award," he said. The original contribution has been bolstered by several donations, including a \$30,000 matching gift for all new donations.

NETA recipients have been Richard Rawls, history faculty and director of Hiebert Library (2004); Stacy Hammons, sociology (2005); Peng Wen, business (2006); David Youngs, mathematics education (2007); and Richard Unruh, political science (2008). Selections are made by faculty members, including past honorees.

The Nickel name is well-known in Mennonite Brethren higher education. After a few years at Tabor College, Ted W. Nickel came to FPU in 1986 and served first as dean of the graduate college, then as psychology professor. He officially retired in 2003, but returned temporarily when the psychology department needed a hand. His father, T.R. Nickel, taught German and helped recruit students in the early 1960s after a career as a teacher and school superintendent in Reedley and Tulare County. Both men served on the FPU Board of Trustees.

But the connection between the Nickel name and education goes deeper. Ted's mother, Neta (honored in the acronym), was born in Russia, where her father was a teacher. When the family came to the United States, he edited a German-language Mennonite newspaper. Ted's paternal grandfather and great-grandfather, who came from Poland, were among the early donors to Tabor College. "There's a heritage there of valuing education," Ted said.

Building on that heritage is the goal of NETA. Ted hopes the award fund will be expanded to sponsor at least a biennial conference on teaching, "to raise consciousness of education as a continuing goal," he said.

Who was your favorite professor?

FPU faculty are known for helping students in and out of the classroom. Tell us how a professor mentored you at fresno.edu/ alumni. Stories will appear on the university website and Facebook page. If you wish, you can also contribute to NETA in your professor's name.

NEW PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE MEMBERS

FPU welcomes those who have joined the President's Circle between May and December 2008.

Dave Bacci
 Andrew and Jennifer Bodine
 Jacob Brandt
 Bill and Joyce Braun
 Doug Davidian
 Bill and Jean Deeter
 Joan Eaton and Paul Gibson
 Mark and Maria Eggert
 Jose Elgorriaga, Ph.D., and
 Carmen Elgorriaga
 Roy Erford
 Wilma Ewert
 Ken Martens Friesen, Ph.D.,
 and Fran Martens Friesen
 Matt and Paula Gehrett
 Don and Nancy Griffith
 Tim and Bea Hensleit
 Kirk Johnson
 Marshall Johnston, Ph.D., and
 Pamela Johnston, Ph.D.
 David and Elaine Karber
 Steve and Lori Lum
 Jerry and Nanette Lyles
 Glenda Mabry
 Manuel and Cynthia Marinos
 Joseph and Sarah Martin
 Michelle Mawby and
 Scott Wambolt
 Rob and Diana Mock
 Byron and Lucille Neufeld
 Alan and Sue Ours
 Steven Pauls, Ph.D., and
 Linda Pauls, M.D.
 Larry and Dot Powell
 Ken and Martha Sawatzky
 Tim and Jill Schellenberg
 Wes and Janice Schmidt
 Wayne and Arlene Steffen
 Doug and Judi Thompson
 Kimberly Thompson

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

For more information on all support opportunities, contact the Advancement Office at fresno.edu/giving or 559-453-2080

Basketball clinches GSAC crown



MARCUS WEST

The Sunbird men's basketball team clinched its first GSAC title since 1990-1991 February 24. The home victory over Westmont College also tied an FPU record for wins in a season (24) dating back to 1994-1995.

Five players scored in double figures for the Sunbirds. "We played with a desire and passion to win the GSAC title against a worthy opponent in Westmont. It was a great effort by our whole team. They need to be congratulated for their accomplishment," said coach Jim Saia.

Stories and photos on this and other sports at fpuathletics.com



ERIC SCHWAB



OSCAR HIRSCHKORN

TWO COACHES HONORED

A pair of Sunbird coaches have received top honors. Eric Schwab was named Golden State Athletic Conference Cross Country Coach of the Year. The American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) selected Oscar Hirsch Korn as NAIA Region II Coach of the Year.

SUNBIRDS GET FIRST PRESEASON NATIONAL RANKING

The baseball Sunbirds started the 2009 season with the team's first preseason ranking.

FPU was ranked 16th in the first NAIA poll January 8. "We're really proud of where we are considering it's only our fourth season, and we realize there is still a lot of work to be done," said coach Oscar Hirsch Korn.

The Sunbirds ended last season 10th nationally. The new season opened February 4 against the San Francisco Academy of Art.

Men's cross country team finishes 23rd in first national championship appearance

WOMEN END SEASON EIGHTH IN GSAC

by Patrick Ota

The men's cross country team had a lot of firsts this season: first 16th-place regular-season finish in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, first second-place finish in the Golden State Athletic Conference and first appearance at the national championship. "The guys have been running great all season," coach Eric Schwab said.



From left to right, Orea, Hodges, Rodriguez, Moreno, Sanchez, Madrigal and DeVault

The seven-man squad finished 23rd at the nationals November 22 in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Three Sunbirds finished in the top 100, with Benny Madrigal 70th, Cesar Rodriguez 82nd and Isai Orea 84th. Javier Sanchez, Claudio Moreno, Joshua Hodges and Nathan DeVault finished 115th, 125th, 169th and 181st, respectively. In all, 32 schools and more than 200 athletes competed.

Prior to this season, the Sunbirds' best NAIA finish had been 20th.

The GSAC championships were November 8 at Woodward Park in Fresno. The men finished right behind winner Azusa Pacific University, while the women took eighth.

Amanda Johnson finished 21st as the highest female finisher for the Sunbirds, followed by Kaili Zink at 25th. The top three men were Orea in seventh, Rodriguez in eighth and Madrigal in ninth.

Thanking all who support FPU

About this report

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

Information in this report covers calendar year 2008.

DONOR LEVELS

CUMULATIVE GIVING LEVELS

- \$25,000 - Lifetime President's Circle
- \$50,000 - Round Table
- \$100,000 - Cornerstone

ANNUAL GIVING LEVELS

- Dean's Society contributed \$500-\$999 during the calendar year.
- Steward's Society contributed \$100-\$499 during the calendar year.
- Friends of FPU contributed \$1-\$99 during the calendar year.
- President's Circle

The President's Circle is a special group of people who:

- promote FPU whenever possible
- pray for its people and needs
- encourage students to attend
- give at least \$1,000 annually
- offer advice, counsel and encouragement

An estimated value determines in-kind gifts, such as property.

Bold type indicates continuous membership in President's Circle since its inception.

* now deceased

Italics indicate alumni families

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE LIFETIME AND ANNUAL MEMBERS 624 MEMBERS \$1,194,741

IN MEMORY

Elsie Flaming
Donna Freeman
David N. Miller
Clarence Ollenburger
Dorothy Petesch
Wilmer Quiring
Yoshito Takahashi
Evelyn Wiebe

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Congregation of God, Az,
Rocklin
Cornerstone Covenant
Church, Turlock
Country Bible Church, Orland
Creekside Evangelical Free
Church, Merced
Cruising for Jesus, Reedley
Deer Flat Free Methodist
Church, Caldwell
Delano Apostolic Church
Deltalife Foursquare Church,
Fresno
Dinuba M.B. Church
Edgewater Christian
Fellowship, Grants Pass
El Camino Bible Church,
Santa Clara
Evangelical Covenant Church,
Kingsburg
Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Turlock
Faith Covenant Church,
Farmington Hills
Faith Fellowship, Coalinga
Faith Harvest Christian
Center, Lemon Cove
Family Christian Center,
Porterville
Family Community Church,
Fresno
First Assembly of God, Tulare
First Assembly of God, Visalia
First Baptist Church,
Kingsburg
First Baptist Church, Fresno
First Christian Reformed,
Hanford
First Congregational Church,
Fresno
First Covenant Church, Fresno
First Landmark Missionary,
Visalia
First Mennonite Church,
Reedley
First Presbyterian, Fresno
First Southern Baptist Church,
Reedley
Fowler Presbyterian Church
Garden Valley Church,
Garden City, KS
Gateway Church of Visalia
Golden Hills Community
Church, Brentwood
Grace Bible Church, Arroyo
Grande
Grace Chapel, Lancaster
Grace Community Church,
Sanger
Grace Community Church,
Madera
Grace Community Church,
Visalia
Grace Family Church,
Carmichael
Graham Memorial
Presbyterian Church,
Coronado

Growing Healthy Churches,
San Ramon
Hannaford Street Bible
Church, Helena, MT
Heritage Bible Church,
Bakersfield
Home Fellowship Celebration
Church, Fresno
Hope International Church,
Clovis
Hope Lutheran Church,
Fresno
House of the Gospel Church,
Pinedale
Iglesia Adventista Del Septimo
Dia, Fresno
Iglesia Fuente de Vida, Parlier
Iglesia Templo Bautista,
Planada
Iglesia Union Divina, Exeter
Immanuel Christian School,
Ridgecrest
Kingsburg Community Church
Kingsburg M B Church
Kingwood Bible, Salem
La Gran Comision Almavision
Television Ministries, Fresno
Laurelglen Bible Church,
Bakersfield
Lemoore Church of the
Nazarene
Lemoore Seventh Day
Adventist Church
Lighthouse Christian Church,
San Joaquin
Lincoln Glen Church, San
Jose
Living Hope Christian
Fellowship, Oakdale
Madera Avenue Bible Church,
Madera
Mennonite Central Committee
Mennonite Community
Church, Fresno
Millard Bible Church, Omaha,
NB
Mountain View Community
Church, Fresno
Neighborhood Church, Visalia
New Beginnings International,
Fresno
New Harvest Community
Fellowship, Lindsay
New Hope Bible Church,
Grants Pass
New Hope Christian Church,
Visalia
New Hope Community
Church, Portland, OR
North Fresno Church, Fresno
Northpointe Community
Church, Fresno
Northside Christian Church,
Clovis
Old Friendship M.B. Church,
Chicago, IL
Pacific District Conference of
MB Churches
Patterson New Hope Church
of the Nazarene
Pentecostal Church of God,
Farmersville
People's Church, Fresno
Pilgrim Armenian
Congregational, Fresno
Pilgrim Slavic M B Church,
Spokane, WA
Reedley M B Church

Richvale Evangelical Free
Church
Rosedale Bible Church,
Bakersfield
Saints Rest Baptist Church,
Fresno
Salem Covenant Church,
Worcester, MA
Shafter M B Church
Sierra View Community
Church, Sanger
Sonrise Church, Clovis
South Shores Baptist Church,
Monarch Beach
SouthPoint Church, Fresno
St. Johns Lutheran Church,
Palm Desert
St. Aloysius Catholic Church,
Tulare
St. Anne's Church, Porterville
St. Peter the Apostle Serbian
Orthodox Church, Fresno
Stevenson Ranch Community
Foursquare Church
Stewart Tabernacle AME Zion,
Fresno
Sunnyside Community
Church, Fresno
Templo de Oracion, Traver
Cutler
Templo Sinai, Caruthers
The Threshing Floor, Fallon,
NV
Trinity Life Pentecostal
Holiness, Olivehurst
Trinity United Presbyterian,
Modesto
Tulare Bible Center, Tulare
Tulare Community Church,
Tulare
United Faith Christian
Fellowship, Fresno
University Presbyterian,
Fresno
Valley Baptist Church,
Bakersfield
Valley Christian Center,
Fresno
Valley Life Worship Center,
Parlier
Victory Life Center, Fresno
Vinewood Community Church,
Lodi
Wayside Church of the
Nazarene, Tulare
West Coast MCC
West Fresno Ministerial
Alliance
Westminster Presbyterian,
Fresno
Westside Church of God,
Fresno
Woodlake Presbyterian
Church
World Impact

STORIES OF GIVING



Jack and Lee Hiebert invested 38 years building their floral business. When they planned to retire and sell the building, they found capital gains taxes would keep them from the benefit of their lifetime of labor, including the ability to support charitable causes important to them. A charitable remainder trust from the FPU Foundation was their answer.

"We got a generous charitable deduction for income tax purposes which helped us greatly the first few years of retirement." —Jack

"What we've worked hard for is not going to come to an end. When we go, we hope it continues to help the university." —Lee

Planned giving benefits you, your family and the causes you care about:

- Tax savings
- Additional retirement income
- Assets professionally managed
- Contribute to the future of Christian leadership

Learn more about the benefits of charitable remainder unitrusts and other planned giving opportunities.

Contact Mark Deffenbacher, CFRE, executive director
Fresno Pacific University Foundation
559-453-2239 • mdeffen@fresno.edu
See our video at fresno.edu/foundation



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