

PACIFIC

FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY | VOL. 23, NO. 1



partnerships

THE pathways to
building communities

- Biblical Hebrew for fun
- Anspikians reach out to kids
- Volleyball makes it three

president's message



D. MERRILL EWERT, PH.D.

New methods, same mission

Higher education is no longer business as usual. Today strong, healthy, vibrant universities are engaging students in new ways: building new partnerships, developing new methods and extending their reach beyond traditional audiences.

Fresno Pacific University is one of these.

The benefits of a college education are many. A very thick but fascinating book, *How College Affects Students: A Third Decade of Research*, by Ernest T. Pascarella and Patrick T. Terenzini, summarizes more than 2,500 studies of what happens to students in college. Some results are unsurprising: a college education increases students' knowledge, develops their verbal and quantitative skills, improves the ability to think critically and builds their "level of principled moral reasoning." Beyond that, however, college-educated people, the research suggests, are more civically engaged, volunteer with greater frequency, build stronger social networks and become better leaders. Graduates aren't just smarter—they're better citizens!

The Great Recession has also shown that a college education makes people more resilient, reducing their likelihood of becoming unemployed and helping them find new jobs during tough economic times. So education matters. But there's a problem: The growing gap between the number of college graduates our economy needs and the number entering the workforce. High school graduation rates are dropping even as the need for college-educated adults is increasing.

Senator Lamar Alexander argues that part of the issue is outdated practices by colleges and universities. In a *Newsweek* article, Alexander (former president of the University of Tennessee and later, U.S. Secretary of Education) used the American auto industry to illustrate what happens when leaders fail to recognize a seismic shift until it's too late. American auto makers continued to produce cars fewer wanted, losing market share to Japanese automakers who gave buyers the affordable, fuel-efficient cars they desired. He quotes George Romney, who once referred to the Big Three U.S. automakers as a "muscle-bound and mindless" monopoly, "...locked into practices that their best people knew were destructive but unable to break out of so profitable a syndrome."

We are taking steps to avoid the disaster Alexander describes. To make our education more accessible to today's students, FPU is extending its reach through closer partnerships with community colleges, more off-campus centers, better use of technology, new online programs and alternative delivery systems. Because these actions are firmly rooted in our foundation, they continue to reflect our core values. Whatever the method, the mission remains to develop students "for leadership and service through excellence in Christian higher education."

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A third straight national title for the women's volleyball team



The images we use illuminate us

Every new job is accompanied by an avalanche of information: new names, new locations, new ways of doing things and new stories of the place and its people.

I listen to the stories. Not just what is told, but how—the images people use. These images impart the essence of a place far faster than any policy manual.

When I came to FPU, two images kept coming up:

- Fresno Pacific is the best-kept secret in Fresno.
- Fresno Pacific is like a bumble bee—we shouldn't be able to fly, but we do.

Everyone who made these remarks made them with pride. And no wonder: being the “best-kept” means we’re something everyone would love to know about, while being “like a bumble bee” means we succeed in the face of adversity.

Good stuff; and true. But every image has more than one side.

“Best-kept” also means few people know us. Being “like a bumble bee” also means the fact that we fly at all is so amazing maybe we don’t always need to fly very well. Mind you, this stranger had been imported from Back East to help find new ways to tell the Fresno Pacific story and new audiences to hear it. My assignment, though not on my job description, was going to be to replace old images with new ones that are equally true but more outgoing. Many have taken on this quest. Today FPU reaches out a lot more through its strengths in academics and faith-imbued ethics. The more we share our secret the more people want to soar along with us.

—Wayne Steffen

PACIFIC
FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

*Empowering leaders.
Transforming lives.*

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

PRESIDENT
D. Merrill Ewert

VICE PRESIDENT FOR
ADVANCEMENT AND
UNIVERSITY RELATIONS
Mark Deffenbacher

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS
Diana Bates Mock

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Wayne Steffen
wsteffen@fresno.edu

DESIGN DIRECTOR
Gail Enns
gail.enns@fresno.edu

PHOTOGRAPHY DIRECTOR
Niki Banks
niki.banks@fresno.edu

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

OUR MAILING ADDRESS
1717 S. Chestnut Ave.
Fresno, CA 93702-4709

Information 559-453-2000
Alumni 559-453-2236
Advancement 559-453-2080
Fax 559-453-2033



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*





Grace will fill the gap in people's lives

ORTBERG BRINGS RECORD CROWD TO FPU

Misunderstanding grace makes us guilty, tired and thirsty. Despite the wonder of God's grace, we still feel emptiness as "the gap between the me I am and the me God wants me to be—Me 2.0," pastor and author John Ortberg told a record crowd of 550 pastors and lay leaders February 25 at Fresno Pacific University's Central Valley Ministry Forum.

We try to fill that gap by increasing activity, getting spiritually fit the way we would get physically fit. We compare ourselves to others, feel a vague sense of guilt and decide to try harder. "The result of misguided trying harder is fatigue," Ortberg said. Once tired, we stop trying. Once we stop trying we feel guilty again and restart the cycle.

"What if there's another way?" Ortberg asked. "What if this is not God's will for spiritual formation?"

Ortberg is senior pastor of Menlo Park Presbyterian Church after nine years as a teaching pastor at Willow Creek Community Church. His books include *When the Game is Over, it all Goes Back in the Box*; *If you Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat*; *The Life You've Always Wanted*; and *Faith and Doubt*. His wife, Nancy, was the 2006 Ministry Forum speaker.

Our do-it-yourself spiritual formation fails because we don't fully understand grace. "We have restricted grace to just the for-

giveness of sin," Ortberg said. "We're meant to live on grace."

Living on grace is not about doing more. It's about treating grace like water. Jesus told the thirsty to come to him. "To be thirsty means to be driven by unsatisfied desires," Ortberg said. These desires come from wanting to be something we're not, whether we reflect that by taking too many classes or trying out for American Idol.

To walk with Jesus is to have rivers of the living water of grace flowing "out of your belly," Ortberg said, quoting the King James Bible. "Your belly is the deep place you can't fake."

Among the few details the Bible gives about the Garden of Eden is that a river flowed through it. "That's not just geography," Ortberg said. When we live in grace we flourish like a watered garden—not because we earn more, do more or even read the Bible more—because we receive and give blessing from beyond ourselves. "That's grace," he said.

The annual Ministry Forum is FPU's contribution to Valley churches. Sponsors were KDUV-FM, the Pacific District Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, Growing Healthy Churches, MB Biblical Seminary, Link Care Center, MB Foundation, Fresno/Madera Youth for Christ, Uncle Harry's Bagels, Pura Vida, Fresno Produce, Producer's Dairy, Christian Businessmen's Connection, Temple Training and Wawona Foods.





Students immerse selves in Biblical Hebrew

FPU LEADS THE WAY AMONG U.S. UNIVERSITIES

BY WAYNE STEFFEN

REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE A BABY?

Probably not, so here's what happened: You were surrounded by people much larger than you, who were making noises and moving their faces, hands and arms in ways that made sense to them. After awhile, you realized that these noises and gestures meant things—some good, like food and hugs; some not so good, like night-nights.

Fascinated, you copied those sounds and gestures. Then you discovered frustration as what you did didn't bring the desired result. Still, the big people

were encouraging, so you kept trying.

One day, success! You did something and the big people responded. From then on, no one could shut you up.

That method—immersion—is how you learned your first language.

Immersion is also how Brian Schultz teaches biblical Hebrew. Schultz—with wife Rachel, who co-teaches the class, and Scott Metcalf, who records the sessions—is making FPU a leader among American universities, though immersion is not without controversy.

Schultz, a biblical and religious

studies professor here since 2007, first experienced biblical Hebrew immersion as a teacher's assistant in Israel in 2003. This system comes from the Biblical Language Center, founded and led by Randall Buth (biblicalulpan.org/). Today Schultz serves on the BLC board.

WHY BOTHER WITH BIBLICAL HEBREW?

"In the same way a scholar of Goethe needs to know German, it is important for scholars of the Bible to know biblical languages," Schultz says. Translations are general equivalencies and there is

always a dimension that is lost.

In the Bible story of the woman accused of adultery, for example, the original Hebrew talks about the woman "breaking faith" with her husband. "Breaking faith" is a term used throughout the Old Testament to describe what happens when humans turn from God, Schultz says, so the text draws a parallel between the relationship between God and people and husband and wife.

"All these things can be explained in a commentary, but there's something about reading it yourself," Schultz says.

WHY IMMERSION?

"Your brain is wired to learn a new language the same way you learned your mother tongue," Schultz says. The brain doesn't care if a language is living or dead.

In addition, true communication includes what is being said and how it is being said. Speaking is part of making those distinctions and catching those subtleties. "If all you do is read you are never producing the language," he says.

HOW DOES THE CLASS WORK?

For the first six weeks students only hear Hebrew, just as young children first hear the language their parents speak. They move on to simple vocabulary and skits, actions as simple as walking to the board and writing something.

"The more we go along the more we try to create what I call live situations in the classroom where the students use the language," he says. Students start reading the Bible about two months in.

NO ONE HAS SPOKEN BIBLICAL HEBREW SINCE...WELL, BIBLICAL TIMES. HOW DO YOU TEACH SPEECH?

All the grammar of modern Hebrew is included in biblical Hebrew. "In some ways modern Hebrew is a simplification of biblical Hebrew," Schultz says. The big difference is vocabulary.

Here's where Metcalf comes in. His class recordings, along with vocabulary, dialogs and Bible readings are all available to students to listen to and view on their MP3 players, continuing the immersion experience between classes.



AND THIS IS POPULAR WITH STUDENTS—AT 9:00 A.M.?

His first semester Schultz had 10 students; the second six. The plan was for a one-year program, but students asked for more. Veterans promoted class the next fall. "Before school was out last spring I had seven or eight students. Then over the summer it went up to 28. Then the first day of class I had one



or two students want to sit in," Schultz says. The count stabilized at 27.

WHAT MAKES BIBLICAL HEBREW IMMERSION COOL?

Dan Crosby, a senior majoring in history and classics who has already taken Latin and biblical Greek, signed up, along with Pam Johnston, history and classics faculty. "I'm very impressed with the amount of work that has gone into the materials and the amount of study on the psychology of learning languages. I'd highly recommend it to anyone who is entering biblical studies," Crosby says.

The class overturns the perception that biblical languages are beyond the average person. "I've already had two students this year tell me it's their favorite class," Schultz says. "They're hearing and understanding. And because of their love of the Bible, that drives the rest of the motivation."

WHY THE RESISTANCE TO IMMERSION?

It's not the way we've always done it. "(Immersion) requires a paradigm shift...you can't ease your way into it, it's almost all or nothing," Schultz says.

The most common, but rarely mentioned, objection is that most biblical profs do not have the ability to use the immersion method. "It takes a lot of retooling," he says.

After a semester as a student, Pam Johnston is energized, not exhausted, and looks forward to using immersion in her teaching of Latin and biblical Greek. (This would make FPU the first, or among the first, in the U.S. to use immersion with Greek; a few do so with Latin.) "It's that groundbreaking," she says.





Grads told there is always hope

FRESNO MAYOR SPEAKS TO 250 NEW ALUMNI

There is hope, and there are jobs, in difficult times, graduates were told during fall commencement ceremonies December 11.

Speaker and Fresno Mayor Ashley Swearengin drew from her life to bring optimism to about 250 graduates, their families and friends gathered in the Special Events Center.

Before her election as mayor in 2008, Swearengin served as director of community and economic development at California State University, Fresno, where she worked to increase employment and educational opportunities. Swearengin is also co-founder and former chief operations officer of the Fresno Regional Jobs Initiative, which has created more than 23,000 jobs.

A new graduate herself during the last economic downturn, she offered a three-step plan:

- **Put out the effort.** “Good economies and economic bubbles can not take the place of hard work,” she said.
- **Put in the time.** “Don’t see yourself as being above any task,” she said. While school taught her to lead Fortune 500 companies, Swearengin learned the ropes licking stamps for mailings. “I look back on those days and I can’t tell you how grateful I am. Take small tasks seriously,” she said.
- **Put on a smile.** “Maintain your balance by paying attention to good news,” she said. At a recent jobs summit area employers said they had more than 300 positions open. “You’ll find, more often than you think, businesses that are blooming like flowers in the desert,” Swearengin said.



New center brings together teaching, technology

COMBINING THE BEST OF FACE-TO-FACE EDUCATION WITH THE INTERNET and other technology is the goal of the new Center for Online Learning. Launched in October by a grant from the AIMS (Activities Integrating Mathematics and Science) Education Foundation, the center works with faculty to put courses online or add online resources to enrich traditional classes.

“The Center for Online Learning is called to support the use of technology for teaching and learning,” said Henrietta Siemens, center director. Staff support faculty in the design, development and delivery of online and campus-based instruction involving academic technology.

The need for the center came from the increasing demand for academic technology, Siemens said. The Online Advisory Committee, including faculty from each school and representatives from all major departments, proposed the idea to the Faculty Session in the fall of 2008 and the spring of 2009. Faculty approved the plan with the stipulation that outside funds be found. AIMS agreed to the financial partnership in the fall of 2009, and final approval from the FPU Board of Trustees followed.

The center is located in East Hall 138 and the website is col.fresno.edu. The staff is Siemens and Terry Bese, instructional designer. For the past two years Siemens has provided instructional technology support to faculty in the School of Education. Siemens has a Ph.D. in instructional technology with an emphasis in higher education administration from the University of Virginia.

Bese has 23 years of experience in educational technology. He will also develop online courses and multi-media projects for AIMS. He is pursuing doctoral studies in educational technology at Pepperdine University.

Founded by former President Arthur Wiebe and educator Larry Ecklund, AIMS is a non-profit organization that helps teachers give K-6 students a solid understanding of math and science.

When it comes to connecting faculty and technology, one size does not fit all. “It’s not the kind of thing that can be stamped with a cookie cutter. It’s very individual for each instructor and course,” Bese said.

The best first step forward is a step back—to take a big-picture view of a course or program and determine what faculty want students to learn. “Then look at the online tools to accomplish that,” Bese said.

Applications are not judged by how new and flashy they are. The question is whether “they’re going to increase what we can do in terms of building relationships with the students,” Bese said. “So students still get that unique Fresno Pacific experience.”

faculty & staff focus



Kevin Enns-Rempel, archivist, served on the board that oversaw *Architecture, Ethnicity and Historic Landscapes of California's San Joaquin Valley*. The City of Fresno's Planning and Development Department received a 2009 Governor's Historic Preservation Award for the 2008 publication and Enns-Rempel attended the January 20 ceremony at the Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park in Sacramento. The

book's 29 essays by 22 authors are the first published collection to examine the vernacular architecture and cultural heritage of the region. The publication also won a 2008 California Preservation Foundation Award. Copies have been distributed to libraries and archives throughout California and are for sale from the planning and development department.



A book by **Duane Ruth-Heffelflower**, director of academic programs at the Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies and business faculty, *What happens after we're gone? Estate and life planning for families in which a dependent member has a disability or mental illness* has been republished online in a slightly revised third edition dated 2009. It is in the process of revision for a fourth edition due out in 2010.

The third edition is available through the Anabaptist Disabilities Network online at adnetonline.org/./PDF/What%20Happens%20After%20200906.pdf. The first edition was published in 1986 and the second in 1996.



Pam Johnston, history and classics faculty, presented a paper at Oikos-Familia: the Family in the Ancient Greco-Roman World, November 5-7 in Gothenburg, Sweden. The conference was organized by the University of Gothenburg and the University of Birmingham, United Kingdom. The focus was on family structures and relationships from about 500 BCE to 500 CE. Johnston looked at the role of women in

family advisory councils (consilia) of the Roman Republican period. This is the next step in her research on the consilium she began in *The Military Consilium in Republican Rome*.



Tim Neufeld, biblical and religious studies faculty, has given presentations including "Missional Church Leadership" at the MB Biblical Seminary Roundtable, November 3, and "Teaching U2: The Classroom as Theological Learning Space," at the Academic Conference on the Work and Influence of U2, Durham, North Carolina, October 4-6. Among his recent articles is "Leading Through Listening: Discerning

How God's Spirit is Moving among Your Students" in the summer 2009 issue of *The Journal of Student Ministries*.



HISPANIC FOLKTALES COME TO LIFE

Mystery, magic and "the moral of the story..." came to life in this fall's mainstage. *Spirit of Hispania: Hispanic Tales Adapted for the Stage*, by Jules Tasca, was performed November 12-14 and 19-21 in Ashley Auditorium. The tales were "Maria," "The Baker's Neighbor," "La Llorona," "Repaying Good with Evil" and "The Rabbit Who Wanted to Be a Man." Castmembers were Michael Chavez, Ben Carr, Edgar Olivera, Joshua Andrade-Cantu, Noe Hernandez, Crystal Lopez, Marrissa Lopez, Ember Hilvers, Ava Nicole Pacino, Stephanie Wasemiller, Jeanetta Smith and Alyssa Black. The troupe also performed "The Rabbit" at Jackson Elementary School, as well as "Maria" and "La Llorona" for English students at McLane High School.



Boeckel

Bruce Boeckel, English faculty, and **Dieter Wulforst**, music faculty, participated in a regional lecture day for Academic Decathlon, whose theme this year is the French Revolution. Charles Dickens met Gene Roddenberry in Boeckel's presentation, "A Tale of Two Cities: Do the Needs of the Many Outweigh the Needs of the Few?" Boeckel argued, along with Star Trek's Captain Kirk and Dickens's Dr. Manette, that "those who lose sight of the 'one' soon lose sight of all that is most noble in the human spirit." Wulforst gave three presentations about music of the French Revolution. Nearly 300 students from Alameda County to Kings County attended the September 30 event at the Madera 6 Movie Theater, organized by the Madera County Department of Education.

Back row from left :
Larry Martens, former MBBS president/current FPU board member; Gary Wall, PDC conference minister; and Ed Boschman, executive director of the US Conference of MB Churches. Front row from left: Lynn Jost, MBBS president; D. Merrill Ewert, FPU President; and Ken Fransen, FPU board chair.

Full article, including comments from U.S. and Canadian church leaders, at fresno.edu/news



MBBS-Fresno transfers U.S. seminary program to FPU

“THIS PROGRAM TRANSFER WILL CONTINUE MB BIBLICAL SEMINARY’S TRADITION OF BIBLICAL THEOLOGY WITH AN EVANGELICAL ANABAPTIST PERSPECTIVE.”

In order to better carry out the mission of preparing leaders of churches in California’s Central Valley and wider Mennonite Brethren churches, the structure of MB Biblical Seminary-Fresno Campus is being transferred to FPU.

“We really believe we are better together,” said FPU President D. Merrill Ewert. “This integration will empower the ministry of both institutions.”

The transfer of MBBS-Fresno to FPU was announced February 5. The process—approved by the boards of the seminary and the university—is to be completed June 1, 2010.

Lynn Jost, MBBS president, will continue to oversee the seminary’s work as part of the FPU administration. “This program transfer will continue MB Biblical Seminary’s tradition of biblical theology with an evangelical Anabaptist perspective,” he said. “I am pleased we are creating a very strong program that will serve both new and historical constituencies across the U.S.”

“In some ways we’re going back to the future,” Ewert added. “The seminary and university have always shared a mission of academic excellence and service to the church. We operated under one corporate structure from 1955 to 1966, and just as there were advantages to separation then, there are advantages to unification now.”

tages to unification now.”

Students can continue to attend the residential seminary campus, located at the corner of Butler and Chestnut in Fresno and adjacent to FPU’s main campus. Classes will also be offered at FPU centers in North Fresno, Visalia and Bakersfield. It is anticipated that an expanded online seminary program will reach students across the U.S., into Canada and beyond.

MBBS faculty will become FPU faculty. The 4-acre seminary campus will become part of the 42-acre FPU main campus. Seminary endowment assets of \$2.4 million will be transferred to support faculty chairs and student scholarships.

Many higher education institutions are forming new arrangements to strengthen their programs in response to difficult economic times. Small, denominational schools are the most vulnerable and will need to join with universities and regional giants to survive, according to Association of Theological Schools, which accredits the seminary.

“I’m excited that the mission of the seminary continues in a way that serves the MB family of churches and the Central Valley,” said Gary Wall, minister of the Pacific District Conference of MB Churches.

Enrollment continues strong for spring

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FALL 2010

ENROLLMENT—IT ISN'T JUST FOR FALL ANY MORE.

Autumn may seem the time of turning leaves and returning college students, but with programs for working adults, multiple locations and a focus on seeing students graduate, enrollment at Fresno Pacific University is a year-round activity.

It's an activity that's paying dividends.

According to university reports released February 2, spring enrollment rose for both traditional undergraduate and graduate programs, and projections for degree completion programs predict increases, as well. Official enrollment for the current academic year is 2,649, up 11 percent over the past two years.

Success is due to FPU's efforts to open more classes, increase financial aid and more quickly process applications. "We're doing the things we need to do for students," said Stephen Varvis, vice president for enrollment management. He credited the cooperation of faculty and staff at the main campus and centers in North Fresno, Visalia and Bakersfield. "They showed that enrollment is everybody's business," he said.

TRADITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE

Normally, some students drop out over Christmas break, but this year, instead of losing as many as 45, enrollment grew by five. Some 94 new students showed up, the most in at least 15 years, and the retention rate grew to more than 98 percent. FPU's retention has always been strong; this year was even better, according to Fay Nielsen, associate dean of mentoring and retention. "Our students feel they are well prepared to go out in the workforce and do well. They also feel that the instruction in their major fields is excellent and it's really an enjoyable experience to be on this campus," she said.

DEGREE COMPLETION

Numbers aren't final for bachelor's degree completion, but projections look even better than planned. The goal for spring was to add 179 students, but it looks like more than 260 may enroll in the next few weeks. While liberal arts, early childhood development, criminology and business are seeing the highest interest, enrollment is up in every section, known as a cohort, of new students and each regional center has surpassed its goal.

GRADUATE

Graduate programs saw 103 new students this spring, compared to 64 last year. Teacher education posted a gain of 34, up from 17 in 2009. December 2009's graduating class was the largest in five years for master's students, which brought the headcount down by 15, but more students moving from part-time to full-time studies increased the full-time equivalency by nearly 10 percent. Among the strongest programs are business, kinesiology, special education and curriculum and teaching.

Enrollment is strong, but there is still room—and financial aid—for new students. "We are accepting applications for fall 2010," Varvis said.



BENEFIT CONCERT FOR HAITI

A concert to benefit the people of Haiti took place February 12, 2010, in Butler Church. Among the performers were Crosswind, Jon Shabaglian and a choir made up of members of the FPU and New Beginnings Church gospel choirs. West Coast Mennonite Central Committee and the Office of Spiritual Formation sponsored the event, which raised more than \$3,500 and attracted about 300 people. A university shoe drive also collected more than 200 pairs of shoes. Find more ways to help at MCC.org.

CELEBRATE KLASSEN'S CAREER



Celebrate Roy Klassen's 33 years at FPU—and lifetime of musicmaking—with a concert April 25 in the Paul Shaghoian Concert Hall, 2770 E. International at Clovis North High School. Klassen, DMA, retiring this spring as a music professor, will conduct the Concert Choir and San Joaquin Chorale in two of his favorites: the Brahms Requiem and Mendelssohn's Elijah. The approximately 120 singers will be joined by about 50 instrumentalists made up of students, alumni and faculty under the baton of music faculty

Wayne Huber. Doors open at 4:00 p.m. and

hors d'oeuvres will be served. Admission is \$10. For more information, contact the music department at 559-453-2267.

JANZEN SERIES BRINGS KEITH RATZLAFF

Poet Keith Ratzlaff was the 2010 Jean and Louis Janzen Visiting Writer. Ratzlaff read his work and signed books January 27 in Ashley Auditorium. A professor of English at Central College, Ratzlaff's books of poetry are *Man Under a Pear Tree*, which won the Anhinga Prize; *Across The Known World*; *Dubious Angels: Poems after Paul Klee*; and *Then, a Thousand Crows*. His work has appeared in *Poetry Northwest*, *Arts and Letters*, *The Common Review*, *The Georgia Review*, *McSweeney's*, *New England Review*, *The Threepenny Review*, *Colorado Review*, *The Journal* and *The North American Review*, as well as the anthologies *The Best American Poetry 2009*, *The Poets Guide to the Birds*, *Pushcart Prize XXXI*, *Poets of the New Century*, *A Cappella: Mennonite Voices in Poetry* and *In the Middle of the Middle West: Literary Nonfiction from the Heartland*. The visiting writers series honors the contribution of Jean Janzen, award-winning Valley poet and teacher at FPU, and Dr. Louis Janzen.





Partnerships provide pathways to build communities

by Wayne Steffen



**WEST HILLS COLLEGE,
LEMOORE**

Fresno Pacific University is a community. It is also one among many communities: professionally in academics, geographically in the Central Valley and spiritually as a Christian institution.

Like small children engaged in parallel play, individual communities sometimes operate near one another without working together—they coexist, they don't collaborate.

FPU does more. Faculty and staff join with others to weld communities into networks whose benefits radiate beyond the immediate participants.

We don't do it alone. "We see partnerships as pathways," says Cindy Steele. The executive director of regional centers was talking about her program, but speaking for everyone.

ACADEMIC PARTNERS

Since the early 1990s FPU has been carving pathways into the region, first with individual classes, then with centers in Visalia, Bakersfield and North Fresno. The Visalia Center has gone the next step, forming partnerships with West Hills Community College and the College of the Sequoias to bring degree completion programs to Kings County through WHC in Lemoore and COS in Hanford.

"The whole purpose is to raise the educational level in the community," Steele says.

The need

Educated people earn more, get laid off less and support their community. At 10 percent, Kings County has one of the state's lowest rates of college-educated residents, compared to about 29 percent of Californians and 26 percent of Americans 25 or older, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Cooperative efforts are the garden where the region can grow its own leaders. "One of the problems in all of these rural communities is the lack of qualified professionals," says Frances Squire, director of marketing for the West Hills Community College District. Attempts to lure professionals from outside don't bear lasting fruit. "They come, they stay a few years, get experience and then they go," Squire says.

On the other hand, local students who leave for college often never come back, making FPU's partnerships a critical tool in the fight against brain drain. "The fact that Fresno Pacific is in our community, both in Visalia and Hanford, is one solution," says Brent Calvin, dean of the school of business and social sciences at COS and supervisor of its Hanford Center.

Locality is the key to cultivating hometown professionals. "Before Fresno Pacific came to Visalia and Hanford, options for Tulare County were very limited. You either drove north to Fresno or south to Bakersfield," Calvin says.

Even students who could invest the time and money in a trip to Fresno often won't. "People who live in small towns don't like big cities and Fresno is the big city," Squire said. "Your program is opening doors for a lot of people."

Background

When university officials met with West Hills and COS staff in 2005, FPU was able to build on a friendship dating back more than a decade. "We value them so much and we have very, very close relationships with the administration at COS and West Hills," says Visalia Center Director Vyacheslav Tsvirinko.

Since the Kings County centers are only seven miles apart, it was important programs not compete. The strengths of each school solved the problem: West Hills Lemoore has a program for future teachers, while COS Hanford focuses on business education. FPU's liberal arts program, for future educators, opened in Lemoore in August 2006 and early child development in February 2007. (The multiple-subject teacher credential program is also offered in Lemoore.) The organizational leadership program began in Hanford in September 2006.

Once students earn 60 community college units, they transfer to FPU for their bachelor's degree. (Lemoore students can also earn a teaching credential.) Classes take place at the WHC and COS centers with FPU faculty and staff.

Pathways

Partnerships provide a clearly marked route from high school diploma to professional employment. "We can help students get from point A to point B," Steele says.

One pathway is FPU's connection with the TEAM Teach program at WHC. The program is coordinated by James Preston (TC '93, MA '98), who also teaches education and English.

WEST HILLS COLLEGE, LEMOORE



FRESNO PACIFIC VISALIA CENTER



COS HANFORD CENTER

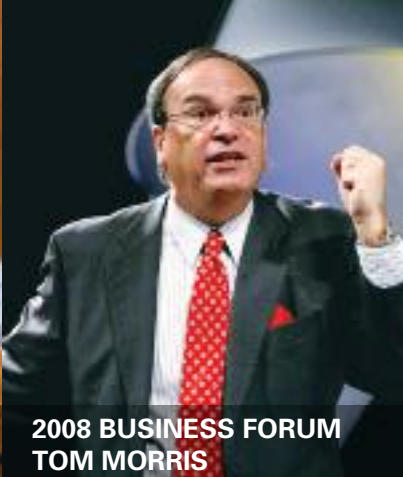




2007 MINISTRY FORUM
REGGIE MCNEAL



2008 MINISTRY FORUM
DONALD MILLER



2008 BUSINESS FORUM
TOM MORRIS



2009 MINISTRY FORUM
RAY BAKKE

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Business Forum

Since 2001, the FPU Business Forum has brought nationally known speakers to Fresno to inspire businesspeople to a high sense of calling, integrity and values. The forum brings sell-out crowds of 1,000-1,500 people to the Fresno Convention & Entertainment Center. The 2010 speaker is Blake Mycoskie, founder of TOMS Shoes, which donates one pair of shoes for each pair sold.

"We're meeting the prophetic part of our mission by bringing in speakers of the caliber of John Wooden, John Maxwell, Ken Blanchard and Tom Morris," says Diana Mock, executive director of university communications, who directs the Business Forum. "It's about business, but we also bring in the ethical side, which is our strong point."

The forum is more than a one-day event. Themes introduced by the speakers are explored in a series of business luncheon roundtables at the regional centers. "This follow-up is a continuing relationship and benefit," Mock says.

Ministry Forum

The Ministry Forum attracts 400-500 area pastors and lay leaders to the Special Events Center. Speakers have included Donald Miller, Ray Bakke and, for 2010, John Ortberg.

The mission is to be a resource to all churches. "It's a way for the university to provide quality resources to church leaders," says Charity Brown, director of alumni and church relations and forum organizer.

More than 50 churches from many backgrounds are typically represented. "We see participants from as far north as Modesto and as far south as Los Angeles, as well as the Bay Area," Brown says.

The Ministry Forum also tries to turn one-day connections into partnerships. Bakke's forte, for example, is urban ministry, so during his visit he had dinner with local people doing similar work. "We try to be intentional about drawing parallels between what the speaker is saying and our part in it," Brown says.

"The whole purpose is to recruit students who want to become teachers...and support them all the way through to their first classroom," he says. Though many students entered West Hills excited about becoming teachers, Preston noticed many did not transfer to a four-year school. "We wanted to create something to motivate them," he says.

Among the activities are monthly "huddles," where students celebrate accomplishments, and annual kick-off dinners, where graduates now at a university or teaching themselves come back and mentor newer students. One important feature has been free textbook "checkout." Students borrow up to three textbooks per semester and return them for others' use. Last year about 700 books were checked out. "It saves them up to \$300 or so," Preston says.

The program works. "Students who have become part of the TEAM Teach program have higher retention and transfer rates," Preston says.

TEAM Teach leads easily to FPU. "Right away we filled up that first cohort," Preston says. "Of the cohort that started in August, 14 of 20 are our students — That's average."

The future

Since 2006 about 100 students have graduated from the Kings County programs. Another 50 are enrolled as of February 2010.

Though no plans have been drawn up, FPU is building relationships with community colleges in Bakersfield and Merced. "These partnerships are invaluable for Fresno Pacific as well as the communities. It is a mission, it's an opportunity to reach into a population we normally would not be able to," Steele says.

"Our Christian nature makes us very special, very unique and very welcome in these areas," according to Tsvirinko, who says it's now hard to walk into a business or organization in the area and not find an FPU graduate. "They're everywhere," he says.

Calvin looks forward to working more closely with the university. "We love the partnership we have with Fresno Pacific. I really think that greater things lie ahead," he says.



**2009 KUTLESS CONCERT
ROSEDALE BIBLE CHURCH, BAKERSFIELD**



**PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE DINNER
FRESNO AREA**

Kutless concert

Pathways often lead in new directions—like the time FPU became a concert promoter.

Royce Fast and Cary Nikkel, university board members involved with Rosedale Bible Church, Bakersfield, suggested FPU join in the church's 100th anniversary celebration. Brown and undergraduate admissions worked with FPU's Bakersfield Center, KDUV Christian radio and the Bakersfield chapters of Youth for Christ and InterVarsity. "We'd never done anything like this," she says.

The hardest part was finding an act; ultimately Kutless was signed. "We were going after an A- or B-list kind of artist," Brown said. In the end, "it was really a God thing. All those pieces just fell into place."

In the end, more than 800 people showed up and everyone, including the band, was complimentary. "It gave us an opportunity to work with one of our sponsor churches in a way we hadn't," Brown says.

Convoy of Hope

Convoy of Hope brought physical and spiritual relief to Fresno November 7, 2009. Organizers estimated 10,158 people received 160,000 pounds of food. In addition, 5,100 people received prayer and more than 1,800 made decisions for Christ.

FPU hosted the volunteer rally the evening before. More than 2,300 volunteers crowded the SEC. Shawn Meyer, volunteer director at Northpointe Community Church and local convoy organizer, was looking for a place where people from all 140 participating churches and organizations could come together. "I asked myself," he says: "What is a place everyone recognizes as a community center?"

The answer was obvious. Why? "First and foremost was the relationship Fresno Pacific has had with the community," Meyer says. "I just thank God for the blessing of Fresno Pacific to our community."

Making friends

Another widening pathway is the one between FPU and donors. While many relationships are decades old, new ones are growing. The top three giving groups all increased from 2004-2008: President's Circle from 521-624, Dean's Society from 93-135 and Steward's Society from 654-875.

The reasons are *Building on Excellence*, the \$36 million capital campaign; an anonymous gift from an alumnus to match donations from first-time alumni givers; and the work of athletic coaches and music ensemble directors to raise funds for their own groups. The last effort has added the most new people. "By far those brought the most new donors to the university," says Nicole Linder, annual fund director.

What became a benefit started as a necessity. After the economic downturn, directors and coaches were assigned to find donations for travel, equipment and other needs. Money has also been raised to send students to conferences and on mission trips. "I give them a lot of credit," Linder says. "If they saw something they wanted to do, they felt empowered to come up with ways to pay for it."

The baseball team uses parent volunteers to put on a dinner that attracts about 350 people. The Community Wind Ensemble raised funds to go to New York and play at Carnegie Hall. "They give more people the opportunity to invest in FPU," Linder says.

Partnerships—those described here and more—build pathways for FPU. Down those pathways we send our strengths in academics and professional and ethical development. We receive recognition as a resource, as a place that is ready to play a role.

Ara Anspikian, M.D., Ph.D.

They couldn't have seemed more different: Ara Anspikian (BA '00) and the residents of the group home. They were trying to get away from gangs and get their lives together. He was doing an internship for his psychology major at FPU. But Anspikian saw himself in them.

"I feel like we're all one or two decisions away from not being in a good place," he says.

Anspikian's first place was Montreal, where he says he didn't grow up in the best neighborhood. His latest place is a two-year fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute.

After graduating from FPU, Anspikian finished Loma Linda Medical School in 2005 and became chief psychiatry resident during a four-year general adult psychiatry residency. He started

at UCLA in July. "When it is all said and done I will be medically double boarded in adult and child/adolescent psychiatry," he says. He will also be both an M.D. and a Ph.D.

The duties are numerous, including work with inpatients and those who come for day groups and therapy. The young patients have been diagnosed with psychosis, mania and suicidal tendencies. "During the second year I will mostly be working in outpatient clinics

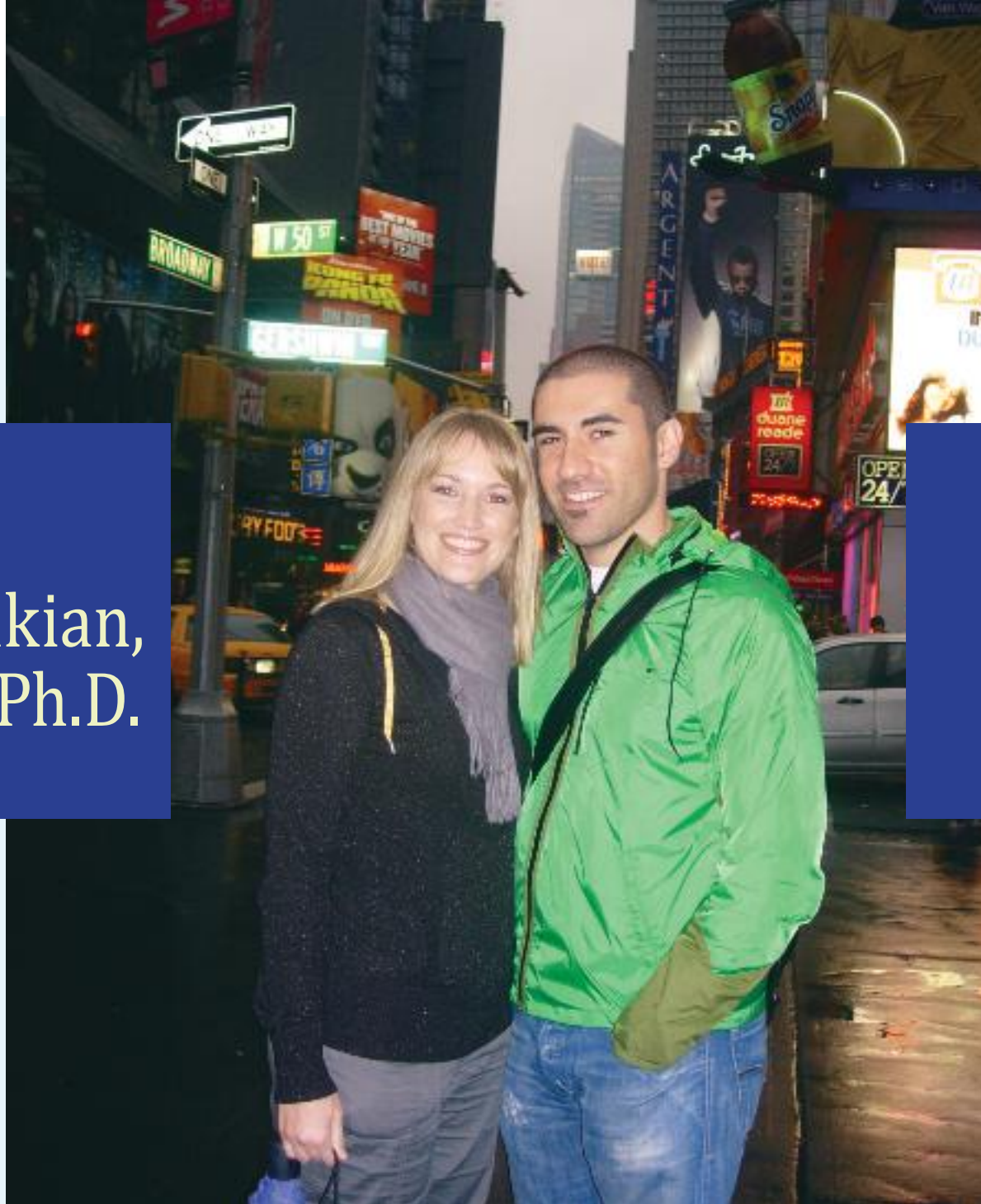
for those suffering maladies including obsessive-compulsive disorder, depression, anxiety, panic and Tourette syndrome," Anspikian says.

Anspikian moved to Fresno with his mother when he was 17. Considered an international student, he applied at FPU, Fresno City College and California State University, Fresno. Though near the top of his high school class, Anspikian wasn't looking for academic prestige. In his typical smiling, self-dep-

recating manner, he describes his hopes as more basic: "I was looking to see if any of these schools would take me."

Practical considerations made FPU the obvious choice; Anspikian does not call it a second choice. "Coming here was awesome in retrospect, it really helped me out," he says.

Medical school had long been Anspikian's goal, but he became so taken with psychology at FPU it almost took over his career. In the end, he



double-majored in natural science and psychology.

Psychology faculty Ted Nickel, Phil Collier and Paul Mavergeorge were major influences. Anspikian was always at the top of the class and became an example of what the psychol-

Since 2007 Tricia has been a counselor at Kolb Middle School, Rialto. Before that she spent four years as a social worker with Fresno County, working with pregnant and parenting teenagers and as a school social worker. She also

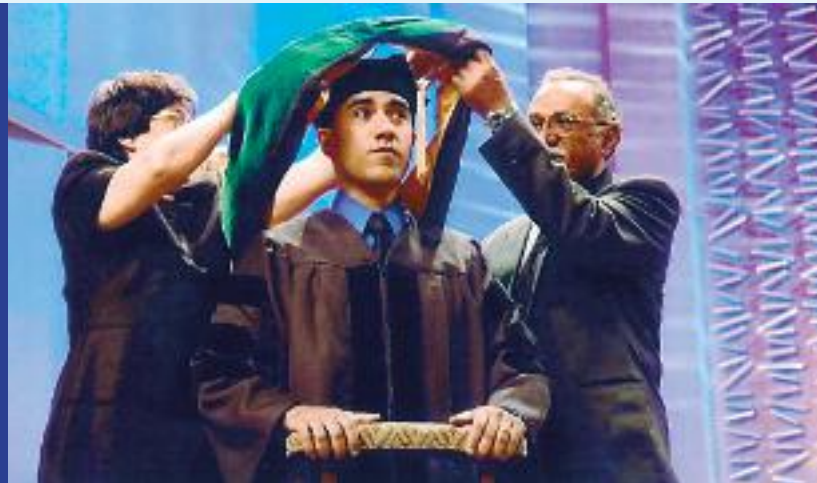
the opportunity to develop and bring to fruition a counseling center complete with college materials/posters (FPU is right above my door!),” Tricia says.

“I try to help in any way that I can and most often through being a compassionate listener

with mutual friends toward the end of their senior year. They wed after four and one-half years of dating—four years long distance while Ara was in medical school.

Ara calls that wedding day his proudest moment and a great

“ I FEEL LIKE WE’RE ALL ONE OR TWO DECISIONS AWAY FROM NOT BEING IN A GOOD PLACE.”



ogy program could be, Collier recalls: “He was an extremely bright student who set the curve on many of the exams that he took. It was clear early on that Ara was gifted academically and that he had the potential to go far.”

Mavergeorge oversaw Anspikian at the group home. “He jumped in and went way outside of his comfort zone,” Mavergeorge recalls. “Ara’s intelligence would allow him to do anything he chose but he surrendered and allowed God to guide his choice,” he says.

Helping kids has become a shared mission for Ara and wife Tricia (Wichert BA ’00, MA ’04). The two married in May 2005 in an action-packed two weeks before Ara graduated from medical school. In a tone that says ‘it seemed like a good idea at the time,’ he remembers: “I had two weeks off so we got married, took our honeymoon and came back and I graduated.”

taught kindergarten for one year at a Christian school in San Bernardino.

Donna Callahan, social work professor, was a good mentor, and Richard Unruh, political science faculty, and Ted Nickel made her work hard, but Tricia’s most memorable class was Edmund Janzen’s Sermon on the Mount. “There is nothing like memorizing three chapters of the Bible and reciting it. And nothing can beat the insight and wisdom that Edmund brought to class each day—just awesome! I love looking in my Bible and seeing all the comments and pen marks written in from that class,” she says.

At Kolb, Tricia, too, has numerous duties, such as counseling students for problems with grades, discipline, attendance and personal issues; speaking in classes on peer pressure, test taking strategies and other topics; and keeping up the “counselor’s corner” website. But it’s not all routine. “I also had

and a constant for them,” she adds. “There are so many kids that have so much instability in their lives, which is why I make it a habit to always have an open door and welcome any student that needs empathy, stern discipline or someone to just say hello to.”

When not working or studying, Tricia and Ara enjoy church (small group and Bible study) and physical activity (they’ve experimented with snowboarding, mountain biking and others). “We’re trying to do some new things together,” Ara says.

Like Ara, Tricia’s interest in helping others was sparked by first-hand experience. In her case an inner city missions trip to Los Angeles. “People always comment that we work in similar fields and I guess you can say that it works well in our marriage, but I don’t know that it’s what brought us together,” she says.

After dating briefly as freshmen, they began hanging out

time to look back. “It was a culmination of a lot of stuff: graduating medical school, marrying a beautiful Christian woman and seeing all the people that had become a part of our lives there together,” he says.

Now that he’s started looking back, Ara continues: “I don’t think about this every day, but when I do I see the hand of God in my life. All these steps had to be put into place for me to be here and I’m very happy.”

His thoughts circle back to the group home. “My life didn’t have to turn out this way,” he says.

Only one thing could change Ara’s course. “I would drop out of my fellowship to be on Big Brother, the TV reality show,” he says.

Watch a video interview with Ara at fresno.edu/alumni



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General Announcements

Rhoda Janzen (BA '84), published the book *Mennonite in a Little Black Dress: A Memoir of Going Home*, (Henry Holt). Janzen, the daughter of Edmund and Mary Janzen, teaches English and creative writing at Hope College.

Rich Parris (BA '92) was recognized as Coach of the Year for the Madera South High School boy's cross country team. He has won two straight section D-III boys championships at Madera South as well as five consecutive Central Section Division I cross country titles at Madera High from 2002-2006.

Roxanna (Sadler BA '97) Butkus was certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in 2009. The certification meets the nation's highest teaching standards. Roxanna is a teacher at Dos Rios Elementary School.

Sean (BA '97) and Kristi (Blankenship BA '96) Peifer and family moved to Ferndale in April 2009. Sean is the new pastor of Ferndale Community Church.

Eric Snook (BA '97) passed his veterinary pathology board exam and is now a board certified veterinary pathologist. He is pursuing a Ph.D. at Tulane University.

1 John Berg (BA '99) received the 2009 High School Teacher of the Year award for social studies from the San Joaquin Valley Council for the Social Studies. John is under consideration by the California Council for the Social Studies as a 2010 California Teacher of the Year.

2 Ernst Janzen (MA '04) published *Rumo ao Altar* with Editora Esperança in 2009. This is his third book.

Leandra Rayford (BA '05) was sworn into the California state bar December 2, 2009.

Jerry Breckinridge (BA '06, MA '08) was promoted to chief of the Tulare Police Department. Jerry, formerly a captain overseeing the investigations division, joined the department in 1989 and served in a variety of positions, including overseeing investigations, SWAT, patrol and administration.

Vadim Zhernokleyev (BA '08) is serving with AmeriCorps. In Mississippi he helped repair houses, in Atlanta he assisted with flood relief and in New Orleans he worked on houses for the elderly displaced by hurricane Katrina.

NOMINATE AN OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS

Know an alumnus who's changing the world by living the mission and values of FPU?

The FPU Alumni Association selects outstanding alumni for the Distinguished Alumni Award. The honor recognizes the extraordinary contributions of our graduates to their communities and professions. Recipients include Karl Avakian, Ron Claassen, Dr. Don Gregory, Olive Warkentin Hiebert, Jim Holm, Jean Janzen, Arthur McDonald, David Pauls, Pakisa Tshimika, Bernard Wall and Dr. Dennis Falk. Nominations are being accepted until April 1, 2010. Contact the Alumni Office at 559-453-2236 or alumni@fresno.edu, with the name of the nominee and why he or she should be a distinguished alumnus.

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.

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

Email: alumni@fresno.edu

Mail: Charity Brown
Fresno Pacific University
1717 S. Chestnut Ave.
Fresno, CA 93702

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



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In the News

Will Kimble (BA '05, TC '06) was featured on ABC 30 news in Fresno on December 11, 2009, after his class completed one of the largest wireless projects in the state. Will teaches sixth grade math at Yokomi Elementary School.

Marriages

David Rodriguez (BA '00) married Jennifer Cruz on October 2, 2009, at Holy Family Church in Visalia. David is a social worker for Tulare County. Jennifer is an investigator for Tulare County and a reserve officer for Exeter Police Department.

3 Matt Strong (BA '03) married **Charlissa Cullen (BA '06)** on June 6, 2009, in Paso Robles. The couple resides in Sacramento where they are both employed by the state of California.

Births

4 Mark (BA '96) and Sarah (Dorill FS '97) Crawford announce the birth of daughter Adaline Kaye on May 28, 2009. She weighed 10 pounds, 8 ounces and was 21 inches long. She joined siblings Zachary, 7; and Lauren, 3. The family resides in Newcastle, where Mark is vice president of relationship management for State Street Bank. He also received his master of science in information systems from the University of San Francisco in December 2009.

5 Michael (BA '98) and Amy (Penner BA '00) Burton announce the birth of son Micah Noah Stephen on November 27, 2009. Micah joins siblings Josiah, 4; and Hannah, 2. Michael, an investment advisor representative with ProEquities, Inc., and advisor with Mennonite Mutual Aid in Fresno, was authorized in February 2009 by the Certi-

fied Financial Planner Board of Standards (CFP Board) to use the certification marks CFP®, Certified Financial Planner™ and CFP (with flame design)® in accordance with CFP Board certification and renewal requirements.

6 Hillary (Fontaine BA '99) Flow-ers and her husband, Eric, announce the birth of son Zachariah Israel on May 4, 2009.

7 Michelle (Carl, '01) Warnock and her husband, Aaron, announce the adoption of daughter Natalí Elizabeth, finalized May 8, 2009. Natalí was born January 11, 2009.

8 Dawn (Chidester BA '03, TC '03) Mustin and her husband, Aaron, announce the birth of son Jacob David on December 2, 2009.

9 Sara Blankenship-Glazebrook (BA '05) and her husband, Blake, announce the birth of son Owen on May 21, 2009.

Christina (Maule BA '06) Baltazar and her husband, Frank, announce the birth of son Joseph Alexander Gerard on October 12, 2009.

It's reunion time!

Are you a member of a class from years ending in 0 and 5 planning a reunion? Contact the Alumni Office at 559-453-2236 or alumni@fresno.edu for resources to help make a memorable event.

Have a cup on us!

The West Coast Mennonite Sale & Auction April 9-10 is always a great time for alumni to meet, greet and eat. Make the Alumni Coffee Booth one of your stops and catch up on what's happening. Better yet, volunteer! Email alumni@fresno.edu.



Campaign a cause for celebration



Building on Excellence—a campaign for Fresno Pacific University, is celebrating success and inviting others to help out.

One cause for joy is that total commitments are up to \$23.2 million. “This shows the deep feeling for the mission of Fresno Pacific and great affec-

tion for this school,” said Mark Deffenbacher, vice president for advancement and university relations.

The Performing Arts Center is the crown jewel of the campaign’s \$36 million first phase, which also includes \$5 million for the School of Education, \$3 million for scholarships and programs, \$3 million for building endowments and \$4 million for academic programs and other needs.

Overall participation has been another plus. Since *Building on Excellence* was launched in June 2008, more than 6,000 friends of the university (alumni, board members, church members, community people, faculty, staff, students) have given their time, talent and treasure. That’s 60 percent of the folks FPU is in touch with.

“So we’re very happy at the number of people we’ve reached and their response,” Campaign Manager Joan Minasian said. “But, as you can see, there’s still plenty of room for others to join in our success.”

As plans are made to wrap up the campaign, those who have not yet given are encouraged to get involved, and those who have may consider increasing their gift. Methods such as payroll deduction and spreading a donation out over time allow people to give more than they might think possible. “Contributions of all sizes are welcome,” Deffenbacher said.

See more at buildingonexcellence.org



WELLS FARGO HELPS FUND NEW ONLINE MATH PROGRAM

Math education in the Central Valley and beyond will expand thanks to a \$25,000 grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation.

The School of Education will use the funds to bring the master’s degree in mathematics education into a blended online format. This program will help teachers in remote and economically disadvantaged areas expand their knowledge and better teach their students.

“This gift will help FPU reach the very teachers whose students most need educational outreach,” said President D. Merrill Ewert.

Deb Palmer (BA ’88, MA ’04) is a project manager for Wells Fargo and a member of the FPU Board of Trustees. “It was an honor for me to present this check,” she said.

(Pictured from left are President D. Merrill Ewert, Palmer and Gary Gramenz, dean of the School of Education.) See more at fresno.edu/news/

NEW PRESIDENT’S CIRCLE MEMBERS

The President’s Circle is a special group of donors who support FPU through their prayers, words, actions and financial support. The university welcomes those who have joined between September and December 2009.

Debbie Barham
Helen Berg
Gordon and Melinda Bergman
Norene Brown
Terry and Sheri Costa
LeRoy and Jean Ediger
Terry and Annette Frantz
Dr. Brian and Marilyn Friesen
Dr. Bryan Fung

Tim and Jennifer Gould
Michael and Linda Hovsepian
Marvin and Tips Just
Richard and Bev Kopper
Don and Marlene McHatten
Dwight and Dianne Nixon
Garry and Ruth Prieb
Melvin and Sara Reynolds

Tim Sheehan and Linda Pryce-Sheehan
John Taylor
Harold and Carol Voshage
Peter and Diana Wasemiller



Summer bonding pays off with national volleyball title

by Ken Robison

When the 2009 NAIA volleyball season began, Dennis Janzen wasn't talking like a coach gunning for a third straight national championship.

After all, the Sunbirds were a young team, with 11 players not on the roster from the 2008 championship, a repeat of the 2007 national win.

The talent was there, Janzen was convinced of that. But the experience? "We were realistically hoping to make maybe the final four," Janzen admitted. "That would have been a realistic season. We were introducing ourselves the first day of practice."

But when the Sunbirds entered the NAIA tournament undefeated, another championship seemed more realistic.

Five days later, on December 5, this young team had its third straight title, a 38-0 record and, for Janzen, another NAIA Coach of the Year award.

What happened? Janzen points to a summer bonding experience. "We had a fantastic retreat in August at Shaver Lake," Janzen said. "That may have set the stage for December."

That bonding helped the newcomers—freshmen Lauren Albertson, Emily Carroll and Erica Adachi and transfers Martina Gregusova, Michelle Johnson and Karlie Houston—make significant contributions. They complemented the returning veterans—senior libero/hitter Tiffany Marinos and juniors Ke Ke Wang, Lisa Shilling and Mariah Mandelbaum. Gregusova and Wang would be named first team All-Americans, with Shilling a second-team honoree.

"It's a credit to the competitive personalities of each individual," Janzen said. "We were 5-0 in five-set matches. That tells you something about our character."

The final five-setter came in the national semifinals—ironically, against GSAC rival Concordia, which FPU defeated in the 2008 final. After dispatching Concordia, the Sunbirds had little trouble in the championship match, knocking off Georgetown of Kentucky.

Can Janzen's gang go for four? Next season looks strong, with everyone except Marinos returning. That's a big loss, however. "We will miss Tiffany tremendously," Janzen said. "People don't understand how much she made us better. Her teammates and the coaching staff do."

Knowing Janzen, he'll have a fill-in ready for the summer retreat.



Sunbird men NAIA champs, women move up

The Sunbird men brought home their first win at the 2010 NAIA Swimming and Diving National Championships March 3-6 in St. Louis. The women improved to third. Not bad for a three-year-old program.

Cheyenne Coffman earned Female Swimmer of the Year with her eight victories and four national records. Head Coach Peter Richardson was voted the Women's Coach of the Year. Last season Richardson was named Men's Coach of the Year, and could not repeat.

Coffman won three individual events. Coffman, Stacy Carter and Brooke Turner were also part of the women's sweep of all five relay races. Turner also won the 1,650 freestyle.

Four men's team members finished in the top eight in the 1,650 freestyle. Erik Thiessen won the 200 backstroke. Carl Weigley finished second in the 100 freestyle, Bart Kelly finished fifth in the 200 breaststroke, Seamus Alger was fifth in the 200 butterfly and Ray Egert placed in the top eight in the 200 backstroke and 200 butterfly.

Last season the men finished second to Cal Baptist and the women finished fourth.

SUNBIRDS SHINE AS NATIONAL SOCCER HOSTS

by Ken Robison

Hosting the 2009 NAIA men's soccer championships November 30-December 5, 2009, gave the Sunbird athletic staff a chance to shine.

And that's what they did, drawing kudos for an event that welcomed athletes, coaches and fans from 15 schools from Southern California to British Columbia to Maine to Florida. Tournament director Mike Rupcich credited the campus community for making the event, the second straight hosted by FPU, special.

That sentiment was echoed by Scott McClure, tournament coordinator for the NAIA. "Mike and his staff did an incredible job in their attention to detail and organization," McClure said.

Fresno Pacific dropped the opening night headline game 3-1 to Embry-Riddle of Florida and ended its season 8-8-2.

THANKING ALL WHO SUPPORT FPU

2009 DONOR HONOR ROLL

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 2009.

DONOR LEVELS

CUMULATIVE GIVING LEVELS

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

ANNUAL GIVING LEVELS

- Dean's Society contributed \$500-\$999
- Steward's Society contributed \$100-\$499
- Friends of FPU contributed \$1-\$99
- 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

603 MEMBERS
\$1,373,853

IN MEMORY

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Alan Galt
Martha Goertzen
Allen Guenther
Lenora Heinrichs
Olive L. Hiebert
Wally Isaak
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Dr. Alvin & Dotty Warkentine
Paul G. Wasemiller
Arthur J. Wiebe
Bob & Mary Wiens
Delbert Wiens & Dr. Marjorie Gerbrandt
James & Joyce Young

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Arnold & Susan Chakerian
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Frieda Ediger*
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