

PACIFIC

FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY | VOL. 32, NO. 2



LOOKING AHEAD

To 75 more years of the *IDEA*

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY EDITION | FALL 2019



president's message

FRAMING THE FUTURE WITH THE *FRESNO PACIFIC IDEA*



“Today the *Idea* influences five goals that will direct our immediate future. We call these goals **GEIST: Grow, Engage, Innovate, Serve and Transform.**”

— Joseph Jones, Ph.D.

Pacific Bible Institute was established in 1944, became Pacific College in 1960, received baccalaureate accreditation in 1965 and adopted the *Pacific College Idea* in 1966. Now the Fresno Pacific Idea, it continues to frame our planning and future as Fresno Pacific University addresses the concerns of the 21st century.

Jesus told his disciples: “he that has, more shall be given to him...” By grace FPU has been transformed into a multi-campus university serving over 4,100 students from 40 nations through undergraduate, graduate and seminary programs. We spread the influence of the Kingdom of God throughout the Central Valley of California and abroad, impacting education, health care, nonprofit/youth, ministry/human services, business, international relations and public service.

Today the *Idea* influences five goals that will crystalize our vision. We call these goals **GEIST: Grow, Engage, Innovate, Serve and Transform.**

We will Grow and broaden our borders, increasing our capacity and strengthening our spiritual foundation as we have over the past 75 years. The university has become one of the most culturally diverse institutions in Christian

higher education with a reputation for providing access to quality education.

We will Engage by establishing partnerships with the faith, educational, social, health care, business, art and cultural communities to provide pragmatic approaches to learning and engage critical issues.

We will Innovate by developing new programs, modes of delivery and ways to engage adult, transfer and commuter students with pioneering programs that integrate faith and learning and broaden possibilities for our students.

We will Serve with a compassion that honors Jesus Christ. Service-learning is not an option in Christ-centered higher education—it is a characteristic.

We will Transform our thinking by renewing our minds and nurturing our spirits. We have failed if we do not create a transformative environment. We are not here solely to educate in a discipline, but to introduce the power of Jesus Christ which yields love, peace, reconciliation and justice.

Since 1966 the *Idea* has nurtured our identity, framed our decisions and guided our future. Living out this *Idea* is our worship to God as we steward the opportunities set before us over the next 75 years. 🏠



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Number 2
NOVEMBER 2019



KEEP UP WITH FPU At news.fresno.edu.

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- ▲ New academic programs
- ▲ Students and faculty
**Engage the Cultures
and Serve the Cities**

DON'T MISS AN ISSUE

Find Pacific on the web at
fpu.edu/pacific-magazine

CONNECT ONLINE



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



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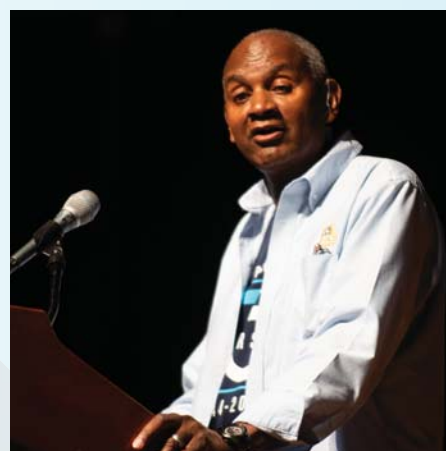
THE HIGHLIGHTS OF GATHER 2019

The Fresno Pacific community kicked-off 2019-2020's celebration of 75 years of God's faithfulness to the university, the Central Valley and beyond with Gather 2019 September 5. About 500 people took part in a worship service at 4:00 p.m. in the Special Events Center on the main campus, and at 5:00 p.m. around 850 family and friends swarmed the University Green for food trucks, music and fun. Offices were closed and many classes were cancelled so all campuses could participate.



“Not a day goes by that I don't see a graduate, faculty member or leader from FPU having an impact, not only on Fresno but in this Valley.”

– Former Fresno Mayor Ashley Swearengin



“When we see the need, we discover the call. And in discovering the call we only begin to recognize God's presence.”

– President Joseph Jones, Ph.D.

1966

- The Pacific College Idea is first adopted.

1967

- Science Building (Marpeck Center) completed.

1968

- Mennonite Brethren students are majority of student body for last time.



GOD'S PROMISES HAPPEN HERE.

For three-quarters of a century, FPU has equipped students with unlimited opportunity and developed innovative programs for academic and professional excellence supported by the values of peacemaking, social justice, ethical leadership, holistic wellness and spiritual vitality.

As part of our 75th Anniversary, we have selected seven distinguished alumni representing the highest achievement in important fields. The community spent the first seven weeks of the fall semester praying for these alumni, their professions and their hopes for the future.

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF A LEGACY OF POSSIBILITIES AND HONORING 7 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI



HEALTH CARE

Dean Lee, M.D., Ph.D.

Pediatric Hematologist-Oncologist
B.A. Pre-Health Sciences, 1987

Dean is driven by a passion to find new medical interventions for his patients through his research in cellular therapy.



EDUCATION

Joe Hernandez, Ed.D.

Dinuba Unified School District Superintendent
Multiple Subject Credential, 1991
M.A. in Education: Administrative Services, 1995

The motivation behind Joe's work at Dinuba Unified has always remained the same: seeing kids succeed and viewing teaching as a calling to redemptive service.

continues on page 6

1968



- By the fall of 1968 the fourth phase of men's dormitory (Witmarsum Quad) completed.

1971



- The fourth phase of the women's dormitory (Strasbourg Quad) is completed.

1972



- Total fall enrollment exceeds 400 for first time.

continued from page 5

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF A LEGACY OF POSSIBILITIES AND HONORING



NONPROFIT/ YOUTH

Yammilette Rodriguez, M.A.

Senior Director of Youth Leadership Institute
M.A. Leadership and Organizational
Studies, 2006

Yammilette's work at Youth Leadership Institute empowers youth to get involved and make tangible changes in their community.



BUSINESS

Max Steinert

Partner at Steinert Investments
B.A. Mathematics, 1967

Max helps run his family real estate and property management business and is a firm believer in investing in the community and the next generation.



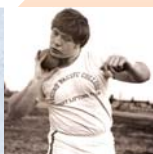
MINISTRY/ HUMAN SERVICES

Priscilla Robbins

Director of Rescue the Children
B.A. Christian Ministries, 2010

Priscilla was raised to believe in serving others inside and outside the church and this has shaped her work at Rescue the Children.

1972



- Dennis Anderson (shot put) becomes Pacific College's first individual national champion.

1973



- San Joaquin College of Law completes addition to Hiebert Library.

1974



- The first master of arts program is approved.

7 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Pascal Kulungu, M.A.*

Member of the Parliament of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Founder of the Center for Peacemaking, Leadership and Good Governance
B.A. Business Administration-Accounting, 1997
M.A. Organizational Leadership, 1998

Pascal came to the US to be better equipped to serve his home country of Congo in the fields of education and health care.

***POSTHUMOUS AWARD**



PUBLIC SERVICE

Lynne Ashbeck, M.A.

Senior Vice President, Community Engagement & Population Wellness at Valley Children's Healthcare (Former Mayor of Clovis and current Clovis City Councilmember)
M.A. Peacemaking and Conflict Studies, 2012

Lynne puts into practice the pillars of peacemaking as she serves on the Clovis City Council, in her work at Valley Children's Hospital and in her everyday life.

Fresno Pacific University

75
YEARS
1944-2019

ANNIVERSARY GALA

A Legacy of Possibilities

On November 2, 2019, FPU hosted an elegant evening honoring our distinguished alumni and commemorating God's faithfulness through the years as well as our hopes for future service. More about Gather and the Gala at news.fresno.edu/news



HEAR THEIR STORIES

Videos on the lives and work of our seven distinguished alumni are available at 75.fpu.edu/alumni

1975



- MBBS is accepted as the official seminary for the General Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches (U.S. and Canada).

1976



- Edmund Janzen is appointed president (resigns 1984).

1976



- The official name of the university is changed to Fresno Pacific College.

Carrying the BIG IDEA Forward

By Doug Hoagland

From Virtual Reality to a Closer Connection to the Central Valley

Imagine students at FPU slipping on goggles and standing before a house where people sought Jesus' healing touch.

Without leaving their Valley classroom, the students would inspect that house's archeological remnants in modern-day Israel. In that moment, virtual reality—a technological experience of realistic images, sounds and other sensations—would make the Gospel come alive.

Removing the goggles, students would hear a lecture by a professor in Israel via a hologram projected into the classroom by laser beams and digital processors. "The hologram idea sounds more sci-fi, and it might remind people of 'Beam me up, Scotty,'" says Ron Herms, Ph.D., dean of the School of Humanities, Religion and Social Sciences. "But virtual reality already exists, and I think the experience for our students is not that far down the road."

As Herms and other FPU leaders envision the university in its next 75 years, they see both opportunities and challenges in evolving technologies, new academic programs and changing relationships with students, faculty, alumni and donors. FPU will also face dynamic trends in higher education as it continues its commitment to the *Fresno Pacific Idea*—FPU is a Christian school, a community of learners and prophetic.

Think and Thrive

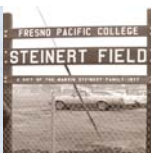
New realities in higher education occur at a rapid rate, and one of the biggest is what Karen Cianci, Ph.D., dean of the School of Natural Sciences, calls the "businessification" of colleges and universities. Competition from for-profit schools—with their many part-time faculty—pressure FPU to follow the part-time trend. Cianci and others see a future where full-time faculty decrease in number but do more to oversee adjunct faculty.

The educational community also will experience continual reshaping by never-ending technological revolutions. One of the biggest: the advent of computers with artificial intelligence that can learn and mimic thinking. They will demand FPU students develop sharper critical thinking skills. "Technology changes so quickly now that it comes down to the discernment of information," Cianci says. "Successful people will have to think on their feet to accommodate these smart computers." She adds that as technology alters the circumstances and tools of teaching, faculty must value the *Idea* and reinvent applications for Christian community and a prophetic voice.

The future also will demand quicker responses to these new realities. "Higher education has typically been slow to recognize the need to embrace change. But Dr. Joe [FPU President Joseph Jones] isn't slow, and he has surrounded himself with people who aren't either," says Don Griffith, vice president for advancement, executive

1977

- Land is purchased for the Steinert Athletic Complex.



1979

- The Unified Board of Education is dissolved and the independent FPC board is established.



1980

- Hiebert Library addition is completed.



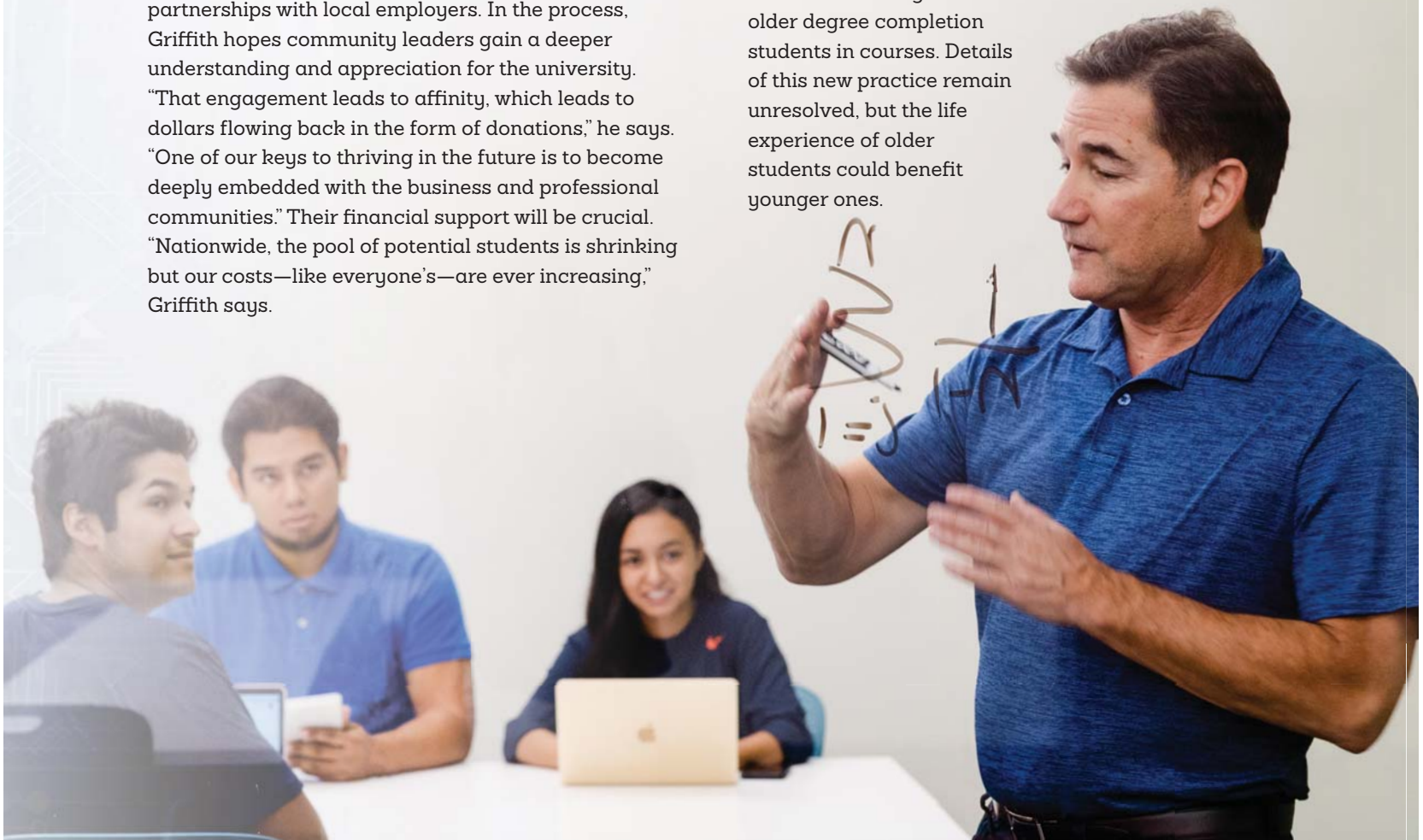
director of the FPU Foundation and former chair of the university's board of trustees. "Yesterday's methods are not going to work tomorrow."

Griffith and other university leaders are discussing expanding internships to all undergraduates. About 250 students would participate each year, gaining experience and making valuable contacts in businesses and other organizations. The internships might satisfy potential students and parents looking for a "return on investment," Griffith says: "They're asking, 'What is attending Fresno Pacific going to get me? What opportunities am I going to see?' It's not your traditional liberal arts education anymore."

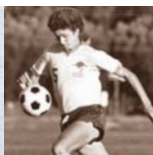
To offer more internships, FPU seeks new partnerships with local employers. In the process, Griffith hopes community leaders gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for the university. "That engagement leads to affinity, which leads to dollars flowing back in the form of donations," he says. "One of our keys to thriving in the future is to become deeply embedded with the business and professional communities." Their financial support will be crucial. "Nationwide, the pool of potential students is shrinking but our costs—like everyone's—are ever increasing," Griffith says.

Issues That Really Matter

In the future, FPU will expand its community of learners, says Gayle Copeland, Ph.D., provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. Semester-long programs are one option in which students and faculty would study and teach at Christian universities abroad while counterparts from other nations come here. Participants would see their worldview grow while equipping themselves to help transform the San Joaquin Valley, Copeland says: "The change of paradigm and perspective would help our students working in the Valley as global citizens." The community of learners also could be reshaped by mixing younger traditional undergraduates with older degree completion students in courses. Details of this new practice remain unresolved, but the life experience of older students could benefit younger ones.



1980



► The new soccer field is completed (north of the current Facilities Management building).

1981



► The Special Events Center is completed.

1981



► The volleyball program and women's basketball programs are established.

“We talk about seeking shalom and being peacemakers, and we want to be helpful in preparing our students to do that work,” says Gary Gramenz, Ph.D.

Meanwhile, costs in housing, transportation, food and childcare make graduation difficult for many students. In response, FPU is looking at initiatives to address students’ day-to-day needs, says Dale Scully, vice president of student life. For example, grants or donors may help with affordable housing near the main campus, with students contributing a share. “I don’t believe in providing anything for free. People have to have some skin in the game,” Scully says. “But for a long time, colleges catered to the upper middle class and wealthy, and that can’t happen here in the Valley. Higher education has to be open and accessible to all.” Ensuring that is prophetic, Scully adds. “It’s being bold and engaging this Valley on ideas and issues that really matter.”

Equipping to Serve

The future also could see new academic programs addressing the unique needs of the Valley. Katie Fleener, Ph.D., dean of the School of Business, sees a day when students could earn a degree in business administration with an emphasis in either agriculture or sustainability management. FPU doesn’t currently offer either emphasis, but, Fleener says, each is consistent with the Idea. “It’s about community growing out of common commitments, and one of those is seeing the Valley get better.”

Training chaplains is a possibility for Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary. “They find themselves in places that pastors don’t have access to anymore because people are less and less engaged with the church,” says Valerie Rempel, Ph.D., vice president and dean of the seminary. Chaplains traditionally serve in hospitals and the military, but business is a growing trend. “People still need soul care, and chaplains provide it,” Rempel says.

In the School of Education, leaders want to advance what they already do: train teachers to see education as redemptive service. “We talk about seeking shalom and being peacemakers, and we want to be helpful in preparing our students to do that work,” says Gary Gramenz, Ph.D., dean of the school. Today that work involves teaching children and teenagers with social and emotional problems. So, Gramenz says, student teachers could benefit from instruction by mental health professionals. “We want to determine in the future how people with this expertise can inform us about best practices,” he says. Such instruction would ideally continue through a teacher’s career. “You’d start here and for the next 30 years Fresno Pacific would be a place you’d constantly come back to for professional development,” Gramenz says.

Building closer relationships between FPU graduates in the community and current students could provide another form of professional development. Ali Sena, director of alumni development, wants every student on the main campus to have mentoring by a graduate. “Relationships have always been important at FPU, and this would be a way to build on that,” she says.

Community Connections

Serving the FPU community plus the community beyond the campus is the focus of new facilities for visual and performing arts as well as athletics. The planned Culture and Arts Center on the main campus will host local and national art shows and historical exhibits, choral performances and instrumental recitals, films, theatrical shows and more. Future expansion could include studios and labs for two- and three-dimensional art, ceramics and graphic design instruction plus rehearsal spaces. Programs and events will entertain, educate and encourage visitors

1981



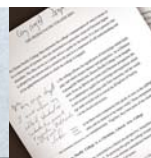
► “Sunbirds” is chosen as mascot.

1982



► The academic calendar switches from quarters to semesters.

1982



► The revision of *Fresno Pacific College Idea* is completed.

to “consider new ways of conceptualizing their faith,” says Chris Janzen, MFA, assistant professor of art, design and creative innovation. It also will serve as a prophetic witness and bring a message of hope, adds Walter Saul, D.M.A., professor of music. “By having a beautiful and wonderfully resonant performance hall in an area of Fresno often overlooked by the city and region, we are engaging the prevailing culture.”

The athletic department’s focus is a new baseball stadium, concession stand and restrooms at Steinert Athletic Complex, where the Sunbirds also compete in soccer, tennis and track and field. “The core of what we’re trying to accomplish in building facilities centers around the *Fresno Pacific Idea*,” says Director of Athletics Aaron Henderson. “Yes, we want to win and be competitive, but the opportunities we have with our facilities to build community and be a good host are just as important.”

As with all building projects, more brick and mortar is not the goal. “We want our students to know we value them as people,” Henderson says.

Finally, FPU is exploring new technologies to improve communication with prospective students, says Jillian Freeman, associate vice president for marketing and communications. One example: the university is building a communications system that would allow it to tap social media, identify high school students who’ve shown an interest in an area of study and send them personalized emails that would tell about that major at FPU and introduce the students to their future faculty. “We want to invite them into our community of learners so they can experience the *Fresno Pacific Idea*,” Freeman says. “But to do so, we have to stay relevant in how we tell them what we have to offer in a world changing so rapidly.” 🏠



1985



► Richard Kriegbaum is appointed president (resigns in 1997).

1985



► The cross country program re-established.

1986



► West Hall (later Bartsch Hall) is purchased and remodeled.

Toward Lives of

In the future, FPU students may send an avatar to class or dock their drone—instead of themselves—in an early morning lecture hall.

Yet the march of technology won't define FPU students in the coming decades, campus leaders and administrators believe. In fact, tomorrow's students may closely resemble those of the present and past in their faith-based approach and appreciation for blending in-person and new learning styles.

"Students are pretty much similar now to what they were 18 years ago," says Dale Scully, vice president of student life, referring to his first year in higher education. "They wanted a profession, they wanted to add value and meaning to their life and to me that hasn't changed—that is still who we are as human beings trying to find our identity and way in the world."

Much has changed in Fresno Pacific's first 75 years as a Bible institute preparing Mennonite Brethren youth for Christian education and mission has become

a university offering over 100 areas of study to 4,100 students from a range of ethnic, economic and religious backgrounds. Who will tomorrow's students be? What kind of education will they want? How will they learn?

Officials believe tomorrow's students will be more ethnically and theologically diverse.

Their interests, influenced by technological advances, will spark new degree programs and educational avenues at FPU. And they will likely push for even more focus on marketable skills and ways to leverage degrees into careers that reflect their values.

"Soft skills" will only grow in importance. Creativity, imagination, communication and the ability to manage people will become increasingly critical to employers as technology transforms education and career arcs.

"Automation and AI (artificial intelligence) are changing the environment and what jobs will look like in the future," says Rose Winn, director of career development and experiential learning. "The jobs that will exist in 75 years are something we can't imagine today. A college graduate's leverage will be the human element."



1987

► The track & field program is re-established.



1989

► The women's volleyball team wins FPU's first team national championship (NAIA).



1990

► The Bachelor's Degree Completion (DC) program is established.



PURPOSE

By Cyndee Fontana-Ott

Tomorrow's Students

Campus leaders say even with potential advances in transportation, students likely will continue to come mainly from the Central Valley, with the opportunities and challenges that entails. Students may continue to be a blend of traditional and older learners—adults seeking new or better job skills in a fast-moving economy—along with international students from a widening slate of countries.

Students of the future will build on today's diversity—both ethnically and theologically. These forecasts may hold true both for FPU and Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary, both of which already serve a breadth of Christian denominations. "I do think there will still be students wanting to prepare for taking care of people, whether that is in soul care, in mental health resources or the need to support communities," says Valerie Rempel, Ph.D., vice president and dean of the seminary.

"As a Christian, I have enough optimism in the power of the Gospel to say there will still be faith communities. Whether or not they are going to need a trained theologian as a leader or whether they will

simply be trying to live out their lives in the midst of a secular society and world, I think for at least as long as we can we are helping to prepare people to try to live in that world," she says.

Tomorrow's Degrees

Future projections call for job-ready skills, a career that leaves room for personal values and calling, a tangible return on tuition investment and preparation for occupations that can't be envisioned today.

Ali Sena, director of alumni development, remembers the colleague in the early 1990s who insisted everyone would shop online in the future.

"We thought he was crazy," she says. "Now,

I don't think I could find a person who doesn't shop online."

Technological advances will inspire change in students and the university, which will need to introduce new degrees and training as industry evolves. "There's a strong possibility that 40 percent of the jobs that exist 20 years from now don't exist today," Scully says. "Who knew there were going to be drone engineers 20 years ago? There's a thousand other positions just like that."

Firmly rooted is the concept of translating a college education into a job or graduate path. Today's students



1990

- The Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies is established.

1992

- The total enrollment exceeds 1,000 for the first time.

1992

- Degree completion classes begin in Visalia.

Already, there is growth in professions dedicated to helping people that don't involve congregational ministry.

“are much more practically focused on why they want education, what they intend to do with it and what kind of return on investment they’re getting out of the university they choose to attend,” Winn says.

Scully agrees, saying students increasingly want more accountability. FPU is finding ways to deliver on that promise, such as four-year graduation guarantees for traditional undergraduates and two-year guarantees for transfer students.

But students also want “purpose-centered” work rather than jobs that simply pay the bills. “There are many ways to have vocation as calling—not only in ministry but also in any field,” Winn says. “We can show them how that has been done and how that might look for their unique set of goals and interests.”

Already, there is growth in professions dedicated to helping people that don't involve congregational

ministry, Rempel says. “I don't think congregational ministry will go away, but students are interested in expressing calling and answering vocational ministry calling in ways that are outside of traditional congregational ministries.”

Since technology and automation will continue to make and break occupations, the most important asset for tomorrow's students may be their humanity and commitment to lifelong learning. Employers increasingly crave students with “soft skills” that can't be duplicated in a lab—and that is unlikely to change. “The ability to adapt—that is probably going to be the number one skill,” Winn says.

Tomorrow's Learning

Changes in technology will open new frontiers in learning such as easier ways to connect, faster transportation to campus and other innovations. “The use of technology and how that facilitates education and changes the classroom, the course experience—that's only going to continue,” says Rempel, who remembers the early days of dial-up connections and email. “We're so connected now that we forget that we didn't always have an iPhone attached to our hands.”



1992

► McDonald Hall and Holman Park are completed.

1993

► Phase two of the Wiebe Education Center is completed.

1996

► Degree completion classes begin in Bakersfield and Merced.

While emerging technology allows for arms-length learning, students still will value the opportunity to meet and study in person.

Angela Chapa, director of international programs & services, says new degree programs and technology—like the campus virtual tour—can broaden the number and diversity of international students. Anything that improves distance learning could pump up international enrollment from traditionally represented and emerging countries.

“We potentially could have people from all over the globe studying online and getting a degree from FPU,” she says. “Someone from Nigeria could be in the room by computer, doing work and getting a bachelor’s degree.”

Chapa says Google, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and other platforms changed the dynamics of interaction. “You are able to connect with someone clear across the globe, or their voices can be heard,” she says. “All of that technology—who knows, maybe someone could come

up with something tomorrow that would just change everything.”

For example, improvements in transportation—such as California’s planned high-speed rail—might make it easier for students to zip around to attend classes on multiple campuses on a single day.

While emerging technology allows for arms-length learning, students will still value the opportunity to meet and study in person. No one expects the university to disappear into the world of virtual reality—think of the roles that athletics and music have always played in the college experience, for example.

Looking over the generations of alumni, one constant is the core appreciation for relationships with colleagues and professors and the faith that underlies an FPU education, according to Sena. “I think people need a personal connection, and that is something that has always been important at Fresno Pacific. We will still be able to thrive because of that,” she says. “And the faith that is part of your education here is a perspective that only becomes more valuable.” 🏠



1997



▶ Allen Carden is appointed president (resigns in 2000).

1997



▶ The name of the university is changed to Fresno Pacific University.

1998



▶ East Hall (later Jost Hall) is completed.

1999



▶ Ecklund Park is completed.

75
YEARS
1944-2019

ALL THE

Members of the FPU community share their hopes, dreams—and guesses—about the future.



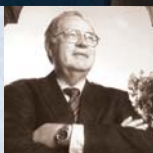
“ A major upgrade to all the athletic facilities, especially a new gym and pool for the amazing aquatic athletes—my son was in water polo—who represent the university so well.”

— **Joe Bracamonte**
student, M.A. STEM

“ Students may use virtual reality simulations to hone such skills as interviewing with top-level executives.”

— **Katie Fleener, Ph.D.**
dean, School of Business

2000



► Harold Haak is appointed president (resigns in 2003).

2002



► AIMS Hall of Math and Science completed.

2002



► D. Merrill Ewert is appointed president (resigns in 2012).

2003



► Steinert Campus Center is completed.

POSSIBILITIES

“

“I believe in 75 years Fresno Pacific will still provide a Christ-centered education in which students learn, grow, find mentors and prepare themselves for significant lives.”

— Dale Scully
vice president of student life

“

“Students will have a university-provided app that rewards them with Starbucks and other prizes for publishing their class notes on social media and getting 'likes' from others.”

— Karen Cianci, Ph.D.
dean, School of Natural Sciences



2005



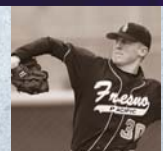
► The new academic structure is implemented creating the present four schools.

2005



► In January of 2005 the Bakersfield and Visalia regional campuses open, and in December the North Fresno regional campus opens.

2006



► The men's baseball team begins competition.

**Will we learn from the Jetsons?
Host the eSports World Series?
Bring your imagination!**

“ Students will have glasses with lenses that display email, and they'll read that mail as they walk to class.”

— **Jillian Freeman**
associate vice president
of marketing and
communications

“ In 75 years, maybe the cafeteria will have a different way of providing nutrition—like on *The Jetsons*. Or who knows, maybe you'll have the option to sleep in and send your drone into class.”

— **Ali Sena**
director of alumni development



2008



► The first fully online programs are introduced.

2008



► Racial minority students form the majority of the student body for first time in FPU's history.

2009



► The total enrollment exceeds 2,000 for first time in FPU's history while degree completion enrollment exceeds traditional undergraduate enrollment for first time.

“Fresno Pacific will train students to be ‘prophetic influencers’ using avenues like social media to communicate about difficult issues such as the immigration crisis.”

— **Ron Herms, Ph.D.**
dean, School of Humanities,
Religion and Social Sciences

“We will have developed new technology and we will have altered the way we do business. Those things will prove our character, and we will need our imagination.”

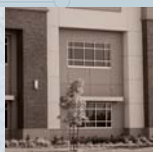
— **Valerie Rempel, Ph.D.**
vice president and
dean of the seminary

“Our student-athletes could be competing in video games. Momentum has already picked up, and many universities have started eSports.”

— **Aaron Henderson**
director of athletics



2009



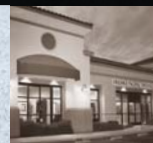
- Visalia Regional Campus moves to Plaza Drive and the Bakersfield Regional Campus moves to River Run Blvd.

2010



- The Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary (MBBS) becomes part of FPU as the Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary.

2011



- Merced Regional Campus opens on El Portal Drive.

Keeping the FAITH and the **IDEA** alive

By Doug Hoagland



Joseph Jones, Ph.D., president of Fresno Pacific University, sits at his conference table in McDonald Hall and leans—literally and figuratively—into a thoughtful conversation about FPU's future.

"We're not moving away from our culture. I like to say, 'we're maturing our culture.' The *Fresno Pacific Idea* becomes mature when it governs our work, our policies, our hiring, our teaching—all that we do."

Jones and other university leaders honor the heritage of Fresno Pacific while seeking new expressions of the truths in the *Idea*: FPU is a Christian school, a community of learners and prophetic. "What we're trying to do is make sure it's alive in the context we live in today and is adaptable for the future," he says.

The *Idea* comes alive with a growing community of learners, which now numbers more than 4,100 students on all campuses. Nearly 80 percent of our undergraduate students, including traditional-age and adults in degree completion, are transfers from community colleges. Catholics represent the largest faith tradition. "The more we grow, the more we have opportunities to prepare leaders, extend the influence of the Kingdom of God and have an impact in our communities," Jones says.

But, it's not only about numbers. "It's about how we create a transformational environment on our



2011

► The first classes of RN-to-BSN and global MBA graduate.



2011

► Enrollment hits another milestone at 3,603 students.



2012

► In 2012, Pete Menjares, is appointed president (resigns in 2014).





main and regional campuses," he says. One answer is engagement—building partnerships that link the university to businesses, health care, school districts, community colleges, cultural groups and senior residential complexes. "In this way we get our students out in the communities of the Valley and broaden their experiences," Jones says. "You can't grow influence in isolation."

Spiritual vitality is central to Jones' vision for FPU. "Where else can students talk fully about their spirituality and where else can faculty teach the Scriptures and speak of their faith?" he says. It's the same reason that FPU welcomes students of other faiths. "There are plenty of Christian colleges that accept only Christians," Jones says. "But that's not who we are and not who we were intended to be. The *Idea* encourages us to be open to all."

Jones also believes a university is a place of innovation and is key to the full expression of FPU's Christian identity in the 21st century. "Innovation means we think about our methods of education," he says. "We look at our spirituality, our integration of faith and learning, and the impact our education actually has." It means examining methods for their value, and not holding onto them because, "we've always done it that way," Jones says.

Biblical Imperative

As FPU navigates the future, two truths will never change. "We are a university founded on Christ, and we have a mission and a vision to serve the multicultural generations that live in the San Joaquin Valley," says Angulus Wilson, dean of spiritual formation and chief

2013



- FPU ranks in the top 10 nationally among Hispanic-Serving Institutions in graduating Hispanic students.

2015

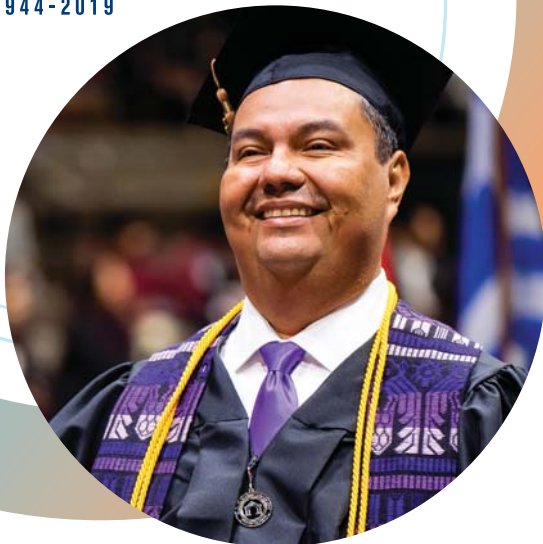


- FPU partners with California Health Sciences University to offer transfers to CHSU after three years to complete their doctorate of pharmacy program.

2015



- FPU is approved for active NCAA membership and the Sunbirds fly in the NCAA Division II.



diversity officer. FPU's commitment to diversity—now and in the future—is a biblical imperative, Wilson says. “The kingdom’s call is a multicultural call. Jesus said in the Gospels to go into the world and make disciples.”

In living out the prophetic call of the *Idea*, FPU must be bold, Wilson says. “We want to be a Christ-centered community that looks at the world from a biblical point of view. We don’t mind speaking to systems and to communities that are going against God rather than serving God and living in harmony.” Currently, that means opposing racism and policies that harm the poor as well as standing against the “abuse of visitors and strangers among us,” Wilson says. “We see ourselves having a prophetic ministry to declare truth in difficult times.”

But doing that can create tension. Not everyone understands the biblical world view the same way, says Valerie Rempel, Ph.D., vice president and dean of the seminary. “We seek not only to critique with that prophetic voice, but to offer a vision of God’s justice and God’s love for people.” She adds: “It’s always tempting for institutions to pull back from seeking the truth, but it’s the core of what a good education is



about—now and in the future.” In the years ahead, Rempel believes the *Idea* will continue to reflect the core of FPU’s identity. “It’s been embraced by the existing faculty, and in a sense, they serve as its guardians and welcome in people who share in its vision.”

Student Focused

Guiding Fresno Pacific into the future is personal to **Joshua Wilson, J.D. (BA '96)**, current chair of the university’s Board of Trustees. “We’re stewards of the work our forebears have done, and our success will be measured in how we hand that off to another generation,” he says. “I have faith that our work will be carried forward.” Wilson, an attorney in Bakersfield, adds: “Every age brings new challenges, and every generation has to find a way to stay true to its values.”

The *Idea* captures core values at Fresno Pacific, the only Christian university founded in the San Joaquin Valley. “Our foundation is to train men and women for Christian service,” Wilson says. “We have an opportunity for impact that secular institutions don’t have.”

Remaining student focused—an expression of the community of learners concept—is central to FPU’s future. “While we’re very proud of our faculty’s achievements and the scholarly work they do, what we’re really looking for is the impact we have on people,” Wilson says. “And not just direct impact. It’s how we train students so they can have impact on their neighbors.” 🏠

2015



- ▶ FPU’s STEM program receives national “Example of Excelencia Award” in the baccalaureate category from the non-profit agency Excelencia in Education.

2017



- ▶ Joseph Jones is installed as 13th president of Fresno Pacific University.

2018



- ▶ FPU’s social work program receives accreditation by the Council on social work Education (CSWE).



LIVES TRANSFORMED
MITCH ROSS

Learning to Heed God's Call

By Amy D. Fienen

Some people begin college feeling God's call. Not Mitch Ross.

The 28-year-old care pastor at Fresno's Northwest Church earned a jazz performance degree in 2015 at Fresno State University with plans to be a touring drummer. But after countless hours in a 10x15-foot practice room under the gaze of a John Coltrane poster, Ross's joy for music waned.


As a child, Ross endured 32 surgeries for a potentially cancerous birthmark covering his back. Feeling different from other kids, he played drums to fit in. But 10 hours of practice a day could not fix his depression or give him a sense of belonging. Having grown up attending church without experiencing a relationship with Christ, a college identity crisis took Ross to rock bottom—there was no one left but God.

Randomly opening the Bible his mother had given him, Ross found a passage on every page that spoke to his heart; soon he was on his knees and weeping. "Rather than seeing scars of affliction, I was able to see brushstrokes of grace," he says.

Ross studied Scripture with a friend who was college pastor at Northwest Church. When the friend told Ross he was leaving, he also said he planned to recommend Ross as his replacement. In true Moses fashion, Ross initially cited why he wasn't qualified, but surrendered when he realized God would equip him for a job he called him to. "In

that moment, I stepped out of childhood and realized God had a calling on my life," Ross says.

In 2016, Ross enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary and later began working toward a Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy. Seminary has reignited his passion for church and transformed his relationships, including with wife Anna.

"The greatest thing I've learned so far is the ability to love well," he says. "I've seen how, by simply being present with people, the Holy Spirit will intervene." 



EDITOR'S NOTE

Do you know a student who has been transformed at FPU? Contact Wayne Steffen at wsteffen@fresno.edu



Anthony Velarde (BA '18)
traded his Sunbirds' blue and orange
for the black and yellow of the Pittsburgh Riverhounds.

The Riverhounds play in the USL Championship—the league just below Major League Soccer. As a Sunbird, Anthony Velarde, a midfielder, captained the team his junior and senior years, recorded 24 goals and 44 assists and holds the NCAA Division II record for most assists in a single season, as well as the PacWest conference record for all-time career assists.

Soccer is a Velarde family sport. Like his older brothers, the Reedley High School graduate grew up playing for club and school teams. It was through his older brother **Eric (TC '17, BA '15)** that men's head soccer coach Jaime Ramirez met Anthony.

The first thing Ramirez noticed about the younger Velarde is that he was a leftie. "In soccer we love lefties," Ramirez says. "Lefties are special.

They have a different brain command, so to speak, when it comes to handling the soccer ball."

Ramirez saw Anthony becoming a go-to guy under Eric's coaching at Reedley High. "It was a natural recruiting process to bring another member of the family in," Ramirez says.

From high school to college, however, was an adjustment in every way for Velarde. "It was a huge change as a student, a person, as a player," he says. "They were bigger than me, stronger, faster."

Adapt he did, under the mentorship of Ramirez, his brother and other players, to soccer and beyond. Ramirez taught him that if you really want something, you have to feel what it is to not have what you have, and have a goal in your mind to really feel where your goals are. "He helped open my eyes to see that soccer isn't the only thing in the world," Anthony says.

Velarde put that wisdom into practice when a hip injury cost him his junior season, coming back in a big way the following season as a red shirt junior. During his sophomore season, Velarde had posted one goal and six assists. After his surgery, he was responsible for 10 goals and 13 assists.

"He came back with two fantastic years that saw him step into the role of team captain, team leader and arguably the best midfielder in the entire PacWest," Ramirez says. Now among the top two or three players in the country, Velarde attracted professional interest from Pittsburgh and San Jose.

Many players are content to play for local clubs or coach after college. Players like Velarde aim higher. "There have to be greater goals because there are wider opportunities to play," Ramirez says. "Stepping away from your area, proving you can play anywhere in the country or world, is really a challenge."

Velarde was ready for the challenge when he moved to Pittsburgh in early 2019 to begin training for a season that began in late March and included an appearance in the U.S. Open Cup. "People expect a lot from you," he says of the difference between college and pro-soccer. "There's all the pressure you get from the coach, the fans, the media," he notes. "People want to see a good game; they want to see wins."

Velarde takes it in stride. "I love playing under pressure, with things on the line, when things matter," he says. "It's exciting for me. It's exciting the club is trusting me to represent them, to be that person."

While adjusting to a higher level of play, Velarde has been adjusting to representing a franchise in a city with a storied professional sports history—Pittsburgh's baseball, football and hockey franchises have all delivered championship wins. "You see the Steelers stadium there, you see the Pirates' baseball stadium right next to ours. It's a cool environment they created, and something I'm proud to be a part of."

In his downtime, Velarde enjoys Pittsburgh's museums and zoo, and walks in his neighborhood. "It's a crazy change in my life," he admits. "I went from growing up in a small town, to getting a professional contract. I've always wanted to live this life of doing what I love doing for a living. That's a dream come true for me." 🏠



Three individual Sunbirds and two teams that excelled in athletic careers and communities were inducted into the FPU Athletics Hall of Fame September 16, 2019. Honorees were: **Joel Ramirez (TC '96, BA '92)**, men's soccer, student-athlete, 1987-1991; **Annie (Sippel) Bruce (BA '03)**, women's track & field, student-athlete, 1999-2003; **Lorena Zuleta (BA '06)**, volleyball, student-athlete, 2002-2005; and the 1984 and 1985 men's soccer teams. Ramirez, Bruce and Zuleta each set records and earned All-American honors, and the two soccer teams helped establish the Sunbirds as a national contender. Read the complete story at: fpu.edu/322-hall



RETURNS

PETER KOPRIVA

Kopriva's 45-year career is the story of a casual student learning to see the beauty of teaching children with serious difficulties.

Kopriva, Ed.D., who retired in July 2019 after 30 years as a professor of early childhood development and special education, reckons he graduated 47th of 53 from his Wyoming Catholic high school. "I was interested in bicycles, motorcycles and girls," he says.

After a stint as a U.S. Navy diver, Kopriva enrolled in Mesa Community College, San Diego, to study ocean science. A professor, a principal and God changed his mind. The prof suggested he spend a morning at a school for students with health and physical impairments. The principal took time with him.

God spoke up in the parking lot. Sitting in his truck, Kopriva prayed. "It was like a catharsis," he says, "I had fallen in love with education, especially students for whom education is a big obstacle."

Kopriva completed his B.A., credentials and M.A. at California State University, Los Angeles, joining the adjunct faculty. After five years as a classroom teacher, he earned his Ed.D. at the University of Northern Colorado.

FPU's mission attracted Kopriva. "My goal has been to live out my faith," he says. People have also been loving. "I have made many, many friendships."

To that end, Kopriva offers a sympathetic ear. "We work around people who have been hurt in life and church," he says. "We help them see another side," he adds.

In retirement, Kopriva plans to resume being a minister of the Eucharist (Holy Communion) at Divine Mercy Catholic Church, Clovis. He will continue helping struggling elementary school students with wife **Sijmontje Renema-Kopriva (M.A. '01)**, a retired Fresno special education teacher. "Young girls and boys who have trouble in school live with a lot of stress because they know they're not getting it," Kopriva says. 🏠

PENG WEN

Wen's plan to improve his English became a mission to share the Gospel.

Raised in rural Taiwan in a non-Christian family, Wen—who retired in July 2019 as professor of business administration and economics, and director of the MBA program—came to the U.S. in 1985 to earn his MBA at the University of Oklahoma City. He joined a Bible study to help his English proficiency and learned more than he bargained for. "To practice English conversation, you have to ask questions, to ask questions you have to read ahead," he says. Wen made his confession of faith four months later.

An ad in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* brought Fresno Pacific to Wen's attention while he was finishing his Ph.D. at the University of Florida at Gainesville. He came in 1990, looking for a place to share his faith through teaching economics and finance. "When this job was offered to me I said, 'Perfect,'" he says. Wife Marnjuag is retired from the Fresno County Auditor-Controller's Office.

There have been offers since—he was tempted by one from financial giant Goldman Sachs. "I prayed about it and realized that's not about mission, that's about the material," he says.

Mission drives Wen. "God calls me to start a church wherever I am," he says, including one in Gainesville and the Chinese Fellowship at Bethany Church, Fresno. He also led his parents and two of his brothers to Christ.

This fall Wen returns to China to train a pastor for another church he helped start. He will continue at Chinese Fellowship until he trains a successor, then plant more churches in China and Taiwan. As he told *Christian Leader* magazine: "When I confessed my sins to Jesus, I said 'I don't desire just to know you, I desire to make you known.'" 🏠



ALUMNI AND FRIENDS TOUR

June 16-28, 2020

*Tour France with Steve Varvis with
optional travel to the Oberammergau
Passion Play*

Experience a once-in-a-lifetime trip to France with Steve Varvis, Ph.D., professor of history, and fellow alumni. Steve and wife Teri will be your guides through Paris, Versailles, San Chappelle and Giverny, including stops at Monet's home and studio, Normandy D-Day sites, Mon St. Michel and St. Malo, Loire Valley Chateaux and Chartres Cathedral. There will be an optional extension to Munich, Germany, and the Oberammergau Passion Play which is only performed every 10 years.

Get this on your calendar at fpu.edu/francetour.



“Lord, make my way prosperous
not that I achieve high station,
but that my life be an exhibit to
the value of knowing God.”

Jim Elliott, Christian missionary martyr

Create maximum impact on student's lives **THIS YEAR**
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Mark Deffenbacher

559-453-2239

mark.deffenbacher@fresno.edu

Don Griffith

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donald.griffith@fresno.edu



For more information on setting up your own gift annuity through Fresno Pacific University, email don.griffith@fresno.edu or telephone **559-453-3485**.

Pacific Gardens Apartments

1968-2010

By Kevin Enns-Rempel, Director, Hiebert Library

The apartment complex on Kings Canyon Road west of Peach Avenue, between a strip mall and the Wal-Mart parking lot, doesn't seem to have much to do with the history of Fresno Pacific University. Yet Pacific Gardens Apartments began as part of a development project to financially support FPU, and for many years provided low-cost rentals and services to its students and others in the community.

In the 1960s, Pacific College began using real estate projects to raise money for operating costs and endowments. The first such project was the "Gow Estate," 50 acres near Kings Canyon and Peach purchased by a group of Mennonite Brethren investors. The group sold the property at cost to Pacific College, which later resold it at a higher market value. A few acres were sold in 1968 to a non-profit group known as Pacific Gardens Enterprises, Inc., to be used for an apartment complex.

Original Pacific Gardens stockholders were mostly faculty members and other members of local MB churches. Their vision for the complex went far beyond that of a typical residential investment. An early planning document stated it would "participate directly in the solution of several problems facing our society by providing improved housing and education and counseling." A 1968 *Fresno Bee* article reported

the complex would provide apartments for retirees "interested in helping disadvantaged couples" as well as "average married college students wishing to enrich their educational experience." The 56-unit complex was completed in 1971.

Many Pacific College students who lived in the apartments were part of a program called PEP (Pacific Education Package). Benefits included housing, full tuition for one or two students, health insurance, \$1,200 per year for food and incidentals, job opportunities, day care for children and tutoring programs. Students paid their share either by working 12 hours a week during the school year and full time in summers, or by taking out low-interest student loans.

PEP did not last, in part because programs benefitting a specific group of renters were not allowed by the terms of federal loans that helped pay for the original construction. Even so, the apartments remained popular among Fresno Pacific and seminary students, and as late as 1991, they comprised over half of the complex's tenants. In 2010 the corporation sold its shares to the Fresno Housing Authority, and now the complex provides subsidized housing to low-income families. 🏠

From the Archives...



IN TOUCH WITH ALUMNI

GENERAL » ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alex Ontiveros (BA '19) is a youth care specialist for the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools.

Zach Bartley (BA '18) is a shipping supervisor at Gerawan Farming, with several Valley locations.

Brooke Bingham (BA '17) is a digital media coordinator for JP Marketing, Fresno.

Roderick Cochran (MA '17, BA '15) is a school culture coordinator at Kepler Neighborhood School, Fresno.

Brian Lawton (BA '17) was accepted into the University of California, Davis, on scholarship with the Rural-PRIME (PRograms In Medical Education) program, designed to produce physician-leaders committed to helping the state's underserved communities.

Christian Douangphouxay (BA '16) received a Community Appreciation Award for his outstanding dedication and commitment to the Lao Community of Fresno from State Senator Andreas Borgeas.

Elyssia Lopez (BA '16) presented at an Expanding Your Horizons Youth Conference and is pursuing a career teaching science. She is contracted with Teach for America to earn her credential and master's degree.

Claudia Nieto (BA '16) teaches ceramics at Fresno High School.

Larry Paredes (MA '16, TC '18, BA '14) teaches industrial science as an instructor for the West Hills College of Coalinga, Farm of the Future.

Lupe Rubalcava (BA '16) is a program manager for the Merced County Human Services Agency.

Derek Kliewer (BA '15) is pursuing a Juris Doctorate as well as a Master of Arts in Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University. He was selected as a faculty scholar, offering full tuition plus a stipend.

Gary Mejia (MA '15, SEM '06), former director of safety and security, who left FPU to become head of campus safety at Fuller Theological Seminary in 2015, is enrolled in Fuller's Doctor of Ministry program. Gary says the program will allow him to continue studying peace, social justice and racial healing.

Aaron Kirkpatrick (BA '14) is a sales consultant for Paychex, based in Rochester, NY, with offices in Fresno.

Rosalyn Jamily Walls (BA '12) is an associate attorney for McCormick, Barstow, Sheppard, Wayte & Carruth LLP, Fresno.

Garth A. Corrigan (MBA '11) was promoted to senior vice president and chief financial officer of Valley Republic Bank, Bakersfield, in May 2016.



» NICHOLE TAKES FPU LESSONS TO WORK

Nichole Mosqueda (BA '03) is chief administrative officer for Camarena Health, the largest primary care provider in Madera County with 11 health centers, including some in schools, providing medical, dental and behavioral health care. Her work involves advocacy, policy, marketing, communications, strategic planning and growth, and understanding communities. She serves on the Madera County Workforce Investment Board, Madera Unified School District Career Technical Education Advisory Board, United Way of Madera County and the California Primary Care Association as well as other groups. Nichole contributes much of her success to the education and experiences she received at FPU, including being mentored by Richard Unruh, Ph.D., emeritus political science. She remembers debating and learning to present her position in his political science classes—a skill she still uses today.

Amber Bolinger (TC '10, BA '08) teaches for the Fresno Unified School District.

Michael Davidson (BA '10) is unemployed after eight years in full-time youth ministry. He does computer repair on the side and is looking for something outside of youth work. He is married with two children, Jordan (4) and Liam (2). Wife Taylor is a freelance photographer specializing in lifestyle and portrait work.

Whitney Bunker (BA '08) is one of 26 Fresno's Heroes Unmasked for her work as co-founder and executive director of child advocacy organization City Without Orphans. The award is through Bitwise and Meza Productions and the ceremony took place February 7, 2019, at Bitwise Industries, 700 Van Ness Ave., Fresno.

Michael Allen (SEM '06) is registrar at California State University, Chico.



» KIMBERLY JOINS EDUCATION BOARD

Kimberly Tapscott-Munson (BA '10) is the first woman of color elected to the Fresno County Board of Education. Kimberly retired after 20 years as a school librarian but remains committed to empowering, encouraging and educating children to become leaders for the next generation. The degree completion program inspired Kimberly to find ways to have an impact. "I truly believe that through education we can uplift our communities," she says.



» PROFESSOR REUNITES WITH STUDENTS

History was made for the FPU political science program April 23, 2019, when founder John Redekop, Ph.D., presented "How Should a Faithful Church Relate to the State?" to the Council for Senior Professionals. Redekop (center) originated the political science program in 1964 and early students were (from left): **Jim Holm (BA '70)**, **Dave Jost (BA '67)**, **Richard Unruh (BA '67)** and **Roger Wiens (BA '66)**. Unruh would be Redekop's successor in 1968 and serve in that position until retiring in 2012. Faculty increased with the addition of **Ken Martens-Friesen (BA '84)**, in 2002, and **Bret Kincaid (BA '82)**, in 2012.

Adam Juarez (TC '05, BA '03) is a tech integration coach at Cutler-Orosi Joint Unified School District. In the summer of 2017, he was named a Google Certified Innovator, one of 1,700 educators worldwide that develop a project designed to inspire learning with Google tools.

Beth Eckloff Paz (BA '05) received the 2018 Hooper-Keefe Preaching Award from Fuller Theological Seminary, from which she graduated with her Master of Divinity in June 2019. She also earned Fuller's Parish Pulpit Fellowship, providing funds to live abroad for a year and learn about preaching in global contexts. Beth was director of high school ministry at First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, and spent 11 years with InterVarsity's Fresno Institute for Urban Leadership.

Kimberly Bishop (BA '03) teaches K-5 music for the Corcoran Unified School District.

Anthony Calvillo (MA '03) is a mentor in FPU's credential program.

Lucio Mauricio Ternieden (BA '98) is chief of the Field Inspection Section in the Drinking Water Branch of Water Quality at Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). A

drinking water field inspector for 16 years, he oversees inspections of and technical assistance for over 4,000 public water supply systems.

Eric Thiessen (MA '96, BA '89) is principal at Tulare County Office of Education's (TCOE) University Preparatory High School. He received a proclamation recognizing University Prep for receiving the California Distinguished School Award from the state department of education—the only school in Tulare County to receive the commendation.

Rick San-Martin (FS '88) teaches mathematics and coaches varsity soccer at Cathedral High School, Los Angeles. He completed his Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership in December 2018.

Clement Kroeker (SC '52, PBI '53) is a director at Congo Open Heart, a mission organization.

IN TOUCH WITH ALUMNI

» IN THE NEWS

Madeleine Cameron (BA '18) published an article in *Aletheia*, a national publication of the Alpha Chi academic honor society. "The Ethical and the Eternal" addresses philosopher Soren Kierkegaard's theories on the formation of the self, focusing specifically on the three existential spheres that denote the stages of individual development. fpu.edu/322-cameron

Cho Fai Wong (BS '18) was the subject of the article "Alpha Chi Student Explores the Strengths of a 'Weak' Identity Theory" posted January 28, 2019, on the website of the Alpha Chi academic honor society. He is now studying mechanical engineering at UC Davis. fpu.edu/322-wong

Kelsey Rij (BA '18) published an article in *FALSAFA*, the peer-reviewed undergraduate journal of the University of California Irvine Philosophy Club. The article, "Lives That (Don't) Matter: The Construction of Abjection in the Public Consciousness," draws on Rij's undergraduate thesis research in the communication and philosophy programs. fpu.edu/322-rij

Gregory Barragan (CTE '17) won a 2019 Pillar Award from the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools. Greg is a career technical education instructor at the Alice M. Worsley School at the Juvenile Justice Campus, where he teaches incarcerated youth job-ready skills as certified welders. fpu.edu/322-barragan

Nick Valla (BA '17) was profiled March 5 by the International City/County Management Association. He is studying for his Master's in Public Administration at Villanova University. fpu.edu/322-valla

Aaron Casida (BA '16) is in the Smokin' Armadillos, formed in Bakersfield in 1992. The band performed at the Fox Theater October 4, 2019. fpu.edu/322-casida

Jonathan Clark (MA '16) has a talent as a teacher and basketball dunker that was the subject of an April 4 FOX 26 broadcast. fpu.edu/322-clark

Jared Wilde (BA '14) joined the California Highway Patrol in March 2019. fpu.edu/322-wilde

Dora Ledesma (TC '11) was named Educator of the Week April 3, 2019, by YourCentralValley.com (KSEE 24 and KGPE 47). fpu.edu/322-ledesma

Adrian Sanchez (BA '11) became Merced High School boy's basketball coach in April 2019. fpu.edu/322-sanchez

Jared Gilbert (BA '10), former assistant swim coach, coaches the new swimming program at Ottawa University. fpu.edu/322-gilbert

Don Kurtze (BA '09) is national director of originations for Liberty SBF, where he manages sales efforts. Liberty SBF has offices in Philadelphia, Detroit and Los Angeles. fpu.edu/322-kurtze

Bryan Feil (BA '07) won the Rising Star Award from the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. fpu.edu/322-feil

Jim Wheeler (BA '07) is executive director of Flood Bakersfield Ministries. fpu.edu/322-wheeler

Beatriz Chaidez (MA '02) is an associate vice chancellor at San Jose Evergreen Community College District. Previous positions include assistant superintendent with Salinas City Elementary School District and Sacramento City Unified School District and superintendent/principal with Raisin City School District. She has also served on the executive boards of the Association of California School Administrators and the California Association of Latino Superintendents and Administrators. fpu.edu/322-chaidez

Johnny Baltierra (MA '97), a counselor in Armona Union Elementary School District, organized the Bridge2College program to help high-achieving students from under-served communities pursue higher education. Johnny has taken students to Ivy League colleges as well as Stanford, UC Berkeley, Sacramento State and UC Merced. fpu.edu/322-baltierra

Margaret Mims (BA '95), Fresno County Sheriff, was given an honorary Common Threads award for public service to the agriculture community, sponsored by the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation, the Ag One Foundation and the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology at Fresno State University. fpu.edu/322-mims9

Fred Morris (BA '87) resigned as coach of the Neshoba Central High School Lady Rocket's girl's basketball team in March 2019. He led the team for eight years, winning a class state championship in 2017. fpu.edu/322-morris

» DEATHS

Daryl Thiesen (TC '05, BA '83), 57, died February 7, 2019. He was the coordinator of prevention programs at the Office of the Kern County Superintendent of Schools. Daryl was a driving force behind the Leaders in Life Youth Conference. Daryl won a 2019 Wendy Wayne Ethics Awards from California State Bakersfield's Kegley Institute of Ethics. Survivors include his wife, two sons and one granddaughter.

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» WEDDINGS

Anastasia North (BA '19) married **Jesse Muster (BA '16)** on May 12, 2018 in Madera, CA.



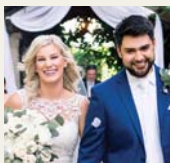
Hannah Holly (BS '18) and **Erik Brown (BS '18)** married on May 18, 2019. Erik is a Snohomish County firefighter and Hannah works with the Tacoma Fire Department.



Steven Kaufmann (TC '18, BA '17) and **Montana Lowe (BA '17)** married on November 18, 2018.



Molly Fink (BA '17) and **Austin Tatum (BA '17)** married on January 26, 2019.



Allison Pettey (TC '17, BA'16) and **Joshua Medeles (BA '16)** married on June 21, 2019.



Tori Sena (BS '16) and Connor Burns married on June 21, 2019, in Yosemite National Park. Tori works as a nurse in Memphis, TN, where the couple resides.



Rodolfo (Rudy) Venegas (BA '16) and **Elsabete Elsa (BA '14)** married on December 22, 2018. They live in Ethiopia, where they have a non-profit organization called Loving and Leading.

Gabrielle Bergen (BA '12) married Sascha Schmid in her hometown of Chico, CA, on March 23, 2019.

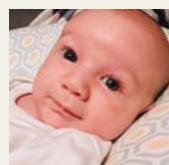


Abby Foyle (BA '11) married Scott Froese on April 20, 2019, in Tacoma, WA.

» BIRTHS



Emily Mooney (BA '16) and husband Ben announce the birth of daughter Lily Grace Mooney on December 1, 2018. Lily was 20.5 inches long and weighed 7 lbs., 10 oz.



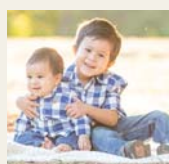
Tyler (BS '14) and **Kaitlyn (BA '14) Goslinga** announce the birth of son Calvin Travis on February 22, 2019. He joins brother Nash.



Chad (BA '13) and **Rachel (Catrina BA '16) Eyo** announce the birth of son Elijah on December 2, 2018.



Eldar Moraru (BA '10) and wife Kayla announce the birth of son Desmond Eldarovich on February 27, 2019. He joins sister Novalie Rose.



Dulce Romero-Urbina (BA '07) and husband Ulises announce the birth of son Elias A. on February 2, 2018. He was born at home and joins brother Emanuel B.



Wonjoun Park (BA '06) and wife Rachel announce the birth of son Aden on April 27, 2019.



WHAT'S GOING ON?

It's so easy to let your classmates and friends know what's happening in your life—job, marriage, children, new address and awards. **visit fpu.edu/alumniupdate**

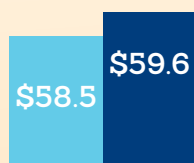
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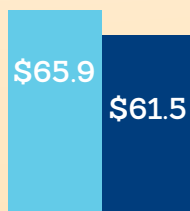
2018-19 FPU **ANNUAL REPORT**

Revenue & Expenses

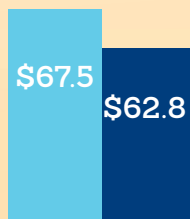
Numbers in millions



2016/17*



2017/18

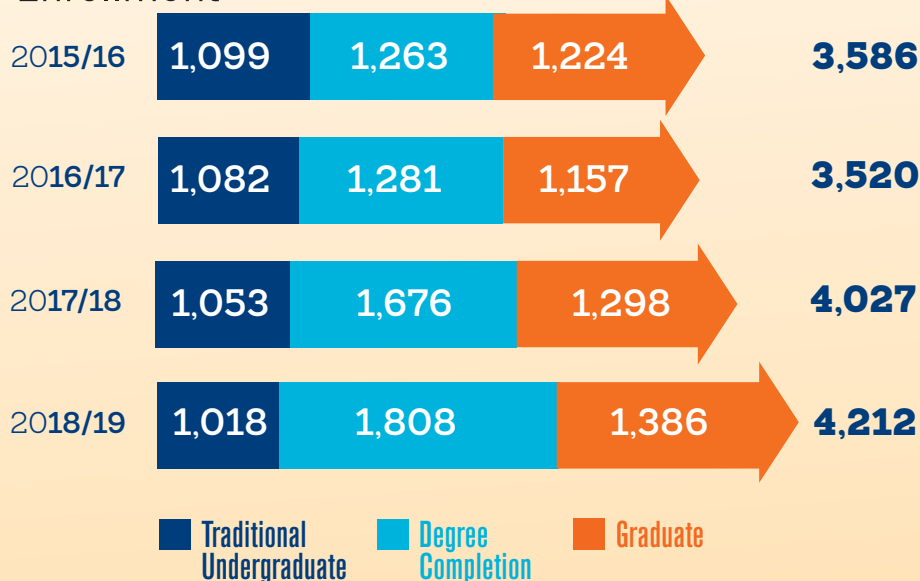


2018/19

Revenue Expenses

*\$1.5M one-time write-off/bad debt expense.

Enrollment

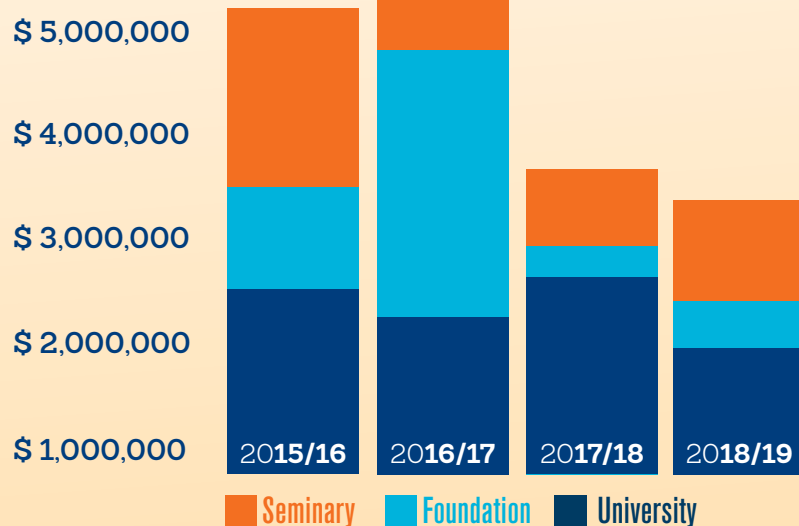


“ I remember back when I was applying for college. I didn’t think that I could attend FPU. It was my dream school, but I didn’t think I could afford it financially. I’m so thankful that my mom encouraged me to apply and that out of faith I did. Because of scholarships I received I’ve been able to attend FPU and have opportunities that I otherwise would not have had. I’ve been able to create great relationships with my professors who have helped strengthen my faith and also my knowledge in my areas of study of music and art.”

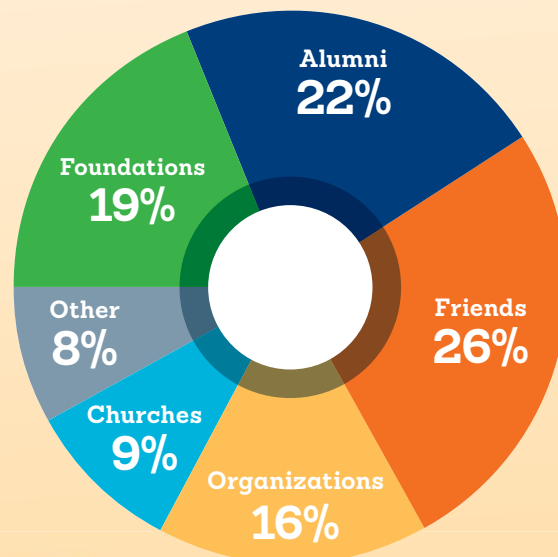
Lauren Nichols

*Class of 2020
Flute Performance and
Studio Art double major*

Giving



Donor Groups



“Growing up a few miles down the street from FPU, I didn’t think coming here would be possible. Through the scholarships I receive to attend FPU, my life has been changed. I wouldn’t be able to be a student here without generous donations that fund those scholarships. My career goal is to transform the next generation by teaching music—to be that one person who can help change the direction of someone’s life.”

Frank Velasco

*Class of 2020
Music Education major*





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If your son or daughter no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please notify the alumni office of their new mailing address by calling 559-453-2236 or emailing alumni@fresno.edu. Thank you.

#GIVING TUESDAY

Is December 3, 2019

CHOOSE YOUR IMPACT by donating to the project of your choice on Giving Tuesday!

1. Feed a hungry student. You can make a difference to FPU students who might otherwise sometimes go hungry in order to purchase books or gas to get to school. Donate canned food to the Sunbird Food Pantry.
2. Train a student in peacemaking. You can spread God's peace in a life, family or community by providing conflict resolution and reconciliation training to students through the FPU Center for Peacemaking.
3. Provide students with technology for learning success. You can provide students with state-of-the-art classroom technology they need to succeed academically and excel upon graduation.

Visit fpu.edu/giving-tuesday to make your impact!

