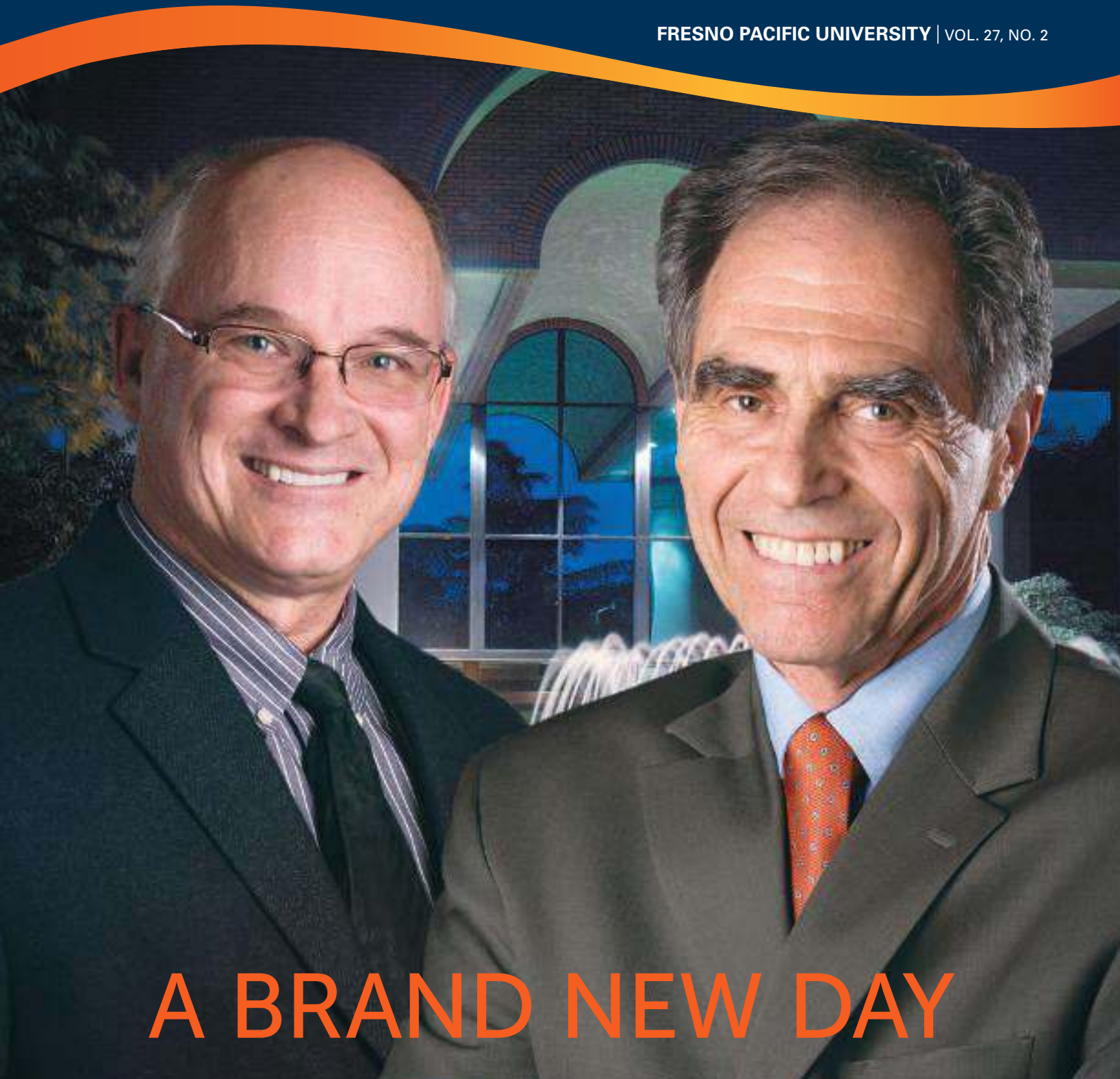


PACIFIC

FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY | VOL. 27, NO. 2



A BRAND NEW DAY

GOOD
CHEMISTRY P. 16

ART
ADVENTURE P. 10

CARING
LINKS P. 18



RICHARD KRIEGBAUM, PH.D.

president's message

NO SURPRISES

Thirty years ago my office was a Fresno Pacific dorm room that housed the vice president of administration. On a warm fall Friday the dean and I were walking behind Edmund Janzen, who was the president, on our way to the fall board meeting in a classroom in the recently completed Special Events Center. Then God spoke, though it was in the voice of Edmund. He said, "I guess I should tell you that I am going to resign in this meeting."

The core parts of who we really are remain pretty stable and change slowly. But apparently God thinks that changing roles in our personal and professional lives is good for us and that trying really challenging roles is even better. I had come to Fresno to serve and learn under Edmund, but God is always full of surprises because he is always trying to grow us in the image of his son Jesus. So the following spring, despite a year of valiant efforts by the board to recruit someone else to follow Edmund as president, I accepted the role.

For 12 years, God did beautiful things at Pacific and then just when it seemed that we were really rolling along, God surprised me with the clear indication that I needed to resign. My presidency ended in 1997, the year we became Fresno Pacific University. The 17 years since then were filled with personal and professional role changes, each one a surprise that strengthened my faith in God. But nothing really prepared me for the sudden surprise return to the least likely role of all—being president of Fresno Pacific a second time.

As a faithful learning community in a world of pain and loss and the uncertainty that comes from unanswered and unanswerable questions, we must want always to learn what God has for us in the challenge of his next surprise. As people of faith who want to learn Jesus' way, truth and life, we must want what God wants us to learn from every hard experience, and that will make us more like Jesus, which is what this whole enterprise of Fresno Pacific University is ultimately all about.



contents

PAGE

8

A BRAND NEW DAY

**Veteran administrators
bring new ideas of
leadership to FPU**

13 A PASSAGE TO INDIA

*Alumni take education to an
international level*

22 SUNBIRD ATHLETICS

True student-athletes succeed in
the field of life

24 IN TOUCH WITH ALUMNI

ALUMNI PROFILE: Linda Line
(M. Div. '88)
was part of a new trend at the
seminary

30 PERSONAL SUPPORT

Donors getting to know students
can result in friendship



**KEEP UP
WITH FPU!**

**Check the news website at
news.fresno.edu for:**

- Enrollment set a record for 2014
- FPU rose for the second straight year
in the *U.S. News* rankings

See all the events at events.fresno.edu

A portrait of Delores Friesen, an older woman with short white hair and glasses, smiling. She is wearing a dark jacket over a patterned top and a dark beaded necklace. She is holding an open book. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery.

DELORES FRIESEN

Emerita
pastoral
counseling

Delores Friesen, Ph.D., defines counseling as "one of those doors of ministry where hurting people find God."

The work of the church has been at the center of Friesen's life as a teacher, missionary, minister, licensed marriage and family therapist and clinical supervisor. Raised and ordained in what is now the Mennonite Church USA, she joined the seminary (then Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary) in 1988 as the first non-Mennonite Brethren full-time faculty member and became a member of the MB Church. She and husband Stan, a minister and teacher, attend College Community MB Church. Friesen was not the first woman on the faculty, but for quite a while was the only one. With a smile, Friesen adds she also suspects she was the only extrovert.

Getting to know the Mennonite Brethren, FPU's sponsoring denomination, is one of the highlights Friesen lists during her career. Treasured colleagues are another, from emeriti such as Elmer Martens, Ph.D.; and Allen Guenther, Ph.D.; to current faculty including Valerie Rempel, Ph.D.; Tim Geddert, Ph.D.; Mark Baker, Ph.D.; David Bruce Rose, Ph.D.; Cindy McGrady, Ph.D.; Adam Ghali, Ph.D.; and Autumn Lindberg, M.A.

The Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy has grown as well, changing names and gaining students to become the seminary offering with the largest enrollment. "We're bursting at the seams," Friesen said.

Students have provided Friesen's greatest professional satisfaction. Ranging in age from 21 to 78, they have come from many professions and religious traditions as well as places from all over the world. All have had one thing in common: "They come to us with a passion for ministry and a call to ministry," she said.

Many have gone on to get doctorates and serve as professors as well as practitioners. About one third have gone into ministry, according to Friesen, which is appropriate since the MFT program is central to the mission of the church as well as the seminary. "When people study theology along with their counseling, they become better counselors," she said.

Friesen feels her previous experience prepared her to flourish at the seminary. A missionary in Ghana and Nigeria for 13 years, she spent seven years in congregational

Continued on page 5

WITH A PASSION

For Jo Ellen Priest Misakian, M.L.S., the road to FPU was almost the road not taken.

Eager to get back to the book stacks in 1999 after a stint at the Fresno County Office of Education, Misakian had a job offer in Selma. But friend Norma Dick, founder of the FPU teacher-librarian program, was looking for a successor. “Norma said, I’m not hanging up this phone until you tell me you’ll get an application,” Misakian remembers.

When both schools wanted her, Misakian took the Selma position after an administrator pointed out the higher salary and benefits and told her to look out for herself. Quickly realizing her mistake, Misakian worried she wouldn’t be allowed to change her mind, but Dick again intervened, telling Misakian’s husband, John, “You tell her she certainly can.” Then-Provost Howard Loewen noted it all happened around Easter, a time of redemption. “How could I doubt I had made the right choice?” Misakian said with one of her frequent laughs.

The ability to follow her heart and embrace what’s new—being among the first faculty to be seen on campus with an iPad—has served Misakian well. “Our credential has probably changed more than most,” she said.

Today the credential and master’s programs are completely online, a change that mirrors reality for teacher-librarians. Instead of stamping due dates in ink and handwriting late notices, they now teach information literacy, offer professional development to classroom teachers and provide students with a safe and stimulating library. They may also order textbooks, using computer skills to reduce losses to schools and districts. “Teacher-librarians are often leaders in technology in their schools,” Misakian said.

Traditionalists need not fear, however; teacher-librarians still read to kids. “That’s the fun part,” Misakian says.

In all they do, teacher-librarians promote literacy. “The basics are still there,” Misakian says. As librarians are special, so are libraries: “They are places where no one fails,” she said.

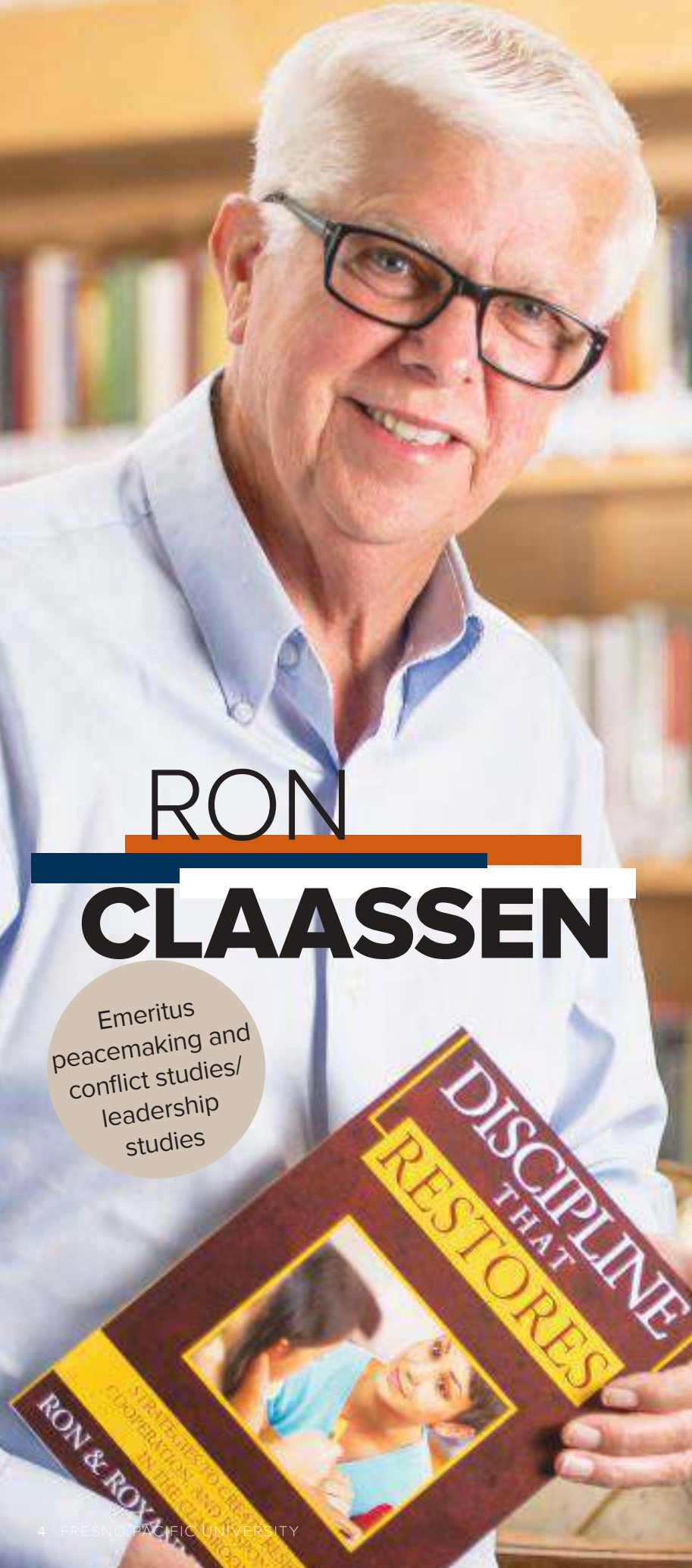
Before she retired, Misakian, who has a B.S. from the New York Institute of Technology and a Master’s in Library Science from San Jose State University, was chair of the Educational Leadership Division and associate professor at

Continued on page 5

A portrait of Jo Ellen Priest Misakian, an older woman with short, wavy grey hair and black-rimmed glasses. She is smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a dark blue blazer over a light-colored top and a colorful, patterned scarf. The background is a blurred bookshelf filled with books.

JO ELLEN
**PRIEST
MISAKIAN**

*Emerita
teacher
librarian*



RON

CLAASSEN

Emeritus
peacemaking and
conflict studies/
leadership
studies

Though the life of Ron Claassen (BA, '67), D.Min., has gone in several directions, problem solving and peacemaking have been his compass. "The more I understood the Bible the more I understood this is who God called us to be," he said.

Mathematics was Claassen's first path at what was then Fresno Pacific College (FPC), and he earned his master's in the discipline at Louisiana State University in 1968. Claassen did three years of alternative military service in Nigeria with Mennonite Central Committee, where he taught math and his wife, Roxanne (BA '89, MA '04), worked in a pre-school. A return to Fresno as assistant professor in the FPC Math Project and general manager/part-owner of Creative Teaching Associates lasted until 1978, when he set a new course: an M.Div. with an emphasis in pastoral counseling and peacemaking at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries (now Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary). He would go on to earn a D.Min. from San Francisco Theological Seminary in 2005.

The line linking math to peacemaking is straighter than it might seem. "Math is largely about problem-solving, as is peacemaking," he said.

Returning to Fresno after completing his M.Div., Claassen founded the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) of the Central Valley in 1982, and served as director until 1999. Claassen introduced VORP in a series of monthly meetings at the Fresno County Courthouse; he had no plans to take charge. "They said, Let's get something started," he recalls. "I said, I wish you the best. They said, No, you don't introduce something like this and then leave."

VORP of the Central Valley was the first such

organization in California, and at the time one of only three or four in the United States. The basis of VORP, and Claassen's philosophy of peacemaking, is "restorative justice." Traditional punitive justice states that a crime is against society and society must punish the offender. Restorative justice treats crime as a violation of the victim by the offender and provides a structure to make things as right as possible between them.

Also during these busy years, Claassen cofounded Mediation Associates, Inc.; represented Mennonite Conciliation Service; consulted with businesses; and co-pastored Mennonite Community Church in Fresno, to which he and Roxanne still belong and where they raised their sons Ryan and Kevin.

Many strands of Claassen's life and work came together in 1990 when he and Dalton Reimer, Ph.D., (emeritus communication) cofounded the Center for Peacemaking & Conflict Studies at FPU. In the ensuing years he created and taught courses and programs on managing conflict in schools, workplaces and churches. Claassen encouraged restorative justice in the Fresno County court system and began speaking internationally after his "Fundamental Principles of Restorative Justice" were adopted by the Working Party on Restorative Justice, an alliance of non-governmental organizations connected to the United Nations.

In retirement, Ron and Roxanne will continue to promote the principles in their 2008 book *Discipline That Restores*, using strategies Ron developed and Roxanne taught and implemented at Raisin City School. They are also part of a virtual program with the FPU Office of Continuing Education (fresno.leadpages.net/dtr/).

With making peace as a guide, Claassen has touched many.

Other faculty members who retired in the spring of 2014

Jay Barrett, M.Ed.

assistant professor of special education

Vivian Gayles, Ed.D.

assistant professor of teacher education

Larry Metzler, M.A.

assistant professor of education

Barrett began as an adjunct in 2011 and was named to the regular faculty in 2012, while Gayles became an adjunct in 2006 and a regular faculty in 2007. Metzler joined FPU as an adjunct in 2001 and became a regular faculty in 2004.

Delores Friesen continued from page 2

ministry, served 11 years on the Mennonite Brethren Mission/Services International Board and spent a seminary sabbatical on a 10-country survey of HIV/AIDS work for Mennonite Central Committee.

The HIV/AIDS work was instrumental to Friesen's teaching, as she used it in her Human Sexuality and HIV/AIDS classes, two courses among the many she developed. She also taught and/or created Grief Counseling, Cross-Cultural Counseling, Aging and Long-Term Care, Pastoral Care and classes in counseling children and families. "Working here has always pushed me to grow," she said.

The Valley has been a place for Friesen to pursue peace and justice. "The seminary is uniquely placed," she says.

Jo Ellen Priest Misakian continued from page 3

FPU. She also added a new educational passion as director of the designated subjects (DSE) program, a role she will continue into retirement. DSE credentials prepare candidates to teach career/technical classes. "I love the idea; we take experts in their fields and teach them how to teach," she said.

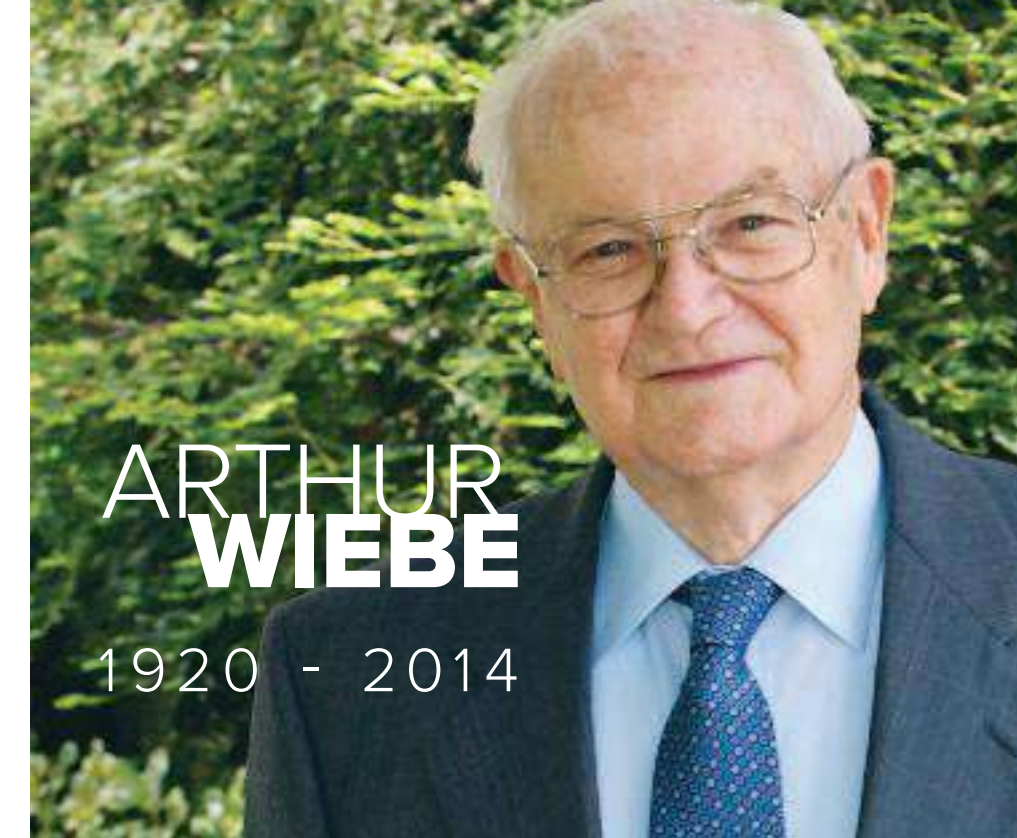
Misakian will also remain active with the William Saroyan Society and the Arne Nixon Center for the Study of Children's Literature. Asked about FPU high points, she can't decide. "I have a lot of good memories," she said. "A lot of good opportunities I wouldn't have had if I hadn't gone this way."

His Vision Became FPU

Fresno Pacific University mourns the death of Arthur Wiebe, Ed.D., president emeritus, visionary and longtime university and community benefactor. Wiebe died Sunday, September 14, 2014. He was 94.

Serving from 1960-1975, Wiebe became president during a time of change, and led an administration dedicated to innovation in curriculum, facilities and philosophy. The year Wiebe took the helm, Pacific Bible Institute became Pacific College and had only the year before it moved to 1717 S. Chestnut Ave., Fresno, the location of today's main campus. The school grew from a junior college to a four-year liberal arts institution in 1963 and became accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (now WASC Senior College and University Commission) in 1965.

Early on Wiebe encouraged the faculty to rethink the college's mission and identity, which led in 1966 to the first "Idea" vision statement. Today, the "Fresno Pacific Idea" still forms the core of the university's identity as a Christian



university, a community of learners and a prophetic voice to the region and world. More than just encouraging a faculty, Wiebe created one. As the school grew, he hired a generation of faculty members and administrators—some early graduates—many of whom made Fresno Pacific their professional life and served into the new millennium.

In the 1970s Pacific College moved beyond its undergraduate curriculum, becoming accredited to offer master's degrees in 1975. At about the same time came a program providing training to teachers in Central California, which is today the FPU Office of Continuing Education.

Though quoted as saying all education

requires is a teacher, a student and log for them to sit on, Wiebe oversaw construction of several buildings still central to learning and life at FPU: Witmarsum Quad (1960-1968), Strasbourg Quad (1960-1971), Hiebert Library (1962), Alumni Hall (1964), Memorial Prayer Chapel (1966) and Marpeck Center (1967). Named in his honor, Wiebe Educational Center opened in 1990.

Wiebe's commitment to FPU did not end when he stepped down as president in 1975. In 1981 he and the late Larry Ecklund co-founded AIMS (Activities in Integrating Mathematics and Science) Education Foundation. The foundation provided the major gift for the AIMS Hall of Mathematics and Science at

Continued on page 33





Robert Lippert joined FPU as vice president for finance and business affairs August 25, 2014.

Robert Lippert named CFO

Lippert has 24 years of experience in non-profit leadership, spending the past nine years as chief operating officer at the AIMS Educational Foundation in Fresno. Throughout his career he has worked extensively with budgeting and financial management as well as managing operations, information systems and personnel. At FPU Lippert oversees the university business office and budget process as well the offices of the controller and human resources.

"Robert's wide experience in nonprofits and deep knowledge of the Fresno community are tremendous assets to FPU. He is able to balance our mission-driven values and our nuts-and-bolts needs in a way that enhances our contribution to the Valley," said Stephen Varvis, Ph.D., provost/senior vice president.

Before joining the AIMS Foundation, Lippert was executive director of the Fresno Philharmonic, director of operations for the Center for Dance Education at the Boston Ballet and senior project manager at TRW in Redondo Beach. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, and an MBA from Pepperdine University.

As part of his extensive community involvement, Lippert has served on the boards of directors of the Rotary Club of Fresno, San Joaquin Memorial High School and the Fresno Alternative Sentencing Program; co-chaired both the Fresno Coalition for Arts, Science and History and the Arts to Zoo Coalition; and been a member of the St. Paul Newman Center Stewardship Committee and Pastoral Council.



A fundraiser with a national reputation and local connections is now director of major gifts.

Karin Chao-Bushoven joins FPU as director of major gifts

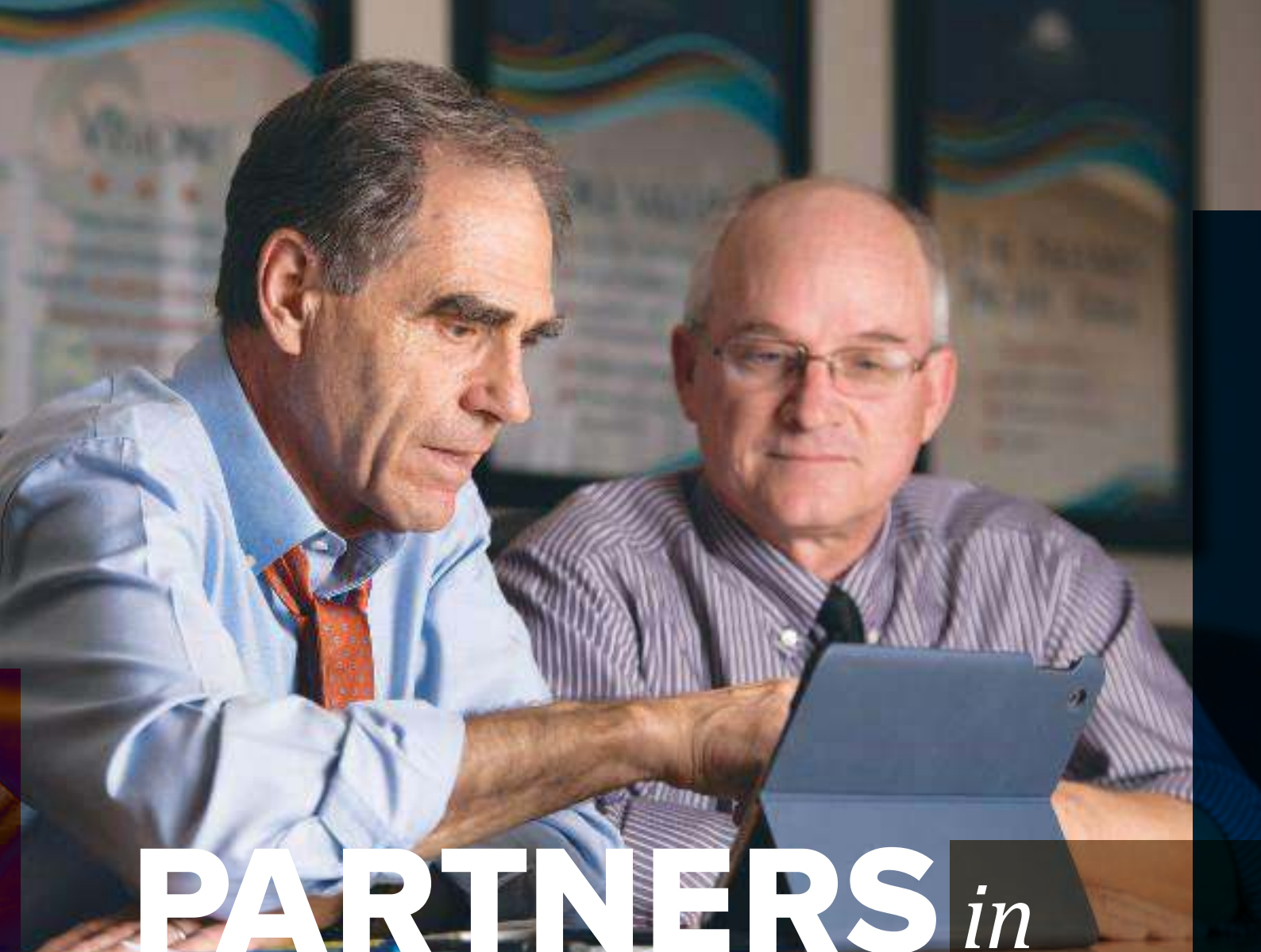
Karin Chao-Bushoven, who started July 1, 2014, came to FPU after positions at University High School and the Fresno Philharmonic. She has also worked for the Boston Public Library and the City of Providence, RI.

"Karin's breadth of fund development experience and strong relational skills make her an ideal fit," said Diana Bates Mock, vice president for advancement and university relations. "We have a great deal of confidence in her abilities, allowing us to hit the ground running on a number of projects important to the university and our donors."

Chao-Bushoven comes highly recommended by area leaders. "Karin is a force for good in our community and an exceptional fund development professional," said Dan DeSantis, CEO, Fresno Regional Foundation. "With the combination of Fresno Pacific University's mission and Karin's expertise and personal integrity, FPU will continue to make the Central Valley a great place to live, learn and thrive."

"I am so pleased to have Karin join our team of advancement professionals at FPU. She brings with her tremendous skills and sensitivity, is highly regarded in the community and is a true delight," said Mark Isaac, associate vice president of university advancement.

A graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles, Chao-Bushoven did graduate studies at Brown University. Returning to California in 2005, Chao-Bushoven served as the Fresno Philharmonic Association's director of fund development before joining University High School as its first staff director of fund development.



PARTNERS *in* LEADERSHIP

By Wayne Steffen

Two veteran administrators and a new leadership model are the tools to better address the growing responsibilities of the university presidency.

The FPU Board of Trustees instituted the “Dual Leadership Model” as part of its appointment of Richard Kriegbaum, Ph.D., as 12th president September 16, 2014. The role of Provost Stephen Varvis, Ph.D., was enhanced to Provost/Senior Vice President. The actions followed the resignation of Pete C. Menjares, Ph.D., as president effective September 11.

Divide and prosper

The president will direct external functions, and the enhanced position of provost/senior vice president will oversee day-to-day operations.

The president will continue to report to the board, the only FPU employee to do so, and the provost/senior vice president will report to the president. “It frees me up to focus on developing the resources required for Steve’s operation to succeed,” Kriegbaum said.

The provost/senior vice president now chairs the Executive Cabinet (formerly the President’s Cabinet) made up of top administrators, and the Academic Cabinet, made up of deans and other academic leaders. Both had been led by the president. “We can harmonize administration and academics,” Varvis said.

President from 1985 until 1997, Kriegbaum has since taught courses through the Office of Continuing Education and served as interim dean of the School of Business. He also spent eight years

“What’s called ‘the ecology of higher education’ has changed dramatically in the last five years — more than in the previous 20 years.”

- Stephen Varvis, Ph.D.

as CEO of United Way of Fresno County, consulted with universities and other nonprofits and wrote a book, *Leadership Prayers*, published by Tyndale House.

Since 1985, Varvis has held many roles at FPU, from history professor to undergraduate dean and director of business and civic relations to vice president for enrollment management. As provost he was responsible, with the deans of the schools and other leaders, for the academic and student life programs and personnel of the university.

The right time

Once the “senior scholar” of a college or university, presidents are now the public face of their institutions and their external role has become a full-time job. “What’s called ‘the ecology of higher education’ has changed dramatically in the last five years—more than in the previous 20 years,” Varvis said.

At a recent meeting of 80 presidents whose schools belong, like FPU, to the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, Kriegbaum estimated the majority had some form of dual leadership. “The more complex you get the more this is true. It gives us a great advantage,” he said.

Board members had considered the move for some time and saw this leadership change as the time to act, Kriegbaum said. “Steve and I had already worked together for many years, and that gave the board confidence.”

Dual leadership will clarify and speed decisions. “Faculty, deans and students know they do not need to get to the president to get things done,” Kriegbaum said.

Next steps

Kriegbaum and Varvis agree there is a great need to re-energize the university vision, which has grown unclear over the last several years. Ideas are already being circulated around the phrase: “University of choice in the Valley.”

Each also has a more pragmatic to-do list. “I have to significantly increase the set of supportive relationships and resources available to the institution,” Kriegbaum said. These resources include prayer, financial support and professional contacts that will help students succeed. “One absolute top priority will be to get that fine arts center built,” he added. Varvis will be deeply involved in finishing the WSCUC reaccreditation and restructuring the FPU budget.

“Steve and I have to model collaborative leadership.”

- Richard Kriegbaum, Ph.D.

Both leaders share confidence that FPU has all that it needs to succeed now and in the future. “We have an expert faculty committed to teaching, students dedicated to professional and ethical development and a staff willing to go the extra mile,” Varvis said.

They also share the knowledge that a lot rides on them. “Steve and I have to model collaborative leadership,” Kriegbaum said. “We have to be co-laborers — synchronized.”



THAT'S
NOT ALL!

See more about the leadership transition at news.fresno.edu

Alumni help high school
students tell untold stories
all the way to the Capitol

ARTFUL STORYTELLING

By Michaela Parker

“What was the best part of summer?”

During the first week of school, teachers ask this question (in some form or another) to begin the yearly game of who had the best vacation. Students brag about trips to the beach, to the mountains and maybe to the Grand Canyon. Then someone pipes up with: “a trip to Washington, D.C., to see my artwork displayed.”



This could have been the scene at Fresno's McLane High School. Students in the ArtVenture Academy had their display, "Stories of Home: The South East Asian Experience," shown at the White House and the U.S. Department of Interior. The ArtVenture Academy is made up of sophomores, juniors and seniors who study the visual arts through painting, sculpting, collage and sketching. But the lessons are about more than technique. ArtVenture lead teacher Marc Patterson (TC '02) has a goal his students can apply throughout life. "Many people try to think outside of the box," he says. "I try to get my students to create something amazing within the box they are given."

Research, creativity, understanding

Stories of Home was ArtVenture's third large installation, after projects on homeless and undocumented people. With the homeless, Patterson spent time at local homeless camps, gaining the trust and understanding the struggles of the residents.

Students then painted artwork on old doors depicting various homeless people

based on Patterson's photographs. In the installation on undocumented people, students researched and created both written and visual pieces, incorporating a replica of the Mexican border and a shanty in the display. Both exhibits were presented at the local Fresno Art Museum as well as local schools. The homeless exhibit was also shown at FPU.

Because Stories of Home was inspired by Hmong students in the ArtVenture program, Patterson and the other teachers involved—Melissa Reimer (BA '88) and Manuel Bonilla (BA '10, TC '11)—took similar care to make sure they portrayed the culture correctly. To help students understand the hardships Southeast Asians faced while immigrating to the United States, the teachers assigned reading and created an open forum where students and experts could share their experiences and views. "Some guests

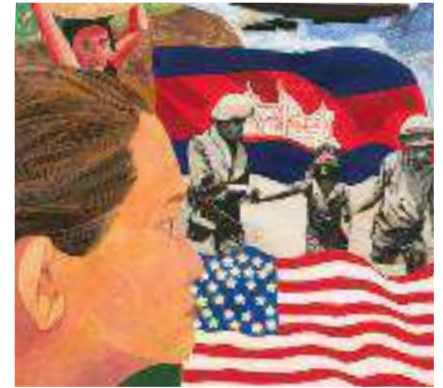
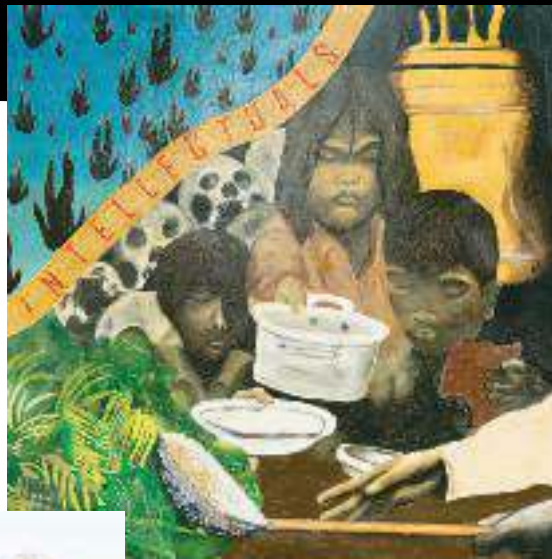
included the
Fresno

"I am blessed by the vision and commitment to education our teachers continue to have in spite of the many challenges which we have had to overcome in order to promote student success in the classroom, in our community and beyond."

-Melissa Reimer



Left to right:
Melissa Reimer,
Marc Patterson and
Manuel Bonilla



Interdenominational Refugee Ministries and Andre Yang of the Hmong American Writers Circle," says Reimer, who teaches English at McLane.

Bonilla used his background in career and technical education (arts, media and entertainment) to help students find the media that matched their strengths. "There were so many ways to tell the stories," he says. "Visually, written word, spoken word, drama performances and video."

Under Reimer's direction, students chose a Southeast Asian person to interview: parent, friend, relative, neighbor, faculty/staff, etc. Groups worked together to come up with questions and guidelines that were sensitive to those being interviewed and anticipated potential controversies. Some students assisted others in finding contacts, and all information was shared among participants. "Students took notes or recorded the interviews and then used the information to write narratives telling the story," she says.

Once students finished writing, the stories went to the art department, where

Patterson laid out every story and had students choose the one they could most relate to. Then students made story boards, then designed and created their piece of art. Southeast Asian students also gained knowledge. "Southeast Asian students were able both to contribute to and learn from this experience as, we discovered many parents/grandparents were reluctant to share these traumatic events with their children/grandchildren," Reimer says.

Unexpected appreciation

After two school years and contributions by 700 students, *Stories of Home* was completed in time for the 2013 Hmong New Year celebration at the Big Fresno Fairgrounds. Thousands of people viewed the exhibit, but one sculpture stood out. "The Mekong River Crossing" featured a replica of the kind of boat used by those trying to escape Laos during and after the Vietnam War. Alongside the boat, hands reached out from the water, representing people who were lost as well as the hope for a better future. Many viewers openly wept.

The overwhelming reaction to *Stories of Home* led to an unexpected benefit. Local Hmong student, Mai Thao, an intern with the White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islanders program, was moved by the installation and started

the process of bringing some of the artwork to the White House. The exhibit has also travelled all over Fresno County and California.

Students Adan Diaz (senior), Enrique Lopez (junior), Maxie Moua (now a freshman at the University of California, Berkeley) and Soua Thao (senior), along with Reimer and Patterson traveled to Washington, D.C., with 35 pieces of art. The students participated in a reception in their honor attended by Vice President Joe Biden.

Those involved in ArtVenture want to continue showing the installation and sharing stories. Shows have been scheduled in California and Minnesota, both states with large Southeast Asian populations. "I am blessed by the vision and commitment to education our teachers continue to have in spite of the many challenges which we have had to overcome in order to promote student success in the classroom, in our community and beyond," Reimer said.

More on the ArtVenture Academy at: [youtube.com/watch?v=g2-1XMbcGw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g2-1XMbcGw)

Some information in this article courtesy of Disciples Home Missions: discipleshomemissions.org/dhm/dhm-ministries/refugee-immigration-ministries/news/may-2014/high-school-students-create-refugee-story-art-now-display-dc/



THE LEAST OF THESE

By Wayne Steffen

Across 7,800 miles, two oceans and a class system, three alumnae can still see India—and Amar.

Rachel York (BA '09, MA'13), Landi Mello (BA '13, TC '14) and Gina (Hilty BA'13) Day were busy as summer turns to fall. York was trying to find time to prepare for the classes she teaches as an adjunct biblical and religious studies instructor at FPU, Mello was preparing for her new job as a history teacher at Sanger High School and Day was already into the new term as a program assistant in the School of Education at the FPU Visalia center.

Despite their schedules, they happily stopped to remember Amar, a young man whose future—and the future of millions like him—will be a clash between the irresistible forces of knowledge and faith and the immovable objects of discrimination and tradition. York led Mello, Day and FPU students Rodolfo Venegas and Kalyn Mello on a trip to India hosted by Witnessing Ministries of Christ, an Indian non-profit that operates Christian schools.

It was York's fourth venture since 2010, and the second for Day and Landi Mello. The group spent just over a month in the Uttar Pradesh region, near the city of Delhi



in the northern part of the country, helping develop a camp format for summer teaching and demonstrating learning techniques to teachers and students.

Students like Amar. In a photo with friends, Amar is thin, tallish, with an adolescent gangliness and a brightly colored pop-culture T-shirt that would make him part of the crowd anywhere. But

looks are deceiving. "That boy stood out in every way," York says.

Hope in darkness

In the United States, Amar would be in seventh grade and a natural for college given his diligence, intelligence and enthusiasm. Geography, however, is not the roadblock to Amar's dreams. "They have a lifetime of fear and oppression holding them back," York says.

"They" are Dalits. "Broken ones" in Hindi, commonly known as "untouchables," Dalits comprise about one fourth of India's 1.2 billion people and inhabit the bottom of class, or "caste," system—in fact, Amar's family is the lowest level of Dalit.

In Amar's village Dalits scavenge refuse, clean latrines and drag dead animals and humans out to be burned. "The idea is they carry all the impurities of the village in them, so they can do the impure jobs," York says. "They can't imagine anything different."

Yet Amar responds with hope and kindness. His eyes were wide as he took in the campus on a field trip to St. John's College, one of India's oldest Christian colleges, whose motto is "The Truth Shall Make You Free." York asked Amar if he would like to go to college. "He said, Oh yes, I want to go to St. John's," she recalls.

Another time Day struggled to learn the worship songs written in Hindi. All she could do was watch Amar, clap when he clapped and try to mouth the words he sang. Later Amar gave Day a piece of paper with the transliteration of the song from Hindi script into English. "Very few people in India can do this," Day says. "He took his free time. That touched my heart."

India's constitution makes it illegal to discriminate based on caste, but enforcement is difficult, especially in rural villages across the nation's 1.26 million square miles. York is quick to add that many aspects of life in India are beautiful and that the country is working to change. "But I'm betting it will take longer than anyone can imagine," she says.

A new identity

For now, Witnessing Ministries of Christ (witnessingministries.com) is showing Amar and thousands like him a new identity in Christ and empowerment through education. The organization has built 16 large, multi-story schools, each with a couple thousand students. The schools are walled, safe from the tension and even violence in places between Christians and some Hindu groups, but the classrooms are small, hot and crowded, with only one or

two lights and "air conditioning" options limited to windows and maybe fans. "That's if the electricity is cooperating," Mello says.

Still, the staff is talented and the students are appreciative. "They were still eager to participate," Mello says. The work fueled her passion for education. "What I'm trying to do is improve teaching," she says.

Especially heartening was seeing growth in students who struggled. "Being able to watch the teachers come alongside them... by the end of the camp they were really coming along," Mello says.

The ministry's founder—York says it's safer not to use a name—was born a Dalit in a Christian family. The group's work is based on a Christian worldview that offers Dalits a new identity in Christ and empowerment through education. Becoming a Christian is not a step up the caste ladder for the 2 percent of Indians who join the faith. "A Dalit who becomes a Christian is in a very dangerous spot," York says. They must usually leave their community and assume a new name. This last change can be a blessing in disguise, York says, since Dalits are generally given nicknames—like pets—rather than full names. "All of this sounds very dark and very hard, but I have seen the difference Christ has made," she says.

Day was excited to be part of that difference. "God has equipped me to be a light on this earth," she says. "You realize the small thing you're doing is going to impact a lot of students."

Students like Amar. In a photo of school award winners, Amar, now in a white dress shirt and khaki slacks, stands in front as Camp Champion. The victory was bittersweet, as later that day he returned the trophy, saying that while he was grateful his home was "too dirty" for the prize. "I know that means his home has a dirt floor and there's no shelf for the award," York says.

But York also knows today's circumstance is not the final truth. "That boy has the dream to go to college and the ability to get there," she says.





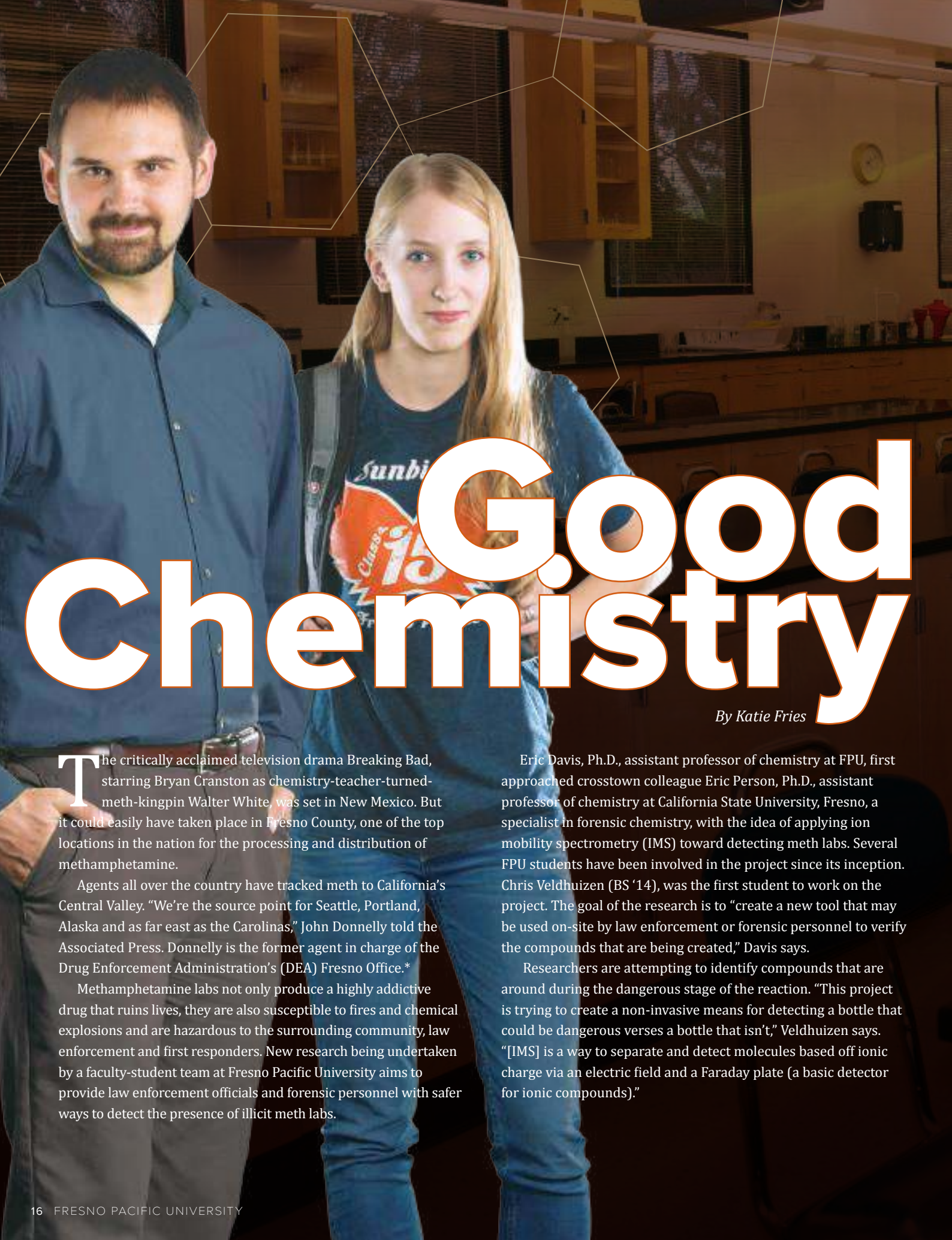
“They have a lifetime of fear and oppression holding them back, they can't imagine anything else.”

-Rachel York



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Good Chemistry

By Katie Fries

The critically acclaimed television drama *Breaking Bad*, starring Bryan Cranston as chemistry-teacher-turned-meth-kingpin Walter White, was set in New Mexico. But it could easily have taken place in Fresno County, one of the top locations in the nation for the processing and distribution of methamphetamine.

Agents all over the country have tracked meth to California's Central Valley. "We're the source point for Seattle, Portland, Alaska and as far east as the Carolinas," John Donnelly told the Associated Press. Donnelly is the former agent in charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) Fresno Office.*

Methamphetamine labs not only produce a highly addictive drug that ruins lives, they are also susceptible to fires and chemical explosions and are hazardous to the surrounding community, law enforcement and first responders. New research being undertaken by a faculty-student team at Fresno Pacific University aims to provide law enforcement officials and forensic personnel with safer ways to detect the presence of illicit meth labs.

Eric Davis, Ph.D., assistant professor of chemistry at FPU, first approached crosstown colleague Eric Person, Ph.D., assistant professor of chemistry at California State University, Fresno, a specialist in forensic chemistry, with the idea of applying ion mobility spectrometry (IMS) toward detecting meth labs. Several FPU students have been involved in the project since its inception. Chris Veldhuizen (BS '14), was the first student to work on the project. The goal of the research is to "create a new tool that may be used on-site by law enforcement or forensic personnel to verify the compounds that are being created," Davis says.

Researchers are attempting to identify compounds that are around during the dangerous stage of the reaction. "This project is trying to create a non-invasive means for detecting a bottle that could be dangerous verses a bottle that isn't," Veldhuizen says. "[IMS] is a way to separate and detect molecules based off ionic charge via an electric field and a Faraday plate (a basic detector for ionic compounds)."

Discoveries and challenges

Ion mobility spectrometry has been used in airports to detect explosives and narcotics and by the military to identify chemical warfare agents, according to Davis, but never in this type of application. The benefits of applying it to methamphetamine lab detection are tremendous, primarily in increased safety for law enforcement. "A meth lab is a dangerous building to investigate for first responders," Veldhuizen says. "The procedure to produce meth can be explosive."

According to a 2013 report in the magazine *Mother Jones*, the nationwide cost of injury and death resulting from meth labs is \$32 million. Environmental cleanup costs have resulted in an additional \$29 million. In addition to first responders, children are particularly at risk—between 2002 and 2011, an estimated 21,000 children nationwide were affected by meth production.**

But no groundbreaking research comes without challenges. Instrument problems, chemical supplier problems and coordinating multiple schedules have kept team members on their toes. Obtaining approval from the DEA to purchase the chemicals necessary for their research, in particular, has been difficult.

"Trying to order most of the chemicals required to create an illicit drug for research purposes is not easy!" Davis says.

Many of Veldhuizen's challenges were mechanical. "Eric had brought a mobility spectrometer to FPU and I got to modify its injection system and ionization source," he says. "I had little experience with precise instrumentation and had to learn things like soldering."

"Research is rarely linear," Davis says, "and some of the problems we have encountered have led us to new approaches within the project and have strengthened our approach."

The next generation

That approach will continue with a new student research assistant, senior Nicole Zalewski. Since Veldhuizen's graduation and subsequent move to Washington to pursue graduate work in analytical chemistry at Washington State University, Zalewski has picked up where he left off.

"As we go forward, the majority of our work will focus on increasing the complexity of the samples we introduce to the instrument, more closely mimicking the types of samples that would be expected in the field," Davis says. "In addition, we plan

to utilize tools already in place for law enforcement to improve our technique."

Eventually, Davis foresees collaborating more closely with Eric Person at CSUF as well as with commercial analytical companies in the Valley. "Drug use is a common problem in most developed countries," Davis says. "We hope to provide tools to make the process of shutting these types of illicit laboratories down safe for all involved."

An example of chemistry breaking good.

*bigstory.ap.org/article/meth-pours-central-california-liquid

**motherjones.com/politics/2013/08/

big-pharma-pseudoephedrine-meth-statistics

"Drug use is a common problem in most developed countries. We hope to provide tools to make the process of shutting these types of illicit laboratories down safe for all involved."

- Eric Davis, Ph.D.



WIN

WIN

Link between Fresno Pacific University and community counseling center
Link Care

“We estimate we’ve provided care for more than 5,000 missionaries and pastors.”

- Phil Collier, Ph.D.
Link Care Executive Director and CEO

By Wayne Steffen

The links between FPU and a counseling center benefit students, staff and the wider community.

Undergraduate psychology and seminary counseling students participate in scholarship, research and professional training at Link Care, the first agency in the nation to focus on helping pastors and missionaries. “It’s a really significant partnership,” said Phil Collier, Ph.D., Link Care executive director and CEO.

Link Care comprises more than 100 living units as well as offices and other facilities spread over 8.5 acres on West Shaw Avenue in Fresno. The campus includes 15 three-bedroom apartments for missionaries and pastors and their families.

“We estimate we’ve provided care for more than 5,000 missionaries and pastors,” Collier says. Services include individual, couples, family and pastoral counseling as well as men’s and women’s groups. “That’s why we exist,” he adds.

Stanley Lindquist, Ph.D., founded Link Care in 1965. On sabbatical from California State University, Fresno, Lindquist found there was a need for a place where

missionaries could prepare to return to life and work after their overseas assignments were complete. Lindquist died in 2013 at the age of 95. Today his son, Brent Lindquist, Ph.D., is Link Care president.

Counseling programs for Valley pastors, military veterans and people referred by churches are also offered. “Those are a big part of the vision we have for impacting our community,” Collier says.

Common issues for returning missionaries include anxiety, marital problems and depression. Some have been through traumatic experiences such as war and kidnapping, Collier says, and many don’t have people to support them. Link Care provides 28 staff members, including 15 full-time and part-time counselors: psychologists, marriage and family therapists, licensed clinical social workers and ordained pastoral counselors.

Burnout is not the norm for pastors and missionaries who seek help. “Most of the folks we see, about 75 percent, go back into ministry,” Collier says.

Scholars in training

FPU students are part of that success. “The quality of the individuals that come out of the psychology program allows us to provide a high level of care,” Collier says.

The most important connection between FPU and Link Care is as a training site for the seminary’s Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT), a partnership of more than 20 years. “Candidates can receive professional training in a Christian environment,” Collier says. Interns are closely supervised, receiving one hour of supervision for every five hours of counseling they provide. The agency takes one or two candidates at a time for internships lasting from nine months to one year.

Students also participate in original scholarship with Christopher Rosik, Ph.D., psychologist and director of research at Link Care. Since 2003 Rosik has hosted a practicum each spring semester for one-to-three psychology majors. Rosik picks the topics and meetings are divided between Link Care and the main FPU campus. “It’s a fairly

TEACHING

Students with Emotional Disturbances

Added
Authorization
and Certificate:
Emotional
Disturbance

Helping teachers reach students with large challenges and little support is the goal of a new program in the Fresno Pacific University School of Education.

The Added Authorization and Certificate: Emotional Disturbance program is for credentialed teachers, school psychologists, licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFT), licensed clinical social workers (LCSW) and school social workers. "Anyone who wants a broader picture of students with emotional disturbances in the school setting," said Program Director Lisa Keith, Psy.D.

The two-semester program provides a basic overview, theoretical and practical foundations, information on prevalent diagnoses and behavioral strategies. All six courses offer a physical, social, emotional and spiritual approach. Classes are in the evening and available to teachers remotely. "It's almost a mini counseling program for teachers," Keith said.

The program offers a needed service since teacher education courses provide no in-depth training for those who work with emotionally disturbed students. At the same time, one in five students in the United States has a mental illness and 38 percent of those do not get medical care, according to Keith. Students with emotional disturbances may be diagnosed with bi-polar disorder, high anxiety, obsessive-compulsive disorder, depression or schizophrenia.

Only a handful of similar programs exist in California, and FPU offers a major difference—instead of focusing on making students behave, students are shown how to be constructive members of the class and society. "If the child could change their behavior to not be sick, they would do that," Keith said. "Our goal is to restore these children to the community. We're helping children out of love for them as individuals, not as problems for the school."

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intimate environment," he says.

While students develop the literature review and collect some of the data, Rosik does most of the writing and editing, usually with input from the student. "The goal is within the year to have a publishable manuscript," he said. So far 10 of 11 practicums have resulted in a published paper, with some appearing in publications related to the American Psychological Association, others in different peer-reviewed academic journals or publications of interest to a Christian audience. Articles are signed by Rosik and the student.

Rosik enjoys working with the budding scholars, who have a chance to stand out at graduate school application time. "It's very much been a win-win situation for the university, me and the students," he says.

Experienced practitioners

Collier himself is an example of the relationship between the university and agency. First coming to Link Care in 1990, he stayed there part-time while serving as FPU psychology faculty full-time from 1993-2004, including a stint as department chair. He returned to Link Care full-time as CEO in 2004.

Today Jay Pope, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology, and Annie Fujikawa, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychology, are on Link Care staff part-time and FPU faculty full-time. At Link Care full-time are FPU alumni Paul Mavrogeorge, LMFT, (MA '96), Valerie Elwell, (MA '13, adjunct instructor, seminary intern), Jennifer Smith, Ph.D. (BA '03) and Beverly Herndon, LMFT (MA '07). Nathan Varvis (BA '11, seminary student) is a trainee.

A clinical psychologist at Link Care and FPU faculty for nine years, Pope provides psychotherapy for individuals, couples and families as well as doing assessment (testing) and psychological reports. The work adds real-world experience to his time with students. "What I do at Link Care is to live out what I talk about in the classroom," he says.



On the one hand, Pope can be a role model. "I show students how to live fully as a scientist, a practitioner and a Christian," he says. On the other hand, teaching at Fresno Pacific helps Pope navigate what can be the lonely life of a clinician. "It keeps me connected to a community of believers. And my students, of course, keep me grounded," he adds.

Fujikawa, Ph.D., joined the FPU faculty in fall 2013 and began part time at Link Care this year. She sees both individuals and couples from the community and returning missionaries. Serving at Link Care keeps Fujikawa in touch with what's going on in the clinical world and connects her to people who can offer internships, volunteer work and other opportunities for students to put what they learn into practice. "Students are always wanting to know, what can I do with this degree?" she says.

With the proper respect for privacy, Fujikawa's experiences also provide realistic examples for her classes. "My academic work informs my clinical work and my clinical work informs my academic work," she says.

In all their roles, students, faculty and alumni make learning and serving a win-win for FPU and Link Care. "We have a vision to be part of the education of folks who want to serve the Lord through counseling," Collier says.

More about Link Care at linkcare.org/



LIVES
transformed | TAYLOR STARKS

WALLFLOWER to Butterfly

Becoming part of a community led to personal growth for Taylor Starks.

Already accepted by a university away from her hometown of Fresno, Taylor never considered FPU until she was here. Even then, she did not know what to expect. “When I walked onto the campus for the first time, I could feel a sense of community. This was the first time I could imagine myself attending and succeeding in college,” she says.

Uncertain and painfully shy at the time, it was Angulus Wilson, Ph.D., university pastor, who reached out to Taylor and encouraged her to explore university life outside the classroom. “Pastor never gave up on me. He was constantly encouraging me to search for answers to questions I did not know I had,” Taylor says.

Taylor responded, becoming part of the Spiritual Care Team, working in the Office of Spiritual Formation and providing support in College Hour and student leadership. Through this involvement, Taylor began to understand her path to FPU and see a direction for her future. After graduation, the social work major plans to work with at-risk youth and rebuild broken communities.

Now a junior, Taylor looks back on her first months at FPU in disbelief. “I cannot believe how much I have grown,” she says. “I am excited to use the tools I have learned during my time at FPU to help those I come across during my career.”

Romans 8:28 is a verse special to Taylor: “We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” (NSRV)

As Taylor was reached, she hopes to reach others.

**EDITOR'S
NOTE!**

Personal transformation is at the heart of an FPU education. If you know someone with such a story, contact Wayne Steffen at wsteffen@fresno.edu.



STUDENTS FIRST,
ATHLETES SECOND:

**A
WINNING
COMBINATION**

By Michaela Parker

For Sunbirds, the pursuit of excellence
doesn't end at the edge of the field,
track, court, diamond or pool.



in step with the
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features that get you behind the
scenes at FPUathletics.com



“When it comes to being a great athlete and a great student, time management is key.”

- Josh Christensen

The mental arena—the classroom—is the true test of the student-athlete.

As its contribution to FPU, the department of athletics works to produce true student-athletes', rather than athletes who happen to be students. “Student-athletes schedules are similar to many of our students who have additional commitments outside of their academic studies,” says Leslie Schuemann, director of athletics.

Student-athletes may practice and compete up to 20 hours a week in season. They must also fit required study hall times, academic meetings, compliance meetings and medical treatments into their schedules and deal with classes missed for competitions. “They must find time to make up classwork and take tests. Student-athletes are also required to perform community service with their

teams, a minimum of four hours per semester,” Schuemann says.

Josh Christensen, head swimming and diving coach, strives to instill in his athletes the strong work ethic necessary for success in all areas of life. “When it comes to being a great athlete and a great student, time management is key,” he said.

Courtney Smith, a senior thrower on the track and field team, agrees that balancing academics and athletics is a challenge, but credits her success in the classroom to the high standards set for her as a student-athlete. “I have to plan my time wisely and schedule almost every minute of my day,” she says. “We are asked for a lot from our coaches on the field or court, but we are asked for even more in the classroom.”

Athletics has systems to assist student-athletes, notes Schuemann: each team has an academic plan,

coaches meet with their student-athletes individually to ensure they are planning for their academic requirements, the department uses progress reports to get feedback and has a partnership with the Academic Support Center. All this in addition to NCAA requirements.

Christensen also understands his role as a coach is to mentor his teams as students as well as athletes. “Our student-athletes know that the coaches care about how they do in the classroom. We’re not just giving lip service to the academic side of things,” he said.

Coaches and staff make clear to student-athletes that their degree is the ultimate prize. “Their talents and abilities will change and fade but their degree is something that never will,” said Kailey Allen, assistant director of compliance and academics.



FPU EXPECTS STUDENT-ATHLETES TO:

- Be good members of the FPU community: succeeding in the classroom and graduating
- Pursue athletic excellence and a commitment to competing at the highest level
- Serve their community and grow in their understanding of their responsibility to others
- Grow spiritually and have a transformational experience through their exposure to the Christian faith

ALUMNI PROFILE

LINDA LINE | M.DIV '88



Serving God

By Becoming the Change She Wants to See

By Katherine Fries

"It is all about God." — Linda Line

Those who can't find role models must sometimes become one, and create more.

The conviction to please God first has carried Reverend Dr. Linda Line (M.Div. Christian education '88) from volunteer junior high youth leader to associate pastor at Sierra Presbyterian Church in Nevada City, CA. Along the way, she became part of a wave of women earning their master of divinity at M.B. Biblical Seminary (now Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary).

Line first felt called to seminary while working as youth and Christian education director at First Presbyterian Church in Visalia, CA, where she had served since 1976. "After a year of saying 'no' to God, which never works, I said 'yes,'" she says. A friend suggested MBBS, and Line visited campus the next week.

A time for women

The 1980s were a time when evangelical Christians in general and the Mennonite Brethren (the sponsoring denomination of both FPU and the seminary) in particular

were exploring the role of women in the church. "More women were moving into seminary education. They were breaking new ground," says Valerie Rempel, Ph.D. "Linda would have been at the early end of that."

Rempel, associate dean and associate professor of history and theology, has seen the seminary from several angles. A staff member from 1984-1992, she earned her master's at the seminary in 1992 before going to Vanderbilt University for a second master's and a doctorate. More than a participant, Rempel was part of an effort to study and reflect on this trend. Along with John E. Toews, Ph.D., and Katie Funk Wiebe, Rempel edited a book of essays titled *Your Daughters Shall Prophesy*, published in 1992 by Kindred Press. Toews was then seminary academic dean and professor of New Testament. Wiebe was a professor of English and journalism at Tabor College and is the

author of several books.

Despite nervousness on the part of some, faculty were open to female students, according to Rempel. "Lots of them were very affirming," she says. Among the most supportive were Toews and Howard Loewen, Ph.D., now dean of the School of Theology and professor of theology and ethics at Fuller Theological Seminary. Loewen was theology faculty and dean of the seminary in the 80s and 90s. He also taught and served as provost at FPU.

Inside help

Line listed Howard Loewen—along with Irene Loewen, assistant professor of pastoral counseling/counseling coordinator (and Howard's wife), and Allen R. Guenther, Ph.D., associate professor of Old Testament—among those who helped her navigate unfamiliar, and at times uncomfortable, waters. "My relationships with some of the professors were key to my being able to move through the program and become who God intended. There were professors I prayed with and for regularly," she says.

Howard Loewen remembers Line as energetic, intelligent and inquisitive.

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GET INVOLVED!

"She came to seminary with a clear desire to expand her theological and ministry horizons, even though she did not receive a lot of encouragement to go on this journey," he says. "Indeed, she had a strong sense of vocational call. She was courageous in the pursuit of her theological training for service in the church."

The challenge of the seminary program itself also motivated Line. "It helped me discipline my biblical study. I gained lifelong skills for the pastorate," she says. Line's husband, Jim, provided support by doing everything from helping her type papers to caring for their three daughters at night.

Small but growing trend

Still, Line felt the lack of female role models. Irene Loewen was the first woman on the regular faculty, with Delores Friesen joining the counseling program the year Line graduated. Female students were rare enough that some of their male colleagues would ask them why they were at the seminary. "Particularly if they were single or if their spouses weren't students," Rempel says.

In addition, the seminary student body was strongly MB. "Linda was a Presbyterian woman, She would have been a round peg trying to fit into a board of square holes," according to Rempel.

According to a study of seminary commencement programs, the first woman to receive an M.Div. may have been Kathleen Pope in 1977. By the time Line graduated in 1988, 13 women had earned the degree, and there were six in her class. Today the seminary student body is quite different. In the fall of 2012, 89 out of 143 students enrolled were women. There are also five women on the regular faculty.

A major draw for female students was the then-new pastoral counseling program. Originally part of the master of divinity, pastoral counseling was the forerunner of today's master's in family therapy, the seminary's largest program and still home for most women students.

Continued on page 28



1944

FIRST FACULTY

By Kevin Enns-Rempel

When Pacific Bible Institute—the first incarnation of Fresno Pacific University—opened its doors in 1944, it had three full-time and three part-time instructors. During that first year, four faculty members posed for a photograph on the front steps of the campus on Van Ness Avenue, one of the earliest known photographs of the PBI faculty. Pictured from left are Jacob J. Toews, Erwin E. Hofer, Sam W. Goossen and Sam Wiens.

In the beginning, it was assumed that PBI faculty members would be drawn from the Mennonite Brethren Church, and the group in the photograph is evidence of that. All were born in small Mennonite communities—Toews in Russia, Goossen and Wiens in the Midwest and Hofer in Dinuba, CA—and were members of MB churches when hired. Toews, Goossen and Wiens, furthermore, either had already served as Mennonite Brethren pastors or would do so after leaving PBI.

Those three also had advanced theological training—all at Baptist institutions. Toews graduated from Western Baptist Seminary in Portland, Goossen from Los Angeles Baptist Seminary and Wiens attended Central Baptist Seminary in Kansas City. This was not unusual since the MB church did not yet have a seminary.

As undergraduates, only Goossen and Wiens attended Tabor College (PBI's sister institution in Kansas), and only Wiens actually graduated from there. Other schools that the four attended included Willamette University (Toews), Fresno State (Goossen), San Jose State (Hofer) and Biola (Wiens).

Finally, most of the original faculty did not stay at PBI for long. Hofer and Wiens apparently taught for only one year, and Toews for two years. Goossen stayed longer, serving as PBI's first "acting president," registrar and director of the evening school, he taught courses in Bible, theology and social sciences before resigning in 1956.

Kevin Enns-Rempel (BA '82) has long been a keeper of the history of the institutions now known as Fresno Pacific University. Today director of FPU's Heibert Library, Enns-Rempel is the former archivist at the Center for Mennonite Brethren Studies.

From the Archives...



IN TOUCH with ALUMNI

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



Alumni are valued members of
the FPU community!

We want you to stay informed, interested and active in university life by attending athletic, music, drama and other events; praying for current students, faculty and staff; and providing financial support for FPU's mission.

WAYS TO CONNECT

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- Join the FPU Alumni Association on LinkedIn
- Advise/mentor students through Sunbirds CAN - fresno.edu/Sunbirds-can
- Sign up for weekly emails so you know what is happening: events.fresno.edu

Tracy Neufeld (MBA '13) presented the paper "Finding Identity in Business, Anabaptism, and Diversity: a Narrative" at the Women in Leadership Project, a Mennonite Church USA theological conference in Leesburg, VA, in February, 2014.

Stephanie (Wasemiller BA '10) Carr graduated in December of 2013 from California State University, Fresno, with a Master of Arts in Education and won an Outstanding Project Award for her final project on grief in young children. She is an office manager at Pacific Solar in Fresno. She and **Benjamin Carr (BA '10)** married in October 2011. He is working on a Master of Arts in

MARRIAGES



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*The Flock is for children,
grandchildren, nieces, nephews
and young friends of FPU alumni.*

BIRTHS



Marriage and Family Therapy at Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary.

Colette Nwonye (MA '10) started her second year as California Chapter District 1 Director of the International Association of Workforce Professionals (IAWP). Colette states that the education she received through the LEAD program at FPU has been invaluable.

Felipe Hinojosa, Ph.D. (BA '99) has published a book, *Latino Mennonites: Civil Rights, Faith, and Evangelical Culture*, with Johns Hopkins Press. Felipe is an assistant professor of history at Texas A&M University.

Marcelo Warkentin (BA '98) moved to Paraguay in August 2012 and is a principal at a school in Juan Eulogio Estigarribia.

Lisa Goodell (MA '94) was selected as 2014 Teacher of the Year for Goldenrod Elementary in Kerman Unified School District.

Keith Fagundes (BA '93) was elected District Attorney of Kings County. He had previously been a Kings County prosecutor.

Aaron Bryan (BA '03, TC '04) has been named the Riverdale Unified School District Teacher of the Year and is one of three finalists for Fresno County Teacher of the Year.

Wayman Ming (BA '88) received a Doctor of Ministry degree from The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary in May 2014. He is now the executive pastor at Higher Vision Church in Valencia, CA.

Janice (Neufeld BA '73) Young announces the publication of her second middle-grade novel, *Starting the Colt*, sequel to *The Orange Slipknot*, which was selected in 2009 to represent Nevada in the National Book Festival. Jan is also a substitute teacher and a piano teacher.

Megan Thiel (BA '14) married David Phillips on June 21, 2014, in Madera, CA.

Brandon Lang (BA '08) married Bernice Lang on October 6, 2012.

Melissa Ball (BA '07) married Ryan Smith on January 14, 2012.

Wonjoun Park (BA '06) married Rachel Soohyun on May 11, 2013. The couple announced the birth of son Asaph Juha on February 26, 2014.



Gail Dickey (BA '05, TC '06) married Steven Walker (BA '08) on April 26, 2014.

Doug Neufeld (BA '83, SEM '99) married Saraí Macías Martínez on March 1, 2014, in Aguascalientes, Mexico.

Ruthie Greenwood (BA '11) announces the birth of daughter Ellie Ruth on January 19, 2014. She was 7 lbs., 8 oz. and 21 inches long.

Brandon Lang (BA '08) and wife Bernice announce the birth of daughter Divya Grace on December 21, 2013.

Phil (SEM '12) and wife **Mary (SEM '12) Schmidt** announce the birth of son Ethan James on July 16, 2014. He was 6 lbs. 13oz. and 18 in. long.

John (BA '05) and wife **Andrea (Baral AA '05) Posten** announce the birth of daughter Charlotte Marie on September 4, 2013.

Jennifer Stockford (BA '08) and husband Simon announce the birth of son Seth Steven Williams on December 23, 2013.

Tricia (Wichert BA '00, MA '04) and **Ara (BA '00) Anspikian** announce the birth of son Arek Mattios on January 23, 2014. He was 7 lbs., 7 oz. and 19 inches long.

Samantha (Weatherly BA '06) Maxson and husband Matt announce the birth of son Owen Matthew on December 27, 2013. He was 7 lbs., 13 oz. and 20 inches long.

Laura (Moore BA '06) and husband Anthony Vaught announce the birth of son Yishai Roy on June 2, 2014.

Jordan (BA '06) and wife **Tristan (BA '06) Ringhofer** announce the birth of son Ezra James on June 4, 2014. He was 7 lbs., 15 oz. and 20.75 inches long.

Jon Patrick (FS '94) and wife Sarah announce the birth of son Lucas Henry on May 23, 2014. Proud grandparents are Roger and Dee (Gaede FS '69) Patrick.

Matt (BA '00) and Kathy Jacobs announce the birth of son Benjamin Wolfe on December 26, 2013. He was 7 lbs., 14 oz. and 21.5 inches long.



Rachel Belman (BA '13) was voted the top up-and-coming artist in a worldwide music competition through ArtSignal.com. She became the first Christian artist to win the competition. She also received Best Female Contemporary Christian Artist for the second consecutive year at the Indie Music

Channel Awards. She is currently working on her new album, which is expected to be released in the fall of 2014.

Matt Ford (BA '00, SEM '12) was featured in *C-Link*, the electronic newsletter of *Christian Leader* magazine for his essay "Film shatters stereotypes of suburban poverty," which

won an award from the Evangelical Press Association. The article gave the *Leader* fifth place in the Cause of the Year: Apathy category in the association's annual Higher Goals contest. Ford is pastor of student and family ministries at North Fresno MB Church.



Noe Hernandez (BA '09, SEM student), 49, was killed in a motor vehicle accident July 9, 2014. Noe and wife **Jessica (Padilla, BA '10, TC '13)** have two

sons, Ian, 5; and Benjamin, 3. A library aide, he worked the front desk helping students in circulation and public services. Noe grew up in Texas and gave his life to Christ during a difficult time early in his adult years. He came to FPU as an older student and was set to graduate from Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary in December 2014 and planned to minister to Hispanic kids.



Dr. Louis Janzen, 82, a Fresno pediatrician, died August 25, 2014. He was born in Kremlin, OK, on March 5, 1932, and attended

Tabor College and Phillips University before entering the Northwestern Medical School in Chicago. Dr. Janzen was a member of Fresno Children's Medical Group and on the staff of Fresno Children's Hospital, serving on the hospital board. He belonged to College Community Mennonite Brethren Church (CCCMB) in Clovis, and was a longtime supporter of Fresno Pacific

University and MB Biblical Seminary (now Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary). Survivors with FPU connections include wife Jean (BA '68), poet and former FPU instructor; children Gail Newel (alumna), Scott Janzen (alumnus), Jill Janzen (alumna) and Peter Janzen (alumnus) and wife Mary (BA '97, SEM '99, TC '03, MA '06). A memorial service took place at CCCMB on August 30, 2014. Read full obituary here: legacy.com/obituaries/fresnobee/obituary.aspx?pid=172282064#storylink=cpy

It's so easy to let your classmates and friends know what's happening in your life - job, marriage, children, new address and awards.

Fill out the online form at Fresno.edu/alumniupdate

WHAT'S
GOING ON?

Continued from page 25

Encouraging others

When Line went on to earn a Ph.D. from Missouri's Evangelical Theological Seminary in 1998, she found the lack of role models a wider issue. "There were no Presbyterian women pastors in the Central Valley," she says.

Remembering who she was doing it all for kept Line going. "It has always been

me and God. So long as I was doing it God's way, that's what counted," she says.

Today the pioneer has turned role model maker, mentoring women ranging in age from their 20s to 80s in her weekly class at Sierra Presbyterian. "It's interesting to me that several of the women who are retired at one point in their lives considered going to seminary and into ministry," she muses. "They are

all in church leadership now."

To women and men considering a career in ministry, Line offers this advice: "It is all about God. Is God calling you to ministry? Only go into ministry if that is the case. Ministry is very difficult at times, and you need the assurance deep within your soul that you are precisely where God wants you to be," she says. "Then you have peace and sleep well."

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FPU Annual Report | 2013-2014

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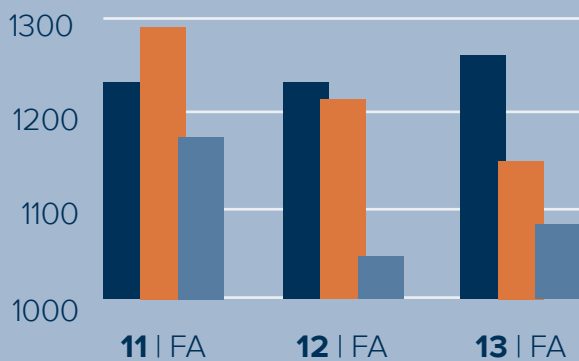


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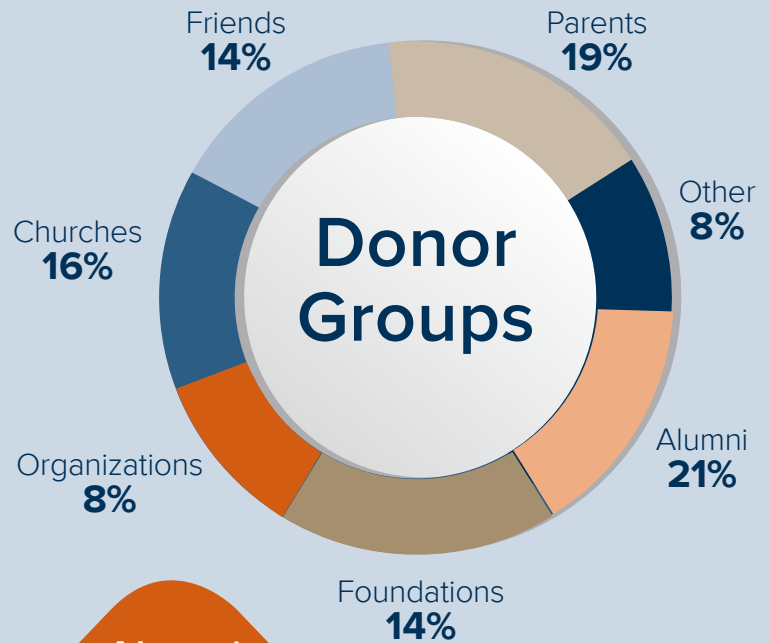
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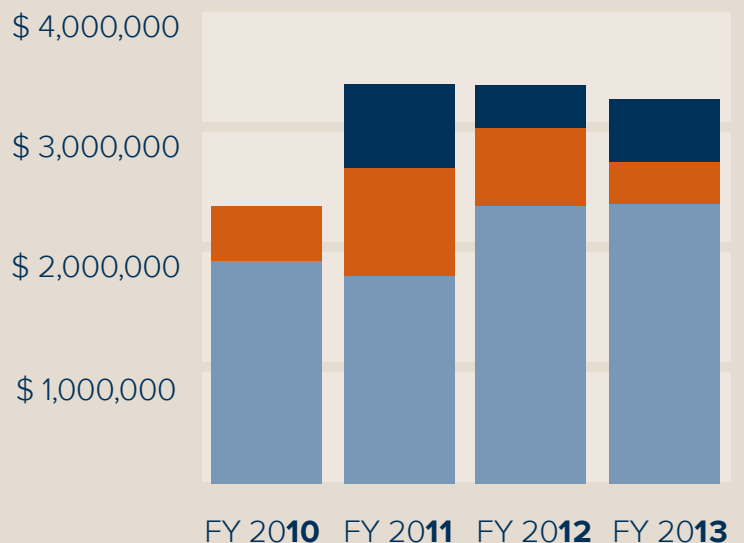


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Trevor
Brackett

a path NOT TAKEN

By Jaime Strmiska

Like so many star high school athletes growing up in South Central Los Angeles, Trevor Brackett saw football as his path out of a neighborhood where drive-by shootings and drug deals were the norm.

That run was blocked at first and goal when Brackett came up two questions shy of passing his SAT exam, sidelining his full-ride scholarship to PAC-10 powerhouse University of Oregon. A devastating blow, but the competitive streak that made Brackett an asset on the field kept him from accepting defeat—and led him to places and people he could never imagine, but would come to love.

Places like Fresno Pacific University. People like Eric and Darlene Hanson.

Circle out, circle back

Brackett enrolled at College of the Canyons in Santa Clarita, CA, and

for the next three years made the best of five-hour round trip commutes. Between classes, football practice and work, he got used to making do with little sleep and lots of living out of his car and the junior college locker room. "I was determined to finish," he says.

And it was there that Garrett Tujague, academic counselor and offensive line football coach, helped Brackett create a custom education plan. "Before Coach Tujague, I thought the only way to make a good living was selling drugs or playing professional sports," he says. "He was there for me step by step, and I knew I wanted to do exactly what he was doing."

In 2004 Brackett resumed his big-time college football dreams at the University of Nevada-Reno, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communications. But struggling to find stable work after graduation, he returned to the streets he knew. "I was back doing the wrong things with the wrong crowd simply to survive," Brackett says.

But Brackett was still looking for a permanent route to a better life. Four of his childhood friends were already dead, more than a dozen were serving life prison sentences and most of the rest were still steeped in gang life. His search would lead to a family and a university 250 miles away.

A push along the path

Washing dishes was hardly the job Brackett envisioned as a college graduate, let alone the three-hour bus ride and mile-and-a-half walk uphill to work each day. But in 2011 it introduced him to a new friend—Lauren, daughter of longtime FPU supporters Eric and Darlene Hanson. Over time, Brackett grew to know the Hanson family.

Dr. Eric Hanson is an orthopedic surgeon at Sierra Pacific Orthopedics, Fresno, and the team doctor for the Fresno State Bulldogs. A registered nurse, Darlene is currently event/project administrator at The Well Community Church. Brackett is just one student who has benefitted from a scholarship they established in 2010. They also have a seminary scholarship. (In addition to Lauren [married name Hoover], a former FPU student, the Hansons have a daughter Allie, who is married to Jesse Penner [SEM '08].

The Hansons could see Brackett wanted a new direction. "One day, in a way only Eric can, he asked Trevor point blank, 'What do you want to do with your life?'" Darlene says. "And Trevor told us he wanted to get his master's degree to become a community college counselor. We'd seen a glimpse of where Trevor had been, what his life had been like, and we saw how fired up he got about helping kids who were coming from his same situation."

"One of the best things about our relationship is that we get to have those open and honest talks. He's my son." - Darlene Hanson




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"You're safe here. I'm here for you.
The things I did five years ago were
no different." - Trevor Brackett

More unexpected than their friendship was Eric and Darlene's offer to help Brackett complete his master's degree at FPU. The next day, Brackett visited the main campus and learned about the Individualized Master of Arts Program (IMAP), which offers study customized to each student's interests. By the end of the day, Brackett and the counselors had designed his curriculum. Two weeks later, he was in the classroom.

In three years of driving weekly from L.A., Brackett never missed a class. He stayed with friends in Fresno, worked on the side to help support his family, then drove home to be with wife La'Shanda and sons Syncere and Sha'kur.

Week in and week out, Brackett's Fresno family was there as well. From teaching him how to budget and set up bank accounts, to talking football stats and sharing what it means to be a man of integrity—the Hansons embraced Brackett as one of their own. "One of the best things about our relationship is that we get to have those open and honest talks," Darlene says. "He's my son."

The feeling is mutual. Never having known his father, Brackett admits he'd never called a man "dad." Now each June, Brackett looks forward to sending a Father's Day text to his Fresno dad, Eric.

Crossing the goal

On May 10, 2014, Brackett took a giant step in a new and monumental direction—walking across the graduation stage with his Master of Arts in Counseling with an emphasis in academic athletic counseling. Soon after, he accepted a position as counselor for the Strengthening Young Men By Academic Achievement (SYMBAA) program at Fresno City College, helping at-risk African American male students.

Just a few weeks into his new job, Brackett knew he was in the right place at the right time when he sat across the table from a tough-looking student waving gang hand gestures, Brackett interrupted. "You're safe here. I'm here for you," he said.

Tears welled up in the young man's eyes as he shared the weight of his world and pleaded for a changed life—a new direction. "I told him I was just like him," Brackett says, "And the things I did five years ago were no different."

Already, Brackett is grooming this young student to help lead FCC's SYMBAA program. And his aspirations are just as high for the other young men and women with whom he'll cross paths.



Hear more about
Trevor's transformation
at fresno.edu/trevor

MAKE A
DIFFERENCE!



Continued from page 6

FPU, dedicated in 2003, as well as two endowed professorships and numerous scholarships.

Among Wiebe's community honors were The Harold Haak Award for Educational Excellence from the Fresno Compact, the Distinguished Achievement Special Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) California Valley Chapter. He was also involved in

the creation of San Joaquin College of Law, serving on its board for 20 years, and the Southeast Fresno Community Development Corporation.

Arthur Wiebe was born on April 20, 1920. He earned a B.A. from Southwestern State University, an M.A. from California State University, Fresno, and an Ed.D. from Stanford University. He and wife Evelyn

(November 26, 1920-March 1, 2008) were married August 24, 1941, in Corn, OK, and have two children: Richard (BA '74), a former member of the FPU philosophy faculty, and Ann (BA '70). Daughter-in-law Billie Jean Wiebe (BA '74), Ph.D., is an associate professor of communication at FPU.



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