

PACIFIC

Reflections of the Mission

**From warrior to
peacemaker**

**New vice presidents
join leadership team**

**Alumni serve on the street
and around the world**

president's message

D. Merrill Ewert



The journey toward excellence is the journey toward God

God calls us to excellence. From creating the world (which God labeled “good”) to sending his only Son to be our redeemer, God has given His best and expects our best in return. He insisted the ancient Hebrews worship Him through sacrifices of spotless lambs and bulls without blemish. In the same way, God expects us to do our utmost to cultivate the talents He has given us and use them in His service.

Over the past several months, we have discussed the Fresno Pacific Idea, which calls us to be a Christian university, to function as a community of learners and to speak and act prophetically, or in conscience, about issues in our culture. Effective prophets are not those who speak with strident voices. On the contrary, respect comes through the quality of our work rather than the quantity of our words. In the university, just as everywhere else, the most respected voices

are those of people who have earned the right to be heard through personal and professional excellence.

The Fresno Pacific Idea’s call to be prophetic invites us to observe and critique our world. It also calls people to repent, to build community, to reconcile with each other and to serve. People are more likely to acknowledge us in this call when they respect the culture of excellence from which our prophetic voice emerges.

In a culture of excellence, people celebrate their accomplishments while always striving to improve. Energized by the recognition of their own growth and development, they are inspired to further accomplishment. Excellence flows through healthy organizations. Buildings are clean, grounds well groomed and attractive, people know their jobs and perform them well. In academic institutions, this also means classes are well taught, students study hard and graduates find challenging jobs or earn fellow-

ships to study in the best graduate schools. Faculty contribute to their disciplines and influence scholarship within their fields.

Fear is the biggest barrier to excellence—fear of the unknown, fear of failure, fear that we’re not good enough and even fear that leadership will earn us opposition. A commitment to excellence does not mean setting unrealistic expectations of ourselves and others. God created within us the capacity for learning and growth, and challenges us to fulfill our potential. Most of us use less of that capacity and achieve less of our potential than God intended.

We must recognize that excellence is a journey, not a destination. God can give us the courage to make that journey—as individuals, as an institution, as His Church.

Fresno Pacific University exists to prepare students for faithful and wise service through excellence in Christian higher education, and to strengthen the church and improve society through scholarship and service.

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D. Merrill Ewert

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Honoring alumni employees worth taking a chance

How a stroll down memory lane turns to a tap dance through a minefield.

What could be more fun than a look at alumni faculty and staff? Here's an opportunity to tell stories of folks who obviously have a heart for FPU; why else would they willingly return here to work after sweating it out as students? It's also a chance to cull the archives for intriguing, not to mention embarrassing, photos of campus life in days gone by.

How could anything possibility go wrong? Here's how:

- Whom do you pick to talk to, how do you pick 'em and what do you tell those you don't?
- Will the non-alumni employees take offense?
- Make sure not to make it appear alumni employees couldn't get jobs anywhere else or wouldn't go out in the world.

Sigh. Let me take those one at a time.

Yes, the process for selecting alumni to feature was as scientific as a Hail Mary at the buzzer. The result is a gumbo of faculty and staff, men and women, decades and different parts of the university. To those who were not selected, my heartfelt apologies at the lack of time and space.

As a non-alumni employee myself, I dearly hope my colleagues will agree it is worth recognizing those who think enough of their educational experience to share that experience with others.

I'll let two who have been around here a whole lot longer, done a whole lot more to build the place and are a whole lot smarter than I handle the last question:

"These former students bring a special loyalty to and understanding of the visionary nature and fundamental mission of Fresno Pacific University. Many were here during the formative years. As students they identified deeply with the mission and nature. They have returned to build on that earlier foundation and further the vision. Their deep concern is that FPU never fades into uniformity with other institutions but rather continue to nurture its uniqueness. We do well to listen to their voices." —Arthur Wiebe

"When people return to us they tend to have a fairly good grasp of the values and nature of the place. They seem to have a sense of what this place is all about: community, the Fresno Pacific Idea, the ideal of service. They absorbed it and liked it. They've embodied what we've been trying to do, which is to model the pursuit of excellence. They tend to be a cut above. They tend to add well to the mix." —Edmund Janzen

—Wayne Steffen

CORRECTION

The following information was published incorrectly in the article "Living in the Spirit" on page 4 of *Pacific*, Volume 15, Number 3. The phrase "Mother Theresa and the Sisters of Mercy" should read "Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity." We apologize for any inconvenience caused by the errors.

PACIFIC standard time

This calendar is designed to present an overall view of activities at Fresno Pacific University. Individual events may be aimed at a specific audience, carry a fee and require advance registration. All events are subject to change. For the latest information, contact the sponsoring university department.

All locations are in Fresno, unless otherwise listed

MARCH

- 5-11 Women's Basketball
GSAC Championships, TBA
- 13-18 Men's Basketball
GSAC Championships,
Azusa Pacific University
- 14 Delgado/Nance Guitar Concert,
McDonald Hall Atrium
- 26-30 Men's Basketball NAIA
National Tournament, Kansas

APRIL

- 1 Concert Band Spring Concert,
Sunnyside High School
- 10 Pacific Brass & Handbell Choir
Concert, Our Saviour's
Lutheran Church
- 10-12 Spring Mainstage,
The Book of Acts,
Mennonite Community Church
- 22 Musica Pacifica Baroque
Orchestra & Pacific Chamber
Singers Concert, Fresno Art
Museum
- 14 Flautas Pacifica & Women's
Chorale Spring Concert,
McDonald Hall Atrium
- 25-26 Track and Field
GSAC Championship,
San Diego
- 27 Concert Choir Home Concert,
First Congregational Church

MAY

- 3 Commencement
- 22-24 Track and Field NAIA National
Championship, Olathe, Kansas

Former presidents joined Priscilla and D. Merrill Ewert in a ceremony symbolizing the continuation of FPU. From left are Arthur Wiebe, Edmund Janzen, Priscilla Ewert, D. Merrill Ewert and Richard Kriegbaum (Alan Carden is next to Kriegbaum).



Inauguration concluded with a concert by Philip Aaberg and Eugene Friesen in First Presbyterian Church. The performance, which included singer Milton Friesen (Eugene's brother and minister of music at Visalia United Methodist Church) and organist Laurell Huber (FPU faculty), was also a benefit for the university music department. From left are Eugene Friesen, Aaberg, Huber and Milton Friesen.

Ewert calls FPU to engagement and excellence

The university community came together to inaugurate D. Merrill Ewert as 10th president.

Ceremonies took place November 8 in the Special Events Center (SEC). Approximately 1,300 people were present, including faculty, staff, students, trustees, community and church leaders and delegates from other colleges and universities. Speakers included Peter Klassen, chair of the FPU Board of Trustees; Rod Swatasky, president of Messiah College, representing the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities; Peter Mehas, Fresno County superintendent of education; Henry Dick, past executive pastor of the Pacific District Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches; and Helene Dillard, professor and associate dean, Cornell University.

The title of Ewert's address was "Called to Excellence." FPU, he said, should be an engaged university that reflects on

its historical context, examines its core values and promotes vigorous debate on issues that matter. "The engaged university sees the unity of word and deed, theory and practice," Ewert said. Such is the spirit of The Fresno Pacific Idea, FPU's philosophical statement, "to be an engaged university that is thoroughly Christian in orientation, passionate about scholarship and committed to outreach and service," he said.

Ewert came to FPU from Cornell University, where he served as professor, director and associate dean of Cornell Cooperative Extension. He has also been assistant and associate professor of education at Cornell, director of extension and continuing education at Wheaton College and assistant professor of adult/extension education at the University of Maryland. As a Fulbright Senior Scholar, Ewert worked with farmers in the Philippines. He also spent seven years in Africa with relief agencies.

Inauguration ceremonies complete a week of related events:

- A seminar for the faculty and staff of FPU and Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary (MBBS) featuring Reid Carpenter, president of the National Council of Leadership.
- A community service luncheon with Carpenter as guest speaker.
- A prayer breakfast for faculty and staff of FPU and MBBS hosted by Ewert and Henry Schmidt, seminary president.
- A College Hour panel discussion on academic freedom with James Pankratz, academic dean of MBBS; Ned Doffoney, president of Fresno City College; and Gayle Trollinger, chair of the department of education at Bluffton College.
- A student-sponsored fiesta dinner and salsa concert on the Green.

LEARN MORE: www.fresno.edu/inauguration

Alumni faculty and staff
return to FPU to

Reflect the Mission

by Wayne Steffen

**SOME WERE GONE HALF A CAREER,
SOME MORE LIKE HALF A YEAR.**

Adonijah Pauls felt called.

Ruth Heinrichs stood at a crossroad.

Esther Klassen-Isaak chose to reconnect with a goal.

Mark Yoder sought to keep moving forward.

Dina Gonzales hoped to help young people dream.

Dave Richert wanted work with a mission.

*They all found a livelihood
and a life in an unexpected place—
their alma mater.*



Dave Richert

**Assistant registrar/technology
specialist
Fresno Pacific College
B.A. (marketing) 1990**



Returned in 1990 after a stint as a manager trainee in collections at Finance & Thrift Company. Information services staff for four years as computer center assistant and micro-computer systems supervisor. Stay-at-home dad and FPU consultant for four years. Began in the Registrar's Office in 1998 as assistant registrar.





Some 100 of the 275 regular faculty and staff at Fresno Pacific University are also alumni. The when and why of their returns vary as much as their roles on campus.

Here's how it happened for a few:

As a student, did you ever consider working at FPU?

Adonijah: "I wanted to work in a Christian college, but not here specifically."

Ruth: "I really liked the place, but the number of faculty was small and there was little or no turnover—I couldn't visualize myself here."

Esther: "When we moved to Seattle, my husband and I thought we had Fresno in our rearview mirror! I'd been at FPC, and I was excited about opportunities in the larger world." (Her husband, Ken, is also an alumnus; he serves as sports information director after a stint as financial aid director.)

Mark: "I didn't necessarily have that in mind at the time. I was pretty open. I like to travel and see where I end up."

Dave: "Not at all. I was all set to go out in the business world and do whatever that meant. I really didn't have a clue what to do with whatever God had given me."

What brought you back?

Adonijah: "When the president calls you and says he has a job for you, well..." Arthur Wiebe, then president, went beyond merely making a job offer. Pauls was working on a master's in library science at the University of Washington, and his scholarship from the state of Oregon required him either to work for a year in Oregon after graduation or pay back the grant. Wiebe saw to it the money was repaid.

Ruth: "There was a point I was at a crossroad. I had an offer from an accounting firm that would have taken me down the CPA route." About that time Bob Enns and Dalton Reimer, faculty and administrators, contacted her to create the accounting program. "It was almost a fluke that I came back here. I never thought of myself as part of the formative years, but there was an incredible opportunity when I came. We still have that sense of opportunity. We're not afraid to look at things in a different way."

Esther Klassen-Isaak

Director of Counseling
Fresno Pacific College
B.A. (psychology and history) 1977



Mental health worker at KingsView Hospital for four years. Registered nurse at Valley Medical Center (now University Medical Center) for two years. Moved to Seattle in 1985, worked for one year in medical stress unit Auburn general Hospital, two years in cardiac nursing and three as a medical information nurse (telephone consultant) at Northwest Hospital. Returned in 1991 as coordinator of counseling.





Adonijah Pauls

Librarian emeritus
Pacific Bible Institute
A.A. (history)/three-year music
diploma 1959
Pacific College
B.A. (social science/history) 1966



Worked at Oregon State Library
1958-64. Returned in 1964 to earn
B.A. Joined faculty in 1967 as direc-
tor of Hiebert Library. Also served as
director of technical services.
Retired in 1999, then worked part-
time in 2000. Still volunteers in
Pacific Bookshop during rush week
each semester.

Esther: “In high school, I wanted to become a therapist. This idea simmered in my mind for years, and on the way to church one Sunday morning in Seattle, Ken told me he had heard the coordinator of counseling position was open. I hoped the position might help me fulfill a long-held dream.”

Dina: Her old friend Steve Watkins was associate admissions director. “He knew my heart as far as helping people.” She wanted to earn her master’s and work in a Christian institution. “What I was doing didn’t have much room for a spiritual environment.” PacifiCare gave her a one-year sabbatical, but she never went back. “This fulfills different parts of my life and the sacrifice economically was worth it.”

Dave: “They had a job opening in the Information Services Office, where I had worked as a student. Also, I hated collections.” Dave wanted to work with Ken Metz, who had been his supervisor as a student.

Was it a challenge to return as an employee?

Adonijah: “When I came back to work, some of the faculty said, ‘You’re just a student.’ It took them awhile to see me as faculty.”

Ruth: “A little bit, not a lot.” She gained varied professional experiences in the 14 years she was gone.

Mark: “I don’t think it was much of a transition. Being familiar with people makes it easier, not harder.” He had already gone through a similar process when returning to Hesston as a coach after being a student there. “I think I scared people off at FPU,” he said, smiling. “A lot of people who were here teaching when I was a student were retiring when I came back.”

Dina: “It worked out well.” Faculty Hugo Zorilla, Ted Nickel, Edmund Janzen and others were supportive. “They fully embraced me. They see me as an extension of their work, as I see my students as an extension of my work.” She found the same care and genuineness of faculty and staff she had seen as a student.

Dave: “A little bit, but it wasn’t hard. I felt like I was part of the staff, not a student.” By the time he began in the Registrar’s Office he was a husband and father and had grown up quite a bit.

Do you have a sense of ownership here that you didn’t in other jobs?

Ruth: “I do feel part and parcel of this place. I’m really glad to see the growth and development of this campus and proud I’ve been a part of it. I’ve had a rare opportunity to see this school grow and develop.”

Esther: “Years after leaving FPC, it hit me how I was different from my co-workers: I had a broader way of looking at things. FPC was instrumental in that. Employees at FPU strike me as being very loyal, but the downside is that sometimes that

attachment and ownership is held too tightly. It would be hard for me to leave, though, whereas it was an easy decision to leave my last hospital job.”

Mark: “This is an institution I already have an investment in and I want to see it do well.” Connections with alumni make a big difference in a position like his and he has felt that support. “Alumni are just quicker to jump in and help when they know you.”

Dina: “I have stocks in this place.”

Dave: “It gives you a more solid base of what you believe about this place. It ties you in deeper from the start. There’s more of a personal connection.”

How has FPU changed, or not, in your time?

Adonijah: Growth is the big difference. “When I started there were 12-14 faculty and administrators and we sat around one large table for a faculty meeting.” Our reason to be here remains the same: “To prepare young people to serve Christ in the world.”

Ruth: “It has been just fascinating to watch how the physical campus has evolved.” When she came as student there were four buildings: Strasbourg, Sattler, Witmarsum and Hiebert Library. “I remember students leapfrogging over the palm trees.” As faculty she had offices in Witmarsum, the mail room, Kriegbaum Hall (then known as Motel 6), three locations in Strasbourg and six in McDonald Hall (which opened in 1992). “Arthur Wiebe had a vision of this campus. We had sidewalks that didn’t lead to buildings. But, you know, we as students believed. We made jokes, of course, but we believed. When I started my junior year here this was not an accredited institution for a four-year degree. We had absolute faith that we would have that.”



Ruth Heinrichs

Fresno Pacific College
B.A. (modern languages/French)
1966



Taught French and English at Sanger High School for two and one-half years. Real estate property management for six years. Returned in 1980 as a member of the business faculty; also served as vice president for business affairs.

HOW WE COMPARE

Here’s how a selection of other schools fair in alumni employment. Figures vary according to how each school counts its alumni. At FPU, students who complete two semesters of full-time credit are considered alumni. About 36 percent of employees are alumni.

Bryan College

Dayton, Tennessee
Nondenominational; 611 students
About 34 percent of full-time and part-time faculty and staff, or 50 of 147 (40 of the 134 full-time employees, and 10 of the 13 part time)

Cedarville (Ohio) University

Baptist; more than 3,000 students
About 40 percent of faculty and staff

DeSales University

Center Valley, Pennsylvania
Catholic; more than 2,000 students
About 13 percent of approximately 300 employees, or 40 people

Evangel University

Springfield, Missouri
Assemblies of God; 1,700 students
About one-third of the 93 full-time faculty; no figures available for staff

George Fox University

Newberg, Oregon
Evangelical Friends; about 2,300 students
More than 20 percent of faculty and staff, or at least 80 out of 400 employees

Huntington (Indiana) College

Church of the United Brethren in Christ; more than 1,000 students
Some 41 percent of 145 full-time faculty and staff are “alumni” (those who completed more than 12 credits) or “alumnix” (those who completed less than 12 credits)

Lipscomb University

Nashville, Tennessee
Nondenominational; 2,600 students
About 63 percent of all faculty and staff, or 344 of 550 employees at the university and its campus school—a prekindergarten through 12th grade institution

Macalester College

St. Paul, Minnesota
Private, four-year liberal-arts college; 1,822 students
About 14 percent, or 45 of 635 full-time and part-time faculty and staff

Malone College

Canton, Ohio
Friends; 2,000 students
About 19 percent of 274 full-time employees: 45 graduated and six attended without graduating

Milligan College

Milligan College, Tennessee
Christian Churches and Churches of Christ; about 900 students
About 70 faculty and staff, or more than 40 percent

Niagara (New York) University

Catholic liberal-arts university; about 2,400 undergraduate and 675 graduate students
About 8-10 percent of the 650 employees earned a degree at Niagara before becoming faculty or staff



Dina Gonzalez

Director of College Admissions
Fresno Pacific College
B.A. (social work) 1990
Fresno Pacific University
M.A. (administrative leadership)
1998



About one year as a group counselor at Fresno County Juvenile Hall and as an intern with Fresno County Probation Office (began as student). Two years as a vocational counselor at Central Labor Council, becoming manager of the Sanger Office. One year at a PacifiCare in Bakersfield helping senior citizens obtain health care. Returned in 1993 as college admissions counselor.

Esther: “I see a growing professionalism and specialization among faculty, administrators and staff. We are maturing as individuals and collectively as an institution. I think we’re growing up. It’s a balancing act to maintain our core values while modernizing and ‘keeping up with the competition.’ ”

Mark: Physically there have been many changes. On his first day as a student, “I can remember pulling up at 2 or 3 in the morning after driving in from Kansas and thinking, ‘This can’t be a campus.’ ”

Dina: “We are achieving more and working to grow. It seems it’s always been better changes; we’re becoming more inclusive and not retreating back to being exclusive.” FPU was once a very small community and a lot of faculty and staff were related. “My first thought coming here was that it exists to employ its community (broaden its minds and serve its church). Now we exist to serve the surrounding community, to be a light.”

Why do you stay?

Adonijah: “I stayed because God called me to Fresno Pacific, and it’s my and Eva’s prayer and desire that Fresno Pacific never loses site of the mission...that Christ is fundamental.” (Adonijah’s wife, Eva, is an alumna who served FPU in a variety of posts for 16 years.)

Esther: “My role is different from the traditional classroom type of education, and some may see it as peripheral. But my role, and the role of the student life staff, is really tied to the educational enterprise of the university. We deal with personal development, growth and learning. What is more educational than that? FPU has given me many opportunities for professional development, through mentoring, teaching, academic counseling, etc., and I’ve been able to create my own niche. Values keep me here: the Anabaptist tradition and practice and the Fresno Pacific Idea. I’ve worked in tough environments where I was well-paid, and I prefer this style. Even with the inevitable difficulties around here, when I hear people grouse, I think, ‘Yes but you really have no idea!’ ”

Mark: “I believe in the Fresno Pacific Idea.” The move was also good for the family. “Even as a student I liked Fresno. I like the fact that the mountains are close. My wife, Diane, likes the fact that the beach is close.”

Dina: Her ministry here is to educate Hispanic and other families about educational opportunities, “if they dare to dream.” The 10 girls she recruited her first year are now working professionals, many of whom earned or are working on master’s or doctoral degrees. “To me there is no greater fulfillment. The person who told me about FPU blessed me, and I’ve blessed others and hope they bless others.”

Dave: “Because I believe in the mission of Fresno Pacific University. I believe in serving God by serving students and faculty. It’s such a contrast to working in the finance company, where there was no mission, no vision—it was just about getting the money.” Information services and the registrar can be high-stress areas for both those who serve and those who are served. “I think that resolution is still done in a biblical manner. The fact you would even talk about conflict resolution shows people are thinking biblically, rather than just firing someone or dealing with issues out of hand.”

Mark Yoder

**Fresno Pacific College
B.A. (physical education) 1983**



Three years as an assistant basketball coach while substitute teaching and teaching developmentally delayed two-year-olds at United Cerebral Palsy of Central California. One year as assistant coach at Sanger High School. Seven years as head coach at Hesston (Kansas) College. Five years as head coach at Bethel College. Returned in 1998 as head men's basketball coach.



ALUMNI FACULTY AND STAFF

40's

Joel Wiebe, faculty emeritus
PBI '49

50's

Olive Hiebert, staff emerita, PBI '52
Adonijah Pauls, librarian emeritus,
PBI '59

60's

Ron Claassen, Center for Peace-
making and Conflict Studies
(CPACS) director, B.A. '67
Ruth Heinrichs, business faculty,
B.A. '66
Luetta Reimer, faculty emerita,
B.A. '66
Edith Thiessen, graduate admission
director, A.A. '63/B.A. '92
Richard Unruh, political science
faculty, B.A. '67
Kenneth Heinrichs, website
coordinator
Roy Klassen, music faculty
Karen Wall, assistant controller

70's

Anita Andresen, faculty emerita,
M.A. '79
Doug Bartsch, teacher education
faculty, B.A. '76/M.A. '82
Steve Brandt, library services
director, B.A. '71
Pat Ediger, college admissions
secretary, B.A. '70
Ken Isaak, sports information
director, B.A. '76
Rod Janzen, teacher education/
history faculty, B.A. '75
Esther Klassen-Isaak, counseling
director, B.A. '77
Ron Koop, mathematics/computer
education faculty, B.A. '76/M.A.
'87
Bev Kopper, advancement services
director, B.A. '71
Doreen Ewert Myovich, intensive
English language program,
B.A. '78
Arnie Prieb, international programs
and services director, B.A. '74
Peter Wasemiller, grants and
research director, B.A. '78
Billie Jean Wiebe, communication/
English/drama faculty, B.A. '74
Richard Wiebe, philosophy/history
faculty, B.A. '74
Judy Cockerham, music secretary
Peggi Kriegbaum, School of
Professional Studies (SPS)
operations director
Mike Miles, athletic facilities
manager
Alden Poetker, Multimedia Arts
Center producer/educator
Shirley Warkentin, Center for
Degree Completion (CDC)
operations manager

80's

Terry Bese, educational technology
faculty, B.A. '86/M.A. '98
Greg Camp, biblical and religious
studies faculty, B.A. '82
Larry Dunn, CPACS academic
programs director, B.A. '82

Kevin Enns-Rempel, archivist, B.A.
'82
Gary Estes, controller, B.A. '85
Ken Friesen, political science
faculty, B.A. '84
Judith Hillen, faculty emerita, M.A.
'84
Rene Lebsock, education intern
supervisor, B.A. '84/M.A. '93
Bobbi Mason, education/reading
faculty, M.A. '86
John Navarro, outreach ministries
director, M.A. '83
Tim Neufeld, biblical and religious
studies faculty, B.A. '85
Grace Peters, college admissions
office manager, A.A. '88/B.A. '92
Jaime Ramirez, physical education
faculty, B.A. '82
Richard Rawls, history/philosophy
faculty, B.A. '87
Karen Wright, chief accountant,
B.A. '86
Mark Yoder, physical education
faculty, B.A. '83
Dave Youngs, mathematics
education faculty, M.A. '88
Jean Fennacy, reading/education
faculty
John Wright, Datatel system
manager

90's

Amber Blodgett, interim financial
aid director, B.A. '98
Chris Brown, library computer
services, B.A. '96
Chris Brownell, mathematics
faculty, M.A. '98
Suzana Dobrić, associate college
admissions director, B.A. '99/
M.A. '02
Sarah Friesen, college admissions
counselor, B.A. '97
Dina Gonzalez, college admissions
director, B.A. '90/M.A. '98
Carol Gossett, independent studies
director, M.A. '91
Linda Hoff, teacher education
director, M.A. '94
Justin Kliewer, facilities mainte-
nance technician, B.A. '97
Sue Kliewer, human resources
director, B.A. '91/M.A. '98
Kristi Knevelbaard, reading faculty,
B.A. '90/M.A. '01
Suzanne Kobzeff, communication/
English/drama faculty, B.A. '96
Dawn Leppke, accounts receivable
coordinator, B.A. '93
Roslyn Moes, international
counselor, B.A. '97
Tara Neufeld, assistant registrar,
B.A. '99
Mark Patton, property services
manager, B.A. '93 /M.A. '98
Julia Reimer, communication/
English/drama faculty, B.A. '90
Dave Richert, assistant registrar,
B.A. '90
Anne Marie Rosenfeld, assistant to
the registrar, B.A. '98
Isolina Sands, Spanish faculty,

B.A. '93

Paula Seminario, financial aid
counselor, B.A. '95
Cary Templeton, assistant dean of
enrollment services, M.A. '92
Efrain Tovar, college admissions
counselor, B.A. '95
Roberta Wells, teacher education
faculty, M.A. '90
Diane Wiese, physical education
faculty, B.A. '90/M.A. '96
Denette Zaninovich, student
teacher placement coordinator,
B.A. '90/M.A. '98
Adam Gerbrandt, theater techni-
cian
Jeanne Janzen, teacher education
faculty
Jeff Jones, college admissions
information specialist

00's

Vickie Bigler, mathematics
education faculty, M.A. '00
Craig Brady, computer lab man-
ager, B.A. '02
Charity Brown, CDC lead
admissions adviser, B.A. '01
Wendy Cano, facilities operations
coordinator, B.A. '00
Millie Coccia, customer services
technician, B.A. '02
Anita Cockrum, advancement
services coordinator, B.A. '01
Sarah Daher, graduate grant
assistant, B.A. '02
Donna Friedenberger, OASIS program
director, B.A. '01
Kristen Gilster, assistant to the
registrar, B.A. '02
Carlos Gutierrez, financial services
counselor, B.A. '00
Matt Jacobs, facilities maintenance
technician, B.A. '00
Evie Lowry, SPS marketing
specialist, B.A. '02
Sandra Mercuri, EXCELL
coordinator, M.A. '00
Karin Olson, accounts receivable
coordinator, B.A. '00
Teri Piper, residence life intern,
B.A. '01
Jill Schellenberg, CPACS
administrative and marketing
assistant, B.A. '01
David Tsvirinko, CDC financial aid
counselor, B.A. '01
Debbie Williams, CDC admissions
adviser, B.A. '01
Jim Harris, asset preparation and
sales

Names without degree designa-
tions (A.A, B.A., M.A.) and dates
indicate alumni who did not
complete a degree at FPU.

Did we forget someone?

Please let us know of anyone we
missed. Contact Wayne Steffen,
Pacific editor, at 1717 S. Chestnut
Avenue, Fresno, CA, 93702 or at
wsteffen@fresno.edu.



Warrior to peacemaker: one lawyer's journey

by Douglas E. Noll

Six years ago, I was white-water rafting with a group of friends in the River of No Return wilderness in Central Idaho when I asked myself a simple question: “How many people had I actually helped as a trial lawyer? How many clients came out of the litigation process better off than when they went in?”

I pondered that all week as I floated through the beautiful Salmon River canyons and muscled my way through its big rapids. At the end, having tried dozens of complex jury trials, bench trials, arbitrations and administrative hearings and having represented hundreds of clients over a 20-plus year career as a very aggressive trial lawyer, I could only name five people. What a sad commentary on what most would consider a highly successful career in law.

At the same time as this reflection, I was turning from kung fu—in which I had a second-degree black belt—to tai chi. Tai chi was challenging me with two paradoxes: “The softer you are, the stronger you are”; and “The more vulnerable you are, the more powerful you are.” How could this be? Slowly, as I trained and plumbed this ancient martial art, I began to experience the paradoxes and understand them. Far from

passive or weak, they released within me forces that made me immensely more powerful as a martial artist.

Finally I, like many of my professional colleagues, was fed up with the contentiousness and hostility engendered by the legal system. The battle metaphor had lost its glow of excitement for me. By happenstance, I heard about a new program at Fresno Pacific University called the master's degree in peacemaking and conflict studies. I will never forget going to an orientation and watching professor Duane Ruth-Heffelbower's expression when I walked in. It was as if Satan himself had walked through the doors! Duane and I had known each other professionally for many years and he was well aware of my reputation. I suppose it shows that even hard-core trial lawyers can be redeemed from their roles as warriors.

After the second day of the Basic Institute in Conflict Management and Mediation (offered twice each year to the general public), I was hooked. I went back to my firm, in which I was a senior partner, and told my partners I was changing my business card from “Attorney at Law” to “Peacemaker.” Needless to say, this caused great consternation and ultimately led to my separation from the firm after 22 years. The experience was truly liberating for me.

Today, I have a thriving professional peacemaking practice. My work is in complex business disputes, where relationships are at issue and where litigation is often not a good option. I am fortunate to work in the highest levels of corporate America where I can demonstrate the power of peacemaking to decision-makers. More importantly, I have helped far more people resolve their conflicts peacefully in the past 18 months, than I had helped as a trial lawyer in the previous 22 years.

Douglas E. Noll is admitted to practice law in California as well as before the United States Supreme Court and various federal appellate and district courts. He lives with his wife, Jan, near Clovis. He earned a master's degree in peacemaking and conflict studies in 2001 and received the Graduate Dean's Award.

This article originally appeared in the fall 2001 issue of MCS Conciliation Quarterly, Vol. 20, No. 4. The publication is a service of Mennonite Conciliation Service, part of Mennonite Central Committee. For more information about either organization, telephone 717-859-3889 or go to the Internet at www.mcc.org/us/peaceandjustice/mcs.html.

State grants help students serve community

This year more students are spreading the university mission of service while defraying the cost of college.

During the 2002-2003 school year FPU will receive \$300,000 in state work-study funds, double the amount for 2001-2002. Federal funds also doubled to \$180,000. Matching contributions of \$160,000 from community agencies bring the total work-study budget to \$640,000.

The university succeeded in getting the grants because here work-study means more than stocking shelves in the bookstore. About 140 of the 375 work-study students are involved in a variety of university sponsored outreach programs. These ministries include non-profit organizations, elementary schools, tutoring centers, neighborhood youth clubs, sports programs and the university social work department.

This desire to serve was what the state was looking for. In 2000 California sought schools to apply for a work-study program aimed at placing college students in community agencies. John Navarro, university director of outreach ministries, and Bernie Ogden, then director of financial aid, entered a proposal and FPU was one of a handful of private colleges to qualify. "This is a big program for a school our size," said Navarro.

Enrollment continues to increase in size, ability and diversity

Another large, academically strong and ethnically diverse freshman class is driving enrollment growth.

Total university enrollment was set at 2,049 after about two weeks of classes. Enrollment for Fresno Pacific College, the traditional undergraduate program, was 936, up from 905 at the same time in 2001. Graduate enrollment was 858, and 255 students were registered in the Center for Degree Completion (CDC).

"The incoming freshman class continues a well-established pattern of excellence set by previous classes," said Cary Templeton, associate dean of enrollment services.

College and graduate school figures are based on the 16-day census, which is considered official for the college but a "snapshot" for the graduate school and CDC, which have different academic schedules. CDC figures come from the center. Enrollment at this time in 2001 was 905 in the college, 868 in the graduate school and 165 in the CDC for a total of 1,938.

Not only is the incoming freshman class the largest in school history for the fifth year in a row, the average student grade-point average is 3.57, higher than the five-year average of 3.55. "Freshmen continue to distinguish themselves academically," Templeton said.

These students also represent a rich mix of ethnic backgrounds and church affiliations. "Almost 30 percent of our incoming class are students of color," Templeton said. "Another 5 percent are the sons and daughters of recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union who now live in the Western United States."

More than 30 denominations are represented in the class. "We will learn from each other how Christ has worked and is working among us," Templeton said.

Adding to the energy on campus is FPU's listing in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2002-2003 college guide. In addition to the overall rating on the second tier of western universities—master's category, the university also appears on the magazine's diversity list, a new feature this year.

U.S. News also notes strong graduation and student retention rates. "If you look at the numbers that are reported for student success, we measure up with many universities in the first tier," said Stephen Varvis, dean of the college.

WATERGATE FIGURE SPEAKS—A man who lost his moral bearings in the storm of Watergate and rediscovered them in the service of God told of his voyage on a visit to FPU. Jeb Stuart Magruder was the featured speaker at the 2002 Business Forum Breakfast September 26. Nearly 150 business and community leaders, along with university business faculty and students, packed Ashley Auditorium for the fifth-annual forum. Magruder was campaign director for the committee to re-elect President Richard Nixon and served seven months in prison for his part in covering up the Watergate break-in. An ordained Presbyterian minister since 1981, today he is director of development for The Colorado Springs School, a private K-12 academy. What links WorldCom and Watergate is the kind of people involved. Based on their education, appearance and upbringing, today's CEOs could be the political officials of the Watergate era, or any other administration, according to Magruder. "What happened to me could happen to a lot of people," he said. People are at risk for power, pride and anxiety because they look too much for happiness in this life. "If we spend our time thinking about our relationship with God in the spirit world, we will have more of a different kind of happiness than the riches of this world," he said.



Rempel's task to organize technology resources

A new position reflects a new priority on information technology.

On January 22 Norm Rempel was appointed vice president, chief information officer and registrar. The cabinet-level position reports to the president and is charged with reorganizing and coordinating computer systems across campus. "Now we can bring together our efforts in this critical area to better serve students, faculty and staff," said President D. Merrill Ewert. "Information is what universities are about."

"One of the biggest challenges facing universities today is to develop and maintain an up-to-date information technology system," Ewert said. "This is a problem for the major research universities as well as for the small private schools such as FPU. What frequently happens is that uni-

versities introduce one solution for a problem here and another for a problem over there."

FPU needs to integrate its information systems, create a coordinated strategy and increase investment in order to fill gaps in the present service and prepare for demands of the future, Ewert said. Rempel was an early advocate of information technology and a leader in campus data system management. "No one knows the university or understands our data needs better than Norm. In addition, he is committed to FPU and has the respect of faculty and staff," Ewert said.

Coordination will be the essence of Rempel's role. "We have the resources. My job will be to bring together those resources and point them in the right direction," he said.

"I am truly excited to be doing this."

Continuing as registrar, a position he has held since coming to the campus in 1988, Rempel will delegate many day-to-day duties to his staff. There are currently no plans to hire additional employees.

Rempel earned bachelor's degrees from Grace College of the Bible and Wichita State University, master's degrees from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and the University of Nebraska-Omaha and a doctorate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



NORM REMPEL

John Ward brings experience, understanding to role as vice president

A seasoned professional with a range of experience and an understanding of the academic mission is the new vice president for business affairs.

John Ward began January 1, 2003. He will work with the president and others to set financial goals and have day-to-day responsibility for the university's budget of over \$20 million. He will also oversee several departments, including business, human resources, auxiliary services and facilities management.

Ward joined FPU in 2002 as director of accounts for the school of professional studies. In his new post he replaces Larry Perryman, who chose to return to a faculty position after three years as vice president.

"John is the perfect mix of 'inside' and 'outside' candidate," said President D. Merrill Ewert. "His previous varied leadership roles give him a broad understanding of the application of financial principles, and his time in the school of professional studies gives him insight into how we work. This combination provides

a valuable perspective that will serve the university well."

Ward sees his role as a member of a team committed to helping FPU realize its potential in ways consistent with its core values and mission. "I believe my financial background, executive-level management experience, collaborative work style, record of community involvement and commitment to the Fresno area have prepared me to successfully meet this challenge," he said.

The first priority is to carry on Perryman's record of sound fiscal management. "A lot of good things have been happening lately and I want to continue that in the years ahead," Ward said.

Financial strength serves students and faculty. "The more secure we are financially, the more we can invest in the academic product. In the long run that's what will advance the university," Ward said. "FPU is only as good as its faculty and academics. Our ability to grow will be dependent on our ability to attract students and faculty

and maintain a good faculty-student ratio."

Prior to coming to FPU, Ward was chief financial officer for Elenbaas Company, Inc., Sumas, Washington. He has also been general manager for the McClatchy Company, where he worked for the *Fresno Bee* and *Modesto Bee* newspapers. He also served with Knight-Ridder Newspapers, Inc., in Fort Wayne, Indiana; San Jose, California; and Lexington, Kentucky.

Among Ward's community service assignments were membership on the boards of directors of the Fresno and Modesto chambers of commerce and the Modesto United Way and YMCA. He earned his bachelor's degree from Drexel University, Philadelphia, and is a CPA.



JOHN WARD

ON-LINE APPLICATION ENHANCES INTERNET ADMISSION EFFORTS

Acceptance to FPU can be as close as the click of a mouse.

Applications for the undergraduate, graduate, professional development and language and culture studies are now on the university Web site. "All prospective students can apply and inquire on-line," said Efrain Tovar, electronic admission counselor for the college and manager of the new system.

There is also an academic guide with information on areas of study throughout the university. "Prospective students and alumni can find out more on the programs we offer," Tovar said. Profiles of faculty and staff are being added, and information will be accessible through a search feature on the main page.

The forms and guide are available through "buttons" on the main Web site at www.fresno.edu. Prospective students may also go directly to the applications at www.fresno.edu/apply, the inquiry form at www.fresno.edu/inquire and the academic guide at www.fresno.edu/academicguide. All

areas feature secure technology.

Tovar is quick to note that adding on-line access will not reduce paper publications, face-to-face events and other admission activities to reach those without Internet access. "We are aware of the digital divide," he said. "Especially here in the Central Valley where most of our students come from." All materials are available by calling 1-800-660-6089 or writing to College Admissions office, Fresno Pacific University, 1717 S. Chestnut Avenue, Fresno, 93702.

Those who apply on-line begin with a common application form, which they can fill out at their own pace. "The nice thing is that the application is broken down into sections. That allows users to take a break," Tovar said. Prospective students use their e-mail addresses as an identification and choose a password.

Educators and other working professionals registering for continuing education through the Center for Professional Development may submit a credit card number to pay for their courses.

They receive an e-mail confirmation of the transaction.

Graduate students are asked to pay by check, money order or credit card. "Then we process it like a regular application," said Vivian Galba, graduate admissions specialist. Letters are sent out if additional application information is needed, all materials are forwarded to the admissions committee and Galba sends letters of acceptance.

At the Center for Degree Completion staff members use information from forms to follow up personally with students. The center is working to add materials specific to its program to the center's Web site. "We're excited about the change," said Charity Brown, admissions adviser.

The college is using the Web to do more than wait for prospective students to come to its site. The staff launched an e-mail to several thousand prospective students. The new system puts FPU at the forefront among similar schools. "We are ahead of the game," Tovar said.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE CONFERENCE—About 75 people attended events related to the Ninth Annual Restorative Justice Conference October 25-26, organized by the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies (CPACS). The conference took place at Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary. A new activity this year was a public showing of an award-winning film on the work of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission under the leadership of Archbishop Desmond Tutu titled *Long Night's Journey into Day—South Africa's Search for Truth and Reconciliation*. At right, a panel discusses a cooperative program between Caruthers Elementary School and the Fresno County Probation Department that focuses on prevention. Left to right: David Vecchio and Sengthiene Bosavanh, FPU and CPACS staff members who work in the program; Dwight Miller, superintendent of Caruthers Unified School District; Diane Garrigus, principal at Caruthers Elementary School; and Anthony Dixon of the probation department.



AIMS Hall opens new era of mathematics, science education

With a 41-foot pendulum counting to the future, a new era in mathematics and science officially came to FPU.

More than 200 students, faculty, staff, guests and news media packed the lobby and second-floor balcony of AIMS Hall of Mathematics and Science for dedication ceremonies October 11. The two-story, 20,097 square-foot building opened in August and includes laboratories for biology, physics, chemistry and research as well as classrooms, a library and faculty offices.

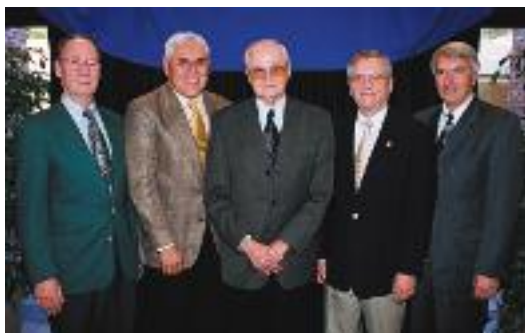
Those gathered surrounded the physical and philosophical heart of the facility: a Foucault Pendulum, one of only four in California and the lone example in the San Joaquin Valley. A 235-pound polished brass ball swings from the second-story ceiling to just above the foyer floor and knocks down a circle of pegs, proving the rotation of the earth, demonstrating the tie between mathematics and science and symbolizing the integration of knowledge and spirit.

“The pendulum is a harmonious integration of interrelationship of mathematics and science,” said Arthur Wiebe, former FPU president and co-founder of the Activities Integrating Mathematics and Science (AIMS) Education Foundation, which provided the lead gift for the \$9 million project.

“As in the pendulum, all of God’s creation speaks of the interrelatedness of science and mathematics,” Wiebe said. “As knowledge increases, the known linkages among scientific disciplines and concepts multiply. It is conceivable that in the end, all of science and mathematics may well be interrelated and integrated parts of a single whole.”



This Foucault Pendulum is the heart of AIMS Hall.



L TO R: PETER KLASSEN, SAL QUINTERO, ARTHUR WIEBE, RICHARD THIESSEN AND D. MERRILL EWERT

Advancing this integration is the mission of AIMS, one of only two existing major projects of its kind in the United States and Great Britain. AIMS was created by Wiebe and the late Larry Ecklund in 1981 as an outgrowth of the FPU math/science program. Incorporated as an independent entity in 1986, AIMS retains strong ties to the university. The foundation’s commitment to the building is part of a five-year, \$10 million investment in FPU, including student scholarships and endowed faculty chairs.

AIMS Hall embodies the essence of AIMS as the design intentionally brings together people as well as disciplines. Offices, for example, are in one area of the building so faculty and students can easily get together.

“As students enter AIMS Hall laboratories, they come face to face with God’s majestic, complex and intricate creation as they dissect a specimen, calculate the exponential-like reproductive rate of paramecia or observe a predictable chemical reaction. May no student ever pass through these halls without perceiving the silent messages that issue from God’s handiwork,” Wiebe said.

Kaylene Chlopek, a junior majoring in natural science and pre-health, spoke for students. “AIMS Hall is one more way to create a space for math and science students in the FPU community.”

D. Merrill Ewert, FPU president, thanked everyone—including faculty and staff, alumni, foundations and companies—whose donations made the building possible. “Gifts like these are more than money,” he said. “You have given hope, a vision and a chance to dream.”

Accounting scholarship benefits university and community

"We wanted to do something with FPU to encourage accounting students to pursue their ultimate goal, and hopefully join one of the local CPA firms."

Building the Central Valley accounting community and expanding opportunities for FPU accounting students are the goals of a new scholarship. The California Society of Certified Public Accountants (CalCPA) Fresno Chapter Endowed Scholarship was established to provide financial aid to students who wish to pursue an accounting career. Chapter members provided initial funding for the endowment.

"We wanted to do something with FPU to encourage accounting students to pursue their ultimate goal, and hopefully join one of the local CPA firms," said Tony Mastro, president of CalCPA's Fresno chapter. "We think FPU has a good program, and our scholarship funds will be used to provide a quality education." Mastro is a partner in the Fresno CPA firm Mastro Associates.

"With this scholarship we will be better able to recruit and retain students who can benefit from attending FPU but who might not otherwise be able to do so. This will help us add depth to our entire business program, which is already the second largest in the undergraduate college," said Janita Rawls, chair of the business department.

One scholarship will be presented each year, beginning in 2004-2005. Preference will be given to applicants who major in accounting, demonstrate financial need, have a minimum grade-point average of 3.0 and show commitment to the moral and ethical standards of FPU and the accounting profession.

Winners will be selected by the university business department and the Fresno chapter of CalCPA. The endowment is held and managed by the Fresno Pacific University Foundation and scholarships will be administered by the FPU Financial Aid Office.

CalCPA is one of the nation's largest accounting organizations and the largest CPA association in California, serving 27,000 members in public practice, private industry, education and government. The Fresno chapter has approximately 850 members in Fresno, Inyo, Kings, Madera and Mariposa counties. For more information check the Internet at www.calcpa.org.

WIEBE TWICE HONORED AS BENEFACTOR

Arthur Wiebe, former FPU president, received two honors recently. Fresno Compact, an association of educational, civic and business leaders, announced Wiebe the winner of the Harold Haak Award for Educational Excellence. The award was created in 2002 and named for Harold Haak, FPU president from 2000-02, who was also its first recipient.



In November Wiebe received the Distinguished Achievement Special Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) California Valley Chapter. The AFP is an international organization dedicated to enabling people and organizations to practice effective and ethical fundraising.

Wiebe was honored for his many contributions to FPU and the Fresno community. President of the university from 1960-75, he and the late Larry Ecklund co-founded AIMS Education Foundation, which creates mathematics and science curriculum for students and teachers.

He was also involved in the creation of San Joaquin College of Law, serving on its board for 20 years. More recently Wiebe was instrumental in forming the Southeast Fresno Community Development Corporation. The group brings together FPU, AIMS Foundation, Butler Mennonite Brethren Church, Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary and Mennonite Brethren Missions Services International to improve lives in their surrounding neighborhoods.

ALUMNI PHONATHON—From October 1 to November 14 student callers chatted with 3,671 alumni, letting them know what's happening at the university and encouraging them to support the university mission. Surpassing the \$45,000 goal, students raised \$46,568. Laurel Oswald raised the most, while Randi Streib brought in the most new donors. Jenni Bailey and Amanda Childers served as student supervisors. Pictured are student callers (front row, from left) Nicole Huggins, Laurel Oswald, Debbie Ruiter, Kristen Albright, Sarah Gutierrez, Ashley Bergman and Jenni Bailey; (back row, from left) Doug Summi, Liz Whitley, Erin Williams, Zachary Schroeder, Heather Haury, Randi Streib, Jordan Ringhofer, Cassy Ortiz and Amanda Childers. Not pictured are Evan Bunderle, Donnie Roberts and Christina Maule.



PAKISA TSHIMIKA | CONGO | B.A. 1978



Pakisa Tshimika works to build worldwide connections

"When you're personally involved, you change as well as help others change."

When Pakisa Tshimika talks about his work, he sounds like a builder or a communications technician, speaking of spaces, places and platforms.

Maybe he is—or maybe he's a family therapist.

Tshimika splits his time between Mennonite World Conference (MWC) and Mennonite Brethren Mission and Service International. At MWC he serves as one of two associate executive secretaries. "I work for what we call networks and projects," he said.

Though Tshimika has lived in Fresno with his wife and three children since 1999, he still dresses for his native Congo in colorful dyed shirts with embroidery on the open collar and sleeves that fall to the middle of his forearms. In conversation he is friendly and open—quick to smile and laugh, but just as quick to turn serious.

One thing Tshimika is serious about is making people understand that MWC is more than just a meeting. Best known for its worldwide conference, the next one of which is scheduled for August 11-17 in Zimbabwe, the organization has a wider reach. "MWC is really a platform that brings all the Mennonite and Brethren in Christ

churches together throughout the world," he said. Of the more than 1.2 million people who belong to Mennonite, Mennonite Brethren or Brethren in Christ churches, at least 55 percent are African, Asian or Latin American. MWC represents 87 national churches from 48 countries on five continents.

"In the past few years the churches—especially in Africa and Asia—are saying MWC is a place where we can, as equals, sit together as a family," he said. "Families get together more than every six or seven years."

Building ways to help relatives in faith see more of each other is Tshimika's task. "The idea is really to provide space where churches can do things together," he said.

The key to an effective family is identifying the contributions each member can make. "What are the gifts and resources God has given to the churches?" he asked.

As part of the Global Gift Sharing program, Tshimika has met with most MWC churches in Africa to discuss biblical and cultural definitions of gifts and gift sharing. Local facilitators continue the work, and the effort is spreading to Europe and North America.

The program boils down to what Paul called "spiritual gifts." All abilities and knowledge are gifts, and God intends all gifts to be shared. "There is no order," Tshimika said. "A professor's knowledge of the Bible, that is a gift from God. A woman who knows how to can food, that's a gift from God."

Poverty and riches can get in the way of sharing. Most Mennonite and related churches are poor, and where members come from can make it hard to hear when the far-flung family sits down to talk. "What does it mean to partner in anything when the mighty dollar speaks so loud?" Tshimika asked.

Sharing gifts means more than sending money. Community, people and relationships go together. "It was not until I left FPU that those words kept haunting me," Tshimika said. Jesus showed compassion and built community by getting involved. "When you're personally involved, you change as well as help others change," he said.

LEARN MORE:

www.mwc-cmm.org OR www.mbsinternational.org

DEREK THOMASON | FRESNO | B.A. 1990



EDUCATION worked both ways for Derek Thomason and FPU

A man in uniform stands before the class, talking to his fellow students.

“How many of you believe I am a police officer?” All hands rise.

“How many of you believe I am a Christian?” Some hands go up, some stay deskbound.

“How many of you believe I can be a Christian and a police officer?” One person raises a hand and says, “No.”

As the first police officer to go through the traditional undergraduate program, Derek Thomason was going to teach as well as learn.

More than a decade after that class presentation, Thomason laughs at the memory. “Those three years were a process for me as well as the folks on campus,” he said. Coming to FPU he “expected buggies and bonnets, but I met contemporary, evangelical people.” He credits the person who answered “no” to his final question as having the courage to say what others perhaps kept private.

On that day in 1987 Thomason was a patrol officer. Today he directs the Fresno police chaplain program. “It’s been an amazing adventure,” he said.

The adventure began when, already an officer, Thomason became a Christian in 1985. “When I got saved the Lord gave me a hunger to study His word.” He married one year later and wife Elizabeth became an FPU staff member. “Before you know it I was

working full time and going to school full time,” he said. Thomason completed his bachelor of arts in biblical and religious studies in 1990.

Further study was a goal, but other responsibilities intruded. The couple’s first child, Hannah, was born the March before commencement. (Matthew and Abigail followed in 1991 and 1996, respectively.) Not surprisingly, Thomason promised Elizabeth he’d take a year off before attending seminary.

Still assigned to patrol, Thomason began attending Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary part time in 1992. Then in February of 1994 peptic ulcer disease forced him off the force. “It was a traumatic experience being retired out at 38,” he said. An upside appeared, however. “We found I could then go to school through vocational rehabilitation,” he said.

The family moved to South Carolina and Thomason earned a master’s of divinity at Columbia Biblical Seminary in May of 1997. He planned to go into missions, but said “the Lord threw me a curve.” During a visit to Fresno in June he saw an advertisement in *The Fresno Bee* for a full-time police chaplain. “I was such a good fit,” he said. Thomason began work in August.

Thomason directs more than 30 volunteer chaplains from an office in the basement of the Fresno City Hall Annex. Though the mix of comfortable dark wood furniture, paint, plaques, plants and personal items can’t completely cover for the cinderblock walls and lack of windows, he is grateful to be out of his old digs: a smaller, shared

space even the cheerful Thomason called “cramped.”

Duties include counseling people who have been victims of crimes, lost a loved one or been involved in domestic and neighborhood disturbances as well as the officers themselves. There are also weddings, funerals and hospital visits.

Chaplains can diffuse tension between police and public, helping residents understand how police work and translating the citizens’ concerns to the department. “It is sometimes a fine line that we walk, when we try to be helpful but not get in the way,” Thomason said.

Guiding people through grief is a regular part of the job. “It’s the worst time to make decisions, but many decisions are thrust upon people,” he said. Such times are also opportunities. “People we see are at an all-time low and at those times they are often open to the things of God,” he added.

Chaplains also enjoy a high standing with officers. Volunteers ride with police at least monthly. “It helps tremendously that I was an officer,” he said.

In retrospect Thomason’s life seems logical. “I couldn’t have planned it and put together the pieces of this puzzle. It looked like somebody had a plan,” he said.

FPU helped Thomason be open to this higher direction. Thomason recalled advice from faculty Devon Wiens: “Devon said, ‘Maybe it’s not so much what you do as who you become.’”

GENERAL NEWS

Steve Hofer (BA '73) was Teacher of the Year for Kingsburg Joint Union School District and a finalist in the Fresno County nominations for California Teacher of the Year.

Gregory Sommers (BA '89) graduated from Ohio State University with his doctorate in accounting on August 13, 2002. He teaches at Southern Methodist University.

David Leppke (BA '91) and his wife, Laura, have been married for 11 years. The Leppkes have three boys, Aaron, 5; Andrew, 3; and Alex, 1. David teaches fifth grade and Laura teaches first grade in the Panama-Buena Vista School District in Bakersfield where they live.

Susan (Rodriguez MA '91) Ortega was inducted into the College of Sequoias Hall of Fame on October 4, 2002.

Melissa (Whaley, BA '95) Carpenter is an office manager at First Mennonite church of Phoenix. Melissa keeps active in church and with her son Alan-Michael, 3.

Kimi Akina (BA '99) recently moved to Chicago to serve as resident director at Moody Bible Institute.

Patty Brown (BA '97, MA '00) is in her sixth year with Fresno Unified School District, where she is a lead math teacher.

Andrew Geddert (BA '02) began a three-year Mennonite Central Committee assignment in Ukraine as a social worker/psychologist at a children's shelter.

Nathan Penner (BA '02) is on a three-year term with Mennonite Central Committee and African Inter-Mennonite Mission as information program assistant in Botswana.

MARRIAGES

John (MA '99) and Emily (Bowie MA '00) Berg married on July 6, 2002. Emily teaches part time at West Hills Community College and at University High School.

BIRTHS

Rosalie (Elrich, BA '89) Fuentes and her husband, Bryon, announce the birth of their first child, Heather Kiara, on June 29, 2002. Rosalie teaches eighth grade reading and English in Bakersfield.

Xe Susane Moua (BA '93) announces the birth of Maximillian Chayeng Vue. Moua resigned from teaching to start a new career in financial services, working with Citigroup.

Lisa (Childress '94) Becker and her husband, Jeff, announce the birth of Brookling Elianna on May 26, 2002. Brookling weighed 7 pounds and 10 ounces and was 22 inches long.

Mark (BA '95) and Jennifer (Gomes BA '95) Enns announce the birth of their first child, Dylan Jacob, on August 14, 2002.

Krista (Thiesen, BA '97) Ramirez and husband, Steve, announce the birth of Claire Noelle on February 19, 2002. Claire joins big sister Emilie Marie, who was born on February 10, 2000. Krista enjoys working part time and staying home with her two girls.

Michael (BA '99) and Sarah (Watters BA '98) Johnson announce the birth of Isaac Christopher Johnson on September 14, 2002. Isaac weighed 7 pounds and 11 ounces and was 21 inches long. The Johnsons are preparing to go to Papua New Guinea in June for a two-year term with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Sarah is finishing graduate studies at the Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies and Michael is teaching history at Lemoore High School.

DEATHS

Sue Sippel (BA '77) died in September of 2002.

Ken Engstrom, associate dean of Fresno Pacific Graduate School, died in his sleep early in the morning of September 24, 2002, in Uppsala, Sweden. He had been hospitalized after suffering a stroke during a vacation. He was 66. Engstrom came to FPU in 1983 and directed the administrative services program. Prior to that he served Fresno Unified School District for 25 years in many positions, including elementary school principal, director of several teacher training programs and classroom teacher. Among his memberships were the state higher education/professional preparation committee, California School Leadership Academy Board of Directors and president of the Fresno Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa. He earned an associate degree from Reedley College, a bachelor's degree and credential from California State University, Fresno; and an Ed.D. from the University of Southern California. "He enjoyed his e-mail's from all of you so much, they were taped on the walls of his hospital room," his wife, Nancy, wrote to FPU faculty and staff. "So many of you called and sent him cards and packages. Thank you. He was fully cognizant, with all his faculties until the end, giving me directions about what to tell people at work, making jokes [and] telling me about his adventures in Uppsala..." Nancy wrote. "He fought to recover until the end and I am so proud of him." Memorial services were October 12 in Kingsburg Community Church. Burial was October 14 in Kingsburg Cemetery. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, one son, four grandchildren and two brothers.



FRESNO PACIFIC COLLEGE CLASSES OF 1985-1990 REUNION

Friday, April 4, 2003
6:00 p.m.
FPU Campus

Child care will be available.

Call Debbie (McDonald) Elrich at 661-387-9620 for more information or to assist in planning the event. For hotel information, call 800-445-2428 or 800-468-3522 and ask for the FPU discount rate.

CHOIR ALUMNI REUNION

Saturday, April 5, 2003
10:30 a.m.
AIMS Hall foyer

Information on a choir alumni trip to Europe in 2004

Noon performance at MCC Sale

To learn more, contact
Nicole Linder at 559-453-2058 or
nicole.linder@fresno.edu.



HOMECOMING ATTRACTS ALL AGES—

Activities for everyone were available at Homecoming October 11-12. (Below left) members of the Class of 1952 shared memories and renewed friendships at a reunion Saturday in Alumni Hall. (Left) the new McDonald Hall fountain became an impromptu art gallery for young talent as part of the children's carnival. Other activities included the annual Candlelight Concert, an alumni prayer breakfast and alumni/student contests in men's and women's flag football and basketball.



ALUMNI BOARD BEGINS—Strengthening links with the alumni is the goal of the FPU Alumni Advisory board, which met for the first time January 24. Members come from the college, graduate school and Center for Degree Completion, as well as the university staff. Sitting, from left: Harriet Huggins (BA '84), Marietta Dalpez (BA '97), Julie Uhl (BA '02) and Geri Warkentin (PBI '55). Standing, from left: Mary Willis (Director of Career Resources), Renee Singh-Boucher (BA '93), Raul Trejo (BA '03), Nicole Linder (associate director of events and alumni programs), Suzana Dobrić (associate director of college admissions) (BA '99, MA '02), Charles Spencer (BA '70), David Beckenhauer (BA '89, MA '99), Tim Fast (BA '65), William Dyck (chair) (BA '97), Cindy Steele (Fresno Pacific School of Professional Studies director of staff development), Joe Hernandez (MA '95) and Coleen Hoskins (advancement services assistant.) Not pictured are Joli Barrios (Fresno Pacific Graduate School marketing coordinator) and Billy Ware (BA '98, MA '00).

Alumni: \$AVE at the MCC SALE

Stop by the alumni booth at the MCC Sale on the FPU campus April 4 & 5. Fill out a contact info form and receive:

- \$1 off coffee coupon at Alumni Café
- 10% off coupon for an alumni item at Pacific Book Shop

IN TOUCH WITH ALUMNI 1717

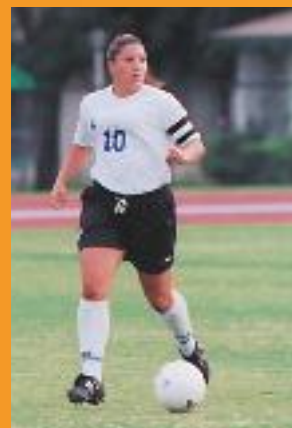
NAME			
ADDRESS			
CITY		STATE	ZIP
HOME TELEPHONE		WORK TELEPHONE	
E-MAIL		GRADUATION YEAR	
OCCUPATION			
WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU? Information for Pacific Magazine:			



(FROM LEFT)
FABRICIO CODECEIRA,
 ALL-GSAC
EDDIE GUTIERREZ,
 ALL-GSAC
ORLANDO RAMIREZ,
 GSAC & REGION
 PLAYER OF THE YEAR,
 NAIA ALL-AMERICA
 HONORABLE MENTION



ZACH SCHROEDER
 GSAC SCHOLAR ATHLETE



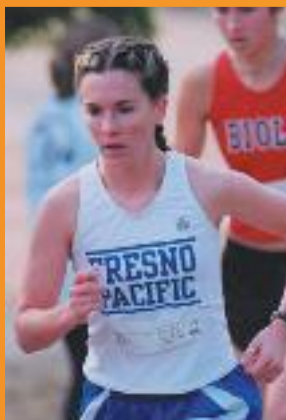
ANDREA MORELOCK
 ALL-GSAC



CHRISIE GREGORY
 ALL-GSAC, ALL-REGION
 NAIA ALL-AMERICA
 SCHOLAR ATHLETE



GASTON CIGNETI
 ALL-GSAC, ALL-REGION



JENNIFER TOLER
 ALL-GSAC, ALL-REGION
 NAIA ALL-AMERICA
 SCHOLAR ATHLETE



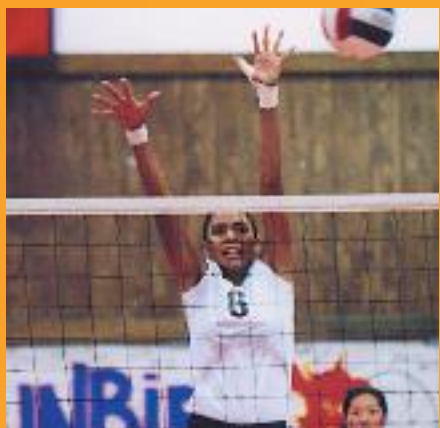
NICK LOMELI
 ALL-GSAC, ALL-REGION

Sunbirds 3rd at Nationals

The Sunbirds capped one of its most successful seasons with a third place finish at the NAIA National Championship in San Diego in early December. The team won their third consecutive, and ninth overall, Golden State Athletic Conference with a perfect 20-0 record and finished the season with a 41-2 mark that included an FPU and GSAC record 36-match win streak.



(FROM LEFT) **LIN GAO**, GSAC & REGION PLAYER OF THE YEAR, NAIA ALL-AMERICA FIRST TEAM
MESHA WIMER, ALL-GSAC, ALL-REGION, NAIA ALL-AMERICA FIRST TEAM



LORENA ZULETA, ALL-GSAC, ALL-REGION, NAIA ALL-AMERICA HONORABLE MENTION



CHELSEY DULEY
GSAC SCHOLAR
ATHLETE



(FRONT FROM LEFT) KARA VERWEY, CHELSEY DULEY, MIKA PESTORICH, MESHA WIMER, LISA ENNS, LIN GAO. MIDDLE: ERIN MAZMANIAN, GERA BAHR, BECKY STIGLICH (ASSISTANT COACH) BACK: HU XIAO FENG, KELLY WINTER (ASSISTANT COACH), JENNIFER STRID, SHAILEY JONES, LORENA ZULETA, JIM AVE (TRAINER), MATT TERRA (ASSISTANT COACH), DENNIS JANZEN (HEAD COACH).



DENNIS JANZEN
NAIA REGION
TWO COACH OF
THE YEAR, GSAC
COACH OF THE
YEAR



KARA VERWEY
GSAC SCHOLAR ATHLETE



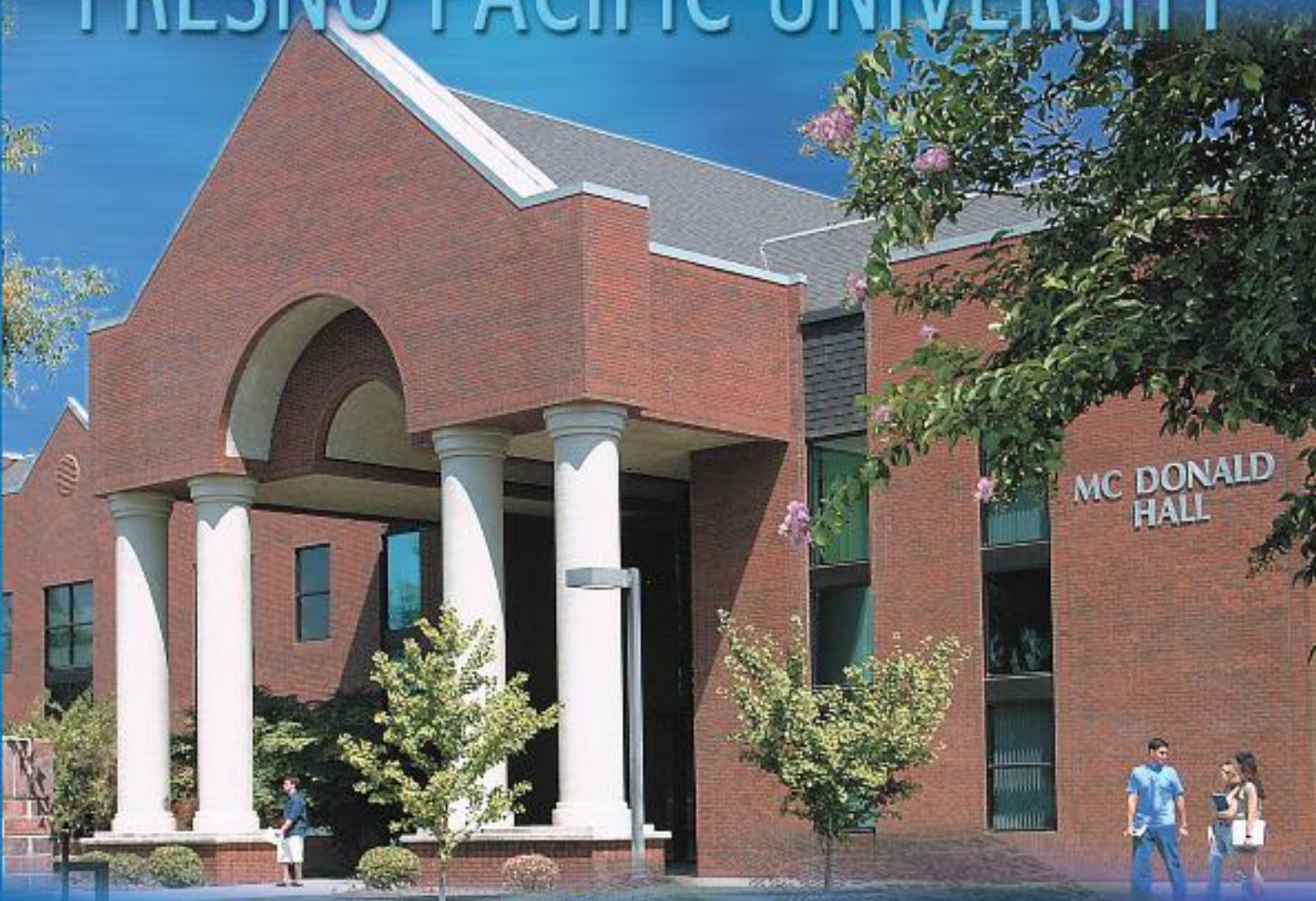
LISA ENNS
ALL-GSAC, ALL-REGION

ATHLETES REACH OUT

The FPU Volleyball Team visited Childrens Hospital Central California. Members of the squad spent time with children in the cancer and respiratory wards, talking, signing posters and showing support. They also toured the neo-natal ward. From left, Mesha Wimer, Lisa Enns and Shailey Jones visit with one of the children.



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