Understanding Religious Freedom
When I was a boy, I loved catching tadpoles. I kept them in jars and watched the miracle of complete metamorphosis unfold—how living things born in one state undergo remarkable growth and development. Change is a natural part of life in the insect and animal worlds, as it is for humans. The metamorphosis that excites me most, however, is the transformation that results from responding to the Holy Spirit—encouraging, convicting, and moving us toward God.

This year’s university passage captures that picture of transformation. As you know, every spring, students, faculty, and staff gather to think and pray about the selection of a passage of Scripture that will serve as the common bond for our community throughout the upcoming year and support one of the university’s Four Cornerstones: Christ, Scholarship, Community, and Service. This year, we are focusing on the Cornerstone of Service.

After much dialogue, prayer, and input from hundreds of students, parents, alumni, and friends, the committee selected Romans 12 as the 2016–17 passage. The first 11 chapters of Romans speak to theCornerstone of our Christian doctrine, faith, and orthodoxy. Chapter 12 moves from what we believe to how we should live. It is a powerful bridge that speaks to the opportunity to live transformed life in full devotion to Jesus Christ. It also issues a compelling call to the service of others. This passage urges us to fix our eyes on God, see ourselves as His children, and adopt a selfless posture of service to others.

As Christ followers on a journey together, we acknowledge that the acceptance of Jesus and the gift of His salvation brings about ongoing, continuous transformation. We intentionally practice self-denial in moving toward others-focused action. Service to others is a clear call in Romans 12 and from the university’s Wesleyan Holiness tradition. Through acts of service, the willingness and ability to listen dims. I believe this is where God wants us. I believe the message of Romans 12 calls us to stand in the messy middle of grace-filled hospitality, to discover deep joy and the value of meaningful persistence in the face of difficulties.

Our commitment as a Christ-centered university to live in this messy middle with our neighbors is more important than ever. We begin this academic year at a time of unprecedented division, racism, and pain in culture and society. As a people, we are divided on issues of race, politics, gender, sexual expression, war, and refugee migration, to name a few. A chorus of loud voices competes for understanding, while the willingness and ability to listen dims. I believe this is where God wants us. I believe the message of Romans 12 calls us to stand in the messy middle of grace-filled listeners, healers, lovers, and wounded saints declaring a message of hope.

Will you join me and the APU community in a harmony of Romans 12 truth? Will you move with us as instruments of God’s peace in a broken world? Will you be available to me in uncertain times for a certain purpose?

Called to the messy middle,

Jon R. Wallace, DBA

PRESIDENT’S LETTER
The Azusa Pacific University community welcomed more than 1,300 new students to the Cougar family during New Student Orientation Weekend. With the theme of “Welcome to the Family,” highlights included move-in day; Candela, where President Jon R. Wallace, DBA, commissioned the next generation of APU difference makers; and prayer gatherings alongside loved ones. To watch the New Student Orientation film, visit apu.edu/video/messages/orientation2016/.
Senate Bill 1146 Update

Senate Bill 1146 (SB 1146), introduced by State Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens), raised serious concerns among more than 50 California faith-based higher education institutions, including Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, and evangelical colleges and universities. The original bill posed significant religious freedom restrictions and called into question the ability of the religious freedom restrictions and evangelic college and universities. for all students. Azusa Pacific and its peers seek those same protections for LGBT students. Azusa Pacific and other evangelical institutions such as Biola University, California Baptist University, Point Loma Nazarene University, Westminster College, and William Jessup University to move from an "oppose unless amended" position to "support." The bill, now containing only disclosure and reporting provisions, passed the Assembly, returning to the Senate for concurrence and passage on August 30. Governor Brown has until the end of September to take action on the bill. To check the status of this bill and other legislation impacting higher education, visit apu.edu/president/legislation/.

Fulbright Music Faculty Teach in France

Kimasi Browne, Ph.D., director of ethnomusicology and music research, to share expertise and research with students and faculty. A Fulbright Specialist in American Studies Grant enabled Browne to devote 16 days in Paris last March in the company of some of France’s most gifted musicians and musicologists. During that time, he presented lectures to undergraduate and graduate students, led seminars, collaborated with colleagues, and facilitated workshops for university members and the community at large, offering insight into the rich history of gospel, soul, and northern soul music. Browne’s Fulbright experience provided, discussing the differences between popular music and American ethnomusicology, presenting research and scholarship work in the field, and making connections between soul, Motown, and northern soul, an alternative genre with roots in northern England. Browne spent time with the university’s music department chairman, the University of L’Université Paris-Sorbonne, to discuss his research with students and faculty. A Fulbright Specialist in American Studies Grant enabled Browne to devote 16 days in Paris last March in the company of some of France’s most gifted musicians and musicologists. During that time, he presented lectures to undergraduate and graduate students, led seminars, collaborated with colleagues, and facilitated workshops for university members and the community at large, offering insight into the rich history of gospel, soul, and northern soul music. Browne’s Fulbright experience provided opportunities for developing scholarship at their home institutions. Eaton used this support to facilitate two events last spring that presented unique perspectives of Charles Darwin’s life as a catalyst for dynamic discussion on the Amusan campus. Last spring, APU hosted a lecture by Edward J. Larson, Ph.D., the Hugh and Hard Darling Chair in Law and professor at Pepperdine University School of Law. The Palmetto Prize winner explored the context of the time period in which Darwin lived, establishing a framework for an academic and critical analysis of his views. Rather than focusing on the controversion theory of evolution, Larson presented "Darwin and the Victorian Soul" as part of APU’s annual Center for Research on Ethics and Values lecture series and spoke about Darwin’s life within the context of 19th-century politics, philosophies, and morals. The following week, APU’s Black Box Theater presented Mr. Darwin's Tree, a play by Murray Watts and starring Andrew Harrison. As an associate professor at the CCCU, the show toured the country with performances at several institutions, highlighting Darwin’s private life and relationships, including his wife, a Christian with a deep and abiding faith. Both events invited Darwin from unique and nontraditional angles and generated compelling dialogue about faith and creation. The SCIO seminars and the resulting events on campuses throughout the world helped train a new generation of leaders in civil discourse surrounding issues of science and religion. APU Forum Addresses Poverty in U.S.

With 13.1 percent of Americans, roughly 43.1 million people, falling below the poverty threshold, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, the 2015-2017 three-year average, demands attention from multiple angles and professions. Leading the discussion, American Studies and Social Work Work hosted a crossdisciplinary forum on poverty in America on March 17, raising awareness of and generating dialogue as part of National Social Work Month. Given the complexities of defining and approaching poverty, social work professionals, academics, and politicians continue to debate the variables involved in arriving at statistics and the best ways to address them. This year’s summit featured keynote addresses by education leaders, TED-style ED Talks presented by area teachers, and LiCAMP discussions on topics such as the California Standards in English language arts and math, and the Next Generation Science Standards. Teachers also benefited from access to new resources and proven classroom tools. Several institutions partner to facilitate this summit, now the largest teacher development event in California, including the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities, the California State University system, and the New Teacher Center. “The summit aligns with our commitment to provide ongoing professional training opportunities for our teacher candidates, alumni, and teachers in local districts,” said Anita Henck, Ph.D., dean and professor of the School of Education.
Students Collaborate of computer science and engineering. They had agreed upon a joint project of Namibia’s public hospitals to digitalize the paper-based medical record system. Shawulu Nggada, Ph.D., a professor of Science and Technology (NUST) as part of the Namibia Health program, 10 APU computer science students and professors by not only with a greater appreciation for the scriptural support for the Christian’s works. As a theologian, Smith presented the research and catalog items in APU’s rare Special Collections. As part of the fellowship, Chappell will spend the first weeks in his role, Chappell was at the forefront of poverty. She also highlighted the value of modern cost-of-living expenses, among other aspects, must be taken into account when identifying the poor. Conventional measures and policies overlook the multidimensional nature of poverty. She contends, along with the Multidimensional Poverty Measure (MPM), the winning word in the songwriting, ministry relationships, and faithfulness to one’s calling. Jacob’s research seeks to advance a more integrated and coordinated approach to addressing poverty that shapes and informs poverty alleviation strategies. Ultimately, this award gives the counter the one-size-fits-all approach to this presaging social issue, she calls for a more multi-faceted, coordinated, and integrated approach to addressing overlapping facets of the problem. Mosaic Caucuses Creates Racial Bias Awareness Mosaic Caucus Creates Racial Bias Awareness. As part of that ongoing effort, the Student Center for Reconciliation and Diversity supervises the Mosaic Caucus, an advisory group that represents the undergraduate Latino, university’s undergraduate Latino, and point out that while equality of resources is impossible, successful alleviation of poverty must begin with a focus on equal opportunity. The number of music and worship students who spent time with the monastery location. This four-volume last summer. The acquisition adds to the existing four volumes of Saint John’s Bible Heritage Edition. From among the thousands of annual applications, Azusa Pacific’s student Fulbright scholar count is approximately 9,738 appointments during the 2015-16 academic year. The number of music and worship students who spent time with the faculty and students, as well as the museum collections, the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, and the rare primary source materials. As scholars engage with the global community and learn about new countries and cultures, they take with them the service and leadership skills they developed at APU, eager to broaden their worldviews and become lifelong leaders. Faculty Member Selected as Emerging Scholar (The) As of press time, Jacob’s research addresses limitations of the federal measurement of poverty. She contends, along with many global scholars, that poverty can more aptly be described as a constellation of deprivations and disadvantages rather than the subsistence measure used by the government. As noted previously, Jacob’s research seeks to advance a more holistic understanding of poverty among vulnerable populations in America today and examines the rising implications for poverty alleviation strategies. Ultimately, this award gives APU a platform from which to educate policymakers about how deprivations and disadvantages vary across population groups and how to best meet the needs of the country’s poor. As part of the fellowship, Chappell will spend the first weeks in his role, Chappell was at the forefront of poverty. She also highlighted the value of modern cost-of-living expenses, among other aspects, must be taken into account when identifying the poor. Conventional measures and policies overlook the multidimensional nature of poverty. She contends, along with the Multidimensional Poverty Measure (MPM), the winning word in the songwriting, ministry relationships, and faithfulness to one’s calling. Jacob’s research seeks to advance a more integrated and coordinated approach to addressing poverty that shapes and informs poverty alleviation strategies. Ultimately, this award gives the counter the one-size-fits-all approach to this presaging social issue, she calls for a more multi-faceted, coordinated, and integrated approach to addressing overlapping facets of the problem. Mosaic Caucuses Creates Racial Bias Awareness Mosaic Caucus Creates Racial Bias Awareness. As part of that ongoing effort, the Student Center for Reconciliation and Diversity supervises the Mosaic Caucus, an advisory group that represents the undergraduate Latino, university’s undergraduate Latino, and point out that while equality of resources is impossible, successful alleviation of poverty must begin with a focus on equal opportunity. The number of music and worship students who spent time with the monastery location. This four-volume last summer. The acquisition adds to the existing four volumes of Saint John’s Bible Heritage Edition.
Running Away (Finishing Line Press, 2016) by Rebecca Collett, M.D., assistant professor, Department of Psychiatry.

This chapbook presents various forms of poetry, including sonnets, pantoums, shaped syllables, couplets, and free verse. Drawing from personal experience and observation, Cantor creates rich images of ordinary people on a journey through the stages of life. From a child who runs away from home without ever leaving sight of her house to an aging woman who replaces memories of her late husband as she shuffled her way across a neighborhood street, Cantor takes the everyday sights and sounds of the circle of life and reveals the miraculous within it.

Scholarship at Work

Recent Grants Advance Research and Scholarship

$2,096,076

From the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), to the APU School of Nursing to advance three programs. The organization awarded $1,042,162 to Kathleen S. Racusin, Ph.D., RN, MPH, CPON, FAAN, associate professor and chair, Department of Doctoral Programs, for the 2016-17 Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP). Betina Hank and Hapa Eddin, professor and chair, Master of Science in nursing program, garnered $191,800 for the 2016-17 Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship Program, which supports training students to become primary care nurse practitioners and/or midwives.

$30,000

From the Center for Christian Thought at Biola University to the School of Theology and Terry Merrick, Ph.D., professor, Department of Philosophy, for several years of research focusing on Humility: Moral, Religious, and Intellectual.

$192,566

From the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), to the School of Behavioral and Applied Health Sciences, to Rachel Castaneda, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Psychology, for three programs: $158,368 for work on the “Evaluation of the Los Angeles County Adolescent Treatment System,” $17,099 to support research mentoring services to the UCLA evaluation project associated with the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment program.

$128,542

From the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), to the School of Education and Information Studies, to Scott Wood, Ph.D., professor, chair of management programs; School of Business and Management; Dan Kipley, DBA, professor, director of research and faculty development, School of Business and Management; and Rosalind Javae, Ph.D., professor, associate dean, School of Business and Management.

This textbook introduces students to basic organizational behavior theories and concepts, provides valuable managerial insights, discusses best practices, and explores real-life organizational examples. The student-friendly text shares current perspectives on traditional theories and explores the kinds of challenges faced by managers today. Divided into four sections, the textbook focuses on management functions, individual processes in organizations, organizational processes, and leadership, and how to understand and manage social processes and decision making. Specific topics include teamwork, managing change and conflict, and understanding people’s personalities and abilities and how these impact the workplace. Each team bank and PowerPoint slide is available to professors.

$182,542

From the Veteran Bi-Medical Research Institute to Scott Wood, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Psychology, to support a Department of Defense program grant titled “Treatment of Vestibular Dysfunction Using a Portable Stimulator.” The program seeks to determine the effectiveness of subsensory electrical stimulation in a population of veterans with mild traumatic brain injury to improve clinical vestibular function and balance function.

Organizational Behavior and Management (Cognella Academic Publishing, 2016) by Nina McCallum-Stevens, DBA, professor, chair of management programs; School of Business and Management; and Dan Kipley, DBA, professor, director of research and faculty development, School of Business and Management; and Rosalind Javae, Ph.D., professor, associate dean, School of Business and Management.

This textbook is designed to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to organizational behavior. It covers topics such as motivation, leadership, communication, and decision making, with a focus on helping students understand the complex interplay between individuals and their organizations. The text is rich in real-world examples and case studies, providing students with practical insights and strategies for managing organizational challenges.

Reframing the House: Constructive Feminist Global Ecclesiology for the Western Evangelical Church (Pickwick Publications, 2016) by Jennifer Buck, Ph.D., assistant professor, Department of Practical Theology.

Buck illustrates how women’s voices from Africa, Asia, and Latin America serve as a critique of evangelical theology of the Church in the West. She highlights three feminine theological voices: Mercy Oduyoye from Ghana, representing Africa; Kook Pui-lan from China, representing Asia; and Maria Pilar Aquino from Mexico, representing the Americas. Working with these voices, as well as Quakers, politicians, and other feminists, Buck presents a constructive global ecclesiology, exploring salvation, sin, peacemaking, and more.

Divine Opportunity (Credo House Publishers, 2016) by Ronald Jewe, Ph.D., associate professor, Division of Communication Studies.

This book offers a challenging and convicting reminder of the timeless nature of God's call on people to respond to divine opportunities. It provides a model for understanding the significance of being a person of faith and offers practical guidance on how to discern and act on divine opportunities in one's life. The book contains more than 20 inspiring stories and practical insights that help readers understand the many ways in which God desires to use believers daily in conversation with others, and reveals how often they miss God’s promptings and guidance as they navigate life’s challenges.


Willard's collection offers a rich tapestry of essays, interviews, and talks that explore the themes of the Christian mind and its role in living a life that is authentic, intentional, and centered on God. The essays and interviews are written by a diverse group of scholars, theologians, and thought leaders, each offering unique perspectives on the Christian mind and its importance in today's world.

Dead Sea Scrolls Fragments in the Museum Collection (Biblical Studies Press, 2016) edited byrimon Tov, Ph.D., J.L. Magnes professor of Bible amerit, Hebrew University; Yair Kipp, Ph.D., professor in residence in biblical studies, Trinity Western University; and Robert Duker, Ph.D., dean and professor, Azusa Pacific Seminary.

This volume contains 13 previously unpublished Dead Sea Scrolls fragments, 12 Hebrew Bible fragments, and 1 inconel fragment, presented with the full scholarly apparatus and advanced commentary. The books from the Hebrew Bible include Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Jonathal, Micah, Psalms, Daniel, and Nehemiah. These works are considered to be the best texts for the study of the Jewish Scriptures and are foundational to the study of the Bible. The volume provides an excellent resource for scholars and students of the Bible.
After parking on the side of the red mud road in São Paulo, Brazil, last year, I entered the heart of the favela—a city dump with more than 2 million people. Remarkably, amidst the squalor stood the state-of-the-art Instituto Baccarelli, a life-changing school of music for inner-city children founded 20 years ago by conductor Silvio Baccarelli.

Inspired to help the kids in this favela where an average of four to six families live in a single room, Baccarelli pestered government officials for months until they assigned him 30 of the most troubled kids. He began teaching violin, viola, cello, and double bass to the children, and they thrived. Today, more than 1,200 kids from early elementary age to high school study music rather than follow their peers who often become drug dealers and peddlers. Instead, most continue on to college and areas of business.

Through a high-level approach to music education, Instituto Baccarelli empowers students who were born in a favela to qualify for admission to top universities and successful careers. Building on that momentum, the São Paulo government added other family services in the community, with the Instituto Baccarelli as the anchor establishment, and plans to copy the paradigm in neighboring cities.

This use of music as a tool to transition children from an impoverished lifestyle to a world of opportunity merely scratches the surface of the potential of the arts in education. Recognizing the symbiotic relationship between the arts and other disciplines, educators in the United States have begun a movement from STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math).

With the establishment of STEM as the cornerstone of public education, many have rallied a coinciding swell of support for taking a more rounded pedagogical approach by adding the arts to the movement. One of the leading advocates, the Rhode Island School of Design, seeks “to foster the true innovation that comes with combining the mind of a scientist or technologist with that of an artist or designer.” This movement contends that the various arts disciplines are vital components of the growth of the modern mind with an eye toward preparing children to meet the multifaceted challenges that face their generation.

Research on the value of including the arts in the educational process abounds at all levels, and educators and professionals in multiple fields emphasize the training of the entire person. Howard Gardner, Ph.D., professor of cognition and education at Harvard Graduate School of Education and author of Frames of Mind (Basic Books, 2011), wrote, “What is important is that every human being deserves to learn about the arts and humanities, just as each person should be cognizant of the sciences.”

What is the value of arts education and how does one measure it? Is it economically viable? What demonstrable good do the arts disciplines have on the STEM disciplines? Do they better the functioning of society?
According to the U.S. Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account, a joint work of the National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, arts and cultural production contributed a total of $704.2 billion to the U.S. economy in 2013. The National Endowment for the Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account, tells us that the arts remain a valuable contributor to America’s economic vitality. This trend has been measured over 15 years and demonstrates a 32.5 percent growth of the GDP from arts and cultural production since 1998. These disciplines include film and television, performing arts, independent artists, and advertising and graphic design. In fact, in 2013, the American motion picture and television industry reported that three-quarters of U.S. high school students rarely or never take extracurricular lessons in music or the arts. “Such statistics, when taken in the context of our present neuroimaging results, underscore the vital importance of finding new and innovative ways to make music training more widely available to youths, beginning in childhood,” said Hudziak.

Multiple studies point to increased performance quality on many scholastic tests among students who are engaged in artistic preparation. Many of these studies include the areas of neuroscience and statistics. James Catterall, Ph.D., professor emeritus of UCLA’s Graduate School of Education & Information Studies, discussed the arts in education from that perspective. “The cognitive research community has explored roles of the arts in science and mathematics learning in recent years, with positive results in individual studies investigating such things as music learning and spatial reasoning. … Based on accumulated individual studies, it is fair to say that we understand a great deal about how various visual and performing arts experiences impact diverse areas of understanding. The STEAM team has a substantial research-based case for the potential roles of arts in science and technology learning.”

In 2014, the University of Vermont College of Medicine conducted a significant study on the impact of musical training on the brain development of children. In addition to confirming the already-assumed improvements to children’s ability to succeed in math, this study demonstrated that musical training provides significant benefits to children’s emotional and behavioral maturation. These findings stand in contrast to the trend in the American education system in the last few decades. Within this study, the research team led by James Hudziak, M.D., professor of psychiatry and director of the Vermont Center for Children, Youth and Families, reported that three-quarters of U.S. high school students rarely or never take extracurricular lessons in music or the arts. “Such statistics, when taken in the context of our present neuroimaging results, underscore the vital importance of finding new and innovative ways to make music training more widely available to youths, beginning in childhood,” said Hudziak.

Within the College of Music and the Arts at APU, we continually ask ourselves, “How will we engage a robust entrepreneurial spirit, and a willingness to take risks. These three attributes were previously reserved only for STEM disciplines. A unique aspect of this program is that it connects our art educators in schools, museum programs, home education, and community programs across the country with their craft as makers of art. We believe that when research and engagement in a primary discipline is an active part of teachers’ lives, it enlivens every aspect of their interaction with their students. Conversely, the more an artist strays from artistic engagement in the arts, the more he or she runs the risk of extinguishing the fire within their students and themselves. That fire burns brightly at Instituto Baccarelli as the faculty and students passionately impact their culture by maintaining a heart for service, an entrepreneurial spirit, and a willingness to take risks. These attributes resonate with the faculty of APU’s College of Music and the Arts, and we have partnered with Instituto Baccarelli. Now, these students move from the favelas in São Paulo, Brazil, through the institute, to APU. Likewise, APU students now have the opportunity to teach and learn within the favelas. With this firsthand experience, our domestic and international students may gain a vision for taking the arts into their own communities and be lights in their cultures. As local school systems embrace and implement these changes and new funding promises and supports, the arts, children will become innovators equipped to change the world and solve the complex problems that face their generations—just as Silvio Baccarelli did in a favela in São Paulo, Brazil.

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LEGISLATIVE PUSH

Despite the supportive research on the economic impact the arts have with the STEM disciplines, unless there is support from the federal government, the inclusion of the arts in public schools will remain an uphill battle with isolated pockets of success. Although the No Child Left Behind Act of 2002 sought to raise the quality of education in public schools and bring America to the forefront of education competition, it produced the negative side effect of initiating a downward trend in art education.

However, the last two years have been productive, thanks in part to the actions of a bipartisan Congressional STEAM Caucus. Congressmen Suazo Bonamici (D-OR), cochair of the STEAM Caucus, successfully added an amendment last November to the rewrite of the nation’s Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) legislation that would include the arts into STEM education. This amendment passed unanimously. A few weeks later, in December 2015, President Obama signed into law the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which included the amended provision. As part of the inclusion of arts into STEM education, funding that was not available with the initial STEM implementation will now be extended to the arts.

The momentum continues on the state level in California. In January, Senate Bill 916, the Theater and Dance Act (TADA), was introduced into the California Legislature. This bill helps remedy a gap in California (one of two states in the U.S. that does not offer teaching credentials in theater and dance) by allowing theater and dance instructors to obtain credentials in their specific fields rather than in physical education and English.
As the undergraduate students in my Azusa Pacific research program discovered, these mutations typically alter genes that function to regulate cell division or repair of DNA damage. These changes enable the cell to grow without growth controls, ultimately allowing the cell to invade surrounding tissue and metastasize to distant sites. The genetic alterations that enable cancer formation vary from one cancer to the next, making each cancer type a different form of the disease. As a result, the typical standard of care includes radiation and chemotherapy, which target cells that grow rapidly. However, many noncancerous, fast-growing cell types also succumb to these treatments, making standard cancer therapy harmful to healthy tissue. This underscores the need for more specific forms of treatment to eliminate the cancer cells without damaging the normal body.

Immunotherapy aims to harness the natural power of the immune system to target and eliminate tumor cells. Although the immune system has the capability to recognize and target tumor cells to some extent, it is limited because the immune system is programmed to target foreign invaders. Cancer cells, while behaving inappropriately, are part of the normal body, something the immune system is wired to protect. One immunotherapeutic approach, adoptive immunotherapy, utilizes genetic modification to reprogram immune cells to target tumor cells specifically. In order to do so, immune cells are engineered to express a DNA sequence that will code for a protein receptor that is specific to the tumor. This protein receptor allows for the engineered immune cells to recognize the tumor and, upon contact, immediately initiate a killing response (Figure 1). This highly specific form of therapy utilizes engineered cells that target and kill only cancerous cells. In addition, these protein receptors can be designed for any target, giving the potential for application to all cancer types.

This immunotherapeutic approach has shown the greatest clinical success against B-cell malignancies, a cancer of white blood cells. In fact, clinical trial results across multiple centers for treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukemia (one form of B-cell malignancy) specifically show remission rates ranging from 67-100 percent and exhibit a high level of safety in patients. This approach is in varied stages of the engineered cell killing response once contact with the tumor (orange) is made.

Figure 1: Reprogramming Immune Cells to Recognize and Target Tumors

1. Develop DNA that codes for a protein to be expressed on the surface of the immune cells.
2. Insert DNA into the immune cell.
3. DNA is coded into a protein receptor that has a tumor-binding domain (yellow) that is specific to the tumor (orange) and a signaling domain (blue) in order to activate immune cell killing response once contact with the tumor (orange) is made.
4. Killing of the tumor cell is initiated upon direct contact with the engineered immune cell.

While several advances have already been made, adoptive immunotherapy is still a young field with endless potential for application to all cancer types. This approach allows for specific targeting of the cancer cells, enabling restoration from the disease without growth controls, ultimately allowing the cell to invade surrounding tissue and metastasize to distant sites. The genetic alterations that enable cancer formation vary from one cancer to the next, making each cancer type a different form of the disease.
Throughout American history, religious liberty has often been described as our most important right—our “first freedom.” Our founders considered the right to freely worship an inalienable, universal human right that needed no explanation, no justification, and no defense. They also believed that the primary role of government was to protect this right and all those that flowed from it, such as the right to free speech, free press, freedom of assembly, and the freedom to petition the government for a redress of grievances. They believed that without such freedoms, our grand experiment in self-government would most assuredly fail.

However, while we consider religious liberty to be self-evident, this understanding of religious freedom that has guided us for nearly 250 years is distinctly American. Prior to our nation’s founding, Europeans routinely accepted the comingling of political power with religious authority—a blending of Church and state—that made theological dissonance painful, if not criminal. In fact, many of the early settlers fled their homelands to escape religious persecution. To prevent that from happening here, our founders incorporated three specific protections into the new government. First, they crafted our Constitution to limit the scope of centralized government power. The new federal government was given authority over interstate commerce, international relations, taxes, immigration, currency, and trade, but most of its interactions were with states, not individual citizens. Second, specific safeguards were included to give added protection to religious believers. The Constitution, for example, prohibits the use of religious tests as a condition of public service. In addition, the First Amendment prohibits Congress from establishing a national religion or infringing on an individual’s free exercise of religion. Third, the Constitution reserved most governing power for the states. The assumption was that the political entities closest to the people would be more responsive to the people’s will, and as a result, better able to protect their rights.

The Fourteenth Amendment, ratified at the end of the Civil War, changed much of that initial structure. With an eye to curbing racial discrimination, it stipulated that no state may “deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person . . . the equal protection of the laws.” It also gave Congress the power to enact legislation to protect those rights. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 offers a significant example of this. It primarily sought to end Jim Crow laws and other forms of state-sponsored racial discrimination, but it also barred discrimination on the basis of sex, religion, and national origin. Moreover, its scope went beyond the boundaries of state institutions and applied also to private businesses, schools, and other organizations that interacted with the public.

The growing complexity of the U.S. economy and the country’s increasingly pluralistic society gave the federal government additional reasons to regulate in areas previously under private control. Not surprisingly, this gave rise to numerous court cases by those alleging violation of their constitutional rights. Some of these cases argued that the government had inappropriately established a national religion by allowing the Ten Commandments or nativity scenes to be displayed on public property. Other cases involved plaintiffs who alleged that their right to free exercise of religion had been violated because they were no longer allowed to pray with students in public schools or teach from a public school curriculum that integrated the Scriptures.

On issues alleging the establishment of religion, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled fairly consistently that government need not be “a-religious,” but it also could not allow some religious activity while banning others. For example, a nativity scene on public property may be constitutional if other religious groups are given the same opportunity to erect their religious displays at the same time.

The Court has also ruled that the Constitution does not require us to censor symbols, words, and phrases associated with our religious heritage. It does not violate the Constitution, for instance, to have religious imagery, such as depictions of Moses, engraved on our national buildings, nor is it problematic to have “In God We Trust” imprinted on our national currency. Even the current practice of having a taxpayer-supported legislative chaplain offer up prayers at the beginning of each session of Congress is considered acceptable in light of our longstanding traditions.
National surveys from the last two decades reveal that 25% of adults claim no religious affiliation, especially among millennials.

In order to protect the religious rights of others, the Court has also consistently ruled that the government must provide a significant or compelling reason before it may infringe on the constitutional rights of religious believers. For example, the government might have a good reason for requiring students to attend high school, but the Court ruled in Wisconsin v. Yoder (1972) that it was not compelling enough to justify coercing Amish families to violate their sincerely held religious beliefs. In other cases, the government has successfully passed the “compelling interest test” in situations that involved the well-being or safety of others. This justification has been used to require parents to provide life-saving medical treatment for their children, even when it violated their religious beliefs. However, even when a compelling interest exists, the Court has indicated that it must first consider all other means available. Recently, this explanation worked to shield Hobby Lobby and the Little Sisters of the Poor from having to comply with the controversial birth control mandate of the federal Affordable Care Act.

The Constitution’s high regard for religious liberty also means that governments regularly make voluntary accommodations for religious believers. Charitable contributions to churches and other faith-based institutions may count as tax deductions, and state laws routinely exempt religious institutions from measures that prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion. Others take active measures to ensure that religious institutions are included as equal players with regard to funding for social welfare programs, educational programs, or other aid initiatives. School voucher programs, for example, regularly allow parents or students to use taxpayer funds to cover tuition costs at private, sectarian schools. In addition, federally funded Pell Grants, the GI Bill®, and other college tuition programs permit students to use their government grants at the accredited university of their choice. In many ways, these protections have helped to keep churches and faith-based institutions strong, even in an era of increasing government regulation. But that should not be too surprising, since religious communities have long been viewed as purveyors of social good.

However, that positive view of religion may be changing. Acts of terrorism by a few religious extremists, such as what we witnessed this past year in San Bernardino and Orlando, have caused some to advocate the revocation of civil rights for Muslims. This would not only violate their constitutional rights, but also reverse our long-held tradition of promoting religious tolerance for all. Others have openly questioned the character of Christians who disagree with majority opinion on significant social issues, such as mandatory vaccination laws, right-to-die laws, and the Supreme Court’s ruling last year on same-sex marriage.

Although these threats to religious freedom are significant, the greatest existential threat to religious liberty may still be yet to come. Surveys from the last two decades reveal that regular church attendance is declining and, as a result, nearly 25 percent of these adults claim no religious affiliation. Even more troubling, more than one-third of millennials categorized themselves as religious “nones.” If this trajectory remains unchanged, we will soon be looking at a society where religious believers of all types will be in the minority. That will likely lead to a slow erosion of religious liberty. Governments will be less likely to consider the impact on religious communities when they adopt policy, and they will be less predisposed to make accommodations for religious believers negatively impacted by public policy. Perhaps most significantly, future judges, who are drawn from the community at large, may be less willing to defend religious liberty when future constitutional challenges arise.

Despite these challenges, the good news is that we can act today to preserve religious liberty for tomorrow. First, we can model reverence for religious freedom by extending tolerance to others. Our commitment to religious liberty cannot extend solely to our own faith community, but must be widely championed for all. Christians should be the first to defend the constitutional rights of Muslims and those who belong to minority faiths. Second, we can practice good citizenship by obeying the law, even when we disagree with it (Romans 13), helping all our neighbors, not just those within the community of faith (Luke 10:25-37), and treating all people— including political leaders with whom we profoundly disagree—with love and respect (John 13:35). Finally, we can prioritize evangelism and discipleship in order to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20) and reverse the rise of the “nones.”

John Adams once remarked, “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.” If we are able to live out the commands of Scripture by sharing our faith, demonstrating tolerance toward others, and loving our neighbors as ourselves, then we will do more than just safeguard our religious liberty. We might just preserve the nation itself.

Jennifer E. Walsh, Ph.D., is dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and professor of political science. jwalsh@apu.edu

“Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

JOHN ADAMS
Allie Updike ’15 had plenty of time to think about life’s big questions—including “What do I really want from college?”—as she moved mulch and plants at a nursery near her home in Herndon, Virginia, just a few miles south of the Potomac River. It was a typical summer job for a college student, except it was spring 2013. A few weeks earlier, Updike had surprised everyone and walked away from her new home, adversity struck. During her first semester, she felt something pop in her shoulder. The doctors initially told her it was tendinitis, so she went about her business as usual, but her performance did not meet her standards. Despite this challenging circumstance, she maintained the positive attitude that her new community nurtured. Once the season finished, however, she learned why her results had waned. The problem was not tendinitis, but a torn labrum, which required surgery in August 2014. “It was a downer, but I received so much support from the community. It was almost as if the coaches were more upset about it for me than I actually was,” Updike spent that fall rehabbing, and just five months after surgery was cleared to throw. Four months later, she won her first NCAA Division II championship with a meet record. She then repeated that feat at the 2016 NCAA Division II championships last May with a meet record throw of 56.03 meters (183 feet, 10 inches), winning by more than six feet on her first throw. Each of her subsequent three throws would have also won the competition. Updike, who owns three of Division II’s top five throws of all time, also posted the eighth-best qualifying mark for the 2016 Olympic Trials, in which she competed in July and finished 15th. But for her, the track accomplishments are just icing on the cake.

However, just as Updike settled into her new home, adversity struck. As a freshman at Georgia, Updike won the 2012 Southeastern Conference javelin championship and finished ninth at the NCAA Championships. She enjoyed instant success and had a bright future. But something was missing. “On the surface, I seemed happy, but I really wasn’t,” said Updike. “I felt like I was just a performer, and if didn’t perform, then I didn’t matter to anyone. Some people thrive in that atmosphere, but it wasn’t for me. I needed something more than track.” So Updike packed up her car, walked away from the limelight, and headed home. “My parents didn’t believe I was leaving until I showed up in the driveway. I’m sure they were shocked, but they’ve always been supportive.” A few months later, while working at the nursery and trying to figure out her next step, Updike began talking with the Air Force Academy, but that path was not for her. The throws coach at Air Force, however, placed a call on her behalf to a longtime friend of his—Mike Barnett ’83, M.A. ’97, Azusa Pacific’s director of track and field. A few weeks later, Updike trekked across the country for a visit and found her new home. “I knew right away this was the place. I went to morning workouts with the team, and there was a different atmosphere that I hadn’t experienced before. The athletes weren’t just athletes, they were people, and the coaches cared for them. That was the first thing I saw, and I wanted that more than anything.” It was also the first thing Updike’s parents could see on Allie’s face when she came home the following Christmas. “As soon as she walked through the door, we knew immediately she had made the right decision. She found joy there,” said Jackie Updike, Allie’s mom.

For all her championships and honors, Updike is more proud of the things she has done off the track—things she likely would have never accomplished if not for her decision to come to Azusa Pacific. Things like mission trips to Mexico, being a Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) leader and team captain, or a month-long mission trip to Hawaii in 2015 with Surfing the Nations, serving the community, cleaning up beaches, feeding the hungry, and investing in relationships. “APU has made me more confident, and I don’t know where I’d be or what I’d be doing had I not found this place. The people here have made my life that much sweeter. I didn’t know what it meant to serve a community, but they gave me opportunities to be a blessing to others. There was a piece of my heart that was missing, and I found it at APU. Coach Barnett is not just a coach, he’s been a godly father figure and showed me my value. He made me realize that my life is not all about the javelin. Track and field is something I do, but it’s not who I am.”

Micah McDaniel ’99 is a freelance writer living at McKinney, Texas. micah.mcdermott@gmail.com
Pro Cougars: Vogt Repeats as MLB All-Star, Watson Joins Browns Practice Squad

Manny Lopez Baseball: Stephen Vogt ’07 (Oakland Athletics) was named to the MLB All-Star Team for the second consecutive season. He joins seven other former Cougars at various levels of professional baseball. Kirk Ninemire ’08 (Milwaukee Brewers) is likely to be named to the MLB All-Star team. These hopefuls, led by Stephen Vogt, have earned their respective team divisions to be considered for 1 of the 10 starting slots on the All-Star teams. Vogt’s season was highlighted by a strong performance in the first half, where he batted .317 with 18 home runs and 59 RBI. He was also named to the American League All-Star team for the second consecutive season. The Cougars are looking for Vogt to continue his strong performance in the second half of the season.

National Football League: The Cleveland Browns invited running back Terrell Watson ’14 to their practice squad after he signed with the team. Watson was on the Cincinnati Bengals practice squad in 2015. Offensive lineman Luke Marquardt ’13 also gained a midseason promotion to Double-A.

Updike, Almazan Nominated for NCAA Woman of the Year

The Pacific West Conference nominated Mayra Almazan ’16 and Alix Updike ’15 for the 2016 NCAA Woman of the Year Award, advancing them from a pool of more than 500 nominees across all three NCAA divisions to be considered for 1 of the 10 recipients from each NCAA division. The NCAA Woman of the Year program honors the academic achievements, athletics excellence, community service, and leadership of graduating female college athletes from all three divisions.

Merrill Represents Team USA at Paralympic Games

Trenton Merrill ’14 earned a spot on Team USA for the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. Merrill is 1 of 40 men and 26 women on the 66-athlete delegation, earning his place on the squad after a strong performance in the long jump and eighth place in the 100 meters at the 2016 U.S. Paralympic Team Trials in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Paralympic Games will be Merrill’s second international competition after he won a silver medal as part of the 4x100-meter relay at the 2015 Paralympic World Championships.

Keeping the Spark in Your Marriage Alive

It has often been said that the best thing you can do for your children is to love your spouse. At times, this means putting aside your spouse’s needs in order to focus on your children’s. Many who grow up in a home where the parents had a child-focused marriage say they have a difficult time knowing what a good marriage looks like exactly. In other words, your greatest family investment may be in your marriage.

Over time, every couple’s relationship can become predictable, romance, sex, and even conversation can become routine or nonexistent. If “routine” or “predictable” sums up your situation, then it is time to refocus energy on your spouse. If your relationship is suffering due to lack of attention, here are some questions to help you evaluate what needs to happen to light the spark again:

1. When you and your spouse were dating, what did you do to make him or her feel special?
2. What are you currently doing to make your partner feel special?
3. What was the last fun activity you and your spouse did together?
4. How often do you participate together in activities you both enjoy?
5. If you asked your spouse to list your top five priorities based on how you devote the most time and effort, what do you think your spouse would say?
6. Where does your spouse rank on that list?

There are a few steps you can take to improve your relationship:

1. Set aside time to hugging and cuddle. Whether you’re watching TV or playing a game, make sure to hold hands and cuddle.
2. Take time to eat dinner together. Make sure to leave your cell phones at home and focus on each other.
3. Make time to play a game or go out for a small treat. Whether it’s playing a video game or going out for ice cream, make sure to have fun.
4. Take time to connect and have meaningful conversations. Whether it’s talking about your day or discussing your feelings, make sure to spend time together.

These are just a few steps you can take to improve your relationship. It’s important to remember that your relationship is unique and needs to be nurturing and loving.

To find time to replenish your relationship, you might need to cut something out of your busy schedule. Can I let you in on a secret? Kids would rather have parents who like each other than learn how to play one more musical instrument or score another goal in soccer. I’m not suggesting that you stop being a good parent, but in that busyness they have neglected their marriage. They hope to make some changes in the near future, but now is the time to make the important decisions in their spouses’ lives.

We Heard You

Thank you for responding to the 2016 Alumni Attitude Survey—the results are in. Your engagement in the process far exceeded the national average response rate: APU participants represented every school and department, all degree levels, and every graduating class for nearly six decades. Your willingness to voice your thoughts enables us to better understand what you need from Azusa Pacific and how we can provide the most relevant resources as you navigate your life and career. Here are some of the highlights:

- God First matters. You overwhelmingly affirmed the university’s commitment to faith integration throughout every program and policy, every classroom and curriculum. You fully support concerted efforts toward graduating difference makers who will impact the world for Christ.
- Focused communication. You asked us to take a fresh look at the way we communicate with you, including both the format and the content. You identified the most and least relevant topics and issues as well as the best ways to reach you most conveniently and effectively.
- Department affiliation. During your time as a student, your department activities and relationships kept you motivated, inspired, and connected. No one knows you and your field better than those who trained you and worked alongside you. You want that affiliation to continue, strengthen, and thrive beyond graduation.
- Career partnership. The marketplace is crowded, competition is fierce, and every advantage helps. You want APU to partner with you in job interviews, networking, and career changes. Through APU Connect (apuconnect.com), educational events, job placement assistance, career partnerships, and other resources, you want to continue your APU education formally and informally. Start making those connections today by contacting the Center for Career and Calling (apu.edu/career), where career resources and internships and job opportunities are available to alumni for life.
- Your vision for Azusa Pacific has inspired us, and your feedback has helped build a pathway as we process the data and plan for the future. To stay abreast of the progress, please confirm that we have your current contact information at apu.edu/alumni/contact/information. To learn more about the benefits available to APU alumni, visit apu.edu/alumni.
PAUL YEUN ’68

Counseling, and serves as the director of the CJD from Harvard Law School for the Prison Terms, and the United States

CHARLES PINEDA ’64

CLASS NOTES

What is your calling and how are you working to fulfill it?

Rick Givens ’83, M.A. ’03, who helped me enhance my leadership skills.

Joe was a San Dimas Canyon Golf Course in San Dimas, California. Jeremy also serves as a freelance photographer throughout Australia. He lives in Sydney.

ELISA VAN BEEK ’13

When I told her that something was wrong, she hugged our baby, which made me realize how important it is to stay connected with family.

ASIA GROUP Advisors in Jakarta. He also received two consecutive Fulbright scholarships to Indonesia.

DEIRDRE PEARA ’14

After APU, Paul earned a Master of Divinity degree in Biblical and Theological Studies, and a Master of Arts in Pastoral Counseling from Azusa Pacific University.

LOC: 70, M.A. ’15

I live in Monrovia, California.

My father, Jerold, was a highly introverted person. Finding energy means that I have to be in a constant state of motion.

I’m actually a highly extroverted person. Finding energy means that I have to be in a constant state of motion.

Vincent is a living skills specialist with the Portland, Oregon, School District as the recreation supervisor.

BETHANY (BLANCHARD ’11)

My mom taught me that hard work is the best investment in my life.

What does it mean to you to be successful?

Whatever Is Good

Vinny is a living skills specialist with the Portland, Oregon, School District as the recreation supervisor.

VINATIERI ’15

Ty was with his wife, Kristin.

MORALE: I am interested in the relationship between physical activity and mental health. I want to motivate people to move more.

When I was a kid, I loved reading comic books. I always loved reading about superheroes who had special abilities.

My mom taught me that hard work is the best investment in my life.

MORAL: I am actually a highly introverted person. Finding energy means that I have to be in a constant state of motion.

Sarita and she are a special needs education assistant in the Neshall School District.

SARAH WILLIAMS ’11

She lives in Orange, California.

She serves as the marketing officer at Outstanding Travel consulting firm in Encinas, California, collaborating with a local company to handle our Carlsbad Desalination Plant to fruition. The plant is the largest in the western hemisphere, and converts more than 50 million gallons of ocean water to drinking water per day for San Diego County.

NATHAN HUGHES ’12 and his twin brother, Nicholas ’12, serve as full-time pastors. After returning from a two-year mission trip to Malawi, East Africa, Nick received a scholarship to attend seminary in Jackson, Mississippi. He now serves as the associate pastoral student at Breath of Life Baptist Church in Madison, Missouri.

Victoria works with The Circuit, a labor delivery nurse and Dustin as a mechanical engineer. The couple lives in San Dimas.

JEREMY BISHOP ’15

Amandade (Bidwell ’08), live in Toma River, along with her son, Henry, 2. whateverisgood.blogspot.com

AMANDA (BIDWELL ’08)

Nelson is a labor delivery nurse and Dustin as a mechanical engineer. The couple lives in San Dimas.

JEROLD JOHNSON ’97

My dad taught me that hard work is the best investment in my life.

JOSH VALDIVIA ’14

JENNIFER FRAGA ’16

When I was a kid, I loved reading comic books. I always loved reading about superheroes who had special abilities.

I’m actually a highly extroverted person. Finding energy means that I have to be in a constant state of motion.

Whatever Is Good

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“America is at its best when we live in proximity with others we don’t necessarily agree with—and we talk, we debate, we learn from one another.”

—Eric Teetsel, M.Ed. ‘10

By Rachel White

Amidst a deepening political and cultural divide reflected in the heated election cycle, Teetsel admits the future seems unclear, but he offers hope: “Consensus is difficult to find. However, America is at its best when we live in proximity with others we don’t necessarily agree with—and we talk, we debate, we learn from one another. Then we shake hands and agree to continue a conversation. This makes everyone better. Christian leaders can inspire this type of discourse and remind us of our shared humanity.”

The Landscape of an Artist

In 2011, Katy Ann Gilmore, MFA ’14, made the long drive from her home in Southern Illinois to APU, California, watching the flatlands of the Midwest give way to the rise of the San Gabriel Mountains. Influenced by the shifting landscapes on that drive, she used pen and pencil, sculpture, and mixed media to bring topographical forms to life as she earned her MFA in Visual Art at APU.

Today, as a full-time, Los Angeles-based artist, Gilmore also draws inspiration from another somber yet surprising source: mathematics. “Art and math once seemed at odds,” she said. “As an undergrad, I thought I would have to choose one over the other for my career.”

Since graduating, Gilmore has featured work in exhibitions throughout California, developed a strong social media following, and spent three months as a resident artist at the competitive Red Bull House of Art in Detroit, Michigan. In the midst of art shows, hundreds of hours of drawing, and running her own studio, she still hikes in the same foothills that inspired her work as a graduate student. To students embarking on their own artistic journeys, she offers this advice: “Be open to the ideas that come to you. Every artist’s path looks different.”

Along with four fellow Princeton seminarians, Waks secured funding and sent out a call to 40 institutions across the globe for graduate student papers centered on one theme: missional theology. In January 2015, the first volume launched with an online version and more than 400 copies offered as a free resource to students, professors, pastors, and libraries. “Most journals offer a platform for established theologians, while the quality papers of master’s students fall by the wayside,” he said. “We provide a global presence and larger sphere of influence for master’s degree programs, while the quality papers of master’s students fall by the wayside,” he said. “We provide a global presence and larger sphere of influence for master’s degree programs, while the quality papers of master’s students fall by the wayside,” he said. “We provide a global presence and larger sphere of influence for master’s degree programs, while the quality papers of master’s students fall by the wayside.”

With his solid theological background and strong writing skills honed at APU, Waks took on the role of executive editor, continuing the journal’s legacy of academic excellence with a unique focus: making materials relevant and accessible to lay pastors and members of other disciplines as well as theologians. “The focus is on the intersection of theology and ministry and encourages people in broader fields like sociology and anthropology to connect their work with service,” he said. “Ultimately, the journal serves the academy and the Church, and is used by scholars conducting research and pastors preparing sermons.”

In 2015, Waks, recipient of the 2013 APU Servant Leadership Award and a student in the Master of Divinity program at PTS, saw the potential of this lost publication to impact today’s Church. He noticed that many churches lacked a deeper understanding of God and the Christian faith. “Frequently, the Church is becoming a question of the academy and academics lose sight of ministry’s importance,” said Waks. “The journal can help bridge that gap, providing a tool to deepen the mind of the Church and showing the inseparable nature of theological study and ministry.”

But Gilmore’s intriguing work blends both. Often with acrylic markers, she crafts hilly landscapes in the form of grids and explores the relationships between perpendicular planes and their distortions in 3D space. “I work between logic and creativity, beginning many of my pieces with a mathematical concept, graph, or equation, and setting up boundaries for my creativity,” she said. Gilmore’s interdisciplinary approach drove her decision to earn her MFA at a liberal arts school. “I wanted to be surrounded and inspired by different disciplines and ideas,” she said. “Anything from math to philosophy can play a role in art.”

Rather than limiting, Gilmore’s use of mathematical constructs opens her work to “new frontiers of beauty and mystery. Many of her drawings feature the dark webbing of intricate graphs seemingly concealing mysterious geometric shapes and structures. In 2015, she created “State of Discombob,” a 5145-foot mural, with an acrylic marker on a wall at Greenville College in Greenville, Illinois. Involved more than 20 hours of work, the drawing depicts thousands of small triangles that form a netted graph appearing to shroud a massive, rugged mountain range.

Whatever the subject, each piece springs from a fascination with the existence of dimensions and colors invisible to human eyes. Gilmore encourages others to see the world from different perspectives, challenging viewers to rethink what they consider mundane by asking: “What do we see with our eyes, and what exists there that we can’t see?”

The academy and the Church often appear separate,” Waks said. “But they can be the product and a champion of Christian political witness seemed more political than Christian,” Teetsel said. “We very few role models who integrate faith and political policies. So now we ask the question, ‘How do we participate in politics in a truly Christ-centered way?’” Teetsel points to history for inspiration. “[Dietrich] Bonhoeffer and [William] Wilberforce were driven by their faith to engage in the faith outreach.”

For Teetsel, a graduate of APU and Wheaton College, Teetsel views Christian universities as ground zero in the "communities by engaging in the""SHAPING THE FUTURE OF FAITH & POLITICS BY RACHEL WHITE American University of Pacific"
Balancing that commitment to guests with the day-to-day realities of running a multifaceted business requires dedication. “This is a sacrificial business,” said Joseph Brinco ’01, co-owner of Domenico’s Jr. in Glendora, who joined a family restaurant legacy that stretches back to the 1960s. “When most nine-to-fivers are taking their families out on a Friday night, we’re in the restaurant working to feed them. You give up a lot of family time and miss out on the traditional holidays, because food service is a round-the-clock job, and you have to be able to make peace with that.”

Recognizing the demands the industry puts on personal lives, Jennifer (Keen ’96) Small began exploring the blend of restaurant and family life with a dash of humor through her blog, EmulsifiedFamily.com, which has been regularly featured in The Huffington Post. Married to a career chef, Tom Small (attended ’92-’94), she reflects on the daily realities of running a multifaceted business: “Growing up, while most kids were going to the park, I was in a restaurant every day. Now, I watch as my kids play in the back on the giant sauc of flour and jump around my storage room from case to case. That’s my childhood all over again.”

Brothers Michael ’95 and William Kefalas ’96 remember their parents whipping up traditional fare during gatherings, but they have a new perspective. “As my husband and I work in the kitchen, we’re all about doing our part, whether it’s on the dining floor or keeping customers happy, but they all admit the real payoff comes from accepting God’s call on your life and allowing him to be your partner in every area.”

And he is onto something. When done right, restaurant life represents a microcosm of the broader culture, a non-nuclear family united under extreme circumstances. “One of the most compelling aspects of the industry is the many cultures and personalities you’ll find in any given restaurant, especially the kitchens,” said Siwek. “I love that the true diversity of God’s Kingdom is represented in our kitchen, and we’re all there to help each other win.”

And the victories are many. For a restaurant owner, it’s a singular business challenge with myriad variables for which to solve. For a server, it’s the opportunity to earn while extending a gracious hand of hospitality. For a chef, it’s a chance to start fresh, quite literally, each day, bringing delicious new culinary concepts to a hungry clientele.

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And the victories are many. For a restaurant owner, it’s a singular business challenge with myriad variables for which to solve. For a server, it’s the opportunity to earn while extending a gracious hand of hospitality. For a chef, it’s a chance to start fresh, quite literally, each day, bringing delicious new culinary concepts to a hungry clientele.
continued from page 27

14 To LORI (LARSSON ’02, M.A.’09) DUKOWSKY and her husband, Rich, a son, Zachary Joseph, on June 16, 2016. Zac, joins big brother, James, 4, and big sister, Natalie, 2. Lori is a stay-at-home mom, and Rich is a chemistry teacher.

15 To RUTHIE (FOWLER ’03) SMITH and her husband, Charles, a son, Beckston Charles, on March 21, 2016. Beckston joins big brother, Cooper. The family lives in San Diego after spending the previous three years in Hawaii and Romania.

16 To SHILOH (SLACK ’05) RACICOT and her husband, RYAN (ATTENDED ’01-’03), a son, Zeke, on October 2, 2015. Zeke joins big brother, Micah. Ryan serves as a mechanical engineer in the medical-device industry, and Shiloh runs a small yoga gear business. The couple lives in Berthoud, Colorado, and attends LifeSpring Covenant Church in Loveland.

17 To KARI (WRING ’05) CHRISTENSEN and her husband, Eric, a daughter, Elle Grace, on July 17, 2015. They reside in Wisconsin, Oregon.

18 To JONATHAN BERGLUND ’06 and his wife, Anna, a daughter, Eisley Faye, on April 3, 2016. Jonathan serves as the communications pastor at the Church On The Way in Van Nuys, California, and is continuing his education at Fuller Theological Seminary.

19 To RONI HIGGINBOTHAM, M.A. ’15, and her husband, Adam, a son, Cohen Nathaniel, on May 5, 2016. Cohen joins big brother, Declan. Roni serves as a special education teacher at Cublin Elementary, and Adam is the program coordinator in the Office of Residence Life at Azusa Pacific University.

Notable and Noteworthy
The Alumni Relations staff and your classmates want to know what’s new with you. Upload Alumni Class Notes and photos to apu.edu/alumniparents/alumni/connect/classnotes or email alumni@apu.edu.

Advancing God’s Work in the World
APU students are visionary leaders, hope agents, difference makers, and grace-filled entrepreneurs, willing to do what it takes to transform the world for Christ.

Fuel this impact by supporting the University Fund. Your dollars go directly to equip students to powerfully change the world—both now and for years to come. Gifts of every size make a difference!

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The Pinkhams

Throughout its 117-year history, Azusa Pacific University has been blessed with 16 Christ-centered presidents. Two came from the Pinkham family. The Training School for Christian Workers (TSCW, predecessor of Azusa Pacific University) elected Bertha Theresa Pinkham, a Quaker from the Ohio Yearly Meeting, as its third president on August 4, 1903. Within eight months, the school built a large building (estimated construction expenses of $8,000) on a plot of land valued at $2,000, located on the corner of First and Figueroa streets in downtown Los Angeles. During her one year as president, the Training School sent a group of missionaries to Guatemala that made a significant impact in that country. When Pinkham married William T. Dixon on June 23, 1904, she stepped down as president and began a long career in evangelistic work.

William Pinkham, the Pinkhams’ father, accepted the fifth presidency of the TSCW in summer 1909. The elder Pinkham brought valuable experience gained from serving as a Quaker minister, college professor, trustee at Malone College, acting president of Earlham College, prolific book author, and editor of the Evangelical Friend. At its new Huntington Park location, William Pinkham’s decade-long tenure included dedicating a new wing to the school building, raising funds for further expansion, and, together with the faculty, developing a prescribed curriculum required for graduation. Today, under the leadership of its 16th president, Jon R. Wallace, DBA, Azusa Pacific continues its heritage of service in the traditional mission field as well as in local church involvement, through volunteerism and vocation, extending the legacy of sending out difference makers.

—Ken Otto, MLIS, associate professor, Special Collections librarian

—Kret Otto, MLIS, associate professor, Special Collections librarian
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