

# APULIFE

AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

Volume 30 | Number 2

CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE ■ ACADEMIC FAITH INTEGRATION ■ THE VALUE OF ADDING AN ACADEMIC MINOR

## Congratulations!

### CLASS OF 2017

*God First Since 1899*





The everyday work inside and outside classrooms prepares our more than 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students to take God’s revealed, Christ-centered worldview into culture and society to live a life of transparent obedience wherever God calls them for His redemptive purposes.

My childhood church experience involved Sunday school flannel graph boards, bringing to life Old Testament stories of kings conquering armies and fire from heaven, and New Testament stories of walking on water, miraculous healing, and women and men in faithful obedience.

I loved the story of Jonah, God’s prophet and servant who carried a divine message to the capital city of Israel’s enemy—an assignment he initially ran from. While Jonah sailed in the opposite direction, God sent a storm. When his shipmates discovered Jonah was to blame, they threw him overboard, and he was swallowed by a big fish. After three days, the fish deposited him on dry land, and Jonah faithfully preached repentance in Nineveh.

Later in life, the full picture of Jonah’s story came into focus—Jonah expected God to punish Nineveh, not to extend grace and forgiveness. The story ends with the repentance of Nineveh, and Jonah, awash in anger and disappointment, far from God.

That story comes to mind when I think of the importance of APU’s Christ-centered mission. The everyday work inside and outside classrooms prepares our more than 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students to take God’s revealed, Christ-centered worldview into culture and society to live a life of transparent obedience wherever God calls them for His redemptive purposes. Like Jonah, these are often tenuous assignments, hedged by conversations, cultural norms, and values that are increasingly in tension with the Christian message. In partnership with the Church, our response enables us to see these challenges as opportunities for engagement—to take the faith integration of the classroom into faithful living in the world. Let me cite a few recent examples of such opportunities.

This summer, APU hosted the Institute on Theology and Disability to address two primary questions: How does God see disability, and how would He have us serve? Keynote speaker Joni Eareckson Tada framed these queries, and attendees reaffirmed God’s call in this assignment.

Meanwhile, the School of Nursing celebrated Catherine Heinlein, Ed.D., RN, receiving a prestigious Fulbright award to live and study at the Calcutta Mercy Hospital in India. The insight gleaned and knowledge gained from this yearlong assignment will influence her academic impact at APU and reveal how to best prepare students and colleagues for their Kingdom assignments.

Just recently, Joshua Martinez ’04 was one of four teachers in America to receive the prestigious 2017 New Teacher Project Fishman Prize. Joshua teaches fourth grade at the KIPP Raíces Academy in East Los Angeles. His commitment to his students, their families, and the communities his school serves exemplifies responding to God’s call.

In turn, the Hugh and Hazel Darling Foundation gift to fund the new Azusa Pacific University Center for Public Affairs and Master of Public Administration in Sacramento will enable APU to prepare graduates to grapple with complex issues at the forefront of governance and legislation from a Christian worldview.

God gives each of us gifts and abilities, empowered through His Holy Spirit. Our call and commitment to use these gifts through the Church, local or distant, allows us to participate in God’s work in the world. Like Jonah, we must take a faithful and courageous step of obedience to be used as God sees fit in sometimes uncomfortable places and in surprising ways. Today, many of us faithfully live in the place God has called us, exercising our God-given gifts against an outcome that may seem improbable. May God’s triumphant outcome in Jonah’s story inspire us to trust Him ever more so.

Shalom,  
*Jon R. Wallace*  
Jon R. Wallace, DBA  
Listening, trusting, obeying

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Cover photo by Dana Attebery, M.A. ’17. The class of 2017 joined the APU alumni family on May 6, becoming part of more than 50,000 difference makers impacting the world for Christ.

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Mirroring the moment their journey began during freshman orientation, APU's class of spring 2017 took part in a candela ceremony (top center) led by President Jon R. Wallace, DBA. The event, now a highlight of Commencement Weekend, signifies the culmination of the graduates' college experience. On May 6, more than 1,700 APU students celebrated their graduation, crossing the stage toward a bright future with their bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degrees in hand.



APU Hosts Math Field Day and STEM Festival

Celebrating the challenges and triumphs inherent in mathematics education, Azusa Pacific hosted the Los Angeles County Office of Education’s (LACOE) Math Field Day for the first time on April 29, 2017. The event, sponsored by University Libraries, the Center for Research in Science, and the Department of Mathematics and Physics, featured a math competition for L.A. County students in grades 4-8. LACOE’s annual Math Field Day provides creative and exciting activities that promote mathematical reasoning, teamwork, and a balanced curriculum for students in traditional and charter schools. Teams of four, selected by districts throughout the county, competed in events that called upon various math skills, including computational and procedural, conceptual understanding, and problem solving.

The day began with a general assembly where students and their proctors learned the format and scoring

policies. Round one, the conceptual understanding competition, and round two, problem solving, evaluated how well the four students functioned as a team, listened to one another, shared strategies, and worked collaboratively on the task. The computational and procedural skill category provided an opportunity for team members to compete individually by answering 10 skill-level questions each.

Following the competitive events, students celebrated at the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Festival, where they participated in fun activities involving robotics, environmental photography, molecular gastronomy, computer programming, video and game production, flight simulations, neuroscience, and chemistry. At the close of the day, an awards ceremony recognized the top scorers and encouraged all students to regard their participation as a testament to their outstanding focus, commitment, and academic success.

Alumni Matched with Medical Residencies

Twelve Azusa Pacific alumni who are fourth-year medical students sought and received placement in their preferred specialties this spring. These alumni will serve in medical residencies throughout the country, further preparing them for careers as physicians.

Jon Milhon, Ph.D., professor in the Department of Biology and Chemistry and mentor to many of these alumni, likens the residency pairing process to draft day in professional sports. After years of hard work and weeks of intense interviews, students rank their top choices for residencies while hospitals and universities rank the top students. A computer analyzes the data and matches students with residencies while thousands of anxious candidates await the results. Sometimes, the news disappoints, and many students must face the reality of an undesirable location or specialty—or worse, no match at all. The APU alumni’s sweep in this year’s residency pairing speaks well of their preparation for the journey.

The 12 alumni poised to represent APU in medical residencies this year, the program from which they earned their degree, and their residency match appear below:

**Jaycen Brown ’10, MD**  
University of Arizona, Orthopedic Surgery at Texas A&M, College Station

**Peter Fredricks ’11, MD**  
University of Illinois, Emergency Medicine at Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, Maryland

**Narges Horriat ’11, MD**  
Medical College of Wisconsin, Plastic Surgery at University of Mississippi, Oxford

**Daniel Leininger ’12, DO**  
Western University, Internal Medicine at Loma Linda University, California

**Ryon Maland ’11, MD**  
Drexel University, Internal Medicine at Kaiser Permanente, Santa Clara, California

**Dan Maring ’11, DO**  
Michigan State University, Family Medicine at Metrohealth in Grand Rapids, Michigan

**Mitch Seman ’12, MD**  
Creighton University, Anesthesiology at the Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale, Arizona

**Caleb Scarth ’12, DO**  
Western University, Emergency Medicine at Cook County Hospital, Chicago, Illinois

**Marie Sharpe ’11, MD**  
University of Miami, OB/GYN at Loma Linda University, California

**Daniel Shouldice ’13, MD**  
University of California, Davis, Emergency Medicine at University of Washington, Seattle

**Austin Tenney ’12, DO**  
Rocky Vista University, Emergency Medicine at Rochester University, New York

**Alex Woodrow ’12, DO**  
Des Moines University, Anesthesiology at University of Iowa, Iowa City

APU Participates in Study of Christian Higher Education Impact

To better understand, support, and communicate the benefits of Christian higher education, America’s Christian Credit Union provided the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU) with a \$100,000 grant to conduct research on the economic impact of faith-based colleges and universities in the U.S. This study will examine how and why these institutions collectively affect local communities, states, and the country, and will also focus on specific institutions, beginning with Azusa Pacific University.

In partnership with Econsult Solutions, a Philadelphia-based organization that will provide insight into economic, policy, and strategic matters, the CCCU will generate a national impact analysis that incorporates quantitative and qualitative information from all member colleges and universities. The data will help construct an emerging narrative regarding the national impact of CCCU schools and graduates, as well as their state and local impact.

The first of its kind, this study seeks to generate the relevant statistics and measureable data necessary to effectively

develop and market Christian higher education. It will also strengthen the CCCU’s ability to lobby for legislation on behalf of its member institutions and communicate the unique benefits of Christian higher education to business leaders, government officials, and stakeholders in every field. Further, this strategic national study, with results expected later this year, will establish a working model for individual states and institutions seeking to pursue similar research studies.

Grant Funds New Center for Public Affairs

The Hugh & Hazel Darling Foundation granted Azusa Pacific \$750,000 toward the establishment of APU’s Center for Public Affairs in Sacramento, California. The new center creates an academic pathway for students seeking careers in government, legislation, and other areas of public service by providing a unique combination of coursework and internships at legislative, executive, judicial, and other government agencies.

The center will enroll 25-30 students during its first year. During their semester in Sacramento, students will take 3-6 units of academic coursework in public policy and 6-9 units of government internship work. In addition, the center will offer the Master of Public Administration (MPA), the first ever within the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities. With an estimated start date in fall 2019, the MPA program will prepare students seeking advanced positions in Sacramento or in other cities nationwide. With two available emphases—government service and nonprofit administration—graduate students called to public service have the flexibility to tailor their education to their career goals.

This generous donation allows APU students to prepare for critical roles in public service through relevant curricula with a Christian worldview, critical

hands-on experience, and the invaluable opportunity to learn, work, and serve in the state capital, where important relationships are forged and sustained. APU’s Center for Public Affairs will enable APU students and alumni to enter public service with the advantage of a solid academic foundation steeped in the very culture and environment in which they intend to serve, and will prepare graduates with a Christian worldview to grapple with complex issues that appear on the forefront of governance and legislation.

Faculty Member Earns Prestigious Fulbright Award

Catherine Heinlein, Ed.D., RN, PHN, RD, CDE, associate professor of nursing and associate director of the Neighborhood Wellness Center, received a Fulbright Scholar Award to teach and research at Calcutta Mercy Hospital (CMH) in India. Heinlein will spend the first six months of 2018 leveraging her expertise as a certified diabetes educator, registered dietitian, and registered nurse to work with local faculty and staff to conduct her research project: Reaching the Unreachable: Establishing a Diabetes Prevention Program at a Volunteer Organization and Community Group Setting in Kolkata, India.

Heinlein recognized the problematic rise in diabetes among the Indian population in 2008 when she was part of the faculty leadership on a mission trip through APU. Her Fulbright award will enable her to help inform the citizens of Kolkata who may suffer from the potentially debilitating disease, and help train health educators in diabetes self-management and treatment education so the work can continue beyond the short term.

This teaching and research project addresses the urgency to educate people who are unaware of the impact diabetes can have on their lives. While information

*continued on page 8*

Alumna Earns Fellowship in Sacramento





Standing out among her peers in a competitive national pool of politically engaged, recently graduated college students, Alexis Leicht ’16 earned a coveted spot in the state’s 2016-17 class of Capital Fellows. Administered by the Center for California Studies at California State University, Sacramento, the internship program invites 64 college graduates to work as full-time staff members in the California State Senate, Assembly, Executive Branch, and Judiciary for nearly one year. Leicht is 1 of only 18 selected to work directly with assembly member Melissa Melendez (R-67<sup>th</sup>) as a legislative aid and help staff committees.

Leicht’s ambition and solid academic background qualified her for the position. Supplementing her academic load, she spent a semester studying abroad as an associated student at the University of Oxford, St. Catherine’s College, developing critical thinking and communication skills. During her senior year, she interned for Assemblymember Marc Steinorth (R- 40<sup>th</sup>), an opportunity that

she parlayed into a full-time campaign position with him in Sacramento. Armed with these valuable experiences, a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with *magna cum laude* honors, and a minor in pre-law, Leicht distinguished herself among her national counterparts competing for this fellowship. *Forbes* and *Vault* have ranked the Capital Fellows program as one of the country’s top 10 internships, in the company of other prestigious organizations, such as Google, GE, and Nickelodeon Animation Studios.

With this honor, Leicht becomes the fourth APU capital fellow, joining predecessors Hannah Marrs ’11, Cameron Demetre ’13, and Jonathan Hughes ’13. This growing group of Azusa Pacific alumni paves the way for fellow graduates seeking to forge relationships, engage in the inner workings of state government, contribute to the legislative process, and serve as the salt and light Christ calls them to be within this arena of policy and influence.



### Reading Recommendations from Bruce Baloian

Bruce Baloian, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of biblical and religious studies.

***The Mystery of Godliness: Experiencing Christ in Us***  
by W. Ian Thomas (CLC Publications, 2015).

***He Came Down from Heaven and the Forgiveness of Sins***  
by Charles Williams (Apocryphile Press, 2005).

***Grace and Law: St. Paul, Kant, and the Hebrew Prophets***  
by Heinz Cassirer (Eerdmans, 1988).

***Pensees*** by Blaise Pascal (Penguin Classics, 1995).

***Revival Lectures*** by Charles G. Finney (Fleming H. Revell Co., 1993).

Section sponsored by the University Libraries and compiled by Liz Leahy, MLS, MAT, professor of theological bibliography and research and chair of the James L. Stamps Theological Library. l Leahy@apu.edu



# APU’s TEDx Event Inspires Innovation



Building on the momentum of the 2015 inaugural event, TEDx AzusaPacificUniversity returned on March 28, 2017, featuring speakers and videos centered on the theme of innovation. Sponsored by the Center for Research on Ethics and Values, the independently organized, ticketed event licensed by TED, a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading, was limited to 100 audience members from across campus who applied to attend. Additionally, others in the academic community watched the event as it streamed online or at a viewing party in the Cougar Dome. Special speakers included: Regina Chow Trammel, Ph.D., LCSW, assistant professor in the Master of Social Work program, “Stressing Less: Using Mindfulness to Deal with Everyday Pressures”; Keith Hall, Ed.D., executive director of the Undergraduate Academic Success Center, “The Innovator’s Toolbox: Smiles, Style, and Substance”; Veronica A. Gutiérrez, MFA, Ph.D., director of undergraduate research and associate professor in the Department of History and Political Science, “Cultural

Resilience: What We Can Learn From the Oldest City in the Americas”; Ryan R. Montague, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Communication Studies, “You Never Asked: The Game-Changing Conversation You Never Had”; Skyla Herod, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Biology and Chemistry, “The Moral Imperative for Building Resilient Brains”; Robert Duke, Ph.D., dean of the School of Theology and Azusa Pacific Seminary, “Foster Care to College: A Crisis WE Can Solve”; and Deshonna Collier-Goubil, Ph.D., chair and associate professor in the Department of Criminal Justice, “Reimagining Criminal Justice.” These faculty and staff members, experts in their field and passionate about their topics, shed light on urgent societal issues that engaged the community in thought, dialogue, and action. The TEDx platform facilitates a broad stage for independent communities like Azusa Pacific to voice important insights from a scholarly perspective and propose innovative solutions to local, national, and global needs.

*continued from page 7*

exists for the growing numbers of those already diagnosed with diabetes, most does not address preventive care that could help them avoid the disease’s impact, such as cardiovascular disease, hypertension, and depression. Because many cannot afford the classes at established organizations, Heinlein plans to explore the use of the YWCA to hold free or affordable courses. Further, she intends to establish a reproducible set of education modules that are portable and modified to be culturally sensitive.

The Fulbright Scholar program’s goal to expand and strengthen relationships between the people of all nations and cultures and to promote international understanding and cooperation aligns with Azusa Pacific’s mission to advance the work of God in the world through scholarship, teaching, and building disciples across all levels and delivery systems. Heinlein’s work illustrates this synthesis of scholarship, compassion, and service.

**Education Hiring Fair Connects Students and Employers**  
More than 75 Southern California school districts sent representatives to meet with Azusa Pacific education students at the annual Educator Hiring Fair in March. The event enables students to complement their résumés with personal connections and conversations that often make the difference when employers select their new staff. In addition to initiating key contacts, many students underwent formal onsite interviews, giving them a distinct advantage during the hiring season.

Given the California teacher shortage and the percentage of underqualified educators in the system, these districts seek graduates prepared to navigate the complexities of diverse classrooms with skill, experience, and passion. They look to Azusa Pacific to find this caliber of educator. The university enjoys strong professional relationships with more than 150 California school districts, all

of which hire APU graduates every year. These symbiotic affiliations account for Azusa Pacific’s ranking as the fourth-largest California university in the recommendation of preliminary special education credentials. In 2015-16, APU recommended 106 students for a Preliminary Education Specialist Instruction Credential, assisted 125 students in attaining their Clear Education Specialist Instruction Credential, and conferred 49 Master of Arts in Education degrees with an emphasis in special education. Called to teach and equipped with a faith-infused education that promotes ethics and embraces diversity, APU graduates stand as some of the most sought-after educators in the state.

**New Master’s Program Leads the Way for Pediatric Health Care**  
When children enter the hospital, they need more than medical care, they need whole family care. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, the best way to ensure ideal holistic care is the certified child life specialist (CCLS), who focuses on the optimal development and well-being of infants, children, youth, adolescents, and young adults while promoting coping skills and minimizing the adverse effects of hospitalization. Azusa Pacific’s new Master of Science in Child Life, slated to launch in fall 2017, equips graduates to serve this vulnerable population within a Christian framework. It also prepares them to meet the 2022 regulation requiring all those seeking credentialing as a child life specialist to hold a master’s degree with an emphasis in child life.

Program directors Charity Vasquez, CCLS, and Tanya Barclay, CCLS, have begun to establish partnerships with local healthcare institutions to increase awareness of the new program and the way APU graduates can bridge the gap that exists for pediatric patients and their families in many hospitals. Currently, CCLS services are only mandated if a hospital in the state of

## By the Numbers

**599:** The number of people who made the decision to follow Christ at the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Night of Champions, March 18, 2017, including 129 new commitments and 470 recommitments. Themed Faith over Fear, the event featured Raiders quarterback Derek Carr and U.S. Olympian Barbara Nwaba. Cohosted by Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the one-night ministry experience drew teenagers, pastors, coaches, teachers, and parents to the entertaining event that focuses on the testimonies of professional athletes and their faith.

**8:** The number of student-faculty research teams that earned 2017 Scholarly Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) awards. Each team earned \$1,500 toward their research projects, primarily conducted during summer. The program, which began at APU in 2014, has resulted in presentations at a national honors society meeting and national and international conferences, as well as submissions to industry journals and a competitive student video festival.

California has a pediatric intensive care unit (PICU), and is California Children’s Services accredited. Though other state and federal regulatory agencies acknowledge the need for quality improvement, including patient- and family-centered care services, they miss the key component of having a CCLS on staff to work with the smallest members of a family in times of stress and crisis. Clearly, a need exists for child life specialists in the PICU for those requiring developmentally appropriate education regarding diagnoses, tests, procedures, and surgery; nonpharmacological pain management; trauma debriefing; other therapeutic interventions to help a child cope; sibling interventions; and grief support. These services also benefit the pediatric patients on other units, as well as children of adult patients.

The APU child life leadership team advocates expanded CCLS service across the healthcare continuum and has begun efforts to take the plan to the state level. The proposal begins by mandating CCLS services for all pediatric patients (birth to age 21) wherever these patients are served, including NICU, PICU, burn units, general pediatrics, emergency departments, specialty units, outpatient clinics, special care centers, perioperative

units, hematology-oncology, rehabilitation services/facilities, subacute care settings, hospice/palliative care services, and adolescent units. The proposal further calls for full-time services seven days a week and a low CCLS-patient ratio, among other provisions. Efforts to move this proposal ahead begin at the local level, but the team hopes to see legislative change at the state level.

If successful, this change in the healthcare landscape stands to benefit countless patients and their families. Evidence shows that child life interventions reduce medical expenses, minimize length of stay, contribute to a culture of patient- and family-centered care and customer satisfaction, and bridge the gap between patients’ medical and psychosocial health. This proposal aligns with that of the American Academy of Pediatrics—the medical care of every child should be accessible, family centered, continuous, comprehensive, coordinated, compassionate, and culturally competent, and children who are more likely to have preventive measures are less likely to have unnecessary healthcare encounters.

**2:** The times APU has hosted the annual Better Together Summit—the largest teacher development event in California—held this year on July 28, 2017. Under the theme Now, More Than Ever, this free, statewide day of learning and networking welcomed all California pre-K-12 teachers, teacher candidates, school administrators, and other educators. One of 35 locations across the state, Azusa Pacific hosted Los Angeles County-area teachers as they shared ideas and learned effective strategies for implementing the California Standards in their classrooms.

**31:** The percent of APU’s incoming class composed of transfer students. Azusa Pacific enrolls the largest number of transfer students in the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities, with the majority of those students coming from Citrus College, Mt. San Antonio College, Pasadena City College, and Chaffey College.



**Graduate Student Wins \$114,000 Science Grant**  
The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded Azusa Pacific graduate student Leo Jimenez Chavez ’17 the Graduate Research Fellowship—1 of only 2,000 selected from 13,000 applicants in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math nationwide to receive the competitive grant. Chavez will receive an annual stipend of \$34,000 for three years, a \$12,000 allowance for tuition and fees, opportunities for international research and professional development, and the freedom to conduct his own research at any accredited U.S. institution.

Part of Chavez’s application included a proposal for his current research project, “Restoration and Natural Environments,” in which he uses virtual reality to test

whether natural work environments lower stress levels and increase creativity—difficult to measure in an artificial laboratory environment. Chavez uses virtual reality to simulate outdoor settings and evaluate the cognitive and physiological benefits, gathering data by measuring participants’ heart rates as they move through simulated urban and natural environments, and working toward innovative solutions that will help future generations thrive in the workplace. Chavez plans to attend the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he will receive two additional years of fellowship funding studying drug use and addiction in animal models. An inaugural student in APU’s new Master of Science in Research Psychology and Data Analytics program, Chavez joins a list of distinguished previous recipients of the fellowship, including former U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, Google cofounder Sergey Brin, *Freakonomics* (William Morrow and Company, 2005) coauthor Steven Levitt, and numerous Nobel Prize winners. The NSF fellowship recognizes not only exceptional intelligence and talent, but those who stand poised to change their world.



# Leadership Conference Focuses on Advancing Women



Recognizing the vital role of women in American history, Congress passed a resolution in 1981, designating March 7-12 as Women’s History Week. Congress renewed it every year until 1995, when the President permanently proclaimed March as National History Month. On March 24, 2017, celebrating the occasion and the contributions of women in academia, Azusa Pacific joined Biola University, Fuller Theological Seminary, and Pepperdine University, in collaboration with the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCCU), to host the second annual Advancing Women in Leadership Conference.

Held this year on the Biola campus, the event drew women and men from all stages of life and professional development. Attendees included faculty, staff, and students from these and other institutions seeking to gain insight and perspective from top women leaders in higher education. The keynote speakers presented a duo of powerful leadership experience from Shirley Hoogstra, JD, the CCCU’s first female president, and Kimberly B.W. Denu, Ph.D., APU’s vice president and chief diversity officer. Denu, an author and ordained minister, speaks throughout the Greater Los Angeles area on women’s issues, family matters,

ethics, and leadership. At the conference, Denu addressed Cultivating Diversity in Leadership. In breakout sessions, Karen Longman, Ph.D., professor in APU’s Department of Higher Education, coeditor of a series of books titled, *Women and Leadership: Research, Theory, and Practice* (Information Age Publishing, 2014-17), and pioneer of women in leadership in higher education, spoke about Constructively Addressing Barriers that Deter Women from Leadership. Eugene Cho, founder and lead pastor of Quest Church, an urban, multicultural, and multigenerational church in Seattle,

Washington, and Mimi Haddad, president of Christians for Biblical Equality, spoke about the plight of women around the world. Hoogstra also moderated a panel discussion among college presidents from Azusa Pacific University, Biola University, and Houghton College. Breakout session topics included “2016 Research and Review of Women in Leadership: Have Our Campuses Made Progress?” and “Advancing Your Professional Development: Learn the Art of Negotiation, Proposals Preparation, and Personal Vision Casting.” Next year’s conference, slated for March 5, 2018, will take place at Azusa Pacific.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BIOLA UNIVERSITY

## Recent Grants Advance Research and Scholarship

### \$1,287,310

The U.S. Department of Education awarded APU a five-year grant for its TRiO Upward Bound proposal. LaTasha Hagler, Ed.D., director of TRiO Student Support Services and principal investigator, will work with Keith Hall, Ed.D., executive director of the Undergraduate Academic Success Center, and Vicky Bowden, DNSc, RN, vice provost for undergraduate programs and professor in the School of Nursing, to implement the project. The first year of this project, funded at \$257,462, begins September 1, 2017, and goes through August 31, 2018. The award letter indicates that comparable funding is expected over the ensuing four years, bringing the total to nearly \$1.3 million.

Through this timely grant, APU will partner with the Azusa Unified School District and Azusa High School to provide Upward Bound educational services to 60 low-income, first-generation students each year. The program involves a comprehensive academic program designed to ensure that students are at grade level and able to pass state-mandated exams, remediate deficiencies, and provide skills necessary for postsecondary success. Other program activities include academic instruction, a summer bridge component, campus tours, cultural enrichment, tutoring, counseling, mentoring, parent workshops, and engaging students in strategies to increase financial literacy.

### \$59,136

From the National Science Foundation through a subaward from Grinnell College to Rodney Sturdivant, Ph.D., professor, Department of Mathematics and Physics, for his co-principle investigator role in the project Student Engagement in Statistics Using Technology: Making Data-based Decisions, which advances STEM learning by creating, implementing, and testing inquiry-based online games that simulate data-based decision making embedded in a research-like experience.

### \$46,000

From the National Science Foundation (NSF) to Azusa Pacific University for hosting a NSF student fellow to attend the M.S. in Research Psychology and Data Analytics program under the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship program.

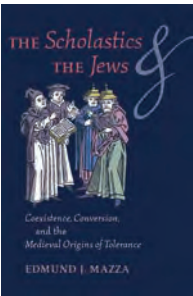
### \$10,000

From Microwave Products and Technology, Inc. to Enson Chang, Ph.D., assistant professor, Department of Mathematics and Physics, for his project Digital Beam Former Using Software Defined Radio, which investigates the use of software-defined radios for digital beam forming phased arrays.

## Scholarship at Work



**White Out: Understanding White Privilege and Dominance in the Modern Age** (Peter Lang Publishing, Inc., 2017) by Christopher S. Collins, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Higher Education, and Alexander Jun, Ph.D., professor, Department of Higher Education Collins and Jun discuss the changing nature of White identity and how a new set of stimuli and challenges confront dominant whiteness. They reflect on strategies to defend privilege and dominance, and under this umbrella term explore how the “White architecture of the mind” leads to the production of concepts such as “White-opping” (stealing pain), “whitefluena” (privilege as a virus), and White 22 (you are White if you do, and White if you don’t). The book concludes with suggestions for a way forward that involves greater introspection of identity and advocacy toward antiracism.



**The Scholastics and the Jews** (Angelico Press, 2017) by Edmund J. Mazza, Ph.D., professor, Department of History and Political Science Mazza offers an alternate interpretation of long-held opinions regarding Catholic Europe in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. While in no way diminishing the reality of Jewish suffering, Mazza identifies the origins of early missions to nonbelievers not with the drive for homogeneity, but for holiness. The author rediscovers the development and implementation of a medieval worldview—sacramentality—that saw the institutions and inhabitants of this world as, respectively, sanctified symbols reflecting God’s infinite majesty and sinners in need of redemption. Mazza tells the little-known details of how this scholastic hermeneutic hindered and helped the cause of tolerance.



**Christian Ethics: Four Views** (IVP Academic, 2017) by Steven Wilkens, Ph.D. (Ed.), professor, Department of Philosophy As Christians grapple with how to live life ethically in an increasingly pluralistic society, most of the available resources and research leave them feeling confused and unsure. This book offers in-depth dialogue and multiple approaches in a way that clarifies the field and simplifies the way. The four ethical views presented include: virtue, which focuses on virtuous character and the moral agent rather than actions; divine command, which looks at whether an action has been commanded by God and is, therefore, morally right; natural law, which argues for a universal, objective morality grounded in nature; and prophetic ethics, which judges what is moral considering a biblical understanding of divine justice and shalom. Written by noted Christian ethicists, the book extends beyond the range of today’s ethical systems and moral philosophies and brings new insight to the conversation of Christian ethics.



# All & Well Good

By Caitlin Gipson

Illustrations by Gabrielle Rodriguez '17

What does it mean to be “well”? The World Health Organization defines wellness as more than simply good physical health, but as “a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being, not merely the absence of disease and infirmity.” A growing body of research documents the benefits of wellness and the interconnected nature of its parts. “We are created as multidimensional beings,” said William “Jody” Wilkinson, MD, associate professor of exercise and sport science. “Our physical health is key, but we are also spiritual, emotional, and relational, and these areas can’t be separated—they affect the whole person.” Thus, APU supports students, faculty, and staff in the development of a wellness mindset, laying a sound personal foundation for making a difference in the world.

For Christians, the concept of wellness takes on a heightened level of importance. While the Bible addresses spiritual and mental health, encouraging believers to “love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind” (Matthew 22:37 NIV), it also stresses the importance of physical bodies, calling them the “temples of the Holy Spirit” and encouraging believers to “honor God with your bodies” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20), and to “offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God” (Romans 12:1). “Christ himself provides a model of self-care, intentionally taking time away to rest, spiritually connect, and physically prepare for the work ahead,” said Christopher Schmidt, Ph.D., ATC, associate professor and director for the M.S. in Athletic Training program.

Jesus knew that holistic wellness would play an important role in ministry. Lizzy Perrigo '16 made this connection on a summer nursing mission trip to India led by Catherine Heinlein, Ed.D., RN, associate professor of nursing and associate director of APU’s Neighborhood Wellness Center. “We prepared ourselves physically by increasing our walking, mentally by learning about the culture and language, and spiritually by grounding ourselves in why God was calling us to go,” Perrigo said. That preparation came in handy. “We walked everywhere. I ended up physically lifting patients from wheelchairs to beds, and they would kiss my forehead to thank me. At one point, a teammate sat behind a dying woman as a living backboard so that I could spoon-feed her a last meal.” These encounters presented physical, mental, and spiritual challenges.

Heinlein emphasizes this total mind-body-spirit connection as she prepares her students for the trip. “All of these areas affect each other,” she said. “As believers, we strive to do our best in every area, which includes what we put in our mouths. Good nutrition will help you feel your best physically, which leads to feeling better emotionally, which then allows you to focus on God’s purpose for your life and helping others.” Research supports this connection. A 2005 study published in the *Journal of Internal Medicine* found that high levels of personal well-being resulted in higher levels of empathy. “We have to take care of ourselves in order to do His work,” said Heinlein.

While it is critical on the mission field, this wellness mindset also applies to Christians at home. “We all know what to do, but that knowledge rarely translates into actual behavior,” said Wilkinson. “The first step to real change is developing a vision. Think about your motivations. Ask, ‘Why is this important to me? What benefits am I looking for?’ Then identify your personal barriers to success, and create concrete goals and strategies to overcome them.”

One of the most common barriers is an all-or-nothing mindset. “When dealing with change and major health

goals, it’s easy to become overwhelmed and put it off,” said Schmidt. “However, research shows that small, incremental changes are more effective. Make small efforts and changes that are manageable on a daily basis.” Schmidt emphasizes that recording data also assists change. “Write down what you’re eating or invest in a device to track your activity levels to keep yourself accountable.”

When it comes to lifestyle changes, accountability often equals success. “Find a trainer, class, or workout buddy,” said Annette Karim, PT, DPT, Ph.D., assistant professor of physical therapy and a member of APU’s Wellness Council, a group of APU faculty focusing on improving the health of APU’s faculty, staff, and students. “Find someone to connect with for support. Much like our need for spiritual mentorship, we have a need for mentorship in overall wellness and health.”

Karim encourages the APU community to take advantage of multiple wellness programs, such as discounted fitness memberships, walking groups, Weight Watchers classes, and brown-bag lunch talks on wellness topics like stress management, social health, and emotional well-being. “APU’s Four Cornerstones touch on all six areas of wellness,” said Karim. “In order to be effective in the Kingdom, our community must be grounded in Christ (spiritual), Scholarship (intellectual), Community (social, emotional, psychological), and Service (physical).”

“God calls us to abundant living today, a life where we love Him fully by using our gifts and passions to serve others,” said Wilkinson. “Being mindful of how we’re taking care of our body and taking practical steps for change will keep us moving forward on our journey toward health, wholeness, and service.”

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## Steps for Change from APU's Wellness Experts:

- 1 Identify your end goal, what motivates you, and the wellness benefits you care about.  
Example: “I want to play with my kids without getting winded.”
- 2 Identify your roadblocks for change and make a plan to address them.  
Example: “I don’t have time to cook healthy meals, so I need to identify fast, healthy food options.”
- 3 Determine small, realistic, measurable goals.  
Example: “I will add one extra vegetable serving to my diet each day.”
- 4 Write it down or invest in an app or device to track your progress.  
Examples: PKFitness, MyFitnessPal, MyPlate, HealthyOut
- 5 Choose an accountability partner or group, and share results regularly.

To read more about mindfulness and its place in the Christian life, see “Reclaiming Mindfulness” by Regina Chow Trammel, Ph.D., LCSW, assistant professor, Department of Social Work, in the fall 2015 issue of *APU Life*.  
[apu.edu/articles/reclaiming-mindfulness/](http://apu.edu/articles/reclaiming-mindfulness/)

To learn about steps pastors can take to increase their levels of wellness and longevity in ministry, see “Tending the Shepherds: Helping Ministers Thrive” by Chris Adams, Ph.D., associate professor and executive director, Center for Vocational Ministry, in the winter 2017 issue of *APU Life*.  
[apu.edu/articles/tending-the-shepherds-helping-ministers-to-thrive/](http://apu.edu/articles/tending-the-shepherds-helping-ministers-to-thrive/)



California  
Workforce:

# A Golden Opportunity

BY CYNNDIE HOFF

CALIFORNIA EMBODIES A MICROCOSM OF THE NATION'S JOB MARKET WITH EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS IN VIRTUALLY EVERY FIELD. HOWEVER, WHILE THE PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA PROJECTS A STEADILY INCREASING DEMAND FOR WORKERS WITH A COLLEGE EDUCATION THROUGH 2030, IT ALSO ESTIMATES THAT THE STATE WILL "FALL ABOUT 1.1 MILLION COLLEGE GRADUATES SHORT OF ECONOMIC DEMAND"—A SITUATION KNOWN AS THE WORKFORCE SKILLS GAP. AZUSA PACIFIC SEEKS TO BRIDGE THAT GAP BY PRODUCING COMPETITIVE, SKILLED GRADUATES PREPARED TO THRIVE IN MANY OF THE STATE'S FASTEST-GROWING OCCUPATIONS.

APU ALUMNI EARN SIGNIFICANTLY MORE THAN THEIR PEERS: \$30,000 MORE ANNUALLY IN HEALTH CARE; \$28,000 MORE IN EDUCATION.



A prime Southern California location, adjacent to many of the nation's biggest industries and largest employers, means APU supplies the state with some of its most qualified professionals. "As Azusa Pacific cultivates connections with these industry leaders, more and more of our students reap the benefits of a real-time, industry-based education," said Phil Brazell '08, M.A. '13, executive director of career and alumni relations. "APU introduces strategic programs that meet marketplace needs. We invite industry leaders like Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena to review curricula so that they equip students for immediate application. Moving toward partnerships between the academy and the marketplace means that our graduates who participate through internships leave campus ready to perform the roles employers need today."

The strategy not only helps APU alumni get hired, but also results in financial reward. Based on national wage reports, APU alumni with bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degrees earn more than others who hold the same degrees, and in key California industries, APU alumni earn significantly more than their peers: \$30,000 more annually in health care; \$28,000 more in education. Good news for Azusa Pacific graduates ready to enter virtually any field, including those projected as some of California's highest-growth markets—physical therapy, education, and nursing.



PHOTOS BY ISTOCKPHOTO.COM, SIDNEY DIONGZON, AND EVOKEPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

## Physical Therapy

Several factors contribute to the flourishing physical therapy field, including population growth (especially the elderly), heightened interest in health and fitness, and popularity of sports and physical activities that result in injuries. The California Employment Development Department expects the physical therapy field to grow much faster than all other occupations, and PT jobs "to increase by 26.9 percent, or 5,200 jobs, between 2014 and 2024." That report further reveals an "average of 530 new job openings per year anticipated for physical therapists, plus an additional 520 job openings due to net replacement needs, resulting in a total of 1,050 job openings." With 2016 annual salaries between \$81,565 and \$113,288, the field draws more students to the state's 14 universities that offer Doctor of Physical Therapy programs.

That means APU graduates compete in a large pool for those jobs, but they do so with a distinct advantage. The rigorous curriculum paired with Azusa Pacific's Christian worldview sets graduates apart from their peers. "They enter the field equipped with the capacity and the desire to care for the whole patient," said Susan Shore, PT, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Physical Therapy. Shore also points to the department's extensive technology resources, such as required iPads for each student; iTunesU access for all lectures, which ensures continuity and consistency of information; innovative apps created by APU faculty; interactive lab manuals; and a vast video library that makes all techniques, evaluation processes, diagnoses, and treatments available for study anytime, anywhere.

This combination of academic rigor and holistic training produces successful private practitioners and highly desirable additions to medical groups, clinics, and consortia. "I hire APU alumni because they approach their career as a mission, not a job," said Mark Baker, DPT '04, PT, OCS, owner, Covina Hills Sports Medicine. "APU graduates have an underlying moral fortitude. It is clear that their professional lives align with their personal lives."

Baker employs 3 APU graduates (11 overall since he began his business). He joins a long list of other California employers who seek physical therapists with a degree

from Azusa Pacific. The department holds a 97-percent graduation rate, a 100-percent employment rate, and, in 2016, an impressive 100-percent first-time pass rate (compared to the country's average of 93.3 percent) on the national licensure exam. "APU students succeed because they are trained to treat the patient in front of them," said Brandan King, DPT '12, OCS, senior physical therapist at Kaiser Permanente. "Most graduates have book smarts, but APU's hands-on curriculum and training put them in a better position to translate their knowledge to the treatment of real-life patients." King points to the forward-thinking, innovative faculty who constantly evaluate the curriculum and adjust it to fit the evolving needs in the field. "APU's DPT faculty emphasize more than the accumulation of skills; they teach and model clinical reasoning, which is one of the most important factors when treating patients."

*continued on p. 16*



### Matt Klinger, DPT '16

Challenging his patients to succeed with a healthy lifestyle of fitness and strength training in Glendora, California

THE DEPARTMENT HOLDS A 97% GRADUATION RATE, A 100% EMPLOYMENT RATE, AND, IN 2016, AN IMPRESSIVE 100% FIRST-TIME PASS RATE (COMPARED TO THE COUNTRY'S AVERAGE OF 93.3%) ON THE NATIONAL LICENSURE EXAM.



## Education

Like physical therapists, teachers also face a wide-open California job market in the coming years, although the circumstances differ. In 2016, the Learning Policy Institute reported dramatic teacher shortages throughout the state, particularly in the areas of special education, mathematics, and science. The study revealed that 75 percent of 200 districts surveyed experienced steadily increasing shortages. The reason lies in a complex set of conditions, including a slowing, sometimes stagnant, supply of credentialed graduates (remaining at 11,500 since 2013); a glut of substandard credentials and permits issued to underqualified teachers to meet the demand; and low enrollment in teacher education programs. “The teaching profession is in flux,” said Anita Fitzgerald Henck, Ph.D., dean and professor of the School of Education. “On a national level, the field suffers from a fluctuating economy, a high burnout rate, and a perception problem.”

Azusa Pacific meets those obstacles head on by producing a different caliber of teacher. APU’s School of Education begins by ensuring that every program meets the highest standards possible. “Although we are only required to obtain regional and state accreditation, we choose to submit to the national standards as well,” said Henck. Under the watchful eye and scrupulous reviews of the WASC Senior College and University Commission, the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, and the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education, APU offers students the assurance of a closely scrutinized, top-notch education.

In addition, APU provides the advantage of unmatched support and creative approaches to teacher preparation. “One of the main reasons for educator burnout is that new teachers face overwhelming classroom dynamics for which they have not been trained,” said Henck. Although California instituted the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment program in 1988 to encourage new teachers and increase retention, APU takes it several steps further by equipping all education students with a cadre of interdisciplinary courses regardless of the credential they seek, covering topics, trends, and issues most education programs miss. “These courses provide a working knowledge of the benefits and challenges of a diverse classroom, help teachers prepare for the unexpected, and instill an in-depth understanding of policies, procedures, and inner workings of today’s school systems,” she said. School of Education graduates also gain a unique perspective on their careers while at APU. “Teaching is a calling,” said Henck. “We help students explore what that means personally and professionally, and help them discover their passion for education.”



**Nedra Graham**  
Single Subject Teaching  
Credential, 2004  
  
Teaching eighth-graders at  
Santa Fe Middle School  
in Monrovia, California



These skills prove vital to every classroom, including those with special needs students. Those drawn to this critical field find unparalleled training at Azusa Pacific and a plethora of districts clamoring to hire them. In 2015-16, APU, the state’s fourth-largest recommender of preliminary special education credentials, recommended 106 students for a Preliminary Education Specialist Instruction Credential, assisted 125 students in attaining their Clear Education Specialist Instruction Credential, and conferred 49 Master of Arts in Education degrees with an emphasis in special education.

“When choosing a career in education, it is important to have both a deep sense of purpose and a willingness to grow and innovate as an educator,” said Jerry Almendarez, superintendent, Colton Joint Unified School District, 1 of 150 districts with which APU maintains a relationship. “APU graduates possess a clear sense of their core values, know why they want to become teachers, and have a servant leader’s heart. APU produces focused professionals who believe strongly in what they are doing, constantly reaching for new and better ways to prepare their students.”

“I always recommend Azusa Pacific when candidates ask me which university stands out above the rest,” said Michelle Rush, credential analyst, Hesperia Unified School District. “We have a long list of teachers who have come from APU, and they are always highly qualified. Even as interns, they are well-prepared to take on their own classroom. Their longevity in our district speaks volumes.” Within one year of graduation, more than 95 percent of APU’s educators find employment in their field: 73.8 percent as classroom teachers, 17.9 percent in education-related positions, 3.6 percent pursuing advanced academic programs in education, and all ready to make a difference in the California education system. In fact, Azusa Pacific ranks among the state’s top six credential-recommending institutions.

## Nursing

APU GRADUATES APPROXIMATELY 4% OF THE NEWLY REGISTERED NURSES IN THE STATE, WITH MORE THAN A 90% EMPLOYMENT RATE WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF GRADUATION AS MORE EMPLOYERS SEEK BSN GRADUATES.

The healthcare industry has long lamented a pervasive nursing shortage throughout the country, with California leading the way in vacancies with more than 10,000 newly registered nurses needed based on 2015-16 data. The reasons boil down to a growing elderly population, increased access to health care, and an aging workforce. Nursing schools in the state have stepped up to the challenge, as has APU, increasing undergraduate nursing enrollment and creating new pathways to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree such as the LVN to BSN and the 2+2 program. APU graduates approximately 4 percent of the newly registered nurses in the state, with more than a 90 percent employment rate within 12 months of graduation as more employers seek BSN graduates.

The 2009 introduction of the Affordable Care Act created a unique challenge for nurses in primary care, specifically in Los Angeles County. According to California State Senator Ed Hernandez (D-22<sup>nd</sup>), chair of the Senate Health Committee, California has the country’s largest number of primary care physicians and nurse practitioners, but ranks only 23<sup>rd</sup> in the number of primary care physicians per resident. “We need to make better use of the trained healthcare workforce we already have if we are ever going to meet demand, and [family] nurse practitioners are some of the best-trained people in that workforce,” said Hernandez. Offsetting the deficit, APU offers one of the largest Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) programs in the state, with 138 students in San Bernardino, 151 in San Diego, and 315 in Azusa. Approximately 45-50 students graduate every semester, adding 150 primary care providers to the workforce each year.

Another obstacle facing the nursing industry is the dearth of faculty. APU’s Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), and Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (Ph.D.) programs address that need. A Nurse Faculty Loan Grant (\$1 million annually), awarded to APU’s School of Nursing, forgives 85 percent of loans for those who teach for four years. “We enroll 70 students in our DNP and Ph.D. programs, and more than half take advantage of this grant,” said Aja Tulleners Lesh, Ph.D., RN, dean and professor in the School of Nursing. “This loan forgiveness program is also available to those enrolled in the new MSN in Nursing Education, which encourages graduate nursing students to become clinical or adjunct faculty.”

Yet another shortage area involves specialty units. In 2016, the Hospital Association of Southern California reported the need for 2,320 critical care nurses, 1,392 emergency nurses, 1,072 perioperative nurses, and 864 labor and delivery nurses, due in large part to the high cost of recruiting and training for specialty areas.

In the community, needs are increasing for nurses in home health, ambulatory care, case management, and outpatient acute care. APU partners with several area hospitals and a number of community agencies to offer such training to senior BSN students, allowing them to gain experience in their residency and in clinical specialty courses in high-need areas. “For many years, hospitals engaged in providing the best care in the acute setting for patients,” said Lesh. “But with a few exceptions, little attention was given to patient outcomes and their care following discharge.” Now, hospitals focus on reducing patients’ early return to care, minimizing adverse events while hospitalized, and assuring patient satisfaction, creating a new specialty called “care transition,” which carefully manages patients’ return home. Increasingly, healthcare employers look to BSN graduates to manage these transitions. APU received a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration last year to supplement its BSN programs (which graduate 350-400 annually) with case management and care transition skills. “Myriad opportunities exist for nurses—especially those educated at APU—to impact the health of California residents,” said Lesh. “Hospitals, clinics, and private practices alike seek our graduates because of their strong

commitment to ethical practice and compassionate care based on Christian values and their own personal deep spiritual commitment.”

“Over the past 15 years, I have had the pleasure of working alongside many APU nursing graduates as members of the care delivery team at Methodist Hospital and Valley Digestive Health Center. I am very impressed with the high quality of nurses APU produces for our community,” said Elias Tarakji, MD, medical director, Valley Digestive Health Center. “I am particularly impressed with the Nurse Practitioner graduates. I find them to be well trained and highly knowledgeable with a great attitude.”

While California, like any region, faces challenges, the Golden State repeatedly rebounds and owes much of that resiliency to its college graduates. Today’s employers require more than ever before, seeking those with honed communication skills, the capacity to collaborate, and the clear ability to think critically and creatively. There has never been a more critical point in California history to increase higher education’s accessibility, retention, and completion, and never a more advantageous time to be an Azusa Pacific graduate.

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# ACADEMIC FAITH INTEGRATION AN APU DISTINCTIVE

BY PAUL KAAK

Faith integration sounds like fitting rhetoric for a Christian university, and a worthy pursuit, but what does it mean? Is it prayer in class? Is it a chapel requirement? How do faculty members in disciplines with less-obvious ties to theology, such as modern language, finance, and athletic training, appropriately incorporate the viewpoints of the Christian faith into their curricula? And why does it matter?

To understand the profundity of full-scale, in-depth faith integration, the critical relationship between Christianity and academia must be understood. The historic Christian faith, a rich and vast treasure of wisdom and knowledge, offers paradigm-shaping connections to the many subjects encountered by students in higher education. All sociology and nursing students study suffering; but students at our Christian institution learn about a kind of compassion that goes deeper than pity. Christian scholars of rhetoric will evoke the instruction of Aristotle *and* the wisdom of St. Augustine. A faith-based finance curriculum involves more than calculations and budget development; it provides instruction for the stewarding of God’s resources and practicing grace-inspired generosity.

In his book *Remembering the Christian Past* (Wm. B. Publishing Company, 1995), Robert Wilken stated, “Christian truth has been handed on through a learned tradition in which it has been formulated, criticized, analyzed, refined, and tested by experience.” Many academic institutions, however, overlook, and even prohibit, the deep insights of the Christian story and its various traditions, putting their graduates at a significant disadvantage as they engage the global conversation. APU graduates, on the other hand, leave campus equipped with the advantages that accompany a faith-oriented perspective captured when the wisdom that emanates from our sacred text and the advances of current scholarship are thoughtfully integrated.

From this foundation, APU students wrestle with challenging questions aimed at discovering and clarifying deeper truths within the subjects they study: How does Christian wisdom add new dimensions to the data of my discipline? How does God’s provision of general revelation—available to all people—come into conversation with the special revelation of the Scripture? How have thoughtful Christians clarified and deepened our understanding of academic and professional knowledge and



practice across time? How should I engage in faithful learning and faith-informed working within my area of calling?

To address these questions, academic faith integration must take a form different from the kind of spiritual inspiration a student may get from a dynamic Christian speaker. God’s truth is not limited to what the preacher offers in a weekend church service or a weekday chapel event. Academic faith integration offers a robust rebuttal to the tendency to separate the sacred from the secular. It challenges APU faculty to call on centuries of Christian thinking in addressing issues central to their academic, artistic, and professional fields. And although faith integration carries a family resemblance across the university, it manifests itself differently in each classroom, with each faculty member, and across disciplines. In order to keep this critical task central to our mission as a Christian university, the Office of Faith Integration has been charged to come alongside APU faculty, department chairs, and deans to provide encouragement, resources, and support.

Examples of solid integration are myriad. At a recent Faith Integration LIVE! luncheon, sponsored by the Faith Integration Council, Randy Wallace, Ph.D., associate professor and associate dean for regional campus business programs, posited that the virtues of the Christian faith offer the precise resources that make prospective employees employable. Carol Hines, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Teacher Education, prepares special education teachers. In her presentation, she explained how the patriarchs of early Christianity offered theological validation for caring for vulnerable populations. And Monica Ganas, Ph.D., professor in the School of Visual and Performing Arts, and her acting students demonstrated the powerful faith-infused learning that emerged from bringing C.S. Lewis’ book *The Great Divorce* (HarperCollins, 1946) to the APU stage.

Concerted efforts like these instill graduates with confidence and

conviction as they enter the next phases of their professional and educational lives. English major Anika Mizel ’14, now a law student at Yale University, said, “APU taught me that the Bible can be a resource in any classroom. Although I cannot quote the Bible in law school the way I could at APU, I find that I still rely on its insights into the human experience and on certain truths it conveys to help me understand legal frameworks and rationales. The Bible has held valuable insights for me in my study of the law, and I am grateful to APU for providing practice ground for faith/discipline integration.”

Mizel’s experience affirms the two sides of academic freedom found in institutions of higher learning: exposure to diverse viewpoints and passionate pursuit of truth. As philosopher Paul Gould noted, “Christian scholars should be principled pluralists in the academy—allowing, even encouraging, various perspectives to compete in the marketplace of ideas for the mantle of truth. Such a posture requires the conviction that ultimately truth is found within a Christian view of reality and intellectual humility.” The integration of Christian faith and academic disciplines, professional programs, and arts education provides students with a fuller, bigger education. Students—whether disciples of Jesus or not—should finish their time at APU with a broader and deeper grasp of truth, beauty, and goodness, especially in their area of study, through reflection on how various Christian traditions have struggled to make sense of that subject. Because God is the Source of all knowledge, APU faculty seek His truth in all things, and they look for ever-more-effective ways to engage their students and their fellow scholars in the pursuit of Christ Himself, “in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Colossians 2:3, NIV).

*Paul Kaak, Ph.D., is the executive director of the Office of Faith Integration and a professor in the Department of Leadership and Organizational Psychology and the Honors College. pkaak@apu.edu*



THIS 15-FOOT WALL MURAL, TITLED *KNOWLEDGE OVER TIME*, INVOLVED 50 STUDENTS GUIDED BY JIM THOMPSON, ED.D., PROFESSOR EMERITUS, AND TOM DUNN, RETIRED APU ART PROFESSOR. IT IS HOUSED IN THE DUKE ACADEMIC COMPLEX.

“God’s truth is not limited to what the preacher offers in a weekend church service or a weekday chapel event. Academic faith integration offers a robust rebuttal to the tendency to separate the sacred from the secular.”

—Paul Kaak, Ph.D.





INSET PHOTO BY ISTOCKPHOTO.COM

# Linking Interests: The Value of Adding an Academic Minor



by Bethany Wagner

As she stepped off the graduation stage, Sara (Hickenbottom '14) Tillema had her career goals in place: earning a Master of Divinity at Princeton Seminary and working in a full-time ministry position. But while her philosophy major gave her a solid foundation for pursuing this dream, her minors in religion and humanities proved the tipping point in discovering her calling and preparing her for a career in ministry. These two areas of study gave specific purpose and application to her philosophy classes, and after graduating from Princeton, Tillema took on the role of campus minister at the University of California, Davis.

Every spring, millions of undergraduate students like Tillema venture into an increasingly competitive job marketplace. A recent study by LinkedIn found that today's graduates will change jobs four times in their first decade out of college, compared to college graduates in 1986-90, who averaged only two job changes during that time. In this unpredictable economy, how can a college graduate stand out from the rest? One option APU offers has the potential to equip students with the stamina, breadth of knowledge, and flexibility to succeed in today's workforce: the academic minor.

Students pursuing a minor choose a secondary discipline in addition to their major. From biology to music, art history to nutrition, marketing to international relations, APU offers 56 academic minors in a wide variety of fields, all requiring students to take six to eight courses in their chosen area. "Minors give students a framework to intentionally choose additional classes outside their major that build on each other, creating a solid skill set," said Vicky Bowden, DNSc, RN, vice provost for undergraduate programs.

With minors that complement and focus their majors, students can apply their main studies in a specific context. For example, a business student can better understand the intricacies of the entertainment industry with a music minor, while a psychology student can prepare for running a private practice with a minor in entrepreneurship.

This year, APU established the practical and professional ethics minor with the goal of enriching students' majors. "Every profession, including business, nursing, psychology, social work, law, and so on, has a code of conduct," said Rico Vitz, Ph.D., the philosophy professor who spearheaded the program. "Employees should not only know this code, but also how to interpret and revise it to act ethically in new situations, as the needs of their professions evolve." Students earning the minor in practical and professional ethics can take courses like Practical Ethics, Business Virtue and the Good Life, Biomedical Ethics, and Environmental Ethics, developing strong Christian values within the context of their chosen career fields.

Graduates with minors can also go into job interviews with additional practical skills that equip them to serve in their desired field more effectively. Bowden, a

Often, interweaving a minor with a major course of study leads students to discover new interests, talents, and callings.



retired nurse and a professor in the School of Nursing, has witnessed firsthand the power of minors in healthcare careers. "Nursing students often choose minors that help them serve their future patients, and employers take notice," said Bowden. "A minor in international studies opens doors for nurses to serve overseas or on the global mission field. A minor in Spanish boosts nurses' capabilities to care for and communicate with patients both globally and in Southern California."

In an economy where the average worker holds 10 jobs by the age of 42 (Department of Labor), minors can give students the ability to easily transition between positions and even career fields. "Minors provide a more diversified skill set that creates a more employable graduate," said Philip

Brazell '08, M.A. '13, executive director of career and alumni relations at APU, where thousands of students and alumni receive assistance exploring career options, applying for internships and jobs, crafting résumés, and pursuing graduate school. "Students with minors demonstrate that their interests reach beyond just one program or major. Hiring managers and graduate schools look for this kind of individual."

Often, interweaving a minor with a major course of study leads students to discover new interests, talents, and callings. "It's not uncommon for students to discover their love for philosophy later in their undergraduate experience when it's too late to add the major, so they choose to minor in philosophy instead," said Vitz. Recently, one of Vitz's students minoring in philosophy decided that this field was his calling, applied to graduate school, and received a full-ride scholarship to one of the nation's top philosophy doctoral programs.

Ultimately, minors communicate to potential employers and graduate schools a commitment to academic excellence and engagement with the world. "Students with minors show focus and direction, because they go beyond completing a degree and take initiative to enhance their own learning," said Bowden. "Strong minor programs promote rich intellectual life and growth into well-rounded individuals."

Bethany Wagner '14 is a freelance writer and editor living in Portland, Oregon. bethanykwagner@gmail.com



# Faith, Family, and FCA

by Micah McDaniel

Life as a student-athlete involves a unique set of challenges, and multiple studies have shown that more than half of all athletes experience heavy stress related to their sport in the form of pressure to win, extreme anxiety, and fear of failure.

These add to the stressors common to all students: time management, relationships, finances, and academic performance. Today, because the *athlete* part of the student-athlete equation often carries a disproportionate amount of weight, it can be easy for student-athletes to lose sight of who they are and why they do what they do, resulting in burnout.

Siblings Cayla '19 and CJ '17 Broussard, however, have kept their focus and learned to navigate the pitfalls inherent in their choice to compete in college. Cayla, an all-conference softball player, and CJ, an All-American football player, have earned individual honors and been part of team championships. They credit their ability to stay on top of their game to their relationship with each other, their support system, their deep-rooted faith, and their lifelong connection with Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA).

Their participation with the national organization that challenges coaches and athletes to impact the world for Christ goes back to their childhood, when their parents, Joe and Faythe, were full-time FCA staff members. The family attended summer camps each year, and CJ and Cayla look back on those days as playing a key role in their faith development. The two carry on the tradition, serving as leaders in Azusa Pacific's FCA

program. The group meets weekly to talk about their struggles, how to deal with temptations, how to balance the demands on their time, and how to impact their fellow athletes and the world at large. "While APU has had a longstanding relationship with FCA that stretches back nearly 40 years, the past 3 years have seen a renewed commitment to that relationship," said Gary Pine '84, MBA '03, director of athletics. "CJ's and Cayla's leadership has been vital to FCA's new growth and expanded impact at the university."

Although leaders, CJ and Cayla also reap the benefits of belonging to the supportive community. "FCA is my safety net, and this group has become my second family," said Cayla. "Our meetings give me a chance to step away from the struggles of being a student-athlete and spend time in an environment with people who understand what I go through, and that is what helps me get through the challenges—knowing there are others walking in my shoes. We grow together and support each other, and there's something special about knowing I'm not alone."

Cayla takes that feeling with her onto the playing field. "I learned at FCA camp last summer to play with God and envision Him on the field with me," she said. "When the pressure ramps up, I remember He's with me and



thank Him for the opportunity to play. That's when the pressure fades away and the game becomes more fun. I remember making an error that cost my team a couple of runs and put us behind. Some might crumble, but because of the foundation I have, I took a deep breath and remembered there's more to life than this one mistake."

That is the same footing that keeps CJ upright in difficult moments. Whether he gets flagged for a penalty or misses a coverage or tackle, he knows the reason he is on the field in the first place. "Coach [Victor] Santa Cruz always talks about building champions while pursuing championships. I grew up in that environment and around those types of Christian athletes. I got to see what that looked like firsthand, and I learned that they work just as hard as everyone else, but they're different, because they work for the Lord and try to glorify Him with everything they do.

That's something I strive to do now, and it's why I can make a mistake on the field and get up and make the next play—because I know who I am in Christ."

That perspective and foundation, hallmarks of all successful Christian athletes, give meaning and purpose to every bat swing, every tackle, every moment devoted to their sport. It turns an enjoyable game into a life-changing ministry. The Broussards, like so many other faithful student-athletes aspiring to God-honoring excellence, see beyond the temporal accolades this world offers, realizing that regardless of the name on the jersey, it is the name written on their hearts that makes a difference in this world.

*Micah McDaniel '99 is a digital and content marketer living in McKinney, Texas. micah.mcdaniel@gmail.com*



PHOTOS COURTESY OF APU ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT AND HOLLY MAGNUSON



**C.J. BROUSSARD**

**POSITION** Cornerback

**HEIGHT** 6-0

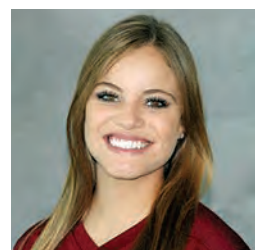
**WEIGHT** 198

**CLASS** Senior

**MAJOR** Physical Education

**HOMETOWN** Clovis, California

**HIGH SCHOOL** Clovis HS



**CAYLA BROUSSARD**

**POSITION** Shortstop

**HEIGHT** 5-2

**BATS** L; **THROWS** R

**CLASS** Sophomore

**MAJOR** Psychology

**HOMETOWN** Clovis, California

**HIGH SCHOOL** Clovis HS



# Cougars

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

Office of Alumni Relations • (626) 812-3026 • alumni@apu.edu • apu.edu/alumni

### End of an Era: Barnett and Reid Move On



Two track and field icons move on from Azusa Pacific: Mike Barnett '97 (director of track and field) and Kevin Reid '85 (men's head track and field coach) resigned following the end of the 2017 season. Barnett's career as a student, Olympic athlete, head coach, and director of Cougar track and field spanned nearly four decades. A member of the Azusa Pacific Athletics Hall of Fame and National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Hall of Fame, he was a five-time individual national champion before a 14-year professional career that culminated in a seventh-place finish in the javelin at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics. As a coach, Barnett led Azusa Pacific to all seven of its NAIA women's track and field national titles. He also directed APU's annual Night of Champions youth outreach event. Reid's association with Azusa Pacific track and field spanned 32 years, and he was a two-sport standout for the Cougars in football and track and field. He served as APU's men's track and field head coach, guiding the Cougars to 14 of the program's 26 national titles. A 13-time NAIA Coach of the Year, Reid owns more national championships than any coach in NAIA history, including APU's first-ever indoor national title.

Barnett and Reid were a part of the coaching staff that helped Bryan Clay '02 claim gold in the decathlon at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

### Major League Baseball Draft



Pictured from left to right: Adrian Tovalin '18, Michael Staudinger '18, and Billy Oxford '18

On June 14, Adrian Tovalin '18, Michael Staudinger '18, and Billy Oxford '18 added their names to the growing list of Cougars who have been drafted into the professional baseball ranks. The trio became the 42<sup>nd</sup>, 43<sup>rd</sup>, and 44<sup>th</sup> players in school history to get drafted.

Tovalin was selected in the 16<sup>th</sup> round by the Houston Astros; Staudinger (26<sup>th</sup> round) and Oxford (27<sup>th</sup> round) were selected by the Chicago White Sox and the New York Mets, respectively. This marks the first time since 2014 that three players were selected. Moreover, it is the sixth straight year that the Cougars had at least one player selected. Since Paul Svagdis became the head coach before the 2003 season, 22 Cougars have been drafted.

### Spring Titles



In just its fifth season in the PacWest, the baseball team claimed the conference title. The Cougars finished the season with a 42-12 overall record and went 27-9 in PacWest play to claim the program's 12<sup>th</sup> conference title overall and its first since joining the PacWest in 2013. Eleven players earned all-conference honors as the squad earned the No. 2 seed and hosting honors for the NCAA Division II West Region Championship.



The track and field teams successfully defended their PacWest titles. After winning the men's and women's championships in 2016, the Cougars repeated as league champion—the men's and women's teams won five event conference titles. All-conference honors went to 21 athletes on the men's team and 15 on the women's.

### Dantas Claims Championship and MVP Honors



Former Cougar soccer standout Vini Dantas (attended '08-'11) concluded his third season with the Baltimore Blast in grand fashion. In April, he rallied the Blast from an early deficit to the organization's ninth Major Arena Soccer League title and won the championship series MVP. Since leaving the Azusa Pacific program after the 2010 season, he has also played professionally in Norway, Canada, and Latvia.

<b>FOOTBALL</b>
September 9   Home Opener: Cougars vs. Humboldt State   6:30 p.m.
September 16   Cougars vs. Central Washington   6:30 p.m.
<b>SOCCER</b>
October 4   Women's and Men's Soccer vs. Biola   5 p.m. (W) and 7:30 p.m. (M)
<b>VOLLEYBALL</b>
September 14   Cougars vs. Point Loma   7 p.m.
September 22   Cougars vs. Biola   6 p.m.
<i>For complete Azusa Pacific sports schedules, visit <a href="http://athletics.apu.edu/">athletics.apu.edu/</a>.</i>

### Volunteer Opportunities

#### Welcome Ceremony

##### Friday, August 25

Help welcome new students into the APU family during Welcome Weekend. Dinner and T-shirt provided to all APU alumni volunteers, who will be recognized on stage. All will join in cheering the new students through the APU Gate. To register, visit [apualumni.com/welcomeweekend/](http://apualumni.com/welcomeweekend/).

#### New Student Mugging

##### Monday, August 28

Help us "mug" our new students with root beer floats! Volunteers will receive an alumni T-shirt and gift for participating in this long-standing APU tradition. To register, visit [apualumni.com/mugging17/](http://apualumni.com/mugging17/).

### Save the Date

#### Homecoming and Family Weekend



[apu.edu/homecoming](http://apu.edu/homecoming)  
Thursday, Oct. 19: Golf Tournament  
Friday, Oct. 20: Homecoming Chapel, Dinner Rally  
Saturday, Oct. 21: Department Events, Block Party, Football Game

### Legacy Bricks



Would you like to leave your legacy on campus? Legacy bricks are a time-honored gift opportunity offered by the Office of Alumni Relations—a brick, engraved with the graduate's name and class year, placed in the walkway in front of the Hartwig Memorial Student Prayer Chapel on East Campus. To learn more and to order, visit [apualumni.com/brick18/](http://apualumni.com/brick18/).

## HOMEWORD | AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

### Make the Serious Choice to Have Fun in Your Marriage

by Jim Burns

You have heard the expression "Laughter is good medicine," but did you know that it comes from Scripture? "A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength" (Proverbs 17:22, NLT). I wholeheartedly believe that this truism applies to marriage. It may sound like an oversimplification, but couples who have fun, play, and laugh together are the couples who enjoy a deep and gratifying relational connection.

Marriage researchers report that strong emotional connections are more often the result of fun rather than from checking off the to-do list or telling

one another what is wrong with the relationship. Fortunately, you do not need a Ph.D. to understand the truth behind their discovery. Fun is fun! When fun is evident in a marriage, couples communicate more effectively. If you want your spouse to talk more—have more fun!

Cathy and I find that when we hang out with a cup of coffee, walk, or do something active, we have deeper and more honest conversations than when we sit in the kitchen to discuss an issue out of obligation. Communication and connection flow better when we are more relaxed. Having fun together is

more than just a good idea or something to do when you have the time—it is essential to a healthy marriage. One of the best ways to protect your marriage is to enjoy it. Do not underestimate the power of fun.

Several years ago, I wrote a book on traits of a healthy family called *10 Building Blocks for a Solid Family* (Bethany House Publishers, 2010). While researching happy and successful families, I discovered that playing together was one of the essential factors for developing a closely knit unit. Those who intentionally took time to incorporate play into their family time thrived, while those who did not tended to be less satisfied in their primary relationships. The element of play acts as the glue that makes healthy families stick together, and the same holds true for marriages. Playing together, expressing humor, laughing, and having

fun not only build a foundation of memories that you will draw upon when times are tough, but also unite your hearts and help you heal the occasional wounds that are part of every marriage. Fun and playfulness will become deposits of love that you can bank on when the negative withdrawals happen. So, drive a stake into the ground today, and commit to being a couple that proactively and intentionally makes the serious choice to add more fun to your marriage.

*For more information, visit [homeword.com](http://homeword.com). The HomeWord Center for Youth and Family at Azusa Pacific University with Jim Burns '75, Ph.D., and Doug Fields values strong marriages, confident parents, empowered kids, and healthy leaders.*



1960s

**1 PAUL YEUN '68** recently earned the Excel Award from Rotary Club International. Established in 1994, the award recognizes non-Rotarians who are active and successful in their chosen vocation as evidenced by accomplishments, peer recognition, and the embodiment of the Rotarian motto, “Service above Self.” In addition, Paul works as an adjunct professor at the Winebrenner, Palmer, and Pittsburgh Theological seminaries, and as a trustee and president of the Grace Foundation, which offers scholarships to Asian students pursuing graduate studies in ministry and public health.

1970s

**PAUL ZIMMER '73** released the second edition of *Thorn Daze: The Painful Truth about Prosperity Teaching* (CreateSpace, 2016), featured in LitFire’s

“Book Expo America” in New York May 31-June 2, 2017.

1980s

**KRISTI GAULTIERE, MFT '88**, is the cofounder of Soul Shepherding, a ministry of spiritual formation and soul care for pastors and ministry leaders. She and her husband, Bill, have a weekly podcast, *Soul Talks with Bill and Kristi Gaultiere*. Their website, soulshepherding.org, reaches 1 million people around the world with 800 free resources to help them connect intimately with Jesus.

1990s

**MELINDA DAFFRON '92** earned the Fairhaven Memorial Service’s Oliver Halsell Care Award in November 2016 for her volunteer work as a Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) crisis team manager. The award honors people whose kindness

and dedication to serving inspires others. TIP volunteers respond to traumatic incidents at the request of police, fire, and hospital personnel to support emotionally traumatized people. In addition, volunteers learn emotional first-aid skills—how to listen and what to say to victims of traumatic events and their families in the first few hours after a tragedy. Melinda maintains relationships with Orange County, California first responder agencies and briefs them before their shifts about how and when to involve TIP volunteers. She coordinates volunteers for daily incidents and is on call to respond to traumatic events.

**ERICA (HEINTZELMAN '93) WIGGENHORN** wrote a Bible study titled *An Unexplainable Life: Recovering the Wonder and Devotion of the Early Church* (Moody Publishers, 2016). The expository study takes the reader verse by verse through the first 12 chapters

of Acts. A follow-up study was released in June 2017, titled *The Unexplainable Church: Reigniting the Mission of the Early Believers* (Moody Publishers), which covers the remainder of the Acts narrative.

**ORLANTHA (MARINE, ED.D. '94) NIN** works as the transfer center coordinator and counselor at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo, California.

**ERIK ROSALES '95** recently became the Washington, DC, correspondent for the Christian Broadcasting Network after winning his second Emmy Award in 2016, this one (along with the other members of his former news team at Fox26 KMPH) for Best Newscast-Daytime for Medium Markets.

**ANTHONY FISHER '97, M.ED. '99**, started Branding Men, a small business that encourages and empowers men to live a life of purpose and significance by

discovering, communicating, and living out their God-given call at home, at work, and in business. The company trains, coaches, offers speaking engagements, and provides marketing services to men. For more information, visit brandingmen.com.

**2 STEVEN D. BROOKS '98, M.A. '06**, an adjunct professor of music and worship at Azusa Pacific University, presented the keynote speech at the Tehillim Worship Symposium in Karachi and Lahore, Pakistan, accompanied by **TYLER GREEK '16**. Steven’s book, *Worship Quest: An Exploration of Worship Leadership* (Wipf & Stock, 2015), was translated into Urdu, the national language of Pakistan. He also wrote an article published in *Reformed Worship*, “Helping Your Congregation Sing,” and has presented workshops at several conferences, including “Leading in Prayer” and “Creating Flow in a Worship Service” at the National Worship Leader Conference in Texas.

**MELAINE (ROSECRANS '99) TROESH, M.ED. '01**, works as assistant principal at Kingsley Elementary in Montclair, California, which won the 2016 Title I Academic Achievement Award, as well as the 2016 California Gold Ribbon Award for its Conservatory of Music. She and her family attend Life Bible Fellowship Church in Upland.

2000s

**LISA (MCKENDRY '02) LUBIN RUBIN** implemented the Student Awareness of Gender Equity (SAGE) program at a high school in the Antelope Valley. The program inspires female students to take courses they may not have previously considered. The program also recruits role models from corporations such as Northrop Grumman, Lockheed Martin, and the U.S. military to speak on campus. The number of females enrolled in these classes doubled within the first year, and students began pursuing new degrees and career fields. Lisa works as assistant headmaster of the Palmdale Aerospace Academy, where she inspires girls to pursue careers in engineering, aerospace, and technology. Additionally, she is pursuing an Ed.D. through Chapman University and writing a dissertation on girls in Project Lead the Way classes

and their degree choices. She plans to graduate in summer 2017.

**TOLULOPE NOAH '04** gave a presentation at the 2016 Teaching Professor Conference in Washington, DC, about strategies for helping students develop intercultural competence, and was a guest presenter in the Educator Track at Turn Your Campus 2017 at Biola University.

**CHRISTOPHER THE '04, M.A. '06**, became the director of commission information services at the Association of Theological Schools (ATS). He, his wife, **JESSICA (ARCHER '04)**, and their children, Leona and Jameson, relocated to Pittsburgh.

**HENRY ALONZO '05** became an assistant professor at APU, where he will help launch the Master of Arts in Music Entrepreneurship program in fall 2017. He earned an MBA from Concordia University Irvine, and *CUI Magazine* recently featured his many accomplishments in the music industry.

**RUSSELL BUHR '06** practices pulmonary and critical care medicine at UCLA. In addition, he conducts research on the healthcare utilization patterns of patients with advanced lung disease through the Fielding School of Public Health at UCLA. Russell will join the faculty of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA in July 2017 and is available for new patients and mentorship of prehealth students. rbuhr@mednet.ucla.edu.

**ANTHONY PRINCE '06** moved to North Carolina to serve as the global family ministry pastor for Newhope Church, a multisite church with 10 campuses throughout the Carolinas and Kenya.

**ARIEL (FORTUNE '08) DALTON** became the senior topline sales director at Danone, the top fresh dairy company worldwide. She was nominated and recognized at the 2016 Annual Makers Conference as one of Danone’s game-changing female leaders. She is an active member of the Network of Executive Women (NEW) and Illuminators, which helps provide opportunities for education and leadership. Ariel is an alumna of the University of Southern California’s prestigious Food Industry Executive Program. She and her husband, Jamie, live in Huntington Beach, California.

**JOSEY SCHENKOSKE '08** recently became a partner at Bianchi, Kasavan & Pope, LLP. He began working there in October 2007 and is a member of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and the California Society of CPAs (CalCPA). Josey is involved in his church and the not-for-profit organization where his wife, **KELLY (JONES '07)**, works.

**MONIQUE (ORTIZ, M.A. '08) SINCLARE** and her family live in Eastvale, California. She is pursuing a Master of Science in Nursing to become a nurse practitioner, and her husband, Curtis, works as a deputy with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department. The couple welcomed a son, Jackson, on April 28, 2015.

**DONALD “JIM” JONES, M.DIV. '09**, published his book *Leaving Christianity to Follow Jesus* (Aware Publishing, 2016). He also started Music for the Revolution, an educational charitable organization that organizes an annual music festival to increase awareness and adoption of environmental regenerative practices and promote local organizations with similar concerns.

2010s

**ANNE BERGTHOLD '10** became marketing coordinator for the Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at University of the Pacific in Stockton, California.

**ALEXANDER LONG '10** graduated from medical school at Loma Linda University. He works as a family medicine resident physician at Resurrection Health, a Christian healthcare organization that restores the spiritual, physical, and social well-being of the world’s most marginalized by providing a healthcare option outside of a clinical setting. Alex seeks to plant churches and proclaim the Gospel to unreached parts of China.

**KATHERYN (SMITH '10) DE ARAKAL, M.A. '16**, earned an M.A. in Clinical Psychology at APU with an emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy in December 2016.

**LAUREN D. CARROLL, M.A. '12**, is an assistant professor in the Department of Global Studies, Sociology, and TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) at APU. She presented “Interactive Proofreading with Multilingual

Writers: What? Why? How?” at the 2016 International Writing Centers Association Conference in Denver, Colorado.

**CYNTHIA JOHNSTON '12** became student employment coordinator at Seattle Pacific University.

**BRYAN SANTOS '12** became a seventh-grade science teacher at Bonita Springs Charter School in Florida.

**MARLENE SOFFERA, M.A. '12**, contributed several pages of commentary from a pastor’s perspective to a Barna report, *The Porn Phenomenon*, commissioned by the Josh McDowell Ministry. In addition, she moved from Southern California to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to become the senior pastor of Crossroads Church of God.

**EMELI WARREN '12** became associate editor at Disney Publishing Worldwide, where she supports the development, publication, and global licensing of content for the Disney Channel TV networks and Disney Baby franchises.

**ADAM HOLLICK '14, M.M. '16**, became resident artist in the 2017 Opera Theater of the Pittsburgh Festival Opera. In addition, he performed the main role of Conrad Birdie in *Bye Bye Birdie* (opened in February 2017) at the Glendale Center Theatre in Glendale, California. He also played Gaston in Plan B Entertainment’s production of *Beauty and the Beast* and made his TV debut on the Investigation Discovery Network show “Deadly Sins.”

**KELSEY NERLAND '14** is a missionary with Adventures in Missions, an interdenominational organization that focuses on discipleship, starting in Guatemala and continuing in Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, the Philippines, Rwanda, Uganda, and Kenya throughout 2017. Previously, Kelsey served in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Honduras.

**ANTHONY LI '14, M.A. '15**, works as a human resources specialist at Sony Interactive Entertainment in the PlayStation division, where he transitioned from intern to contracted employee—the second APU graduate to do so.

**COREY MARTIN '14** works for Brand X Music, where he composes music for motion picture advertising and films. His

*continued on page 33*

COUGAR INTERVIEW—REX G. '85



**REX G.:** Many things led up to this prayer walk, but it really came together when God connected me with the gang that took over this house. One teenager had a scar running from his neck to his waist from where he had been shot three times. Another had a prosthetic leg due to a gunshot wound. All of them were addicted to meth and/or heroin. I got them out, but I also hired some of them to work on the repairs with me, taught them some basic construction skills, and used the opportunity to talk with them about Jesus and life change.

**APU LIFE:** Did you have prior experience with this type of ministry?

**REX G.:** While at APU, through a crazy series of events that I can only attribute to God’s providence, I was asked to start a football team at a juvenile prison in L.A. County. Virtually all the inmates were gang members. For two weeks, I tried to do it by myself, and I was constantly breaking up fights. Then my friends Ralph Ramirez, Dave Howell, Ted Gould, and Augie Vega, all amazing football players, rotated coming with me. Another friend, Freddy Negrete, who had started an outreach to gangs in the San Gabriel Valley, taught me how to defuse volatile

situations and talk to them about life change through Jesus. All this had a lifelong impact on me, and I continued to do volunteer work with prisons and inner-city youth for many years.

**APU LIFE:** What specific areas did you choose for your prayer walk and why?

**REX G.:** For many years, I have prayed for God’s continual revival at APU, L.A., and beyond, which I believe was the driving passion of APU’s remarkable founders. I retraced the places God has taken APU from 1899 to 2017. I walked from Whittier, where APU started as the Training School for Christian Workers (TSCW), to other early locations in Boyle Heights, Huntington Park, and downtown L.A., praying through a wide variety of communities—from low-income neighborhoods to business districts. Terry Franson, Ph.D., senior vice president of student life/dean of students at APU, joined me downtown for several hours interacting with people, listening to their stories, sharing about Jesus, and praying with them. Dennis Huff ’77 joined me the next day, praying and walking around L.A., through Pasadena, and finally to APU. About 40 student leaders gathered to hear about the prayer walk and the

faithfulness of APU’s founders, and from longtime board member Don Marshburn, about his grandfather’s involvement in the early days of the university. APU’s founders had an amazing vision and passion to reflect Jesus to L.A. and the world.

**APU LIFE:** Who inspires you?

**REX G.:** Believers who have prayed Isaiah 6:8, “Lord, here am I, send me,” inspire me. APU’s founders, especially Mary Hill and Philena B. Hadley, are heroes of APU’s story. Hadley hosted the meeting that resulted in the TSCW founding in 1899. She also hosted the school at her home until it outgrew that space, then continued to serve in various capacities while caring for several orphans in her home. When Dennis Huff and I prayed at the location of her former home, we both had a sense that if it had not been for this faithful servant of the Lord, there would be no APU.

**APU LIFE:** What change do you wish to see?

**REX G.:** I hope believers will come together in unity and collaboration to radically love God and one another, even our enemies, and make disciples among all the different cultures within L.A. and beyond.





EYES TO SEE THE  
*Possibilities*

BY EVELYN ALLEN

At 8 months old, Kim Lu Lawe, Ed.D. '16, could not know the stakes. One innocent cry might betray the dozens huddled together in the hold of a fishing vessel sailing from Saigon under cover of night. Of the 79 on board, 14 others were also children, including Lawe's three older siblings. Their parents held their breath and prayed. From checkpoint to checkpoint and out into open waters, all on the boat stayed still and quiet. Ahead lay a harrowing 10 days at sea, followed by four long months in a relocation camp. But that courageous journey in 1977 led to their family's future: life in America, free to live out their Christian values.

"Our family's journey from Vietnam to the U.S. succeeded because of my father's diligent planning, and because everyone shared a vision of where we were going and what we needed to do to get there," said Lawe. Now a leader in secondary education, Lawe applies that same mindset to create a common mission among the faculty, staff, and students she serves, knowing that collective purpose put into action can achieve mighty things. "My history is a testament to that," she said. "I want them to know that together we can beat the odds and rise to the occasion, no matter the challenges."

Poised to test that once again, Lawe recently accepted the role of inaugural director of the Eastvale STEM Academy, an expansion of Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Riverside County—a natural progression after two decades as a classroom science teacher and assistant principal. Though Lawe struggled as a first-year teacher, uncertain she was meant for the important but demanding role, her calling became evident. In the middle of the school year, a near-fatal collision caused by a drunk driver put Lawe in intensive care. She awoke from a coma to heaps of heartfelt messages from her worried students, wishing for her full recovery and anticipating her return. "It stunned me to realize the impact I was having on their lives," said Lawe. "A firefighter who pulled me from the wreckage said God was giving me a second chance, and I clearly understand that now. I am here to fulfill my mission serving His children, our future generations."



PHOTOS BY SIOENEY DIONGZON

Soon Eastvale STEM Academy students will experience an advanced learning center guided by Lawe's hand and vision. A place where indoor classrooms spill out into expansive common areas for research and collaboration, while outdoor learning spaces provide open air for open minds. Vast sight lines, coworking labs, and glass-walled "spark" tanks lend themselves to the academy's mission to offer students a specialized STEM education. An alchemy of intentional planning and inspired architecture results in a community where interdisciplinary collaboration and partnership are prized and learning can happen anywhere. Not a single classroom has four walls.

"All students should have access to a STEM education, whether they intend to be a surgeon or a medical office assistant," said Lawe. "The world needs capable workers at all levels, so the academy is open to any student with a desire to pursue these fields." With no set GPA requirements and an environment where special education students also receive support, Lawe's scholarship on diversity and inclusion proved a perfect fit.

"Dr. Lawe's research outlines the care and resources that have been helpful as young women develop their aspirations for STEM schooling and careers," said Jenny Yau, Ed.D., professor in the School of Education's Department of Educational Leadership, who mentored Lawe during her time in APU's doctoral program. "The findings of her study, alongside her skills as a passionate, intelligent, and relational leader, provide strong support for the vision and goals of her academy."

Corona-Norco Unified School District officials broke ground in February and plan to finish construction during the 2018-19 school year in time to welcome students for fall 2019. Already Lawe has begun laying crucial groundwork by preparing an exceptional team of STEM educators, generating community support, and shaping curriculum so graduates will be well

positioned for college and careers. "The best part of working together is that students see how much their teachers care, and they quickly begin to model the same working style, which is ideal for studying science and helps female and underrepresented students better engage the material," said Lawe. More than 300 students at Eleanor Roosevelt are in STEM program tracks for medical science or engineering. When the new facility opens, that number will grow to 1,000.

Once something only imagined, now Eastvale STEM Academy stands as a testimony to the power of vision and the strength of an education champion, one drawn from a rich legacy of family and of faith.

Evelyn Allen is a senior editor in the Office of University Relations. [ecallen@apu.edu](mailto:ecallen@apu.edu)

❖  
"ALL STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO A STEM EDUCATION, WHETHER THEY INTEND TO BE A SURGEON OR A MEDICAL OFFICE ASSISTANT."  
❖

— Kim Lu Lawe, Ed.D. '16



# RESILIENT HOPE

by Bethany Wagner

**Last December, another round of missiles and bombs struck the war-torn city of Aleppo, Syria.**

Hundreds of thousands of Syrians had already lost their lives to nationwide civil war, and citizens waited in terror each time another airstrike approached. For years, they struggled with no outside relief. Finally, however, the international community agreed to a mass evacuation. On December 15, more than 100,000 Syrians left their homes, belongings, and livelihoods, like the 11 million Syrians displaced from their homes over the past six years—more than half the nation’s population.

Aid came from around the globe to greet the evacuees. One of the first responders, relief organization World Vision, sent a team with food, water, blankets, and support as the displaced prepared to navigate an unknown future. Angela Huddleston ’05, manager of World Vision’s Syrian humanitarian response program, serves as the driving force behind these teams, organizing relief efforts for displaced people and refugees throughout Syria and the surrounding regions.

From a young age, Huddleston felt called to work internationally, and while studying sociology at APU, she discovered humanitarianism, just emerging as a recognized career field. That summer, she interned at World Vision’s Southern California headquarters and knew she had found her calling. After nine years of relief work in three countries and studying human rights in London, she

moved to Turkey to manage World Vision’s response to the Syrian humanitarian crisis, considered the worst humanitarian emergency in recent history.

Based in neighboring Turkey, Huddleston develops and implements strategic programs to address the turbulent reality in Syria, and coordinates fundraising and communications with local and international partners. “Every decision has major consequences,” she said. “As one of my most important responsibilities, I connect with and support local Syrian organizations who act as our hands and feet within Syria and keep us informed of the constantly shifting situation.”

Last year, a Syrian nonprofit informed Huddleston of the dire need for a hospital specializing in maternal and neonatal care near the front lines of war activity. Huddleston’s team raised support, and one year later, a Syrian mother underwent a successful C-section to deliver a healthy baby girl, named after the new reproductive health facility, Miriam’s Women’s and Children’s Hospital. “That mother would have had to travel 50 miles through dangerous regions to a high-risk hospital otherwise,” said Huddleston, who is now developing plans for another hospital in North Syria that will provide quality care for more than 250,000 women and children. “This is a step of faith, because terror groups target hospitals on a regular basis,” she said. “But even in the middle of war, women have babies and children get sick. We cannot forget these needs.”

Working 60 to 80 hours per week, Huddleston battles discouragement in the face of seemingly endless conflict and unrest. “It’s often impossible to predict the next day,” she said. “We might spend weeks developing a project proposal, only to discover an armed group has taken over the region and shut down our operations there.” In the midst of these dark realities, Huddleston finds hope in people. The majority of her co-workers and team members are Syrians who lost their homes and loved ones, some enduring displacement several times. “Their resiliency, intelligence, humor, and relentless dedication to our cause inspires me to continue,” she said.

Huddleston encourages believers to pray for a permanent ceasefire, safety for refugees and aid workers, and political stability throughout the Middle East. “We must do everything we can in our current positions to give refugees options for a future through prayer, financial support, and advocacy,” she said. “We have a responsibility to intercede and care for the least of these, whether near or far.”

For more information on the current refugee crisis and ways to support, visit [worldvision.org](http://worldvision.org).

*Bethany Wagner ’14 is a freelance writer and editor living in Portland, Oregon.*  
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**“Their resiliency, intelligence, humor, and relentless dedication to our cause inspires me to continue.”**

—Angela Huddleston ’05



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAULINE 'TONY' HILTON, MSN '01, DRPH

## Handle with Care

Day and night, in hospitals throughout the nation, thousands of dedicated nurses go above and beyond the call of duty, spending countless hours doing what they love and often paying a painful price for their sacrifice. As they respectfully reposition bedridden patients and carefully transfer others to and from wheelchairs and stretchers, these caretakers frequently end up with pulled muscles, aching joints, and strained backs. According to the Department of Labor, hospitals annually report more than 35,000 injuries among nurses that cause them to miss work, making nursing one of the most injury-prone occupations. But Pauline “Tony” Hilton, MSN ’01, DrPH, helped change that reality by introducing innovative technologies to American hospitals.

A successful nurse practitioner, Hilton began transforming modern healthcare practices as an MSN student at APU, when she discovered her calling to work with veterans. “APU’s emphasis on service and clinicals caring for underserved populations gave a greater purpose to my career, and I committed to improving care for those often forgotten by society,” she said.

With a clear purpose and a passion to serve, Hilton began exploring new breakthroughs in medical technology. Joining international researchers and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) leaders, she realized the potential of safe patient handling, which involves developing the best methods for moving patients. Already successful in Europe, the movement had not yet reached the United States. “I knew this was important, not only for veterans’ hospitals but for all health care.” She began

## Parenting as Ministry

Helping with homework, driving to extracurricular activities, scheduling doctor appointments, and preparing multiple meals—the parental juggling act can be overwhelming. Not so for Nathan ’83 and Lori Ryberg ’83, proud parents of 13—7 adopted special needs children and 6 biological kids, from 2 to 33. The Rybergs embrace parenting as a privilege and possess an innate capacity for love far exceeding the weight of their daily challenges. They seek to provide a positive home life for their family as well as numerous foster children.

“We always worry about time, money, and making sure each one gets enough, but these seem to be all parents’ concerns no matter how many kids they have,” said Lori, who homeschools the children. “We can’t afford to pay for vacations, but we work extra jobs and manage to always have everything we need.”

College sweethearts, the Rybergs met during their freshman year at APU, where they both studied social work—Nathan focused on medical social work and Lori on foster care and adoption. In addition to sharing a major, they also came from similar backgrounds and had like-minded plans. “Growing up, my family was very involved in foster care, taking in more than 50 kids, while Nathan’s family had adopted 2 children,” said Lori. “We always planned on being involved in foster care and adoption through our respective work in those fields, but soon enough we realized we were bringing our work home with us.”

Married soon after college, the Rybergs fostered nearly 20 children with medical conditions, which are the hardest to place. Of the 20, they adopted 7—3 with spina bifida, 3 with Down syndrome, and 1 with cerebral palsy. “I take them to the grocery store, to see things and be seen, and to become part of the public,” said Lori, who finds deep joy in helping her children, even through hospital stays, physical therapy, and other medical care. Recently, their biggest challenge has become transportation.

championing safe patient handling, and in 2009 became the first safe patient handling and mobility coordinator at the VA’s Loma Linda Healthcare System (HCS). With a \$220 million grant to all VA facilities, Hilton set about transforming the Loma Linda VA hospital’s practices and implementing state-of-the-art equipment.

One of the most effective tools consists of a hanging bar linked to a track running across the ceiling of a hospital room. Nurses attach a sling cradling the patient to the bar and, using the motorized machine, can easily reposition patients, or move them to a stretcher, wheelchair, or the bathroom. “Technology like this takes a major burden off nurses, doctors, and surgeons so they can focus on real care,” said Hilton. “At the same time, it is much safer and more comfortable for patients.” Other equipment includes powered stretchers, load-lifting devices connected to ambulances, and inflatable mattresses that gently reposition patients with the press of a button. These tools have unlocked once-impossible tasks: people confined to beds can now easily use the bathroom, take showers, and begin rehabilitation.

Now, Loma Linda HCS stands as a shining example of safe patient handling, with nurse and patient injuries cut by 40 percent. Hilton, however, is not finished. In 2014, she began promoting the cause nationally, comanaging the VA’s national safe patient handling program, partnering with other hospitals, and speaking at conferences across the country to share her findings. Last September, she became the first safe patient handling manager for the national VA office in Washington, DC, overseeing 160 hospitals and supporting all facilities. The transformation goes even beyond the VA: 11 states have adopted as law the methods that Hilton helped develop. “This is the new norm in the U.S.,” she said. “Once behind, we now lead in safe patient handling on a global scale.” One of 90,000 nurses in the VA, Hilton does her part to make a difference and ensure compassionate care for the nation’s veterans.

For the whole family to travel together, they must take two vehicles, and manually lift three wheelchair-bound children into their van.

Nathan’s coworkers at the police department started a GoFundMe page to raise money to help with the purchase of a custom vehicle with a wheelchair lift. “It will be great for the kids, so they can feel independent rather than relying on me,” said Nathan.

Pouring into the lives of these children fulfills a deep calling for the whole family, and provides an ideal platform for them to model Christian service to others. “The need to take in medically and educationally fragile children is huge, and it’s a great mission field,” said Lori, who helps other families overcome the red tape to foster and adopt children. “Once you get involved with children with disabilities, there’s no going back.”

The Rybergs’ older kids prove her point. Their daughter has traveled to several countries helping Joni and Friends’ Wheels for the World, while their two older sons are respite and habilitation workers for families with disabled children. The Rybergs’ greatest reward is seeing their kids and other families take up the mantle of helping children find their forever homes.

“Family is where we get to do our best work,” said Nathan. “It’s where we get to practice kindness, patience, and love.” And where they serve as an inspirational example to all seeking to represent Christ to a hurting world.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE RYBERGS





Every effort is made to publish all photos submitted to APU Life. We apologize if your photo was not published.

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music has been featured on campaigns such as *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, *Concussion*, *Once Upon a Time*, and many others films and television shows.

**KORY MCMASTER '14** worked as assistant orchestrator for *10 Cloverfield Lane*, *Hidden Figures*, *Captain America: Civil War*, and Marvel's *Agents of Shield*. Kory also worked on score preparation for the film *Deadpool*.

**CODY YARBROUGH '14** finished a master's degree in environmental engineering and natural resources at the University of Michigan and recently became a hydrologist at Argonne National Laboratory.

**TAYLOR ODOM '15** earned a spot on the 2016 Gold Rush Squad for the San Francisco 49ers. She also teaches dance at Achiever Christian Elementary in San Jose, California.

**CHRISTOPHER HERNANDEZ '16** works as a restorative justice specialist for Resolve Center for Dispute Resolution and Restorative Justice and will present at the 2017 Northwest Justice Forum on community-building circles, a central practice of restorative justice in schools.

In addition, Christopher regularly attends Quaker meetings.

**MARISSA MILLER '16** gave a presentation at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in Atlanta. She and a small team conducted research as part of their involvement in the postbaccalaureate program at Smith College's Center for Women in Mathematics.

**MURRAY NGUYEN '16** became a semiconductor process engineer at Ostendo Technologies.

**CAMILLE FRIGILLANA '17** works as a mentor with the TRIO/Talent Search program at Pasadena City College, helping first-generation students navigate admission to college. She is also an editorial intern for Northstar Travel Group, which oversees *TravelAge West* magazine.

**ALEX JAGGERS '17** became a first- and second-grade teacher at Roberts Ferry School in Waterford, California, for the 2017-18 school year.

JUST MARRIED

**3 MICHAEL SIMPSON '04** to Jennifer Kleist on October 22, 2016, in Livermore, California.

**4 EMILY LANOVARA '11** to Casey Weitzel on August 20, 2016, in Paso Robles, California. The wedding party included **CHRISTINA (OKUN '11) HARRIS**, **EMILY (NEWTON '11) PETERSON**, **MEGAN (FREW '11) SAYED**, and **MEAGAN (TSCHAPPLER '11) STEVICK**.

**KATHRYN WELLS '14** to **TIMOTHY YOUNGDALE '14** on November 12, 2016, in Sacramento, California. The wedding party included **LAUREN (WALTER '14) NEELY**, **JENNA CALAMUSA '14**, **KENDALL MINTA '14, M.A. '16**, **CHRISTOPHER DUKE '14**, and **STEVEN SHIOKARI '14**. The couple lives in Los Gatos, California.

**5 JAZMINE HAND '15** to **JUSTIN KEMP '16** on December 3, 2016, in Las Vegas. Their wedding party included **JENNIFER KEMP-STANDLEE '12**, **RACHAEL KEMP '16**, **KELSIE ROCHE '16**, **TAYLOR HUST '16**, and **AMANDA MAYFIELD '16**. They recently moved to Washington, DC, and are working in the U.S. House and U.S. Senate—Justin on the House Ways and Means Committee, and Jazmine for Senator Dean Heller (R-NV).

**6 JOSÉ DUEÑAS, M.A. '16**, to **ELYSE WESTIN, M.A. '16**, on November 12, 2016, in San Lorenzo, California. The

couple lives in Sacramento, where José works at World Relief helping resettle incoming refugees.

**7 HANNAH HARBOTTLE '16** to Alex Peacock on July 8, 2016, at their ranch house in Oak Hills, California.

FUTURE ALUMNI

**8** To **ERIN (BROUN '01) BIOLCHINO** and her husband, Andrew, a son, Alexander Michael, on August 4, 2016. Erin is an assistant professor in the Educational Leadership Department at California State University, Long Beach. Andy is the network systems manager for the Roland Corporation, U.S. The family lives in Garden Grove, California.

**9** To **CHARLES SHELDON '01** and his wife, **TRACI (LEHMAN '02)**, a daughter, Scarlett Joy, on January 12, 2017. She joins older brothers, Max, Porter, and Beckett.

**10** To **RENEE (ECKLEY '07) REINHARDT** and her husband, **OWEN '08, M.A. '12**, a daughter, Zoe Joyce, on February 2, 2017. The family resides in Sacramento, California, where Owen works as a hospice chaplain and Renee as a pediatric nurse.

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**11** To **BRITTANY (JOHNSON '07) BILLAR** and her husband, Mike, a son, Andrew James (“AJ”), on October 22, 2016. Brittany works as the executive director of the Office of Communiversi-ty at APU, and Mike works for APU’s University College. AJ joins older siblings, Kaitlyn and Matthew. The family lives in Glendora, California.

To **HIEDI (MCALISTER '08, BSN '11) WRIGHT** and her husband, Isaiah, a son, Fitzwilliam Oliver, on November 14, 2016. He joins older brother, Alcide Alaric.

**12** To **DANIEL KARIS, M.A. '09**, and his wife, **LISA (SIMMONS '10), MBA '15**, a son, Graham Daniel, on January 17, 2017.

**13** To **MARK STUCKEY, M.A '10**, and his wife, Molly, a son, Sawyer Matisse, on November 8, 2016. Mark is the worship and arts pastor at Countryside Community Church in Portland, Oregon. In addition, he teaches worship theology and directs the chapel bands at George Fox University in Newberg, Oregon.

**14** To **CHRISTINA (TEICH '10) MACINTYRE** and her husband, Scott, a son, Christian Scott, on September 21, 2016. Christina helps manage her

husband’s career as a Christian recording artist, inspirational speaker, and author. They live in Franklin, Tennessee.

**15** To **LAUREN (BELANGER '11) BORDEAUX** and her husband, **ANDRÉ '12**, a son, André “Andy” Paul, on February 6, 2017. André is a foreign service officer at the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, Germany, and Lauren is a stay-at-home mom and freelance writer.

**16** To **MATTHEW SLEEPER '11** and his wife, **BRITTANY (SMITH '12)**, a son, Nathan Jay, on October 3, 2016. He joins older sister, Cheyenne Marie. Matthew works as a captain in the U.S. Marines Corps and is pursuing an MBA at APU.

**17** To **MADISON MULDER '14** and her husband, Brent, a son, Klayton Evan, on April 8, 2016.

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 apualumni.com/classnotes or email alumni@apu.edu.

WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE YOU WEARING YOUR APU CLOTHING?

**Attention alumni:** Send us your photographs of the places you have been with your Cougar wear. If we print your submission, you will receive an APU T-shirt to wear while visiting your next exotic or interesting destination. Send your photos,\* along with a description of the location where the photograph was taken, and your T-shirt size, to the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, PO Box 7000, Azusa, CA 91702-7000, or alumni@apu.edu. Or you can add your photo to the Azusa Pacific Everywhere Flickr account at flickr.com/groups/apueverywhere/. \*Please send high-resolution images or prints only.

A world map with three orange location pins. Dotted lines connect each pin to a photo of an alumna wearing APU clothing. The first pin is in the Middle East, connected to a photo of Tracy Prouty '09 at the Sea of Galilee, Israel. The second pin is in Southeast Asia, connected to a photo of Hank Kratzer '00 in Raja Ampat, Indonesia. The third pin is in New Zealand, connected to a photo of Laurie (Leenerts) '80 Pratt at Mount Cook, New Zealand. A fourth photo of Megan Uhrich '02 at Milford Sound, New Zealand, is also shown with a dotted line connecting it to the map area.

**TRACY PROUTY '09**  
SEA OF GALILEE, ISRAEL

**HANK KRATZER '00**  
RAJA AMPAT, INDONESIA

**LAURIE (LEENERTS '80) PRATT**  
MOUNT COOK, NEW ZEALAND

**MEGAN UHRICH '02**  
MILFORD SOUND, NEW ZEALAND



Service

From Alaska to China to Guatemala, the first students in Azusa Pacific’s history traveled far and wide to help a needy world, firmly planting service at the heart of their education. Over time, the places and people have changed, but service remains one of the institution’s unwavering Cornerstones. In the 1940s, every student engaged in practical Christian fieldwork serving local churches as Gospel Teams (shown above), Sunday School teachers, assistant pastors, or special speakers. Today, APU undergraduate students extend this service heritage, fulfilling a service requirement in community programs such as City Links and L.A. Term, or international programs such as Action Teams or Mexico Outreach. Throughout

the years, acts of service have taken innovative forms and permeated every aspect of campus life, from intimate discipleship and mentoring to uplifting the marginalized to serving their country through APU’s Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC). As students and alumni continue to serve others locally and around the world, they connect to a deeper relationship with Christ, develop a greater sense of community, and model scholarship put into practice, thus living out APU’s Four Cornerstones: Christ, Scholarship, Community, and Service.

–Ken Otto, MLIS, professor, Special Collections librarian





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