

THE UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND

PEOPLE AND IDEAS FOR SUMMER 2018

arches



ALSO INSIDE: A tribute to the iconic Curran Apple Orchard of University Place • An anthem for 2018 graduates of color



FAREWELL, ROSS MULHAUSEN

For more than 30 years, Ross Mulhausen brought his artistic eye and sensitive soul to the production of thoughtful and beautiful photography documenting every aspect of life on campus. He captured the experiences of generations of Loggers and the milestones that have come to define our community. He said hello to everyone on his path, and never forgot a face. Ross retired in June, but his legacy at Puget Sound will live on, and remind us of the best of who we are and aspire to be.



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At right: Sequoia Leech-Kritchman '18, *It Leads to the Ocean*. Beach plastic, netting, and fishing line. See more works from the 2018 *Senior Art Show* on pages 12–15.

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School's out for summer



Tiny house, big effort

Over the course of several days in April, students from the Habitat for Humanity campus chapter and supporters, including President Isiaah Crawford (pictured with Lauren Gallison '20), built a tiny house for the Low Income Housing Institute. Puget Sound's tiny house is one of 200 that will provide temporary shelter for Seattle's homeless population.

A dose of optimism

Sally Jewell, former U.S. secretary of the interior, delivered the Commencement address on May 13. The Pacific Northwest native and positive changemaker wanted the Class of 2018 to know that they are the reason she is optimistic. She quoted American cultural anthropologist Margaret Mead, who said: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Sally told the graduates: "Put your diverse and wonderful degrees to work in shaping a brighter future for our world. We need you." Sally received an honorary Doctor of Science degree at the ceremony.



LOGGERS



Welcome home, Aubrey

In June, Aubrey Shelton '05, M.A.T.'06 returned to Puget Sound as the new men's basketball head coach. His hiring follows the departure of former head coach Justin Lunt, who, over 12 years, led the Loggers to seven Northwest Conference Tournament appearances, a Northwest Conference title, and the Sweet 16 in the NCAA Division III tournament. Aubrey played as a forward on the Logger basketball team while working toward his bachelor's degree in history. He was named to the All-American Freshman Team in 2002. For the past 11 years, he's been leading the Lincoln High School Abes to hundreds of victories as head coach (and alumnus) of the boys' basketball team. He told *The News Tribune* that being a college coach has always been a dream. "The opportunity to do that at my alma mater is just way too special to pass up," he said.



PUGET SOUND ATHLETICS

Brains and brawn

Six members of Puget Sound's women's crew team were named Scholar Athletes by the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association in June. Kyra Farr '20, Kayla Hipp '18, Leslie Machabee '20, Lily O'Connor '18, Monica Schweitz '20, and Katie Snodgrass '20 all maintained GPAs of 3.5 or above throughout the year and competed in nearly all of the season's varsity- or second varsity-eight races.

VINCE MILLER

College access in action

From watching the dissection of a fish brain in the neuroscience lab of Associate Professor Siddharth Ramakrishnan (right) to touring the archives of Collins Library and exploring the field house, 60 eager fifth-graders from Tacoma's McCarver Elementary School got a taste of the college life on April 19. McCarver Day is an annual campus visit that's part of a larger educational exchange between Puget Sound, McCarver, and UW Tacoma, now in its ninth year.



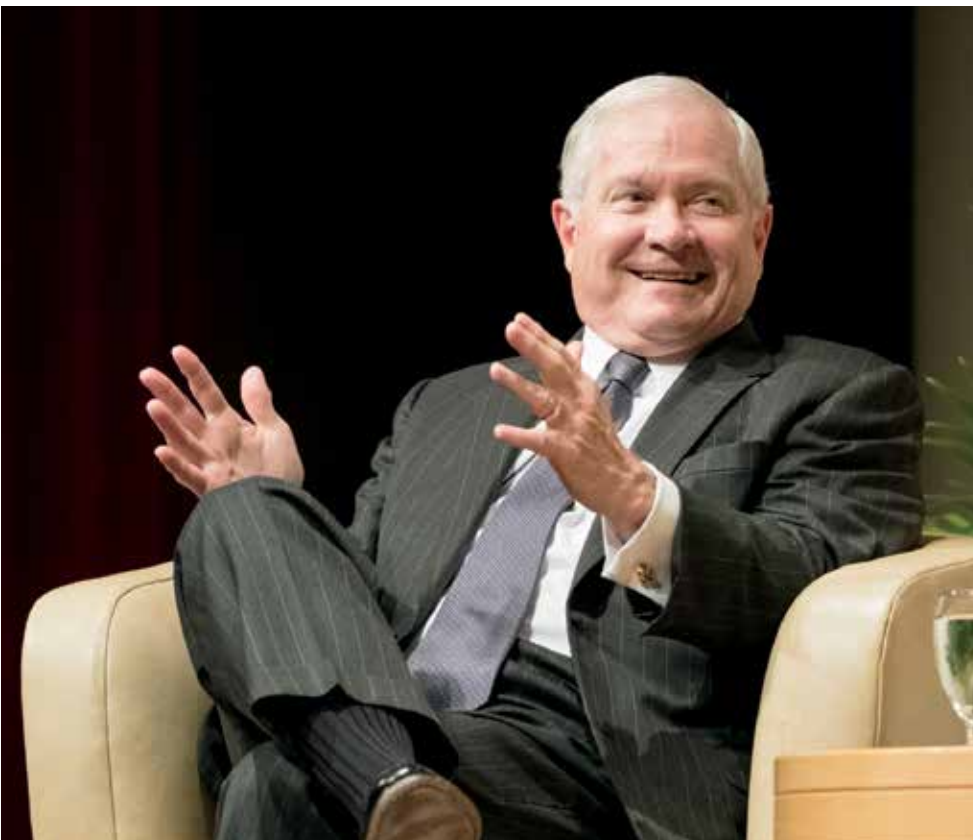
Spreading aloha

Ka'Ohana me ke Aloha's 48th Annual Spring Lu'au drew hundreds to the field house on April 14. Through dances performed by members of the campus community, the event showcased Hawai'i's welcoming aloha spirit.



Getting a global perspective

Nine Puget Sound students and recent alumni have been awarded prestigious national scholarships and fellowships—including the Watson Fellowship and four Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships—that will allow them to teach, travel, or attend intensive language and cultural-immersion programs in Argentina, Spain, France, and Taiwan. The soon-to-be globetrotting Loggers were honored this spring during a reception at President Isiaah Crawford's home. Kelli Delaney M.Ed. '07, associate director of fellowships and academic advising at Puget Sound, said the awards will give the students and graduates "the opportunity to explore the next steps in their life stories." Pictured left to right: Critical Language Scholarship recipients Meishan Roen '18 and Gabriel Newman '17 (seated), and Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship recipient Charlotte Parker '18 (standing).



Gates in the house

Former CIA director and U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates gave the spring 2018 Susan Resneck Pierce Lecture in Public Affairs and the Arts. He served as defense secretary under both Presidents Barack Obama and George W. Bush. In conversation with Benjamin Tromly, associate professor of history, he shared his insights on global politics and world affairs, U.S. intelligence and defense strategies, leadership within a large institution, and the global challenges of the 21st century.



An auspicious 1983 alumni trip to China included Professor Emerita Suzanne Wilson Barnett, President Emeritus Phil Phibbs, Gwen Phibbs, Bob Trimble '37, and Genevieve Trimble.

The Suzanne Wilson Barnett Chair of Contemporary China Studies

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On May 2, Professor Emerita of History Suzanne Wilson Barnett stood at a podium in Trimble Forum, the guest of honor at a surprise announcement about the Asian Studies Program. “Six days ago I was told the nature of this event, and since then I have been trying to figure out what is happening,” she said with impish delight in her eyes. “Maybe I can get there by a roundabout reference to Roman emperors. Under very different circumstances from ours here today, at least one emperor, on his deathbed, is said to have said, ‘I think I am becoming a god!’ Well, I think I am becoming a chair!”

It was true. President Isiaah Crawford, members of the campus community, and friends of the university had gathered to celebrate the creation of The Suzanne Wilson Barnett Chair of Contemporary China Studies, established through a gift from The Trimble Foundation. The university will search for a new faculty member in a social science discipline to hold the position named in Suzanne’s honor.

“The new chair and the enhanced focus on China will grow Puget Sound’s international reputation in the interdisciplinary study of Asian societies, where we already excel,” said President Crawford. “Faculty and students across a range of disciplines will gain new opportunities for research abroad,

for creating transpacific partnerships, and for establishing themselves as authorities in a dynamic and thriving region that is growing at more than twice the rate of the United



States. It is an exciting time in the Pacific Rim and an important moment in the history of Puget Sound.”

Suzanne taught at Puget Sound from 1973 to 2007 and was a central figure in the launch of the Asian Studies Program. A Harvard University graduate, exceptional teacher, and respected scholar, she shared her enthusiasm for Chinese history and for disciplined, effective writing with thousands of

students throughout her distinguished career.

The endowed chair is a bold step for the Asian Studies Program, and according to Suzanne, one auspicious trip to China in May 1983 set this course of action. President Emeritus Phil Phibbs and his wife, Gwen, had led a group of 23, including Suzanne as scholar in residence, as well as Robert (Bob) Trimble '37 and his wife, Genevieve.

“I delighted in meeting Bob, who was born in 1915 in Fuzhou, Fujian province, China, where his father was a medical missionary and the family lived until returning to the U.S.,” Suzanne said. “Bob loved rediscovering China, now new and newer.”

That trip inspired Bob to reconnect with his alma mater, and The Trimble Foundation has since made numerous gifts to Puget Sound, supporting student scholarships, faculty exchanges, visiting scholars, and capital projects critical to the college’s mission.

“The Trimble family has expressed confidence in the University of Puget Sound and its faculty, students, and staff that will endure. That is what an endowed chair does—endure,” Suzanne said, addressing the Trimbles in closing. “I think I can say with bold assurance that you will find Puget Sound at the ready to meet the challenge of your gift. What a moment this is for Puget Sound!”



Clockwise from top left: Kayla Carrington and Aedin Wright '17; Daniel York '18, Sara Gossom '20, Kerry Miller '21, Ben Dougherty '20, Walt Semrau '20, and Gabriel Levine '19; Asha Berkes '21 and Dana Levy '21; Alex King '20; Julia Lin '18 and Mary Aquiningoc '19; Juan Carlos Ortega '18

Queer Prom

A second-chance dance

By Stacey Cook

The rainbow streamers were strung, the pop ballads were queued, and early arrivals were posing for Polaroid photos. Queer Prom was off to a good start, but Mary Aquiningoc '19 was stressed.

"It was a bit of a mess," Mary says. "I showed up late because I had to make the playlist and all this other stuff. Our treasurer quit an hour before setup. We had to recruit all these random people to help unlock things and get our decorations out. I was just running everywhere." But then Mary, the inimitable Queer Alliance co-president, got things under control, and people started migrating to the dance floor.

Queer Prom—"Quom"—is a new tradition on campus, now in its second year. Since many LGBTQ students experience some anxiety about their high school proms, Queer Alliance gives them a second chance—without the same high-stakes expectations. On a Saturday evening in March, around 30 students arrived alone or with friends. Some were dressed up, and some weren't. No one had to worry about pinning a corsage. "It was low-key," Mary says. "It was all about 'Let's go have a good time,' instead of all the stress that surrounds prom in adolescence. That was nice."

Mary, who identifies as genderqueer/nonbinary and prefers they/them pronouns, went to "a pretty liberal high school" in San Diego. Even so, at prom, "it was still pretty unheard of to have a same-gender date," Mary says. "Plus, I think a lot of people don't figure out their identity until later. For some people that I talked to, Quom was a nice way of exploring that."

Queer culture on the Puget Sound campus is ever-evolving, and some students new to the scene approach it tentatively. But for Mary, who was raised by same-gender parents, it all feels familiar. "I like to tell people

I grew up in a lesbian commune," Mary says. "All these women were in different places in their lives. Some of them were married to men and realized way down the road what was going on, or they knew early on but faced a lot of hardship to get to a comfortable place. I think getting to see all of that peripherally, and to grow up with it all being normal, was a pretty big gift."

But Mary had to be careful when talking to outsiders, so they can still relate to others who grew up in less accepting environments. "I was definitely a loudmouthed kid," Mary

"I think there is progress, but that doesn't mean that we're there or anything. I don't think there is a there."

says. "I learned about internalized homophobia through how you have to navigate people's perceptions of your family."

Most of Mary's family is Chamoru—the indigenous people of the Mariana Islands—a culture in which Mary says "extended family is not that different from nuclear family," which meant navigating another layer of cultural norms. Luckily, Mary says, their parents did most of that work. "It was a really hard time for my mom, trying to get over that hurdle of talking about it with my grandma and having the language to describe everything."

It's true that millennials have benefited from so many LGBTQ warriors who cut a path ahead for them. The country has come

a long way since the Stonewall riots and the height of the AIDS epidemic, and this generation is more comfortable with fluid concepts of sexuality and gender identity. But there's still real inequality to contend with.

"I think it's really naïve to say we're always moving forward when it comes to queer politics, because as policy adapts, it still stays within the framework of what is traditionally acceptable," Mary says. For instance, the heteronormative nature of gay marriage makes it easier for society to accept marriage equality than gender-neutral bathrooms or civil protections for trans people.

Even gay pride events have been mainstreamed and corporatized. "Pride has become less of a space where people can radically be themselves and more like a place where you conform to what people expect gay people to be—it's a performative way of being queer for some people," Mary says. "Then, you still have issues like trans-misogyny, violence, and the fact that queer people of color don't have as much of a voice [in the community]. I think there is progress, but that doesn't mean that we're there or anything. I don't think there is a *there*."

Meanwhile, the Queer Alliance leaders created Quom in the image of that most mainstream coming-of-age construct: high school prom. They tried to keep it a little bit radical, a little bit underground, almost making fun of prom while also living out a high school fantasy. Here, same-gender dates are the norm. Here, there's no need to declare your identity—just exploring it in a safe (or at least safer) space, dancing and posing for photos in whatever clothes you were feeling that night, is enough.

The Beta Coders

Tech-savvy students are on a mission to diversify computer science through tutoring.

By Margot Kahn

The central dilemmas of a generation might be understood by the assignments a good teacher gives her students. *How can we tell if a website is reliable?* is the topic in Heavenly Cole's computer science classroom at Lincoln High School one morning. Her students, well versed in issues of "fake news," internet security, and social media ethics, set to work mapping their ideas on poster-sized sheets of paper.

Facilitating the discussion for one group is Sofia Schwartz '18, who started the Beta Coders club at the University of Puget Sound in 2017 to tutor high school students in computer science. To her right, a new student looks confused, until Sofia turns to him and attempts to translate. "*Esta es más seguras, y esta es menos,*" Sofia says, pointing to two different web addresses. She stumbles over her Spanish grammar, but she's making the effort, and the student, who has just moved here from Mexico, smiles and nods his head.

Another student, clutching his severely shattered but still usable iPad, explains to a visitor why he's liking this class. "Coding is the language of the internet," he says, sitting up straighter, "and we're writing it."

Although not all of these students have had consistent access to technology, their generational peers—in Gen Z—have been called the first true "digital natives." They were born into an age of smartphones, texting, and digital everything. The ability to work with and manipulate this technology is at once intoxicating and mandatory.

"At first, I signed up for this course because I needed the credit," says a young woman to Sofia's left, who has taken charge

of the poster with a Sharpie. "But then we've been working on building a website, and it's actually pretty cool."

The fact that this young woman of color is here at all is a boon. The fact that she has Sofia, who identifies as Latina, as well as Heavenly, a computer science teacher who's a woman of color, is extraordinary. In 2017, *Wired* magazine reported that of all the high school students who took the computer science AP exam that year, only 27 percent were women, and 20 percent were people of color.

"What I rationally knew—that people of color can do this work—was taken to the next level. It's not just possible to do it; we can thrive if given the opportunity."

Sofia's interest in the field was almost accidental. Raised in the Bay Area, she enrolled in the Business Leadership Program at Puget Sound but then took a computer science class and realized "what it was to actually be passionate about your major." She knew that women were underrepresented in STEM fields, but when she switched to computer science and looked around to find that her

classmates were mostly male and white, representation became personal. In 2016, with encouragement from America Chambers, the only female professor in Puget Sound's mathematics and computer science department, Sofia applied for a grant to attend the Grace Hopper Celebration, the world's largest gathering of women technologists. There, she found the role models she'd been looking for.

"What I rationally knew—that people of color can do this work—was taken to the next level," she says. "It's not just possible to do it; we can *thrive* if given the opportunity."

After the conference, Sofia felt inspired to promote diversity in computer science among young people. "I wanted to say to those who look like us, 'You can do it, and we're going to be here to encourage you along the way.'"

She decided to start a tutoring program for one of the local Tacoma high schools that had the least access to computer science mentors, and sought the help of Adam Smith, an assistant professor who sits on a Tacoma Public Schools committee focused on computer science. He recommended Lincoln High School, which fit the bill with 80 percent students of color, in a low-income neighborhood.

Adam connected Sofia with Heavenly, who teaches five computer science classes at Lincoln. "Kids learn better in smaller groups," Heavenly says, "so it's amazing when [the Beta Coders] come and we can get [the kids] individual attention."

Sofia couldn't do it alone, so she started a club and recruited her classmates with a many-angled pitch. "You'll get good experience, and a good worldview, being in an



Sofia Schwartz '18 at a tutoring session at Lincoln High School. "Coding is the language of the internet," says a student, "and we're writing it."

environment that's likely different from what you know," she said. "You'll build your résumé, earn volunteer hours, and reinforce your own understanding of the concepts you're learning here." But most important, she reminded them, this was an opportunity to be of service. It worked. This year, Beta Coders had a roster of 20 students tutoring in Heavenly's classroom at least three times per week.

Lia Chin-Purcell '20 was one of the students who heard Sofia's pitch. When she arrived at Puget Sound from St. Paul, Minn., she'd intended to major in a hard science, but then she took Intro to Computer Science in her first year and says she "totally liked it."

But something had been bothering Lia. In one of her courses, she realized that many of the analogies her male professor used to

explain concepts had to do with sports. "He was definitely catering to his male audience, which to his credit was more than half the class," she recalls. But when, in another class, another male professor talked about different components of code being like a car—the model, the make, "and a bunch of other terms I didn't know," Lia says she found the language problematic.

Of course, sports and cars and their analogies aren't exclusive to one gender. It can be argued that socialization of girls and boys, rather than language, is the problem.

In 2014, NPR reported on a study showing that the number of women in computer science had been declining since 1984. Researchers noted that 1984 was the year computer games were introduced to the mass market—and targeted to boys. A gendered

cultural narrative followed, and computer science became a male-dominated field.

Lia grew up playing computer games with her dad, which may have given her an edge. "Thank God I knew how to understand the information," she says. "But what if I didn't?"

It's that question that drives Lia to carry on Sofia's legacy. This fall, as Sofia starts a new job at Accenture in Seattle with a computer science degree in hand, Lia will assume a leadership role for Beta Coders, along with Kendall Aresu '19 and Jake Redmond '19.

"My high school was very much like Lincoln," Lia says. "It's fulfilling to open one more opportunity to a student who could very well have been me."



Dexter Gordon: This Is the Place

By Shirley Skeel

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Professor Dexter Gordon grew up watching his father fish out of a silk-cotton dugout canoe in Old Harbour Bay, Jamaica. By the time that canoe transformed to fiberglass in the 1960s, Dexter and his 13 siblings were living under the command of his oldest sister, while his politically active mother juggled community organizing, selling fish, and doing the books, and his father—who backed an opposing political party—served as a lay preacher, union organizer, and fisherman.

In those days, Dexter lived largely outdoors, out in the community, playing soccer, cricket, table tennis, dominoes. Community means a lot to the professor of African American studies and communication studies. He says it was his Jamaican community that encouraged him to enroll at his local college, got him through exhausting shift work as an air traffic controller, and then saw him off to America on a Billy Graham scholarship. He earned a master's degree at Wheaton College and doctorate at Indiana University.

As Dexter sees it, it's now his turn to give. He gives back consistently to people back home in Old Harbour Bay, and to his local community in Tacoma and the Puget Sound campus where, bit by bit, progress is being made on diversity, inclusion, and accessibility. He is the director of the Race & Pedagogy Institute, which is preparing for its fourth quadrennial conference on campus this September. Dexter spoke with me about this work in his Howarth Hall office.

Q. What prompted you to leave Jamaica to pursue further degrees?

In 1979, I went to the Bahamas as a youth community organizer, and I was invited to address a gathering on Rastafarianism. A TV station turned up, and their immediate question was, “What qualifies you to speak on this? What degrees do you have?” At that time, I hadn’t gone to college. I was so mad, and I said, “I grew up with Rastafarians. I know this culture. I know Rastafarian philosophy thinking.” The television station crew left because it was not worth covering this event. I swore there and then that nobody would ever lock me out of an opportunity because of a lack of certification.

Q. You were offered a job at Puget Sound while you were teaching at the University of Alabama. What were your first impressions?

I was attracted to this region because it met an immediate felt need for me. I looked around and thought, “This is it. This is the place.” Because as a child, I grew up watching the sky meet the sea, that horizon of expansive possibilities. That was my canvas for my imagination. I was always thinking, “What is beyond those horizons?” After that, I thought how small the place was. And then, the racial makeup of the place, the dominance of white students, white faculty, white staff. By then, I had something of a clear sense of my mission.

Q. Your mission?

Yeah. In Jamaica I was very active in Youth for Christ. One of the things I noticed, working on the streets of Kingston, was that the local colleges had no connections with their local communities. I said, I want to go get a Ph.D., because I want to connect the work of universities with the lives of people in communities. When I came here, I went to the Black Collective [Tacoma community

group]. I said to them, “If you promise to connect me with black communities, my commitment is to connect the university with those communities.” That’s the work.

Q. How did the Race & Pedagogy National Conference come about?

I began to think about “How do we get this university to think about the issues related to black life?” Then, there was this black-face incident with a white hip-hop group. [Later] there was another black-face incident. That led me to write an open letter to the campus, because the students who were at the heart of this had stock answers: One, we meant no harm; two, we did not know any better; and three, [the African American students who objected] are overreacting. I pointed out the irony that we are an institution that is supposed to focus on knowledge production, knowledge dissemination. Yet, the main justification for this course of action was ignorance.

Q. And you had supporters who also felt something must be done?

A whole group, including [Professor Emerita] Juli McGruder, organized teaching sessions for campus. Later, I sent an email to faculty inviting them to a brown-bag discussion with a single question: What’s the role of race in the development and delivery of your curriculum? We gathered for that first brown-bag session, and for two years, we had four per semester. In 2004, we proposed to host a conference. For the first one, in 2006, we had over 2,000 people participate. That was the beginning of the Race & Pedagogy Institute.

Q. What is the Race & Pedagogy Institute’s most noteworthy accomplishment?

Repositioning race as a legitimate, viable intellectual project, as against the usual shouting matches we have or the usual

polemical argument we have about race. I’m not suggesting that we were the first or the only ones, but anywhere in this region now you can talk about race [in schools].

Q. Of course, talking about race also leads to discussions about other marginalized people and their causes, such as protesters at Standing Rock and DACA recipients. Where does intersectionality come in?

It’s an important point. We work, but not necessarily for cohesion. We are interested in collaboration. I want to recognize the right of every other group to exist and to work to advance their own causes. I want to support them in these efforts. The work is always going to be noisy and messy and hard. But if we maintain our common commitment to justice, I think we will advance this cause.

Q. Are you optimistic change will come more quickly?

I would say I am hopeful. I have to have hope, because the alternatives are not acceptable.

Q. This is heavy work, with the risk of backsliding. How do you relax?

I love playing soccer. As long as these knees will carry me, I will play soccer. I love being with family. I’m a product of my family and my community. I do my work on their behalf.

For more information and to register for the 2018 Race & Pedagogy National Conference, happening Sept. 27–29, go to pugetsound.edu/rpi.

Full Bloom

This spring, Kittredge Gallery exhibited senior thesis projects by 12 studio art majors at the annual *Senior Art Show*. Among them were two artists focused on making invisible human experiences visible. Megan Breiter '18 asked her portrait subjects to name a character trait they embodied or aspired to develop, then used the symbolic meaning of flowers to bring "inner, unseen development" to the surface. Kyrianna Bolles '18 connected with her subjects through a shared experience of chronic pain. In a self-portrait, living violas burst through her back, representing her own struggle with a lifelong illness. View more senior art at pugetsound.edu/kittredge.



Above: Portraits by Megan Breiter '18, clockwise from top left: *Cactus-Resilience*; *Hollyhock-Ambition*; *Elderflower-Zeal*; *Sycamore-Curiosity*; *Fern and Honesty-Sincerity*. Oil on canvas. 17 x 14 in.

Right: Kyrianna Bolles '18, *Self Portrait with Violas*. Watercolor, ink, and plants. 18 x 25 in.





This page: Jarrett Prince '18, *First, Second, Third*. Wood and steel.

Right: Stephanie Clement '19, *How They Really Feel*. Wooden chair, linocut, polyester, cable, oil paint, and embroidery floss.

Far right: Samuel Crookston Herschlag '18, *untitled*. Pine, bedliner, and copper leafing.



Beyond canvas and paint, works

displayed at this year's *Senior Art Show* utilized various materials, including wood—a medium chosen by three artists. Sculptures made by Jarrett Prince '18 juxtapose wood, a live material that requires skill to shape, with unnatural and unyielding steel. Similarly, Samuel Crookston Herschlag '18 married natural and industrial materials by covering wooden forms with metallic leafing. He says the forms “become dense metallic structures that are no longer subject to impermanence,” and represent the hardships he's overcome. Stephanie Clement '19 embroidered faces of women onto the cushions of wooden chairs—objects that people use freely and discard when they're not useful—as a statement on the treatment of women in a patriarchal society.





Proud Instigators. Clockwise from top left: Donn Marshall, Steve Gillis-Moore '97, Jenn Ciplet '98, James Spencer, and Jason Zenobia '93.

Point of Pride

How a few courageous students led a Tacoma Pride movement on campus that spread across the city

By Maggie Mertens

Late into the night of July 11, 1997, Jenn (DeLury) Ciplet '98 and a group of friends were dipping Styrofoam cups into bright colors of paint. They were members of the student club United Methodists (UMeth), and they had a mission.

The following day, the group brought the cups to the fence surrounding the track outside Memorial Fieldhouse on the University of Puget Sound campus, and stuck them through the chain link in a large arc: first red, then orange, yellow, green, blue, purple. The Styrofoam rainbow signaled the location of the Tacoma Pride Festival, the first to be held in the city in 12 years.

"It gave great visibility to it," Jenn says of the rainbow. "People could see exactly where they were going."

Hosting a celebration of LGBTQ identity was a bold move for the college in the '90s, and it took a monumental effort by several committed students. Steve Gillis-Moore '97 was one of the instigators. A week before the event, he'd sent out an invitation via email to a large group of allies. "Plan to attend the historic rebirth of Gay Pride in the Tacoma/Pierce County area," he wrote. "There is a large community of gay folks in Tacoma, and this event will provide the visibility our growing community needs."

Visibility, in terms of being out and proud, was something that Steve had thought a lot about during his time at Puget Sound. As a first-year student, he started attending

the now-defunct "As Is" Coming Out Support Group, which gave him confidence and community. "I was very slow to come out," he says. "It took me two solid years to finally not beat around the bush about it."

Steve also joined the student club for LGBTQ students and allies, then called Understanding Sexuality (US), and got involved in the Greater Tacoma LGBTQ community. He volunteered for the Pierce County AIDS Foundation (PCAF), which held an AIDS walk every year. That's where he met James Spencer, then a recent graduate of The Evergreen State College who worked at PCAF, and the two friends started talking about organizing a Pride festival in Tacoma.

"I don't remember if the idea came to us from Steve and his folks at UPS or if Steve and I dreamed it up over coffee," James says. "Wherever the idea generated, someone said it should happen, and we formed an ad hoc Pride committee and brought in different constituents."

PCAF agreed to put its name on the event if Steve and James took the lead to find funding. They did—much of it from the Imperial Court of Tacoma, which also provided entertainment. ("Our community would be nothing without our ferociously proud and daring drag queens," Steve says.) Suddenly their dream started to feel like a realistic plan.

Raising eyebrows

The first challenge that Steve and James faced was deciding where Tacoma Pride would be held. James thought Wright Park was the

spot. "I figured it would be nice to do it in a public space, but I remember the city was resistant to it," he says. "You got the feeling they just didn't want us there."

Members of the LGBTQ community in Tacoma were uneasy about the park location too. Steve was told that the last time the city had attempted a similar event, in the mid-'80s, protesters made people feel unsafe and unwelcome. "We heard over and over again that people were very nervous and scared to have a publicly visible event like that," Steve says. "Many in the community thought the AIDS walk was enough."

The '90s was an era in which every step forward for LGBTQ rights seemed to be followed by two steps back. The World Health Organization declared that it would no longer classify homosexuality itself as an "illness"—but AIDS remained a highly stigmatized disease that continued decimating the LGBTQ community. Ellen DeGeneres came out on national TV—and Matthew Shepard was murdered in Wyoming. President Clinton established the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy that prevented the military from discriminating against or harassing closeted queer service members—but barred openly gay people from serving.

"We had nothing in the way of equality," James recalls. "Marital rights were a far-fetched dream we never thought we'd see in our lifetimes."

Regionally, the conservative activist group Oregon Citizens Alliance had led successful initiatives to repeal local LGBTQ rights

ordinances, and a similar campaign had just come to Washington. “That had people’s emotions pretty high,” James says.

But Steve was undeterred by the community’s fears. With a city venue off the table, he suggested one that raised some eyebrows: the new track by the field house on the Puget Sound campus. “It was unique because it was outdoors but contained by the fence, with only one access point from the street,” he says. “But I think people were a little incredulous. They didn’t really believe that a stodgy old school would allow this or be supportive.”

Puget Sound would prove the skeptics wrong. That year’s academic theme was “gender, sexuality, and identity,” and Steve remembers that several high-profile LGBTQ personalities—including Sandra Bernhard,

A long evolution

One major reason that Steve felt safe coming out and organizing a Pride event on campus was that he had Donn Marshall on his side. Donn, who retired this year after 31 years on staff, was the university’s director of Counseling, Health, and Wellness Services, and the staff facilitator of the LGBTQ support group. “Donn Marshall would always tell us, ‘The school loves you as you are and wants to make space for you,’” Steve recalls.

Donn agreed to be the staff sponsor of the Pride event. “I was very supportive of signing on—and truthfully it was the easiest gig I ever had,” Donn says. “Steve [and James] did all of the work getting the word out to the community [and booking] the vendors and the performers.”

That got my attention, because there was nothing like that in high school,” he says.

Even so, he says it took him a few months to find that group. “There was nothing printed on campus,” he says. “No signs. It was very secret and private. Finally, I figured it out and went to the counseling center.”

Jason was grateful for the support he eventually found on campus, but he thought the group should bring its private discussions into the mainstream campus community in order to influence the culture. “It was hard to figure out how we could do that while still respecting the privacy of those who weren’t ready to declare themselves publicly,” he says.

That’s why, Jason says, some students from the LGBTQ support group started Understanding Sexuality (US), a club that

Planning a Pride event on campus helped him understand just how supportive Puget Sound was, and just how visible he wanted to be about his own identity there.

Mel White, and Dan Savage—had visited campus. “That calendar of events was something I could point to and say, ‘This is not some kind of trap. They are genuinely supportive of us as we are,’” he says.

In some ways, Steve felt that planning a Pride event on campus helped him understand just how supportive Puget Sound was, and just how visible he wanted to be about his own identity there. “We had to approach everyone and explain what the event might be like,” he remembers. “It was scary for me to call, for instance, the guy who managed the field house space, leaving messages and attaching my name to gay anything. But overall it was a really good experience.”

Since he had arrived at Puget Sound in 1987, Donn had been a strong advocate for the LGBTQ student community, and he’d been proud to see them take small steps toward greater visibility. “In those early days, it was very unusual for students to arrive at Puget Sound having been out in high school,” he says. “Students coming to college back then might have thought the only safe people to come out to were people in a support group environment.”

That was exactly the experience of Jason Zenobia ’93. “One of the reasons I chose to apply to University of Puget Sound was that in the pamphlet I got in the mail from them, there was a list of groups on campus, and they included an LGBTQ support group.

was open to anyone on campus, including straight allies. He recalls that in September of 1990, they had a table at LogJam!, an annual festival to kick off the new academic year, where student clubs find new participants. They started sending representatives to join panel discussions about diversity on campus.

“The group really metamorphosed into an organization that participated in campus life in a way that it just hadn’t before,” Jason says. “Part of what was so great about that was the internal transformation that takes place when you see other people stand up and be open about who they are, without apologizing or asking permission.”

Thanks to the outreach of US, Puget Sound was developing a reputation for being



MAX-O-MATIC

a welcoming, open place for LGBTQ students. “It felt really nice to be part of that transition,” Jason says.

Dave Wright ’96, now Puget Sound’s director of spiritual and civic engagement and the university chaplain, remembers feeling the impact. “As a student, I was a religion major and had joined UMeth on campus,” he says. “There was a lot of discussion at that time about ‘homosexuality and religion,’ to use the language of the day. In UMeth, we often partnered with US to talk about being inclusive and religious—in that era there was not much religious inclusivity of LGBTQ folks.”

Through UMeth, Dave met Jenn Ciplet, a likeminded ally. “As a cisgender, straight person, I learned a lot from the queer friends I met in UMeth,” Jenn says. “It was a community that was very open to people of

different sexualities and gender identities at a time when it was, frankly, not something other Christian groups were doing.”

Jenn’s experience with UMeth was a major reason that she got involved in helping to organize the ’97 Pride event. “It was so important to me to be an ally,” she says, adding that she’d realized it was safer for her to help organize the event than it was for her queer friends on campus. “Why should LGBTQ folks have to do all the work and throw their own party?” she says.

When Dave returned to Puget Sound as a staff member in 2006, a decade after his graduation, he was glad to find even more acceptance of the LGBTQ community on campus. “It was great to come back and see not only that US had become B-GLAD [Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians, and Allies for Diversity], a much more clearly named

organization that was even more public, but that there was also such academic engagement with LGBTQ issues. That year we were ranked as one of the most inclusive colleges in the nation by *The Advocate*.”

Throughout his long tenure, Donn Marshall saw that progress firsthand. “The support group continues unabated, and the club has continued as well, though it has changed names probably five or six times as the cultural climate has changed.”

Today, the club is known as Queer Alliance. About 80 students attend its first meeting of the year, and it hosts a Queer Prom every spring.

“There never would have been something like a Queer Prom event on campus in the mid-’90s,” Donn says. “Today there are not only out students and out student leaders, but out faculty and staff. There’s even a



Gender and Queer Studies Program now,” he says. “Really, the students today are absolutely able to do what they do because the students in the ’80s and ’90s were so brave.”

A real celebration

July 12, 1997, was a bright, sunny day, and Jenn remembers looking around the track outside the field house and feeling satisfied. “I remember wearing terribly fitting jean shorts and a UMeth T-shirt and being so proud that there was a big crowd, including about 20 people from UMeth. It just felt like a real celebration,” she says.

Steve remembers the day well, too. “A dirt track, grass field, sunshine, and drag queens: These things generally don’t go together,” he says, laughing. “I remember seeing a girl’s heel sink into the lawn multiple times—but everyone just seemed really glad to be there.”

Along with tables providing educational information and performances by local musical acts, the event hosted speakers, including former Gov. Mike Lowry, who spoke about Initiative 677, the statewide effort to ban workplace discrimination against anyone for their sexual orientation. Though the initiative received enough signatures to make the ballot that November, voters turned it down. Washington wouldn’t legally prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity or expression until 2006, nine years later.

Even with politics in the air, the organizers’ concerns about security went mostly unfounded. “I remember we spent the majority of our budget on a Tacoma police officer,” Steve says. “And we did have a couple of protesters—maybe three people with signs, shouting—but the officer kept them off

the sidewalk, and they weren’t a real problem at all.”

Steve, Jenn, and James were also pleased by the ultimate turnout at the event they had worked so hard on pulling together. *The News Tribune* ran a story the following day headlined: “Several hundred herald the return of gay pride event to Tacoma area.”

This was of particular relief to James, whose role at PCAF had been working to educate young gay men on HIV/AIDS prevention, doing outreach at bars and student groups. He had experienced the difficulty of even finding the LGBTQ community in Tacoma at times.

“To see the community reflected there that day out in the open was definitely very cool,” he says. “I don’t want to make it sound like the community needed rescuing, just that it was difficult for some to live openly,

“It’s amazing to see today. This little UPS field house gathering with a few hundred people has turned into a weeklong festival attracting 10,000 people a year.”

because of the politics of the time. If even 10 people went to that event and decided to come out after, I think we achieved something pretty important.”

Later that evening, a dance party was held in Rasmussen Rotunda. “I think it was the first time many of us had ever been to an event that was all queer,” Steve says. “To be 22 years old and have someone tap me on the shoulder and ask if I wanted to dance—and I didn’t have to explain to them that I didn’t date girls—that was the best feeling.”

The impact of the 1997 Tacoma Pride Festival was felt well beyond campus. Lori Bundrock, the current deputy director of PCAF, who worked with James Spencer at the time of the event, remembers it well. “I thought that was really bold,” she says of the college’s decision to host the event. “That was just a really strong stamp of approval.”

Lori says that day set a strong tradition of Tacoma Pride in motion. “It went off without a hitch and was pretty well organized,” she says. “That set a good precedent for what Pride could look like in this community—and we’re really fortunate it did—so it had a chance to thrive in the future.”

The following year, Tacoma Pride was held in Wright Park. PCAF played a large

role in hosting and growing the festival for several years until handing over the organizing to a community group called Out in the Park. In more recent years, Tacoma’s Rainbow Center has officially become the festival’s producer, supported by funding from the city. “It’s amazing to see today,” Lori says. “This little UPS field house gathering with a few hundred people has turned into a weeklong festival attracting 10,000 people a year.”

Looking forward

Twenty years later, in July 2017, Dave Wright was holding down the table that Puget Sound sponsored at the Tacoma Pride Festival, along with other staff members and students from the Center for Intercultural and Civic Engagement (CICE), when an alumnus came up and introduced himself. It was Steve Gillis-Moore. After graduation, he’d moved to Seattle, then to Vancouver, B.C., and he had lost track of what had happened to the festival he’d helped start. Then last summer, he happened to be in Tacoma for an a cappella competition with his husband, and noticed that four blocks downtown were closed off for Pride. “It totally blew my mind,” he says.

When he found the Puget Sound table, Steve shared the story of that 1997 event

with Dave. “I was so proud that my university had played a pivotal role in this event and was still engaged now,” he says.

He was also pleased to see just how far acceptance of LGBTQ people and culture has come in Tacoma. “That first event was very closed off and insular,” he says. “It hadn’t been held in more than a decade because of protests, so we did it while looking over our shoulders.”

Now, Tacoma Pride felt totally different. “Nobody was holding back,” Steve says. “Everyone was looking forward. And that’s what Pride should be about: being joyful and finding community without having to look over your shoulder.”

The Orchard

By Rebekah Denn

In 1938, Mary Louise Curran '36 entered an essay contest that would change her life and her community forever. The topic was "Why I want to live in University Place," and the goal was to advertise a newly developed subdivision close to the Puget Sound campus. She wrote:

At Soundview you may select a lot with unequalled view of nature's splendors, one ever-changing. In the foreground are the sparkling waters of Puget Sound, in the distance wooded islands and beyond the Olympic mountains! Here, in surroundings free from the soot and smoke of the city, one may breathe refreshing sea air and enjoy the sunshine of the day, not to mention sunsets that leave you breathless. Where could one find a healthier spot to live and bring up children?

Mary won the contest, and the most enviable prize: a half-acre lot in University Place then valued at \$400. She and her husband, Charles Curran '35, built a home there and began raising a family. In 1951, a seven-acre wooded property two blocks south became available, and the couple saw an opportunity to create something special. They bought the land for \$215 per acre and set to work clearing it for an apple orchard. They brought horses over to graze among the trees, a pretty sight that reminded Charles of his childhood in Kansas, and in 1955, had a two-story midcentury-modern house built on the property.

Today the Curran House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the orchard remains, drawing visitors for spring blossoms, summer concerts, and the fall cider squeeze.





“The orchard has continued to be a gathering place,” says Debbie Klosowski, who worked with the Curran family to preserve the land as a community park in 1993. “It’s a really special place where you can go to escape the hustle and bustle and the stress of everyday life. It’s also a wonderful living example of our community’s past.”

In her role as vice chair at the nonprofit organization UP for Arts, Debbie is involved in a campaign to fund a life-size bronze sculpture of a girl feeding an apple to a horse by local artist John Jewell ’66, M.Ed.’69. The “Forever Friends” sculpture will be located on the orchard to commemorate the land’s 25th anniversary as a park and pay tribute to the Currans, who made an indelible mark on the community of University Place, as well as the University of Puget Sound.

The Currans met on campus in 1932. Mary came from Olympia, Wash., and Charles from Pratt, Kan., coming West “on the rails in the Depression,” according to his son, Charles “Chuck” Curran ’67. Mary’s parents hadn’t gone to college, but she was academically inclined, driven to get an education and inspired by an aunt who taught Latin.

Both Currans earned degrees in business administration. Charles worked as a driver for Wonder Bread/Hostess, then as secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local 567, the union representing local bakery drivers and salesmen. In both roles, he had to make tough decisions that balanced competing interests.

Mary stayed at home to raise their three children—Chuck, Susan Eichner ’61, and Catherine Hagen—until the youngest was in grade school. Then she returned to Puget Sound, taking various high-level administrative roles in an era when few women held positions of power. Her titles included assistant dean of students and dean of women students.

“She wanted to work. She felt good about it,” says Chuck.

When the college established its first personnel department after the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, then-President R. Franklin Thompson asked

Mary to head it. Despite the progress in equal employment in the ’70s, equal pay remained an issue. “There was a major gap, and she was a champion of having women catch up,” says Chuck.

Colleagues and friends agree that Mary was ahead of her time. She navigated major social issues and kept pace with changing norms. Part of her job was serving as “affirmative action officer,” and she worked to achieve equality for students, faculty, and staff, as well as more diverse representation.

George Mills ’68, M.S.’72, associate vice president for university relations and

“Mary Curran went out of her way to know individuals and respect their lives and contributions to the university, and included them in her efforts to make a better world.”

long-serving vice president for admissions at Puget Sound, remembers Mary as “wise and unflappable.” While gender issues were only beginning to enter mainstream conversation, “the smoke was certainly coming under the door,” George says. Mary recognized how the world was changing, and she helped create policies to bring the college into the modern age.

She was “a kingpin for student services,” says Mary Longland, who worked for Mary Curran at Puget Sound and kept up a long friendship afterward.

“Queenpin’ is a better term,” suggests Rosa Beth Gibson, a former associate vice president for human resources.

The personnel department itself “was a huge transition,” Mary Longland says, especially for departments that used to have full autonomy over employees. But she notes that Mary Curran sailed through it without much conflict “simply because people knew at the onset that she had the other person’s best interests at heart.”

“And the university’s best interests at heart,” adds Rosa Beth.

“That’s right,” Mary Longland says. “But she wasn’t any pushover.”

Another initiative of Mary Curran’s was finding creative ways to house local low-income students (then called “townies”) who couldn’t afford to live on campus. She didn’t want them to miss out on student life.

“Anybody who had an issue would feel comfortable going to Mary Curran for help,” says Mary Longland.

While Mary was progressive and outgoing, Charles was more reserved and conservative. Still, they harmonized well. “They were very much social people, interested in the community,” says George Mills.

The Currans regularly welcomed students for dinner at their home, and colleagues came for gatherings such as the annual holiday party, where the Currans served freshly pressed cider. Ultimately, Mary’s retirement party was held there.

“I think any housekeeper who had ever been on the staff of UPS attended,” Mary Longland says. “Mary went out of her way to know individuals and respect their lives and contributions to the university, and included them in her efforts to make a better world.”

To build their striking home in 1955, the Currans had hired noted Tacoma architect Robert Price. “My parents were not flashy,” Chuck Curran says. “But Dad thought Robert Price was a superstar.”

With yellow and black siding, orange doors, and stained glass at the main entry, the house was “very modern, and didn’t seem to fit Mom and Dad’s history,” Chuck says. “But they liked that home.”

Mary tended the vegetable garden while Charles worked to clear the wooded acreage, wrestling tree stumps and hauling out



blackberry brambles. “It was a lot of work,” Chuck says. “Some of it was done by bulldozing, but a lot by dynamiting and Dad’s own clearing. I was 7, and had a little hatchet.”

Once there was room to make their own mark, they planted more than 200 McIntosh, Gravenstein, and Golden Delicious trees, as well as cherry, peach, nut, plum, and apricot.

Charles approached the property as more than a hobbyist. The family raised cattle at times and chickens one year, and Charles kept studying agriculture to see if he could come up with a better plan. Even on weekends, the family got up at 5 a.m. “Mother said, ‘I am not raising lazy children’ more than once,” Chuck says.

Using a tractor and trailer, Charles would harvest apples and bring them up to the house on top of the hill, where people would pull in periodically and buy a box or two. “It kept him in touch with people in the neighborhood,” Chuck says.

Even as the city grew and changed, the property remained a center point of the community. “I fell in love with the apple orchard,” says Debbie Klosowski, a former mayor of University Place. “I grew up in Wisconsin, and we used to go out in the country in the fall to get apples. I thought it was this wonderful place.”

Visitors often dropped by to visit the horses, too. “Mary would tell stories about the horses, that sometimes they could hear the music being played by the Curtis High School band, and they would start prancing around like they were in a parade,” Debbie says. “And when it was cider-making time, when the horses heard the cider presses going, they would race over for the mash.”

It’s no surprise then that a horse named Brewster would be the model for John Jewell’s bronze sculpture. As a student at Puget Sound, John had often visited the orchard for get-togethers with the Currans, and he and his wife, Andrea (Watt) Jewell ’66, often saw horses Brewster and Christopher grazing in the field.

As part of his artistic process, John has been studying horse anatomy, focusing on details such as the curious look they get when reaching out to investigate the gift of an apple. His own granddaughter is the model for the young girl.

After the Currans died—Charles in 1998, Mary in 2011—their children dedicated a memorial to the couple on the Puget Sound campus: the Charles Curran Sr. and Mary Louise Curran Seminar Room in Wyatt Hall. John’s sculpture will be another tribute and a gesture of gratitude from the community



that still treasures the land that the Currans worked so hard to maintain.

Debbie Klosowski feels sure that the couple would be pleased to see the orchard today, 25 years after it was transformed into a park. She remembers Mary saying how she loved looking out the window and seeing schoolchildren visiting the orchard and volunteers caring for the trees—and “knowing that this legacy would keep giving.”

Above: Mary Louise Curran ’36 and Charles Curran ’35. Inset: John Jewell ’66, M.Ed.’69. For more on the Forever Friends sculpture project and to contribute, visit upforarts.org.

BY RENEE SIMMS

Dear Graduates of Color,

Once there was a woman from America's heartland who was black and imperial and seated at a desk. Her right hand clasped a Dixon Ticonderoga No. 2 pencil, which she held above a yellow legal pad. There, the woman brightly considered her next word. This was her work each day, before dawn. "It's not being in the light," she'd say, "it's being there before it arrives." Her written words would become novels that one reader would later describe as "love and disaster and all other forms of human incident." Her name was Chloe, after the Greek goddess of agriculture, a name that she would later scratch and revise.

I am trying to tell a story of becoming. Becoming firm in one's purpose. Arriving each day with a pencil in hand to do the

work that only you can do. I am trying to tell a story of becoming fearless. Becoming unafraid of challenges or darkness or change. Becoming unafraid of your own imagination. Most of all, I am trying to tell a story of becoming fully human, like Chloe: fully human in what you write, in the words you speak, and in your daily encounters and decisions.

Not becoming perfect, but becoming human.

I know this is not a new idea for you. Since you arrived on campus you've heard us say that humanism is a core value of a liberal arts education. Our university's mission says that we want students to develop "rich knowledge of self and others" and "an appreciation of commonality and difference." But

what does humanism look like in action? The Afro-Roman playwright Terence said, "I am human; Nothing that is human is alien to me." Think about that statement for a minute. Think of all the different orientations, desires, impulses, cultures, and traditions that make up human experience. Then think about what it means that none of that should be alien to you. This maxim reminds us that if you are a humanist, no orientation or tradition, whether experienced by you or not, should be easily dismissed or ignored. But you will be tested on this principle when you leave here. It might happen when you enter graduate school in a small college town where you know absolutely no one, and absolutely no one looks like you or will talk to you.

I am trying to tell a story of becoming.

page—I mean every phrase! Everything, and I delivered this thing to my class. They all fell asleep! But I was so fascinated, technically. Do you know how hard it is to withhold that kind of information but hinting, pointing all of the time? And then to reveal it in order to say that it is *not* the point anyway? It is technically just astonishing. As a reader you have been forced to hunt for a drop of black blood that means everything and nothing. The insanity of racism. So the structure is the argument. Not what this one says or that one says. ... It is the *structure* of the book, and you are there hunting this black thing that is nowhere to be found and yet makes all the difference. No one has done anything quite like that ever. So, when I critique, what I am saying is, I don't care if Faulkner is a racist or not; I don't personally care, but I am fascinated by what it means to write like this."

While Morrison's students fell asleep during her lecture, what she did in that lecture she'd do in the only short story she's ever written, "Recitatif," in which we have two girls that we follow over several decades. One is white, one is black, but they share the same class status. All Morrison gives us are details related to class, so the reader can't tell which character is black and which one is white.

She also used this idea about "writing around race" to create a book of literary criticism, *Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination*. In it, she proposes that many of the great books that we read are writing around an Africanist presence in order to make sense of whiteness. She writes: "We need studies that analyze the strategic use of black characters to define the goals and enhance the qualities of white characters. Such studies will reveal the process of establishing others in order to know them,

You may be tested at your first full-time job, where, perhaps, the core value is not humanism but profit at all costs. Or you may be tested when you return to your hometown with slightly different ideas than when you left. In fact, your humanism was probably tested here as a student of color at UPS.

So how do we recognize humanists out in the world? What is operational humanism?

If we return to Chloe's story, I think you'll have one example. I know that her life has been a lodestar on my journey. Chloe's last name, I meant to tell you, was Wofford. In 1949, Chloe Wofford changed her first name because her classmates at Howard University were struggling with pronouncing it. Then, in 1958, she married and changed her last name, becoming Toni Morrison.

By looking at Morrison's life we can see what it means to be a person of color who confronts the usual obstacles. Morrison's life also teaches us what it means to be passionate, talented, educated, smart, and to use those gifts to deepen one's connections to other human beings.

Like each of us, Morrison grew up in a world with racism.

Morrison's birthday—February 18, 1931—was one month before the Scottsboro boys were arrested and falsely charged for the rape of white women, rapes that allegedly took place aboard a crowded train.

As a 14-year-old boy, Morrison's father witnessed two of his neighbors, local businessmen, being lynched on his street.

When she was a girl, Morrison's family moved quite often, living in at least six different apartments. In one of the apartments, which cost \$4 a month, the landlord set the place on fire when their family could not pay the rent.

Early in her career, she experienced the sort of benign failure to be noticed and mentored that is common for women of color. She's said: "I certainly didn't personally know any other women writers who were successful; it looked very much like a male preserve. So you sort of hope you're going to be a little minor person around the edges.

... Frequently when men are very young, a mentor says, 'You're good,' and they take off. The entitlement was something they could take for granted. I couldn't."

She would not tell her editing colleagues at Random House that she was writing her first book, *The Bluest Eye*. And more tellingly, for me, is the fact that no one at Random House suspected that she was writing a book.

Despite the negative messages about black life that she grew up with, or maybe because of them, Morrison escaped into books at an early age.

"I developed a kind of individualism—apart from [my] family—that was very much involved in my own daydreaming, my own creativity, and my own reading," she has said.

She'd become a close reader who could notice all the nuances that were on a page, but also the things not said, especially when it came to race. As a teacher, she would go through William Faulkner's *Absalom, Absalom!* and track the way that racial clues are withheld in that novel. She finds it exciting to study what isn't being said. You'll remember that *Absalom, Absalom!* is about the Sutpen family before, during, and after the Civil War, and it's told from various and sometimes conflicting perspectives. The main conflict is that Henry Sutpen, who's a wealthy Southern plantation owner with a second wife and two kids, has a son from his first marriage show up years later, befriend his son, and try to marry his daughter. The problem is that the first wife was part black, which is why Sutpen left that marriage. Tragedies arise from the partially black son trying to marry into his own family.

About that book, Morrison says: "Faulkner in *Absalom, Absalom!* spends the entire book tracing race and you can't find it. No one can see it, even the character who *is* black can't see it. I did this lecture for my students that took me forever, which was tracking all the moments of withheld, partial, or disinformation, when a racial fact or clue *sort of* comes out but doesn't quite arrive. I just wanted to chart it. I listed its appearance, disguise, and disappearance on every

You must scorch the earth— leave everything out there like Toni Morrison.

to display knowledge of the other so as to ease and to order external and internal chaos. [We] need to analyze the manipulation of the Africanist narrative (that is, the story of a black person, the experience of being bound and/or rejected) as a means of meditation—both safe and risky, on one’s own humanity.”

We didn’t have a literary theory that helped us see the way that white writers construct whiteness through an Africanist presence before Morrison. Yet, we are all richer in understanding our literary heritage, and each other, because of this work.

Those are some of the contributions Toni Morrison has made as a teacher and literary scholar.

As a creative writer, she has published 11 novels, including her trilogy (*Beloved*, *Jazz*, and *Paradise*, which give us a look at American life during a crucial century: the 1870s to 1970s). She’s published children’s books co-authored with her son, Slade; a libretto on escaped slave Margaret Garner; and a play based on the life of Emmett Till.

As an editor at Random House, she edited *The Black Book*, an anthology of artifacts: newspaper articles, photos, trading cards, and letters that document black experiences in America. She edited the work of Angela Davis, Muhammad Ali, Gayl Jones, Toni Cade Bambara, Henry Dumas, and Huey P. Newton. When a poorly researched biography on Angela Davis was published, Morrison wrote a scathing review of the book in *The New York Times*. The review features one long, beautifully crafted, Faulknerian-like sentence that chastises said biographer. A writer I know describes the review as a wig-snatch done by a hand dressed in a long, white glove.

Why am I telling you this? Especially you, Class of 2018, a class that has done such incredible work on campus as scholars and activists?

Because I want you to keep doing that work. I want to offer you a mental picture of how “doing the work” in the real world might look; how doing the work in a predominantly white industry, like publishing, has looked for one woman of color. Toni Morrison never pandered to destructive norms, never hid from her identity, culture, or traditions. She spoke up to defend her colleague, Angela Davis, against instances of historical misrepresentation and erasure. She brought others along with her, mentored them, edited them. She thought deeply and expansively, finding holes in literary theory and filling them. She acquired multiple skills as a teacher of literature and creative writing, as a literary critic, novelist, and editor. This is what you have to do. You must scorch the earth—leave everything out there like Toni Morrison.

We did not see Morrison coming in 1970 with *The Bluest Eye*. She told us that. And when we read the first line of her first book, “Quiet as it’s kept there were no marigolds in 1941,” we didn’t understand what she was bringing to that line. Look at her lecture on canonicity, given at the University of Michigan in the fall of 1988. She explains all of her work, each word, color, image, structure. It’s all intentional. She explains why she starts *The Bluest Eye* with “quiet as it’s kept.” She wanted to begin with African American storytelling, to start with colloquial speech spoken by a black woman telling the secret story of abuse of another black woman. “There were no marigolds in 1941” means, Yes, there’s the preferred narrative, but let

me tell you the truth of what’s going on. The story of Pecola Breedlove had not been told, it was missing, and that’s why she wrote it, to include that example of “love and disaster” in our literary canon.

Toni Morrison is my obsession, but find your own example from your discipline, from within your family, or community, and let their example of humanism inspire you. Given your education and experiences here, given what I know about many of you, your class is uniquely prepared to identify our broken systems and to rebuild them into inclusive and more humane structures. Remember that. Because quiet as it’s kept, Class of 2018, you are the ones that we have been waiting for.

RENEE SIMMS is an associate professor of African American studies at Puget Sound. She is also a writer and lawyer interested in black women’s fiction, the intersections of law and literature, and community writing pedagogies. She is the recipient of a 2017 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Creative Writing. Her new short-story collection, *Meet Behind Mars*, was released in March.



Proud parents pose with their new grads at the 2018 Graduates of Color Celebration. Clockwise from top left: Alonzo and Quenna Mitz with Alonna Mitz '18; Lorena Sanchez with Amanda Díaz '18; Emily Bloomfield and Byron Auguste with Daryl Auguste '18; and Lynn Muramaru with Cal Muramaru '18. See more photos at pugetsound.edu/gradsofcolor.

classmates



Inside the Brain of Scott Bateman '86

By Julianne Bell '13

When filmmaker Scott Bateman '86 made his first film, *You, Your Brain, and You*, he had one goal in mind: “to make one of the kinds of movies I would want to watch over and over again.”

He'd long harbored an affinity for the bizarre comedy of Monty Python and experimental filmmaker Peter Greenaway, and would frequently play those movies on repeat.

His newest film, an autobiographical documentary called *The Bateman Lectures on Depression*, brings that sense of absurdity to his lifelong struggle with anxiety, depression, and agoraphobia. Using the format of a hundred-question standardized test (sample question: “If depression were a theme park, what would be your favorite part?”), Scott quilts together disparate snippets and vignettes that involve found objects, hand-drawn animations, archival footage, original film, and more to tell the tale of his family history, his isolation and loneliness, and his eventual path to seeking treatment.

Scott has an unusual process: Instead of starting with a script, then shooting the film to follow it, he begins by collecting images he finds striking—scrolling Pinterest, scribbling in a sketchbook, flipping through graphic design manuals, and traveling in search of unusual sights, like a wooden sign proclaiming “NIMROD” in bold white letters. Anything that catches his eye is fair game. It's only after he's captured these images that he drafts a loose narrative that connects them all.

Another source he draws from is the Prelinger Archive, a public domain collection

of ephemeral footage that includes vintage classroom and workplace safety films—“all this crazy stuff that was made in the 1950s to program us to be better Americans,” Scott says. This smiling, wholesome vision of mid-century Americana makes ideal raw material for him to distort and subvert.

“From a young age, I've been someone who makes fun of everything,” Scott says. “So, often when I'm trying to make something, I'm looking for stuff I can kind of work against, to maybe make fun of a little, but also turn on its head. I can have something like an old film or graphic design as clay to build into something else.”

At Puget Sound, Scott majored in psychology, drawn to the field by his own struggles with mental health and a desire to help others. But he diverged from that path when he found himself gravitating more to art and English classes, and working as the graphics editor of *The Trail*. After graduation, he became a syndicated political cartoonist, a job that let him use his irreverent sense of humor and knack for visual expression. In 2013, he wrote *Disalmanac: A Book of Fact-Like Facts*, a tome of creatively reimagined truths.

“The idea of using humor to deal with the world came out of being depressed,” he says. “Approaching things with a sense of humor led me to cartooning and writing a fake almanac, and it carries into filmmaking as well, because it's part of who I am.”

Creating things also helps Scott control his depression. In *The Bateman Lectures*, he details spending hours on end in his room as a teen, working on cross-hatching. “When

you're creating, when you're drawing or doing some painting or something, you're in a zone,” he says. “It puts you into a creative right-brain zone that's an oasis away from depressive and anxious thoughts.”

A dyed-in-the-wool autodidact, Scott is propelled by his original vision and his compulsive desire to bring it to life. He directs, shoots, edits, writes, narrates, manipulates images in Photoshop, composes and performs original music for the score—and in the new film, makes a brief cameo as Grover Cleveland.

The music for *The Bateman Lectures* is inspired in part by John Carpenter, the director of horror films such as *Halloween* and *The Fog* who composed original scores for his own work. “He knows what he wants for the music, so it's easier if he does it himself, and I like that idea,” Scott says. “I wear a lot of hats on each of my films. I like to be able to have that level of control over each area.”

And it's with that same purpose and clarity of vision that he's been able to translate his lived experiences with depression and anxiety into a movie, the kind that he'd want to watch over and over again, and that will go on to resonate with other audiences.

“I get to exercise or try to develop so many different talents, to create something that people can watch in their home,” he says. “It's a crazy thing.”

Scott will be on campus for a screening of *The Bateman Lectures on Depression* on October 11. For details, visit batemanlectures.com or check the events calendar at pugetsound.edu.

From Fleece to Fleek: Anna Bugge '03

By Anneli Fogt

Anna Bugge '03 never expected that her postcollege job at a Patagonia retail store would launch her career as a professional stylist. But there, among the fleece pullovers and down jackets, that's exactly what happened.

She had just graduated from Puget Sound with an English degree and didn't know what to do next. "I thought I was going to go to law school like my parents did, but my friend, Anni Kelley-Day '03, had this opportunity to live at her uncle's apartment in New York," Anna recalls. "She asked, 'Why don't you come with?' And I did."

Anna began working at the Patagonia on Wooster Street in SoHo. It was frequented by wardrobe and prop stylists searching for pieces for photo shoots, commercials, and advertisements, and Anna often assisted them. But the store didn't have a system for loaning out the merchandise, so Anna created one.

In the process, she came to know some of the biggest names in styling, including a former stylist for *InStyle* and *O, The Oprah Magazine*, among others. Anna began assisting her, and soon found that not only did she

enjoy the work, but clients enjoyed working with her, too. In 2008, she moved to Denver, Colo., and struck out on her own as a wardrobe and prop stylist.

In the years since, Anna's client list has grown to include giants such as Apple, Google, Nike, Oakley, Jeep, and Subaru. "I work with advertisers and they say, for example, we want to shoot this Subaru commercial and want a fire on the beach," she explains. "They give me the vibe and the big picture, and in the case of a beach scenario, I pull together maybe a vintage Jeep, logs to sit on, Pendleton blankets. I see that scene and select all the wardrobes."

Her biggest accomplishment, she says, is landing Apple as her largest client. Those photos that come preloaded on iPhones, iPads, and Mac laptops? That's Anna's work. Oh, and she's worked with Lindsey Vonn, one of the world's most decorated female alpine ski racing athletes. "She's amazing," Anna says.

Anna still lives in Denver with her husband, Dale Ratliff '04, and 2-year-old son, Crosby Red. Her styling niche reflects her

own lifestyle and has come full circle to her Patagonia roots, as she now works largely with companies that emphasize family and the outdoors.

Meanwhile, she says her English degree has allowed her to feel comfortable writing everything from pitches to blog posts—a skill she calls "invaluable," especially for someone running her own business.

"I definitely have a unique job," Anna says. "It's not something that in college I knew anything about, but I love living in the mountains in Colorado and dressing families in jeans and T-shirts."



COURTESY OF ANNA BUGGE



The Accidental Architect: Jeff Strong '76

By Sarah Stall

One day in May, Jeff Strong '76, P'11, P'13 found himself at the entrance to Tacoma's Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, preparing to transform more than 100 tons of sand into a giant marine-life sculpture. The Baja Beach project had been commissioned for World Ocean Weekend at the aquarium. Working alongside a small team of artists led by international sand sculptor and Tacoma native Sue McGrew, Jeff was in his element.

For nearly 20 years, Jeff has been sculpting in national and international events and competitions—solo and on teams—and received a Sculptors' Choice award at the 2013 World Championships of Sand Sculpture in Atlantic City, N.J. It started as a hobby, but quickly morphed into something epic, as Jeff's creative pursuits often do.

After he graduated from Puget Sound with an art degree, Jeff had visions of traveling the world to make documentaries and take photographs. It was the mid-'70s, and though he thought computers were cool ("I liked the idea that you could turn a machine to your will"), he'd never envisioned a career in technology. That changed when Jeff landed

a job as a computer programmer in Puget Sound's "development shop."

"They knew I did not have any experience, but they recognized that I could think and that I could learn to program, which would be better than hiring someone who could program but not necessarily be that good at thinking," he says.

For nearly four decades, Jeff was a vital member of the team of programmers and developers who transformed Puget Sound's siloed, paper-based operations to a collaborative model of shared information and user-centric computing. In the mid-'80s, he created a campuswide centralized database, overhauling the way offices and departments shared and accessed information, and writing the code for Cascade, the university's homegrown enterprise software for the next 20 years. In the '90s, he developed Cascade's web interface, enabling students to select housing, register for classes, and complete a slew of other essential tasks from their personal computers.

"The most rewarding times have been when people really collaborated to innovate,"

Jeff says. "We were doing a kind of creative analysis and leading the administration into a whole new way of working, a whole new set of processes. They let the machines do what machines are good at, so that the people could do what people are good at."

Jeff retired in May, after 38 years as an architect of Puget Sound's modern computing processes. The very next day, he was down at Point Defiance, working to bring an underwater world to life. The task that day was to shape a section of coral near the sculpture's base. That's the crux of Jeff's approach to art—and life.

"The universe does not make any distinction between physics, art, music, technology, and engineering," Jeff says. "We break things up into pieces so we can focus on one thing or another, but when you are making something in the sand—or making a computer system—it's all a combination of ideas and vision, of technology and engineering, of planning and improvisation. It all comes together."

alumni news and correspondence

1952 Before he played basketball as a Logger, **Darwin Gilchrist** was a member of the 1948–49 Olympic College basketball team that went 29-1 and made the National Junior College Athletic Association National Championships. The team lost to Compton, Calif., 62-61, in the semi-finals but was the winningest team in school history. Darwin, his teammates, and coaches were inducted into the Olympic College Athletics Hall of Fame on June 9, the *Kitsap Sun* reported.

1956 **Robert Anderson** retired from a career as a physician with the U.S. Army in April. He was most recently at Madigan Army Medical Center at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Robert lives in Olympia, Wash., and is an active member of the Tacoma Astronomy Society.

1961 In May, **C. Mark Smith's** fourth book was published. *Congressman Doc Hastings: Twenty Years of Turmoil* chronicles the life and congressional career of Richard "Doc" Hastings, who represented Washington's 4th Congressional District from 1995 to 2015. Mark, who holds a bachelor's degree in history from Puget Sound, uses Hastings' time in Congress as a thread to tie together the major events of that period that have led to our growing political divide and congressional dysfunction.



1970 Pilot **Ed Horne** came out of retirement this spring to accept a job with Arizona-based International Air Response. The company provides specialized aerial services, including fire suppression, oil spill cleanup assistance, and support for film crews. International Air Response's planes and pilots have been on set for films such as *Captain Phillips* and

The Dark Knight. Ed says the job is something of a homecoming for him, as the airfield he'll be working out of is the same one he was based at as a U.S. Air Force pilot after graduation from Puget Sound. He'll also be flying C-130s, which he did for 23 years as a military pilot. Ed said the job is a "great opportunity to get back into the cockpit." He earned a bachelor's degree in history, became a member of the Theta Chi fraternity, and played basketball as a Logger. He is also a longtime volunteer with Puget Sound's alumni office. He'll be moving to Arizona for the job later this year.

1974 REUNION YEAR **Richard Mahaffey's** pottery was displayed at Tacoma Community College's art gallery during the month of April. *Tacoma Weekly* reported that Rick's "large, earthy storage jars," inspired by Japanese pottery, were the centerpiece of the show. Rick began studying pottery in San Francisco before moving on to San Jose State University. He earned his master's degree in art and design from Puget Sound.

1976 *Barron's* magazine this spring named **Paul Ried** as one of the nation's top financial advisors. The list of 1,200 represents the top 1 percent of the nation's advisors. Paul is the founder and president of Bellevue-based Paul Ried Financial Group and has been named to the prestigious list for the past 10 years. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Pi Kappa Delta honor society and worked for *The Trail*. He also earned a master's degree in business administration from George Washington University.

1978 **C. Patrick Smith** became chief executive officer of New Jersey-based Designed Learning Inc. in April. The firm provides consulting and training to companies on how to be better business partners. Patrick holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound and has

more than 30 years of experience in the training and consulting field. He also holds a master's degree in organizational leadership from Gonzaga University.

1982 **Brad Creswell**, co-founder and managing partner of Seattle private equity firm NCA Partners, was appointed to serve on Thrivent's board of directors in February. Minnesota's *Albert Lea Tribune* reported that he joined 12 other directors who, together, are responsible for overseeing all matters pertaining to the Minneapolis-based not-for-profit Fortune 500 membership organization. Thrivent's mission is to help Christians be wise with money. Brad earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound, where he played soccer as a Logger, and a master's degree in finance from Dartmouth College.

1983 **Elizabeth George** added a new position to her nonprofit résumé in February. She is the St. Louis Community Foundation's director of philanthropic advising. In the newly created position, Elizabeth is responsible for offering strategic advice and counsel to the foundation's donors and private foundation clients. She was previously the managing director of The Rome Group and vice president of programs at Deaconess Foundation. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound, where she was a member of multiple honor societies and worked for ASUPS and *The Trail*. She also holds a master's degree in social work from Washington University and a master's degree in business administration from Harvard University.

Ed Nugent M.B.A.'83, chief operating officer for Massachusetts-based software company PcVue Inc., wrote an April article for *Facility Executive* about unified building management systems. He holds a master's degree in business administration from Puget Sound and has 24 years of experience with supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) development and implementation. He

is also an author and editor for the University of Hawai'i's Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training SMART Grid Curriculum Development project.

In January, **Curtis Price** retired from a 30-year career with the U.S. Geological Survey. He is now teaching full time in the Department of Geology and Geological Engineering at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. Curtis graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in geology and earned a master's degree in geology from Dartmouth College. He lives in Rapid City, S.D.

Karen Allen Witters, an occupational therapist and owner of Pioneer Therapy Center in Puyallup, Wash., authored a column for *Lake Tapps Living's* March issue. She earned her bachelor's degree in occupational therapy from Puget Sound and, in her piece, discussed the importance of internships and the clinic's on-site student program. The therapy center partners with Puget Sound to give occupational therapy students hands-on experience in a working clinic.

1985 **Ralland Wallace**, who played basketball for the Loggers during the university's green-and-gold Division II era and went on to play basketball professionally in Australia, has retired from coaching the sport after a 29-year career. Lewis County's *The Chronicle* reported in March that the Toledo, Wash., native "has decided to hang up the whistle" as R.A. Long High School's head basketball coach. Ralland, who came to be known as "The Big Fella," started his basketball career while attending Toledo High School, where he took the team to state twice in his four years. He played with the Loggers for three years and graduated with a bachelor's degree in physical education. At 6 feet, 7 inches tall, he played professionally in Australia before returning to Washington to begin coaching. He led the boys' team at Longview's Monticello Middle School to back-to-back undefeated seasons in 1999 and



Jim Mullinax '90, the U.S. consul general in Chengdu, China, sings in a humorous Chinese New Year video created by the consulate in February.

2000, and took over as head coach at R.A. Long in 2006. He says the kids are what he will miss most about coaching. "The kids are a kick in the pants," he told *The Chronicle*.

1986 Jeffrey Ball, president and CEO of Whittier, Calif.-based Friendly Hills Bank, was profiled in *ABA Banking Journal* in March. He discussed his banking experience and the importance of discussing policies and banking experiences with federal lawmakers, especially when it comes to regulations. Jeffrey holds a bachelor's degree with a double major in business administration and finance from Puget Sound, and a master's degree in business administration from Whittier College.

1990 Jeffrey Baines, athletic director at Sumner High School, was named the 2017–18 Athletic Director of the Year by the Washington Secondary School Athletic Administrators Association (WSSAAA) in May. Jeffrey holds a bachelor's degree in math education from Puget Sound and a master's degree in educational administration from Western Washington University, and has been in the position at Sumner for 14 years. *The Courier-Herald* reported in May that the WSSAAA award recognizes athletic directors who are dedicated to keeping athletics as an integral part of the total education program, involving as many

students as possible, making full use of school and community resources, and using athletics "as a catalyst to achieve some demonstrable progress in the social and cultural environment of the school and/or community."

Jim Mullinax, the U.S. consul general in Chengdu, China, was featured in a humorous Chinese New Year video created by the consulate. The video, which was posted to Chinese social media platforms and Facebook in February, is based on a Chinese hit reality TV show called *The Rap of China* and incorporates a very popular local song called "Chengdu." Jim, who holds a bachelor's degree in politics and government from Puget Sound and is a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity, is one of the singing "contestants" featured in the video, which has been viewed more than 2 million times.

1991 David Brown '91, M.A.T.'97, an assistant professor of literature and languages at Marymount University, was awarded a Digital Humanities Fellowship in April. The fellowship is in cooperation with Carnegie Mellon University, and David will be part of a team working on technologies to support Carnegie Mellon's First-Year Writing Program, including software that helps students evaluate their writing. David earned a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in education from Puget Sound.

He went on to earn a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.

David Johnson was appointed to the position of chief commercial officer of Global Blood Therapeutics (GBT) in March. The biopharmaceutical company is currently working to develop a pill to treat patients with sickle cell disease. David is responsible for building and leading sales, marketing, business analytics, and market access. Prior to joining GBT, David spent 15 years at Gilead Sciences, a Seattle-based pharmaceutical company, and 11 years at Glaxo Smith Kline. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Alpha Kappa Psi honor society and joined the Sigma Nu fraternity. He also holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of North Carolina.

In March, the *Yakima Herald* featured **Lynn Van Auken**, co-owner of pool and spa store Yakima Watermill, in a weekly column about local business owners. According to the article, Lynn has co-owned the business for 20 years and lives in Yakima with her husband, dog, three cats, and four chickens. She earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound.

1992 Michelle Bacon Adams is Kitsap County Superior Court's newest judge. The former county court commissioner took her seat on the bench in June, when Judge Leila Mills stepped down. Michelle has served as a temporary judge for the Port Orchard Municipal Court, Gig Harbor Municipal Court, and Kitsap County Superior Court. She also practiced family law at her Gig Harbor firm, the Law Office of Michelle Adams PLLC. She earned her law degree from Seattle University after earning her bachelor's degree from Puget Sound with a double major in politics and government and public administration. In a public statement about Michelle's appointment, Washington Governor Jay Inslee said her "community involvement and 22

years of legal experience throughout Kitsap County have earned her the respect of those who appear in her courtroom. She will make an excellent addition to the bench."



Seattle-based professional ski guide and avalanche instructor **Matt Schonwald** was featured in a March *Backcountry Magazine* article about backcountry skiing at Mount Baker. He recently had his second Washington backcountry skiing aerial photo guidebook, *A Guide to Mt. Baker*, published by Off-Piste Ski Atlas. The guidebook joins a similar one about backcountry skiing in Snoqualmie Pass, which was released in February 2017. In the *Backcountry* article, Matt discussed the array of skiing options that await at Washington's northernmost volcano. Matt is a native of New York who came to Washington because of his passion for skiing. He holds a bachelor's degree in Asian studies from Puget Sound, where he played lacrosse, was on the ski team, and joined the Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Hilary Wiek, a graduate of Puget Sound's Business Leadership Program, moved to Minnesota this spring to accept a position as director of investments for The Saint Paul & Minnesota Community Foundations. Her role is to shepherd the assets of the foundations responsibly to ensure the 75-year-old organization continues to "promote equity of all kinds" well into the future. As she is new to the area, Hilary is also looking for local alumni and would "love to have an alumni get-together if there are any around!"

1993 In April, *Crosscut* published a piece about **Jeremy Allyn**, a professional observer with the Northwest Avalanche Center. He discussed his work and Washington's deadly ava-

alumni news and correspondence



Jeremy Allyn '93, a professional observer with the Northwest Avalanche Center, stands in the backcountry near Crystal Mountain ski resort.

lanches, which were responsible for seven of the nation's 19 avalanche deaths this season. Jeremy, who holds a bachelor's degree in religion from Puget Sound, is one of two avalanche specialists who work out of the National Weather Service station based in Seattle's Sand Point. His job consists of skiing into the backcountry areas of the central and southern Cascades and investigating avalanche sites. Accident reports are published based on the photos and information he gathers. Jeremy has loved skiing his entire life—he was involved with Puget Sound's ski team and took a year off from college to work with Crystal Mountain's ski patrol—but he told *Crosscut* that the job can get exhausting: "Interviewing loved ones and partners and fully investigating these incidents, you can't help but look at them from a perspective of 'Hey, this could be my friends or my partners, or me.'"

Tony Gomez, education manager at Tacoma's Broadway Center for the

Performing Arts, was profiled in the March issue of *South Sound Magazine*. The educator and percussionist, who is originally from the Bay Area, discussed a variety of topics, from his love for Tacoma—he said the city is to Seattle what Oakland is to San Francisco and he feels "at home in the mix of working folk and duality of industrial grit and natural beauty"—to some of his favorite things. He loves watching superhero TV shows with his children and enjoys Southern Kitchen's catfish and grits for breakfast. He joined the Broadway Center staff in 2014 and holds a bachelor's degree in comparative sociology from Puget Sound and a master's degree in education from the University of California, Berkeley.

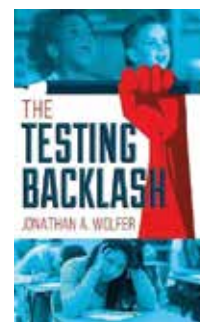
1994 REUNION YEAR
Jeffrey Hale '94, M.A.T.'95 became principal of Bainbridge Island's Woodward Middle School on July 1, the *Bainbridge Island Review* reported. He has been the school's assistant principal for the

past two years and holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in teaching from Puget Sound. He received his principal certification from Western Washington University. Jeff said the new position is "a great honor and privilege."

1995 Jennifer Tenen, associate professor of biology at Seattle University, was awarded tenure this spring after six years at the institution. Her research focuses on the genetics and evolution of embryo development, particularly in micro-animals such as tardigrades—also known as "water bears"—and nematodes. She said she enjoys her research because it allows her to play with water bears, "one of the cutest microscopic critters out there." Jennifer earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Puget Sound, where she was a member of three honor societies and received numerous awards. She earned a master's degree in education from Seattle University and holds a Ph.D.

in biology from the University of Washington.

Backed by his 20 years of experience working in the public education field, **Jonathan Wolfer** had his book, *The Testing Backlash*, published in May 2017. The book chronicles the 2015 pushback against standardized testing by Colorado students, parents, and educators that culminated in zero students participating in testing in some schools, mostly in Boulder, Colo. Jonathan is currently the principal of Boulder's Douglass Elementary School. He also has held careers as an assistant principal, central office administrator, and teacher. He earned a bachelor's degree in politics and government from Puget Sound, where he worked for *The Trail* and KUPS, and joined the Sigma Chi fraternity. He earned a master's degree in elementary education from Colorado College.



1996 Scott Engle, who holds a bachelor's degree in history from Puget Sound, is the Puyallup Police Department's new chief. The *Puyallup Herald* reported in March that Scott, the department's former public information officer, served as the department's interim chief while the position was vacant. He beat out 25 applicants for the position. "I thought I was going to be a history teacher," he told the *Herald*, but went on to explain that while at Puget Sound, he interned with the Pierce County Sheriff's Department and became interested in criminal investigations work. He called the job "a tremendous opportunity and a great blessing."

1997 Ryan Donihue, a partner with Atlanta-based law firm Hall Booth Smith, was chosen in February to

lead the firm's medical malpractice team in Asheville, N.C. Ryan holds a bachelor's degree in politics and government from Puget Sound and a law degree from New York Law School.

In June, **Kyle Haugen** became artistic director of the Northwest Repertory Singers. He took over leadership of the vocal ensemble when former Puget Sound professor Paul Schultz stepped down on June 6, *South Sound Magazine* reported. Kyle was a student of Paul's during his time at the university, where he was a member of the Adelphian Concert Choir and opera program. In addition to his undergraduate degree from Puget Sound, Kyle holds a master's degree in music from Minnesota's Luther Theological Seminary.

1998 Anthony Chennault, a biology professor at Clark College in Vancouver, Wash., was featured in a May article in *The Columbian*. He discussed his time as a student at Puget Sound and his amazement upon seeing his first cadaver in an anatomy class there. Clark College is one of a few two-year colleges using cadavers in its anatomy and physiology courses, and Anthony says it's "hugely important" for students to see the anatomy of real humans. "When you have real human body donors, you have imperfection ... even though we share so much of our anatomy with our fellow humans, there are some variations that can happen from person to person," he told *The Columbian*.

Leatta Dahlhoff was appointed to the Tumwater City Council in February, *Thurston Talk* reported. She is a toxic reduction specialist for the state Department of Ecology who has lived in Tumwater for nearly 30 years. "My life goal continues to be to work towards a sustainable future where our citizens have access to services, our environment is protected, and we have sustainable economic development," she said in the *Thurston Talk* piece. She earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Puget Sound,

where she played tennis for the Loggers and worked for *Tamanawas*.

2000 Theodore Southern holds a bachelor's degree in music business from Puget Sound and puts it to use designing clothing to wear in outer space. He and his partner, Nikolay Moiseev, own Final Frontier Design (FFD) and were featured in *Vogue* magazine and on *Yahoo News* on April 3. According to the *Vogue* article, Theodore came to become an intergalactic clothing designer thanks to what he called "a fascination with design." He worked at a costume shop in New York City, which led him to Pratt Institute. While working toward his master's degree, he and Nikolay entered the NASA Astronaut Glove Challenge, which called on competitors to design a glove for astronauts that would reduce the effort needed to perform tasks in space and improve the gloves' durability. Theodore won second place and \$100,000—enough to create FFD. The duo now works regularly with NASA, and as the reality of civilian space travel moves closer, FFD has been tapped to create lighter-weight, cost-efficient spacesuits for civilians. "I've learned to think and speak like an engineer over time," Theodore told *Vogue*. "Sometimes I can't believe how much faith NASA has allowed and put in us to learn as we go."

Jennifer Graham Williams was interviewed by Maryland's *Columbia Patch* in April. Jennifer founded Cuddle Clones, a company that creates plush look-alikes of people's pets, after her beloved Great Dane died in 2009. Her mission is to use plush recreations to capture the emotional connection between people and their pets.

2001 Jamie Richards Prescott M.A.T.'01 began her position as the director of learning services for the Mercer Island School District in July. She has been an associate principal at Mercer Island High School, her alma mater, since 2012, and was previously an



Final Frontier Design founder and spacesuit designer **Theodore Southern '00** takes a suit for a test run.

English, journalism, and leadership teacher at the school for 10 years.

2003 Stacey Parsons Nash, a freelance writer who holds a bachelor's degree in communication studies from Puget Sound, co-authored *Unshattered: Overcoming Tragedy and Choosing a Beautiful Life*. The book was



published by Shadow Mountain Publishing in June and chronicles the harrowing story of Carol Decker, an Enumclaw, Wash., woman who, in 2008, survived sepsis while pregnant with her second child. Now blind and a triple-amputee, she's a motivational speaker. The book is available through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Target.

Candy Jar, a Netflix original film directed by Puget Sound theater arts graduate **Ben Shelton**, was released on April 27. Starring Sami Gayle and Jacob Latimore as two high school debate champions, the teen film follows the students on their journey to get accepted to their dream colleges.




Complete with a Puget Sound cap, **Ben Shelton '03** directs actors on the set of the Netflix original film *Candy Jar*.


The film co-stars Christina Hendricks, Uzo Aduba, and Helen Hunt. In a review published on April 30, *The Daily Texan* called the movie "a fanciful examination of the modern education system and its effect on the social adjustment of its students." Ben lives in Los Angeles and has written and directed multiple productions, including comedy television series *Impress Me* on Amazon Prime. He also has worked with a variety of actors, such as Whoopi Goldberg, Rainn Wilson, Betty White, Weird Al Yankovic, and Taye Diggs. As a Logger, the Southern California native was president of ASUPS, worked for KUPS, and played on the basketball team. For more about his work, visit sheltonfilms.com.

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PHOTO BY NORBI WHITNEY

Zoe Stasko '14, a circus artist with Washington, D.C.-based Alter Circus, performs a routine on the aerial straps.

2005 Baritone **Ryan Bede** was a featured performer at the UP for Arts 2018 Spring Concert Series in University Place, Wash., in March. Ryan made his Seattle Opera solo debut in May 2017 as the Second Priest in *The Magic Flute* and went on to perform roles in *Madama Butterfly* and *The Barber of Seville* during Seattle Opera's 2017–18 season. He is a former young artist with Tacoma Opera and holds a bachelor's degree in music performance from Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Adelphian Concert Choir, Wind Ensemble, and opera, and played football as a Logger. He also holds a master's degree in music from the University of Washington.

Kayla Wells, a family and consumer sciences educator with Washington State University (WSU) Colville Reservation Extension Office, was honored at the National Extension Association for Family and Consumer Sciences conference in October. She received three national awards for her work in the fields of human development and parenting, financial management training, and supplemental educational materials. Kayla provides educational workshops across the Colville Reservation with emphasis on food safety and preservation, positive Indian parenting,

and financial fitness. She earned a bachelor's degree in exercise science from Puget Sound, where she played softball as a Logger. She also holds a master's degree in education from Washington State University.

2006 **Whitney Mackman** has her first book out this summer. Titled *What Ties Us*, the book of poetry is a collection of some of the professor's best works. She teaches at both Tulane and Xavier universities and



told the *Tulane Hullabaloo* that the poems included in the book seek "to find understanding and love through the tangible and intangible elements that connect human beings to one another." She holds a bachelor's degree in English from Puget Sound, where she played lacrosse, worked for ASUPS, and was a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society. She also holds a master's degree in film from the University of New Orleans. She lives in New Orleans with her orange tabby, Cheddar.

After publishing her book, *Everybody Sing!: Community Singing in the American Picture Palace*, in January, **Esther Morgan-Ellis** was interviewed by the *Peninsula Daily News* in March. The professor of music history and world music at the University of North Georgia discussed the book, which started as her doctoral dissertation, and her research into community singing in the 1920s. She holds a bachelor's degree in music performance from Puget Sound, a master's degree in music from North Georgia College, and a Ph.D. in music history from Yale University.

2007 **Erik Voorhees**, a cryptocurrency entrepreneur and graduate of Puget Sound's Business Leadership Program, was named one of "The Most Popular Crypto Influencers" by *Medium* in April. The list is a compilation of five cryptocurrency influencers who have established themselves "as prominent figures in the cryptocurrency space." Erik is referred to as one of the earliest adopters of cryptocurrency. He became involved in the market as the head of marketing for BitInstant in 2011, before co-founding Coinapult in 2012 and ShapeShift in 2014. He is now the CEO of ShapeShift, which provides the quickest cryptocurrency swap platform in the world.

2008 **David Mensonides**, co-founder of Tacoma adult sports league Comeback Sports, was interviewed by *Tacoma Weekly* in April. He and two other friends started the league after graduating from Puget Sound. The adults-only league now offers nine sports for South Sound adults looking for opportunities for fitness or socialization. David earned a bachelor's degree in business from Puget Sound, where he played football for the Loggers.

2011 Puget Sound baseball's former athletic recruitment coordinator and head assistant coach, **Craig Driver**, is the Phillies' bullpen catcher/receiving coach. He was hired by Phillies

manager Gabe Kapler in the fall. Craig holds a bachelor's degree in business from Puget Sound, where he played baseball and became a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. He also holds a master's degree in physical education from Central Washington University. Prior to working for the Phillies, he was the catching coach for Yale University's baseball team.

2014 REUNION YEAR

Zoe Stasko, who literally ran away to join the circus after participating in Puget Sound's circus club, was interviewed by *DC Metro Theater Arts* in February about her journey to becoming a circus performer. She is a member of Washington, D.C.'s Alter Circus, which, according to the article, is "dedicated to challenging gender norms and celebrating 'the rebellious spirit, strength, and grace of women.'" After finding the circus club while attending Puget Sound, Zoe fell in love with trapeze, quit school, and went to L'École de Cirque de Quebec (Circus School of Quebec City) to study aerial straps. She graduated from there in June 2017. She told *DC Metro Theater Arts* that the decision "kind of felt like I was leaping off a cliff, but I knew that if I didn't go for it I'd always regret it."

Nick Lyon, a second-year master's ecology and evolutionary biology student at Iowa State University, was featured on the Ecological Society of America's April 11 *Science in Progress* podcast. The young scientist discussed his ongoing research on agricultural pastures and how they can be managed to support community pollinators—specifically butterflies, flowers, and bees. He also talked about undergraduate research work on marine microplastic pollution that he completed while he was a biology student at Puget Sound and how that research helped him jump directly into applied ecology and master's-related fieldwork before he even started grad school.

2017 Violinist **Larissa Freier**, who gradu-



PHOTO BY HAWAII ATHLETICS

Hawai'i native and former Logger baseball player **Troy Kakugawa '17** fulfilled his dream of playing for the University of Hawai'i Rainbow Warriors last year after impressing coaches at a walk-on tryout.

ated with a bachelor's degree in music performance and was co-concertmaster of Puget Sound's Symphony Orchestra, was the featured musician for the Port Townsend Community Orchestra's performance of the Bruch Violin Concerto on April 29. The *Peninsula Daily News* reported that the Port Townsend native began her violin studies at the age of 5 and while at Puget Sound, spent summers performing at music festivals nationwide. She lives in Tacoma, and teaches violin and viola in Tacoma and Gig Harbor.

Sage Haynes, Puget Sound's sustainability and energy manager and a graduate of Edmonds' Meadowdale High School, was featured in an April *My Edmonds News* article. In the year since she graduated from Puget Sound, Sage has helped the university get recognized for its commitment to the environment. This spring, she accepted on behalf of the school the 2018 Tahoma Business Environmental Award from the Tacoma-Pierce

County Chamber. She told *My Edmonds News* that she most enjoys seeing how her "small everyday actions can make a difference."

As a child, **Troy Kakugawa** dreamed of playing baseball for the University of Hawai'i Rainbow Warriors. "I was the little kid coming (to Les Murakami Stadium) ... asking for autographs and everything like that," he told Honolulu's KHON2 in March. Troy grew up 20 miles northeast of the university and played baseball as a student at Mililani High School. When he graduated and wasn't given the opportunity to play for the 'Bows, he came to Puget Sound. Troy was a Logger for two seasons and a Northwest Conference Scholar-Athlete as a sophomore on the Puget Sound baseball team, but the pull of his childhood dream was too much. He returned to Oahu in 2017 and went for a walk-on tryout for the Rainbow Warriors. He made the team and is playing his second season as a 'Bow. He is studying civil engineering.

Welcome, New Trustees

In May, the board of trustees elected four Puget Sound alumni and parents to begin service in July: **Shelly Richardson Heier '98**, **Sunshine Morrison '94**, **Mike Nicolais P'18**, and **John Walker P'18**. The board also recognized the extraordinary contributions of six long-serving trustees emeriti for their visionary stewardship of Puget Sound: **Mike Corliss '82, P'13**; **Holly Sabelhaus Dillon '84, J.D.'88**; **Kathleen McCarthy Duncan '82**; **Gwen Lillis P'05**; **Deanna Watson Oppenheimer '80, P'11, P'14**; and **Barb Walker P'05, P'07**.

in memoriam

FACULTY

Longtime educator **Wesley Williams** taught in multiple school districts throughout Washington and was a professor of art education at Puget Sound. A native of Sumner, Wash., he held a bachelor's degree in education from Central Washington University and a master's degree in special education from the University of Oregon. He received a State Art Educator Award from the National Art Education Association in 1985. He was deeply involved in the Very Special Arts Fair, an event held each year for special needs children, and organized the junior/senior high school art shows for the Washington State Fair. He died in February at the age of 83.

STAFF

Buulong Dang, supervisor of mechanical services for the university's facilities department, was a fixture on the Puget Sound campus for 23 years. Known to many as "Buu," he began his career as a custodian at what was once Puget Sound's law school and worked his way up to the supervisor role. He died on March 25. In a message to the campus community, Puget Sound Chaplain Dave Wright '96 said colleagues remember Buu as kind, gentle, and "very focused on his love for people and especially his love for his family." Buu leaves behind his wife, Thao, and daughter, Karen. "Buu touched a lot of hearts at Puget Sound and will be deeply missed," Wright said. An on-campus memorial was held in early April.

Gertrude Jacka received her 30-year service award from Puget Sound in 2007, and a giant sequoia was planted on campus in recognition of the accomplishment. As a custodian, she spent her days serving the professors and students in the university's science department. Gertrude was a native of Czechoslovakia and was relocated to Germany during World War II. It was there that she met her husband, Daniel Jacka, and the two moved to Washington shortly after their marriage in 1967. She began working at the university

in 1977 and retired in 2007. She died on April 25.

ALUMNI

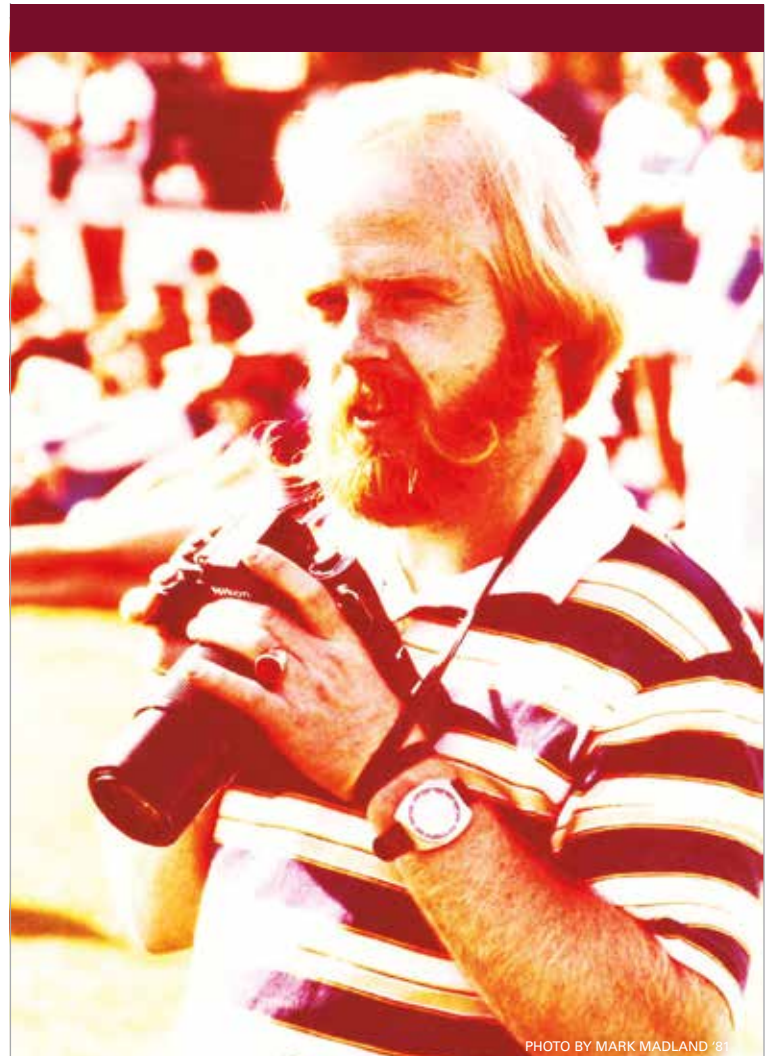
Wayne Griffen '40 died on March 3 at the age of 100. The Montana native earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Adelphian Concert Choir and band. He continued his education at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, where he earned a master's degree in divinity. Wayne married Marion Sherman '39, whom he met while attending Puget Sound, and served as a Methodist minister at many churches throughout Washington. He is preceded in death by Marion, who died in 2003.

Beverly Brown '48, M.A. '71 died on May 2 at the age of 94. A lifelong resident of Tacoma, she graduated from Annie Wright Schools and earned a bachelor's degree in art and design and a Master of Arts from Puget Sound. She returned to Annie Wright and taught art history and fine arts there for 32 years.

Frances Swenson Anderson '49 passed away on Feb. 20. She was 90. A Washington native, she attended Puget Sound, where she was a member of the Adelphian Concert Choir and Delta Delta Delta sorority. Frances went on to earn a bachelor's degree and master's degree from the University of Washington. She taught in the Lake Washington School District for 24 years and was the first woman to be a secondary school principal in the district.

Richard Falk '49 passed away in Des Moines, Wash., on March 10. He was 91. Born in Tacoma, he earned two bachelor's degrees from Puget Sound, in education and sociology. He was one of the founding administrators of Tacoma Community College—he served as the college's dean of students—and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

Andrew Moe '49, a Tacoma native and U.S. Air Force veteran, died on Feb. 19 at the age of 91. He earned a bachelor's degree in biology from



Throughout Puget Sound's green-and-gold era of the 1970s and '80s, staff photographer **Keith Bauer** captured moments during the Logger football team's reign as one of the most powerful Division II squads. He also took to the classroom to teach students about the burgeoning art of color photography. Brian Threlkeld '83 was a member of the Logger football team during Keith's tenure as a photographer and remembers Keith's "knack for capturing the dramatic action shot that distilled each player's character, talent, and heart." Brian says that at the end of each season, Keith would confer with the coaches and select the senior photos that they would frame and present to each graduating player. These photos, and the countless others taken by Keith, have inspired a "remarkable, continuing series of reminiscences and swapping of stories" for student-athletes of the era. Keith was born in Fircrest, Wash., and fell in love with photography while at Everett Community College. He earned a bachelor's degree from Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, Calif., before returning to Washington and beginning a career at Puget Sound. He was also a photographer for the *The News Tribune* and Washington State House Republicans. He later owned and operated Renaissance Color Systems and came to be known for his vehicle repair and renewal work. He died on Dec. 11 at the age of 69.

Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Theta Chi fraternity, before receiving his doctorate in veterinary medicine from Washington State University. He worked as a regulatory veterinarian in California for 33 years.

Martin North '49 died in Texas on April 12, five weeks after his 100th birthday. A Pierce County, Wash., resident nearly his whole life, Martin graduated from Lincoln High School and Pacific Lutheran University before marrying Jo Ann Boyd '63 and joining the Navy during World War II. After the war, he returned stateside and enrolled at Puget Sound, where he earned a bachelor's degree in education. He spent 31 years with Washington's Clover Park School District as a teacher, coach, principal, and administrator. He retired in 1977 and built a home in Roy, Wash. He is preceded in death by Jo Ann, who died in 2001.

Stanley Carlson '50 died in Lakewood, Wash., on April 18. He was 90. A Seattle native and World War II Navy veteran, he attended Puget Sound and met Gweneth Roberts '50, the woman who would become his wife. They both transferred to the University of Oregon, graduated, and got married. Stanley worked for BF Goodrich before pursuing his passion and beginning a career in financial consultation at Merrill Lynch in Tacoma. He retired from the firm in 1991 after a 27-year career. Stanley is preceded in death by Gweneth, who died in 2016.

Gwen Jones Whyte '50 passed away in Seattle on March 27 after a long illness. She was 90. A native of Alaska, she graduated from Queen Anne High School in Seattle before earning a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy from Puget Sound, where she joined the Delta Delta Delta sorority. She went on to work with many World War II veterans in VA hospitals throughout Washington and Oregon.

Richard Chiarovano '51, P'78, P'81 died on Feb. 24 at the age of 89. Born and raised in Tacoma, he earned

a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity and met Lita Johnson '50, who would become his wife. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps before owning and operating multiple laundromats and jewelry stores in Tacoma and Seattle. He served on the university's board of trustees from 1972 to 1978. He is preceded in death by Lita and his son, Rod Chiarovano '81. Richard is survived by another son, Rand Chiarovano '78.

Harold Prescott '51, a veteran highway engineer, died on April 15 at the age of 91. Born and raised in Tacoma, just miles from the Puget Sound campus, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy after graduating from Stadium High School. He served during the last months of World War II and enrolled at Puget Sound upon returning home. He earned a bachelor's degree in geology and married Pamela Davis '52 before beginning a 37-year career with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). Harold is preceded in death by Pamela, who died in 1995.

David Vogeler '51 passed away in Vancouver, Wash., on Feb. 3. He was 91. David was a Tacoma native and attended Puget Sound after serving in the U.S. Navy Reserve for 14 months. He earned a bachelor's degree in business from the University of Washington and began working for the General Adjustment Bureau, a large insurance adjusting firm. He stayed with the company for 42 years, until he retired in 1993.

Francis Huber '52 passed away on March 10, less than one month before his 89th birthday. A native of Tacoma, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps before earning a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound. He married Mollie Mae Morse '49 and worked for the Weyerhaeuser Company until 1967, when he began a career in real estate.

William Morton '52, P'86, a long-time employee of Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), passed

away on March 7 at the age of 88. He received a bachelor's degree from Puget Sound's pre-medicine program and was involved in the university's residence hall association and intramural sports program. William went on to earn a master's degree in public health from the University of Michigan and a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Washington. He began working at OHSU School of Medicine's Department of Public Health as an associate professor in 1967. He led the department's Environmental Medicine Division, taught occupational medicine, and ran an occupational medicine clinic for puzzling illnesses before retiring and being named professor emeritus of public health and preventive medicine in 1997. According to his obituary, for 18 years after retiring, he continued to come to his office daily to work on analyses and teach graduate courses.

Rod Smith '52 died on March 9 at the age of 89. A native of Tacoma, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps before graduating from Puget Sound. While at the university, he was ASUPS vice president and was a member of the Theta Chi fraternity. He also met Gertie Marsh '54, '55, whom he would marry in 1955. Rod had a long and varied career working for United Airlines and, after retirement, enjoyed serving on Puget Sound's Alumni Council. He is preceded in death by Gertie, who died in 2015.

Charles Morrison '53 died in Boulder, Colo., on Feb. 10. He was 88. Born in Yakima, Wash., to fruit farmers, Charles graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in chemistry and was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and Adelphian Concert Choir. He went on to earn a Ph.D. in chemistry from MIT, serve in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, become a chemistry professor at Washington State University, and obtain 52 patents. He married Elaine Becker '51, and the couple had four children.

Rhea Riehl Wesson '55 died on Feb. 4. She was 88. Raised in Tacoma,

she earned a bachelor's degree in education from Puget Sound before receiving another bachelor's degree from Whitman College. She spent many years volunteering with Camp Fire and became the assistant executive director of the Central Puget Sound Council.

David Nicholson '57 passed away on March 9 at the age of 83. A Tacoma native, he received a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Theta Chi fraternity. He went on to work for 33 years as an environmental manager in Federal Way before retiring in 1992.

Sheldon Gerarden '58 died in Connecticut on March 16. He was 82. Sheldon earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Logger football team, ASUPS, and the Sigma Nu fraternity. It was at the university where he also met Faye Vanderford '61, the woman who would become his wife. He went on to receive a bachelor's degree in divinity from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and a master's degree in theology from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. He served Methodist parishes throughout Illinois for more than 12 years.

John Mellor '58, M.Ed.'64 passed away on July 3, 2017. He was 89. John grew up in Midland, Wash., and earned both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in education from Puget Sound. He taught language arts and coached football at Mount Tahoma High School and later worked as athletic director and assistant principal at Foss High School.

William James '60 died in Tacoma on Feb. 10. He was 82. A Kansas native, he attended Puget Sound and Grays Harbor College before beginning a 33-year career as a marine biologist with the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife.

Lorna Moen Robinson '60 passed away on Feb. 21 at the age of 79. Born in Hollywood, Calif., she attend-

In memoriam

ed Puget Sound and earned a bachelor's degree in English. While at the university, she was a member of the Alpha Phi sorority, Kappa Phi Christian sisterhood, and ASUPS. She became a teacher and spent most of her adult life in New Hampshire.

Cecil Royer '60 died in Tacoma on Nov. 3. A Tacoma native, he graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in business administration and was a member of the Alpha Kappa Psi honor society. He married Jo Ann Spencer '59, served in the Navy during the Korean War, and went on to retire as a managing

partner of Knight, Vale, and Gregory, a Tacoma CPA firm.

Joan Ericksen Sevcik '60 died on March 24 at the age of 79. A Portland, Ore., native, she graduated from Cleveland High School and earned a bachelor's degree in geology from Puget Sound. Joan married her college sweetheart, James Sevcik '60, and became a field geologist for the U. S. Forest Service. In 1977, she earned her teaching certificate and began teaching junior high school students in Oregon. Four years later, she earned a bachelor's degree in computer programing technology from

Chemeketa Community College. Joan worked as a computer programmer in Colorado for almost 20 years.

Heather Vary Blahm '63 passed away in Rainier, Wash., on April 5. She was 76. A native of Centralia, Wash., she graduated from West High School before earning a bachelor's degree in history from Puget Sound. She married Ted Blahm in 1966, had a son, and became a teacher and counselor in the Rainier School District. She worked in the district for 30 years before retiring in 1998 and coaching high school golf teams.

Eunice Trobridge Huffman '64, M.B.A. '66, P'59, P'67 passed away on April 29 at the age of 102. Born in Montana, she earned bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from Puget Sound, where she was a member of the Phi Chi Theta honor society. She is preceded in death by her husband, Richard Huffman '64, and daughter, Carol Whyllie Phillips '59. Eunice is survived by her son, Frank Whyllie '67.

Daniel Melton '64 passed away in Bremerton, Wash., on Feb. 16 after living with cancer for seven years. He was 80. A native of Tacoma, he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. Daniel was a U.S. Army veteran, and his careers included pharmaceutical sales, commercial real estate sales, and residential real estate appraisal.

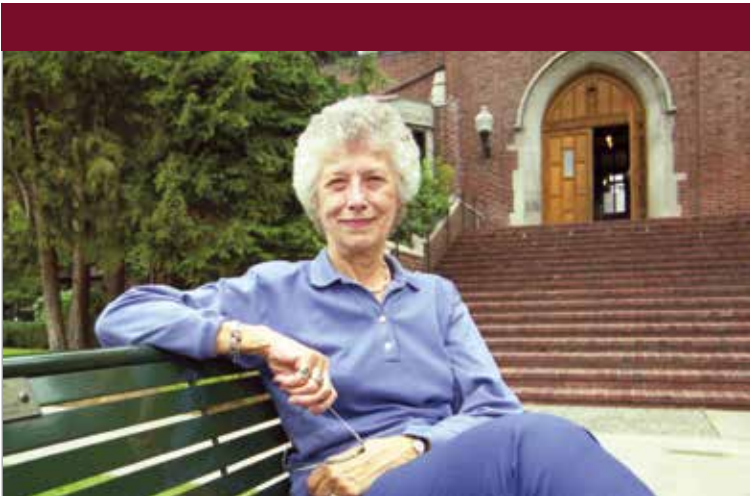
Norman Reilly '64 died on March 3, less than two weeks before his 77th birthday. Born in Seattle, he attended Everett Community College before earning a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound. While at the university, he was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and met Laurel Frahm '67, who would become his wife. The two married in what was then the Gail Day Chapel in Jones Hall in 1966. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War, returned stateside, and began working in the insurance business. He and

Laurel settled in Portland, and he retired in 2009.

John Dramesi '67, a U.S. Air Force officer who was captured, held, and tortured as a prisoner of war during the Vietnam War, died on Sept. 17. He was 84. John earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Puget Sound while stationed at Fort Lewis before being deployed to Vietnam. In April 1967, while flying a bombing mission, his F-105 was hit by anti-aircraft fire. After bailing out of his damaged plane and being knocked unconscious, he came to only to be shot and kidnapped by North Vietnamese soldiers. He escaped from the prison camp in a small village eight days later, only to be recaptured and held at the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison camp. In May 1969, he and a fellow POW escaped and traveled for 12 hours before again being captured. He was tortured for 38 days and held for another four years before being released in March 1973. He went on to write a book, *Code of Honor*, about the experience and become the chief war planner for U.S. Air Forces in Europe. He retired from the Air Force as a colonel and held multiple military awards, including a Purple Heart and Air Force Cross.

William Sievers '67 died on May 4 after a nine-year battle with prostate cancer. He was 73. William was born in Everett, Wash., and graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in political science. He was a member of the Logger swim team and Beta Zeta Pi fraternity. He met his future wife, Patricia Madson '68, during an evening out with his fraternity brothers and Gamma Phi Beta sorority sisters. After college, William became his company's youngest real estate broker and went on to help his father, Howard Sievers, develop the Useless Bay Golf & Country Club on Whidbey Island.

Nelson Corbett '68 passed away on Feb. 8 at the age of 71. Born and raised in Oregon, he attended Puget Sound before working as a ranch hand, charter boat captain, mechanic, and real estate developer.



There's a bench just east of the Jones Hall central stairs with a plaque that reads: "In recognition of **Marian 'Hawkeye' Frank** for her joyful spirit and the many smiles she has given to the students of the university." It was a gift from the Class of 1982 to staff member Marian Frank, who, for 25 years, worked as a cashier at The Diner and had an uncanny ability to spot any student who was trying to slip past the dining hall registers without paying. It's why Puget Sound students affectionately called her "Hawkeye." The Indiana native was beloved by students for this reason, and because she was so good at memorizing meal ticket numbers, her family writes in her obituary. Born in the Midwest, Marian moved with her family to Washington before her first birthday. She spent her early years in the South Sound, but graduated from Arizona's Phoenix Union High School. Her family notes, however, that she always considered herself a Puyallup Viking. She married John Frank—whom she met at a roller rink in Tacoma—in 1948, and the two moved to Chicago briefly before returning to Washington with their family. Marian began her job at Puget Sound in 1967, and retired in 1992. She died on March 11 at the age of 88. According to her obituary, she was "intelligent, meticulous, frugal yet generous, encouraging, gracious, humorous, honest and ... stubborn. In an essence, she was noble."

He co-founded Chassis Systems, a company supplying intermodal transportation equipment, and held several patents related to the company's chassis storage system.

Francis Myers '70, M.B.A.'71

passed away on April 18. He was 85. Francis was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and, after retiring from the military, earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from Puget Sound. He went on to become an executive vice president for Seafirst Bank for 20 years and a longtime resident of Puyallup, Wash.

Janet Strobel Kneidler '71 passed away on July 8, 2017, at the age of 68. She was a Tacoma native and one of six Strobel sisters to attend Puget Sound. She earned a bachelor's degree in sociology and was a member of the Pi Beta Phi sorority, along with five of her sisters. She became a librarian and worked for 25 years at Reed College in Portland, Ore. She retired in 2012. Janet is preceded in death by her father, Robert Strobel '33, and mother, Elsie Korpela Strobel '33. She is survived by her sisters, Carol Strobel Colleran '64, Sally Strobel Jameson '62, Julia Strobel Arger '71, and Susan Strobel '70.

Patricia Sias M.A.'71 died in Seattle on April 5. She was 93. Born in Michigan, she completed her undergraduate studies at Scripps College in California before earning her master's degree in art and design from Puget Sound. She volunteered for several Tacoma organizations and became the city's first historical preservation officer.

David Askren '72 died on March 8 at the age of 69. A Tacoma native, he attended Puget Sound and was known for his love of baseball, skiing, and competitive sports.

Peter Bernier '72 passed away in Bremerton, Wash., on March 9. He was 67. Peter attended Puget Sound before graduating from the University of Washington with a bachelor's degree in microbiology. Eight years

later, he graduated from the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific in Pomona, Calif. He practiced as a family physician in Oregon for more than 25 years.

Nancy Mc Call Ciskowski '73 died on Dec. 16 in Tucson, Ariz. She was 81. Nancy was born in Idaho and was the oldest of eight children. She graduated from Boise High School and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in education from Puget Sound. She married Larry Ciskowski one year later and received a master's degree in education from Wichita State University in 1979. She returned to Washington and worked at numerous elementary schools in the Kent School District until retiring in 1998.

James Pfeiffer '82, a native of University Place, Wash., and longtime school administrator, died on April 21. He was 59 and battled pancreatic cancer for three months before passing away. James held a bachelor's degree in history from Puget Sound and was a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. He was principal of Idlewild Elementary School in Lakewood, Wash., for the past eight years and was nominated for Administrator of the Year.

Ferdinand Van Deursen M.B.A.'83 passed away on Feb. 16 at the age of 86. He was born in New Jersey and earned a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University before receiving a master's degree in business administration from Puget Sound. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and worked as a CPA for the Washington State Auditor's Office for 13 years.

Victoria Moritz Parkhurst '84 passed away in Tacoma on Feb. 9. She was 80. Victoria, who held a degree from Portland State University, earned a bachelor's degree in communication and theater studies from Puget Sound while caring for her two sons. She was a member of the Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

Colleen Cook Battaglia '86 died on April 25 after a fight with pancreatic cancer. A native of Tacoma, she

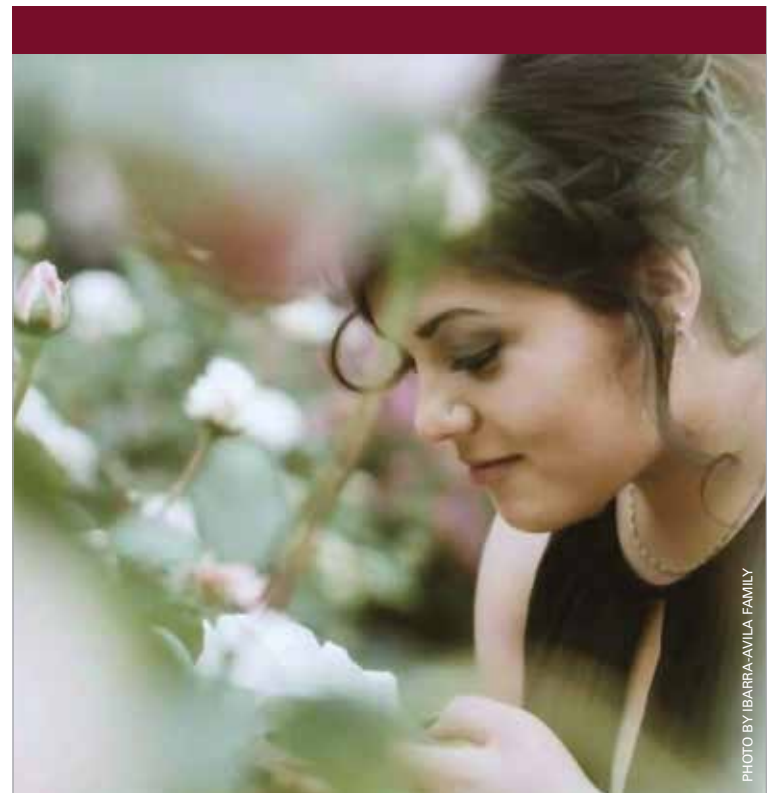


PHOTO BY IBARRA-AVILA FAMILY

Adriana Ibarra '21 loved tongue twisters. She was also passionate about her faith, mariachi, and social justice. The Tacoma native and Lincoln High School graduate was "always one to step up to try and make things better," her father, Jorge Ibarra, said. In her short eight months at Puget Sound, Adriana left her mark on the campus community. She volunteered at the Walk to End Alzheimer's on campus last September and brought her warm, funny, self-sufficient personality and beautiful and powerful smile with her everywhere she went. The entire campus community was deeply saddened by her passing on April 16. A campus memorial service was held at Kilworth Memorial Chapel on April 29, following a funeral mass at Tacoma's Sacred Heart Catholic Church and a viewing on April 25. Adriana is survived by her parents, Jorge Ibarra and Alejandra Avila, and brothers Daniel and Jorge.

graduated from Stadium High School and earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Puget Sound, where she joined the Pi Beta Phi sorority. She married fellow Logger Paul Battaglia '86 and had three children. She enjoyed traveling, animals, crafting, and hosting get-togethers.

Catherine Hart '94 passed away in Port Angeles, Wash., on March 18. She was 45. Born in Idaho, she moved to Port Angeles and received

a bachelor's degree in art and design from Puget Sound. She went on to become an artist, dancer, graphic designer, executive assistant, and writer.

Michael Brutger '17 died in Ohio on Jan. 5 due to complications from a multi-organ transplant. A native of St. Cloud, Minn., Michael attended Puget Sound, where he was a resident of Todd-Phibbs Hall and a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity.

scrapbook



◀ In March, 12 Alpha Phis who graduated between 1970 and 1973 had a mini reunion on the Puget Sound campus. The group of sisters met at Wheelock for lunch, walked the campus (which they say has grown considerably since their days at Puget Sound), and met with current students at the chapter house, which included sharing songs of both eras. **Vicki Coles '73**, who submitted this photo, said she and her Alpha Phi sisters “were delighted by the young women and enjoyed the exchange.” Vicki and the other Alpha Phi alumnae are pictured in front of Oppenheimer Hall, which in the early 1970s was called Tenzler Hall and was the dorm that Alpha Phi occupied from 1968 to 1970. Front row, from left: **Marianne Nelson Cartwright '72; Debi Howard Schmid '72, P'91; Joann Bracken Saul '72; Garri Rowe Daily '72; Nancy Bradley Skullerud '72.** Second row, from left: **Christine Adkins '72; Connie Gilardi Carroll '75; Nancy Carmody '71, P'97, P'02; Kathy Caraher '70;** and Vicki. Back row, from left: **Karen Zidell Berman '74, and Karen Zylstra McMillan '73.**



◀ **Emily Carrick '95** fulfilled her dream of becoming a mother in December. She adopted a baby boy named Carsten—future Logger, Class of 2038. “Never give up on a dream you can’t go a single day without thinking about,” she shared along with this photo. The graduate of Puget Sound’s business administration program lives in Oregon and works as a Medicare executive.

▼ This spring, among icebergs, penguins, and seals, **Olivia Anderson '17** got engaged to **Bryan Williams '17** during a trip to Antarctica. On their journey back to the United States, they stopped to visit a Brazilian rainforest. The couple lives in Kissimmee, Fla., where Olivia works as an educator on Walt Disney World’s animal science and environment team. Bryan is working at a veterinary clinic and will be applying for veterinary school in the fall.



▲ On April 12, an audience gathered in Kilworth Memorial Chapel to hear **Peter Altmann '69, P'13** give a talk called “Art, War, and Justice: The Story of ‘The Woman in Gold,’” about the famous Gustav Klimt painting and his family’s history with it. The subject of the gold-encrusted painting is his great-aunt, Adele Bloch-Bauer, who was born in Austria in the early 1880s. The painting, commissioned by her husband and completed in 1907, was stolen by the Nazis when they invaded Austria and displayed in numerous Austrian art museums for nearly 70 years. Upon discovering the existence and whereabouts of the painting in 1999—and realizing it had not been donated as the family previously had believed—Peter and his mother, Maria, underwent a six-year legal battle to prove their family’s ownership of the work. In 2006, the Austrian government handed the painting over to the family, who then sold it to cosmetics magnate Ronald Lauder for \$135 million. It hangs in Ronald’s Neue Galerie in Manhattan. The 2015 movie *Woman in Gold*, was about Maria’s fight for the painting. Helen Mirren plays the role of Maria.



▲ **Chelsea Dean '00** (left), with son Grey, and **Heidi Winkenwerder Schooley '97**, with daughter Willow, recently reconnected in Tacoma. Heidi says attending Puget Sound together led them to become friends for life.



► **Bailey Stiever '12** and **Zach Benton '12** were married in St. Paul, Minn., on Dec. 30, surrounded by family, friends, and fellow Loggers. Wedding guests included, back row, from left: **Preston Van Buren '13, Brandon Foster '13, Harry Yu '12, Rob Perez '13, Reeves Richards '11, Gordon Bagley '11, Andrew Marshall '12, Blake Titcomb '13, Tucker Shouse '12, Cameron Ford '13, Anthony Warmuth '12, Fabian Corrales '11, Pete Van Sant '08, Rob Griswold '11, and Ian Ellis '11**. Second row, from left: **Cody Silva '13, Stephanie Wood '12, Hillary Handler '13, Julie Swinson '12, Chandler Fox '12, Rachel Kakach '10**, the groom and bride, **Travis Dos Santos-Tam '13, Nolan Frame '11, Morgan Giese '14, and Jeanne Krenzer '12**. Front row, from left: **Kaeline Kine '12**, officiant **Jarek Sarnacki '11, Charlie Cronin '12, Annie Zavidow '11, and Cara Van Sant '12**. Bailey and Zach live and work in Seattle, where they enjoy exploring the many local breweries with their dog.



◀ An impromptu Logger reunion occurred during a 2017 New England fall foliage tour. From left, **James Mousel '67, Marianna Riutta '68, John Felton '82, and Robin Yamaguchi Felton '83** met by chance during a vacation and quickly discovered their shared Puget Sound history. All four Loggers had a wonderful vacation and quickly became friends.

► Five years ago, three Loggers entered the clinical psychology program at Oregon's George Fox University. In May, they all graduated with doctorates. Pictured at their May graduation, from left: **Lyanna Diaz '13, Molly Winterrowd '11, and Roseann Fish Getchell '09**. Lyanna said the last five years were a difficult journey, but she was "extremely grateful" to have completed the adventure with fellow Loggers.



scrapbook



▲ **Don Scott '91** earned his doctorate in education with a focus on organizational leadership in May 2017 from Brandman University. He is currently the school's director of academic advising and lives with his husband, Felipe Primera, in Palm Springs. Don holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Alpha Kappa Psi honor society and worked for ASUPS. He also earned a master's degree in education from Western Washington University.



▲ During an autumn vacation on the East Coast, **Robin Yamaguchi Felton '83** and **John Felton '82** met up with former classmate **Martha Hewett Capuco '83** and her husband, John Capuco, in Boston for some reunion fun. Clockwise from front left: John Capuco, John Felton, Robin, and Martha.

► Six members of the Tacoma Alumni Regional Club gathered at Duke's Chowder House on April 9 to write nearly 100 postcards to students who had been accepted to Puget Sound. The event provided an opportunity for the club's members to get to know each other better, as well as connect to the young Logger community. Left, front to back: **Linda Hellman Manning '84**; **Lynn Johnson Raisl '77, P'13**; and **Debbie Parks**, who is not a Puget Sound graduate but a self-professed "big Logger fan" and member of the Puget Sound Women's League. Right, front to back: **Heidi Winkenwerder Schooley '97**, **Heather Faverman Aquino '02**, and **Missy Zenczak '09**.



◀ In May, Loggers **Lisa Kozleski '94** and **John Harding '94**, who live in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, were in Venice, Italy, celebrating their anniversary. When they posted some photos on Facebook, **Ravi Mantha '94** and his family, who live in Hyderabad, India, but also happened to be in Italy, saw them. They all connected for a fantastic dinner in Bologna and toasted the Honors Program, where they met, and their nearly 28 years of friendship. From left: Ravi, Lisa, and John.



◀ **Meg Pritchard '13** and Jérémy Pagès were married on June 10, 2017, in Paris, France. The couple lives in Paris, where Jérémy works as a webmaster for a translation agency called Datawords and Meg works for the law firm Linklaters as a bilingual legal assistant.

◀ On April 7, Loggers from the Class of 2013 gathered at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, in New Bedford, Mass., for the university's 2018 MFA Thesis Exhibition. **Erin Wheary '13** had her site-specific installation, *The Space Between*, displayed for six weeks during the event. While there, the group saw another of Erin's pieces, *Unstoppable | Immovable*, which is on display at the New Bedford Art Museum. From left: **Liza Holtz '13**, Erin, and **Katie Moran '13** pose with *Unstoppable | Immovable*. Not photographed but also in attendance were **Jovia Manzie '13** and **Mariah Young '13**.

▼ Loggers **Dorothy Ghysin-Bennett '67** and **Alex Bennett '63** met **Michelle Griffoul M.F.A.'76** at her Maui home earlier this year. The Bennetts also live on Maui and enjoyed touring Michelle's tile and pottery studio. Michelle is an internationally acclaimed artist and, according to Dorothy, a most gracious hostess. The three first met through volunteering and mutual friends. From left: Michelle, Alex, and Dorothy.

▼ This spring, **C. Mark Smith '61** (left) met with Defense Secretary James Mattis and talked books at an event in Washington's Tri-Cities. Mark, who holds a bachelor's degree in history from Puget Sound, recently had his fourth book published. He lives in Richland, Wash., which is also James' hometown.



upcoming events



President Crawford hits the road

Join President Isiaah Crawford in a city near you for an alumni reception and unveiling of Puget Sound's vision for the next 10 years. For more info and to register, contact Alumni and Parent Relations at alumoffice@pugetsound.edu.

- Tacoma:** Nov. 29
- Seattle:** Dec. 4
- Los Angeles:** Dec. 12
- San Francisco:** Dec. 13
- Denver:** Jan. 16
- Boise:** Jan. 17
- Washington, D.C.:** Feb. 6
- Portland:** Feb. 12
- Honolulu:** March 28
- New York:** May 30
- Chicago:** June 25
- Minneapolis:** June 26

Share your knowledge

The annual ASK Night networking reception is a special opportunity for alumni to share career and life advice with current students—and we need you!

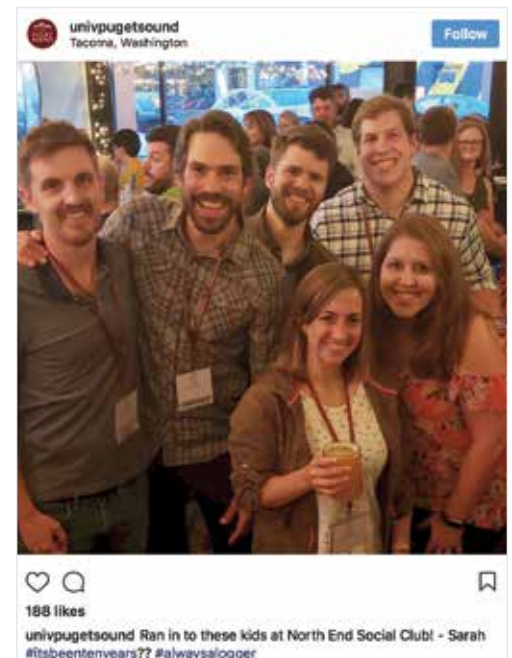
For more info and to register for the Sept. 13 event, visit pugetsound.edu/ASKnight.

Get connected

- Pi Beta Phi 70th Anniversary Celebration:** Sept. 8
- Homecoming & Family Weekend:** Sept. 27–29
- Race & Pedagogy National Conference:** Sept. 27–29

Reunited and it feels so good

Hundreds of Puget Sound alumni returned to campus for Summer Reunion Weekend, June 6–8. Graduates of the classes of 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, and 2013 caught up over luncheons, faculty presentations, a Friday night campus block party, and Saturday picnic. Some even visited classic Tacoma haunts such as the North End Social Club, Parkway Tavern, and Engine House No. 9. All the while, they shared their experiences on social media. Here are a few of our favorite moments captured by alumni. For more photos, visit pugetsound.edu/SRW18.



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According to Ross Mulhausen, photographer and patron saint of winged things, these ducks are the offspring of the mallards that used to waddle through the same grass on campus many years ago. What do you think—any resemblance?

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SAVE THE DATE

SEPT. 27-29, 2018

Homecoming + Family Weekend

ALUMNI * STUDENTS * PARENTS * FRIENDS

&

The 2018 National Race & Pedagogy Conference

Join the entire Puget Sound community as we celebrate Homecoming and Family Weekend and host the 2018 National Race & Pedagogy Conference. Cheer on our athletes, enjoy performances, and hear from some of the nation's top scholars, educators, and racial justice advocates on the conference topic "Re-Imagining the Project of Justice."



For more information, visit pugetsound.edu/homecoming.