

Next Issue: Jan. 23

Send news items to spatterson@georgefox.edu

Deadline for Copy: Jan. 17

President's Prologue

Never have I heard a college president tell me that his or her institution is having a terrible year. They are always very positive. University presidents, you see, are salespeople. And they are good at "selling" their institutions – at all times.

I'm reminded of this right now while attending a meeting of the national Council of Independent Colleges presidents in Naples, Fla. All member institutions are independent, most have church affiliations, and many are Christ-centered, as we are.

Already, I've met several friends, and after we wish each other "Happy New Year," the questions usually are "How are things at George Fox?" and/or "How's the enrollment?" and/or "What's new at George Fox?"

Of course, I ask them similar questions. Several thoughts come to my mind when this "game" begins. Do the answers contain the whole truth? Are they well-screened responses? Then I begin to ponder if university presidents would be better able to use the experiences and expertise shared at these conferences if presidents were more forthcoming in their answers to our usual perfunctory questions. (Meantime, as we talk shop for a few minutes rather than discuss personal issues, our spouses quickly move several yards away to talk about important issues - like families. I'm impressed by how gracious these spouses are to put up with these conversations.)

Despite the presidential posturing, I do find the conversations in the halls and on the sidewalks helpful – perhaps even as much as the formal presentations. Ultimately, I almost always gain from the interaction with other presidents. At one dinner this week, four presidents of Council for Christian Colleges & Universities schools and CCCU president Robert Andringa were at one table, and the discussion was relevant and helpful. I wonder why such conversations seem to come most easily from informal, unorganized meetings, rather than from the formal sessions with high-cost, high-visibility speakers. It has to do, I think, with the ability to be more vulnerable in a small, intimate setting than in a more public situation.

As I write, coming up is another round of these "politically correct" questions with their "politically correct" answers. I plan to be as open and useful as I can. Thanks to all of you, I am able to be entirely honest when I tell my counterparts that things are going well at George Fox University and that we look forward to 2006 with anticipation of more good things as we watch God at work among us. We surely will have problems to solve in 2006, but I am pleased to be solving them with you as my colleagues.

Happy New Year to each of you!



Theologically Speaking

Larry Shelton (Seminary) and **Phil Smith** (Religious Studies) will be the speakers for this year's Spring Theological Conference, scheduled Jan. 23-25 on the Newberg campus. The theme of the event is "Buying Off, Renewing Covenant, or Making Peace? What Jesus Does for Us." Larry will speak in the Jan. 23 chapel service on "How Christ's Death Saves My Life." That night, there will be a panel discussion on "Practical Implications of a Theological Idea" at 7:30 p.m. in Hoover 104. On Wednesday, Jan. 25, Phil will speak on "Your Greatest Enemy Wants to Make Peace" in chapel.

MLK Holiday

George Fox University will close Monday, Jan. 16, to observe the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. There will be no day or night classes or chapel services at the Newberg campus, Portland Center, Salem Center, or Boise Center. University offices, libraries, and bookstores will be closed. **Burel Ford** (Multicultural Services) and **Steve Sherwood** (Religious Studies) will speak on the significance of King in the Jan. 11 chapel service.

Much Ballyhoo

George Fox University Theatre will present six performances of *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, a Tony Award-winning comedy, Jan. 26-28 and Feb. 2-4 in Wood-Mar Auditorium. All performances begin at 7:30 p.m. The play, written by Alfred Uhry, is set in 1939 and tells the story of the Freitag family as they scramble to get ready for Ballyhoo, an extravagant ball for Atlanta's Jewish elites. George Fox employees receive one complimentary ticket. Additional tickets cost \$10 for general admission, \$8 for alumni and seniors, and \$6 for students and children under 12. Tickets are available at the box office (ext. 3844), or at theatre.georgefox.edu.

Lunch Break

Four staff lunches are scheduled for the spring semester – on Jan. 9, Feb. 13, March 13, and April 10. Each will begin at noon in the Cap and Gown Room.

Yac and Youth

Mark Yaconelli, co-founder and director of the Youth Ministry and Spirituality Project at San Francisco Theological Seminary, is the keynote speaker for the second Kaleo conference Saturday, Jan. 21, on the Newberg campus. The theme of this year's

event is "Practicing the Presence of Jesus with Youth." **Sarah Baldwin** (Student Life) and **Steve Sherwood** (Religious Studies) are among the speakers addressing aspects of youth ministry. Sessions meet from 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. in Kershner Lecture Hall. To register or get fee information, go to kaleo.georgefox.edu.

COMINGS AND GOINGS



Lisa Burton accepted the position of associate director of the Office of Human Resources, replacing Sandie Hayes. Lisa comes to George Fox from the Terex Corp., a worldwide capital equipment manufacturer, where she served as a human resources manager for crane assembly plants in Tigard, Ore., and Olathe, Kan. She has more than 15 years of experience in the human resources field, working for various companies in Texas, Missouri, and Kansas. Lisa earned bachelor's degrees in human resources and Spanish from the University of Kansas in 1982. She lives in Sherwood with her husband, Jim, and children William (13) and Katie (11). The family attends Countryside Community Church in Sherwood.



Sarah Eggerichs joined the university to take a library assistant II position in the Murdock Learning Resource Center. She most recently worked in East Lansing, Mich., where she was a medical administrative assistant in a doctor's office for the past four years. She also managed an ice cream shop from 1996 until she moved to Oregon in 2005. Sarah attended Michigan State University. She lives in Dayton with husband Jonathan, a student in George Fox's PsyD program. The couple attends Creekside Community Church in McMinnville.



University Relations welcomes **Vangie Pattison** as an administrative assistant. Vangie is a familiar face to the George Fox community, serving as the university's church relations coordinator since August of 2004. She is also a recent graduate, earning a bachelor's degree in organizational communications in December. She will begin the Master of Education program at George Fox this month. Vangie also has been active in student organizations, serving on the Student Alumni Council and the Associated Student Community. She lives

in Newberg and attends Newberg Friends Church. With Vangie's arrival, **Vickie Timmons** (University Relations) is moving to three-quarters time.



Danielle Ambrose began work in the registrar's office this month as an enrollment specialist. The job is a homecoming of sorts for Danielle, as she was a student employee in the Office of the Registrar from 2001 until her graduation from the university in December of 2004. Most recently, she did administrative work for Salem Heating and Sheet Metal in Salem. Danielle earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from George Fox. She and her husband, Josh, live in Salem and are expecting their first child in February.

MOVERS & QUAKERS

Sheila Abercrombie has replaced Marie Craven as an institutional research and technology specialist. She transferred from the School of Management, where she was an assistant professor of economics.

ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

Kenn Wilson (Performing Arts) performed a piano duet with Maria Choban as part of the Southminster Presbyterian Church's concert series in Beaverton on Dec. 3. The duet, known as Ivory Crush, also performed at Music Millennium in Portland on Dec. 4. Kenn also performed a 30-minute program as a Bösendorfer Educational Artist at Michelle's Piano Company in Portland Dec. 2.

Tom Head (Economics and International Studies) served as a non-governmental organization delegate to the World Trade Organization's trade talks at the sixth WTO Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong, China, Dec. 13-18. In general, ministerial conferences are the WTO's highest decision-making body, meeting at least once every two years and providing political direction for the organization. Tom is part of a delegation from the Quaker United Nations Office in Geneva, which works closely with the trade missions based in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Idaho Business Review selected **Beth Schafer** (Boise Center) as one of the recipients of the Idaho Women of the Year award. Each year, approximately 35 women professionals receive the honor based on their leadership and service. Beth was selected for her work as coordinator of the MAOL service learning and MBA community learning and consulting projects for graduate students in Boise. Beth and the other honorees will be recognized and receive their awards at an awards dinner Feb. 21.

Bryan Boyd (Performing Arts) received an American College Theatre Festival Meritorious Achievement Award from the Kennedy Center for his set and light design work on the university's production of *Machinal*. The play's student sound designer,

Mark Williams, won the same honor. For Bryan, it was his second such honor in recent months, as he also won the Kennedy Center's award for his outstanding set design work on Western Washington University's summer theatre production of *Proof* by David Auburn.

Paul Otto (History) published a symposium response to Al Wolters, "What is to be Done . . . toward a Neocalvinist Agenda?" in the December edition of the online journal *Comment*. *Comment* is a publication of the Work Research Foundation, whose mission "is to influence people to a Christian view of work and public life."

The George Fox University Congregational Discernment Consultation, directed by **Paul Anderson** (Religious Studies), had its first meeting Dec. 8-10 in Stevenson, Wash. The session featured eight denominational leaders from around the nation. At this meeting, **Chuck Conniry** (Seminary) spoke to the group on "Congregational Discernment in Theological and Practical Perspective," and **Janis Balda** (Management) shared on "Personal Spiritual Discernment as a Factor in Spirit-Led Leadership." Paul's essay, "A Dynamic Christocentricity: The Center of Faithful Praxis," was published in the current issue of *Quaker Religious Thought*.

Doreen Blackburn (EDFL) presented at the National American Reading Forum Conference in Sanibel Island, Fla., on Dec. 8. Her presentation was entitled "Are We Leaving Meaning Behind in the Race for Phonemic Awareness and Fluency." Her talk focused on key elements about reading for meaning even though current legislation is advocating for the use of scripted programs in phonetic instruction. The topic for the conference was "The Next Big Thing in Reading."

Diane Wood (Education and Family and Consumer Sciences) presented in November at the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) conference in Philadelphia. The title of the presentation was "Women's Lives in Academic Leadership: Examining Choices, Strategies and Barriers." The theme of the presentation focused on the status of women as leaders in faith-based institutions. Diane also was selected to present at the 2006 International Hawaii Conference on Education in January. The presentation is designed around issues related to developing women as leaders in faith-based institutions.

IN THE FAMILY

Congratulations go to **Rick Johnsen** (Marketing and Communications) and his wife, Sandi, on the birth of their daughter, Marley McKenna, on Dec. 7 in Vancouver, Wash. The baby weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 21 inches long.

BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 8	Jonathan Morell
Jan. 10	George Byrtek Larry Shelton
Jan. 11	Ginny Birky
Jan. 12	Susan Hampton
Jan. 15	Debbie Hawblitzel
Jan. 17	Meredith Dougherty Marley Brown Ron Stansell Sharon Westfall
Jan. 18	Robin Baker Pat Bailey Dwayne Astleford
Jan. 19	Mike Tomlin
Jan. 22	John Smith

CALENDAR

Monday, Jan. 9

Newberg Chapel
Sarah Baldwin, 10:40 a.m.

Staff Lunch, Noon

Tuesday, Jan. 10

Faculty Lunch, Noon

Wednesday, Jan. 11

MLK Jr. Chapel
Burel Ford and Steve Sherwood, 10:40 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 14

Men's Basketball vs. Walla Walla
Wheeler Sports Center, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 16

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Tuesday, Jan. 17

Faculty Lunch

Wednesday, Jan. 18

Newberg Chapel
David Brandt, 10:40 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 20

Women's Basketball vs. Pacific Lutheran
Wheeler Sports Center, 6 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. Pacific Lutheran
Wheeler Sports Center, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 21

Kaleo Conference
Kershner Lecture Hall, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Alumni Board Meeting
Cap and Gown Room, 8:30 a.m.