

The magazine of George Fox University | Summer 2015

GeorgeFox JOURNAL

Close to Home

The fight against cancer
is personal for biology
major and softball catcher
Courtney Howard '18



Teaching Hope 12 Students Help Fraud Victims 16 Arthur Roberts' Legacy 22

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George Fox Journal is published two times a year by George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St., Newberg, OR, 97132. Postmaster: Send address changes to Journal, George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg, OR 97132.

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OUR VISION

To be the Christian university of choice known for empowering students to achieve exceptional life outcomes.

OUR VALUES

- Students First
- Christ in Everything
- Innovation to Improve Outcomes

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Where can you turn when you become a victim of financial fraud and can't afford the services of a professional? Professor Seth Sikkema and a select group of accounting students will follow the paper trail and work with authorities to help you seek justice – for free.

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The fight against cancer became personal for Courtney Howard when she lost her father to the deadly disease at age 15. Now a biology major at George Fox, she's pursuing a career in cancer research in the hopes of saving other families from the pain that hers experienced.

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By Sean Patterson

David Marvin ('10) never planned to pursue a career helping people with disabilities, but now it's become his calling. Read about his work helping those with disabilities learn basic life skills and overcome their fears while at the same time having a little fun.

A Lasting Legacy 22

By Sean Patterson

From helping name the school and working to save it from near financial ruin in the early 1950s to his wood carvings and sculptures that still grace campus, 92-year-old Arthur Roberts' legacy is evident everywhere you turn. But his greatest impact has been on the lives of those around him.

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The View from Above →

Keithen Schwahn graduated this May with a degree in biblical studies, but not before passing one more final – "crack climbing" up the face of Cinnamon Slab at Smith Rock State Park as part of Ron Hampton's rock climbing class. The class covers all the basics, including belaying, knots, top-rope climbing, rappelling and anchor setup, utilizing both the indoor rock climbing wall located in Miller Gymnasium and more scenic outdoor locations like the iconic Smith Rock.





White House Visit Gives Freshman Taste of Dream Career



When communication arts professor Kevin Jones learned that one of his students, freshman Samantha Biever (pictured left), would be in Washington, D.C. last March, his first thought was to send a text message – to the White House. And while the presidential iPhone wasn't on the receiving end, he did manage to reach a few doors down.

Knowing that Biever has an interest in politics and wants to work in public relations, Jones reached out to one of his former students from a past teaching job: Joanna Roshholm (right), press secretary for First Lady Michelle Obama.

When Jones told Biever about his plan to arrange a meeting between the two, she didn't think there was much chance it would happen – until she received an email from Roshholm the following day. A few short weeks later, she found herself in the White House.

"The experience was incredible," says Biever. "We

had coffee and then we watched the *Ellen DeGeneres Show* together, because Michelle Obama was on. ... We talked about internships, how important it is to get those in place, and she was impressed by the fact that I was thinking about that as a freshman."

After a behind-the-scenes tour of the White House, Biever presented Roshholm with a letter from university president Robin Baker to the First Lady in addition to a George Fox pen. "It was a really nice pen," she adds. And while Biever didn't walk away with any souvenirs of her own, she did leave the nation's capital with a valuable connection. She and Roshholm have since stayed in touch via email, and there's been talk of a possible White House internship in the future.

Biever left the experience "inspired" to not only follow her career path of choice, but to give others a hand up when she reaches that position, just like Roshholm did for her. In short, says Biever, "It was awesome."

Students Land Internships at World Vision, Nike, SpaceX and Microsoft

Rose Laguerre has had a heart for the poor for as long as she can remember. Now, thanks to a paid internship opportunity in Washington, D.C., with World Vision, she will put her passion for breaking the cycle of poverty into action.

Laguerre, who graduated in May, is working this summer with the organization's food securities and livelihoods team, assisting with programs designed to alleviate worldwide hunger.

"I have dreamt about working with World Vision for years," says Laguerre, a native of Haiti. "I cannot wait to start my internship this summer and discover what God has in store."

Her internship came to fruition thanks in part to business courses she took at George Fox. And, once the internship was secured, she received assistance from the university's IDEA Center. In fact, the center, which debuted in the fall of 2014, has been instrumental in helping a number of students land internships with

companies ranging from nonprofits to large corporations.

Another student, junior JJ Switzer, is working on Nike's Evergreen campus in Hillsboro, Ore., this summer as an operational specialist, doing everything from aiding in logistical problem-solving to ensuring the correct amount of product goes to the right corporate customers on time. "My experience at Nike will give me an opportunity to learn from a great company and witness their management processes in action," he says. "This opportunity came as a direct result of my involvement with the IDEA Center."

Several George Fox students are participating in internships this summer thanks to the IDEA Center's focus on experiential learning. Among them are Kevin Greco and Ben Delaney, who will be interning at SpaceX, one of the world's leading manufacturers of advanced rockets and spacecraft, and with Microsoft's OS (operating systems) group in Seattle, respectively.



**Maluenda
Named
National Player
of the Year**

Sydney Maluenda was named PING WGCA Division III Player of the Year in May, culminating a season in which the sophomore golfer from Ewa Beach, Hawaii, led the country with a stroke average of 74.37. Maluenda won five tournaments during the 2014-15 season, including eight top-5 finishes.

The honor follows a freshman season in which she claimed NCAA Div. III Women's Golf Rookie of the Year honors. In her two years as a Bruin, Maluenda has combined to win 10 tournaments and claimed the honor of Northwest Conference Golfer of the Year twice.



Screen Time

Alumni make their mark in movies and TV



When then-sophomore **Andrew Studer** took a trip to nearby Portland to photograph a sunset in February, little did he know a thick blanket of fog rolling over the city would create the perfect time-lapse opportunity. The resulting viral video, "Inversion Immersion," was so spectacular it was featured on the Feb. 7 edition of CBS News.

▶ *Watch it: Google search "Inversion Immersion"*



Alumna **Rachael Perrell Fosket** ('08) appeared on the NBC series *Grimm* May 1, playing the character Heidi McDunnah in the episode "You Don't Know Jack." It was the former political science major's second appearance on the show, giving the budding actress a total of 11 film and TV credits on her resume.



Alumnus **Jerry Thompson's** ('14) inspirational rap, "They Say," was featured in the Spike Lee movie *Da Sweet Blood of Jesus*, which premiered in theaters Feb. 13. When Thompson learned Lee was accepting music submissions for the movie, he sent in several, but didn't think much about it until he got a phone call from the famous director. "He said, 'I want your song in my movie,'" recalls Thompson. "Let's make this happen."



Former George Fox social work major **Miles Johnson** (right) and his band Priory performed on *Jimmy Kimmel Live* Dec. 10. The four-piece indie rock band released their debut album *Weekend* in March of 2015, and their single of the same name has already been played more than 15 million times on the popular music streaming service Spotify.

▶ *Watch it: Google search "Priory performs Weekend"*

When up-and-coming PGA star Jordan Spieth won the Masters in April – one of golf's most prestigious tournaments – it was George Fox alumnus **Michael Grelle** by his side. Grelle, a former teacher who graduated from the university's Master of Arts in Teaching program in 2003, became Spieth's caddy after a chance encounter in 2012, and they've been together ever since. As of press time, the 21-year-old Spieth is ranked the No. 2 golfer in the world.





UNIVERSITY HONORS TOP TEACHERS, SCHOLARS

Professors in the university's psychology, English, physical therapy and school counseling programs were recipients of George Fox teaching and research/scholarship awards for the 2014-15 academic year.

At the undergraduate level, Sue O'Donnell and Melanie Springer Mock were honored as the top teacher and scholar/researcher, respectively, while Andy Meszaros and Lori DeKruyf were recognized with the corresponding awards at the graduate level.

O'Donnell, an associate professor of psychology, is known for tough courses and a caring demeanor. She is lauded for being a mentor to students, helping them make career decisions, guiding them through university processes and systems, and advocating for



them when needed. She regularly invites students into her home for events and study sessions.



Mock, an alumna of George Fox and a professor of English, both teaches students how to write and publishes prolifically herself. She has written or edited three books – including *If Eve Only Knew: Freeing Yourself from Biblical Womanhood and Becoming all God Means for You to Be*, set for a July 2015 release – and her essays have appeared in publications like *Christianity Today*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *The Oregonian*.

Students describe Meszaros, an associate professor of physical therapy, as organized,



innovative and demanding. He expects students to bring their "A game" to class while at the same time reminding them that learning doesn't stop at the end of class but that synthesis, analysis and critique continues outside of it.

DeKruyf, director of the university's school counseling program, earned the top graduate researcher/scholar honor for her scholarship and influence in the field of school counseling.

Recently, she and two national collaborators edited a two-part edition of *Professional School Counseling*, the flagship journal of the American School Counseling Association. In addition to school counseling, DeKruyf's research interests include cross-cultural mentorship, cultural sensitivity and social justice advocacy.

Noted Scientist Joins George Fox Faculty



Kent Thornburg, a 1967 graduate of George Fox and a distinguished scientist, joined the university in December as a scholarly mentor, research consultant and liaison to the greater scientific community.

Thornburg, who is professor of medicine and director of the Center for Developmental Health at the Knight Cardiovascular Institute at Oregon Health & Science University, has also served on advisory boards for organizations like the National Institutes of Health, the American Heart Association and the National Children's Heart Foundation.

At George Fox, he will participate in an annual undergraduate biology and biochemistry research seminar and present occasional thematic lectures.

In addition, Thornburg's unique position will promote collaboration between George Fox scientists and those in the greater scientific community.

Former Interim President Passes Away

William Green, former George Fox academic dean and religious studies professor who also served as interim president for 15 months from 1982-83, died on April 13 at the age of 93.



Green, who was recorded as a Friends minister in 1944, spent 20 years at George Fox (1972-92) along with wife Mary, who taught math courses at the university. He began his academic career at Bryan College in 1948 and retired from his job as a professor at George Fox in 1992, completing an impressive 44 years in various roles in higher education.



||||| News Bits |||||

IN PRINT



Leah Payne (seminary) in February published a new book, *Gender and Pentecostal Revivalism: Making a Female Ministry in the Early Twentieth Century* (Palgrave Macmillan). She also authored a chapter that appeared in the book *Toward a Pentecostal Theology*

of Preaching, released in April, and published an article, "Pants Don't Make Preachers," in the April 2015 issue of the journal *Fashion Theory*.

Mark David Hall (politics) contributed an essay on Roger Sherman to *The Bloomsbury Encyclopedia of the American Enlightenment*, published in February.

Abigail Rine's (English) short story "Chaoskampf" was published in the spring 2015 issue of the literary journal *Potomac Review*. Her article "What is Marriage to Evangelical Millennials?" also appeared in the May 2015 issue of *First Things*.

Phil Smith (philosophy) contributed two weeks of devotionals to the winter 2015 issue of *Fruit of the Vine* (Barclay Press), a quarterly devotional book.

Nate Peach (business) had his paper, "Energy Consumption and Economic Growth: A Study of California, Oregon, and Washington," published in the spring 2015 issue of the *International Journal of Economics & Social Science*.



William Jolliff (English) in May published *Twisted Shapes of Light* (Wipf and Stock), a book of poetry that incorporates a unique cast of characters, resulting in "an honest struggle with faith and failure – and even an occasional revelation."

Rick Muthiah (student life) coauthored "A Culture of Learning: Inside a Living-Learning Community," published in the *Journal of College and University Student Housing*.

Annette Nemetz (business) published an article, "A Global Investigation of Government and Community Stakeholder Influences on Large Company Engagement in Sustainability," in the winter 2015 issue of the *International Journal of Business and Management*.

Kevin T. Jones (communication arts) had an article, "Teaching Audience Analysis with Presidential Texts," accepted for publication in the July 2015 issue of the journal *Communication Teacher*.

Brenda Morton (education) published an article, "Seeking Safety, Finding Abuse: Stories from Foster Youth on Maltreatment and its Impact on Academic Achievement," in the April 2015 issue of *Child & Youth Services*.



Ken Badley (education) coauthored *Educational Foundations in Canada* (Oxford University Press), published in November. The textbook "takes a comprehensive look at the sociological, philosophical, historical, legal and political factors that impact classroom experiences."

Susanna Steeg (education) had an article, "Collaborative Professional Development: One School's Story," published in the March 2015 issue of the journal *The Reading Teacher*.

Robert Hamilton (engineering) coauthored an article, "Interpreting Ulysses Data Using Inverse Scattering Theory: Oblique Alfvén Waves," published in the March 2015 issue of the *Journal of Geophysical Research*.

Randy Woodley (seminary) published an article, "An Indigenous Theological Perspective on Sabbath," in the spring 2015 issue of *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology*.

Paul Otto (history) published an article, "The Dutch, Munsees, and the Purchase of Manhattan Island," in the January 2015 issue of the *New York State Bar Association Journal*.

RECENT RECOGNITION



For the third straight year, **George Fox University** was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll in recognition of its commitment to community and civic engagement. All told, faculty, staff and students contributed more than 750,000 hours of community service over the three-year period.



Paul Otto (history) will spend his sabbatical next year at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina's Research Triangle Park after being selected to be a fellow at the center for the 2015-16 academic year. Otto will work on his book *Beads of Power: Wampum and the Shaping of Early America* during the fellowship. He was also one of 11 historians chosen to be part of Historic Huguenot Street's newly formed Scholarly Advisory Board.

Isabelle Corneaux (world languages) in May was selected by the

Confederation in Oregon for Language Teaching as a member of the 2015 Honor Roll.

Rebecca Hernandez (academic affairs) in March was appointed chair of the newly created Council for Christian Colleges & Universities' Commission on Diversity and Inclusion.



Senior **Emily Lund** in February was awarded a de Jager prize for exceptional academic performance during her Scholars' Semester in Oxford during the fall 2014 semester.



Lori DeKruyf (counseling) in January received the 2014 Western Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Publication Award in recognition of contributions made to counselor education and supervision literature.

From the Ground Up



Construction is in full swing on a new residence hall, dining hall and bridge to accommodate another large incoming class

By Jeremy Lloyd

Recent graduate Ryan Rudnick ('14) takes a moment to survey the vast construction site taking shape on the east side of campus. To his right, a new three-story residence hall has risen up, still partially surrounded by scaffolding. To his left, ground is being prepared for not only a 30,000-square-foot dining hall that will overlook Hess Creek Canyon, but also a 220-foot bridge that will span the canyon to better connect the new buildings on the east side of campus to the west.

"It's like coming back to friends and family," says Rudnick, an employee of engineering consulting firm KPFF, which assigned him the task of designing the civil engineering elements of all three projects. "I was really blessed by George Fox and want to give back, so I asked for a lot of responsibility with these projects."

But Rudnick isn't the only one with a George Fox connection donning a hard hat. Bryan Kasler, also a 2014 graduate, is working on the dining hall and bridge as a project engineer for Andersen Construction, managing budgets, coordinating with the design team and hiring subcontractors, among many other responsibilities. "It's been pretty surreal," says Kasler, taking in the construction site that has been his second office for the past several months. "I loved 'the Bon,' so it's cool to be building a new one."

In addition to Rudnick and Kasler, engineering major and starting Bruin quarterback Grant Schroeder will spend his summer on the construction site as an intern for Andersen.

↑ The newly dubbed Brandt Residence Hall, named in honor of former President Dave Brandt, who served at George Fox from 1998 to 2007, will feature room for 146 beds and study rooms in each wing of all three floors. It's scheduled for completion in August 2015 – just in time for new students to move in.



↑ Don't worry, Hess Creek isn't flooding. This bridge is located in Chugach National Forest in Alaska, and at 280 feet is the longest clear-span timber bridge in the U.S. The Hess Creek bridge will look just like it, but will measure 220 feet long. It's scheduled for completion in August 2015.



↑ The new dining hall will feature large windows overlooking Hess Creek Canyon, known by students for its towering trees and peaceful walking trails. Plans call for the facility to be built seamlessly into its surroundings while disturbing as little of the natural beauty as possible. The space will seat 900 and include a main dining area, smaller meeting spaces and a cafe. Plans call for construction to be completed in summer 2016.

It's only fitting that so many Bruins will have a hand in reshaping the campus they love. The goal, after all, is to maintain the same feeling of community that Rudnick, Kasler and Schroeder have enjoyed during their time at George Fox while continuing to improve and expand facilities to accommodate the record growth the university has experienced over the past three years.

George Fox has seen a 45 percent growth in first-time freshmen since 2009, contributing to a record enrollment of 3,793 total students last fall, including 2,219 traditional undergraduates.

"Building [a new dorm] will allow us to keep more of our undergraduates, primarily sophomores, on campus rather than assigning them to off-campus housing," says university president Robin Baker. "In doing so, we feel we're providing more opportunities for first- and second-year students to more fully engage in on-campus events and activities."

Likewise, a dining facility with more than twice the seating capacity will better accommodate those same underclassmen, most of whom take advantage of the university's meal plan.

And while this first phase of construction will provide a solid foundation for many years to come, even more work is planned in the near future – including a new student activity center, complete with basketball courts, an indoor suspended track and meeting spaces for student government and clubs.

"It's an incredible opportunity," says Schroeder, who will continue working on-site until it's time to report back to the football team in August. "I get to be involved in something that's going to eventually benefit me and my classmates."



↑ Wooden beam construction and expansive skylights designed to emulate the pattern of light shining through tree branches will pay homage to and fully utilize the facility's scenic surroundings.



Forty Minutes from Perfection

A tight-knit women's basketball team surprised everyone outside of Newberg with a magical 32-1 season that culminated with a trip to the national championship game

By Sean Patterson

Back in November, as the women's college basketball season tipped off, few gave George Fox a chance to go far in the Northwest Conference, let alone the postseason. Though the Bruins were coming off a respectable 22-5 season, NWC coaches picked them to finish fourth in the conference.

Fast forward to mid-March: Four months and 32 wins later, George Fox stood as one of only two undefeated schools out of more than 400 NCAA Division III programs in the country. Along the way, the Bruins scored nearly 75 points per game while limiting opponents to 52 per contest – a 23-point average margin of victory that testified to the team's dominance.

The final victory didn't come – Thomas More College, led by All-American Sydney Moss, prevailed 83-63 in the title game in Grand Rapids, Mich., on March 21. But George Fox didn't leave Michigan empty-handed, coming home with fond memories from a season rich in accomplishment.

"I'm so proud of this team," Coach Mike Meek said. "I appreciate how everyone worked so hard – how we shared the ball. We were incredibly selfless."

George Fox's balance bore that out, as three players led the

Lauren Codling and Sammy Naluai swarm a Thomas More player during the championship game. Naluai (right) earned the Elite 89 award for having the highest cumulative GPA in the Final Four.



way. Through the regular season, junior forward Justine Benner averaged 16.5 points and senior guard Jami Morris scored 13.8 points per contest, while senior wing/forward Lauren Codling averaged 11.7 points and 11.1 rebounds. Collectively, the Bruins' hustle translated to 14.5 steals and four blocks per game.

It all helped George Fox claim the program's 10th Northwest Conference title since 2000. The team continued its roll in the postseason with a blowout win over Penn State-Abington (83-25), a defeat of NW/C rival Puget Sound (67-49), a narrow victory over Texas-Dallas (77-73) in the round of 16, and a convincing win over Final Four host Calvin College (78-63) in the round of 8. George Fox earned its spot in the championship game with a 70-58 defeat of Montclair State.

But numbers only tell part of the story. The underlying storyline all season was how well the Bruins gelled and parlayed that team unity into a run no one outside of Newberg saw coming.

"The best part about it all was this group – they loved each other and loved spending time together," Meek said.



Senior wing Dacia Heckendorf echoed his words. "This team was really close, and we were good all year about sticking together when times got tough," she said.

Perhaps senior transfer Codling summed it up best: "Coming in as a transfer you don't know what to expect, but everyone welcomed me with open arms. I've never felt more a part of a program. They welcomed me and allowed me to be a part of something really special."

The Bruins also earned individual recognition, as junior Sammy Naluai was awarded the Elite 89 Academic Recognition Award for having the highest cumulative GPA among student-athletes participating in the Grand Rapids, Mich., finals site. In addition, Codling was named a third-team All-American by D3hoops, and Benner received honorable mention recognition on the Women's Basketball Coaches Association's All-American list.

George Fox graduates only three seniors – Morris, Heckendorf and Codling – leaving Meek and company poised to make another run in 2015-16. Should that happen, this time no one will be surprised.



↑ Dacia Heckendorf gives some pointers on shooting technique at a clinic for Special Olympics athletes.

← Team Chaplain Tashawna Gordon rallies the players prior to the championship game.

↓ Jami Morris (left) looks to attack the paint while Lauren Codling (right) rejects a shot at the rim, helping to lead the Bruins to a 70-58 victory over Montclair State to earn their place in the championship game.



Watch highlights, interviews and behind-the-scenes footage: georgefox.edu/FinalFour

CAREER
→ MEETS ←
CALLING

Turning Pain into

Krystle Halvorsen ('12) pursues her calling by inspiring kids to break the cycle of poverty and addiction

Another day behind her.

Krystle Halvorsen sat in her car, pulled up alongside the curb in front of the house she shared with her mom and whomever her mom rented to at the time. *"Why can't I just ... want to be here?"* It wasn't the first time she'd asked the question.

Blowing out a discouraged breath, she pulled her soccer gear from the back seat and headed to the front door, noticing the peeling white paint on the siding. First the screen door, then the front door, then the stairs to the finished attic. Her bedroom was her haven – when she absolutely had to be home, that is. And turning 16 helped guarantee that wasn't much.

A driver's license on the heels of that birthday, plus the hand-me-down car from her grandparents, got her around to soccer, basketball, track and softball during those high school years. Retail jobs filled her weekends, paid for gas and other expenses that come with high school – and kept her out of the house, away from the drugs. "Lots of drugs in the house," Halvorsen says. "It was really hard to go to school and come home to that. Hard to feel motivated."

She did not know then that one day she would climb out of this mess and give hope to a classroom of sixth-graders that they could do the same. One day, all this junk would be an asset.

'Not the best part of town'

Born and raised in Portland, Halvorsen had a normal childhood until the fourth grade. "That was one of the bigger milestones in my life," she says. "That's when my life kind of crumbled." It was a messy divorce. Her older brother joined the Navy. She and her younger sister stayed with their dad, in that white house.

But by Halvorsen's freshman year, she had made up her mind: "My dad's house just wasn't a good environment for me." While sister stayed, Halvorsen moved in with mom – not a vast improvement. Drugs. Evictions. Low-income housing. Government assistance. She ticks off the elements of her high school years and sums it up simply: "Not the best part of town."

When Halvorsen's dad and sister moved to Alaska her senior year, she and her mom moved back into "the old house." That's when she wanted to quit. "My senior year, I started to figure out why mom was the way she was," she recalls. "It was drugs. [She] was in and out of jail, always gone or couldn't make it" – to soccer matches, track meets, anything important.

"This was the reality of my family," Halvorsen says. "My friends were exploring college out-of-state and I didn't even know where to look. When things got tougher at home, I felt like shutting down."

Leadership and mentoring roles in a Young Life club and a 3.7 GPA didn't stop the questions. *"What if I don't make it? I'll just be a big failure. Where am I going to live? How can I afford college? Might as well quit now."* Her tears of frustration and ache of loneliness had filled her to the tipping point.

A change in trajectory

But just as Halvorsen would one day push sixth-graders to make a different future for themselves, two women at her high school pushed her then. Her soccer coach, Mrs. Reeves, urged her to apply for the Act Six scholarship at George Fox University. "I'd never heard of George Fox or Act Six, but she kept pushing me to look into it," Halvorsen says. Then Colleen Teague, a secretary at the high school, offered her home as a haven. "They really just took me in, showed me what a family could be like that is unbroken," she says. "Of course I still love my mom and dad, but I really wanted a safe place to go home. Her family provided an environment where I could apply for college."

The Act Six leadership and scholarship initiative, designed to develop urban leaders to be agents of change in their communities, requires a rigorous four-month application process that includes interviews and events designed for students to prove their academic, leadership and problem-solving abilities. The process began at a local high school. Halvorsen then joined other applicants for several days on the George Fox campus, where the competition continued.

Then, the good news came: She had received a full-ride scholarship to attend George Fox. "It changed the trajectory of my life," says Halvorsen, a first-generation college graduate. "If I had not gotten it, I don't think I would have gone to college."

But the lack of parental support left a big gap. Halvorsen's parents never came to Family Weekend or other campus events. "I never invited them," she recalls. "My mom didn't come to anything when I was a kid; what was the point asking now? Sometimes I felt a lot of doubt; was I doing the right thing? Everyone else had their parents."

Healing among the broken

Halvorsen's heart for people who did not come from an ideal family background inspired her to major in social work at George Fox. "I wanted a job that wasn't a selfish job, not just about helping myself," she says. "I chose social work with the goal of helping people, not knowing exactly what I wanted to do."

Along the way to learning how to help others, Halvorsen learned

Promise

By Kimberly Felton



"Why am I in the classroom? Just to love on these kids. To teach them God's love by the way I teach them and respect them."



By Ann Rupp

Halvorsen's DC Scholars stop for a picture at the airport before flying to Washington, D.C., where they stayed on the campus of American University. Highlights of the trip included a visit to several colleges, the Department of Education and the White House.

how she could help herself.

One day after class, she asked a social work professor, Debra Penkin, if they could meet. "She helped me see different perspectives on what I was struggling with in my relationships with friends and family ... that I have the opportunity to break the cycle of a broken family and pave a future for myself," she recalls.

It was the first of many conversations with Penkin. "I never felt judged by her," she says, "just safe, and I didn't feel crazy." Talking with her professor, Halvorsen knew she needed to grapple with her past in order to move ahead. Easier said than done.

Halvorsen's own pain and healing began to merge with others' needs her junior year, when she joined a four-month, university-sponsored semester abroad trip to South Africa as a therapy counselor, conducting play therapy with children. In a country torn by suffering, Halvorsen was led into forgiveness by her host "mom," a woman who had experienced apartheid.

Calling Halvorsen "my intense child," she listened and hugged and prayed for her as she cried because of homesickness, anger or confusion.

"She taught me that it's OK to have those feelings," Halvorsen says. "I was trying to fight them. I cried ... telling her it wasn't fair ... no one could understand everything I was going through emotionally. She taught me that I have every right to have those feelings; it's just how I choose to handle them. She taught me that I wasn't a burden. In that moment, I was able to ... just truly feel, without needing to justify why I felt that way."

Among people who had endured severe wrongs, Halvorsen

found understanding and acceptance. Talking with people who survived those wrongs, she found forgiveness. "Yes, my mom and dad didn't provide me with the childhood I'd hoped for," she says. "But experiencing all of that helped me forgive. I feel like I found myself in South Africa. I found so much healing there."

Called to serve

As a senior set to graduate in 2012, Halvorsen interned with the state of Oregon. Safe job. Benefits. And a lot of paperwork. "I thought back to my time in South Africa," she says. "I loved my time in the schools; the kids needed so much help."

So she applied to several masters programs in social work and was accepted at New York University, Washington University in St. Louis and the University of Michigan, with the aim of working with Native Americans – part of her own heritage. Then a friend told her about Teach For America, an organization that recruits young leaders to teach in low-income public schools in order to strengthen educational equity.

"I looked into it and saw that I could mentor, build programs and help kids through my social work degree. I feel like God led me to it," Halvorsen says. "But it looked like a prestigious program, and I thought I wouldn't get in. They recruit at well-known schools like Harvard and Yale."

When Teach For America accepted her, she faced a dilemma: pursue a graduate program or work in a classroom on the wrong side of the tracks in Houston?

Joel Perez, then-director of the Act Six program at George Fox,

was instrumental in her decision. "He told me graduate school would always be there; I could always go back if I wanted a masters. Teach For America would be an experience and opportunity that wouldn't always be there."

"Why not just go? Obviously I was chosen for a reason," she says. "Kind of like my [Act Six] scholarship, I decided this had to be God. It was one of my gut feelings."

Creating pathways for kids

The first day in her Houston classroom, Halvorsen saw her younger self reflected in 25 pairs of sixth-grade eyes. Her pain. Her defensiveness. Her guardedness. And she knew why she was there. No one else did, though. "A lot of teachers thought I wouldn't be able to track with [the kids] because I looked different," she says. "It was odd to them that a white-looking teacher was there. I had to win some of my kids over, because I looked different from them."

Halvorsen began to share her story. Bit by bit, and on a sixth-grade level. "I was born in Oregon," she told her class, showing pictures of mountains and trees. Some kids had never seen beyond the McDonald's in their neighborhood. "My parents divorced," she told them. "Everyone whose parents are divorced, raise your hands – if you're comfortable doing this." All over the classroom, kids raised their hands.

"It helped build vulnerability, helped them draw connections among each other," she says.

Halvorsen quickly became more than a teacher. "I was a counselor. Sometimes I was their only friend," she recalls. "I had to ... show them they're worth something and there's a pathway for them if they choose to work for it."

A pathway for kids like Nicolas, who started acting out. Halvorsen kept him after class for "tutorials" – her substitute for detention – "to help them get their work done and be there to just see what was going on in case they needed to talk." That afternoon she asked Nicolas if something was wrong. "He opened up, saying his dad was on drugs. He could relate to me because I was open about what I went through," she says. "He wanted to be an NFL player when he got older. I gave him a book about Michael Oher [an NFL player with a similar background]. A year later he wrote a letter about how I was his favorite teacher."

Helping inside the classroom wasn't enough. She and a few other teachers built, from scratch, a program they called "DC Scholars."

"We wanted [our students] to have the experience of going out-of-state," Halvorsen says. "To say to them, 'It isn't just Texas for you.'"

They planned their Washington, D.C., itinerary, complete with visits to colleges, monuments, the Department of Education, the Capitol and a tour of the White House. They created an application

process modeled after Act Six. "A lot of middle schoolers don't interview, so it was cool giving them that experience."

Then they got busy raising the necessary funds: "Dances, dinners, candy sales, anything we could think of." Television news crews found them. Donors found them. They raised \$20,000, and 30 kids went to Washington, D.C., that first year. They stayed on-campus at George Washington University the first year and American University the next, all without spending a dime.

But Halvorsen paid a price. "My first year I got really sick because I was working so much," she says. Her life was packed with teaching, testing, education plans, fundraising, after-school tutors – and connecting.

"My first year teaching, I was afraid I wasn't touching enough kids' lives; they weren't learning enough; I wasn't making enough of a difference," she says. "My [high school] soccer coach said I was already giving them what they need by loving them. I'd remind myself ... she had made a difference in my life just by caring. Why am I in the classroom? Just to love on these kids. To teach them God's love by the way I teach them and respect them."

The first day in her Houston classroom, Halvorsen saw her younger self reflected in 25 pairs of sixth-grade eyes. Her pain. Her defensiveness. Her guardedness. And she knew why she was there.

Teach For America, Halvorsen found a new way to help kids. Instead of being one teacher, she now recruits multiple teachers, working as a talent recruiter for KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Program) in the Houston public school system.

"I still want to make a difference in education," she says. "If I'm able to find really good teachers and put them in the classroom, working with a similar demographic that I come from, that's a win-win."

Blowing out a tired breath, she pushes away the guilt that comes – less often now – with her success.

"You want the best for your family ... so I would feel bad knowing that not everyone is where they want to be," she says. "The biggest thing I had to realize was that my situation was the only one I could control. Once I started to truly believe that, I felt proud of myself and everything I had accomplished, because I worked hard for it."

Halvorsen has proven to herself, to several dozen sixth-graders, and perhaps most importantly to her younger sister, who graduated from George Fox this spring, that the next chapter of your life story can be very different from the first. "You can break the cycles of poverty, drug addiction and broken families if you believe in yourself and surround yourself with a strong support system to help you see it through."

CAREER
→ MEETS ←
CALLING



Justice in the Classroom

Professor Seth Sikkema and a select group of accounting students investigate fraud cases for victims in need

By Sara Kelm

Imagine this: You are part of a small historical society with just enough money and volunteers to fulfill your goals. At a board meeting you notice that a financial statement provided by your treasurer, someone you've known for years, does not match a bank statement. After the meeting, your treasurer stops taking your calls. You start digging, only to find that thousands of dollars have disappeared from the historical society's bank account, presumably into the treasurer's personal bank account.

Betrayed and angry, you report the crime to the police, aware that your file will go into a huge stack on a detective's desk. But what choice do you have? Your society does not have the thousands needed to hire a Certified Fraud Examiner, nor does anyone in the organization have the time or expertise to decipher the data. The

only option is to take the financial loss, try to heal from the betrayal, and move forward.

Until you get a call from a detective in the white-collar crimes unit at the Portland Police Bureau. They offer you another option: a team of college accounting students who will investigate your case and wade through all that data in collaboration with both police and accounting professionals. You have a chance to get your money back, but more importantly, to find closure. For free.

That's exactly what George Fox University accounting professor Seth Sikkema's forensic accounting class does. This team of students works real-life cases in special collaboration with the Portland Police Bureau and Oregon Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, seeking justice for small businesses and nonprofit

organizations that have been victims of financial fraud.

Sikkema became interested in financial fraud after working at a public accounting firm affected by the Enron scandal. He was also looking to provide students with real-life experience in the field. "I asked myself, 'How can I get my students to do something with their hands, so to speak, where they're working with something that is messy, unstructured and difficult?'" recalls Sikkema.

An answer appeared in a program first developed at Gonzaga University in 2010. After researching the program, Sikkema knew it would closely align with the goals and mission of his university's College of Business, and in January 2013 the Justice for Fraud Victims Project (JFVP) at George Fox began.

The process starts with Detective Liz Cruthers from the Portland Police Bureau identifying an open fraud case where the victim has significant financial need. These cases have primarily involved nonprofit organizations and small businesses, but could extend to individual or elder care fraud. Cruthers passes the information along to Sikkema and his students, who then work closely with Heidi Bowen, a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) from accounting firm Financial Forensics.

Sikkema calls these "shoebox cases." "Students are literally given a box of information with receipts, bank records, paper checks, everything that you can imagine – just in a box," he says. They must then decide what is meaningful to the case, and what is not. This process takes an enormous amount of time and precision. Student Megan Hays remembers spending over six hours at a time "entering credit card statements line-by-line into Excel" while digitizing financial data. Bowen helps the students decipher what is important – piece-by-piece, paper-by-paper.

Special guests from a variety of professional fields are also brought in to help students round out their perspectives on financial crimes. Last spring, the class heard from Kurt Charlton of the U.S. Attorney's Office, who recently worked on the well-publicized Canby Psychic Case; Aaron Sparling, who works in the Portland Police Bureau's Criminal Intelligence Unit and serves on the U.S. Secret Service Electronic Crimes Task Force; and Sean Hoar, the former lead cyber attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice in Oregon who currently works with the privacy and data security team of a national law firm.

The lessons learned through this course are vast and varied. First, students gain knowledge of this growing but under-taught field. The experience is invaluable, according to Financial Forensics' Bowen. "These students are so lucky to have this hands-on, real-world experience," she says. "Many universities don't offer training in this type of accounting work, so in addition to giving students a good idea of what the profession actually entails, the experience looks especially impressive on a resume."

Students also learn the value and satisfaction of hard work. They have the opportunity to collaborate in teams with peers and professionals who depend on work being accurate and timely. "They come

away with a better appreciation for the level of effort it will take to maintain and go forward in their careers," says Sikkema. "In the past, they've said things like 'I didn't realize I could work this hard and enjoy it so much' and 'I had to persevere through all of these challenging times when I didn't have an answer and I had to continue to wade through it.'" Student Spencer Giles agrees: "I have never been in a class that immersed me in such applicable lessons."

Sikkema also finds value in the creativity that students develop – not necessarily the first consideration for many accountants. "The people who are out there, who want to do financial damage, they're creative people and they'll find a way to do it," he says. "So our accountants and professionals need to be just as creative and just as able to come up with ways to protect people and look out for their interests."

Beyond developing students' professional skills, the program makes a significant impact on the community.

These victims, much like the historical society assisted by students this past semester, do not have the financial ability to regain their losses. Sikkema doesn't usually take the time to quantify the work his students do in dollars and cents, but he estimates the billable work would be in the tens of thousands of dollars.

Perhaps most important, students learn to engage with a vulnerable and violated community that they must approach as professionals with tenacity and compassion. "This project is an excellent way for students to figure out how to serve others ahead of their own needs," Sikkema says – an outcome that aligns with the College of Business' emphasis on servant leadership.

"The class is a good example of how college students can give back to the community," says student Christine Wang. "Having a class like this gives us an opportunity to volunteer, and it integrates the value of justice into higher education."

At the end of the course, the teams pitch their cases to the Multnomah County District Attorney in an attempt to get him to take them to court. Occasionally, they also meet with the victims, presenting them with recommendations for avoiding future fraud.

That final step sticks with students and professionals alike. "I will always remember the face of the victim when we presented our final findings to him," says student Ben Fullhart. "He was so appreciative of all of our work, and I could tell it meant so much to him."

Bowen says that victims who feel betrayed and violated want justice, but they also want to be heard and valued. When these students, dressed in their professional best, provided that same fraud victim with their findings, Bowen remembers seeing on his face that he finally got what he had hoped for. "That was his bit of justice," she says, "having those students listen to him and spend all that time on his case."

The legal battle is still to be won, but the victim can find closure and peace in the work that George Fox University's emerging accounting professionals provide – one shoebox of receipts at a time.

**"I have never been
in a class that
immersed me in
such applicable
lessons."**

CAREER
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CALLING

Close to Home

By Sarah Reid



Joe Bock

The fight against cancer is personal
for biology major and softball catcher
Courtney Howard

A beautiful DeMarini bat is what senior biology major Courtney Howard remembers most about childhood softball tournaments with her dad. They would wander through the tournament in between her games and inevitably wind up staring at the most stunning \$300 bat she had ever seen. Her dad always wanted to buy it for her, but the price tag was a little steep.

Certain things should never be required of anyone. One of them is burying your dad when you're in high school. Howard knows firsthand the gut-wrenching and raw pain that brings. She remembers with brilliant clarity the conversations she had with her dad while he was fighting melanoma skin cancer – saying goodbye to him, anticipating life without him – and she's determined to spend her life fighting the disease that took him from her.

"No one should have to go through what my family went through," she says. "I want to be able to give people three more months with their family, three more years, 30 more years."

Howard has a passion for biology that developed from the loss she experienced as a teenager. This summer, she'll take her first big steps toward a career in cancer research through an internship at Oregon Health & Science University's neurology research center at Doernbecher Children's Hospital. She'll work under Dr. Stephanie Krasnow in the Daniel Marks Lab, which is focused on cachexia – a condition that occurs when the body begins wasting away in preparation for death during terminal illness due to skyrocketing metabolism.

She will spend much of her time in the lab performing in vivo studies with mice and rat colonies. She'll also conduct in vitro studies, examining cells extracted from these colonies in cultures. Howard says she will likely implant the colonies with the virus and study their sleep habits to determine abnormal behavior, which could mean some all-night observations in the lab. She laughingly recalls telling Dr. Krasnow during her interview that late nights are not an issue for a college student.

Following her internship, Howard will finish her senior year, and after graduation she hopes to begin working as a laboratory assistant before going back to school for her PhD in molecular biology.

The opportunity to intern at Doernbecher arose during the fall 2014 semester when her neurology class, led by professor Jim Smart, took a field trip to hear a presentation from Dr. Krasnow. Following their visit, Howard contacted Krasnow about a summer internship while she and her Bruin softball teammates were on a road trip in Texas, and she quickly had her interview set up for the following week.

Though Howard is steadfast in her aspirations for a career in cancer research, she was far from convinced during her first years in college.

"I wasn't sure I wanted to stick with biology when I first came to George Fox," she recalls. "I didn't want to work with tapeworms

or other creatures like we were doing in my early biology classes; I wanted to understand organisms on a microscopic level. I started thinking about changing my major to journalism, but then I took a genetics class and everything changed. I fell back in love with biology inside of that classroom."

What she did always know for certain was that she belonged on the softball diamond. Many of Howard's earliest memories were made on the baseball field watching her dad play. He had a short-lived career playing semi-professional baseball and instilled the same love of the sport in Courtney and her sister. After he passed away, the softball field is where she felt her closest connection to him. While her sister gravitated toward pitching, Courtney naturally found herself on the other side of home plate in catcher's gear.

"He never had the chance to see me start as a catcher when I was in high school or to see me play in college. I remember I was having a terrible at-bat recently, and I was so frustrated. I looked up and I saw a number nine in the clouds, which was my dad's number," she says, smiling. "I know he has the best seat in the house now."

Howard's dad was diagnosed with melanoma when she was 14 years old. After an intense round of treatment, he beat it and went into remission. A few months later, it came back and spread so devastatingly throughout his body that her family was faced with the decision of treating it or letting him live the rest of his days peacefully without chemotherapy and radiation.

"I watched my dad – my superman – get sick and tired and weak," she says. "There wasn't a good treatment option once his cancer metastasized, so we decided not to treat it to allow him to have the best quality of life."

He passed away several months later, forever altering the lives of those he left behind.

"That was when I realized that I needed a different kind of Jesus than the one I thought I knew my whole life," Howard says. "I needed someone who wasn't going to get ripped away from me." She started spending time with some Christian mentors at her high school, became more involved at her church, and then made the decision to attend George Fox University, in large part so she could continue growing in her faith.

"Before my dad passed away, he bought me the DeMarini bat we'd both been coveting since I was a little girl," Howard recalls. "He had my stepmom deliver it to me on the softball field after he was gone. He bought all of us necklaces that say 'I'll be in your heart.'" He had the opportunity to say goodbye to us, and we had the opportunity to say goodbye to him."

Howard knows that having to say goodbye to your dad when you're 15 years old isn't fair. It isn't fair for anyone to lose someone they love to cancer, and she's determined to fight this disease so other families don't have to experience what hers did. "I feel like the doors are opening to this career path I've been hoping for," she says. "It's so exciting to see things falling into place, and I can't wait to see where it leads."

**"I want to be able
to give people
three more months
with their family,
three more years,
30 more years."**

David Marvin ('10) finds joy in helping those with disabilities learn basic life skills and overcome their fears

David Marvin doesn't get sick leave or vacation time. He's frequently called upon to work weekends and, on average, puts in 60 hours of work each week. In short, his job is relentless, time consuming and exhausting.

But the 2010 George Fox graduate is loving every minute of it. "To be honest, I couldn't see myself in any other field or doing anything else," he says.

Marvin's job as a life coach for those with disabilities takes him throughout Yamhill County to meet with clients who need help with basic life skills. They're faced with challenges ranging from schizophrenia and Down syndrome to Asperger's syndrome and autism. Marvin picks them up to run errands, try a new activity or teach them a skill or two that helps them become more independent. "Basically, it's my job to get them to the point where they can do all these things without me," he says, laughing at the irony.

Marvin, 27, didn't plan to work with people with disabilities when he enrolled at George Fox. Initially, his plan was to use his degree in Christian ministries to get into youth ministry. But a chance meeting in the gym one day changed the course of his life. "Someone asked me if I would be willing to volunteer for Special Olympics, and at first I wasn't so sure about the idea," he recalls. "But I figured I'd give it a try. I volunteered and really hit it off with the guy I was working with. Then his mom asked me if I wanted to continue working with him, and that was it."

Around the same time, Marvin was enrolled in a Kris Kays counseling class at George Fox that inspired him to pursue a career helping the disadvantaged. "Her class made a huge impact on me," he says. "She made counseling fun and gave me tools I otherwise wouldn't have had."

These days, Marvin typically works from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. five days a week. His seven clients, ranging in age from 19 to 44, call him "brother"

and "best friend." If one of them acts up at home, Marvin is often the first person a parent will call. "One of the guys punched a hole in the wall, so his mom immediately called me to find out what was going on with him," he says. "He considers me a big brother, so she figured I'd have insight. I sat and talked with him to find out what was wrong. I'm not a licensed counselor, but counseling is a big part of what I do."

The job isn't without its risks – and humor. One of his clients found it funny to toss firecrackers at him. Another got turned around on the go-kart track at Wilsonville Family Fun Center and sped toward him several times at high speed. But ultimately, it's seeing individuals overcome obstacles that Marvin finds most rewarding.

"One guy I worked with wouldn't even go to the pool. I got him there. Then he put his feet in the hot tub. Then he made it into the shallow end and from there to the deep end. By the time we were done, two years into our relationship, he was swimming to the bottom of the deep end, 10 feet deep."

Marvin smiles as he recalls the memory of his friend overcoming his fear of water. "It's stories like those that make all the long hours worth it – that get me out of bed in the morning."



A typical outing includes one activity that builds life skills and another just for fun. On this day Marvin and his client, Tim Siler, work on the finer points of grocery shopping, then head out to the archery range for some target practice.



or of Love

By Sean Patterson



A Lasting Legacy



Arthur Roberts ('44) played a pivotal role in naming the school and helped save it from oblivion, but his greatest impact was on the lives of those around him

By Sean Patterson

At 92, Arthur Roberts doesn't stroll his beloved George Fox campus much anymore. And yet, imprints of the man are unmistakable.

His handiwork – scattered throughout campus – testifies to a love of creating and his dedication to a school he's called home the better part of six decades. Two black walnut benches he carved provide a resting place in the alcove of the Wheeler Sports Center. Two of his mounted carvings, a sculpture, a clock and a bench grace the Hoover Academic Building. His books line shelves in offices and libraries. And, later this year, George Fox is renaming the Villa Academic Complex the "Arthur and Fern Roberts Academic Center" to honor him and his wife.

Most significantly, there is the matter of the name of the university itself. It was Roberts who, as a seminary student in Kansas City in 1949, wrote a letter that persuaded the board of Pacific College to adopt the name "George Fox" rather than "Friendswood."

For, as he reasoned, "Friendswood is a town in Texas. It has no business being the name of a college. I thought it should have a name that honored its Quaker heritage."

Roberts' art and publications only hint at his influence. Indeed, his greatest legacy is incalculable. "I think I'm most proud of the fact I was a concerned professor who nurtured students. I had the opportunity to minister to them intellectually and spiritually," he says.

Countless thousands have read his books, listened to his lectures or heard his sermons. Among his former students is theologian Richard Foster, whose book *Celebration of Discipline* was named by *Christianity Today* as one of the top-10 religious books of the 20th century. Foster credits Roberts with igniting his love of the written word. "It was Arthur's love of words – words as a communicator of grace and beauty – that led me to become a writer," Foster says.

A return to his alma mater

Roberts never planned to become a pillar of the George Fox community upon graduating from the small Quaker school, then known as Pacific College, in 1944. He and Fern, whom he'd first spotted in a school play – "She was the heroine and kissed the lead guy; I decided I wanted to be the one she was kissing" – left Oregon to begin pastoral ministry in Everett, Wash. Four years later, they moved to the Midwest so Arthur could pursue a degree at Nazarene Theological Seminary in Kansas City. He later studied briefly at Harvard and earned a PhD at Boston University. It was while in Boston he met a fellow student by the name of Martin Luther King Jr. "It was a sunny day and we sat outside and chatted," Roberts says of the encounter. "I asked him what he was going to do next, and he said, 'Go back to Atlanta to help out dad.' Nice young man."

Meanwhile, Roberts had dreams of his own. He had served as a pastor in churches in Washington, Missouri and New Hampshire, and now, with doctorate in hand, he was poised for a career in church leadership or "whatever plan the Lord had for me." That "plan" turned out to be a return to Oregon to assist the school he recently helped name.

"The college was in a low time in 1952-53, so board member Dean Gregory flew to New Hampshire to talk to me about coming back to Fox," he recalls. "I felt it was a summons from the Lord. I felt good about coming. It was a worthy place to work."

Building a legacy

Roberts arrived on campus in 1953 to teach philosophy and religion. His annual salary was \$3,000, and he and Fern lived in campus housing as "dorm parents." Furthermore, the school was in debt and in jeopardy of closing its doors. "I remember sitting in [President] Milo Ross' office, and he said, 'Arthur, what are we going to do now? I joined with Milo and another coworker, Harlow Ankeny, to make the case for accreditation.'



Roberts' passion for woodworking is evident around campus, where his work is still displayed prominently in several buildings.

By decade's end, George Fox – thanks largely to Roberts' 170-page report that documented the success of George Fox graduates, who compared favorably to grads from accredited schools – gained accreditation. "I don't know if it saved the school, but it certainly helped our cause," he says, humbly.

He later served as faculty dean from 1968 to 1972, but the classroom was always his first love. He thrived on teaching philosophy, ethics and church history. He also loved to travel and speak truth to diverse audiences. A grant allowed him to live among the Inuit population of Alaska in the 1970s – he later wrote a book about the experience – and in 1981 he was part of the first George Fox group to visit China. The young Chinese tour guide during that visit was so impressed with her guests that she later attended George Fox. "She remembers Fern and me as her American parents," Arthur says proudly.

The 'retirement' years

In the mid-1990s, the couple moved to the Oregon coastal town of Yachats, where Arthur ran for mayor and won election by one vote at age 73. His proudest moment as mayor: the day he helped engineer a water supply dilemma by spending \$40,000 to resolve the problem rather than the initial estimate of \$4 million. "They originally talked about having to tear up five miles of Highway 101 – very expensive," he says. "It wasn't exactly an academic exercise,

but it felt good to achieve something like that."

Roberts also continued to write – he's penned more than 20 books in his lifetime – and pursue his passions of woodworking, poetry, playing Scrabble and reading "good novels." And, upon returning to Newberg 12 years ago to live at Friendsview Retirement Community, he took advantage of the opportunity to play a game that was once forbidden. "When I was a kid, playing pool was considered sinful. Since I came to Friendsview, the game's been redeemed."

He's slowed in recent years – "I'm running out of gas," he claims – but he is still regarded as a "professor at large" at George Fox, and in 2011 he delivered the university's spring commencement address. And, as proof his mind is still sharp, he assisted the university's seminary as recently as a year ago as a reviewer of doctoral dissertations. These days, he and Fern cherish time with family, which includes two daughters, a son, eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

As a gentle afternoon sun washes over his face, Roberts reflects on the school he first fell in love with as a farm boy from Idaho in 1941. "The university still has the conviction that Christ and culture belong together. It still has that strong sense of Christian foundation. I appreciate that."



ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

news & life events

1970–79

William Ames Curtright (G71) received attention in the nation's capital in December when he helped sponsor a 24-page section in the *Washington Times* newspaper. The section on the Bible's impact on American history, society and culture carried more than a page of advertising by Salem, Ore.-based Ames Research Laboratories and its founder and owner. Curtright noted that America would not have survived its earliest days if not for the intervention of God, and he called for churches and pastors to stand for godly values in current times. A former teacher and research scientist, his company manufactures a new generation of high-quality elastomeric coatings. He is the inventor of Snow Roof, Elasto-Seal, Mobile Coat and Kote-A-Deck.

Eugene Kolding (G73), after 35 years at Mill Creek Middle School in Kent, Wash., where he is director of bands, is putting down his conductor's baton. He is ending a 45-year teaching career that started in Elkton, Ore., and continued in Lakeview, Ore., where he taught for seven years before moving to Mill Creek to teach instrumental classes and computer courses. He plans to volunteer with his church and help with M-Power, a social services organization that uses the arts to help reduce gang violence.

1980–89

Rob Hunter (G80) is president of First Choice Health, Big Sky region, based in Billings, Mont. He assumed the position in 2012 when the Seattle-headquartered preferred provider organization acquired Billings-based Health InfoNet and its network of health providers, with Hunter as its CEO. He continues to lead Health InfoNet as well. First Choice provides administrative and clinical services to more than a million people in five western states. Hunter originally started as owner/CEO of Paradigm Group, a health care consulting company in Billings, in 1993.

Paul Overland (MDiv80) has authored a two-volume textbook, *Learning Biblical Hebrew Interactively*, published in 2014 by Sheffield Phoenix Press. It employs a second language acquisition approach to help beginning

Hebrew students accelerate learning and extend retention. He is professor of Old Testament and Semitic languages at Ashland University Theological Seminary in Ohio, and previously taught at Tokyo Biblical Seminary.

Bill Post (n83) has been elected to the Oregon House of Representatives, representing House District 25, which includes Newberg in addition to Keizer and St. Paul in Marion County. The Republican had his own show on a Salem radio station from 2008 until his run for office. His 30-year career in broadcasting included stations in eight Oregon cities and two stations in Hawaii, mostly in music before he found his calling in conservative talk radio.

Mark Tuning (G86) is a conductor, singer, music educator and music director in Northern California, perhaps receiving the most attention for the latter as he begins his third season as music director of Diablo Choral Artists, based in Walnut Creek. In its 22nd season, the performance group presents significant works of sacred and secular choral music, from music of the oldest antiquity to the latest from living composers. He is in his 12th year as music director at Mount Diablo Unitarian-Universalist Church, responsible for two choirs, a house band and coordination of other musical ensembles for the 500-mem-

ber church. Previously, he also was assistant director for the San Francisco City Chorus for seven years until 2012. He also sings tenor with Les Hommes, a men's ensemble consisting of choral professionals, and is a frequent soloist.

Jeff VandenHoek (G86), after nearly eight years with George Fox University's MBA and business programs, is now concentrating on his own firm, Intentionally, which he founded in 2006. As owner/consultant, he works with groups and teams through experiential learning and interactive workshops, focusing on trust building, organizational development, positive change process, communication skills and operational efficiencies. He most recently was director of business relations at George Fox, following three years as director of the full-time MBA program.

Dan Ebert (ADP88) in January was named senior vice president and manager of a new commercial banking office of Bank of the Pacific, a subsidiary of Pacific Financial Corporation, in Salem, Ore. He heads a four-member team of commercial lending professionals that established the corporation's third commercial center. Ebert moved from a 15-year career with Columbia Bank as senior vice president and commercial banking team leader.

Toby Long (G88) in January was inducted into the Walla Walla (Wash.) High School Athletic Hall of Fame. He played football (conference rushing champion his senior year and first-team all-conference selection) and basketball (Class 3A all-state tournament team as his team finished second in state). At George Fox he was a first-team NAIA Academic All-American and an All-Northwest honorable mention choice two years in basketball, finishing his career with the third-highest field goal percentage (.570) in George Fox history at that time. He received his MD from the Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine in 1992 and is now in his 23rd year of practice as an internal medicine physician, affiliated with Central Washington Hospital in Wenatchee, Wash.

Cliff Samodurov (G88), in the insurance industry for 25 years, is now president of Innovative Benefit Solutions, expanding from his

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Huckestein Right Fit as New Chemeketa President

Julie (Walker) Huckestein (ADP98), the new president of Oregon's 12,500-student Chemeketa Community College, was not a candidate for the job. Yet she was declared the perfect fit.

That was the judgment of the presidential search advisory committee, which on Feb. 18 said none of the 21 applicants in a strong pool should continue to be considered – that no one was a complete fit. It then immediately turned to Huckestein, the college's interim president, who had said when appointed to the temporary role in July 2014 that she was not a candidate for the permanent position. The board chair declared otherwise, stating, "Julie is that complete fit. Our search is over."

Huckestein, the mother of three daughters, is a 14-year veteran with the Salem, Ore.-based community college that was founded in 1969 and now has six additional teaching sites in three counties. She started at Chemeketa in 2001 as assistant to the chief financial officer and director of business services. She was in that role for 10 years when she was promoted to vice president and CFO in January 2011, in that position when asked to step in as interim president.

The 14 years at Chemeketa follows the same number of years at Linn-Benton Community College, based in Albany, Ore., from which she received an associate's degree in business administration in 1996. She served as director of budget and finance and in several other positions. That followed eight years in accounting as an analyst, office manager and tax preparer.

It has been noted that Huckestein's educa-



tional process represents one available to many of her own students. She received her associate's degree at 37, then enrolled in George Fox's Adult Degree Program, participating in Cohort 26 at the university's Salem site. She then went on to Portland State to earn a master's degree in 2004, studying education policy analysis.

Huckestein is now getting used to being in the limelight, noting that in her finance positions people only wanted to talk about money. Now she's being interviewed by news media, leading employee meetings and speaking before Oregon legislative committees. "I'm not used to having a lot of attention," she says. But Huckestein is adapting. "I'm having fun doing all this."

Washington state base to the Washington, D.C., metro area, opening an office in Chantilly, Va. The firm develops comprehensive benefit packages for individuals and employers and has an existing office in Camas, Wash. Previously, he was principal and owner with Elite Futures International, owner of Big River Distributors, and director of coaching for the Ashburn (Virginia) Soccer Club. He continues as head coach for the U13 Girls Washington Timbers FC Red soccer team.

1990–99

Erika (Robeck) Baham (n92) and her husband, Thomas, are new owners of the Rio Theater

in Sweet Home, Ore., built in 1950. They purchased the 273-seat theater in December and have the help of their four children in running the operation Friday through Sunday. Last year the Rio switched the projection system from film to digital, a \$40,000 expense that generated donations by local residents to help fund the cost of the upgrade. Erika has been a stay-at-home mom, homeschooling their children, and Thomas is a computer engineer.

Jeff Larson (G92) this spring was named the new track and field coach at Sisters (Ore.) High School, stepping up from assistant last year. He gained news attention when he reunited this spring with former George Fox University track and field coach Wes Cook

(1987-2006), who served as Larson's assistant after moving to the area. Larson also coached at George Fox for several years, returning to his alma mater in 2008 to serve as assistant track coach and co-coach for cross country. Larson has 15 years coaching and teaching experience at several Oregon high schools from the 1A to 6A levels and was named 2A Coach of the Year in 2005 after his Nyssa High team won the state title. He is a substitute teacher with the Sisters School District.

Marta Goertzen (G94) is now owner and WordPress consultant for her own firm, Trail Guide WebWorks, based in Coos Bay, Ore. She works with "solopreneurs" and home-based businesses to create an online foundation using the WordPress platform. She started the business in March 2014 after more than seven years as owner and creative director of The Blue Jeans VA, a virtual assistance company dedicated to simplifying lives of creative coaches and entrepreneurs. She is a frequent blogger, contributing to the Trail Guide WebWorks Blog and Selah Reflections.

Adina Briggs McConaughay (G94), after four and a half years with Medical Teams International in Portland, the last two as executive assistant to the CEO, has returned to George Fox. She is executive assistant in the College of Engineering, returning to the campus where she spent more than a dozen years in a variety of roles in admissions.

Ed Meyer (G94) has been promoted to captain with the fire department in Eugene/Springfield, Ore. He began in the new position in January, advancing from the rank of firefighter/paramedic. He has been with the

KEY

G	Traditional graduate
n	Traditional nongraduate
MA	Master of arts
MS	Master of science
MAT	Master of arts in teaching
DMgt	Doctor of management
DBA	Doctor of business administration
MBA	Master of business administration
GFES	George Fox Evangelical Seminary
MDiv	Master of divinity
DMin	Doctor of ministry
MEd	Master of education
EdD	Doctor of education
EdS	Education specialist in school psychology
PsyD	Doctor of psychology
ADP	Adult Degree Program



department for nine years, previously working as a programmer for the family business, FW Murphy, for eight years.

Donald Olson (MBA96), a clinical professor of neurosurgery at OHSU, in March began part time in outpatient therapy services with Tillamook (Ore.) Regional Medical Center, offering pain modulation consultations and treatment. He uses a variety of treatments and interventions, including epidural steroid injections, electrical stimulation and transcranial electromagnetic stimulation. He is a diplomat of the American Board of Neurosurgery and also owner of Torii Mor Winery in Dundee, Ore., a business he started more than 20 years ago.

Cari (Hogan) Arias (G98), after working with The Salvation Army for the last 14 years, has a new role since last fall as curriculum writer/editor, a full-time writing position with the organization's national headquarters in Alexandria, Va. However, she continues to work from her home near Denver, writing the English and editing the Spanish translation of the teen discipleship curriculum used by nearly 1,000 churches nationally. The previous eight years she was the Christian education director for Salvation Army churches in the western United States.

Sean Heyworth (G98) is principal and resident of Heyworth Development & Remodeling, based in Portland. Established in 2004, the company is a property developer and general contractor for small developments, commercial new construction, residential remodel projects and new units, and also handles construction management. In December, his company will start a new project in Newberg with plans to divide three existing lots into 10 spaces for detached single-family homes, replacing the former Newberg Marquis Post-Acute Rehab Center.

Russell Riggs (ADP98, MBA00) is a new member of the Molalla, Ore., City Council, elected in November and taking office in January. He was one of two new members elected to guide the city of just over 8,000. He is retired from positions as a service manager for U.S. Equipment Co. and, prior to that, with Simpson Paper Co.

Mike Arzie (n99) is in his 17th year as pastor of student ministries at Southwest Bible Church in Beaverton, Ore. He began at the church in 1999 on a 16-month internship and has never

left. He returned to his alma mater in March to speak in chapel.

Tyler Johnson (G99) is now assistant professor of history at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College in Richmond, Va., after four years as associate professor of history at Philadelphia Biblical University.

Miriam Mendez (MDiv99) is founding and lead pastor of Esperanza Church in Portland and associate executive minister of American Baptist Churches of the Central Pacific Coast. She helped establish the church in January 2011 and started with the 72-church denominational organization in 2012 after previously serving as associate pastor of the First Baptist Church in Portland for nearly three years. She has been a George Fox Evangelical Seminary adjunct faculty member for nearly 14 years.

Peter Smart (G99) works in the Office of Academic Advising and Retention at Azusa Pacific University, in the role of academic success coach for the last three years. He earned an MEd in college student affairs from the university in 2007, then became a residence hall director at Baylor University for four and a half years.

2000–10

Valerie Crafard (ADP00) in March was named Clatsop County (Ore.) clerk after serving as interim clerk since October. She has been with the county since 2006, previously serving as clerk of the board of commissioners and as a human resources assistant. In her new position she oversees elections and voter registration and is the record keeper for the county, administering public records, archives, legal recordings, passports and marriage licenses.

Jonathon Morell (G01), after serving George Fox University for 10 years as student residence area coordinator and Walkabout coordinator, left in September to join Point Loma Nazarene University as director of outdoor leadership programs. He is putting to work his 2014 master of arts degree in adventure education from Prescott College in Arizona.

Ben Gallo (MBA02) in November was named vice president of sales and general manager for Easy Street, Inc. in Portland, leading global sales, sales engineering and client management. The company is an IT services provider

that helps customers integrate cloud, colocation and managed services. He has 15 years experience selling Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) and cloud services, most recently for two years as North American sales director leading the Enterprise Cloud sales team for SunGard Availability Services in Portland.

Jake Medlock (G02) in October was named an agent for New York Life Insurance Company, working from Spokane, Wash., while continuing to live in Post Falls, Idaho. He is president and co-founder of Sophie's Sluggers Foundation, created in 2011 to help families who have children with cancer, assisting in raising funds to help offset mounting medical costs. The foundation is named for his daughter, who was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia in 2001 and underwent two and a half years of treatment.

Crystal Wulff (G02) was one of 50 teachers in the United States who in January presented a poster at the Partners in Science national conference in San Diego. The poster, "Developing tools to test a patterning role for extracellular microvesicles in embryonic development of *Xenopus laevis*," illustrated her summer research with Dr. Michael Danikoff at OHSU in Portland. They received a competitive Partners in Science grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust and will continue research this summer. The goal of the program is to provide high school science teachers with opportunities for cutting-edge research to revitalize their teaching and encourage students to pursue science careers. Wulff is a National Board Certified science teacher at Mountain View High School, part of the Evergreen School District in Vancouver, Wash.

Flora Richards Gustafson (G03) is a freelance writer in Portland specializing in creating copy for websites, blogs and articles with an emphasis on search engine optimization. A primary outlet is Demand Media Studies, for which she has written for five years. The company is known for producing online content based on a combination of measured consumer demand and predicted return on investment for advertisers. She also creates and publishes marketing materials, newsletters and brochures for local companies.

Christy (Miller) Rummel (G04) and **Tobin Rummel** (G04) are living in Corvallis, Ore., where he is now an osteopathic physician and surgeon



with Crossroads Premier Healthcare and she works one day a week as a nurse practitioner specializing in functional medicine. To provide a holistic approach to patient care he plans to complete additional sub-specialty training in neuromusculoskeletal medicine and osteopathic manipulative treatment. He completed his family medicine residency in 2012 with Western University of Health Sciences' College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific in Pomona, Calif. She earned a master's degree in nursing from Vanderbilt University, specializing as a family nurse practitioner.

Randy Sauer (MBA04) in January joined DLR Group to lead its retail studio in Portland. He also became a member of the architectural design firm's national retail team. The company is in 11 U.S. cities and focuses on corporate, higher education, entertainment and sports facilities design. Sauer's experience is in the retail/mixed use market with a background in environmental design and business management, including leading projects in Dubai and New Zealand. He previously was with MulvannyG2 Architecture in Portland for nearly 11 years, starting as senior associate then becoming managing principal and director of business development.

Kevin Parker (MBA05) in November was reelected to a fourth two-year term in the Washington House of Representatives. The Republican represents the sixth legislative district, located in the Spokane area. He owns several Dutch Brothers coffee shops in the area and has been an adjunct business instructor at Whitworth University for six years and an adjunct professor at Gonzaga University for two years.

Holly Hanson (G06, MBA11) has moved from a five-and-a-half-year position with the U.S. Forest Service as a procurement technician in Corvallis, Ore., to become a purchasing agent with the organization in its Portland office, starting in December.

Ben Melvin (G06) is workers' compensation producer for KPD, one of the Northwest's largest independent insurance agencies. He started last November in its Springfield, Ore., office but ultimately plans to move to the firm's Portland office. Previously, he was in sales and business development for three years with Blue Earth Energy Power Solutions, after five years as a senior mortgage consultant with Financial Center Mortgage.

Troy Kunas (ADP07) in December joined Northwest Engineering Service, Inc. as direc-



Fowler Honored as 'Oregon History Maker'

One of George Fox University's most distinguished graduates, **Peggy (Stands) Fowler** (G73), will be permanently remembered in Oregon history.

In a Portland ceremony scheduled for Oct. 4, she will receive one of four Oregon History Makers Medals awarded by the Oregon Historical Society. The recognition program, started six years ago, honors individuals and organizations that have positively shaped the history, culture and landscape of Oregon.

"I'm honored," Fowler says, "I'm glad I made a difference." Also being inducted are Ann Curry, who has spent 25 years as a news anchor and reporter at NBC News; George Puentes, co-founder of Don Pancho Authentic Mexican Foods, now one of the largest Latino-owned businesses in the Pacific Northwest; and the Les Schwab Tire Centers, an iconic Oregon business founded in 1952 that now boasts 450 stores across the West.

Fowler began her career with Portland General Electric, Oregon's largest utility, just one year after graduating from George Fox with degrees in chemistry and mathematics. "Her skills and intelligence propelled her up the corporate management ladder, and she would eventually serve as PGE's CEO from 2000 to 2009," the historical society noted.

"Widely regarded as one of Oregon's most

admired executives, Fowler continues to serve as a mentor for other women seeking to reach the top rungs of the corporate ladder."

Credited with being a "glass ceiling breaker," Fowler continues to help other women do the same, remaining involved with the International Women's Forum and also mentoring female leaders through private conversations and relationships.

In 2005, the *Portland Business Journal* named Fowler the Most Admired CEO in Oregon. Honors continued in 2007 when she was named Portland's First Citizen, an annual program of the Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors.

She stepped down as president and CEO of PGE after 35 years with the company. After her retirement she joined the company's board of directors and remained in that position until 2012. Now she continues her connection as a member of the board of the PGE Foundation.

A member of the George Fox Board of Trustees from 1991 to 2006, Fowler currently chairs the board of Umpqua Bank and also serves on the boards of Cambia, Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon and Hawaiian Electric Industries. In what free time she has, she and her husband, Robert, like to ski and spend time at their second home in Central Oregon.



tor of commissioning services, working in its Tigard, Ore., headquarters. Previously, for nearly seven years, he was west regional commissioning operations manager with Heery International, headquartered in Portland. NWESI tests, troubleshoots, balances and commissions both new and existing construction, working with owners, architects, engineers and contractors to test that facilities function according to design objectives and specifications. Kunas retired from the U.S. Coast Guard in 2003 after nearly 24 years of service.

Sean McKay (MEd07) in August became chief information security officer at Portland State University, adding to his former title and duties as associate director of computing infrastructure services. He took that position in April 2013 after leaving George Fox University, where he served 15 years in computer technology services, the last two years as director of administrative computing and

chief information security officer.

Jessica Cardwell (G08) in February was announced as the new women's soccer coach for Northwest Christian University in Eugene, Ore. She moves from coaching girl's varsity soccer at Thurston High School in Eugene, her alma mater, for six years, where she coached the Colts to five league titles and the Oregon Class 6A state championship in 2012. She resigned after the 2013 season to become a volunteer with Forward Edge International. She served as team facilitator with Villa Esperanza, a program in Managua, Nicaragua, working to rescue children from human trafficking. She also helped found Fall Creek Academy in 2011 and continues to teach third grade for the charter school, now called Mountain View Academy. At George Fox, Cardwell was a goalkeeper, earning All-Northwest Conference honors all four years, and still holds the Bruin career record with 18 shutouts.

Kayin (Mathae) Griffith (G08) has returned to George Fox to be director of housing in the Office of Student Life. After graduating she stayed on campus as assistant director of spiritual life, serving until early 2014, then spending a year as director of advocacy and development at the international headquarters of Word Made Fresh, a nonprofit missional community based in Portland.

Shannon Lilja (MA08) in May of 2014 received a doctoral degree in behavioral health from Arizona State University. She is in her fifth year with Lifeworks NW in Portland, serving as program director, responsible for program development for the adult outpatient substance abuse division, including tri-county Portland with seven sites. In addition she is clinical director and owner of Sandalwood Counseling in Astoria in a part-time private practice. She is also a part-time instructor, teaching an ethics course in the drug and alcohol program at Portland Community College.

Smith Inducted into Women's Basketball Hall of Fame

The top honor in women's basketball was awarded this month to George Fox University graduate and longtime Oregon City High School coach **Brad Smith** (G75). Already bestowed with impressive recognition, Smith was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame at a ceremony held in Knoxville, Tenn., on June 13.

Smith, 60, is one of just six individuals who was honored as part of the hall's 17th class. Selection is made based on moral character, integrity, sportsmanship, record of performance, ability, national or international recognition, and contributions to the game of women's basketball. Smith's selection was announced during the WNBA All-Star Game in July of 2014.

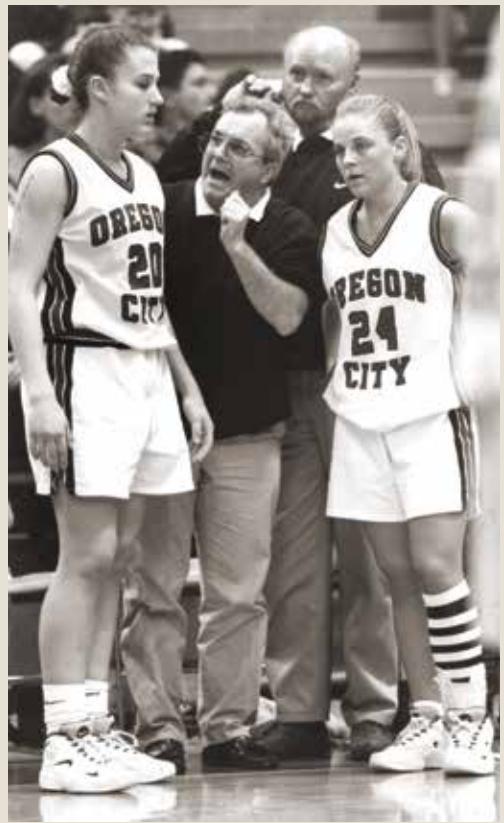
"I started crying. I was overwhelmed," Smith says of his notification of the award. "It's an overwhelming honor – especially for a high school-[level] guy. It's not normal – very, very few are named."

Smith was accompanied at the ceremony in Knoxville by nearly 30 immediate and extended family members, coaches and former players.

During his 27-year career as girls basketball coach at Oregon City High School, Smith coached his teams to an impressive 629-87 record, including 26 league championships and 10 state championships. Oregon City was named "National Champion" by *USA Today* in 1995, 1996 and 1997.

This latest honor will share space on Smith's mantle with the Morgan Wootten Lifetime Achievement Award he received from the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2012. Also inducted into the George Fox University Sports Hall of Fame in 1998 for meritorious service, Smith played baseball, but not basketball, while on campus. He graduated with a degree in psychology and went on to teach history and coach.

After retiring in 2006, Smith now keeps busy with his own company, End of the Trail Basketball, which sponsors and hosts a variety of tournaments, clinics and camps.





Joy Schneider (G08) is participating in The World Race, an 11-month, 11-country missions trip sponsored by Adventures in Missions. She started the race in January. Trips are to serve “the least of these” and are for young adults “to abandon worldly possessions and a traditional lifestyle.” She had to raise more than \$16,000 to participate. In each country her group volunteers with different missions and social service organizations. For example, in April they helped at a foster home for disabled children in China, after a month in Vietnam volunteering at a bakery that employs disabled adults, following a month in Cambodia working with a local church and teaching English to village children.

Noah Shields (MA08) in November was named by Alaska Gov. Sean Parnell as a member of the Alaska Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee. He is founder and director of Foundations Family Resource Center in Soldotna, Alaska, started in 2008. In addition he is a child and family therapist with Frontier Community Services, a nonprofit that provides services to people of all ages with disabilities, serving in that position for three years. He is also a volunteer with South Central Parenting, providing parenting classes on the Kenai Peninsula.

Brian Snider (G08) in March joined his alma mater as a software engineer with the analytics team as a part of the marketing communications office. He continues as a PhD candidate in computer science at OHSU, where he has worked the last four years as a graduate research assistant. He also has worked the last two and a half years as a scientist and senior research programmer for BioSpeech in Portland, a company specializing in creating biomedical applications for those with communication challenges.

Katelyn Wythe (G08, GI3) is using her two degrees in two different roles in Homer, Alaska. She is completing her first year as insurance coordinator and office assistant at Kenai Physical Therapy (relating to her second degree in healthcare administration). In the fall, using her first degree in music with an emphasis on vocal performance, she was on stage with a singing role in *Les Misérables*, produced by Pier One Productions at the Mariner Theatre. She was in the same production there in high school in 2003 with several of the same directors and performers. She had been living in Oregon the previous 10 years completing her degrees while working as a

dentistry office coordinator in Tigard, Ore., for five and a half years.

Bethany (Brown) Barnett (G09) is a kindergarten teacher at Liberty Christian School in Walla Walla, Wash., a nondenominational private school of about 100 students. She began last fall after three years with Walla Walla Public Schools, the final year as a third-grade teacher at Blue Ridge Elementary.

Rochelle (Miller) Deans (G09) is using her writing/literature degree as a self-employed freelance editor in the Portland area. She began her writing career as editor for technical resources for an environmental agency before establishing her own service in 2011 and now editing academic dissertations, non-fiction books and novels. Among her clients: Apex companies, an environmental services company in Portland, where for five years she has edited reports, letters and memoranda; and George Fox Evangelical Seminary, where for nearly three years she has edited Doctor of Ministry dissertations.

Emily (Peterson) Denton (MBA09) has moved from Boise, Idaho, to West Palm Beach, Fla., where in February she joined Sotillo & Company, a certified public accountant/tax preparers firm. Previously, for six years, she was a CPA with Severn Winkle in Boise.

Emily (Hodgin) Forbes (G09) is using her college degrees in nutrition and business marketing in her newly opened business, Love & Plants, in Newberg. It is focused on education and gaining practice in plant-based nutrition. She instructs her clients, ranging from Newberg to Portland, in basic cooking skills and preparing their own food, including grocery store tours on how to shop, and, once supplies are chosen, how and where to store them. Previously she was with Whole Foods in the Portland area, where she was a healthy eating specialist in the company’s “Health Starts Here” program.

Shannon Gildea (G09) is the new director of the Wahkiakum County Chamber of Commerce in Cathlamet, Wash. Chamber work is not new to Gildea, who in high school was a volunteer in Gig Harbor, Wash., and at George Fox was an intern at the Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce in Newberg.

Roland Hoskins (ADP09, MBA14) in August established his own firm, Leadership Engagement Strategies, based in Eugene, Ore., with the purpose of facilitating learning and employee engagement that produces

improved business results. Most recently, he worked with IBM in organizational development after two years with Lane County (Ore.) as director of youth services.

Jeff Syverson (GFES09) in January became academic dean at Horizon Institute in Los Angeles, established in 2006 to serve the growing Korean immigrant church. He also continues as program director, a position held since 2012, and serves as adjunct professor of New Testament. He is founder and ministry director of Joy in the House of Prayer Ministries, which provides prayer seminars, retreats, preaching, teaching and writing services. He also is the author of *Open Up Your Heart*, a daily devotional book.

Erik Bay (GI0) has returned to George Fox as an electrician apprentice after working in the same capacity for more than four years with three firms, most recently with Compass Electric in Vancouver, Wash., for nearly three years.

Todd Bloomquist (EdD10) is director of secondary education for the 13,250-student Medford (Ore.) School District, in that position since 2012 after four years as the district’s director of human resources and three years as director of curriculum and assessment. He has served on the Oregon Assessment Advisory Committee since 2004 and is a frequent keynote speaker at state conferences.

Sophie (Duralia) Cowger (MBA10) is an accounting specialist, beginning her third year with Durham & Bates, a Portland-based 100-year-old employee-owned insurance brokerage firm. Previously she was an accounting/finance specialist with Ohler Management Services, Inc. in Forest Grove, Ore.

Elizabeth (Wallace) Hudec (GI0) and her husband, **Justin** (G07), have opened Little Elephant Crafts, an Etsy store, out of their home in Wilsonville, Ore. It specializes in handmade interactive invitations and announcements. She also operates Elizabeth Hudec Photography and is coordinator of outreach services with Family Business Advisers, based in Aurora, Ore., helping family-owned and started businesses with their success and succession. He is also a field agent with Knights of Columbus Insurance.

Robert Hunter (DMin10) is an adjunct professor teaching online courses in the College of Theology at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix. He began teaching in 2010 and



specializes in classes on spiritual formation, leadership and mentoring. He is also a volunteer youth leader at Mesa (Ariz.) First Church of the Nazarene.

2010–14

Timothy Gillespie (DMin11) in October became lead pastor of Crosswalk Seventh Day Adventist Church in Redlands, Calif. He also serves as chaplain for Azusa Pacific University's regional center in San Bernardino, Calif., and in its High Desert Regional Center. In addition, he is an adjunct professor at both Azusa Pacific and La Sierra University and an associate professor at Loma Linda University School of Public Health.

Brady Mordhorst (G11) in July became wellness coordinator within the Center for Student Action at Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, Calif., where he is also enrolled in its master's degree program in college counseling and student development. He spent the previous three years in Jakarta, Indonesia, where he was a house, chapel and discipline coordinator and high school English and PE teacher with IPEKA International Christian School.

Sarah Cadd (G12) after a year as a preschool teacher at St. Paul Lutheran School in Sherwood, Ore., last fall returned to Newberg as a first-grade teacher at Antonia Crater Elementary School. She also is owner of Freckled Sweets Catering, started two years ago, and has spent the last seven summers as a teacher in a Forest Grove, Ore., community-based activity program for special education children.

Amie Davenport (MAT12) is a fifth-grade teacher at Errol Hassell Elementary School in Beaverton, Ore., completing her second year after one year of substitute teaching in the district and following a career change after 15 years as a community manager with Sunriver (Ore.) Resort.

Sarah King (MBA12) has joined Nike as a senior planning business analyst with the company's emerging markets team. She left George Fox University after seven years in enrollment and marketing, the last two as financial analyst.

John Sawyer (GFESI12) received recognition in December for his work in helping found Bridging RVA, a new concept "connecting individuals, groups and causes for matters related to the common good of the Richmond

[Virginia] area." He initiated the idea, then served as first chair of the group that began last fall. For that effort he was named 2014 "Person of the Year" by *Robious Corridor Magazine*, a bimonthly, 16,000-circulation publication distributed in the Midlothian area of Virginia. Sawyer has been with the Bon Air Baptist Church in Richmond since 2006, serving as campus pastor for the James River campus and as associate pastor for the church's four sites.

Ben Tissell (n12) was keynote speaker for the fourth annual Creation Care Summit in April at Eastridge Covenant Church in Clackamas, Ore. He drew from his 10 years of experience in professional camp ministry to make the presentation. Sponsored by Wilderness International, a Christian environmental conservation organization, the conference had the purpose of helping participants learn more about God's creation and how to better care for it. He is youth ministries leader as well as occasional worship leader at the church, founded by his father.

Kelsey Bennett (G13), named George Fox's outstanding accounting and finance student when she graduated, is using her degree as staff accountant with American Metals Corp. in Canby, Ore., a supplier and processor of metal products. She started in the position in February 2014 after eight months as an accounting specialist at George Fox.

Heather Cordie (EdD13) in October was named to a governor-appointed position as a member of the Oregon Educators Benefit Board, a collaborative program that reviews and evaluates benefit programs to ensure value, choice and quality for school districts, members, carriers and providers. She is in her fifth year as superintendent of the 5,000-student Sherwood School District after previously serving as assistant superintendent of the Redmond (Ore.) School District for three years.

Jeanette Edel (G13) is a registered nurse, part of the float pool with Salem Health, composed of three hospitals and other clinics serving five counties in the Mid-Willamette Valley of Oregon. She accepted the position shortly after her graduation.

Cheryl Flaim (MDiv13) is in a dual role as pastor of the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Atlanta, Mo., and as school office administrator, marketing and education advisor for Faith Lutheran School, in Kirksville, Mo., a school

of 130 preschool through seventh-graders. She became church pastor in July 2013, a year after starting the school position. Previously she was minister of youth and family with Hamilton Street Baptist Church in Kirksville.

Kristoffer Garcia (G13) is using his degree in finance as a student accounts specialist for the 1,200 students at Corban University in Salem, Ore. He started in the position in July.

Glori Gray (PsyD13) in October opened her own practice, Portland Pediatric Psychology. She has worked as a licensed clinician for almost eight years, and most recently, for a year, was a pediatric psychology postdoctoral fellow with Nemours/A.I. DuPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Del., after one year there as a pediatric psychology resident/intern. Previously she was a licensed clinical social worker, running her own practice for five years in Charlotte, N.C.

Rebecca (Brickley) Gurney (G13) is completing her first year as director of social media with the Portland office of Salem Communications, which operates three Portland radio stations. She also continues as executive assistant/special projects coordinator with The Harry Potter Alliance, a nonprofit begun in 2005 and run by Harry Potter fans with a focus on civic engagement, including social causes and direct assistance in disasters, stocking libraries, registering voters, improving literacy and encouraging economic justice.

Melanie Hamilton (MBA13) is marketing development manager at Financial Freedom Wealth Management Group in Salem, Ore. In that position since December 2013, she plans and directs client events and educational seminars while also overseeing the company's website and social media presence.

Jennie (Hampton) Harkema (G13) is the new office manager at St. Luke Catholic School in Woodburn, Ore., promoted from administrative assistant. She previously worked for St. James School in McMinnville, Ore., and as administrative assistant at North Valley Friends Church in Newberg.

Estle Harlan (DBA13) has turned her doctoral dissertation into a 240-page book published in July by Scholars Press. The book, *Later Life Career Transitions: Exploration of Factors and Turning Points that Influence Career Transition in Later Life*, is a study based on 10 individuals aged 55 and over with stories of engagement in later-life career transitions. Harlan, a



Lincoln City, Ore., resident, has owned and operated Harlan Business Consultants since 1982.

Jeremiah Winston (MA13) in January joined Wise Counsel and Comfort, a Portland-area cooperative practice for mental health professionals with offices in Portland, Lake Oswego, Beaverton, Gresham and Milwaukie. He is with its Burnside location as a counseling therapist after completing an additional year of couples and family systemic therapy coursework. He was a therapeutic behavioral specialist for eight years before beginning at George Fox.

George Bailey (MBA14) is using his degree as director of technical marketing with Synopsys, managing the marketing team for all mask synthesis products for the Hillsboro, Ore., location of the international software and program company, considered the leading firm (by sales) in the electronic design automation

industry. He has been in the position since 2007 after nearly five years as Resolution Enhancement Technology Program manager with Mentor Graphics in Wilsonville, Ore. He has 11 United States patents for methods, systems and procedures.

Drew Elizade-Miller (G14) and **Trisha Elizade-Miller** (G14) are in Portland, where he began in August as youth ministry coordinator with Reedwood Friends Church after serving as a youth intern with Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Church for four months. She began in November as a skills trainer with Trillium Family Services, which provides behavioral health services to children in an academic setting. Previously she also was a residential treatment counselor with the Salvation Army White Shield Center in Portland. He is also caregiver with Adeo In Home Care in Portland, which helps elderly and disabled people who need assistance to live at home.

Carilyn Ellis (PsyD14) in March joined Providence Health & Services Portland as a behavioral health consultant after completing eight months of clinical rotations in oncology and primary care as a postdoctoral fellow at Boise (Idaho) Veterans Administration Medical Center and also serving as a guest instructor at Boise State University.

Elise Fajen (G14) joined her alma mater in December as admissions event coordinator after previously serving as a resident assistant and student gift development officer while a student. In June she'll move from her temporary position in admissions to another temporary position in residence life as she fills in for those on maternity leave in both departments. She also continues as operations manager of Wind-Blox, which she cofounded in 2012 as the result of creating and developing a bike safety product that allows cyclists to hear the world around them by drastically reducing wind noise.

Nicola Earns Teaching Tolerance Award

When the nation's top social justice educators were recognized in Montgomery, Ala., last summer, George Fox graduate **Michelle Nicola** (MAT09) was one of just five in America selected for the honor.

She received the Teaching Tolerance Award for Excellence in Teaching, chosen and awarded through a program of the Southern Poverty Law Center, a nonprofit legal advocacy organization that specializes in civil rights and public interest cases.

Nicola spent three days prior to the award ceremony attending a teacher-leader summit and participating in workshops designed to capture the unique contributions of the awardees and share them through video. Even earlier, Nicola and the others welcomed Teaching Tolerance cameras into their classrooms in the spring to gather footage of the teachers in action. They are now available online.

In her first year as a Spanish and English language arts teacher at Bridger School in Portland, Nicola teaches sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders. That follows three years as a Spanish teacher at De La Salle North Catholic High School in Portland.

According to the organization, award winners are visionary educators who "use their talents to celebrate diversity, reduce prejudice, improve intergroup relations and promote equity in their school communities all year long." Specifically, Nicola "sees creating a more equitable world as the ultimate adventure of her life" and "teaches about the power of kindness and respect." She also was praised for innovative learning techniques, being committed to making school fun for students, and for "always (being) ready to turn her classroom into a theater, dance club or soap opera to reach her students."

Nicola earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish language and literature from the University of Oregon in 2003 and later taught English in Spain for a year



before beginning her studies at George Fox.

She says her methodology is teaching language proficiency through reading and storytelling. Students act out stories, and personalized student input is allowed in her classes. "Learning can be enjoyable," she says. But that doesn't mean Nicola is afraid to address the hard questions. "I want to encourage all to educate themselves about race and how it affects education. We really need to listen to each other."

"I'm exactly where I want to be," says Nicola. But she does add that she is "passionate about making the system work better," and the future may hold new "possibilities to effect change."



Sarah Gilmore (G14) began in August as billing, licensing and sales assistant at HawkSoft, Inc. in Canby, Ore., a firm that provides user-friendly software and management solutions for insurance agencies.

Greg Glatz (DMin14), with Westminster United Church in Winnipeg, Canada, as his base, also is a radio host, lead guitarist, writer, professor and now founding director of a community café food bank. He has been with the church for nearly three years, working primarily in outreach, community building and small-group development. As part of that ministry, in the fall of 2013 he founded Bell Tower Community Café, which every other Friday night serves more than 150 people who gather for music and fellowship, then pick up food supplied by Winnipeg Food Harvest, a local food bank. He also hosts Sunday Night with Greg Glatz, a two-hour program on radio station CJOB. In addition, he is a theology instructor, teaching courses from a missional and emerging church perspective at the University of Winnipeg. Currently he is writing and editing a book, *The Great Co-Mission: How Communities Can Transform Churches, Mission and Discipleship*, and he plays lead guitar with B-Side Apostles, a band that plays western swing, rock 'n' roll, bluegrass and gospel.

Jessica Sokoloff (G14) is a music educator, serving as assistant high school choir teacher at Veritas School in Newberg, and through private instruction in the Salem/Keizer, Ore., area. She also is a freelance graphic designer, something she has done for more than three years.

Luke Sumner (GFES14) and his wife have moved to Everett, Wash., to be co-pastors of a new church community-in-formation, tentatively called Everett Christian Church, under sponsorship of the Northwest Regional Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). They officially started in January, moving from Portland, where, for just over two years, he was founder and pastor of HomePDX, a mission dedicated to those living outside in hard times. HomePDX provided meals, served coffee and ministered to the homeless without a church building.

Bryce Withers (MAT14), in his first year of teaching at Ridgeview High School in Redmond, Ore., was awarded an educational fellowship by Ecology Project International and in March participated in a week-long, on-site project

in Baja, Mexico. Since 2005 the field science and conservation organization has connected scientists and teachers in ecologically critical environments in Costa Rica, the Galapagos Islands, Belize and Baja. Withers spent his time on Espiritu Santo Island, a UNESCO-protected biosphere reserve, participating in underwater data collection and lessons in incorporating field studies into the classroom.

Douglas Witherup (DMin14) is executive director of church and youth ministries for the North Carolina Assemblies of God church organization, helping guide more than 300 churches in the state. He also contributes as a teaching pastor at Concord (N.C.) First Assembly of God, where he is the former lead associate pastor and youth pastor. In addition, he serves as an adjunct professor at Trinity Bible College, an Assemblies of God-affiliated school in North Dakota. In November he released a new book: *Interrobang Preaching: (re)Discovering the Communication Secrets of Jesus*.

JUST MARRIED

Lon Osborn (G00) and Addie Gibson, Dec. 13, 2014, in Newberg.

David Rowe (MBA03) and Sharon Brunner, Dec. 24, 2014, in Jamestown S'Klallam Indian Reservation, Wash.

Abbey Schmitt (G03) and Michael Kuzma, Sept. 13, 2014, in Chicago.

Charles Weathers (G05) and Alexandra Santana, Aug. 8, 2014, in Portland.

Charith Norvelle (G08) and Michael Denson, May 17, 2014, in Phoenix.

Bethany Brown (G09) and Jonathan Barnett, July 5, 2014, in Walla Walla, Wash.

Lani Rasmussen (G10) and James Eyherabide, Oct. 4, 2014, in San Jose, Calif.

Trisha Elizarde (G14) and **Drew Miller** (G14), Dec. 28, 2014, in Newberg.

BABY BRUINS

Amy Dent Beebe (G97) and **Sean Beebe** (G97), a girl, Éowyn Pearl, June 23, 2014, in Salem, Ore.

Jonelle (Jones) Retsema (G97) and Thom

Retsema, a boy, Eli Loren Thomas, Aug. 6, 2014, in Newberg.



Letha Tawney (G97) and Brian Tawney, a boy, Connall Wyam Corliss, Dec. 22, 2014, in Portland.



Tyler Johnson (G99) and **Karen (Witty) Johnson** (n02), a boy, Ryan Benjamin, Sept. 2, 2014, in Richmond, Va.

Camille (Hansch) Wade (G01) and **Keith Wade** (G01), a girl, Langley Grace, June 28, 2014, in Tacoma, Wash.

Danna (Magnuson) Johnson (G02, MEd06) and Justin Johnson, a boy, Jack Danger, June 7, 2014, in Newberg.



Helena (Telfer) Christiansen (G03) and **Keith Christiansen** (G03), a boy, Felix Pascal, July 9, 2014, in Hood River, Ore.

Maria (Nava) Dallmann (G03) and Daniel Dallmann, a girl, Ava Marie, Feb. 5, 2014, in San Francisco.



Kelli (York) King (G03) and **Randall King** (G03, current EdD16), a boy, Carter Logan, Jan. 6, 2015, in Portland.



Matt Burg (G04, MAT05) and Megan Burg, a boy, Hans William, May 6, 2013, in Newberg.

Christy (Miller) Rummel (G04) and **Tobin Rummel** (G04), a boy, Titus Dean, July 7, 2014, in Corvallis, Ore.

Jarett Creason (G05) and **Nicole (Thorne) Creason** (G06), a girl, Aurelia Elizabeth, April 9, 2014, in Newberg.

Sam Grable (G05) and **Meaghan (Fischer) Grable** (G07), a boy, Calvin Philip, April 16, 2014, in Salem, Ore.

Fernanda Ramirez-Harrison (G05) and Michael Harrison, a boy, Evan Alexander, Nov. 20, 2014, in Oregon City, Ore.

Rebekah (Shelton) Harris (G06, MEd08) and Steve Harris, a girl, Mairi Anna, Aug. 21, 2014, in Roseburg, Ore.



Meg (Culbertson) Miller (G06) and Wayne Miller, a boy, Emmett Harvey, Nov. 26, 2014, in Los Angeles.



Stefanie (Philips) Stern (G06) and Mike Stern, a girl, Tess Evangeline, Oct. 31, 2014, in Newberg.



Eliza (Morain) Knierieman (G06) and John Knieriemen, a boy, David Richard, Jan. 25, 2015, in Issaquah, Wash.

Carol (David) Tan (G07, MAT09) and Jediah Tan, a boy, Noah David, Sept. 29, 2014, in Bellevue, Wash.



Cherie (Beck) Foote (G08) and **Jesse Foote** (G08), a boy, Lucas Brennan, Nov. 3, 2014, in Seattle.

Stephen Pick (G09) and **Jessie (Sarver) Pick** (G10), a girl, Madelyn Christine, May 10, 2014, in Salem, Ore.

Ethan Rhodes (G09) and Jessica Rhodes, a girl, Adeleigh Grace, Sept. 25, 2014, in Richland, Wash.

Kenny Turk (SPS10) and Melony Turk, a boy, Hayden Ironwing, Sept. 19, 2014, in Salem, Ore.

Brielle (Reynolds) VanderZanden (G12) and Nathan VanderZanden, a girl, Annalyn Morgan, May 12, 2014, in Tualatin, Ore.

IN MEMORY

Willis Gholston (n40), Dec. 28, 2014, in The Dalles, Ore.

Esther (Weesner) Thomas (G40), March 20, 2015, in Newberg.

William Thomas (G42), Oct. 15, 2014, in Newberg.

Doris (Jones) Huston (n45), Jan. 12, 2015, in McMinnville, Ore.

Quincy Fodge (G47), Oct. 8, 2014, in Newberg.

Laura (Birch) Dymoke (G49), March 6, 2014, in Portland.

Harold Ankeny (G50), Dec. 17, 2014, in Newberg.

Donald Bletscher (GFES52), Jan. 28, 2015, in Portland.

Janette (Hadley) Lytle (n58), Nov. 19, 2014, in Nampa, Idaho.

Kathleen Diane (Beaver) O'Neil (n63), Jan. 11, 2015, in Portland.

Dwaine Williams (n67), March 23, 2015, in Honolulu.

Johnny Bullock (G76), Jan. 21, 2015, in Portland.

William King (G76), Oct. 18, 2014, in Poulsbo, Wash.

Tim Ankeny (G79), Oct. 15, 2014, in Portland.

Delight (Knoepfle) Cushman (G79), Jan. 7, 2015, in Portland.

John Schrunk (n91), Dec. 30, 2014, in Salem, Ore.

Charysse (Chowning) Hesse (G99), Oct. 13, 2014, in Albany, Ore.

Hector Munn May 6, 2015, in Newberg. Professor Emeritus of Chemistry 1958-77, Registrar 1977-1994.

William D. Green, April 13, 2015, in Newberg. Academic Dean 1972-84, Interim President 1982-83, Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters 1984.

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GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY

Social Spotlight

The world through the eyes of students

Back in 1987, when the George Fox Juniors Abroad program was first introduced, students were lucky if the postcard they sent home to their family made it back stateside before they did. Today, images from the university's annual study abroad trips are available online in an instant. Here are some favorites found on Instagram from the 10 different three-week trips on which students and faculty embarked this May, taken at locations across the globe.

Want to see more? Search **#juniorsabroad** on Instagram to see all the study abroad photos shared by George Fox students.

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Like Being on Campus ... Virtually



If you can't visit campus, a new virtual online tour offers the next best thing. Users of the university's new TrueTour virtual photo gallery can see 360-degree images of Stoffer Family Stadium, navigate the quad or explore labs and classrooms, complete with interactive features like embedded video, all from their laptop or mobile device. Want to immerse yourself in this campus experience? Visit georgefox.edu/360.



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**A Strong Foundation**

From left to right, student intern Grant Schroeder and 2014 engineering alumni Ryan Rudnick and Bryan Kasler pose in front of the new Brandt Residence Hall, set to be completed in August 2015. Rudnick is tasked with the civil engineering of the new dorm by his employer, KPFF, and he'll join Kasler and Schroeder of Andersen Construction to complete two additional construction projects: a new dining hall overlooking Hess Creek Canyon and a bridge to connect the dining hall and dorm to the rest of campus. See pg. 8 to learn more.