

THE

George Fox
University

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Mission Accomplished

George Fox's degree-completion program serves the needs of working adults while staying true to the University's purpose

Beginning next spring, George Fox University's degree-completion program will offer a new major to a new audience: those in the helping professions.

The applied behavioral studies major comes at a time when the University is reassessing the market and asking how it can meet the needs of adult learners. It also comes at a time when questions are being raised as to whether such programs fit the mission of a Christian college.

It was 15 years ago when George Fox first established a program to serve non-traditional students. After three years of declining enrollments, budget reductions, and no increases in salaries, then President Edward Stevens made a bold move: Under his leadership, George Fox consulted with National College of Education, a leader in innovative adult learning programs, and purchased the concept and curriculum for a major in human resources management.

"He was looking for opportunities to infuse some growth as well as financial stability for the institution," explains Andrea Cook, vice president for enrollment services. "It was a new opportunity to serve a broader population."

The degree-completion program fulfilled both goals. After bottoming out at 549 students, total enrollment at George Fox grew 28 percent the next year, thanks in large part to the addition of 129 adult learners. Within three years, the program consistently had more than 200 students enrolled.

Financially, the program was profitable in its second year, and within three



Beth Smith, a customer service supervisor for Portland General Electric, is among nearly 2,000 students who have earned a college degree through the George Fox degree-completion program. Now enrolled in the University's M.B.A. program, she is enthusiastic about her undergraduate experience. "I loved it. It was the best thing I ever did."

years was contributing more than \$400,000 toward the University's 1989-90 annual budget of \$10 million. It now provides a net gain of \$200,000 to \$300,000 annually.

It's the profitable nature of adult-learner programs that concerns Diane

Winston, a former affiliate fellow at the Center for the Study of Religion at Princeton University. While at the center, she studied the impact of such programs on religious colleges and the students who attend them.

In an article in the Nov. 20, 2000,

issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Winston warns Christian colleges that these "cash cows" are "actually more akin to the Trojan horse." She concedes programs for nontraditional students have helped colleges financially, allowing them to survive and even thrive, but she charges they also bring "a variety of secularizing trends."

Too often, she writes, Christian colleges downplay their faith-based identity to attract and accommodate adult students. They exchange an education that integrates faith and learning for a pragmatic, market-driven curriculum. Worse yet, they fail to make a difference in adult students' beliefs.

She calls it "educational schizophrenia" — a two-tier system, with one component unrelated to the core identity."

No one would disagree that George Fox University's degree-completion program is pragmatic. The first three majors it offered all focus on management: as it relates to human resources, organizational

University Exceeds Campaign Goal

Funding is still needed for the Stevens Center construction and Wood-Mar Hall renovation

George Fox University has reached its \$22 million goal for the Legacy Campaign and raised the most money in its history, but the celebration can't start just yet.

As Dana Miller, vice president for university advancement, puts it, with about \$22.5 million in gifts and pledges, "the campaign goal is exceeded but not completed."

"We're obviously very pleased and excited about surpassing the \$22 million goal; however, we're still very much focused on completing each priority," he says.

The two areas of the campaign that still have a balance remaining are construction of the Stevens Center and renova-

George Fox
University

LEGACY
CAMPAIGN

Preparing Leaders With
Values and Vision

tion of Wood-Mar Hall. The Stevens Center funding is nearing completion, as is the building itself — a dedication is planned for Sept. 20. Approximately \$650,000 remains to be raised.

Wood-Mar Hall, meanwhile, still needs another \$500,000, which Miller expects to raise as he and his staff seek funding for the engineering program, which will move into the building's remodeled first and second floors.

With the Stevens Center, George Fox has until Dec. 31 to complete funding for the \$7 million building. Hanging in the balance is a \$500,000 challenge grant from the Kresge

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Mission: Curriculum, format encourage faith-based discussions

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leadership, and incorporating instruction in information technology. But the program also has both a curriculum and a format that encourages the integration of faith and learning.

Efforts to ensure the degree-completion program fits the University's mission began when the curriculum was acquired back in 1986.

Unlike other programs that require working adults to finish their degrees by taking traditional courses at nontraditional times, the George Fox degree-completion program operates on a cohort model — the first of its kind in the region. Students with two to three years of college credit progress through a specific sequence of courses together with the same group of 15 to 20 classmates, guided by a primary instructor.

Right from the start, the University made the innovative program its own.

"We added courses that were unique to us," says Cook. "Christian Faith and Thought very specifically addresses the Christian faith and how it informs our culture and how it informs us as individuals. We also added a business ethics course that brings into the classroom the perspective of Christian ethics in the workplace."

Also added were a handful of Saturday seminars that allow the University to give more of a liberal arts component to the curriculum and to explore the influence of the Friends church.

Robin Ashford, of Dundee, Ore., graduated in April with a major in man-

agement and organizational leadership. The six-week Christian Faith and Thought course, she says, involved reading from such sources as the Bible and C.S. Lewis, as well as theological discussions and papers she called her "most difficult and most rewarding."

"There is so much interaction between the members throughout the months, and the courses are structured to encourage dialogue in a manner which causes us to talk not only about how we would implement what we are learning in our management courses, but also why we make the decisions we do," she says. "This type of dialogue often-times would lead to discussions which were very much faith-based."

Because the course is taught at the end of the program, she says, "a level of trust has been developed between the cohort members which makes it possible to help each other with the difficult task of objectively looking at worldviews and respectfully responding to each other's personal beliefs."

Those worldviews can be numerous. Mark Ocker, who has taught adult learners at George Fox for three years and will become the program's director in August, says he has had cohort groups in which 80 percent of his students had no religious affiliation and little, if any, basic understanding of the Christian faith.

Despite that, he says, there's no temptation to downplay the University's identity to attract or accommodate adult learners, as Winston alleges in her arti-

There's no attempt to downplay the University's identity to attract or accommodate adult learners, says Mark Ocker, director of the department of professional studies. "We let our students know right up front that we are a Christian institution and that we are Christians ourselves. We say that unashamedly."

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Susan McNaught, an assistant professor of management in the program, agrees.

"They all know this is a Christian school and that we are serious about it," she says. "They also find that this is a safe place to explore their faith. I have had students dedicate or rededicate their lives to Christ. I have also had students who, on the surface, were not touched by our witness. I know that my job is to open the door. God does the rest of the work, and I have faith in his timing."

The faith-based nature of the degree-completion program is the reason some students choose George Fox University.

"A lot of our students, although they aren't Christians, are driven by values," Ocker explains. "They often tell me that's what they see missing in many of our competitors' programs. They come because of our values. There seems to be within them an awareness that there's something possibly missing in their lives.

They come with a little bit of fear and trembling, but once they're in the program, they find it's a safe environment."

Cole Chatterton, a client account manager for the Xerox Corporation in Portland, talks about getting "the full package" when he explains why he chose the George Fox degree-completion program. Important to him were the University's national ranking, cutting-edge major in management and information technology, and religious foundation.

He remembers a professor telling him, "If you're coming to George Fox just to get a degree and make more money, you might not want to come. If you're coming for a life-learning experience and transformation, then come to George Fox."

"It was the most poignant thing I ever heard," Chatterton says. "That actually capsulizes George Fox. They're not there to make you rich and famous. They're there to make you a better person."

While values are important to adult learners, students invest their time, effort, and finances in a George Fox degree because of the education they receive. They choose the degree-completion program because of the University's strong academic reputation and — once enrolled — find it is well deserved.

Beth Smith, of Molalla, Ore., a supervisor in customer service for Portland General Electric (PGE) heard from several other PGE employees who had gone through the program "how great an education they had received." She graduated with a major in management and organizational leadership this spring — receiving a promotion while earning her degree — and is now enrolled in the University's M.B.A. program.

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PRESIDENT'S PEN

The More Things Change . . .

Every university seeks to leave a distinctive "brand" on its alumni. Faculties spend untold hours discussing what makes their curriculum special. Parents of prospective students want to know how this particular university will impact their daughter or son. When institutions change, the various constituencies want to be assured the institution they care about will maintain its special character.

George Fox University has changed a lot over the past 15 years. The most obvious change is the institution's size. The student body is more than four times the size it was in 1986. While the size change is obvious, there also have been other changes. We now function in several different locations — Portland, Boise, Eugene, and Salem. Other sites are under consideration. The most noticeable change observed by alumni from the "good old days" is that George Fox no longer is a university of only traditional-aged undergraduates. Today, approximately 45 percent of students are in graduate and nontraditional programs.

Change at George Fox University has brought many positive results. We are more attractive to more students because we are able to offer more choices. We have improved the academic quality of the programs we offer, and students have easier access to better technology than was available not many years ago.

But does George Fox University continue to put its distinctive "stamp" on graduates of all its programs? All the positive aspects of change would not be worth it if the special features of a George Fox education were lost. Is integration of the Christian faith with learning evident in all programs? Is it clear to all students that we value all people because of our Christian commitment? These distinctives must not be lost or minimized in any way.

Such questions are crucial to the quality of education at

George Fox University. I enjoy talking with and hearing from alumni from the various nontraditional programs. Eileen Qutub, former Oregon state senator, speaks highly of her experience in our degree-completion program.



President David Brandt

Her address at the December 2000 commencement ceremony demonstrated the integration of her Christian commitment with her public life. Similarly, I received a letter with a contribution from an alumna who told of the powerful experience she had in the George Fox M.A.T. program where, for the first time, she was helped to think about integrating her faith with her academic learning.

I could continue with such stories. The method of teaching and learning is not necessarily the same in many of our nontraditional programs, but the Christian commitment of our faculty and the relevance of this commitment to the material being taught is very clear in every program.

It is essential for us to make sure our mission is never compromised in any program — nontraditional or traditional. From our beginning, our purpose has always been "to demonstrate the meaning of Jesus Christ by offering a caring educational community in which each individual may achieve the highest intellectual and personal growth, and by participating responsibly in our world's concerns."

Methods may vary, but our goal remains the same.

David

The Abominable ‘No’ Man

Quick to say no to overspending, vice president for financial affairs Don Millage retires after guiding George Fox through nearly three decades of balanced budgets

Nearly every time chemistry professor Paul Chamberlain came to see Don Millage, he was met at the office door with the same greeting.

“No.”

The lighthearted welcome became a running joke for those who often came to make budget requests of Millage, George Fox’s 69-year-old vice president for financial affairs. It started the conversation off right, says Millage, who retires this summer with a tightfisted reputation and a remarkable record of nearly three decades of consecutive balanced university budgets.

Since leaving Wall Street to take a 40 percent salary cut and the financial responsibilities of a debt-ridden college in 1972, Millage has given George Fox nearly 30 years of fiscal stability. His departure will end a three-decade era that saw George Fox’s budget increase from \$1.2 million to \$35 million and its student population swell from 443 to 2,630.

Under three presidents and two interim presidents, Millage applied his dry wit, tireless devotion, and intense passion to keeping hundreds of employees from spending more money than the University possessed. He has been described as the backbone of the University, but his penchant for denying budget requests led him to come up with a self-composed nickname: The Abominable “No” Man.

Saying “no” came naturally to Millage, he says. “I learned it young and practiced it often.” Born during the Depression to an itinerant carpenter, Millage spent his teen years in the southern Oregon town of Talent. “We never had much in those years. I grew up frugal. It was easy to say no to things that seemed like luxuries to me, because I never had it.”

Five-foot-nine and silver-haired, Millage could stare through his glasses and inspire fear.

Clyde Thomas, director of plant services, recalls the first time he reported to Millage, he brought his office manager — for moral support.

“I was feared far more than I should have been,” says Millage. “When people got to know me, they weren’t afraid of me. But I may have seemed somewhat aloof and cold.”

Dave Kelley, assistant vice president for finance, has worked for Millage for eight years and has seen his softer side. “He cared for his staff not by what he said, but by taking up the slack,” says Kelly. “He wasn’t quick to (offer pleasantries) — that’s not his personality — but he showed he cared.”

“When he was working, he was pretty serious,” says Karon Bell, assistant vice president for administration, “But on break, he would be funny. Few people saw that.”

Millage’s humor also surfaced when reporting at board meetings and year-end campus meetings. Audiences would roar at the witty commentary he weaved into the budget numbers.

While at George Fox, Millage has also been an active early-morning racquetball player. He occasionally attends Portland Trail Blazer games and holds University of Oregon football season tickets. He has been a fixture at George Fox men’s basketball games since the mid-1970s, serving as volunteer scorekeeper.

“I always knew when it was a game night,” says Bell, “because it was the only time he’d get out of the office on time.”

Sports have been a lifelong passion for Millage. He quarterbacked his Talent high school football team, played second base on the baseball diamond, and came off the bench as a basketball guard. In track, he ran the dashes and set a state record for small-sized schools by leaping 20-feet-3⁵/₈ inches in the long jump.

After high school, Millage enrolled as a pre-engineering major at what is now Southern Oregon University. Uncertain of his career goals after two years of



Vowing that it would be his last day to wear a jacket and tie, Don Millage prepares to leave the desk he bought himself and used for 30 years. Described as “the backbone of the University,” Millage leaves a legacy of no-nonsense fiscal responsibility that has enabled George Fox to survive difficult economic times.

classes, he volunteered for the Army. The military sent him into the Korean conflict, where he saw limited action in a heavy artillery unit during the six months before the armistice. “It was an interesting time,” he says. “Not one I’d want to duplicate.”

Following his discharge from the Army in 1953, he began weekend trips to Newberg to see his high school sweetheart, Virginia Peters, then a student at George Fox. In 1954, she received her teaching diploma, and they were married the next day.

During their years at George Fox, Virginia made the Millage home a hospitable location for office gatherings and a haven for those in need. Their basement was frequently occupied by stranded students, new faculty, and visiting guest speakers. When cancer claimed her life in 1992, the Virginia Millage Memorial Rose Garden was planted to bloom in her honor at the center of campus.

In 1954, Millage enrolled at the University of Oregon. He recalled an accounting course at Southern Oregon that he had enjoyed taking. “I thought maybe I’d be a better accountant than an engineer.”

After Millage earned his degree in business administration, he became a CPA with Price Waterhouse in Portland. His career took him to San Francisco and later to New York as national director of professional development.

In his 16th year with Price Waterhouse, he received a late-night recruiting call from then George Fox President David LeShana. George Fox needed a business manager.

“My immediate response was ‘no way,’” says Millage, who was 39. But he and his wife began to consider it. They had hoped Don might work at George Fox eventually, and the idea of returning to the West Coast attracted them.

“We finally decided, ‘Why wait for retirement?’” he says.

Taking the post meant a salary drop from \$30,000 to \$18,000. When he arrived, in January of 1972, he bought his own desk, credenza, and chair as a donation to the college.

He soon found a cardboard box filled with \$50,000 in overdue bills. “I didn’t expect to have to spend the first six months talking to irate creditors,” he says. Millage established department budgets that employees could depend on and began delivering the first of many “nos.” He brought fiscal discipline to the small campus and put the College in the black his first year.

Millage says his highest career moment probably

came a couple years later when lumberman James Miller donated \$650,000 to the school. The donation eliminated the college’s unpaid bills, paid for much-needed building repairs, and provided the start of a capital campaign that eventually built Ross Center and Wheeler Sports Center.

His lowest career moments came during the economic recession in the late ’70s and early ’80s. His frugality became legendary. A tear in the business office rug was patched with duct tape. Low-set thermostats inspired shivering secretaries to wear open-fingered gloves even when typing. One secretary even thought it necessary to use up all the adding machine tape, reverse it, and run it through the other way. Half the bulbs in Wood-Mar light fixtures were removed to cut power costs.

Bell remembers convincing Millage to replace his tattered office chair in the mid-1990s — the same chair he bought with his own money when he arrived on campus. He used the same desk and credenza throughout his University career.

Even away from work, Millage spends hours crunching numbers on his home computer. Until eight years ago, he was treasurer of Newberg Friends Church, and until 1999 he managed the Friends’ pastors pension funds. Now he manages nearly 100 charitable trusts for the Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends and George Fox.

Retiring with Millage is the elaborate Excel spreadsheet budgeting system that he created on his Macintosh in the late ’80s. The mammoth document takes up 700 megabytes, enough to fill up almost 500 floppy disks.

“When I tell people we’ve been managing a \$35 million budget entirely on spreadsheets, they nearly fall off their chairs,” he says.

Coinciding with his retirement, the University is purchasing a management software system and hiring Mike Goins to assume the post being vacated by Millage. Goins has held similar positions at Whitworth College, University of the Pacific, and West Virginia Wesleyan University.

Millage’s spreadsheets and determination helped steer George Fox through difficult financial times that starved to death two of Oregon’s Christian colleges. Throughout, his philosophy has been simple: “Balanced budgets should be a way of life. I hope I’ve laid a foundation — in philosophy and reality — that gives the University the ability to grow and thrive.”

— Rob Felton

Tops In Teaching

Kathleen Gathercoal and Michele Johnson receive the 2001 teaching awards

For the first time, two awards have been presented to George Fox University faculty members for excellence in teaching.

Added this year to the traditional Faculty Achievement Award for Undergraduate Teaching is a new award for graduate teaching.

The doubling of awards acknowledges George Fox's growth, with more programs serving a wider range of academic needs.

The two winners share in an award-winning passion to help students reach their potential. Winning the undergraduate teaching citation is Michele Johnson, associate professor of business. Receiving the first graduate teaching award is Kathleen Kleiner Gathercoal, associate professor of psychology.

The honors were announced at the annual academic awards chapel, during which Gathercoal and Johnson each received a \$2,500 award. Recipients of the annual honors are chosen by a panel of faculty and students.

Gathercoal joined the George Fox faculty in 1993. She previously taught at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis. She completed her undergraduate work at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pa., then earned both master's and doctoral degrees in development psychology at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Among her areas of expertise are perception and memory, face perception and recognition, mental retardation, vision development in infants, and Quaker (Friends) higher education.

Robin Baker, vice president for academic affairs, announced Gathercoal's award.

"The students who nominated Kathleen emphasized her thoroughness and attention to detail, and particularly her openness to students," said Baker.

"She cares. She really does," says Brandy Liebscher, who earned bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in psychology at George Fox. She has known Gathercoal for seven years and has long been impressed by her professor's desire to help students succeed.



"I see graduate students as junior colleagues," says Kathleen Gathercoal, above left, associate professor of psychology and director of research for the Graduate School of Clinical Psychology. "They have experiences I don't have. Part of what I try to do is be available, sort of as an expert in my field, to provide the framework within which they can place their experiences."

"Everyone I know really loves her," says Rachele Floyd, who also earned a master's degree in psychology at George Fox and is now in the doctoral program. "In class, she's very open to taking any kind of suggestions that people have. She's also very frank in telling us that she's not an expert in everything. She's more of a research psychologist, so she'll ask us questions about the more clinical aspects."

"She's very, very genuine," says Liebscher. "There's not an arrogant bone in her body, but she's very confident in what she is good at. There's a humility there that deeply impacted my development."

Johnson joined the George Fox faculty in 1997, at the same time her husband, Tom, became dean of the University's seminary and also began serving for a year as George Fox's interim president. The Johnsons came from the University

of Sioux Falls (S.D.), where she had taught for 11 years — receiving that school's top teaching award in 1987 — and where her husband had served as president for nine years. She earlier taught for 10 years in public schools in California and South Carolina.

Johnson earned a bachelor of arts degree in special education at Wayne State University in Detroit, Mich., then earned a master of business administration degree at the University of South Dakota. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the American CPA Society.

Lon Fendall, dean of undergraduate studies, announced Johnson's award and described her as a "wonderful colleague and great friend to students."

He said Johnson's leadership in the University's accounting program has helped George Fox attract the attention of some of the biggest accounting com-

Michele Johnson, associate professor of business, below, says she tries to avoid set lectures, coming to class with a plan that "lets me move in many directions." Among the unusual teaching methods she uses are Monopoly games with extras like account statements and balance sheets, making pizzas as a way of showing how to determine product costs, and making paper quilts as a business-viability exercise.



CHIJO TAKEDA

panies in the United States. Because of her efforts, 11 of 15 graduates in the George Fox program have secured jobs with the nation's "Big 5" firms.

Fendall said those who nominated Johnson noted that she has high expectations of her students, but that she also helps them to meet those standards; that she has been "innovative, dedicated, and creative" in her teaching methods; that she has served with excellence as a department chair; and that her office is "always open" to students.

Julie Lockwood, a senior who is in an internship this summer with the national accounting firm of Deloitte and Touche, is among the students who have benefited from Johnson's direct efforts to promote the George Fox program.

"Michele is invaluable," says Lockwood. "I truly believe that without her dedicated and continuous effort, it would be a great loss to George Fox. Her value is not only as a professor and administrator, but also as a listening ear. She's always willing to help students who are struggling, be that in accounting or life in general."

Johnson says her classroom approach is probably influenced by the years she spent as a special education teacher.

"I teach by trying to 'read' the eyes of students," she says. "When I have a group in front of me, I'm constantly aware of those who are 'with me' and those who are not. I'm always circulating around them and trying to bring them back. I ask specific questions. Or I'll do something totally different, like breaking into song."

"I try to let them learn in a way that fits their learning style. Some like to hear it, some like to touch it, some like to see things. I try to do all those things in a class period."

"You're never bored," says Lockwood. "You really feel like it's worth your time, with Michele's classes. If you miss a class, you miss a lot."

— John Fortmeyer

Powers Receives Research Award

Don Powers, professor of biology at George Fox and a nationally recognized expert on birds, is recipient of the University's first Faculty Researcher Award.

The new award was announced during George Fox's spring commencement. Powers received a \$2,500 check — the same amount given annually to recipients of George Fox's Faculty Achievement Award for excellence in teaching. While the award is a similar recognition of high-quality work, it focuses attention on a faculty's member's research efforts. Selected by the Faculty Development Committee, the award notes significant contribution to a professor's field during the past academic year.

In Powers' case, the award notes his record of research and publishing in the field of ornithology specifically related to the physiology of hummingbirds. Powers also authored two chapters for *Birds of North America*, the chief research resource in ornithology.

Powers, who lives on Hummingbird Court in Newberg, started at George Fox in 1989.

Howard Named Professor Emeritus

David Howard has long considered music performance and composition a way to reflect God's creative nature.

"There is a way in which you can throw anything together and make it work, or a way that takes utmost patience and skill and would fashion it in a way that God has gifted us to do," he said. "Then it's something of beauty."

That philosophy has motivated Howard throughout a long teaching career at George Fox University that ended with his retirement this summer. The University's board of trustees awarded Howard the lifetime title of professor emeritus of music.

Howard joined George Fox's faculty in 1968 after several years teaching at his alma mater, Simpson College in California.

Besides teaching, Howard's most visible ongoing role has been as University organist. He played organ dedication concerts in both Wood-Mar and Bauman auditoriums, initiated George Fox's organ recital series, has been organist and pianist for family conferences at Cannon Beach

Christian Conference Center for 20 years, and has given dozens of recitals at churches and other settings. He also has directed George Fox's Handbell Ringers since 1988, and has chaired the overall music program since 1997.

For Howard, the words *music* and *ministry* are closely linked.

"I've always felt from my boyhood that I was called to a ministry," he says. "Worship performance has been my greatest joy."

"He is a real gifted individual," said Glenn Ludtke, K-12 performing arts specialist for Portland Public Schools and a 1971 George Fox music graduate. "The thing I've liked about Dave is not only his abilities and expertise in performance, but how he has demonstrated that performance through the music theory and other classes he taught. There was a direct relationship to what you were learning and how it should be applied. There aren't a lot of teachers who could do that."

In retirement, Howard will continue to pursue his calling. He plays organ for a McMinnville church, has published two compositions for orchestra and a book of settings for piano, and is preparing a dozen handbell settings or compositions for publication.

Lending a Hand

Alumni connect with students to help with transitions from college life to the working world

Your career. Best decision you ever made? A good idea at the time, but now not so sure?

What do you wish you had been told before making the choice?

That's the concept behind Dinner for Eight, a new program developed by George Fox's Alumni Association and the Student Alumni Council.

The program asks George Fox alumni to share their acquired professional experience with the soon-to-be alumni, letting them know the "real world" experience as career and life choices are being made.

Thirty-two individuals, couples, and families this spring hosted 86 students in the program that matches alumni in the region with seniors. Alumni volunteer to share their lives and careers with as many as eight students, while hosting them for a casual dinner in their homes. It provides undergraduates with an opportunity to connect with George Fox alumni and talk — or dream — about possible careers. Dinners were held three Tuesdays in March.

"People just loved it," says Chelsea Philips, a freshman from Wilsonville, Ore., who joined three others in a dinner hosted by 1940 alumna Virginia Heacock Helm at her home near Gresham. Philips hopes the program expands. "We should try next year to have a bigger variety of majors represented, so that people from all different interest groups have a place to go."

Scott Box, assistant director of alumni and parent relations and a 1999 George Fox graduate, helped establish the program. He said students can go "to an alum's house and get — not just great food and great relationships — but also career connections and guidance and an opportunity to just dream."

Philips has been leaning toward a Christian ministries major, and that inclination is strong now that she has heard Helm's tales of short-term missions work on most of the world's continents.

"At the end of the evening, she (Helm) got all our names and signed up a day each month for us to pray for her and for her to pray for us, so we all could be prayer warriors," says Philips. "I thought that was cool."

Trisha Byrd, a prenursing major from Tillamook, Ore., and executive chair of the Student Alumni Council, helped organize the Dinner for Eight program. She took part in two of them, both oriented toward careers in nursing or fields related to medicine. Those dinners were hosted by 1994 biology graduate Gloria Krueger, Newberg, and by 1998 biology graduate Amy Gillett, of Wilsonville, Ore., and her husband, Kenny, who also is a 1998 graduate and serves on George Fox's Alumni Board.

Both Krueger and Amy Gillette pursued careers in nursing.

"The dinners were incredible for a first-time program," says Byrd. "They answered our questions very well. We were so blessed. We felt right at home."

Dr. Tim and Rachel Janzen of Portland and their four children hosted seven students in their home. Students heard from them what it is like to be a family-practice physician or the spouse of one.

"Hopefully the students came away from our time together with a better understanding of the rigors, stresses, and rewards of medical practice, as well as the training involved in preparing to



Dr. Tim Janzen, center, and his family hosted seven students for dinner and discussion. The students and the Janzens talked about what it is like to be a family-practice physician — or the spouse of one.

become a doctor," says Tim Janzen, who graduated with a chemistry degree from George Fox in 1983 before going on to medical school at Oregon Health Sciences University.

"I thought the evening was wonderful," says Rachel Janzen, who said she enjoyed answering questions about what it is like to be married to a busy physician. "I think a spouse who understands the other spouse's career is a tremendous asset," she says.

Careers represented in the debut Dinner for Eight program were financial planning and investment sales, biology, business, teaching, public administration, missions work, nursing, economics, social work, computer engineering, psychology, church pastoral work, drama, video production, marketing, politics, and higher education.

Through a similar but different matching of alumni and students, George Fox senior Carrie Breithaupt, a biology major from Portland who wants to go to medical school, spent several days with Dr. Carl Haisch, in his work in Greenville, N.C.

Haisch, who earned a bachelor of science degree in biology from George Fox in 1969 and later graduated from the University of Washington Medical School, is director of surgical immunology and transplantation at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University.

The match-up allowed Breithaupt to observe a specialized surgical procedure at Haisch's invitation. About a year ago, Haisch visited George Fox as a guest lecture in a class taught by Dwight Kimberly, associate professor of biology.

Noting that many students need professional mentors, Kimberly asked Haisch if he might be able to host a student, letting the student shadow him during his surgeries and patient care. Haisch liked the idea, and Breithaupt not only made the professional visit but enjoyed a four-day stay with Haisch and his wife, Luella, a 1968 George Fox graduate.

"It was just fascinating," Breithaupt says. "I got to see every aspect of his life

— not only his being in surgery, but also his training of residents. I got to hear what his family life was like, his values. He's a neat Christian man and talks about how he works his values into his practice. He's a great person to model after. We had a lot of good talks."

For his part, Haisch said, "I think that

Christian students need to understand that you can integrate your Christianity in your worldview and in your workplace, and that they should make a difference."

The experience, Breithaupt says, confirmed her career choice.

— John Fortmeyer

Mission: Students tell of program's effectiveness and practicality

continued from page 2

"I loved it," she says of her undergraduate experience at George Fox. "It was the best thing I ever did. I would go to class and learn all these new things, and then I could go to work and apply them the next day — everything from group dynamics to budgeting and finance. Everything is applicable as a supervisor."

Smith is not alone in entering graduate school. Estimates are that one-third of the University's degree-completion students continue their education. The program's retention rate is nearly 95 percent.

She's also not alone in her enthusiasm for the degree-completion program. David Nansen, a 1999 graduate and associate vice president of investments for Prudential Securities in Portland, talks about the benefits of a program in which instruction comes not only from the curriculum but from the learning experiences of classmates "in the real world dealing with real issues."

Randy Merrill, a 1999 Hillsboro, Ore., graduate who is a logistics manager for IBM, describes the program as a stepping-stone in life. "In today's world, we all need to be as flexible as possible in our career choices." For completing his college degree as a working adult, he says, "this is absolutely the best approach to getting in there and getting it done."

Stan Houghton calls his time as a George Fox student a life-changing experience. "It helped me to understand my strengths and where I really wanted to spend the rest of my life career-wise," says the 1997 graduate who now teaches in the program that helped him get his degree.

Such testimonials are gratifying to Ocker, the program's new director. Having been an adult learner himself — and with a widely varied professional background — he identifies strongly with his students and feels a "burning passion" for adult education.

"I have the opportunity to meld experience and theory in the experiential learning process," he says. "That's another exciting thing — to watch the light bulb go on."

Facilitating that learning process is what motivates all George Fox University faculty, whether they teach in the degree-completion, undergraduate, graduate, or seminary programs.

As McNaught explains, "We can take pride in the approach we take to all of our students — the young, traditional students still being formed and the older, nontraditional students who bring more complex life experiences with them. The issue is not that a school serves two entirely different populations. The issue is that we, as an institution, stay focused on our mission."

— Anita Cirulis

Classic Bruins

George Fox University inducts the class of 1951 into the new group

Members of the class of 1951 were the first to be inducted into the Classic Bruins, a new program established by the Alumni Relations Office for all alumni who have celebrated their 50-year reunion.

Instead of meeting during homecoming, the 19 reunion participants gathered commencement weekend so they could participate in graduation. Wearing aca-

demical regalia, they led the procession of graduates and were honored during the ceremony.

Reunion festivities began Friday evening with a no-host dinner. Saturday's events started with breakfast, followed by a campus tour, reception, and banquet, and concluded with the commencement ceremony. Class members also contributed to a memory book that was given to each alum during the banquet.

Campaign: Goal Reached But Funds Still Needed

continued from page 1

Foundation, which the University will receive only if it is successful in raising the remainder needed.

"We're confident we can reach our goals for both the Stevens Center and Wood-Mar," Miller says, "but that will happen only if persons who haven't yet made a commitment to the campaign do so by the end of the year."

Miller points to the many outcomes of the campaign as reasons to give.

Some are tangible: a greatly increased endowment for scholarships and faculty development; a new, 40,000-square-foot building that will have a major impact on campus; improved information technology systems to better serve students and employees. Some are intangible: an expanded donor base; better informed constituencies; a reminder of God's faithfulness.

"It's not just about having goals met," Miller says. "It's about having a change on campus. That's where we stop short sometimes. We look at the money and say it's just money, but it's not. It's about the things that happen at George Fox University that wouldn't if it weren't for reaching these campaign goals."



Attending their 50-year reunion at George Fox University April 28 were (front row, from left) Everett Clarkson, Caroline Engle, Louise (Ralphs) Fivecoat, Margaret (Goldenstein) Whittlesey, Margaret (Dickson) Magee, Martha (Lemmons) Puckett, Norma (Dillon) Beebe Piersall, (second row) Lloyd Lyda, Glen Mills, Wilma (Harris) Magee, Margaret (Shattuck) Lemmons, June (Knobel) May, (back row) Earl Barnum, Gene Hockett, Bill DeLapp, Harold Magee, Hal May, Roy Lawrence, and Wayne Piersall.

ANITA CIRULLI

Volunteers Wanted for Serve Day

Alumni and parents are invited to join George Fox students and employees for the University's third annual Serve Day on Wednesday, Sept. 5.

Last year, members of the GFU community served at more than 50 locations in the Newberg and greater Portland areas. This year organizers hope to provide workers to even more sites for a variety of tasks, including painting, cleaning, ditch digging, and yard work.

The day will begin with a kickoff event and commission by President David Brandt — along with a continental breakfast — on the campus quad. From there participants will join serve site groups and depart to their destinations, where they will spend the day serving in the community. At the end of the day, Serve Day participants will return to campus for a celebration dinner and recreational activities.

If you are unable to take part, please pray for Serve Day. For those interested in volunteering, call Missy Terry at 503-554-2140.

Death Claims Two Board Members

More than six decades of leadership with the George Fox board of trustees has ended with the death of two longtime board members.

Ivan Adams, believed to have served on the University's board longer than any other member, died Feb. 4, 2001, in Newberg at the age of 86. He had been associated with the board for 42 years, from his election in 1947 until his resignation in 1989, and had continued as an honorary board member until his death. He was board chair from 1950 to 1969.

Adams was with First National Bank in Portland for 39 years, retiring in 1976. At the time of his resignation from the George Fox board, he noted he had served with 138 different trustees and, at an average of three hours each meeting, devoted 1,230 hours (more than 30 40-hour weeks) to board sessions, in addition to various other duties as chair.

C.W. Perry, a board member for 22 years, died suddenly Oct. 25, 2000, of an apparent heart attack at the age of 66 while playing basketball. He was elected to the board in 1978 and served most of his years as a member of the Student Life Committee.

Perry was founder and, for 37 years, senior pastor of the Rose Drive Friends Church in Yorba Linda, Calif. He founded the church in a home, with about 40 people at the first service. Today the church has six buildings with more than 2,000 parishioners.

In addition to his service on the George Fox board, Perry gave leadership to Missionary Aviation Fellowship, Dynacom, and Placentia Linda Hospital in California. He spoke for numerous conferences in the United States and worldwide. One of his last ministries was to serve as pastor to the George Fox board at a retreat just weeks before his death.

Alumni Association Seeks Award Nominations

The George Fox University Alumni Association urges alumni, friends, and students to submit names of people they believe should be considered for recognition of their contributions to church, society, and George Fox University.

I nominate . . .

Name of Nominee(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____

Alumnus/Alumna of the Year

Through years of preparation, experience, dedication, and exemplary character and service, the recipient of this award has achieved professional or vocational distinction. He or she has displayed support for and sympathy with the mission, goals, and purpose of George Fox University.

Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna

A graduate of either a continuing education or traditional program, this person is distinguished in a special area of life and reflects the

ideals of George Fox University through his or her commitment to a profession, the church, the community, and the University.

Special Award

Special recognition is awarded to a graduate or nongraduate who has uniquely served the University. This award is optional and may not be given every year.

Name of Nominator _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____

To be considered for the 2002 alumni awards, this form must be completed and returned to the Alumni Relations Office by August 15, 2001. Please call, write, or e-mail the Alumni Relations Office at George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6049, Newberg, OR 97132, 503-554-2114, sphilips@georgefox.edu

ALUMNI NOTES

Phyllis (George) Kirkwood (G59) has been named Substitute Teacher of the Year by the Oregon Substitute Teachers Association.

Ron Freshour (n62) has retired with the rank of captain after 27 years as a law enforcement officer with the Marion County Sheriff's Office, Salem, Ore. He has started a second career as security coordinator with the Salem Area Transit District.

Dave Greenwald (G71) teaches science at Mendez Fundamental Intermediate School, Orange, Calif.

Harry Selby (G71) is completing his 10th year of teaching at Project CDA (Creating Dropout Alternatives), an alternative education program in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. He is building a physical education program at the school for seventh through 12th grades that will include weightlifting and conditioning, sports, and physical education classes.

Bob Boyd (G72) is vice president for construction services for Sanwa Bank, Los Angeles, Calif. He has been employed by the bank for 16 years.

Stuart Willcuts (G72) is chief executive officer of AirServ International, a Christian organization that works in disaster relief situations by providing support services in air transport, air and ground logistics, communications, and other inputs. AirServ operates in Africa and the former Soviet Union.

Steve Fellows (G76) is administrator at San Gabriel Valley (Calif.) Medical Center. He previously was senior vice president and chief operating officer at Glendale (Calif.) Memorial Hospital.

John Helbling (G76) is part of California case law. He testified in *People v. Martinez*, a Three Strikes case that was appealed and later affirmed by the California Supreme Court. John has served for the last 11 years as a paralegal in the district attorney's office, Los Angeles County, Norwalk, Calif.

Karen (White) Combs (G77) is the clearing-house coordinator for Love in the Name of Christ, Corvallis, Ore. A part of World Vision, Love INC connects volunteers from local churches with people in need. Karen's duties include coordinating the volunteers from over a dozen churches.

Simon Chou (GFES78) is pastor of Evangelical Chinese Church, Seattle, Wash. The church has been named one of America's 300 outstanding Protestant churches in a nationwide study conducted at the University of North Carolina.

Gaylyn Smith (n79) has been a pharmacist for the past 15 years for Bob's Rexall Pharmacy, Seal Beach, Calif.

John Wafula (G82) is circulation business analyst for the *New York Daily News*.

Jay Hadley (G90) is assistant director at Dickson Valley Camp & Retreat Center, a Christian camp in Newark, Ill.

Tommye (Jeffrey) Fries (G91) is a computer-aided drafter and administrative assistant at Finishing Technologies Inc., Portland.

Matthew Johnson (PsyD94) lives in Grants Pass, Ore., where he has a private practice in clinical psychology working with children, adolescents, adults, couples, and families. He is the author of *MOTHER Rules: Positive Parenting with a Plan*, and has taught the MOTHER Rules parenting system at churches, schools, and the Oregon Psychological Association's 2001 spring conference.

Marsha (Utley) Lewis (DPS94) is the human resource manager for Hy-Lite Products Inc., a manufacturer of block windows in Beaumont, Calif. She oversees the HR responsibilities for 81 employees in Beau-

mont and 70 employees in the company's Georgia facility.

Holly (Rice) Dunn (G96) received a master of science degree as a physician assistant June 2, 2001, from Midwestern University, Downers Grove, Ill.

Steven Dunn (G96) received a master of arts degree in psychology, mental health ministry May 5, 2001, from Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill.

Diane Marr (G96) starred as Emily Arden in the Walla Walla (Wash.) Community College Foundation production of *State Fair*. The semiprofessional production benefited a scholarship program for the college's students.

Jacob Coleman (G97) is team leader at the Capital Group, Brea, Calif. His wife, Dawn (Napier) Coleman (G98) is children's minister with University Praise, Fullerton, Calif.

Daichi Jinbo (G97) received a master's degree in intercultural studies May 25, 2001, from Biola University, La Mirada, Calif.

Josie Smith (G98) is marketing director at The Village at Corte Madera, a shopping mall in Corte Madera, Calif.

Stacy Wade (G98) received a master of education degree in college student affairs in May 2000 from Azusa Pacific University.

Bethany Sonerholm (G99) was crowned Miss Multnomah County in the local Miss Oregon pageant March 18, 2001. She will compete for the state title in July at Seaside, Ore.

Michelle (Snyder) Welton (G99) and her husband, Brent, are working at Double K Christian Retreat Center, located in central Washington. Their duties include planning and directing a summer adventure camp for junior- and senior-high youth.

Lupe Dobbs (GFES00) is a minister with the Assemblies of God churches and is currently planting a new church, Maranatha Assembly of God, in Springfield, Ore. She is also employed full time as the housing coordinator for Willamette Family Treatment Services, Eugene, Ore., where she works with individuals and families recovering from substance abuse.

Erin McKinney (G00) returned from teaching in Wuhan, China, at the end of January and is software implementation clerk/administrator at George Fox University.

Jason Schilperoot (G00) is branch manager of Vector Marketing's Beaverton (Ore.) office. Vector is the marketer of Cutco cutlery, manufacturer of kitchen cutlery and accessories.

Julie Smith (G01) is marketing administrative assistant at Northwest Medical Teams, Portland.

MARRIAGES

Denise Darnell (G85, GFES99) and Kurtis Amend, Sept. 16, 2000, in Salem, Ore.

Becky Drapela (n85) and Scott Lindsley, March 31, 2001, in Vancouver, Wash.

Christine Smith (n88) and Michael Cartwright, July 29, 2000, in Cleburne, Texas.

Paul Brown (G89) and Karen Shadrack, March 10, 2001, in Salem, Ore.

Tommye Jeffrey (G91) and Mark Fries, Feb. 10, 2001, in Portland.

Tammy Baker (G92) and Douglas Higgins, June 2, 2000, in Salem, Ore.

Lisa Pedrojetti (n95) and Richard Hutchins, June 16, 2000, in Jacksonville, Ore.

Alex Walker (n96) and Jacqueline MacMillan, Nov. 11, 2000, in Montreal, Calif.

Meagan Williams (G96) and Aaron Bozeman, Sept. 23, 2000, in Newberg.

Christina Stenstadvold (G97) and Steven Johnson, Jan. 27, 2001, in Oregon City, Ore.

Galena Bowie (G98) and Ken Smith, July 9, 2000, in Gresham, Ore.

Karen Danielson (MAT98) and James Groat, Dec. 16, 2000, in Coos Bay, Ore.

Marty Groff (G98) and Sarah Mast (G99), Nov. 18, 2000, in Newberg.

Jeanne Bellamy (G99) and Christopher Wood (G99), March 25, 2000, in Beaverton, Ore.

Rebecca Bunfill (G99) and David Erickson, Nov. 25, 2000, in Tualatin, Ore.

Pete Macy (G99) and Linsey Inscho (G00), May 12, 2001, in Newberg.

Shawn Meyer (n99) and Meghan Edwards, Oct. 1, 2000, in Portland.

Trevor Hurley (G00) and Ronda McCoy, May 19, 2001, in Rickreall, Ore.

Lindsey Hutchison (MAT00) and Kevin Wuepper, July 29, 2000, in Portland.

Jamie Johnson (G00) and Erin Oates (G01), May 12, 2001, in Arroyo Grande, Calif.

Britton Lacy (G00) and Michelle Walter (G01), July 15, 2000, in Portland.

Matt Magee (G00) and Kendra Charles (G01), May 26, 2001, in Portland.

Darlene Sackett (G00) and Jonathan Tabor, April 28, 2001, in Portland.

Jeff Votaw (G01) and Marian Stevens (n02), Aug. 5, 2000, in Newberg.

BIRTHS

Michelle (Downing) (G89) and Dave Barnhart, a girl, Laura Deborah, Feb. 5, 2001, in Portland.

Shana (Longstroth) (G89) and Daryl Grunau, a girl, Sarah Elizabeth, March 22, 2001, in Los Alamos, N.M.

Andy (G89) and Kim (Nolen) (G89) LaVeine, a girl, Hannah Nicole, Oct. 23, 2000, in Portland.

April (Thorne) (n89) and Mark Simpson, a boy, Landon Emmett, March 28, 2000, in Tualatin, Ore.

Carla (Stevens) (G90) and Tony Jetton, a boy, Jeron Anthony, May 25, 2001, in Chandler, Ariz. Jeron is the grandson of Linda and the late George Fox President Edward Stevens.

Paul (G91) and Maureen Huizinga, a girl, Sara Grace, Jan. 14, 2001, in Richmond, Va.

Heather (Campbell) (G91) and Matt (G92) Milligan, a boy, Joshua Daniel, Feb. 19, 2001, in Tualatin, Ore.

Brian (G92) and Annette (Greenwood) (G93) Dexter, a girl, Kristen Elizabeth, Feb. 5, 2000, in Portland.

Kevin (G93) and Kimberly (Cain) (G95) Dougherty, a girl, Aidan Grace, Feb. 21, 2001, in Lafayette, Ind.

Monica (Robles) (G93) and Jerry Myers, a girl, Isabella Marie, March 6, 2001, in Portland.

Christy (Matsumura) (G93) and Jeff (G95) Nelson, a girl, Leila Mae, Jan. 14, 2001, in Denver, Colo.

Tom (G93) and Marlyss (Stenberg) (G93) Springer, a girl, Savannah Leigh Ann, March 4, 2001, in Clackamas, Ore.

Cassy (Dunther) (G94) and Chad Hedberg, a girl, Madeline Diane, June 14, 2000, in Salem, Ore.

Pete (G94) and Amy (Richards) (G94) Rusaw, a girl, Linnaea Grace, Nov. 1, 2000, in Hillsboro, Ore.

Andrea (Hilchey) (G94) and Allan Williams, a boy, Matthew Charles, April 12, 2001, in Portland.

Trey (G95) and Stephanie (Sabin) (n97) Doty, a boy, Drew Garrett, Oct. 9, 2000, in Portland.

Dan (G95) and Diana (Remmick) (G96) Groom, a girl, Mary Esther, Nov. 23, 2000, in Ontario, Ore.

Stephanie (Denton) (G96) and Mark Mehl, a boy, Warner Kingsley, Jan. 9, 2001, in Portland.

Casey (Waits) (G97) and Mike Mayben, a girl, Mia Lyn, Oct. 30, 2000, in Medford, Ore.

Cambria (Tetzlaff) (G97) and Brian Rollo, a girl, Maille Renee, April 7, 2001, in Bellingham, Wash.

Melanie (Papworth) (G99) and Peter Mead, a girl, Hannah Grace, March 2, 2001, in Bristol, England.

Jeffrey (G00) and Liana Potter, a boy, Joshua Elliott, May 2, 2001, in Portland.

Katy (Wonders) (G00) and Mike (G00) Presnell, a girl, Michaela Anne, Oct. 3, 2000, in Tigard, Ore.

DEATHS

Velda (Livingston) Sweet (G29), May 13, 2001, in McMinnville, Ore.

Wally Delano (n55), Jan. 2, 2001, in Battleground, Wash.

Jerry Vaughan (DPS90), Dec. 20, 2000, in Silverton, Ore.

David DeGraw (DPS93), Oct. 20, 2000, in Vancouver, Wash.

Thomas Millan (MAT95), July 31, 2000, in Beaverton, Ore.

Marcia Stout (DPS96), May 8, 2001, in Hillsboro, Ore.

Family Weekend

for parents and families of
George Fox University
students

November 2-4, 2001

Look for the brochure and
registration form in the
mail this fall.



*Bring a blanket ... the Frisbee ...
the spouse ... a friend ... the kids ...
and the memories ...*

to George Fox University's third annual

young alumni summer reunion

August 4, 2001, 4 to 10 p.m.

For all who attended George Fox
University between 1991 and 2001.

Centennial Tower lawn, Newberg campus

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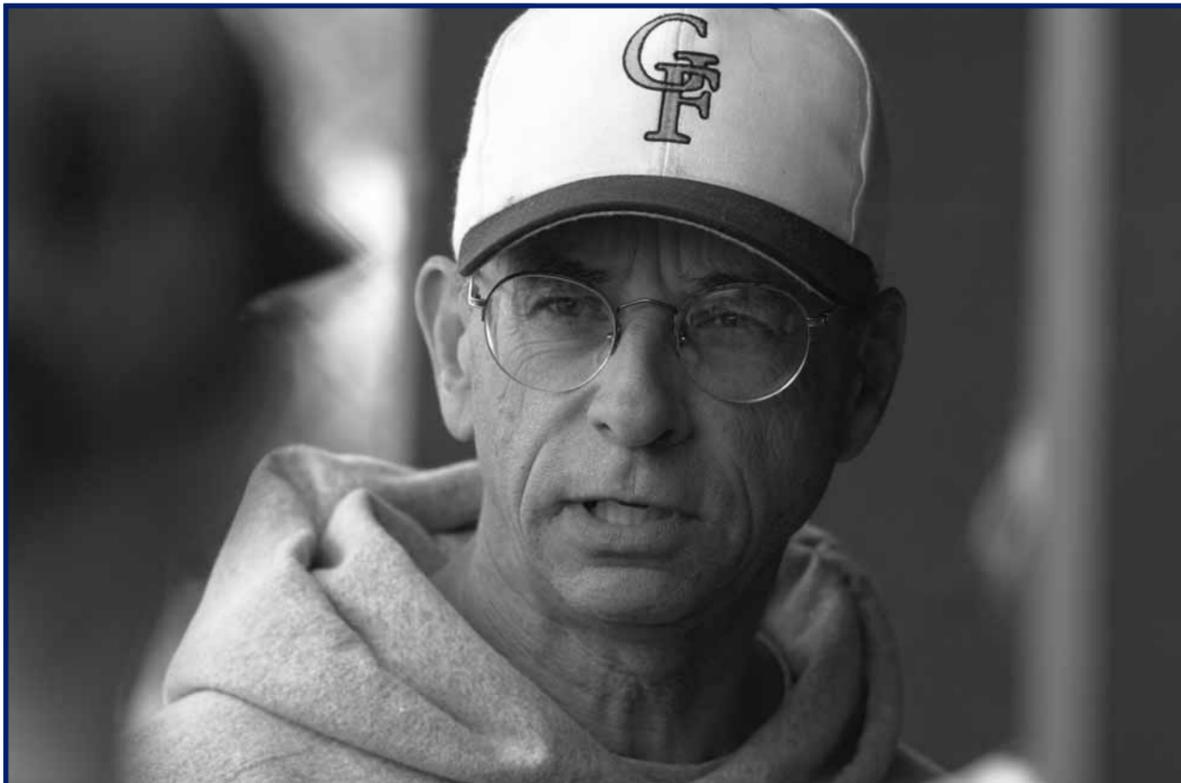
Buy your own picnic dinner from us
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or call Scott Box at 503-554-2130

Key

G	Traditional graduate
n	Traditional non-graduate
DPS	Department of Professional Studies graduate (MHR, MOL, and MBIS majors)
GFES	Seminary graduate
PsyD	Clinical Psychology graduate
MAT	Master's in Teaching graduate



KIRK HIROTA

In his first year as head coach of George Fox University's softball team, Tim Hill brought the Bruins from a last-place finish in 2000 to conference contender. His dedication to all aspects of the job, rapport with his assistant coaches, and years of coaching experience with the Amateur Softball Association are making a difference in Bruin softball.

Turnaround Time

Tim Hill, NWC Coach of the Year, credits his team for its improved season

What a difference a year can make! The 2000 softball season was a tough one for the George Fox University Bruins. The team struggled to a 6-25 record with a small roster that was depleted even further by injuries, at times having just enough players to field a team.

At the end of the season, Chris Gross resigned after seven years as head coach to devote herself to her full-time job with a pitching machine company.

The reins of the program were turned over to Tim Hill, a longtime Amateur Softball Association (ASA) coach with no previous college coaching experience. Picked to finish seventh in the Northwest Conference (NWC) coaches' poll, the 2001 Bruins instead became one of the most talked-about teams on campus and around the conference.

The team improved to 16-14-2 and challenged the NWC all season, climbing within a half-game of first with two weeks left, before finishing fourth. Hill was named NWC Coach of the Year for leading the team's surprise turnaround.

Why such a dramatic improvement in just one year? Laura Steenson, the Bruins' all-conference pitcher who was 15-10 with a 1.56 ERA and 111 strikeouts, notes three reasons.

"First, we had a stable roster," points out the sophomore from Milwaukie, Ore. "Last year, we had injuries and a lot of turnover; players were coming and going all the time. This year, we had players we could count on all the time.

"Second, we were a lot more intense defensively. I mean, the coaches worked us on defense over and over and over! As a pitcher, it was a good feeling to know I had a defense behind me that I could trust.

"And third, having new coaches who could devote more time to the program meant a lot. We knew it was frustrating for Coach Gross, not being able to be there as much as she wanted, and that was frustrating for us as players, too."

Gross admitted as much. "I knew before the 2000 season started that it would be my last," she says. "The coaching was only part time, and my full-time job was demanding more and more of my time, taking me all over the country. It was getting harder to make it to practices, and the girls deserved someone who could devote more time to them. I loved the program and the players, but for their sakes, I had to give it up."

Enter Hill. The George Fox position was suggested to him by the parents of a player, and though reluctant to accept it at first, the more he thought about it, the more the idea appealed to him.

"Coaching a college team was obviously something

brand new to me," says Hill, "but I had recently retired from Willamette Industries and had the time, so I said to myself, 'Why not?' And I wouldn't have accepted it if my two long-time summer coaching buddies, Dennis Keller and Paul Sabah, hadn't agreed to come with me."

The three new coaches put the team through intensive workouts in the fall, and Hill remembers, "You could see there was some apprehension at first about what we were trying to do. We worked them hard, particularly defensively, because pitching and defense are really where games are won or lost. But we had a lot of fun and laughed a lot, too. Gradually, they began to grasp the new things we were teaching them."

The hard work paid off as the team jumped off to a 4-1-1 start — including two wins over Linfield to open conference play — and peaked at 15-10-2. Included was a 4-1 win over eventual NWC champion and national power Pacific Lutheran.

"We probably overachieved early in the season," Hill admits, "but the PLU win was huge in terms of our players building their confidence and believing in themselves."

Senior third baseman Brittany Baird (Lincoln City, Ore.), who led the team in batting (.293) for the second straight year, agrees: "When the season began, we were just hoping to be competitive and give teams a good game. By the end of the year, we seriously thought we could win every game."

"With Laura on the mound, we felt like we had a chance every time out," says Hill. "Our defense was improved, and we always seemed to come up with the big plays when we needed them."

Speaking of the postseason honor he received from his coaching peers, Hill smiles and says, "It's a nice award and certainly I'm pleased by it, but I really think they should give a Team of the Year award or a Staff of the Year award. Paul and Dennis worked just as hard as I did and deserve every bit of credit I might get, and the girls themselves put everything they had into it. Any award that comes to me is truly a team effort."

So where does the team go from here? Reflecting on his first year at George Fox, Hill admits, "We're still in a building mode. We made more progress than I anticipated, but we've got to keep going, and we will have some key people to replace next year.

"This has been more work than I imagined, especially recruiting, but I love it. The working environment is amazing because of my friends in the athletic department, the quality and character of our players, and the Christian atmosphere. Coaching can be a cutthroat business, but this is a super situation that I am looking forward to being in for a long time."

— Blair Cash

Track and Field

George Fox's Heather Hunt finished second in the pole vault in the NCAA Division III National Championships. The senior from Turner, Ore., earned All-American status with her 12-0 mark, the same height as champion Laura Rosenberger of Eastern Mennonite, who won on fewer attempts to clear the height.

Hunt's 12-05.5 during the season is tied for the second best in NCAA Division III history. Also at the nationals were Jamie McElwain, Tigard, Ore., in the 800; Kelsey Baron, Nehalem, Ore., in the long jump and triple jump; Lori Miller, Aurora, Ore., in the javelin; Amy Forbes, Jackson, Wyo., in the high jump; and Sarah Zempel, Rogue River, Ore., in the shot put. Miller was the highest finisher other than Hunt, placing ninth.

In the Northwest Conference (NWC) championships, the George Fox women finished fourth while the men came in fifth. Conference champions for the women were Hunt in the pole vault at 11-0.75; Forbes in the high jump at 5-4.25; Baron at 17-9 in the long jump and 36-1.25 in the triple jump; and Zempel in the shot put at 41-2.25.

NWC men's winners were Jon Robinson, Cannon Beach, Ore., in the long jump at 22-2.5; Ben Salisbury, Bellingham, Wash., in the 200 at 22.17; the 4x100 relay team of Robinson, Eric Costa, Beaverton, Ore., Tyler Gassaway, Oregon City, Ore., and Salisbury at 42.10; and the 4x400 relay team of Ryan Sprunger, Dundee, Ore., Gassaway, Costa, and Salisbury at 3:17.54.

New school records were set this spring by Hunt, by Baron at 18-03 in the long jump and 37-08.5 in the triple jump, and by Zempel in the shot at 43-04.25.

Baseball

Closing with a rush, the George Fox baseball team won 12 of its last 15 games to post its sixth straight winning season. The Bruins ended the year 22-21 overall, tied for third in the Northwest Conference at 15-9.

With a very young team (only three squad members seniors athletically and only three regulars returning), the Bruins struggled early, but then got off to a fast start in the conference and a strong ending, including one string of six wins in a row.

Southpaw Paul Andrewjeski, Vancouver, Wash.; slugging first baseman Eric Bell, Spokane, Wash.; and scrappy second sacker Ryan Dearing, Vancouver, Wash., earned First Team All-Northwest Conference. Bell was First Team All-West Region.

Andrewjeski was 6-5 with a 3.61 ERA and 69 strikeouts; Bell hit .410 with nine home runs, 41 RBIs, and led the league with 20 doubles, one short of the team record; while Dearing batted a .343, compiled a .458 on-base percentage, and led the NWC by getting hit with a pitch 10 times.

Andrewjeski, with a 3.75 GPA, and shortstop Paul Gramenz, Sequim, Wash., with a 3.91 GPA, were named to the Verizon/CoSIDA College Division Academic All-District VIII Baseball Team.

Women's Tennis

George Fox men's tennis coach Rick Cruz added women's tennis to his list of responsibilities this spring, inheriting a team with just two returning players and one senior. With four freshmen in the lineup, the Bruins posted a 3-15 overall record, finishing eighth in the NWC at 2-11.

Freshman Lisa Trefts, Spokane, Wash., was the University's top singles player with a 7-10 record, including a 6-10 mark at no. 1. She and senior Kim Reimer, Dallas, Ore., had the best record in doubles, teaming up for a 3-8 standing at no. 1.

Men's Tennis

With the loss of two All-Northwest Conference players and only one sophomore returning, the George Fox men's tennis team was loaded with inexperience. The result was a learning year for the youthful Bruins, as they went 2-15 overall and 1-10 for eighth place in the NWC.

Sophomore Joe Gonzales, Roseburg, Ore., the lone returner, had a singles record of 7-10, including a 7-9 mark at no. 1. He and freshman Derek Dougherty, Springfield, Ore., recorded the top doubles mark as well, posting a 5-12 record at no. 1.

Softball

Under first-year coach Tim Hill, the George Fox softball team improved from the previous year's 6-25 record to 16-14-2 in 2001, finishing fourth in the NWC with a 12-9 mark.

The season could not have started more spectacularly. After being picked seventh in the conference's preseason poll, the Bruins won four of their first six games. Including a big win over national power Pacific Lutheran University, the Bruins won seven of nine games in another stretch and moved to within a half-game of PLU at the top of the conference standings.

Though the team fell in four of its last five games to wind up fourth in the conference, overall it was a turnaround season for the Bruins. Because of their unexpected improvement, Hill was named NWC Coach of the Year.

Sophomore pitcher Laura Steenson, Milwaukie, Ore., made First Team All-Conference after posting a 15-10 record with a 1.56 ERA and 111 strikeouts, leading the league in wins.

