Art & soul:
The stagecraft of Bryan Boyd
Page 10
Is your property worth more today?

Turn that gain into income with a George Fox unitrust

- Increases spendable income
- Produces income tax savings
- Frees you from capital gain taxes
- Impacts tomorrow’s leaders
- Provides lifetime income
- Supports Christian higher education

Contact Al Zimmerman
Office of Estate and Planned Giving
414 N. Meridian St. #6049
Newberg, OR 97132
azimmerman@georgefox.edu
503-554-2106
Graduation 2006 | 10

by Rob Felton | Amid cheers and tears, graduates are encouraged to bring love into a dark world.

Art & Soul | 12

by Rob Felton | Listening, waiting, and wondering with professor Bryan Boyd, one of the American College Theater Festival’s 35 Celebrated Teaching Artists.

Act Six | 18

by Tamara Cissna | A leadership development and scholarship program will bring much-needed diversity to the George Fox campus.

Biggs! | 20

by Rob Felton | Statkeeper Mike Wirta celebrates his 1,000th Bruin basketball game with his family . . . the university.
Readers Forum

The Journal received more than 30 letters in response to the spring issue “Tell us more” photo. The excerpts below represent a small sampling of your sentiments.

>> Mike “Biggs” Wirta is someone I will never forget from my days at George Fox. You won’t find a more loyal fan of Bruin basketball, nor a more enjoyable person to talk with. His ability to capture every detail of a game with pencil and paper and then magically transform all the scratches into an absolutely perfectly scribed score sheet was amazing. Although I know that he has updated his process to capture Bruin stats with the help of a computer, some of us will always prefer to remember the “legendary” Biggs sitting at the scorer’s table with a pencil and paper.

Thanks for taking me back.

Brian Martin ('91)
Bruin basketball player 1989–91
PORTLAND, OREGON

>> I’m happy to share my memories of the Bruins' “biggest” fan… Mike “Biggs” Wirta. It’s impossible to think of Biggs and not have a smile on my face. What a loyal, trusting, happy, and caring individual — someone who would genuinely do anything for anyone.

Congratulations, Biggs, on your 1,000th game!

Susie Fisher ('77)
ALBANY, OREGON

>> Biggs took great care of the gym floor, even sweeping it during halftime of games. I think about that every time I’m at a basketball game… thinking someone should be sweeping the floor during the half like Biggs always did at Fox.

Tammy (Stockman) Malgesini ('82)
HERMISTON, OREGON

The last issue of Journal included a story about a movement among George Fox students to live their faith by loving people in the world around them. This spring, that desire led a group of students to spend a month in Romania.

For the third time in five years, George Fox students traveled around the globe for the people of Romania.

In May, Andrea Crenshaw, the university’s director of outreach and service learning, and alumni Matt Johnson (’04) led 17 students back to one of Central Europe’s poorest countries. Today about a third of the Romanian population still lives below the poverty line.

During the month-long trip, the team built relationships and provided physical labor for six different ministry and social-service organizations. The students poured concrete for a church building, moved debris, painted, and landscaped. They scraped old mortar off bricks so the bricks could be reused to build a home for a senior citizen.

When they weren’t working, the students befriended orphans, senior citizens, and women at a home for unwed mothers. Crenshaw and Johnson renewed friendships with several orphans they had met on a previous trip. “We were amazed at the growth of the kids,” Crenshaw said.

The students raised their own funds for the trip. George Fox's May Serve program annually sends students overseas for a month of service and evangelism. Past trips have gone to Ukraine, India, Cuba, Jamaica, Brazil, Malawi, and the Philippines.

The July 2003 cover story of George Fox’s alumni newspaper LIFE featured a small group who returned to Romania to honor Tish Langston, a 21-year-old George Fox student who died in an auto accident hours before a 2002 May Serve trip to Romania (georgefox.edu/life/archives/LIFE_Vol_33_No_3.pdf).

Tell us what you think

We’d like to hear your opinion about the George Fox Journal or any articles printed in the magazine. Please send letters to Journal, George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg, OR 97132, or e-mail us at journal@georgefox.edu. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Please include an address and daytime phone number.
Graduating senior Travis Shaffer recently caused me to ponder his future. This year’s student president spoke to our annual meeting of the Henry Mills Society, a group of individuals who have recognized George Fox University in their estate plans. Travis is not yet in this group. With a bachelor’s degree in political science and history, he is just beginning his career, planning to go to graduate school then into politics. Since the audience included a significant number of alumni who graduated quite a few years ago, I began to wonder: “Will Travis and his fellow classmates recognize his alma mater many years from now when he is on campus for another gathering of the Henry Mills Society?”

George Fox will change. Institutions are alive; they are not static. They respond and transition. How will alumni recognize their alma mater when buildings they loved have been demolished, the logo has been contemporized, students are listening to strange music, there’s a new entrance to the university, and they can’t park where they used to?

It would be a terrible mistake to promise graduating students that their institution will not change. We want them to understand this transition through the decades and we want them to continue to support the university in new ways — and with significant donations. But, they will be supporting a place that is different from the one they attended.

A standout strength of George Fox is its stability through changes. Since its founding in 1891, George Fox has remained an unapologetically, deliberately Christ-centered university. George Fox has grown decidedly, has become less homogeneous, and now allows students to play cards, watch movies, and dance. But, throughout all these changes over 115 years, we continue to work on our core: integrating our Christian faith with the academic disciplines. We continue to provide worship experiences and other support and encouragement for spiritual growth. Faculty members are required to write papers — reviewed by their peers — on how they will bring Christian faith and their discipline together.

My commitment is that Travis and all the graduates of 2006 can return to George Fox at any time and always recognize their university as a Christ-centered, high-quality institution. There will be new programs, new people, new buildings, and new rules. But Jesus Christ will still be Lord, and his centrality will be at the heart of George Fox University and its distinctiveness.

Dr. David Brandt
President
Oh, the Humanity

"Because of Drew," Habitat for Humanity wins at Mr. Bruin 2006

It wasn’t pretty, but Drew Kaufman can take pride in the final results.

At the Mr. Bruin pageant held on campus this spring, Kaufman sang an off-key personalized rendition of Kelly Clarkson’s pop ballad “Because of You.” His “Because of Drew” performance during the talent show portion of the mock beauty pageant helped him win the Mr. Bruin title. More importantly, he and 11 other contestants raised nearly $5,000 for the Newberg chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

Hundreds of revved-up students bought tickets to cheer every antic and wacky dance move made by the contestants, who also assisted in construction of a Habitat home in Portland.

Kaufman has the bloodlines to be Mr. Bruin. The Newberg senior is a third-generation student at George Fox. His mother, Susan Hampton, works in the George Fox financial aid office and his grandfather, Maurice Chandler, is a retired university administrator.

Claire Rolfs, president of Habitat for Humanity’s Newberg board, took the stage to thank the contestants and organizers. “I get to announce the winner,” said Rolfs. “It’s Habitat.”

Mr. Bruin 2006 Drew Kaufman and other contestants helped raise nearly $5,000 for Habitat for Humanity
Missions-minded entrepreneur

Seminary student Tom Durant has the business know-how to build a handsome bank account for himself. With a 30-plus-year background in business development and an MBA, he has worked for Fortune 100 companies, led software companies, and served on the boards for businesses in the high-tech industry.

But a few years back, Durant took stock of his life and decided he was no longer interested in business as usual. He knows his skill sets. He knows his heart for God’s kingdom. Now he wants to use capitalism as an engine for social good.

By year’s end, Durant plans to resign his chief operating officer position at a Eugene-based software company and spend the second half of his career creating economic opportunities in the developing world, specifically Haiti.

Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, with 80 percent of the population living in poverty amid little or no infrastructure. More than 95 percent of the land is deforested, and more than 80 percent of the watershed is barren.

“So many countries are so much worse off than the United States. I’m always astonished at the disparity,” says Durant, who will graduate next term with a master of arts in theological studies. “I want to use the gifts God has given me for him, others, and the creation in its entirety.”

Partnering with the missionary organization Christian Flights International, Durant is implementing an economic development plan for Ranquitte, a community of about 20,000 where job opportunities are nil. Last summer, he visited to assess opportunities and discovered he needed to address more critical needs first.

“It makes no sense to develop a for-profit business plan until people have food in their stomachs,” he says.

So he created two phases to his plan. The first phase began in May, supported in part by private donors. More than 20 workers were hired and at least 15 landowners received contracts to reforest and cultivate about 60 acres, primarily for food crops.

The landowners will donate a portion of their harvest to the “poorest of the poor,” and will use most of the harvest to feed their extended families, he says.

In the second phase, Durant will assist a self-formed “corporation” in Ranquitte to market a cash crop. Like other enterprises blending commerce with missions, all earnings will be turned back into the community for medical clinics, schools, and other development projects.

On his first visit, Durant found the people of Ranquitte skeptical. Promises had been broken in the past. “However, after providing funds to the local manager, hiring workers, and contracting with landowners, the reality of a hopeful future replaced any skepticism,” he says.

Durant also is hopeful about his own future. This investment is worth making.

Accreditation news

The Association of Theological Schools (ATS) reaccredited George Fox Evangelical Seminary programs in March. An ATS visiting team reaffirmed the seminary’s master of divinity, MA in spiritual formation, MA in theological studies, MA in ministry leadership, and doctor of ministry degrees. Among other commendations, the report noted the seminary’s “highly dedicated and competent faculty and staff.”

The university’s social work program gained accreditation in February, making George Fox the first Oregon school to gain this endorsement from the Council on Social Work Education. The development makes George Fox graduates eligible to take tests where licensure is required — about 70 percent of all states.

A shot in the arm

The nursing program, housed in the Hoover Academic Building, got a boost from a $400,000 grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust. The donation pushed the university’s fund-raising total to $3.2 million for the $4.3 million expansion and renovation of the building. The trust also pledged to match $1 for every $2 raised, up to an additional grant of $350,000.

Work on the building began in July 2005, with completion projected for this fall.
Wayne’s world

Wayne Adams, chair of the Graduate Department of Clinical Psychology, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to develop psychological tests for Chinese elementary students.

Adams will work with faculty at Wuhan University, the oldest university in China, to develop the tests. To date, no scientifically sound instruments are available to assess Chinese students’ cognitive abilities, specifically intelligence and memory.

Adams is co-author of four nationally normed psychological tests of cognition in the United States.

University faculty regarding development of a campus psychology clinic with a spiritual emphasis.

The Fulbright Scholar program has been the flagship program in international educational exchange for more than 50 years. The grants are awarded each year to leading researchers, teachers, and administrators at universities worldwide, allowing the recipients to travel, conduct research, and teach abroad at host universities for up to one year.

Three other current George Fox professors have received Fulbright grants. Martha Iancu, associate professor of English as a second language, taught in Romania three times. Chris Koch, associate professor of psychology, visited Russia. Paul Otto, chair of the Department of History and Political Science, researched in the Netherlands.

Glenn’s goodbye

Glenn Moran — faculty member, department chair, dean, and director of the Boise Center — retired from the university in July after 23 years of service. In the early 1980s, he was involved in creating a four-year education program.

After a five-year stint working in the West Linn (Ore.) School District, he returned to George Fox and was instrumental in developing the university’s Master of Arts in Teaching program. Later, he helped develop the administrative licensure program.

Moran plans to volunteer and teach occasionally at the Boise Center.

Boot camp Brianna

Graduate Brianna Fredericks ('06), a political science major, was accepted into the Reagan Ranch Leadership Academy this summer. Fredericks was one of only 24 college students accepted into the highly competitive program aimed at political conservatives. Selection is based on academic record, accomplishments, communication skills, and leadership potential. The academy, described as “an intense, month-long boot camp for rising leaders,” is based near the Reagan Ranch in Santa Barbara, Calif.

In the fall, Fredericks will serve as an intern for U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith.

Wayne’s world

Wayne Adams, chair of the Graduate Department of Clinical Psychology, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to develop psychological tests for Chinese elementary students.

Adams will work with faculty at Wuhan University, the oldest university in China, to develop the tests. To date, no scientifically sound instruments are available to assess Chinese students’ cognitive abilities, specifically intelligence and memory.

Adams is co-author of four nationally normed psychological tests of cognition in the United States.

University faculty regarding development of a campus psychology clinic with a spiritual emphasis.

The Fulbright Scholar program has been the flagship program in international educational exchange for more than 50 years. The grants are awarded each year to leading researchers, teachers, and administrators at universities worldwide, allowing the recipients to travel, conduct research, and teach abroad at host universities for up to one year.

Three other current George Fox professors have received Fulbright grants. Martha Iancu, associate professor of English as a second language, taught in Romania three times. Chris Koch, associate professor of psychology, visited Russia. Paul Otto, chair of the Department of History and Political Science, researched in the Netherlands.
Class act
George Fox recognizes top teaching and research with faculty achievement awards

MaryKate Morse
Graduate teaching
MaryKate Morse lives what she teaches. As one of the pastors of a church plant in southeast Portland, she encounters the same challenges her students will face when they enter the ministry.

That’s one reason Morse, associate professor of pastoral studies and spiritual formation at George Fox Evangelical Seminary, is praised for “a classroom alive with learning,” as one student puts it. “Her presentations are creative, stimulating, and thought-provoking.”

Morse directs the seminary’s master’s programs, teaches leadership and spiritual formation courses, and is a consultant on leadership training and team building. “Students laud her personal commitment to them. She has a compassionate and tender heart,” says Jules Glanzer, dean of the seminary.

Morse, who earned a doctorate from Gonzaga University, also knows how to have fun. She collects squirt guns, but only those disguised as something else.

Morse’s antics have caught some students off guard. “They think the flower on my lapel is just a flower. They’re quite stunned when they learn otherwise.”

Steve Delamarter
Researcher of the year
He will go anywhere — Israeli caves of Qumran included — to conduct research. As a result, countless others will reap the benefits of his passion for biblical manuscripts.

Steve Delamarter, professor of Old Testament at George Fox Evangelical Seminary, is assembling what will be one of the largest collections of Ethiopian manuscript images in the United States — a total of about 100 books and 150 magic scrolls and amulets. They will be deposited in four research libraries next year, making them available to scholars investigating scribal practices and the forms Bibles have taken over the centuries.

“Steve has raised the bar for research and scholarship,” says Jules Glanzer, dean of the seminary. “He inspires us all.”

Delamarter’s interests are broad: During the past year he published articles on astronomy and cosmology, technology and pedagogy, and Ethiopian manuscripts, among other topics.

Delamarter earned both a master’s degree and a doctorate from Claremont Graduate School.

Delamarter’s research was featured in the Spring 2005 issue of Journal (georgefox.edu/journalonline/archives/spring05/word.html).

Michael Magill
Undergraduate teaching
Michael Magill enjoys the simple things in life — a day of backpacking, driving his jeep, or leaving a lecture knowing his students “got it.”

Magill describes the latter pleasure as the “greatest feeling.” The professor of mechanical engineering strives to connect with pupils verbally and visually — which may require him to bring in a machine part or conduct a plant tour to illustrate a point.

“His ability to teach is unmatched. He has an incredible heart for students,” says a student who nominated him for the award.

Magill came to George Fox from Purdue, where he was a tenured full professor and department head of mechanical engineering technology. Even then he believed he would end up at a Christian university. “Since 1986, my wife and I prayed for an opportunity to teach at a place like George Fox,” says Magill, who earned a doctorate in civil engineering from Oklahoma State University. “It is so meaningful to connect with the students on engineering and spiritual issues.”

Magill’s ability to make that connection has resulted in nine major teaching awards in his career. This most recent honor is special “because it came from my students,” he says. “They initiated it and worked for me to receive it. I am humbled by their vote of confidence.”
George Fox added its 14th intercollegiate sport — and its first new sport in 10 years — with the addition of a women's golf program that tees off this fall. MaryJo McCloskey (above) will serve as head coach after leading the Lewis & Clark College women's golf program for eight years. Under her direction, the Pioneers placed second in the Northwest Conference Championships each of the past three years.

The Bruins will play a fall and spring schedule and compete in the Northwest Conference as a member of NCAA Division III. The program received a $4,000 donation from Wilsonville pro golfer Brian Henninger to help offset start up costs. George Fox’s home course will be the Chehalem Glenn Golf Course in Newberg.

Launching careers

Darrick Pope plans a career in biochemistry research. David Rueter wants to be a test pilot. Kelsey Tresemer plans to research energy production, particularly fusion reactors.

A gift from the Oregon NASA Space Grant Consortium is helping these graduated seniors pursue their dreams. The students each received a $1,333 scholarship from the consortium, which awards funds to Oregon students earning a bachelor's degree in a science, technology, engineering, or math discipline. This year, 20 such students, selected from a pool of 18 member schools, were awarded scholarships.

Friend of the family

Dr. Miles Edwards, the great-grandson of university founder Jesse Edwards, died March 23 after a battle with cancer. Edwards, 76, was a member of the board of trustees and lectured regularly in science and seminary classes. He and his family donated nearly $3 million to the university for faculty development, scholarships, the Edwards-Holman Science Center, and the Jesse Edwards House, home of the university president. A lung doctor at Oregon Health & Science University for 40 years, Edwards spent another decade as a semi-retired ethicist.

Gold standard

As an encore to 2005, George Fox again gained regional and national recognition for its marketing materials.

The university’s Office of Marketing and Communications earned six medals — two golds, a silver, and three bronzes — in the national Council for Advancement and Support of Education’s (CASE) Circle of Excellence competition. That came after George Fox scored eight regional awards — including a grand gold at the CASE District VIII contest in February.

George Fox’s recruitment package also earned “Best of Show” designation in a national contest conducted by Admissions Marketing Report. The university is one of only 16 schools to receive the honor in a competition that drew 2,200 entries from more than 1,000 colleges, universities, and secondary schools.

Last year, George Fox earned 12 regional CASE awards — including “Best of Show” — and won two silvers and three bronzes at CASE nationals.
2006 spring sports highlights

Track and Field
Cook and company finish strong
In Wes Cook’s 19th and final season as head coach, five of six George Fox entries in the NCAA National Track and Field Championships in Lisle, Ill., earned All-America status.

Incoming head coach John Smith mentored each of the All-Americans as field events coach. Decathletes Seth Harris (Jr., Boise, Idaho), Josh Priester (Sr., Walla Walla, Wash.), and Ryan Forbes (Fr., Jackson, Wyo.) placed a respective fifth, seventh, and eighth. Meanwhile, Joel Krebs (So., Salem, Ore.) took third in the javelin (207 feet, 6 inches) and Lindsey Blankenship (Jr., Washtucna, Wash.) eighth in the women’s hammer (164-3). During the season, Zeb Udell (Fr., Dallas, Ore.) set a Bruin record in the pole vault (16-0), as did Blankenship in the hammer (172-4). Both won Northwest Conference titles in their events. Other NWC champs were Harris (decathlon and long jump) and the 4x400 men’s relay. Harris was named Co-Athlete of the Meet at the NWC Championships.

Softball
Center fielder Cassie Halvorson (Sr., Hillsboro, Ore.) earned Second Team All-Northwest Conference honors and was a First Team Academic All-District pick.

Tennis
No. 1 men’s player Tyson Hunter (Jr., Jacksonville, Ore.) went 9-5 to earn All-Northwest Conference honors for the second straight year. For the women, Laura Rogers (Sr., La Habra, Calif.) led the way by going 8-9.

Baseball
Another conference crown
Making their fifth appearance in the NCAA national tournament in seven seasons, the Bruins finished third in the West Regional in Orange, Calif., and ended the year 29-15.

George Fox reached the playoffs by winning a fifth straight Northwest Conference title (18-6) under coach Pat Bailey. The Bruins also led the nation in fielding (.970) for the third time in four years and ranked sixth nationally in batting average (.356).

Individually, Derrick Jones (Sr., Forest Grove, Ore.) earned NWC Player of the Year honors and was a First-Team pitcher and designated hitter. Joining him on the First Team were second baseman C.R. Braniff (Sr., Hillsboro, Ore.), shortstop Bo Thunell (Fr., Canyon City, Ore.), right fielder Dan Wentzell (Jr., Tualatin, Ore.), and relief pitcher Chris Albrecht (Jr., Woodinville, Ore.). Bailey was NWC Coach of the Year for the fifth straight year.

Thunell made the All-West Regional First Team; Jones, Braniff, and Wentzell the Second Team; and Bryan Donohue the Third Team. Wentzell and Brandon Rupp were First Team Academic All-District selections. Thunell was named a Third Team All-American.
Our hours before opening night and Bryan Boyd presides over a stuffy auditorium vibrating with drama students—half adult, half children who prance, prance, shout, dance, hug, and mock fight. Boyd directs traffic, his voice ragged from a nagging cold. There is much to do. A light points the wrong direction, the stage dirt is polluted with white specks, the lights need to be programmed for each scene, extra props lay about, and photos of actors need to be framed and displayed in the entryway. In the middle of the stage, a backdrop is freshly painted. Two fans are flailing to speed the drying, but they puff at the ceiling. Boyd’s patience is strained. “Can someone point those at the screen?”

Out of confusion will emerge art designed to touch the lives of an audience and, even more, the lives of these students now prancing about the auditorium. Boyd, the university’s scenic and lighting designer, has achieved remarkable art during his young career. The 33-year-old has won more than a dozen awards from the academic theater community. His peers at the Artists Repertory Theatre in Portland and at local universities seek him as a guest designer. This spring, the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival in Washington, D.C., named him as one of its 35 Celebrated Teaching Artists.

At George Fox, Boyd teaches theater classes and is responsible for the scenery, lighting, and sound for three shows a year. He works with theater director Rhett Luedtke, one part-time costume designer, one part-time scene shop manager, 16 student employees, and a handful of volunteers. “It’s a community

Theater professor Bryan Boyd says the process of creating art is like prayer. His peers say the results are inspired.

by Rob Felton | rfelton@georgefox.edu
The art-making experience,” Boyd says. “We spend a lot of time in the design process. Rhett is great at pulling the best ideas from designers—letting it be a collaborative experience. The awards are also his—it’s the whole program, not just my stuff.”

While the last-minute preparations may be hectic, Boyd’s work begins softly. A Quaker, he draws from the Quaker movement in his creative process. For more than three centuries, Quakers have emphasized the importance of community, waiting, and listening in their decision making. Long before any rehearsals begin, Boyd and the artistic team gather to begin the creative process.

In his words:

*Engaging the story*

“Every member of the artistic team brings to the table a unique set of gifts and insights, as well as biases and blocks. Because Christ is present in our lives and desires to commune with us in our everyday activities, we can enter into a script mindful of what Christ might show us through it. Rather than relying on the director to create a vision for a show, each member of the artistic team carries the responsibility of bringing her whole self to the text in order to fully engage the story and listen for what lies at the core of the playwright’s message. Each individual must then be open to share those insights with the rest of the team.”

*The big idea*

“We start by distilling the script to its core dramatic question. The world of the show grows out of that concept. If we do...
that, the style of acting, lighting, and costumes will be unified.”

Listening, waiting, wondering...

“It is possible that there is some right way to present a show at a particular time and for a unique audience. Maybe there is some choice out there which would best communicate the show. And maybe, by listening closely for that way, we will find it together. This is what I do as a designer. It’s enormously intuitive and difficult to talk about. Maybe it’s just a style — a way of working. But for me it’s also a conviction.

“I always wondered as a student where you get ideas. I still don’t know. Most of the time, it’s like prayer — listening, waiting and wondering... rather than asserting ideas on something. I listen to the text. I listen to my collaborators. Out of that long process of listening, an idea may come in a dream, in the shower, or when I’m sitting and thinking. The idea happens to you rather than something you conjure up.”

God’s role in the artistic process

“As a Quaker artist, I believe that if I am mindful, God can dwell at the center of my artistic process — both in solitude and in community. The Creator of creators can be the source of inspiration and revelation to each person involved in an artistic team. Lives can be touched through story, no doubt, and it may be that God desires us to use our gifts well to tell a story in just the right way so that God may collaborate with us to touch our audience.

“I believe that God, the Creator, is at work (and at play) with me in my art and vocation. Not that I’m always fulfilling God’s greatest desires and the world’s greatest need by designing the environment for a show, but I believe that God is the source of my inspiration, and that God is a collaborator with me in my artistic process.”

Research

“Throughout the process I’m doing research. The big ideas come out of waiting, but the research informs that intuition. It creates an environment that the idea grows out of. I look for other works of art — other artists, architects, and photographers who have captured the qualities I’m looking for. I go and check out 50 books and look at the pictures. Is that a bad thing for a college professor to say?”

The value of theater

“It is often said that fiction can carry the same weight as nonfiction and can communicate truths about the human condition with equal or better force. And if all truth is God’s truth, then it is not difficult to believe that God is interested in helping us tell the truth well through our stories.”

Complete

“The audience is our final collaborator. People come to the theater with their own experiences. I really like playwright Bertolt Brecht’s idea that a play isn’t over until the audience members go into their daily life and make different choices than they would have before. I hope that is what theater at George Fox is about.”

To read more about Boyd’s artistic process, go to theatre.georgefox.edu/discernment.pdf. His “Quaker Corporate Discernment as a Model for Collaboration in Theatre” paper has been published by Northwest Theatre Review and Christianity and Theatre magazine.

The tragedy Machinal (2005) is a 1920s expressionist play about a young woman crushed by the machine-like pressures of the industrialized world. To portray a world of machines, Boyd created a harsh, sterile, inhuman environment. Just as the machines of society threaten the protagonist, the huge ceiling — representing the machine — threatens to collapse on the woman at any moment.

Lighting allows a designer to create many different environments out of a neutral setting. It can communicate mood, time of day, season of year, and passage of time. For most shows, Boyd will program between 80 and 120 different lighting cues.
**New Orleans to Newberg**

An onslaught of storms could only delay Bill Stieber from becoming the first in his family to graduate from college.

After hurricanes Katrina and Rita blew him from University of New Orleans to Oregon last September, Stieber enrolled at George Fox this spring. The university took him in as a guest student and paid the costs of his final semester’s tuition and books. At age 41, Sieber completed his bachelor’s degree in business administration.

Thousands of miles from his own university, Sieber donned cap and gown and walked the commencement stage at George Fox. President David Brandt gave him a ceremonial University of New Orleans diploma — a symbol of an achievement long in the making.

In the mid-1990s, Sieber spent months recovering and adjusting to medications after epileptic seizures ended his career in trucking and construction. He started taking classes at a community college in 1997 and transferred to University of New Orleans. When he was just two classes short of graduation, Hurricane Katrina struck, flooding his basement apartment and destroying most of his possessions. He sought refuge in Galveston, Texas, and eventually made his way to join his parents in Oregon. A referral from friends led him to George Fox.

Hours after the commencement ceremony, Sieber proposed to his girlfriend, Susie. She said yes. Two days later, he started his new career in a management position. Sieber’s season of storms has passed.

**Invisible children, visible love**

Kevin Bennie made his graduation night about more than celebration. Hours after receiving his diploma, Bennie and about 20 other recently minted graduates joined more than 40 George Fox students in downtown Portland for a public demonstration calling attention to the plight of children in Uganda. “I felt it was important to make a statement about the world and the way I want to live my life,” said Bennie. More than 1,000 participants — many from local colleges — walked to Pioneer Courthouse Square for an all-night vigil. Called the Global Night Commute, the event was sponsored by the Invisible Children organization to illustrate how thousands of threatened Ugandan children leave their homes at night to sleep at public places to avoid being kidnapped. Event organizers said more than 30,000 children have been abducted and forced to join rebel forces fighting a two-decade war with the government.

“...we took time to talk about the somberness of the event,” said Nicole Bresnahan, a senior from Woodland, Wash., and event organizer. It sparked “a lot of good conversations.” Bresnahan said George Fox students made up the largest single group at the Portland event and several volunteered on the security and registration staff. Many of the participants wrote letters to American and Ugandan political leaders. Others created art to send to the children.

Invisible Children organizers estimated that more than 50,000 in 130 cities participated in the Global Night Commute. The Invisible Children organization takes its name from a documentary created by three 20-something Californians to show the plight of the “invisible” Ugandan children. The film has been shown across the U.S. at churches, schools and universities. The George Fox screening attracted more than 800 students, the largest single audience on the West Coast according to Invisible Children organizers.

As the temperature dipped near 40 degrees, Bennie and the others lay down to sleep on the square’s cold brick surface in sleeping bags. “It was not the most comfortable place, as you can imagine.” GF
And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected through the day's ministration. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not right that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. 4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. 5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost,
Mike “Biggs” Wirta

Wirta has attended nearly half of the 2,028 games played in school history.

No one has watched more Bruin basketball than Wirta, who tonight witnesses his 1,000th George Fox men’s basketball game. The team’s volunteer statistician, he hasn’t missed a home game in 34 years. Wirta’s legacy at George Fox goes beyond precise stat sheets and dust-free floors. The cheerful custodian has created a life centered on work and sports. The night before game No. 1,000, Wirta drove a team van to game No. 999 in Tacoma. They returned to campus at 11:45 a.m. Before heading home, he roamed through Wheeler Sports Center for 30 minutes, turning off lights, locking doors, emptying trash, and tending to other duties to his student helpers. On his way to the broom closet, more friends come to offer congratulations. One tells him “You’ll be 94 when you see game No. 2,000.” Wirta laughs. The well-wishers drift away. He pauses. He stands silent, hands on hips, watching a group of children shoot hoops. He pushes up his sleeves and begins to stack chairs.

Wirta’s wheels: through the years

- 1965 MG Midget
- 1967 Jaguar
- 1974 MG Midget
- 1978 MGB
- 1987 Pontiac Fiero
- 2001 DeLorean (below)
Nea Zoi

Every Monday and Thursday night, Jemima Skjonsby visits red light districts in Athens to meet with prostitutes in brothels, bars, and hotels lining the dark streets. She offers friendship, advice, and opportunities for change.

Caring for the women is the easiest part. The hard part is focusing on the process and abandoning her results-oriented instinct. Time is more valuable to sit with someone in pain than to run around trying to fix things.

Brandon Creiser (G79) is vice president of marketing for USA Mobility, a wireless communications company providing voice, data, and messaging services to Fortune 1000 corporations based in Alameda, Calif. Previously he was director of marketing for Netical Communications in Boston, Va.

Avnet Fuller (G75) is executive director of Prodigal Gatherings, a ministry serving homeless and high-risk youth in Aurora, Colo.

Andrea Folsom (G78) is a senior counselor for the Associated Press in Des Moines, Iowa. She has been appointed chief of bureau in charge of AP’s Iowa operations. Scott was the AP’s news director in the Midwest since 1994 and will head the agency while search is under way for a permanent news director.

Tony Priest (G79) has resigned as assistant director for Young Life at Ohio State University and has been appointed director of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission in Salem. He has been with the commission since 1994 and will head the agency with search under way for a permanent director.

Drew Newcomer (G75) is an executive director of Young Life in East Auckland, New Zealand. Meanwhile, she says, “My heart is very much here with the girls I meet and with the Greek people.”

Jemima Skjonsby (left) with fellow missionary and friend Janelle Bloomfield.

that God, after all is, the Savior.

Skjonsby left for Greece in 1999 to work with refugees as a short-term mission with International Teams. Four years later, she and a partner began a separate project for the missions agency — Nea Zoi — or “New Life” — that targets individuals in prostitution.

Most of the women. Skjonsby meets are uneducated, have no job skills, and are cultural minorities. She estimates 60 percent come from trafficking rings. Because living-wage jobs are few she finds progress is slow. She continues living. ‘Tve learned that God’s love and grace aren’t just for the ‘good girls,’ like I tried to hard to be while growing up.”

Skjonsby, who majored in psychology, contemplates doing graduate work in clinical psychology at the future. In the meantime, she says. “My heart is very much here with the I meet and with the Greek people.”

Steve Pharo (MBA’95) has been appointed acting director of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission in Salem. He has been with the commission since 1994 and will head the agency while search is under way for a permanent director.

Tony Priest (G79) has resigned as assistant director for Young Life in East Auckland, New Zealand. Meanwhile, she says, “My heart is very much here with the girls I meet and with the Greek people.”

Jemima Skjonsby (left) with fellow missionary and friend Janelle Bloomfield.

that God, after all is, the Savior.

Skjonsby left for Greece in 1999 to work with refugees as a short-term mission with International Teams. Four years later, she and a partner began a separate project for the missions agency — Nea Zoi — or “New Life” — that targets individuals in prostitution.

Most of the women. Skjonsby meets are uneducated, have no job skills, and are cultural minorities. She estimates 60 percent come from trafficking rings. Because living-wage jobs are few she finds progress is slow. She continues living. ‘Tve learned that God’s love and grace aren’t just for the ‘good girls,’ like I tried to hard to be while growing up.”

Skjonsby, who majored in psychology, contemplates doing graduate work in clinical psychology at the future. In the meantime, she says. “My heart is very much here with the I meet and with the Greek people.”

Steve Pharo (MBA’95) has been appointed acting director of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission in Salem. He has been with the commission since 1994 and will head the agency while search is under way for a permanent director.

Tony Priest (G79) has resigned as assistant director for Young Life in East Auckland, New Zealand. Meanwhile, she says, “My heart is very much here with the girls I meet and with the Greek people.”

Jemima Skjonsby (left) with fellow missionary and friend Janelle Bloomfield.
Alumni Connections

2000-06

The mighty Casey

One year after taking Oregon State to its first College World Series since 1952, former George Fox baseball coach Pat Casey (G70) returned to Omaha, Neb., and coached the Beavers to their first national championship. Oregon State, which went 9-2 in the World Series in 2005, overcame an 11-inning tie to win the eight-game tournament opener to win the eight-game tournament.

The Beavers had three wins in the College World Series, all of which were against teams that had defeated Oregon State during the regular season. Oregon State won the first game of the tournament 11-2 over the Sooners, but lost the second game 4-1 to Oklahoma. The Beavers then defeated Oklahoma 6-5 in the elimination game.

Casey was named the NCAA Coach of the Year for the second straight year after leading the Beavers to a record-breaking 43-12 season. He also was named the Pac-10 Coach of the Year for the second straight year.

In addition to Casey, George Fox had another connection to the Beavers championship: pitcher Casey Cope (G93) and Rommel Dizon, Feb. 19, 2006, in Newberg.

The mighty Casey

Washington, D.C.–based private equity firm TPG Capital, LP, which invested in the company, recently acquired a majority stake in the Portland, Ore., company.

The company has been active in the Portland area for several years, and its acquisition by TPG Capital is expected to bring new investment to the city.

Alumni Connections

Douglas Linscott (G68) and Wendy Linscott, a boy, Nikolai Hessom, Feb. 17, 2006, in Eau Claire, Wis.

Naida Hostetler (G85) and Lori Hostetler, a girl, Jessica Lannov, Nov. 9, 2004, adopted Feb. 7, 2006, in Eau Claire, Wis.

Todd Farmer (G96) and Cheri (Mesenbury) Farmer (G68), a boy, Joshua James, July 21, 2005, in San Antonio, Texas.

Becky (Weisman) Frisson (G89) and Eoin Frisson, a boy, Calhoun Benjamin, Sept. 9, 2005, in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Rich Seiler (G78) and Stephanie Seiler, a boy, Parker Drew, May 2, 2006, in Sacramento, Calif.

Jaynese (Hulka) Granger (G92) and Scott Granger, a boy, Jordan Dukari, Oct. 19, 2005, in Messa Lake, Wash.

Krista (Anderson) Hamann (G92) and David Hamann, a girl, Ryna Danse, Dec. 29, 2005, in Portland.

Tisa (Patakas) Lue (G92) and Matthew Lee, a boy, Micah Daniel, Feb. 9, 2006, in Portland.

Amy Dal (G93) and Erik Dahl, a boy, Kaje Brev., Aug. 27, 2005, in Bellevue, Wash.

Alumni Connections

The mighty Casey

One year after taking Oregon State to its first College World Series since 1952, former George Fox baseball coach Pat Casey (G70) returned to Omaha, Neb., and coached the Beavers to their first national championship—Oregon State, which went 9-2 in the World Series in 2005, overcame an 11-inning tie to win the eight-game tournament opener to win the eight-game tournament.

The Beavers had three wins in the College World Series, all of which were against teams that had defeated Oregon State during the regular season. Oregon State won the first game of the tournament 11-2 over the Sooners, but lost the second game 4-1 to Oklahoma. The Beavers then defeated Oklahoma 6-5 in the elimination game.

Casey was named the NCAA Coach of the Year for the second straight year after leading the Beavers to a record-breaking 43-12 season. He also was named the Pac-10 Coach of the Year for the second straight year.

In addition to Casey, George Fox had another connection to the Beavers championship: pitcher Casey Cope (G93) and Rommel Dizon, Feb. 19, 2006, in Newberg.

The mighty Casey

Washington, D.C.–based private equity firm

TPG Capital, LP, which invested in the company,
recently acquired a majority stake in the Portland, Ore., company.

The company has been active in the Portland area for several years, and its acquisition by TPG Capital is expected to bring new investment to the city.

Alumni Connections

Douglas Linscott (G68) and Wendy Linscott, a boy, Nikolai Hessom, Feb. 17, 2006, in Eau Claire, Wis.

Naida Hostetler (G85) and Lori Hostetler, a girl, Jessica Lannov, Nov. 9, 2004, adopted Feb. 7, 2006, in Eau Claire, Wis.

Todd Farmer (G96) and Cheri (Mesenbury) Farmer (G68), a boy, Joshua James, July 21, 2005, in San Antonio, Texas.

Becky (Weisman) Frisson (G89) and Eoin Frisson, a boy, Calhoun Benjamin, Sept. 9, 2005, in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Rich Seiler (G78) and Stephanie Seiler, a boy, Parker Drew, May 2, 2006, in Sacramento, Calif.

Jaynese (Hulka) Granger (G92) and Scott Granger, a boy, Jordan Dukari, Oct. 19, 2005, in Messa Lake, Wash.

Krista (Anderson) Hamann (G92) and David Hamann, a girl, Ryna Danse, Dec. 29, 2005, in Portland.

Tisa (Patakas) Lue (G92) and Matthew Lee, a boy, Micah Daniel, Feb. 9, 2006, in Portland.

Amy Dal (G93) and Erik Dahl, a boy, Kaje Brev., Aug. 27, 2005, in Bellevue, Wash.
A family tradition

When Danae Dougherty crossed the graduation platform, it marked the end of an era for the Dougherty family of Springfield. Next fall, for the first time in 17 years, no Dougherty will be attending George Fox Evangelical Seminary. After watching her family help five children through college, Ryan.createQuery("chris@alumni@georgefox.edu");

Aidan Peter, a boy, July 11, 2006, in Idaho Falls, Idaho.
Audra Mae Isabella, a girl, McPherson, March 30, 2006, in Port Angeles, Ore.
Tracy Edwards, a girl, Jan. 19, 2006, in Beaverton, Colo.
Catherine (Strickland) Pearson, a boy, Ethan Peter, July 1, 2005, in Medford, Ore.
Konner (Forbes) Wachtel, a boy, Jan. 6, 2006, in Salem, Ore.
Joel White, a boy, Josephine Alice, Dec. 29, 2005, in Portland.
McPherson (G00), a girl, Marietta McPherson, March 30, 2006, in Tualatin, Ore.
Elizabeth (Spachler) Huffman, a boy, Ethan, Feb. 23, 2006, in Tualatin, Ore.
Sydnee (Buchanan) Ford, a boy, Dec. 18, 2005, in Vancouver, Wash.
Jeff Woolsey (G00) and Tera (Bloodgood) Ewert, a girl, Jan. 6, 2006, in Salem, Ore.
We’re looking for you . . .

Name _____________________________________
Phone: __________________________________\nE-mail: ___________________________________
Website: ___________________________________
Mail: 4 N. Meridian St. #6069
   Portland, OR 97207-6069

E-mail: alumni@georgefox.edu
Website: georgefox.edu/alumni

Awards/Activities: __________________________________
Home phone ________________________________
City/State __________________________________
Street _____________________________________
____________________________________
__________________________________
What I’ve been doing __________________________

Alumni Connections

Alumni Connections

Alumni Connections
How can healing take place?

For nearly 40 years I hated myself. I also hated white people. Why? Because I always felt inferior to others. Equality and justice were not a part of my experience.

In 1993, two African American men invited me to dinner. During the meal, we laughed and cried about the ‘black experience’ in America. Our conversation was better than most of this kind, however – it was filled with love rather than hate. These men with their bright outlooks were different.

When I asked why they said they belonged to Jesus, ‘God heals the soul,’ they said.

We read the Bible together, and I too gave my life to Jesus. God took away the hate I had of myself. He made me whole, and I began to love all people, regardless of race, culture, handicap, or gender.

When I share this story with my white friends, especially those in the rural Pennsylvania. Racial epithets were scrawled on the wall in blood.

When I was a junior at Michigan State University, my newly assigned roommate, or help change his mind. If I taught him to hate, invited me to a Minnesota Michigan State football game.

It’s not enough to choose proper attitudes toward minorities and then wait until they cross your path. To be a part of the healing, you must take the initiative.

I no longer hate myself or others. What made the difference? Christ’s love shared through relationships – one on one, shoulder to shoulder friendships. In these relationships, I have changed for the better and so have my friends.

It’s not enough to choose proper attitudes toward minorities and then wait until they cross your path. To be a part of the healing, you must take the initiative.

The ride will begin at 8 a.m. from Clackamas River Highway and an 80 mile rode through the valleys and hills of wine country. Riders will congregate on the Newberg campus at the end of their ride for a motorcycle show and a barbecue dinner. The charge for the long ride is $42, which includes breakfast, lunch, dinner, a 7-shirt, and a gift basket. The short ride costs $25 and includes lunch, dinner, a 7-shirt, and a gift basket. Dinner for guests who don’t ride is $5.

Motorcycle rally August 5 Alumni and friends of the university are invited to cruise with 60 low riders from the George Fox community. Brun tattos included? Two rides are offered: a scenic 200 mile ride to Detroit Lake along Clackamas River Highway and an 80 mile ride through the valleys and hills of wine country. Riders will congregate on the Newberg campus at the end of their ride for a motorcycle show and a barbecue dinner.

For more information call 503-554-2134.

“IT’S not enough to choose proper attitudes toward minorities and then wait until they cross your path. To be a part of the healing, you must take the initiative.”

Burel Ford is director of Multicultural Services at George Fox University.

Editor’s note: While this commentary addresses residual hurts from opaquity and Burel said, “Of all the people here – 20,000 others – I have to room with a black guy. I don’t like black people. This is hard to stomach.”

I approached our resident assistant and religious institutions there is still much pain even among your brothers and sisters in Christ.

How can healing take place? It can begin by one truthful relationship at a time, inspired and touched by Christ’s love. As we learn about people unlike ourselves, we develop empathy and love for them. When we love someone, we want what is best for them.

When I was a junior at Michigan State University, my newly assigned roommate complained, “Of all the people here – 20,000 others – I have to room with a black guy. I don’t like black people. This is hard to stomach.”

I approached our resident assistant and religious institutions there is still much pain even among your brothers and sisters in Christ.

How can healing take place? It can begin by one truthful relationship at a time, inspired and touched by Christ’s love. As we learn about people unlike ourselves, we develop empathy and love for them. When we love someone, we want what is best for them.

When I was a junior at Michigan State University, my newly assigned roommate complained, “Of all the people here – 20,000 others – I have to room with a black guy. I don’t like black people. This is hard to stomach.”

I approached our resident assistant and religious institutions there is still much pain even among your brothers and sisters in Christ.

How can healing take place? It can begin by one truthful relationship at a time, inspired and touched by Christ’s love. As we learn about people unlike ourselves, we develop empathy and love for them. When we love someone, we want what is best for them.

When I was a junior at Michigan State University, my newly assigned roommate complained, “Of all the people here – 20,000 others – I have to room with a black guy. I don’t like black people. This is hard to stomach.”

I approached our resident assistant and religious institutions there is still much pain even among your brothers and sisters in Christ.

How can healing take place? It can begin by one truthful relationship at a time, inspired and touched by Christ’s love. As we learn about people unlike ourselves, we develop empathy and love for them. When we love someone, we want what is best for them.
Master of ceremonies...

Tell us more . . .

Can you name this distinguished gentleman who has spent 37 years behind the scenes at George Fox? After overseeing his final commencement ceremony, he retired in June. Please tell us any memories you have of our mystery administrator. All responses are entered in a drawing for a $50 gift certificate from the University Store. Submit entries to journal@georgefox.edu or mail them to Journal, George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg, OR 97132.

Tell us more...

Congratulations to Tom ('75) and Roberta Hurt ('74) who correctly identified the “Tell Us More” photo of Mike Wirta. They were sent a $50 gift certificate to the University Store. And yes, Wirta is still driving his DeLorean sports car. Read about the much loved stat man and why everyone calls him “Biggs” on page 20.

Biggs

Can you name this distinguished gentleman who has spent 37 years behind the scenes at George Fox? After overseeing his final commencement ceremony, he retired in June. Please tell us any memories you have of our mystery administrator. All responses are entered in a drawing for a $50 gift certificate from the University Store. Submit entries to journal@georgefox.edu or mail them to Journal, George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg, OR 97132.