Goodbye, H. Dave

Page 10
Distressed by the impending destruction of a historic Portland church, a psychology professor converts the doomed structure into a 24,000-square-foot home. ...
It doesn’t take university presidents long to discover that there are really few different speeches to speak or articles to write. The themes are the same and the trick is to use enough different words that it appears to be new.

At George Fox University, the main theme (the only theme is that we offer students high-quality Christ-centered higher education. Our historic mission is “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.” Jessie Christ is pervasive at George Fox – in the classroom, the laboratory, the residence hall, the playing field, the theater, and the music hall. Jesus is relevant everywhere.

To support this main theme, my speeches and writing have required secondary themes. Education has never been inexpensive, and access is difficult for some groups of people. George Fox University needs financial support to carry out this important mission. As high as tuition is, we have significant discounts for those who are academically capable, but unable to pay our cost. Buildings and capital equipment are essential for high-quality education, and tuition is not designed to address such expenses. So your support is essential to carrying out our mission.

In my final column, I simply repeat what I’ve been trying to say for nine years. We produce graduates who will serve our nation, the world, and the Christian church. We produce graduates who will provide visible as well as behind-the-scenes leadership for our society. I ask you to be engaged with us in this process. We need your prayers and your financial support to be successful.

After nine years, I have come to love this university. I am grateful to the board of trustees who will provide visible as well as behind-the-scenes leadership for our society. I ask you to be engaged with us in this process. We need your prayers and your financial support to be successful.

May the only thing we know about the future of George Fox is that the university will continue to face challenges of various kinds. I have full confidence that Robin and Ruth Baker will provide the right leadership. Be sure to encourage them with your ongoing prayers and gifts. Melva and I intend to continue to support Robin and Ruth and the university in prayer and with our finances.

Thank you for your love and support during my tenure as president of the university.

Dr. David Brandt
President
Baker named university’s 12th president
Board promotes Provost Robin Baker, a historian and seasoned administrator

Provost Robin E. Baker, who has overseen a dramatic expansion of academic programs at George Fox since 1999, will be the institution’s next president. He will begin his presidential duties following the retirement of President David Brandt on June 30.

Baker, 49, was selected March 10 by the George Fox Board of Trustees at its annual spring meeting. ‘After conducting a national search and evaluating the complex requirements for leadership at George Fox University, the board is united in our excitement that Dr. Robin Baker has accepted our offer to be our next president,’ said Barbara Palmer, chair of the board of trustees and senior vice president of Bank of America.

‘I am very pleased with the selection,’ said Colin Saxton, superintendent of Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Church and a member of the selection committee. ‘Dr. Baker is passionate about Christ-centered higher education and is deeply committed to the mission of George Fox. We feel like he will be an excellent spokesperson for the community and will help the university move into the future in creative and faithful ways.’

As provost, Baker supervised all academic programs, institutional technology, intercollegiate athletics, student life, and library services. During his eight years, Baker oversaw the addition of 13 undergraduate programs and nine graduate programs. He also worked with the university’s academic units to help gain specialized accreditation for the engineering, social work, athletic training, and music undergraduate programs, as well as the seminary and psychology graduate programs.

During his tenure, the faculty has grown from 80 to 180 and the university has quadrupled institutional funds for academic research. He initiated new efforts in globalization of the curriculum and helped create the university’s new Act Six program, which each year will offer 10 full four-year scholarships to multicultural students in the Portland area.

Baker has taught classes at George Fox as professor of history. His research has focused on the American Civil War and Reconstruction, 19th century American political/quantitative history, and the history of the southern United States. In addition to his work in political history, Baker speaks frequently on the integration of faith and learning in the Christian university and he has a special interest in the works of C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien.

Baker married his wife, Ruth, in 1980 while a student at Grand Canyon University. They have three children: Jacob (8), Rebekah (13) and Tara (12).

All that jazz

The first ‘Julianne Johnson and Friends’ concert, hosted in Bauman Auditorium in April, drew 700. The concert was intended to raise awareness for the institution’s Act Six leadership and scholarship program and allowed donors to get to know the Act Six students. Johnson, a singer and actress who has appeared in more than 45 theatrical productions locally and regionally, performed a set of spirituals, jazz, and Motown selections. Among those joining her on stage was Michael Allen Harrison, a producer, composer, arranger, and concert pianist who has sold nearly 1 million albums.

Portland saxophonist Patrick Lamb and the Portland Community Choir participated, and singers Courtney Greenidge and Vanessa Wilkins — two of the Act Six scholars who will join the university this fall — also performed. Act Six is designed to equip urban student leaders to serve on the college campus and return to their neighborhoods as agents of change. The program’s first cadre of nine students have been admitted and will enroll in George Fox this fall. Plans call for the program to enroll approximately 10 new students each fall thereafter.

Portland Central Young Life is teaming with George Fox to provide training for the scholars.

Joel Perez, director of the program at George Fox, says the university plans to bring Johnson back to campus for another fund-raising concert in 2008.

Hoover Academic Building earns industry award

The Hoover Academic Building, renovated in 2006, earned the 2007 Excellence in Construction award from the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors organization. It won in the institutional building category.

A panel of judges reviewed entries in the annual contest, now in its 13th year, considering a project’s challenges, uniqueness, attention to safety, deadlines, scope of work, and hazards, among other criteria.

The $4.3 million project included construction of a 15,400-square-foot, two-story addition to the existing building and a major remodeling of the original building, built in 1977.

The job was a homecoming of sorts for project manager David Hoff, a 2003 graduate of George Fox. The Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership designed the building, and Mark Foster served as principal architect.
A century of service
2007 faculty award winners combine for 100 years of teaching

Graduate teaching
Gary Kilburg

For Gary Kilburg, academics and personal connection go hand in hand. ‘In the end, nothing matters more than the relationships we have and how we care for them,’ he says. The philosophy is noted by his students. ‘His support, patience, and encouragement towards his students is unmatched by any other,’ one student says. ‘He has truly opened my eyes to the courage it takes to live my life as a teacher who cares for each and every child and colleague as a child of God,’ another said.

Kilburg has taught for nearly 40 years – 18 at the secondary-school level and 21 in higher education – yet he still finds ways to keep things fresh. ‘I never teach the same way twice, which means I have the opportunity to continually reflect on my practice,’ he says. Kilburg has been a professor in the master of arts in teaching program for 15 years. In the past year, he helped create a new psychology program for new teachers.

Undergraduate teaching
Steve Grant

Steve Grant admits he ‘was the most surprised person in the room’ when his name was called as the undergraduate teacher of the year. His students, however, probably saw it coming. For 25 years, Grant has taught health and human performance courses while serving as head volleyball coach. His ability to relate to students as both a professor and a coach inspired one student to say ‘he inspires you to grow as a person.’

In the classroom I deal with theory, methodology, facts, and ideas,’ says Grant, who earned a masters in education from Linfield College. ‘In the gym, I work with visual and auditory learners who need guidance in incorporating the ‘feel’ of something. Having those separate venues at which to focus on the learners’ needs keeps one motivated.’

As a volleyball coach, Grant, 61, has guided the Bruins to a 650 winning percentage, two conference championships, and one national title. In the past five years, every player in his program who has completed four years of eligibility has graduated.

Research
Epistemology
Ed Higgins

Ed Higgins’ poems have been translated into Chinese. His work has been published in the United States, Canada, Hong Kong, India, Australia, Germany, Switzerland, Singapore, Britain, and Bahrain. In all, more than 70 of his poems and four short stories have appeared in 39 print and online literary/art journals since January of 2006.

Higgins, a professor of writing/literature, began teaching at George Fox in 1971. ‘He is a model for other young scholars in that he strives to remain active in publishing even though he could just as easily kick back on his front porch, sipping lattes,’ says colleague Melanie Muck, associate professor of writing/literature.

In addition to his productivity in publishing, he was the featured creative writer at three academic conferences last year and regularly contributes works and critiques as a science-fiction scholar.

Several of his poems reflect personal struggles or ideas central to his Quaker beliefs, including pacifism. One poem, “Epistemology,” was named ‘Poem of the Month’ by the organization Poets Against War. ‘An artist should at least try hard to point in the direction of truth,’ Higgins says, ‘and represent a thoroughly honest search for values that avoids easy answers. Like faith itself, art ought to struggle. Maybe more so if produced by a Christian.’

Outreach 101

For nearly 30 students this spring, vacation or the search for a summer job had to wait: The university’s annual May Serve program took priority.

Led by Andrea Crenshaw, director of outreach and service learning, and alumnus Matt Johnson (G04), 14 students traveled to Brazil for three weeks. They partnered with an English school in Londrina to host an English camp, helped a community fixms work on its health center, and organized a Vacation Bible School program at four day centers in Sao Paulo. The team also learned some Portuguese and visited a coffee plantation.

‘May Serve has been one of the most defining experiences of my life,’ Johnson says. ‘My hope is that these students experience that as well.’

In June, a team of 14 students travels to India with Campus Pastor Sarah Baldwin and her husband, Clint. an assistant professor of political science. The trip includes two weeks in Calcutta, where students will work in the homes of the Missionaries of Charity, an organization founded by Mother Teresa.

The group will also visit non-governmental organizations to learn about their work with victims of human trafficking. The trip concludes with a stop at an orphanage in Gaya that has never had a visit from a missions team.

Now in its 18th year, the May Serve program allows students to spend a month in volunteer service in cross cultural settings. Students pay their own way for the trip. Previous May Serve trips have gone to Ukraine, India, Cura, Jamaica, Brazil, Romania, and the Philippines.
Activist group met with grace

A bus filled with gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender rights activists rolled onto the George Fox Newberg campus this spring to protest the university’s policy on homosexuality. Beyond a small flurry of media attention, the April 5 visit was one stop on a national tour by the Soulforce Equality Ride, which started March 2 in New York City and will end May 26 in Oshkosh, Wis., the university’s home town.

The George Fox visit was one stop on a national tour by the Soulforce Equality Ride, which started March 2 in New York City and will end May 26 in Oshkosh, Wis., the university’s home town. The group was met with grace by university officials, who treated the riders with respect and hospitality. While some schools barred the group — resulting in more than 100 trespassing arrests during the two-month tour — most George Fox’s sister schools in the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities agreed to meet with the riders.

Dana Miller, vice president of marketing and advancement, said the university was clear about its orthodox Christian view of homosexuality and also treated the riders with respect and hospitality. “We were able to express the love of Christ to a group that has not always been met with grace,” Miller said.

Baseball hits 30 again

The baseball team recorded its seventh 30-win season. Led by Northwest Conference Player of the Year right fielder Dan Wentzell (Sr., Tuatuleni, Ore.), the Bruins won their first 18 games and were 91-4 at the season halfway point. Advancing to its sixth NCAA playoff appearance in the last eight years, the team was clinched by West Coast rival Chapman University, the No. 2 ranked team in NCAA Div. III. George Fox finished 30-11, its 12th Div. III. George Fox finished 30-11, its 12th

Bruins speak another title

J.J. Krebs (So., Salem, Ore.) captured the Bruins’ second national javelin title in four years with a throw of 198 feet, 18 inches at the NCAA Division III track and field championships May 26 in Oshkosh, Wis. Krebs joined Matt Gassaway, the 2004 national javelin champion, as Bruins who have won individual titles in the school’s eight years as an NCAA member.

“I was in shock — it took a couple of hours for it to set in,” Krebs said of winning the event. “I wanted to treat it like any other meet. I tried to stay relaxed and not worry about the fact we were throwing in terrible conditions. It was just pouring.”

Krebs accomplished the feat despite missing most of the season with an arm injury. “He was third at nationals last year, so we knew he had potential, but we weren’t sure what to expect,” coach John Smith said. “He’d only been throwing about three or four weeks before the conference meet.” Krebs won despite being a relative newcomer to the sport. He didn’t even throw javelin in high school. “I saw him at an intramural football game and was impressed by his arm,” Smith said.

The coach asked Krebs to consider joining track. “At first I wasn’t too sure about it,” Krebs said. “But I had a roommate on the team, and coach seemed to think I had a decent arm, so I gave it a shot.”

Joining Krebs as an All-American was Ben Dilone (Jr., Kirkland, Wash.), who finished third in the decathlon with 6,925 points. Their finishes earned the Bruins 16 team points and a tie for 18th in the final men’s team results.

At the Northwest Conference championships, the Bruin women finished second and the men fifth. NWC women champions were Rachel Gilley (Brohaugh, Jr., Renton, Wash.) in the 800, Victoria Black (Sr., Baker City, Ore.) in the pole vault, and Katie Alaimo (Jr., The Dalles, Ore.) in the steeplechase.

Men tee off

The university’s NCAA Division III intercollegiate athletics program continues to grow with the addition of a men’s golf team this fall.

Men’s golf will be the 15th intercollegiate sport and seventh men’s sport offered by George Fox. The university added a women’s golf team in fall of 2006. The Bruins’ home course will be the new Chehalem Glenn Golf Course in Newberg, which opened in the summer of 2009. The collegiate golf season is played in both the fall and spring semesters.

The university is seeking an associate head coach for the program. Mary McCluskey, coach of the university’s women’s golf team, will serve as coordinator for both programs.

Other intercollegiate men’s sports sponsored by the university include soccer, cross country, basketball, baseball, tennis, track and field, softball, golf, tennis and field. George Fox sponsors eight women’s sports: volleyball, cross country, soccer, basketball, softball, golf, tennis, and field.

George Fox will be the ninth and final team in the Northwest Conference to offer men’s golf. Other Northwest Conference schools are Lewis & Clark College, Linfield College, Pacific University, Pacific Lutheran University, the University of Puget Sound, Whitman College, Willamette University and Whitworth College.

Faith at work

David Sherwood, professor of social work, received a Distinguished Service to Christianity and Social Work award. Given by the North American Association of Christians in Social Work, the award honors his leadership in developing and accrediting social work programs in Christian colleges and universities.

Sherwood’s career in social work education spans more than 30 years. Since 1982, he has been editor of Social Work & Christianity, the refereed journal of the North American Association of Christians in Social Work. He regularly contributes literature on the ethical integration of Christian faith and professional social work practice. The award was given at the organization’s 57th annual convention and training conference in Dallas. Sherwood led two workshops and delivered an address, “Moral Believing Social Workers: Philosophical and Theological Foundations of Social Work Ethics,” at the plenary session.
A man of momentum

In 1998, President David Brandt came to a surging but grieving university. As he leaves this summer, George Fox remains on the upswing.

President H. David Brandt is a man who understands that momentum is more than a matter of mass and velocity. As a physicist-turned-president, he knows institutions must move forward to thrive.

Brandt was hired in 1998 to lead a university on a decade-long growth spurt. George Fox quadrupled in size under former president Ed Stevens, but terminal cancer tore Brandt’s hard-charging predecessor from office. Stevens died just months before Brandt’s arrival. The new president brought firm leadership shaped by career experiences at five Christian colleges across the nation. Drawing upon his professional and academic background in analytical problem solving, Brandt guided George Fox into its second decade of significant growth.

Raised in a Mennonite family, Brandt understood the nonhierarchical Friends ethos that flavored the evangelical Christian campus. The son of a machinist, he considered the use of “Dr.” in his presidential correspondence to be ostentatious and instructed his staff to strike it. On campus, he encouraged employees to address him as Dave. Undergraduates affectionately called him H. Dave.

Students fueled Brandt’s passion. His wife, Melva, advised him that the best way for him to cheer up was to spend time with students. The Brandts often hosted meals at their home, and he was known for stopping and chatting with students on walks across campus. When it came time to publically announce his retirement, undergraduates at chapel were the first to hear.

Off campus, Brandt built a significant network of personal and professional relationships. Last winter, he signed more than 2,200 Christmas cards.

Brandt was a leader on and off campus, taking national posts with the Council of Independent Colleges and the Christian College Consortium. He was one of 50 college presidents honored with a presidential leadership award by the Templeton Foundation for commitment to character development on campus. His influence was recognized beyond evangelical circles. The University of Portland awarded him an honorary doctorate in May, offering public acclaim for “a wonderful teacher, a man who has with vision and character, energy and verge, elevated his own university into the front ranks of colleges in the Pacific Northwest.”

Nearly a decade after taking the presidency, Brandt leaves a university that continues to expand its academic offerings, enrollment, and campus borders. On the following pages are milestones of the university’s momentum.
Expansion of academic programs

Perhaps the first thing a person sees upon entering Brandt’s office is a newspaper article on the wall describing George Fox’s 2004 baseball NCAA Division III national championship. It’s one of Brandt’s favorite memories. “The championship was a healthy thing for campus,” says Brandt. “In the United States, intercollegiate athletics is part of your positioning.”

Financial stability The annual budget has grown from $30 million to more than $52 million during Brandt’s tenure. Ensuring the university’s financial health became Brandt’s first priority after enrollment stagnated in 2001, leading to the elimination of 12 positions. He made moves to stabilize enrollment, enhance marketing, and prioritize fund-raising. Since 2002, traditional undergraduate enrollment has increased 26 percent and graduate enrollment has increased 10 percent. Donations to the university are averaging $4.3 million annually.

Undergraduate programs added since 1998
Accounting
Allied health
Athletic training
Economics
Engineering
Health administration
Music education
Nursing
Organizational communication
Philosophy
Political science
Project management
Social and behavioral studies
Social work
Theatre arts
*adult degree-completion programs

Graduate programs added since 1998
Doctor of education
Doctor of management
Doctor of ministry
MA in Christian ministries
MA in ministry leadership
MA in organizational leadership
MA in school counseling
MS in school psychology
MA in spiritual formation

Marketing Brandt made marketing a university priority, championing an integrated marketing campaign that changed the public face of the university. The university replaced its 30-year-old institutional logo and sports logo, created new recruitment materials, revamped its stationery package, redesigned its website, and converted its university tabloid, LIFE, to a full-color magazine. Journal. The efforts won awards from several professional organizations, including the ‘best in show’ award from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education District VIII.

Campus construction The Newberg campus looks significantly different than it did when Brandt arrived in 1998. He oversees the 2001 construction of the Stevens Center (1, left), the 2004 renovation of historic Wood Mar Hall (2), the 2006 renovation of Hoover Academic Building (3), and the 2006 construction of Le Shana Residence Hall (4). Brandt’s passion for aesthetics helped guide the design process. “We’ve set a standard for new buildings,” he says. The university also moved into new buildings at its Portland, Salem, Redmond, and Boise centers.

Hospital purchase After two years of negotiation, Brandt completed a $1 million deal to purchase the eight-acre Providence Newberg Hospital property adjacent to campus (5). The 2006 acquisition will shift the center of the Newberg campus and provide space for the future development of a second academic quad for graduate programs. The hospital, named Villa Academic Complex, is being renovated to provide much-needed classroom space.

Expansion of academic programs

President H. David Brandt
Milestones of momentum

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President H. David Brandt
Milestones of momentum

Campus culture As the university has grown larger, Brandt has backed programs to maintain the university’s Christ-centered mission. One significant effort is a faculty orientation program, in which new professors take classes in Christian theology. Friends distinctive, and how the Christian faith relates to different academic disciplines. At the end of the program, they write a paper explaining how they integrate faith into their teaching. “This new program has had a profound impact on who we are,” Brandt says.

Campus expansion Brandt leaves behind a Newberg campus poised for additional growth. The campus will soon reach 109 acres — more than a third larger than it was in 1998. The pledged donation of 23.8 acres north of campus by board member Ken Austin and his wife, Joan, will allow the university to construct a new athletics complex with a track oval and fields for soccer, baseball, and softball. Work on infrastructure will begin this summer.

Master plan plan — including the construction of Le Shana Residence Hall and the Hoover Academic Building renovation — have already been completed.

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Looking back
Brandt’s perspective on four decades in Christian higher education

Wheaton College
1963–66
Instructor in physics
I started out on the Wheaton faculty. I was a young kid . . . 25 probably. I went back to teach at my alma mater. and my heroes became my colleagues. It taught me how to be a colleague, something I was able to use later when I welcomed back young alumni. Wheaton established a certain part of my network that determined much of my future.”

Gordon College
1969–77
Professor of physics, department chair, division chair
“Bethel was a young kid . . . 25 probably. I went back to teach at my alma mater. and my heroes became my colleagues. It taught me how to be a colleague, something I was able to use later when I welcomed back young alumni. Wheaton established a certain part of my network that determined much of my future.”

Bethel University
1988–95
Vice president and provost
“Bethel gave me a shot at being a provost. The faculty was wonderful. I’m clearly an academic person. My position as provost helped me appreciate and understand the contribution of student life. It taught me a lot about multiculturalism, and it gave me a broader picture of Christian higher education. It was very hard work. It also put me into another kind of network, because of who the president was (George Brashaber, then editor of Christianity Today).”

LAbor College
1995–98
President
“Tabor was my first presidency. It was the first time I did a capital campaign. It was successful. We were oversubscribed before the deadline. We worked like the dickens. It helped us appreciate the quality of education that students receive in a very small church-related college in the Midwest. There was community-wide cooperation unlike anything I’d seen before. One spring, the students came to us and said ‘Will you buy the paint if we paint trim on the residence hall?’ About 75 or 80 people volunteered and we finished the project. I remember thinking ‘You don’t see this anywhere else.’ It gave me the idea for Serve Day. That was special at Tabor.”

George Fox University
1998–2007
President
“It’s been a great, great time. The values and ethos of George Fox agree with us. The goals of this place matched my goals. This has always been a cause worth working hard for.”

Looking forward
Two significant initiatives began during Brandt’s watch will launch this fall
The Act Six leadership and scholarship program annually will provide 40 multicultural student leaders ($100 per year) from the Portland area with four-year all-expense scholarships. Through a partnership with Portland Community College, Act Six is designed to equip participating students to be leaders on campus and in their home communities.
The university’s China initiatives is expected to annually bring several dozen Chinese students to campus. In April, Brandt signed a sister-school agreement with Hunan Institute of Science and Technology in Guangdong, China. Several other partnerships with Chinese universities are being explored. George Fox administrators are also considering creating a China Studies Center on the Newberg campus and locating a teaching site in China.
President H. David Brandt
Teacher and leader 1963–2007

Into Africa

Brandt's influence on Christian higher education stretches from Newberg to Nairobi

I n 1981 — while serving as dean at Messiah College — Dave Brandt was asked by Ray Hostetter, the college president, if he had interest in helping establish a Christian liberal arts college in Africa. At the time, Messiah was funding the education of about a dozen African students on its Pennsylvania campus. Many chose not to return home to Africa, but stayed in the United States after graduating.

The idea of offering Christian higher education in Africa excited Brandt. “It would be an education in the context of their culture and not in ours.”

Hostetter identified a small Nairobi-based ministry called Daystar Communications, which offered classes to Christian communication ministries. Brandt and his wife, Melva, flew to visit the fledgling institution. The school had just transferred leadership from Don Smith, an Oregon missionary with a background in cultural anthropology, to Stephen Talimwala, a Kenyan who had worked at the state-operated Nairobi University. Brandt spent three weeks working with Talimwala and the chief academic officer to establish a college governing structure.

Back in the United States, Brandt labored to secure accreditation — and thus international credibility — for the Kenyan college. “There were losses of cross ocean phone calls,” he says. He arranged for Messiah and other American colleges to annually loan faculty and established an American-based fundraising board.

In 1987, the Daystar graduates received Messiah diplomas. In 1994 — after Kenya began offering charters to private institutions — the government granted Daystar university status and accreditation to Daystar. It was the first Christian liberal arts college in the region, and perhaps on the continent.

Today, Daystar enrolls about 2,500 students on two campuses in Nairobi. Giraffe and zebra wander the campus perimeter of the Athi River campus where students can look out over Nairobi to the Ngong Hills where Out of Africa was filmed.

“Money is always the issue,” says Brandt. “The people are poor. Tuition and housing costs about $5,000 a year and most students can attend only with significant external financial aid. Brandt continued to serve on the U.S. fund-raising board and has returned to Daystar 21 times.

“I have a lot of my heart at Daystar,” he says. “It has become a university of significance in east Africa.”

President H. David Brandt
Teacher and leader 1963–2007

In his words

David Brandt reflects on his tenure and offers counsel to his successor

Best day “There have been some great, great days here. There is a lot of celebrating that happens around a university president. Every opening of school and every commencement is a huge privilege to be at the center of those days.

“The day of the baseball championship, Dana Miller, vice president of advancement, phoned me and called the last out. That was really cool. The opening of school with the governor at the chapel celebration was special.

‘Other highlights were the dedications of Stevens Center and Hoover Academic Building, engineering accreditation, the board meeting when they approved the nursing program . . . dinners with Mark and Antonette Hattie! There have been lots and lots of good days.”

Worst day “There was a cluster of days when I realized how bad the operating deficit was and had to begin formulating a plan to eliminate it. That was tough.”

Won’t miss “Creating the annual budget. I’d like to give higher salaries, more equipment, and whatever people need to perform at the highest levels. Those are hard decisions. It is a lot easier than it was five years ago.”

President’s wife “Melva and I accepted my positions jointly. She feels called to her work. She sees her role as facilitating mine. Melva serves as one of my advisors. She has good instincts, which at various times have allowed me to avoid bad decisions. She listens well, and she checks with her. I always went to see what she heard.

“Her is always willingly opening our home for events and dinners. She enjoys that.

“Clearly, when dealing with more mature donors it’s almost essential that the spouse is part of that trust. She really is a part of the presidency. We see this as our job and not mine.”

Opportunities for the next president “I think this is an opportunity to take a fine institution and lead it to greatness.

We have established a set of programs that need to mature and become what they can be. The other opportunities are to implement the big pieces of the master plan.”

Advice to the next president “Within our commitment to being Christ-centered, the strategic issues of high-est importance for the next decade will continue to be globalization, technology, and racial and ethnic diversity. Pay close attention and treat them as the highest priorities.”

Challenges and opportunities “The challenge is to maintain our historic orthodox Christian position. And the opportunity is to create a distinct institution that will stand out from the rest. Beyond that, there is one huge challenge — to raise capital funds. The master plan will require a lot of money. In an age where universities are raising huge sums of money, we have to join that pack.”

Best part of retirement “Being able to control my schedule again and being closer to my grandchildren.”

What’s next “A trip to Italy.”

President H. David Brandt
Teacher and leader 1963–2007

“Lots and lots of good days . . .” (clockwise from top left) Brandt hosts his skills at a ceremony introducing the woman’s gift program, Oregon governor Ted Kulongoski and former Newberg mayor Bob Stewart help celebrate the 2004 baseball championship, Brandt with 2005-06 student body president Travis Shafer breaking ground for the amphitheater, David and Melva with longtime friends and donors. (Photos with permission of the President’s Office.)

“In his words”

David Brandt reflects on his tenure and offers counsel to his successor

Best day “There have been some great, great days here. There is a lot of celebrating that happens around a university president. Every opening of school and every commencement is a huge privilege to be at the center of those days.

“The day of the baseball championship, Dana Miller, vice president of advancement, phoned me and called the last out. That was really cool. The opening of school with the governor at the chapel celebration was special.

‘Other highlights were the dedications of Stevens Center and Hoover Academic Building, engineering accreditation, the board meeting when they approved the nursing program . . . dinners with Mark and Antonette Hattie! There have been lots and lots of good days.”

Worst day “There was a cluster of days when I realized how bad the operating deficit was and had to begin formulating a plan to eliminate it. That was tough.”

Won’t miss “Creating the annual budget. I’d like to give higher salaries, more equipment, and whatever people need to perform at the highest levels. Those are hard decisions. It is a lot easier than it was five years ago.”

President’s wife “Melva and I accepted my positions jointly. She feels called to her work. She sees her role as facilitating mine. Melva serves as one of my advisors. She has good instincts, which at various times have allowed me to avoid bad decisions. She listens well, and she checks with her. I always went to see what she heard.

“Her is always willingly opening our home for events and dinners. She enjoys that.

“Clearly, when dealing with more mature donors it’s almost essential that the spouse is part of that trust. She really is a part of the presidency. We see this as our job and not mine.”

Opportunities for the next president “I think this is an opportunity to take a fine institution and lead it to greatness.

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What’s next “A trip to Italy.”
It’s a green, green, green World

University construction heeds principles of environmental stewardship

Students in the new Le Shana Residence Hall live in an earth-friendly home. Completed last summer, the three-story apartment building was designed and built green—from drywall made of recycled materials, to low-flow plumbing fixtures, to a north-south orientation that uses prevailing wind patterns to enhance natural ventilation.

Each of the university’s two newest buildings was designed with earth-friendly building practices in mind and earned green certifications. The practice of green or sustainable building involves creating healthier and more resource-efficient models of construction, renovation, operation, and maintenance. The new field is gaining momentum as the environmental impact of buildings becomes more apparent.

Le Shana Hall, completed last summer, qualified for the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. The Stevens Center, which houses student services and classrooms, qualified for Earth Smart Green designation from Portland General Electric. The Stevens Center also was one of 10 buildings in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia showcased in the “Ten Shades of Green” 2001 exhibition.

The recent Hoover Academic Building remodeling project incorporated high-efficiency heating, ventilation, and lighting equipment. The building is expected to qualify for an energy efficiency incentive grant from Oregon Energy Trust and a Business Energy Tax Credit.

“We have strong advocacy for green construction throughout the university,”
A three-credit course, says President David Brandt. "We are stewards of God's creation, so it seems obvious we would want to sustain God's work."

Brandt would like to see Christians do a better job of addressing environmental concerns from a Christian perspective, discussing or developing "a theology of green."

"Christianity and Earthkeeping," that says President David Brandt. "We are stewards of God's creation, so it seems obvious we would want to sustain God's work."

Building green involves a complex mix of tradeoffs when making purchasing or building choices, says associate director of plant services Dan Schutter. For example, the university lion points toward a LEED gold classification because it used locally produced Styrofoam roof insulation in Le Shana instead of shipping the only available "certified green" product from a South Carolina manufacturer. "It didn't make any sense to burn a lot of diesel fuel to truck Styrofoam cross country," he says.

Building green sometimes costs more than merely building to code, though not always. Schutter says Recycling construction debris, buying high efficiency equipment, and purchasing green power and healthy cleaning products do add costs. However, cost savings are gained through lower operations and maintenance costs from reduced energy, water, and waste.

Some financial benefits are hard to quantify in the short term. Schutter says. "But by using healthier materials and reducing the amount of waste material dumped in landfills, we reduce the cost of providing a better quality of life for future generations," he says.

Elements of green building include:

- Increased energy efficiency and use of renewable energy
- Water stewardship
- Environmentally preferable building materials and specifications
- Waste reduction
- Decreased toxics
- Improved indoor environments
- Smart growth and sustainable development

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

In the United States, buildings account for:

- 39 percent of total energy use
- 12 percent of total water consumption
- 38 percent of total carbon dioxide emissions
- 68 percent of total electricity consumption

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

For Brian McLaughlin, free fuel is finger-lickin' good.

George Fox President David Brandt is one of 86 evangelical leaders who signed a statement entitled "Climate Change: An Evangelical Call to Action." The group is calling on the government to act urgently by among other things, passing a federal law to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. The statement says scientific evidence for the dangers of climate change is clear.

Climate change: an evangelical call to action

It also encourages evangelical Christians and all Americans to make life changes necessary to help solve the global warming crisis and to advance legislation that will limit emissions while respecting economic and business concerns.

Other signatories include Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Community Church and author of The Purpose Driven Life. Duane Litfin, president of Wheaton College; David Neff, editor of Christianity Today; and Todd Basset, national commander of the Salvation Army.

Call to Action gained significant media attention. The Associated Press referred to the initiative as "a historic tipping point" (Los Angeles Times Feb. 10) in evangelical response to climate change.
Le Shana Hall green features

1. Radiant floor heating
   All regularly occupied rooms in Le Shana Hall have radiant floor heating. Water, a more efficient carrier of heat than air, flows through tubes, which saves fan energy.

2. Wallboard
   The wallboard used in Le Shana Hall was constructed with recycled materials. The materials were produced locally, reducing the amount of transportation fuel used to ship the finished product.

3. Window Glazing
   The windows have glass with improved insulating properties to help provide a well-insulated building and efficient heating.

4. Eyebrows“ architecture
   Aesthetic metal eyebrows above the building’s south facing windows allow warm sun to permeate the residence hall rooms while blocking the sun during warm summer days.

5. Drought resistant grass
   The tall fescue-blend grass has deep root systems that require less water and fertilizer. The drip irrigation system and the systems that require less water and fertilizer.

6. Permeable asphalt
   Rainwater percolates through the asphalt. This process filters impurities before it reaches the storm-water system.

7. Roof stacks
   Wood shingled on the residence hall’s roof provide ventilation to cool the building without electrically powered fans. An automatic control system opens the vertical shafts when the building needs to be cooled and the warm air is carried out by natural convection.

8. Water efficiency
   Water use inside the building is reduced by 30 percent over a typical building of its size through the use of low-flow fixtures. As a result, each apartment is expected to save hundreds of gallons of water annually.

9. Concrete
   Much of the Le Shana Residence Hall is constructed with concrete that provides “thermal mass” and improved heating and cooling efficiency.

10. Building orientation
    Orienting the building on a north-south axis takes advantage of the sun’s path and allows for diffuse day lighting. Prevailing winds enable natural ventilation using high and low pressure zones to create a flow of fresh air through the building.
Ronald Tschetter, national director of the U.S. Peace Corps, came to the university in spring to address this year’s graduates and to honor his longtime friend David Brandt for his retirement. The two served many years together on the board of Daystar U.S., a nonprofit support organization for Daystar University in Nairobi, Kenya.

Improving the lives of others has been Tschetter’s lifelong passion. He has received many awards for his leadership and community service, and last September he left behind a 30-year career in the financial securities industry to lead the Peace Corps, a federal government agency dedicated to promoting world peace and friendship. In its 46 years, the Peace Corps has sent more than 187,000 volunteers to 139 developing countries to work on issues ranging from AIDS education to information technology and environmental preservation.

Tschetter and his wife, Nancy, were Peace Corps volunteers from 1966 to 1968 in India, where they served as community health workers. He has continued his volunteer work serving as chairman of the board of trustees of Bethel College and Seminary, chairman of the National Peace Corps Association, and chairman of the board of Daystar U.S.

Before addressing the 560 students preparing to graduate and some 5,000 visitors at commencement, Tschetter shared his insights with George Fox Journal about meeting needs and serving God.

George Fox Journal | What fuels your passion for working to improve the lives of others?
Tschetter | That passion began when I was a child back in the tough farmland of South Dakota. I observed how my father and mother treated others. We were not a family with a lot of money at all; we were comfortable. But I remember when neighbors who had disasters — one was a fire, and one was a tornado — my father didn’t care what we had. He took cupboards full of food to them and did anything he could to help. So that’s where it all started. Also, through my training at a Christian high school and at Bethel College, I learned that was the way Christ would do it.

Corps values

Ron Tschetter, head of the U.S. Peace Corps, shares his thoughts on Christians and service before speaking at the university’s spring commencement

Around the world: Ron Tschetter and his wife, Nancy, served as Peace Corps volunteers in India after college (above). Since he became director last September, they have traveled to (clockwise from top right) Jordan, Mongolia, and the Republic of Malawi.
One of the first things my wife and I did together was join the Peace Corps. We thought it was a more unique way to serve than joining a mission organization. There’s nothing that precludes Christians from serving in that way, and nothing precludes you from sharing your faith when the opportunities present themselves. You’re not a missionary, so you don’t go out on the street doing that. But we had many opportunities to talk with young school children and coworkers when they would ask us. That’s the way Christ lived. So servant leadership should be an integral part of who we are.

**GFJ** | You didn’t believe in separating the sacred and the secular.  
**Tschetter** | Right. I still don’t believe in that. I think more than ever that in secular organizations, whether governmental or non-governmental, more Christians need to be serving in this way. I just feel very strongly about that, and I’ve consulted with a number of really well known academics who confirmed my thinking in that realm. And I’ll tell you in the Peace Corps, for example, there are a lot of Christians, a lot of them in headquarters and many of them in the field. And they come from places like George Fox, Bethel, and Seattle Pacific.

**GFJ** | Is that a better way for Christians to serve than through mission agencies?  
**Tschetter** | I’m not saying it’s better at all. I believe missionaries need to do their work. I’ll be honest with you and tell you that having traveled the world in this job back when we were volunteers in India, we saw mission situations that were appalling, quite frankly. Now we also saw some that were phenomenal. I think it’s wonderful, and they make a difference. I think what Christ would have us do is first of all, meet the needs of the people. That’s what he did. Then that opens doors to have further discussions and talk to them about being a Christian and what that means.

Going through the Bible, that’s what I see — the needs are met first, and then the ministry came with that. That’s what I think the Peace Corps does so well because it’s really all about meeting needs. One of the most common questions a Peace Corps volunteer is asked is, “Why do you do this?” They wonder why you come from comfort, luxury, television, and all the things they think are so wondrous in Third World countries, and live in deprivation and work with their people. The door is open almost every day if you want to share.

**GFJ** | In the American Christian church balanced in what we seem to be focusing on and how we define ourselves?  
**Tschetter** | No, I think first of all denominationalism takes far too much dominance in what we consider important in American Christianity. If I had my choice, I’d eliminate denominationalism. I’d eliminate a lot of authoritarianism as well, and look at what Christ would do. I go back to that all the time. We get all hung up with interpretive issues of the Bible, and to me that’s not what Christianity is all about.

**GFJ** | Your perspective is an encouragement to Christians who are conflicted about that present focus.  
**Tschetter** | Well I feel ever so strongly about it. I can’t tell you how many times I’ve asked God, “Why me? Why me?” Why am I the director of the U.S. Peace Corps at this time, at this stage in America’s dilemmas at this stage in the world scene? We’re a small agency, but it’s pretty big out there, and there’s a reason there’s a Christian here now. There’s a reason there are so many Christians in the agency.

**GFJ** | It sounds like you would like to see some mission situations that were phenomenal. I think it’s wonderful, and they make a difference. I think what Christ would have us do is first of all, meet the needs of the people. That’s what he did. Then that opens doors to have further discussions and talk to them about being a Christian and what that means.

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**GFJ** | Is that the American Christian church balanced in what we seem to be focusing on and how we define our selves?  
**Tschetter** | I do not believe in denominationalism at all. I think in American Christianity, too much dominance is taken by denominationalism. I’d eliminate denominationalism. I’d eliminate a lot of authoritarianism, and allow a lot of individualism, and allow a lot of responsibility.

**GFJ** | Their full needs will be taken care of?  
**Tschetter** | Their financial needs will be taken care of. I think more than ever that in secular countries, there’s a reason there’s a Christian small agency, but it’s pretty big out there, and there’s a reason there’s a Christian here now. There’s a reason there are so many Christians in the agency.

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**GFJ** | Their full needs will be taken care of.

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**Brusins in the Corps**

Kris (G00) and Haunnah (Klug G02) Sorensen  
El Salvador

Iris Sorensen and his wife, Haunnah, (Klug G00) Sorensen have lived in one of the most violent countries in the world the last two years: El Salvador. In coping with growing gang activity in wake of civil war in the 1980s, Iris is a municipal development volunteer. He helped plan construction of a rural school and coordinated efforts to secure computers for 11 schools and provide a water system for 400 people.

Haunnah is a youth development volunteer. Teaching children everything from rabbit husbandry to cooking. She also organizes recreational activities. “Youth are hungry for activities and stimulation, and these activities fill a big need as youth often attend half days of school and are left with little else to do,” she says.

She also taught a group of women how to paint Salvadoran beaches and volcano scenes on greeting cards to sell.

Sara Black (G00) × Tanzania

Sara Black serves as a health education volunteer in a small village, Morogoro, where she teaches HIV and AIDS awareness to primary and secondary school students. She also teaches biology, assists a health club, and serves as an instructor at a local health clinic. Her two-year commitment ends in August, but Black already knows the experience is one she won’t soon forget. “The people of Tanzania will forever be etched on my heart,” she says.

“My time here has really opened my heart for the people of the world. It has allowed me to just my faith into action by the simple act of loving others.”

Courtney Phillips (G00) × Cape Verde

Courtney Phillips is putting her psychology degree to use as a Peace Corps volunteer in Cape Verde, where she works at a center for abused, orphaned girls between the ages of 6 and 17.

Phillips does behavioral evaluations of the girls and gives them positive reinforcement for completing chores at the center, located in the town of Xoamanda. She also organizes trips, field trips, and parties for the kids.

In addition, Phillips works at another youth center, where she coordinates educational and community service activities with local youth volunteers. She oversees an income-generating project of making styled hats with locally imported material and marketing them in surrounding communities.

She also teaches English and photography and accompanies girls on family visits to assess conditions, evaluate cases, and possibly facilitate a child’s reintegration into her family or substitute family.

— Sean Patterson
Sixteen years ago, psychology professor Bob Buckler and his wife, Debbie, sold their new home in Tigard and moved their family into the Old Laurelhurst Church, a decaying Spanish Colonial Revival-style church in Portland. After hearing the 84-year-old building was going to be replaced with condominiums, Buckler dodged the local transients sleeping on the property to look over the building. It was then he saw the church’s 11 ornate stained glass windows.

“He came home and told me he couldn’t believe the windows were going to be taken out and split up for an auction,” says Debbie. Soon, she felt the same way.

“I just wanted it to stay a church,” she says.

They made an offer and life changed.

After long days of teaching and seeing patients, Bob returned to his new 24,000-square-foot home to be handyman and janitor. With more than 30 rooms, there was plenty of work to do.

“We had no idea what we’d gotten into. I tell everyone we were psychotically optimistic. For the first 10 years, it was just like a second job,” says Bob.

Debbie now handles about 75 weddings a year, some with receptions. She’s become something of an authority on the matrimony ceremony. Ballerinas and hairdressers are the toughest brides.

“They’re just too worried about how everything looks, they can’t see the big picture,” says Debbie.

The family also rents the church for meetings and seminars. A couple of congregations have used the facility as a temporary home. Until they outgrew the space last Thanksgiving, the Imago Dei Community conducted three services every Sunday. Sharing a building with a church of 1,500 required flexibility. Singing drifted through the wall into their living area. Youth groups, Sunday school, and prayer meetings spilled into the upstairs bedrooms of children away at college.

Since the Bucklers took their leap of faith to save the church, thousands have entered the restored building. Many marvel at the stained glass.

“I think the Lord wanted us to do this,” says Bob. "But if there’s another church that needs renovating somewhere, we’re hoping that someone else is called.”
Top 40

Robert Harding (G94) admits that going back to school was a tough decision—he calls it a choice that says “changed the direction of my life.” Harding, a senior vice president of Pacific Continental Bank, in March was named one of Portland’s most influential business professionals by the Portland Business Journal. The publication annually produces a special section, “Top 40 Under Forty.” It recognizes the top young professionals in the area. The 40 recipients were chosen from 250 nominees based on professional accomplishments, community involvement, and professional recognition. The 38-year-old from Cornelius returned to school after earning a bachelor’s degree from Oregon State University in 1992. He has worked for Pacific Continental Bank since 2000 as senior vice president, senior vice president, and regional sales and service manager. He manages sales and service operations for Portland-area offices, a growing client base, loans, and deposit growth.

1960–69


1970–79

Marian (Sheri) Tyron (G73) teaches writing and language classes at Clatsop Community College, Astoria, Ore. She has studied in Spain, Venezuela, Brazil, and Mexico and served a two-year term in a mission school in Germany. She is a CPA, and since 1980 has been with PacifiCorp, Portland. She will use the funds to start-up funding and collaborating with other organizations. She is known for her work in international development and her interest in supporting start-up businesses.

1980–89

Jeff VandenHoek (G88) has been appointed president of the Idaho Guardian and Federal Corporation. His major clients are the Salvation Army and the Salvation Army youth programs, which includes the Salvation Army youth programs in Oregon and Idaho.

1990–99

Scott Brown (G92, MEd98) is the new head track and cross-country coach at Redmond (Ore.) High School, where he teaches math. He is in his 15th year of coaching track and cross-country. He was an assistant coach at George Fox and this is his first head coaching position.

1999–2007

Bakely Spillar (G96) will be in select company this fall. She was one of only 12 new students chosen to attend the John Jay Institute for Faith, Society and Law in Colorado Springs, Colo. Spillar will attend from September through mid-December. The institute prepares students for positions in civic leadership and citizenship education. She will be attending a three-month practicums in public communication in a public affairs-related internship at an international political center or U.S. location.

Policy scholar

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Alumni Connections

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A new lead pastor at Phoenix (Ariz.) Friends Church. He most recently served at the Talent (Ore.) Friends Church. Dale Campbell (G60) is now living with his wife, Sharen, in Tualatin, Ore., where he lives. He is the founder of Amazing Grace Counseling Service, which operates in Jacksonville, S.C., and a new office in Tualatin, Ore., where he lives with his wife, Sharen (Tota) Campbell (G69).

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Alumni Connections

Principal makes honor roll

Sara Johnson has a simple goal as a principal: "The bottom line is we will push toward student success—no matter what it takes," she says. That requires securing some extra money to fund a project or recruiting a parent to volunteer. Johnson will make sure it happens.

The philosophy is working. "The bottom line is we will push toward student success—no matter what it takes," she says. That requires securing some extra money to fund a project or recruiting a parent to volunteer. Johnson will make sure it happens.

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Alumni Connections

Volunteer of the Year: Pat Landis

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A century of memories

Rosa Hester recalls the days when the mailman delivered letters in a horse and cart. Radio was new, TV was still decades away, and her family used a covered wagon to make a trip to the Oregon coast. Born Rosa Arbuckle in 1907, the fifth of eight children, Rosa grew up on a Chelham Mountain farmstead before attending high school at Friends Pacific Academy, the forerunner of Pacific College, and later Pacific College—which became George Fox University.

The university’s oldest living alum turned 100 on March 25. “I’ve seen so many changes that it’s hard to believe,” she told the NewsByGraphic. “When I lived on the farm, even radio was a discovery—I didn’t hear it ‘til I moved to Newberg.”

After graduating from Pacific with a teaching degree in 1929, she married Ralph Hester. The couple spent several years in the Northwest, including Bandon, Pendleton, and Portland, Ore., and Seattle. Olympia, Wash., before returning to Newberg in 1983. Unfortunately, her husband died a few months after the move. Rosa now lives in the Friendsview Retirement Community.

Christopher Davis (G90) and Angela (Brassard) Davis (G93), born July 19, 2006, in Eugene, Ore.
Avery (Jansen) Davis (G94) and Benjamin Pearl, born April 22, 2006, in Salem, Ore.
Phillip (Amos) Davis (G97), a boy, Jacob Ben, born July 20, 2006, in Portland.
Zachary Davis (G98), a boy, Logan Davis, born March 15, 2007, in Portland.
Avery Ogden (G99) and Paul Ogden (G99), a boy, Jon Lane, born Feb. 5, 2007, in Albany, Ore.
Crisie (Taylor) Rossi (G99) and Matthew Rossi (G99, M99), a boy, Jacob Kain, born July 9, 2006, in Newberg.
Brian Stogk (G99) and Megan Stogk, a boy, Joshua Alan, born March 18, 2006, in Tualatin, Ore.
Cari (Hagan) Aries (G99) and Anacy Aries, a girl, Molly Rose, born March 15, 2007, in Bend, Ore.
Elizabeth (McPhail) Winstead (G99) and Gregory Winstead (G99), twin boys, Carter and Caleb, born Oct. 15, 2006, in Portland.
Aarav (Jansen) Braune (G99) and Dan Braune, a boy, Cooper Joseph, born May 28, 2006, in Portland.
Stephanie (Smit) Collison-Serreve (G99) and Nolan Colson-Serreve, a boy, Jackson, born Feb. 21, 2006, in Vancouver, Wash.
Heidy (Hyek) Dhyes (G99) and Alex (Dykes) Dhyes (G99), a girl, Cary Shannon, born June 1, 2006, in Jerusalem, Israel.

Sara Nett (G92) and Greely Desousa, April 14, 2007, in Eugene, Ore.
Tanseille Wright (G92) and Mike Feldbush, March 3, 2007, in Boise, Idaho.
Amy Tremer (G93) and Benjamin Pearl, Oct. 7, 2006, in Sacramento, Calif.
Diana Wright (G95) and Ryan Sprague (G96), Nov. 11, 2006, in Westchitcta, Wash.
Regina Bong (G96) and Nathaniel Ankney, June 24, 2006, in Portland.

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Diana Wright (G95) and Ryan Sprague (G96), Nov. 11, 2006, in Westchitcta, Wash.
Regina Bong (G96) and Nathaniel Ankney, June 24, 2006, in Portland.

Mariam Roden (G97) and Ryan Roden, a boy, Logan Roden, born Nov. 29, 2006, in Portland.
Carlo Biagi (G98) and Melissa (Darling) Biagi (G99), a girl, Madeline, born Feb. 9, 2007, in Portland.
Lisa (Roberts) Singleterry (G99, M98) and David Hale, a boy, Liam Robert, born April 24, 2007, in Salem, Ore.
Adam Lapp (G99) and Melissa (Crawford) Lapp (G99), a girl, Madeline, born Dec. 6, 2006, in Portland.
Ben Spotts (G99) and Michelle Spotts, a boy, Shane Daniel, born Feb. 8, 2007, in Hoshdrad, India.

J. Edward Baker in (G10), May 2, 2007, in Newberg.
James Haworth (G10, M10) and Erin Haworth (G10), born Sept. 8, 2006, in Eugene, Ore.
Robert Keasling (G10, M10), March 1, 2007, in Hillsboro, Ore.
Garrett (Lily) Corbin (G10), Feb. 21, 2007, in Portland.
Mazie (Gibbs) Lawrence (G10, M10), Jan. 31, 2007, in Toledos, Ore.
Harold Wesner (G10, M10) and Josh Little (G10), born Sept. 8, 2006, in Eugene, Ore.
Vernon Rusk (G10, M10, M11, M12), April 28, 2007, in Los Angeles, Calif.
Leah Jeffrey (G10, M10) and David Jeffrey, born April 20, 2007, in Greenfield, Idaho.
Howard Crow (G10, M10, M11) and Laussie Crow (G10, M10) and John Crow, born May 13, 2007, in Grangeville, Idaho.
David Hochstetler (G10, M10, M11) and Anna Hochstetler (G10, M10) and John Hochstetler, born Feb. 21, 2007, in Portland.

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Send us your news
Send updates to George Fox Journal, 494 N. Meridian St., #6069, Newberg, OR 97132. Call 503-574-2226; e-mail alumni@georgefox.edu.
O P I N I O N

Point of View

Reading what we should?

by Melanie Springer Mock

I try to avoid eye contact on airplanes, in police shops, in places where I might have to talk with someone I do not know as an introvert. I don’t often relish banter with strangers. If I do begin a conversation, however, invariably someone will discover I am an English professor, and will say one of two things: “I’d better watch my grammar when I talk to you, then, so you can’t correct me” and 2) “What kind of books should I be reading?”

I never really offer a good reply. At least to the first. To be honest, I sometimes fix people’s spoken grammar, but only in my head. My mama taught me to be nice, and offering uninvited correction is impolite. My response to the second question is also problematic. My initial answer is that people should read whatever they want. There are too many good books in this world (and far too little time in our lives) to feel we must have a reading agenda dictated by others. My second, seemingly contradictory answer is this: read what you want, but also use books to open your world in a different way.

Directing inquisitors to the many great books (or lists floating in the other might be an easier approach to this problem. I mean, imagine people expect an English professor might hand out such lists, advocating that everyone, everywhere, should read only the literary canon. But I have problems with a reading diet heavy on books deemed notable by others. Most lists of great literature focus too narrowly on works written by the privileged classes by westerners by Caucasians by men—and because the lists themselves were constructed primarily by the privileged classes (westerners, Caucasians, men) those who intend to read only books considered “classic” will miss too many other great works by women and minorities.

Caucasians may feel more challenged by the consideration of what we should be reading. After all, Paul reminds us we are to fill our minds with that which is noble, pure, right, and holy. (Philippians 4:8). Does this mean we should only read works offering a sanitized or Christianized view of life? Nor can we get a real sense of how to love our neighbors without knowing our neighbors’ something reading often facilitates. Recently, for example, I discovered a great deal about what it means to be a Hindu writer. I also learned about God’s mercy and grace. More than I ever might from a Christian romance describing two young Evangelicals falling in love.

What should you be reading? Whatever you want. If you want to read the classics, feel free. If you want to read Christian romances, be my guest. But if you are seeking fare different than the normal diet you consume, if you want to read things unlovely, like murder, deception, adultery, debauchery.

As an English professor at a Christian university, I often contend with these questions. Some believe we should read only books written by Christian authors, describing Christian situations, and are at times disappointed when we read in our classes works by authors of many faiths, exploring issues of deep moral complexity. At first blush, many works taught in George Fox literature classes do not seem to fill minds with what is pure, right, or holy. But through deeper consideration and intelligent discussion, we find good works of literature often uncover a greater truth. Gods truth: what is pure, right, and holy.

And so, the books we read should lead us to a greater understanding of God and grace, incarnation and our need for redemption. This understanding cannot happen if we read only works offering a sanitized or Christianized view of life.

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• Supports Christian higher education

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

alumni@georgefox.edu or 503-554-2121

Ticket reservations must be made by July 20. Field begins at 11:30 a.m., and the game starts at 1 p.m. Cost is $50 which includes admission, a stadium blanket, and $15 in coupons for dinner. Ticket reservations must be made by June 25. alumni@georgefox.edu or 503-554-2121

Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Park at the Park and the game begins at 7 p.m. Cost is $40 which includes admission, a stadium blanket, and $15 in coupons for dinner. Ticket reservations must be made by June 25. alumni@georgefox.edu or 503-554-2121

Golf Tournament

July 10

The fourth annual George Fox University Golf Tournament tees off on the South Course of the Reserve Vineyards and Golf Club in Aloha Ore. The tournament, which supports student scholarships, includes fine food, gift packages, contests, and raffle prizes at a cost of $200 per player. golf.georgefox.edu or 503-554-2120

Seattle Mariners

July 28

Watch the Mariners take on the Oakland Athletics in Seattle with the George Fox family. Lunch at Safeco Field begins at 11:30 a.m., and the game starts at 1 p.m. Cost is $50 for the game and lunch. Ticket reservations must be made by July 20. alumni@georgefox.edu or 503-554-2120

Motorcycle Rally

August 11

Alumni, parents, and friends of the university are invited to cruise with fellow riders from the George Fox community at the annual Motorcycle Rally. This year’s event will include three rides and a biker’s barbecue dinner on the Newberg campus. If you are interested in helping plan this event or would like more information, contact alumni relations at alumni@georgefox.edu or 503-554-2120

San Diego Padres

July 6

Alumni, parents, and friends of the university are invited to watch the San Diego Padres take on the Atlanta Braves at Petco Park in San Diego. Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Park at the Park and the game begins at 7 p.m. Cost is $40 which includes admission, a stadium blanket, and $15 in coupons for dinner. Ticket reservations must be made by June 25. alumni@georgefox.edu or 503-554-2121

Selah

September 28

Uncovering Joy” is the theme for Selah 2007, the university’s fourth annual women’s conference. The event will focus on the journey to deeper understanding and intelligent discussion of the great works of literature often uncover a greater truth. God’s truth: what is pure, right, and holy.

Reading what we should?

by Melanie Springer Mock

“I discovered a great deal about what it means to be a Hindu writer. I also learned about God’s mercy and grace. More than I ever might from a Christian romance describing two young Evangelicals falling in love.”

“Should Christians read only literature with happy endings?”

G E O R G E F O X J O U R N A L | S U M M E R 2 0 0 7
Suit and tie-dye

Yes, that is President David Brandt in a tie-dye shirt. And the reason for his vibrant attire—as several of you told us—is the university’s annual Serve Day. Brandt wore the shirt, a gift from an Eugene alumni group, one day each fall while working alongside students and university employees on volunteer projects all over the Portland area. Ben Weinert (G85) saw our spring issue 2007 “Tell Us More” photo and recognized Brandt immediately: “At first glance I didn’t think anything of the picture except that the house sure did look familiar,” he wrote. “Then I realized...Hey, I think that’s me in the background. Sure enough. I remember when they took that picture and couldn’t believe I was looking at myself. (Brandt) always made me feel like he was just a normal, down to earth guy, who truly cared about each student he interacted with. The university will never be the same without him there.”

Congratulations to Irene Rose (G92), who received a $50 gift certificate to the George Fox University Store for her response.