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Faith: A Constant Amidst Change

We are living in a time of great change. Our economy has shifted from an industrial system to one that is influenced and directed by new technology. Those of us who are over 40 have experienced significant change in the way we work and communicate, from the internet and smartphones to perhaps soon the driverless car. Sometimes this new technology can become a disruptive social force that leads to changing cultural norms and expectations.

This summer we were awakened to the news that the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union. I’m not sure those who voted for the “Brexit” fully understood the consequences of their vote, but they clearly were frustrated with the rapid pace and nature of change. Similar forces of frustration and change have emerged in our own political system, as evidenced by the results of this year’s presidential election. In many ways, the future seems more uncertain now than at any point in my lifetime.

I keep in my office the letters and addresses of one of our most significant university presidents, Levi Pennington. I have found few leaders wiser or more thoughtful than he in 1939, on the cusp of World War II and the disappearance of democratic systems across the globe. He noted, “The world is in a rapidly changing state, and the task of preparing young men and women for life in it is not an easy one…” We who are educators must prepare young people for life in this rapidly changing world.

What is to be our guiding principle? What shall determine our aim and methods?”

Of the many things he wrote, I found this comment the most meaningful: “It is my personal conviction that the one most positive preparation for life is character. To develop industry, versatility, resourcefulness, dependability, alertness, honesty, straightforwardness, self reliance, the power to give and to secure cooperation, a genuine love for humanity and loyalty to God and truth — if the teacher can succeed in developing character of this sort, his or her work cannot fail.”

The challenges we face today are quite different from those of the World War II generation. At the same time, Pennington’s advice seems as valuable now as it did then. While George Fox University must always be relevant and looking toward the future as it works, it remains rooted in important core commitments that do not change. We are focused on preparing people for work, but not just for a particular job or career. Our hope is that we are developing people of character and commitment who will love God and their neighbor. People who will see beyond the moment and look to a future that will indeed be different — more just, more humane, and with a greater understanding of God’s love.

In 1891, evangelical Quaker pioneers founded a small college built on a vision of not just excellence in education, but on creating disciples of Jesus Christ. Whether in 1891, 1939 or 2016, our core commitments remain constant and lasting.

Today, 125 years later, we are excited for the future. Not knowing what tomorrow may bring, we hold fast to our faith, looking for God’s guidance as we continue to prepare students to be salt and light in their communities.

Robin Baker
President
Community Mourns Loss of Campus Grandpa

The university community lost one of its most beloved figures this summer. Roy Hiebert, known affectionately to four decades of George Fox students as “Grandpa Roy,” passed away June 30 at the age of 92, succumbing to the stress of a hip injury and the subsequent surgery, his family said. A memorial service was held July 15 at Bauman Auditorium. On the same day, the university announced the creation of the Grandpa Roy Hiebert Memorial Scholarship in his honor.

Known for delivering thousands of flowers from his garden each year to students and employees around campus, Hiebert could often be found at the university dining hall sharing a meal and conversation with some of his 2,000 plus “grandkids.”

Hiebert began his time at George Fox in 1975, when he left his position as a teacher and electrician at a school for missionary children in Ethiopia to accept a job as associate director of the university’s plant services department. He retired from full-time work in 1987 but stayed connected to the George Fox community. In 1996 he was named the university’s Volunteer of the Year for the more than 240 hours he worked to help construct a prayer chapel on campus.

In 1999 he accepted a Christian Service Award from the Northwest Christian Communication Foundation for his work on campus as “encourager and friend.”

As much as he has had a positive impact on students, Hiebert was quick to say that he equally benefited from his unofficial role as campus grandpa. “One of the things I tell students is you tend to become like the people you spend your time with,” he told the Journal in the fall of 2015. “Spending a lot of time with students, it has changed me. And hopefully it has changed some of the students a little bit, too.”

Visit georgefox.edu/GrandpaRoy to read more about Hiebert’s life and contribute to the scholarship.

Record Enrollment Tops 4,000

For the first time in its 125-year history, George Fox broke the 4,000-student mark with 4,140 enrolled this fall, including 2,707 undergraduates and 1,433 in graduate programs.

The total eclipsed last year’s enrollment of 3,931. In all, it’s the fourth year in a row and the 27th time in 30 years that an enrollment record has been set.

The record-breaking year continues a trend of significant growth over the past three decades, with overall enrollment increasing more than sevenfold since 1986, when 549 students attended. To further put recent numbers in perspective, this year’s incoming class of 767 new or readmitted students is 40 percent higher than the total student population 30 years ago.

A First: Women’s Golf Ranked No. 1

For the first time in history, the George Fox women’s golf team is the top-ranked program in the nation at the NCAA Division III level.

The ranking, first announced Oct. 12 on golfstat.com, came after back-to-back dominant performances in which the Bruins won the Culturame Classic by 28 strokes and the Northwest Conference Fall Classic by 18 strokes. The team’s highest previous ranking was second, which the Bruins held for the entire 2015-16 season.

The team is led by senior Sydney Maluenda, who individually won both the Culturame Classic and the NWC Fall Classic. She is currently ranked fifth nationally in individual scoring average, followed closely by junior Kristin Elich, who is tied for sixth.

University to Add Swim Team in 2018

George Fox will offer men’s and women’s swimming as intercollegiate sports beginning in the fall of 2018. The team will train and compete at the Chehalem Aquatic Center, which will undergo nearly $20 million in renovations.

The city of Newberg broke ground on the renovation project in October. A $19.9 million bond, passed by voters in November of 2014, will fund needed basic infrastructure updates and the installation of more modern features, equipment and amenities. Plans call for the facility to open by December of 2017.

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George Fox Ranked Among "America's Best Colleges" for 29th Year

George Fox was again recognized by U.S. News & World Report as one of the "America's Best Colleges." The university ranked 23rd out of 124 in the "Best Regional Universities" West category for 2017, moving up five spots from one year since.

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A New Name: Portland Seminary

George Fox Evangelical Seminary will change its name in January to Portland Seminary – a move that will help strengthen its regional presence and expand its national outreach, according to seminary leadership.

Located at the university's Portland Center campus, Portland Seminary will continue to be a part of George Fox University. The new name will, however, be accompanied by more options in curriculum and course delivery for masters students. The seminary’s marketing strategy, meanwhile, will focus on its new, more memorable name that projects a sense of place.

The announcement, still pending accreditation approval as of press time, comes a little more than 20 years after the seminary's last name change, when what was then Western Evangelical Seminary merged with George Fox in 1996. That merger led to more than one name change, as George Fox College became George Fox University.

Three Inducted Into Alumni Hall of Fame

George Fox alumni from three different decades were honored Oct. 1 during Homecoming Weekend. Matthew Tibbs ('04), a sound designer working in live performance, film and advertising, received the Outstanding Alumnus Award. Tibbs’ nearly 100 sound designs have appeared on stages in New York City, Chicago, Cincinnati, Salt Lake City, Knoxville and Portland, and his film work has been featured at national and global festivals.

He is a faculty member at Ball State University, teaching sound design, and currently leads the design and technology program.

Lynn (Chouser) Holt, who earned a Master of Divinity degree from George Fox Evangelical Seminary in 1997, was given the Christian Service Award for her work in ministry. A pastor at North Valley Friends Church in Newberg since 2003, Holt serves on the board of directors for the Wesleyan Holiness Women Clergy, an organization that seeks to encourage and equip women called to vocational Christian ministry. Since 2004 she has also worked as an adjunct professor at the seminary.

Finally, Maurice Chandler ('60) was honored with the Heritage Award. Chandler served as director of development and later vice president of development for 49 years at George Fox, and was instrumental in expanding the university both financially and structurally. During his tenure, George Fox saw the construction of several new campus fixtures, including the Ross Center, Wheeler Gymnasium and the Centennial Tower. He also laid the groundwork for the funding of the Edwards-Holman Science Center.

Mayor Declares ‘Year of George Fox University’

In recognition of the university’s 125th anniversary, Newberg Mayor Bob Andrews and the Newberg City Council declared Sept. 7, 2016, to Sept. 9, 2017, the “Year of George Fox University” in Newberg.

A proclamation cited the university’s many contributions to the community was read by the mayor at a city council meeting Sept. 7 and again at the university’s 125th anniversary celebration Sept. 14, held after Serve Day on the Newberg campus.

The proclamation cited the contributions of alumni to the “betterment of the world” in addition to the university’s local impact in the form of community service, economic stimulus and cultural enrichment.

Engineering Innovation Center Unveiled

The upgraded facility provides 15,000 additional square feet of space for engineering students, including a 6,000-square-foot configurable project-build space; a computer design lab; machine, welding and woodworking shops; an additive manufacturing lab; design studios; environmental, prototypical, construction and transportation lab spaces; and a tool room. The space will be used not only for engineering students but also for those in other majors who wish to take advantage of the collaborative learning environment.

“Since the university’s 125th anniversary, the Engineering Innovation Center has been a robust innovation space where students gain creative confidence by working in collaborative multi-disciplinary teams on design-build projects,” says Bob Harder, dean of the school’s College of Engineering. “This remodel represents a pivotal investment in advancing our students as servant innovators and cutting-edge thinkers, providing them with a greater capacity to design, build and test a variety of prototypes.”

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The Harmony Tree: A Story of Healing and Community

By Richard McNeal

Seminary professor Randy Woodley hopes his new children’s book will influence people of all ages

Life in the great forest was happy. The ancient trees protected the younger ones from growing too fast and provided plenty of food and shelter for many creatures. Everyone — from the ruffish ground squirrel and black bear, to the white-tailed deer and milk snake — lived in balance and harmony.

But one day, without warning, everything changed.

Though crafted with a compelling story, challenging lessons and beautiful illustrations, the opening pages of professor Randy Woodley’s first children’s book, The Harmony Tree, introduces the reader to an ecologically idyllic forest, where the native oak tree because she is different, but over time they realize how important her wisdom and knowledge of the land are to their own survival.

The Harmony Tree, a new, transplanted trees. At first the new trees ridicule the native oak, but they never feel it in their soul. Once they get the picture, you wonder biological responses to the physical world might be. The new trees ridicule the native oak because she is different, but over time they realize how important her wisdom and knowledge of the land are to their own survival.

According to Woodley, a legal descendant of Keetowsit Cherokee Indians and distinguished professor of faith and culture at George Fox Evangelical Seminary, The Harmony Tree has several layers, but it is primarily an allegory for the relationship between ethically white and indigenous people groups. He hopes the book can be a racial bridge between the two.

“I wrote it so that the newcomers — anybody who has come to America in the last 520-something years — would begin to see the value of understanding and conciliation with Native people,” he says.

America] in the last 520-something years — would begin to see the value of understanding and conciliation with Native people,” he says. The book also celebrates a marriage of indigenous perspectives with the Christian faith, which challenges certain misconceptions about white evangelicals may have developed. For instance, Woodley suggests that Western Christianity has adopted a dualistic theology supposing the physical world is less than the spiritual world, or things that have to do with the land aren’t as important as people.

“That’s a very tidy way of looking at the world,” he says. “A better way would be to say everything God created is spiritual and the physical realm, the material world, the earth, the creation, the ecosystems — all of those things are important to God.”

Woodley originally discussed these issues and more in his book, The Harmony Tree: An Explorer’s Guide (Cascade Books). In July, Sherman was the only founder to sign the Articles of Association, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution.

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Howard Macy (professor emeritus) in August published the book Discovering Honor in the Bible: An Explorer’s Guide (Cascade Books). Described as “a fun how-to manual,” it examines why honor is present in the Bible, why it matters, and how readers should approach it.

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When George Fox was founded in 1891, its creators envisioned two things: a challenging educational experience and a community where students could deepen their faith in Christ. This focus on the whole person—what we describe today as our “Be Known” promise—remains as vibrant and relevant now as it was 125 years ago.

It’s a promise that compels us to focus on the individual in such a way that it ignites faith, empowers a vision for the future, and prepares students for a world of diverse and ever-changing vocational opportunities. As the oldest Christian university in Oregon, we strive to be leaders and innovators as we move forward into a new era of higher education. But the core of who we are remains unchanged: At George Fox, you won’t just be a number. You will Be Known.
Friends Pacific Academy began in Newberg in 1885. It offered a five-year course of study (later expanded to six), with the first two years at the elementary level. The desire to provide further education led to the founding of Pacific College in 1891. At 2 p.m. on Sept. 9 of that year, college classes began with a total of 15 students.

The academy and college together enrolled 151 total students that year – impressive considering that the 1890 census recorded a population of just 514 in Newberg. It was located between Third and Fourth streets, where the Newberg Friends Church now stands. Not surprisingly, the city named the north/south street “College Street.” The following year the school moved to its present location in northeast Newberg.

The Quakers who initiated the school announced that “the aim of Pacific College is to combine high scholastic achievement with a strong emphasis on spiritual values and humanitarian service as taught in the New Testament.”

Tuition for Pacific College students in 1891 was $8 to $12 per term, and staying in the College Boarding Hall cost $2.50 per week, making the total school year’s cost about $120 (approximately $3,000 in 2016 dollars).

As the first of three annual terms approached in the fall of 1891, President Thomas Newlin invited students interested in both the “regular College course” (review work, the practical business course, vocal or instrumental music, and art) and the “Normal Course” (for current or prospective teachers). “If your wants lie along any of these lines Pacific College is able to satisfy them. We desire to stand for that which is permanent and useful, being opposed to shams and pretensions in education,” the president announced in the Newberg Graphic.

Among the primary purposes of the college, according to the first catalog, was to “offer to young men and young women the benefits of a liberal Christian education” and to “send forth many Christian teachers, ministers, and missionaries” to be a “strong support not only to the Friends Church, but to Christianity wherever its influence may reach.”

While the purpose of the college aligned in many ways with the goals of George Fox University today, the early Pacific College/Academy motto was somewhat different from the university’s current slogan, “Be Known.” Addressed to both genders, the motto stated: “The whole of your life must be spent in your own company, and only the educated man is good company for himself.”
What’s in a Name?

How my letter prompted Pacific College to change its name to George Fox

In 1949 I was attending Nazarene Theological Seminary in Kansas City when I learned the board at Pacific College wanted to make a name change to avoid confusion with a neighboring institution. One of the names under consideration was “Friendwood.” I don’t know why they were considering it. Maybe because they had friends in the woods, I guess. Well, the name didn’t sit well with me. Friendwood is a town in Texas and has no business being the name of a college.

I wrote a letter suggesting they name it after the founder of the Friends church. At the time I was studying church history at the seminary, engrossed in comparing Quaker history with Nazarene history. Wesley and Calvin I thought, “Well, there’s Calvin College and there’s Wesleyan University, but, in terms of the Quaker heritage, there’s only William Penn University in Iowa and Whittier College in California, which is named after a poet.” I thought the founders of the church needed to be named to give our history. You look at the George Fox catalog and find it interesting that a college board listened to a graduate student studying the history of the church – that they paid attention to me. That’s probably the most interesting thing about the whole story. And then, a few years later, board member Dean Gregory came all the way out to New Hampshire to talk to me about returning to George Fox. I could have gone to other schools and taught, but I felt this is where the Lord was leading me, so I ended up as a professor at George Fox from 1953 to 1957.

How my letter prompted Pacific College to change its name to George Fox

What’s in a Name?

Much has changed in the last 50 plus years, but George Fox still feels like home

Be Known. It’s been the university’s marketing slogan since 2010, and from my experience it’s real. It’s not a new concept on campus. For decades it was nearly impossible not to be known. Back when enrollment was fewer than 1,000 – a benchmark first reached in 1990 – you were known, literally, by nearly everyone. There’s nothing magical about that number, but once it was eclipsed it seemed you were no longer able to greet everyone by name as you passed on campus.

While that was a noteworthy transition, the increase in enrollment and the additional tuition revenue it brought made many positive things possible: new buildings, programs and initiatives – a process that has continued for more than a quarter century.

When I started at George Fox as a student in 1960, enrollment was 179. For every student I encountered then, there are now 23. The campus is simply busier. Just as impressive has been the physical transformation. When I started there were 12 buildings. Just three survive: Minthorn Hall, Wood Mar Hall and Heeter Gym, now renovated into the Ressor Center.

Today the campus has 90 buildings and landmarks. That kind of change might seem overwhelming, but it’s not. After all, one of my roles at the university – working with four presidents – was adding more than 80 of those 87 new buildings to the campus map.

I see the growth as positive, mixed with some nostalgia for the “good old days.” The intimacy of a small campus was really like an extended family. To get our mail we went after chapel, just before noon, to the foyer of what was then the dining hall, where everyone pawed through the mail. There were no individual private boxes. Instead, everyone with last names beginning with the same letter shared a box and you sorted through it.

Before Be Known

We also were alphabetized for chapel seating assignments. I sat for years next to June Hubbard (now Brown), a 1963 graduate. In classes, attendance often was recorded, but you didn’t really need to be alphabetized. With sometimes as few as six students, the professor could easily tell who was missing.

When I started as a George Fox employee in 1968 it was a role I continue on a part-time basis after 48 years. Enrollment was 192 and there were 94 employees. Compare that to 1095 employees today.

Then it was nearly a missionary effort more than just a job or pay check. You would lend your skills, in whatever field for a few years to help this struggling school that had a strong sense of mission but limited resources.

Everyone pitched in no matter the task – you did what needed to be done. And, perhaps nostalgically, it led to a team spirit and camaraderie that’s difficult to replicate.

What has not changed despite the growth? The spirit, the togetherness and the atmosphere. When I walk on campus today I get the same feeling I remember from decades ago. I’m home.

Former U.S. Senator Mark Hatfield may have said it best in 1999. He had visited many campuses across America and chose to end his career as a professor at George Fox. “You know there’s something different about this university the moment you walk on this campus,” he said. “There’s a beauty here, a tranquility, a friendliness.”

He was right. From my experience it’s been that way for decades and continues today. Each year hundreds of new students learn what it means to Be Known, just like I did back in 1960.
I enrolled at George Fox in the fall of 1969 to study chemistry. My father, Russel Stands, was a Friends minister, and my mother, Frances Stands, was a school cafeteria worker and librarian. They believed in a good education was important and always encouraged me in school. While making my decision about which university to attend built a relationship with chemistry professor Hector Munn, and he tipped the balance to George Fox. That was the beginning of a theme I recognized throughout my life, which was reinforced at George Fox. It’s about the people. To me, success is really about relationships with others. My time in college taught me to believe in myself but also showed me the importance of surrounding myself with smart, capable people. Working together, you can solve problems and do something greater than you could do by yourself. This lesson has served me well throughout my leadership careers.

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I'm a big believer in the "10,000-hour rule" - the amount of practice required to master a skill. George Fox set me on the right path for a career in chemistry and eventually leadership by teaching me the importance of practice and discipline. The ability to learn and practice, and to be independent in doing that, has been critical to my success. Being determined and tough during difficult times and viewing setbacks as learning experiences were also key lessons from my time at George Fox.

It wasn’t just my time, attending but also the relationships developed since graduation that have continued to help me learn. Presidents Ed Stevens, Dave Brandt and now Robin Baker have been leaders I have been able to work with and learn from as a member of the university's board of trustees.

Watching these presidents build consensus in meetings and listen to opinions from many different viewpoints has taught me how to appreciate the subtleties of good leadership. In my own position of leadership at PGE, I tried to create a climate of open, honest communication while maintaining the courage to be myself and lead with my own style.

Even this year, watching the success of the George Fox golf teams thanks in no small part to the coaches, parents and community surrounding them is a good reminder that it is still about people.

Looking back to 1969, I would have never guessed what wonders God would have picked the wrong person if he picked me to pursue ministry, much less be a leader within the church.

It was the same old cliché story: I had a stutter, and I stammered, and I didn’t believe I was good enough to be in front of people. Even worse, I was convinced that I was too broken, that I wasn’t good enough to be the person God had created me to be. Things just didn’t add up for me to pursue something that seemed so counter to who I thought I was. I carried this with me throughout my time at George Fox. I still studied youth ministry, took all the right classes and continued my education alongside my peers in the Christian ministries major. I was learning, being challenged and constantly reminded of God’s love, yet I didn’t believe it for myself.

Then, during the last semester of my senior year, professor Steve Sherwood and I had a conversation after class that changed my life. Steve asked how I was doing, about graduation, and where I was thinking of going in ministry. I remember saying to him, almost offhandedly, “I’m too broken. I’m not good enough for this.”

Steve grabbed my shoulders, looked me in the eyes and said, “Shawna, you are never too broken for God. And if they can’t believe that for themselves, I will believe it for them until they can just like my professors at George Fox did for me.

For the longest time I thought that God would have picked the wrong person if he picked me to pursue ministry, much less be a leader within the church.

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Steve grabbed my shoulders, looked me in the eyes and said, “Shawna, you are never too broken for God.” I replied, “Yeah, OK Steve, I know that.” Then he said it again. “Shawna, did you hear what I said?”

You are never too broken for God. I couldn’t say anything as tears streamed down my face. It’s such a vivid memory because I had heard that many times, but it’s the first time I believed it.

It was in that moment, in the very last semester of my senior year at George Fox, that my call to ministry became real to me. I felt a deep desire to share with those around me what I learned to be true on that day. We are all loved and we are all good enough.

Not long after that experience I graduated and accepted a position as the youth pastor at North Valley Friends Church, working with middle school and high school students. I also serve as chaplain for the George Fox women’s basketball team.

More than anything in these positions, my priority is building relationships with my students. I want to be the person who tells them, day after day, that they are loved, that they are good enough, and that they are never too broken for God. And if they can’t believe that for themselves, I will believe it for them until they can...
Much has changed on campus over the past 125 years, but Minthorn Hall has remained a constant presence. In fact, the building is older than the university itself. Constructed in 1887 and moved to its present location in 1892, one year after the university was founded, it has served as a gymnasium, dining hall, dormitory and academic building.

This photo, taken in 1895 or 1896, according to a handwritten note along the bottom, leaves many mysteries to be solved. What is certain is the building was called “Kanyon Hall” at the time it was originally dubbed simply “Boarding Hall,” and the main entrance shown in the photo faced west, rather than south as it does today. As for the people, only one is identified: A “Mrs. Chas. Johnson,” noted as “Matron” at the time, and also appearing in archival records as a student. The others are likely students and faculty of Pacific College (the forerunner to George Fox), with the children perhaps belonging to a professor.

How do you recreate a photo from 1895? Very carefully. To begin, university photographer Joel Bock selected current students, professors and employees to stand in for their 19th century counterparts, taking into account present-day gender and ethnic diversity.

Next, each individual was given a specific pose to recreate, with a good deal of leeway given for 21st century sensibilities, including fashion choices and smiling for the camera. The end result was a fun, informal photo that will hopefully be enjoyed for generations to come.

It’s a reality that makes academics squirm. “A lot of institutions look at marketing and admissions as the dirty work,” says George Fox President Robin Baker. “They think you shouldn’t have to sell yourself.”

But a lot has changed in higher education since what was then Pacific College opened with 15 students in 1891. To stay viable in today’s competitive climate, universities must sell themselves year after year to thousands of students.

Across the nation, private nonprofit colleges are experiencing a significant dip in enrollment. On paper, George Fox’s outlook is particularly grim: Oregon’s annual output of high school graduates dropped after 2010 and isn’t likely to rise again until 2024, and then only briefly. At the same time, young people are rejecting faith at historic rates, suggesting fewer college-bound teens are likely to seek a truly Christian education.

Yet George Fox has broken its enrollment records four years in a row, surpassing the 4,000-student mark in 2016 for the first time in school history. In that short time, the university has also launched new football and women’s lacrosse teams, instituted Master of Social Work and Doctor of Physical Therapy programs, and constructed a new athletic facility, dorm and dining hall. Plans also call for a new 30,000-square-foot student activity center to be completed in 2018. By all accounts, George Fox is thriving.

So what is the school doing differently? For starters, university leaders have rejected the notion that marketing is “dirty work.” Instead, they approach the task with savvy, using market research to inform the school’s direction and identify prospective students most likely to enroll.

Perhaps more important, they present the university and its commitment to faith honestly rather than adapting the message to fit a broad audience. George Fox is winning the hearts of young adults with its focus on community and faith – values the school has prioritized since its inception.

Informed Choices
“There are not enough resources in play for every college to be successful,” says Robert Sevier, a strategic planning consultant and senior VP of strategy at Stamats, a higher education marketing company. “But there are enough resources for any college that knows what they’re doing to be successful.”

By Sevier’s standards, George Fox falls into the latter category thanks in part to leaders who are willing to make decisions based on data, not personal preference. One such data-informed change made in recent years was to narrow the field of prospective students – a seemingly counter-intuitive strategy that is helping the school save money.

It’s customary for colleges to market their programs to as many high school students as possible. But Baker says that strategy wasn’t working. Applications poured in, but only a small percentage of students actually committed to George Fox.

So, instead of spending money to reach students who aren’t likely to enroll, admissions now uses data to make informed choices about which audiences to target. For example, George Fox has stopped marketing to high school students east of the Rocky Mountains because data showed the return on investment just wasn’t there.

At the same time, the marketing team has worked to strengthen its online presence – largely for the sake of students who won’t hear about George Fox any other way. “They’re looking at the university online if they’re searching for a Christian school with programs they’re interested in,” Baker says.

University leadership has also turned to market research for insight about what programs students want. Many schools think advertising their programs more aggressively will make students interested. That’s a big mistake, according to Sevier. Instead, he says, successful schools, including George Fox, are utilizing informed data to make tough decisions about what to pursue and where to spend their resources.
market research to better understand what their target audience values most – like career preparation and a faith-based education – then pouring resources into promoting programs that deliver it.

Programs like nursing, which helped win over junior Rebekah Arias, who wanted her healthcare education to be rooted in God’s healing power. Or the university’s growing engineering major, which not only produces graduates who are in high demand in the job market, but who also understand how to use their abilities to help those in need. In fact, four semesters in the program’s Servant Engineering track is a requirement.

“We’ve given students more reasons to choose George Fox,” Baker says.

**A Promise that Matters**

Yet, as key as those programs are, it’s something else – something much more personal – that students credit with sealing the deal for George Fox.

“George Fox has a family feel,” says senior Jake Ryan, who hails from Hawaii. “I felt like I was known before I was a student.”

It seems nearly every student at the university cites community – rather than academics or athletics – as the ultimate deciding factor. And when they talk about community, they describe a sense of being known.

That’s the power of the Be Known promise.

Launched in 2010, the Be Known promise has revolutionized the way George Fox presents itself. The phrase not only defines the university’s identity – it’s even part of the curriculum. But students don’t enroll at George Fox because they think the phrase is catchy. They enroll because they have good reason to trust it’s true.

Junior Emily Pélot could tell as a visitor years ago that the faculty would care about her whole being, not just her grades and attendance. "You don’t slip through the cracks easily here,” she says. Sophomore Valeria Rodriguez immediately felt safe and welcome on campus, even as an ethnic minority entering an overwhelmingly white town. "I was able to be myself right away,” says Rodriguez. She’s thankful for the effort George Fox is making not only to grow its ethnic minority population – which now accounts for about one third of the student body – but to support those students through a variety of multicultural scholarship and leadership programs.

For freshman Ryan Johnson, George Fox’s most winsome characteristic was its vision for students to be part of a community. "I’ve always wanted to be part of something bigger than myself,” he says.

**Rooted in Faith**

The university is not only committed to creating a sense of community – it’s committed to remaining true to its roots as an institution.

“If you looked at our founding documents, you’d see founders wanted to give students two things: challenging programs that prepare them for jobs and a deeper relationship with Christ,” Baker says.

It’s common these days for Christian colleges to loosen their faith ties in order to have broader appeal, but George Fox is unwavering in its commitment to its religious identity and mission.

“We’re very committed to Christ, to Scripture, to orthodox Christianity,” says Baker.

And students respect that. Young believers from a range of denominational backgrounds – from Presbyterians to Methodists to Catholics – have turned to George Fox for an unapologetically faith-based education.

“We don’t just say whatever students want to hear,” says Arias, who works as a school ambassador. “We say, ‘If you are comfortable here and this is where God is calling you, it’s a great place to call home.’”

That self-assurance is uncommon among colleges today, Sevier says. As schools hustle to compete for students, officials often broaden their institutional identity too much and lose sight of their niche. “The real problem is when you don’t know who you are.”

It’s that same rootedness that empowers George Fox to keep its commitment to the Be Known promise, even as the student body grows – from just over 500 enrolled 30 years ago to more than 4,000 today. It’s the small size that makes students feel known, Westervelt says. It’s the commitment their peers and professors have to knowing them. As long as the school continues to hire professors who share those values and create spaces for relationship building, that won’t change with growth.

“We’re bigger,” Westervelt says, “but we’re better.”

Programs such as the Act Six leadership and scholarship initiative, implemented in 2007, have helped the institution triple its ethnic diversity population since the mid-2000s.
When Simeon Brown plays the violin his eyes are almost closed. His face relaxes and he’s neither smiling nor frowning. It’s easy to imagine he sees sheet music, or the audience, or his fingers walking across the fingerboard, but what he really sees when he plays the violin is the air in front of his nose.

“I get into this zone,” Brown says. “I’m not thinking. I’m not doing anything. I’m just playing. It’s how I worship.”

What the audience sees are angles and motion. The bow, which stays perpendicular to the violin’s neck, travels in perpetual figure eights, hinged at the elbow and driven by the shoulder and back. The left arm, hidden from Brown beneath the body of his instrument, looks to the audience like an upside-down triangle that expands and contracts at the elbow to move the left hand along the fingerboard. The sight of it all is satisfying in its own right, but culminates in nothing if you cannot hear the room awash with music.

Like so many good stories, Brown starts with his mother. When he was 7, she sat him down beside his sister and told them both it was time to pick an instrument. “She told us we better pick right,” he recalls, “because we were sticking with it until we graduated.”

Brown doesn’t know why he chose the violin. “Why do 7-year-olds do anything?” he laughs. But he started with a studio, went to the lessons and practiced diligently. As promised, he stuck with it. At each of the studio’s end-of-year recitals, Brown moved closer to the advanced players.

It’s clear to him now that he was supposed to be in that studio. Without knowing it, he was taking the first steps down a path he believes he’s supposed to be on.

His sister Tatiana likes to tease him about that. She’s almost closed. His face relaxes and he’s neither smiling nor frowning. It’s easy to imagine he sees his fingers walking across the fingerboard in front of him. “His playing really opened up and took on a new form,” says professor Rebekah Hanson, Brown’s violin teacher at George Fox. “He was able to express what he wanted to, to display what he wanted to.”

The more time he put into the violin, the more he got out of it. He looked at where he was and how far he had come and finally asked himself, “Why fight it?”

By the summer of 2015, Brown had earned a spot at the Brevard Music Center in North Carolina alongside some of the top musicians in the United States. Last summer he participated in the Chamber Music Camp of Portland.

With graduation coming up in May, Brown is preparing for a master’s degree in music performance. He’s sending out video to Oregon, USC and Rice. Hanson says it’s like preparing for three different recitals at the same time.

Ultimately, Brown wants to join a symphony. He dreams about cities like New York and Los Angeles. He loves that there’s always something going on. He loves he can tap into the energy and the pulse of the city, and he likes the sensation of being alone and surrounded by people at the same time.

Like a spot in the NBA, the odds of earning a place with a top symphony are pretty long. Brown said it’s no secret how you get there. “I tell my own students that putting in the time is the most important thing,” he says. “I tell my own students to practice every day, even if it’s only for 15 minutes. That’s the main thing that got me to where I am today.”
“Mommy! Mommy! A fire lady!”

The little boy in his mother’s arms waved frantically at Liz (Stephens) Thompson and her crew as they walked into the grocery store. But it wasn’t until he was in the parking lot that his exultant yells reached them inside: “I saw IT!”

“As if a ‘fire lady’ was a mythical creature,” says Thompson, a 1996 George Fox graduate, “and ‘fire lady’ of 16 years. ‘I knew I would have to work harder at this than I had for anything else. I’m smaller than your average firefighter. Mechanically, I have to do things differently. I’m completely competent and capable of doing anything the guys can do—just have to approach things differently.’

Now a full-fledged firefighter with Portland Fire & Rescue, Kolín joins Thompson as two of just 46 women out of 674 total sworn fire personnel in the city. Thompson estimates about 10 of those individuals serve in office positions, meaning the remaining women are a rarity in what has traditionally been a male-dominated profession. Campbell serves in the Salem (Oregon) Fire Department. She is the only woman on her crew.

Campbell was pursuing a bachelor’s degree in health and human performance at George Fox, intent on entering the medical field, when she went on a ride-along in an ambulance with the Newberg Fire Department. “They asked if I wanted to be a firefighter,” she says. “I had never even considered it.”

Recruited for the university’s first women’s soccer team in 1991, Campbell feels right at home in the Salem Fire Department’s team atmosphere. “I’m an athlete at heart,” she says. “This was the job for me because in this job you are part of a team. We work together and depend on each other.”

But Campbell isn’t the only former college athlete in the group. Kolín helped establish the university’s lacrosse team in 2014, which, as it turned out, was good practice for her future career.

While Thompson, at 5 feet 10, holds her own, height-wise, with her male colleagues, Janet (Killary) Campbell shakes up stereotypes not just as a female firefighter, but as a petite one. “I’ve always been 5-foot 11½,” says Campbell, a 1995 graduate, “but I may be shrinking by now.” Nineteen years of carrying 45 pounds in gear can do that to a woman.

Kaylee Kolín is the mischief, fresh off her probation period on July 16 of this year. She applied in the fall of 2014, along with 4,000 applicants, prior to her graduation from George Fox in 2015. After the six-month vetting process—which included a written test, panel interview, physical agility test, and medical and background checks—she was one of 12 chosen from the first class. Then she entered her year of probation: six months in the training academy, followed by six months on a functional engine and truck crew, with exams every three months. The standards are the same for women as for men.

“I knew going in it was not a cakewalk,” Kolín says. “I knew I would have to work harder at this than I had for anything else. I’m smaller than your average firefighter. Mechanically, I have to do things differently. I’m completely competent and capable of doing anything the guys can do—I just have to approach things differently.”

The dynamic is all team-oriented, and I like that. “It’s like a career athlete, but you get to play with fire.”
Looking Ahead – The Promise Campaign

The 2016-17 academic year represents the final push of a successful eight-year Promise Campaign to raise funds for essential capital projects, scholarships and the endowment for our future. From 2009 through June 2016, $36.6 million was invested in George Fox thanks in large part to the generous gifts of alumni, parents, foundations, community partners, trustees and friends. Our remaining goal is to raise $10.2 million to complete the campaign this fiscal year.

The campaign is focused on three promises:

- The promise of sustainable and relational growth
- The promise of affordability for our students
- The promise of a strong future

These promises correspond to three fundraising priorities:

1. Capital projects that provide much-needed space as our campus grows
2. Financial support for our Student Fund
3. Ongoing investment in the university-endowment

In particular, our greatest capital needs are support for the planned Student Activity Center, equipment for the new Engineering Innovation Center, and softball and baseball renovations.

If you are interested in being a part of our promise that students will Be Known for generations to come, we encourage you to contact Director of Development Robby Larson to talk about giving opportunities at 503-554-2130 or rlarson@georgefox.edu. Visit giving.georgefox.edu for more information and to review our Promise Campaign Case Statement.

Grant Highlights

- George Fox Evangelical Seminary received $402,065 from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to begin theological summer institutes that empower high school students to explore ministry callings.
- The M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust awarded up to $214,000 to remodel the Hy Vista Retreat Center property.
- The William & Mary Bauman Foundation awarded $153,000 in support of new instruments for the music department, the Act Six leadership initiative and the seminary.
- The Boeadecker Foundation awarded $50,000 in support of the baseball campaign, football program and the art department.

Other programs and projects that received grant funding in this fiscal year included the Student Fund, numerous scholarships, student research stipends, Serve Day, the Doctor of Clinical Psychology program, the William Penn Honors Program, the chemistry and biology department, and the golf program.

Giving Highlights

- “Growth” was the operative word to describe giving to George Fox in 2015-16.
- Total number of donors: Up 47%
- Undergraduate alumni who gave: Up 60%
- President’s Council membership: Up 77 members
- Student Fund giving: $680,000 ($675,000 goal)

This increase in giving does more than simply help our students – it sends a positive message to major donors, foundations and college rankings organizations that evaluate the percentage of alumni and friends who give annually.

Capital Projects Completed in 2015-16

- Canyon Commons: Our beautiful new dining facility opened this fall.
- David and Melva Brandt Residence Hall: To accommodate our growing student body, this dorm opened in the fall of 2015.
- Crisman Crossing: This bridge connects residence halls to the academic quad across Hess Creek Canyon. It is the longest clear-span timber truss bridge in the contiguous United States.
- Hy Vista Retreat Center: This remodeled property, donated by A-dec founder Ken Austin, provides a place for rejuvenation and deep conversation for our community.
- M.J. Murdock Learning Resource Center/Portland Center Library: Technology and infrastructure upgrades for these facilities were financed by the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust.
- George Fox Evangelical Seminary received $462,065 from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to begin theological summer institutes that empower high school students to explore ministry callings.
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When you give to something personal that you really believe in, there’s a lot of joy that comes back from that. The joy that we felt from being part of George Fox, of being embraced by the university, of attending events at the university – those are all wonderful things that come back to us because we chose to give.”
- Brad and Katherine Steffler, Promise Campaign Honorary Co-Chairs

“I would like to send my sincere thanks to all the wonderful donors for supporting and believing in our visions for the communities that we come from. To have allies that stand behind our hopes and dreams is incredibly encouraging and is a monumental support in and of itself. Your work is ultimately feeding into building the kingdom of God on earth.”
- Rachel Nguyen, sophomore biology major

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- Rachel Nguyen, sophomore biology major
William and Mary Bauman's gift of $200,000 in 1974 (nearly $550,000 in 2016 dollars) was the gift for which Bauman Auditorium was named, still recognized as “one of the finest venues for music making in this country” according to the late family former president of the George Fox Symphony. The Bauman's long-time support of George Fox is through Symphony. The Bauman's longtime support of George Fox is through Symphony. The Bauman's longtime support of George Fox is through Symphony.
Margaret Morse (G35) celebrated her 100th birthday Aug. 25 with a party at Friendsview Retirement Residence in Newberg. In addition to being a former employee of Friendsview for nearly 70 years, Morse is a member of the Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Church. She is the Northwest District coordinator for a consortium that promotes the cause of the Shetland Islands in Scotland and back. It took him pedaling his recumbent Inspired Cycle through England and in Oregon when he pedaled his recumbent Inspired Cycle through the George Fox Sports Hall of Fame in Newberg.

Roger Minthorne (G47), now George Fox University’s oldest graduate, turned 100 on April 24. He celebrated with a party at Heritage Place in Soldotna, Alaska, where she was born in Idaho and raised on a chicken farm. Minthorne went on to teach first grade for 10 years. Her classmate, Mary (Seaton) Green (G36), a resident of St. Paul, Oregon, celebrated her 100th birthday on June 22.

Peter Snow (G18), member of the board of directors at Van Tours Friends Camp in Rockaway, Oregon, has served for the last 120 campers included a decade as board chair and 25 years as boys’ camp director. The university’s 1982 Alumnus of the Year has served on the summer staff of the camp since 1971, including five as camp director, and is now an honor arborist. The art gallery in the Hoover Aca- demic Building is named for him and his wife, Mindy (Hewitt) Minthorne (G46).

Helen (Antrim) Cadd (G49) has written her second book, Accordion Adventures, pub- lished in August by Xulon Press with the goal of inspiring and motivating readers by her personal story. She has been married to Dick Cadd (G49), who died in 2005, spent 35 years as a teaching missionary in the Philip- pines with many Faith Academy. Now living in Newberg, Helen describes her experience as she accompanied Dick through his career with the Four Flat Quartet, which later became the World Vision Quartet, and recalls their own musical adventures. She previously wrote two other books with her husband. Together they were recognized as Alumni of the Year in 2000.

Pete McHugh (G78) and Debbie (Stands) McHugh (G79) were honored as Alumni of the Year in 2010. They spent decades in Bolivia as missionaries with the Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends, working with the Amayas from 1978 to 1989. They both stayed at the Bible school and seminary levels. He joined the college in 2011 and has served in a variety of positions, including director of development, vice president for advancement and chief financial officer. He has been an active member of the college’s Board of Trustees and has served on the board of directors for Take Shape for Life in Lincoln, California, after leaving a position as gambling counselor for Caesars Palace.

Deborah Greenidge (G79) has spent 28 years as a realtor and broker. That follows 28 years with Youth for Christ, starting as a campus life director in Portland for nine years and followed by executive director in Cincinnati for nearly 14 years. Deborah Greenidge (G79) is in her fourth decade as a music and worship pastor, since 2013 serving for four years as business manager and account coordinator for the George Fox University’s Covenant Church. She previously was creative arts pastor at Highland Christian Center in Portland for one year after 20 years as a music and worship pastor at Turning Point Christian Center in Vancouver, Washington. And six years as music minister at New Hope Community Church in Portland, starting in 1995. She has also sung music, directed high school and collegiate choirs, recorded and produced CDs, led weekend retreats and seminars, and co-conceived Undaunted: The Journey of Faithfulness.

Doug Linkson (G81) is in South Africa as an independent missionary with Eihecamps (Zulu for “Place of Hope”) in Mopopulos. It is an HIV/AIDS ministry established in 2000 by the Howick Community Church as a social outreach program with more than 100 missionaries, staff members, and volunteers. He and his wife started in South Africa with United Nations in 2010, then transitioned to the World Evangelism for China and now work with World Outreach Ministries.

Jim Ross (G82) is executive director of Imagine LA and operations for the Southern Cali- fornia Educational Research Foundation, serving as business manager and interim superintendent with the Grand Coulee (Washington) School District. Edward Woods (G80) is a director of the Mod- ill’s Journey of Henry Vanderbush, was released last November.

Robert Squires (G47) was named the second winner of the Portland Business Journal’s Joan Austin Lifetime Achievement Award, an honor that recognizes excellence in the community. It was named in honor of the late 1970s. The ministry features extensive research, educational training, and speaking engagements. She was previously employed by noted long-term care facility and a local church; she now helps on the facilities director. He and his wife started in South Africa with United Nations in 2010, then transitioned to the World Evangelism for China and now work with World Outreach Ministries.

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Jennifer (Hooper) Barker (G90, MA93) is an Employee relations business partner with Intel in Hillsboro, Oregon. She started her position in June 2015, providing coaching to leaders and employees on various issues. She says the position is the culmination of a background that includes a master’s degree in pastoral ministry from Multnomah Biblical Seminary, work with local churches and the urban ministry, a George Fox degree in clinical counseling, working with Washington County (Oregon) Mental Health, and experience in a private practice providing mental health counseling.

Ronnie (Philpot) Meisenheimer (G91) is an independent financial adviser who has his own firm, Lyda Financial, a four-person office in Newberg established in 2006 that focuses on estate, financial and wealth planning, and utilizes the Dave Ramsey SmartVest Pro program. Previously, he was with Country Insurance and Financial Services for two years.

If there were any lingering doubts about the degree to which George Fox University had grown, they certainly weren’t evident on this morning.

It was November 1995 when President Ed Stevens stood to the podium in a chapel with the news: The school, defined as a “college” since opening its doors in 1891, was to be an “university” by the next morning, with the unveiling of a “George Fox University” sign on the corner of Meridian and Sheridan streets.

A campus celebration under sunny skies on July 1, 1996, included the unveiling of a “George Fox University” sign on the corner of Meridian and Sheridan streets.

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Jennifer Wood (G01) is senior scientist in the Microbial Ecology Laboratory at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. He directs research on the microbial community structure. He also is an adjunct professor in the Gene and Linda Voiland School of Chemical Engineering and Bioengineering at the University of Washington.

Rahul Subramanian (MAT04) this fall started a new school, Rise of Religious Individualism in the West: Sacro-Egoism: The Cultural History of a Political Idea. He is a 2006 Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the Year by the Oregon Pharmacy Association. He is a co-founder of the Moab Foundation, a professional training and coaching firm in the areas of personal and professional development.

Susan Lee (MAT02) had his newest book published, The Great Vowel Shift: A Short Course for a Day for such activity. In his opening comments on that first Serve Day, Brandt said, “It’s crucial that what we practice what we preach. It’s the way we lead. The act of ‘practicing what we preach’ has become ingrained in university culture.”

It’s amazing this project has continued so long,” said a pleased Brandt, who now lives in Michigantown, Pennsylvania. “It’s relatively easy to live a day without eating a donut for 18 years tells me this is more than a fad.”

Keri Ingraham (G98) in July began as the new director of Prescottwood Christian Academy’s virtual academy in Plano, Texas, after earning a doctor of education degree in Christian education leadership from Regent University in May. She has been in Christian education for 15 years, most recently as assistant principal at Brooklake Christian School in Federal Way, Washington.

Bob Weist (G09) has become a licensed childcare administrator, working with Heart Light Ministries, a Christian therapeutic year around residential program for troubled children in Halfhill, Texas. He joined the ministry in 2003 and spent two years with the house staff, and as house director, he took on his current role as residential and program director.

Rahul Subramanian (MAT04) is youth counselor at the Elizabeth Hospice, the oldest and largest hospice provider in the San Diego area. The palliative care center serves more than 850 patients each day and offers comprehensive counseling and grief support through its Center for Compassionate Care. She has been the hospice center for three years following six years as a spiritual counselor with San Diego Hospice and The Institute for Palliative Medicine.

Micheal (Smith) Weir (G99) in February began a new position as membership director of the Seattle Yacht Club, responsible for recruiting, vetting, orientation, records management, communications in house and social media marketing, and community outreach and network. She moved from a position of nearly six years as a bar tender and event manager for the Day Craft Brew Alliance at Reclaimed Brewery in Woodinville, Washington.

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Thomas Kingdon (G99) is an oral and maxillofacial surgeon at Mountainside New Oral Surgery and Dental Implants with offices in McMinnville and Newberg. A biochemistry major at George Fox, he attended New York University School of Dentistry, then continued to complete medical school and residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Kristin (Granlund) Farber (G98) and her husband own and operate Farber Swim School in Beaverton, Oregon. Established in 2001, it grew to more than 400 swimmers and now opened a satellite site at the Portland Athletic Club. She manages the business side of the operation and is program coordinator after a background with Oregon State University’s recreation department in its dual language immersion programs, Willamette Valley Girls on the Run, the Multnomah County Club, Kentwood High School, as general manager and golf course superintendent.

Abd AlmstafaAbdelgadid is chaplain with the Santa Barbara Zoo, as has been since 2003, and also is a consultant and coach with the Valley of Innovation, offering small business development. The Elizabeth Hospice, the oldest and largest hospice provider in the San Diego area. She has been a partner at the firm for three years following six years as a bar tender and event manager for the Day Craft Brew Alliance at Reclaimed Brewery in Woodinville, Washington.

Adam Westmark (G03) is youth counselor at the Elizabeth Hospice, the oldest and largest hospice provider in the San Diego area. The palliative care center serves more than 850 patients each day and offers comprehensive counseling and grief support through its Center for Compassionate Care. She has been the hospice center for three years following six years as a spiritual counselor with San Diego Hospice and The Institute for Palliative Medicine.

Micheal (Smith) Weir (G99) in February began a new position as membership director of the Seattle Yacht Club, responsible for recruiting, vetting, orientation, records management, communications in house and social media marketing, and community outreach and network. She moved from a position of nearly six years as a bar tender and event manager for the Day Craft Brew Alliance at Reclaimed Brewery in Woodinville, Washington.

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Rebecca Phipps (MA05) is a licensed profession-
al counselor in her own practice in Aubrey, Texas. After receiving her degree, she worked for Catholic Charities of Oregon for 12 years and through a federal grant created and managed a “Between Us” relationship counseling program serving individuals, couples, families and churches at no cost.

Michelle Forbes (GI05) is a history teacher at Gigasun International School in South Korea. She teaches in the International Baccalaureate program. She also completes her School Years Program, a faculty member since 2012.

Elizabeth (Meth) Greene (GI05) in June published Labeled Moses: Poems Reclaiming the Voice of Biblical Mothers released by Resource Publications, an imprint of Wipf and Stock. A writer and composer working in several creative writing and musical genres, she lives in Alexandria, Virginia, and is a visiting researcher at the Prince, Alawed bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding standing at Georgetown University. She has a doctorate from the University of Maryland.

Andrew Paine (GI07) is an assistant professor of business and management and assistant coach at Hope International University in Fullerton, California. He received his master’s degree in business administration in 2001. He previously was head coach of the women’s soccer team from 2011 to 2013 while an assistant professor, following five and a half years as an assistant women’s soccer coach at George Fox. He was also a CPA for Deloitte & Touche LLP.

Kenzie Parker (MBI05) has announced his plans to leave his position in the Washington State Legislature; ending four terms and eight years as a representative from the 64th District, the Spokane/Cheney area. He plans to spend more time with his three children. He owns six Dutch Bros coffee shops in the Spokane area with nearly 80 employees. He also has served as a CPA and tax director with Grant Thornton.

Christina (Maguire) Schiedler (GI05, MAT06) began in June as a math teacher at Hawthorne Academy, a free charter public school in West Portland, Oregon. Previously, she has taught math at Columbia Gorge School of Theatre and Technology from 1999 to 2005. She received her master’s degree in education in 2007 from the University of Western States in Portland.

Joshua Bunce (GI07) is in his third year as a nurse practitioner with the Yakima Valley (Washington) Farm Workers Clinic. He has spent 10 years in regional community health and has owned Holtzclaw Property Management for five years, is now vice principal at Faulconer (Oregon) and Amity (Oregon) school districts.

James Holtzclaw (GI05) is an assistant professor and clinical director with the Psychological Assessment Program for the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. He previously worked at the Marion County (Oregon) Health Department and was appointed by Gov. Ralph Northam to fill the vacant CEO position for the Marion County (Oregon) Health Authority.

Ryan Sticka (GI05) after serving in the Beau-
verton (Oregon) and Amity (Oregon) school districts as a school counselor for the last five years, is now vice principal at Faulconer (Oregon) and Amity (Oregon) school districts.”

Kevin Bailey (GI05) is an assistant professor of education and the director of the U.S. Peace Corps for more than three years he was associate director of intercultural programs. He has completed a year of postdoctoral research with Emory University in 2014 after receiving her bachelor’s degree from the university. She also served as a U.S. Peace Corps for more than three years as a health and water sanitation specialist.

Jessica (Reesonden) McAllister (GI07) has been promoted to staff embedded software engineer with a dec in Newberg, starting in March after being a senior embedded software engineer the previous four years and a software engineer from 2008 to 2010. Her role has developed control systems for dental equipment and works to integrate the technology of ancillary devices into the core dental equipment.

Yvette Salas (GI07) in May was named special assistant for the Drug Abuse and Ritualal Health Office for the Department of Justice. She is the new director of the Division of Public Health for the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands. She was appointed by Gov. Ralph Torres to fill the newly created position, established to coordinate a program developed in collaboration with a newly established NMI drug court to serve individuals who choose to participate in a treatment program. She previously worked for the Marion County (Oregon) Health Department and with the county district attorney. She is also a special assistant to the office’s drug court program.

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Dr. Heidi (Janosek) Tornberg (G05, MBA07) in April received an at-large bid just to qualify for the 2004 postseason. She was appointed by Gov. Ralph Northam to fill the vacant CEO position for the Marion County (Oregon) Health Authority.

Theresa Scott (GI05, MBA07) is an account manager with Avnet Electronics, working in its Southeast Portland sales office. She has been in the position for five years, living in Newberg for the past three years with her husband, two tronc components, IT solutions, embedded technology and services.

Paul Butler (GI05) in June received an at-large bid just to qualify for the 2004 postseason. She was appointed by Gov. Ralph Northam to fill the vacant CEO position for the Marion County (Oregon) Health Authority.

Dean Holtzclaw (GI05) in May was named special assistant for the Drug Abuse and Ritualal Health Office for the Department of Justice. She is the new director of the Division of Public Health for the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands. She was appointed by Gov. Ralph Torres to fill the newly created position, established to coordinate a program developed in collaboration with a newly established NMI drug court to serve individuals who choose to participate in a treatment program. She previously worked for the Marion County (Oregon) Health Department and with the county district attorney. She is also a special assistant to the office’s drug court program.

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Brian Sieder (G08) is on the George Fox campus full time as assistant professor of computer science after serving as a year as an adjunct professor while also working as a chief engineer for Hudspeth in Portland. Currently a PhD candidate in computer science and engineering at Oregon State University, he earlier was a data warehouse architect for George Fox in 2015.

Ashley (Stullman) Sesset and Kevin Sesset (G00) are both in government positions in the Portland area. In June she earned a master of public administration degree from Portland State University’s J. E. Snodgrass School of Public Policy and Governance at the University of Washington and is now a local government management fellow with four Portland metro area governments. Previously, she was in the private sector working as an operations specialist and global buyer at Columbia Sportswear. In August, he started as public affairs officer with the United States Attorney’s Office, District of Oregon in Portland. Previously, he was in the Presidential Management Fellowship with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

James Thompson (G08) has established his own firm, Thompson Law, in Olympia, coordinating ministries such as Sunday school, worship and worship arts. Previously, he was a coach at Northwest Nazarene University in 2015. Prior to joining the school a year ago he was with the Nampa School District for seven years.

Tony Thompson (G2009) is an oncovigilant with the Canyon County Idaho Probation Office, working in the special victims unit on cases involving child abuse and sex crimes. He also deals with compliance issues for registered sex offenders in addition to online child pornography investigations and child enticement cases. Previously, until 2011, he was with the Caldwell (Idaho) Police Department for 20 years as a patrol officer in its D.A.R.E. office, school resource officer, juvenile detective and street crimes unit officer.

2010–16

Jordyn Fast (G10) is on the George Fox campus full time as assistant professor of computer science after serving as a year as an adjunct professor while also working as a chief engineer for Hudspeth in Portland. Currently a PhD candidate in computer science and engineering at Oregon State University, he earlier was a data warehouse architect for George Fox in 2015.

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Jordyn Fast (G10) is on the George Fox campus full time as assistant professor of computer science after serving as a year as an adjunct professor while also working as a chief engineer for Hudspeth in Portland. Currently a PhD candidate in computer science and engineering at Oregon State University, he earlier was a data warehouse architect for George Fox in 2015.
Mastery is a living, breathing, self-healing process. It's the process of repeating positive experiences over and over again. It's the process of creating a life that is vibrant, fulfilling, and sustainable. It's the process of learning from our mistakes and growing stronger as a result. It's the process of overcoming challenges and obstacles, and emerging victorious. It's the process of becoming the best version of ourselves, and living our best life. It's the process of becoming a master, and living a masterful life.

Zach Schuler (G15) is a field service engineer for Tokyo Electron in Wilsonville, Oregon, an electronics and semiconductor company that provides high-precision Nano-Imprint Lithography (NIL) systems for the fabrication of microelectronic devices, flat panel displays, and photovoltaic components. He moved from a position at Geenschneidt in San Francisco, where he was an inspection technician.

LaTasha (Steen) Akanu (G15) in September began a one-year commitment with Ameren Energy Management Corporation, serving at the York (California) Regional Office, advising Ameren on the state's energy management policies.

David Brothers (G15) is middle school pastor at Yuma Adventist, serving in Yuma, Arizona. He is currently going on his fourth year as a pastor and as an outstanding minister. His award recognizes those who exemplify service as a veteran and as an outstanding member of the Oregon community. She is an Army military intelligence veteran, recognized for her advocacy work, testifying before Congress in military sexual trauma, and working with the White House to improve veteran services. She also hosts a radio program, Soldier Talk Radio, and is director of operations for That Others May Live Foundation headquartered in Las Vegas.

Jordan Niles (G14) has joined George Fox University’s financial aid department as a loan specialist after a year as a writer and editor for Donateurs for Merchants, a company that specializes in online reviews of point-of-sale merchants and consumer reviews. While at student she was a consultant at the Academic Center for Resource Two for two years.

Eric Nelson (G13) is a mechanical engineer at Shanhua JiaYuan WenHua ChuanBo, GuangDong, China, where she is vice president and started her position in November.

LeAnn (Veenendaal) Bowers (G15) is back on the George Fox faculty as a field service engineer for Tesla Motors, a California-based firm specializing in the development, manufacture, and deployment of electric vehicles and energy storage. She has been raising funds to support building projects in the Philippines. He is currently raising funds to cover the cost of building projects in the Philippines. It now involves 43 churches and 154 service agencies in eight countries. He is currently raising funds to cover the cost of building projects in the Philippines. It now involves 43 churches and 154 service agencies in eight countries.

Elizabeth Lewis (G13) in March was named Oregon Woman Veteran of the Year by the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs. The award recognizes her for exemplary service as a veteran and as an outstanding member of the Oregon community. She is an Army military intelligence veteran, recognized for her advocacy work, testifying before Congress in military sexual trauma, and working with the White House to improve veteran services. She also hosts a radio program, Soldier Talk Radio, and is director of operations for That Others May Live Foundation headquartered in Las Vegas.
Olivia Longenbaugh (G16) is now a fifth grade teacher at the 680 student Auburn Elementary School, part of the Salem-Keizer (Oregon) School District, after student teaching at Dundee (Oregon) Elementary.

Bryan Neufeld (G16) and Keiko (Fujii) Neufeld (G10) are living in Boise, Idaho, where he is a firmware engineer with Hewlett-Packard and she is a software development engineer with Clearwater Analytics and also owner of Sakura Photography, specializing in portraits and showpiece images.

Sydney Triendl (G16) has started her career as fine and performing arts coordinator and the atittal technical director for Reynolds High School in Troutdale, Oregon. She is one of eight on the arts and communication staff for Oregon’s second-largest high school (2,822 students).

JUST MARRIED

Jennifer Steger (G09) and Joel Estrada, June 6, 2016, in Oregon City, Oregon.

Joyce White (G09) and Daniel Madison White, Aug. 1, 2015, in Boise, Idaho.

Christina Maddy (G05) and Roland Romero, Aug. 6, 2016, in Troutdale, Oregon.

Andrew Paine (G10) and Sara Highhouse, July 5, 2016, in Salem, Oregon.

Lisa Riesterer (G15) and Rob Schlegel, July 22, 2016, in Silverton, Oregon.

Bacco Couch (G09, MAT05) and Mat Helfen (G16), July 11, 2016, in Salem, Oregon.

Amanda Roberts (G10) and Jared Costin, Aug. 27, 2016, in Tumwater, Washington.

Luiz Ruiz (G10) and Jennifer Fowler, Aug. 1, 2015, in Lincoln City, Oregon.

Timothy Frisch (G12) and Barbara Bayova, June 5, 2016, in Trnava, Slovakia.

Andrea Grandis (G10) and Arthur Fink, Feb. 13, 2016, in Maple Valley, Washington.

Bruce Nei (G10) and Zachary Bogar, Jan. 9, 2016, in San Dimas, California.

Jaci Truchel (G12) and Anna Pratt, March 25, 2016, in Oregon City, Oregon.

Tiffany Daggett (G13) and Matthew Patton, Dec. 11, 2015, in Santa Ana, California.

James Neill (G14) and Molly (Vanderkloot) Neill (G16), a girl, Sophie Marie, Aug. 29, 2016, in Hillsboro, Oregon.

Kelly (Stacy) Westley (G09, MAT05) and Travis Westley (G06), a girl, Kathryn Eloise, June 16, 2016, in Portland, Oregon.

Jonathan Apus (G05) and Dawn Marie Apus, a girl, Reagan Leasa Joy, Feb. 9, 2016, in Seattle.

Elizabeta (Obre) Greene (G16) and Samuel Greene (G06), a boy, Declan Seclaud, Dec. 7, 2015, in Alexandria, Virginia.

Michelle (Flanes) Miller (G15) and Chase Miller, a girl, Erin Marie, Feb. 9, 2016, in Vallejo, California.

Jesua Stricker (G05) and Christina Stricker, a boy, Jeremiah Owen, April 18, 2016, in Westlawn, Illinois.

Rethelah Shem Harris (G06, ME08) and Steve Harris, a girl, Elisabeth Hope, Jan. 20, 2016, in Rosedale, Oregon.

Eliza (Morain) Krieman (G10) and John Krieman, a boy, Alex John, July 12, 2016, in Edmonds, Washington.

Eva-Lynn (Johnson) Lund (G13) and Travis Lund, May 27, 2016, in Eagle, Idaho.

Kiko Pujol (G14) and Bryan Neufeld (G16), May 27, 2016, in Eagle, Idaho.

Jordi Marc (G02) and Katya Lundquist, July 2, 2016, in Gag Harbor, Washington.

BABY BRUNIS

Ian Reschke (G09) and Sara Reschke, a boy, Noah Matthew, April 26, 2016, in Hillsboro, Oregon.

Mindy Joy (Thompson) Strickland (G06) and Bryce Strickland, a girl, wires Elizabeth, June 16, 2015, in Vancouver, Washington.

Janelle (Didericksen) Howard (G10) and Ken Howard, a boy, Logan Miles, Oct. 9, 2015, in Issaquah, Washington.

Donna (Santos) McCowan (G10) and Jeff McCowan, a girl, Adria Margaret, April 8, 2016, in Portland.

Michael Bean (G04) and Alysa (Schuett) Bean (G10), a girl, Elisabeth Sylvine, May 25, 2016, in Nampa, Idaho.

Jocelyn (Lane) Brown (G04, MAT05) and Aaron Brown (G07), a boy, Lucas Marshall, July 6, 2016, in Medford, Oregon.

Tom Holland (G04) and Laura Holland, a girl, Charlotte “Char” Grace, April 12, 2016, in Washington D.C.

Molly (Meadows) Bailey (G09) and Patrick Bailey (G09), a boy, Calvin Patrick, Oct. 19, 2015, in Newberg.

Jane (Kim) Keatsy (G09) and Aaron Keatsy, a boy, Declan Aaron, April 1, 2015, in Portland.

Benjamin Niccum (G09) and Christopher (Miller) Niccum (G09), a boy, Jaster Darius, March 23, 2016, in Portland.

Jill (Seguin) Schlosser (G09) and Erick Schlosser, a boy, Bennett Erick, May 12, 2016, in Clackamas, Oregon.

Silvi (Lutfi) Ental (G09) and Bjorn Ental, a boy, Amos Bulpin, March 26, 2015, in Portland.

Justin Howard (G13) and Joyce Howard, a girl, Jumper Joyce, Jan. 16, 2016, in Burbank, California.

Bryan Mart (G12) and Molly Martz, a boy, Beckham Oliver, May 4, 2015, in Portland.

Danny Lyngberg (G11) and Allison Lyngberg, a boy, Josephine Quinn, April 15, 2016, in St. Louis, Missouri.

Jocelin Pickard (Lai) (G12) and Gregory Lai, a girl, Joy Noel, Feb. 18, 2016, in Berkeley, Maryland.

Brandon Porter (G12) and Danika (Ostberg) Porter (G12), a girl, Tila Genevieve, March 23, 2016, in Portland.

Grace Mengue-Rambomba (G13) and Matthieu Rambomba, a boy, Amos Bless, Dec. 7, 2014, in Hillsboro, Oregon.

IN MEMORY

Esther (Goddes) McVey (G13), July 12, 2016, in Eugene, Oregon.

Abigail (Miller) Crisman (G13), June 19, 2016, in Newberg.

Bertram “Bert” Frazier (G50), Oct. 11, 2016, in Portland.

Mildred “Mickey” (Thiessen) Hadley (G10), Sept. 20, 2016, in Newberg.

Charlotte (Passam) Cammack (G57), Sept. 30, 2016, in Ontario, Oregon.

Jack Nowell (G60), March 24, 2016, in Boise, Idaho.

Vincent Misto (G60), April 9, 2016, in Seattle.

Renee Pile (G72), Aug. 29, 2016, in Bakersfield, California.
If there is one physics principle Allen McLeod can appreciate, it’s that of inertia – the reality that, as defined by Sir Isaac Newton, “An object at rest stays at rest until acted upon by an outside force, and once in motion continues in motion.”

In fact, McLeod, a 2014 graduate of George Fox’s mechanical engineering program, related to the concept so much that he decided to name his newly created, fully endowed scholarship — intended for students in George Fox’s engineering major — the “Inertia Fund.”

The scholarship was made at an exciting time for the College of Engineering, which recently opened a new collaborative design-build space, the Engineering Innovation Center, that equips current and future students to learn at the highest levels.

McLeod comes by his affinity for Newton’s First Law honestly. As a sophomore at George Fox, he received a full-ride scholarship from the Raymond H. Berner Memorial Foundation, covering all of his tuition expenses his final three years at the university. Now he wishes to put the principle of perpetuity into action.

“I chose to start a scholarship, which is very small in comparison to what I was given, but hopefully it can grow and have a significant impact for a lot of students. I was given a lot, and I’m starting to give back with this,” he explains.

And while McLeod is reluctant to divulge the exact amount of the gift, the minimum commitment to start any scholarship at the university is $5,000. His desire to create inertia is also apparent in the decision to endow the award, meaning the money will be invested and pay toward the scholarship indefinitely. After the funds are invested for a year, they will start paying out in 2017 to a senior engineering student who carries a minimum 3.0 GPA and exhibits “outstanding character and leadership.”

Ultimately, as the endowed scholarship grows, McLeod hopes the fund can be expanded to assist undergraduates and, eventually, provide one student a full year’s worth of tuition.

In addition to his financial contribution, McLeod, a furniture design engineer at Newberg-based dental equipment manufacturer A-dec, is returning to his alma mater to assist in the classroom as an adjunct instructor in the College of Engineering. “I learned a lot here and want to pass on some of that knowledge,” he says. “The personal connection you get at George Fox really prepares you for the workplace. Professors give you a lot of attention, understand what your goals are and take the time to get you there.”

McLeod hopes other recent graduates see the value in giving back — regardless of the amount. Many students don’t fully comprehend all the donors that make their education possible from behind the scenes. “I’ve told a few people about what I’m doing and some say, ‘Oh, I don’t know if I’d ever be able to do that, so I just don’t want to think about giving.’ They hear that so and so donated land or a building and think they can’t make a difference. But if you could buy one book for one student every semester for 20 years, that’s still a significant gift. We all remember what it’s like the first day when you have to go buy your books.

“If someone donated $80 or $100 each semester, and could buy someone a book, I think that would be something that could be fulfilling for both the donor and the student who gets a book out of it. Your gift doesn’t need to be a high-dollar amount, and that’s what I’m trying to convey to my friends.”

That’s also one of the reasons McLeod didn’t want to name the scholarship after himself. “I want it to be bigger than me,” he says. “My hope is that other people get on board and want to pitch in. That’s the idea behind the name ‘inertia’ — once in motion it continues in motion. So hopefully this is a little nudge to get something going.”

Recent Graduate Funds Engineering Scholarship
Allen McLeod received a full-ride scholarship to attend George Fox — now it’s his turn to give back
By Sean Patterson

1. Capital Projects: Accommodating our quickly growing student body by building a student activity center, furnishing the new Engineering Innovation Center with needed equipment, and making essential renovations to our baseball and softball facilities.
2. Student Fund: Making the total George Fox experience affordable for our students.
3. Endowment: Ensuring a strong financial future for the institution with current gifts and deferred commitments through estate and planned gifts.

Help us deliver on the promise that future generations of students will Be Known at George Fox. Now is the time for alumni, parents and friends of the university to join in the efforts to meet the Promise Campaign’s top three fundraising needs:

Give today using the enclosed envelope or online at giving.georgefox.edu. Contact Robby Larson at 503-554-2130 or rlarson@georgefox.edu for more information.
Fire Women

George Fox alumni Liz (Stephens) Thompson ('96) and Kaylee Kolin ('15) are inspiring the next generation of female firefighters. Both assigned to predominantly male crews with Portland Fire & Rescue, they’re not the only Bruins sending stereotypes up in smoke. Read more on page 26.