

# APULIFE

AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

Fall 2016 | Volume 29 | Number 3

BUILDING STEAM: THE VALUE OF THE ARTS ■ FIGHTING CANCER USING GOD'S DESIGN ■ RIGHT ON TRACK

## Understanding Religious Freedom

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*God First Since 1899*



When I was a boy, I loved catching tadpoles. I kept them in jars and watched the miracle of complete metamorphosis unfold—how living things born in one state undergo remarkable growth and development. Change is a natural part of life in the insect and animal worlds, as it is for humans. The metamorphosis that excites me most, however, is the transformation that results from responding to the Holy Spirit—encouraging, convicting, and moving us toward God.

This year's university passage captures that picture of transformation. As you know, every spring, students, faculty, and staff gather to think and pray about the selection of a passage of Scripture that will serve as the common bond for our community throughout the upcoming year and support one of the university's Four Cornerstones: Christ, Scholarship, Community, and Service. This year, we are focusing on the Cornerstone of Service.

After much dialogue, prayer, and input from hundreds of students, parents, alumni, and friends, the committee selected Romans 12 as the 2016-17 passage. The first 11 chapters of Romans speak to the Cornerstones of our Christian doctrine, faith, and orthodoxy. Chapter 12 moves from what we believe to how we should live. It is a powerful bridge that speaks to the opportunity to live transformed lives in full devotion to Jesus Christ. It also issues a compelling call to the service of others. This passage urges us to fix our eyes on God, see ourselves as His children, and adopt a selfless posture of service to others.

As Christ followers on a journey together, we acknowledge that the acceptance of Jesus and the gift of His salvation brings about ongoing, continuous transformation. We intentionally practice self-denial in moving toward others-focused action. Service to others is a clear call in Romans 12 and from the university's Wesleyan Holiness tradition. APU's history weaves together the voices of men and women who believed that the Good News of the Gospel required them to be engaged in service to their neighbors. They occupied a "messy middle" where active listening and grace-filled understanding opened the hearts of those they served so that God's Spirit could move. They personified one of the central messages of Romans 12—the truth that living in service to others comes about because of a transformation in our own lives. We live in this messy middle with our neighbors every day as a sacrificial gift to God, trusting that He will use it to further His Kingdom. We embrace Paul's encouragement that in personal humility, in service to others, with a generous spirit, and through acts of hospitality, we will discover deep joy and the value of meaningful persistence in the face of difficulties.

Our commitment as a Christ-centered university to live in this messy middle with our neighbors is more important than ever. We begin this academic year at a time of unprecedented division, rancor, and pain in culture and society. As a people, we are divided on issues of race, politics, gender, sexual expression, war, and refugee migration, to name a few. A chorus of loud voices competes for understanding, while the willingness and ability to listen dims. I believe this is where God wants us. I believe the message of Romans 12 calls us to stand in the messy middle as grace-filled listeners, healers, lovers, and wounded saints declaring a message of hope.

Will you join me and the APU community in a harmony of Romans 12 truth? Will you move with us as instruments of God's peace in a broken world? Will you be available with me in uncertain times for a certain purpose?

Called to the messy middle,

*Jon R. Wallace*  
Jon R. Wallace, DBA

This passage urges us to fix our eyes on God, see ourselves as His children, and adopt a selfless posture of service to others.

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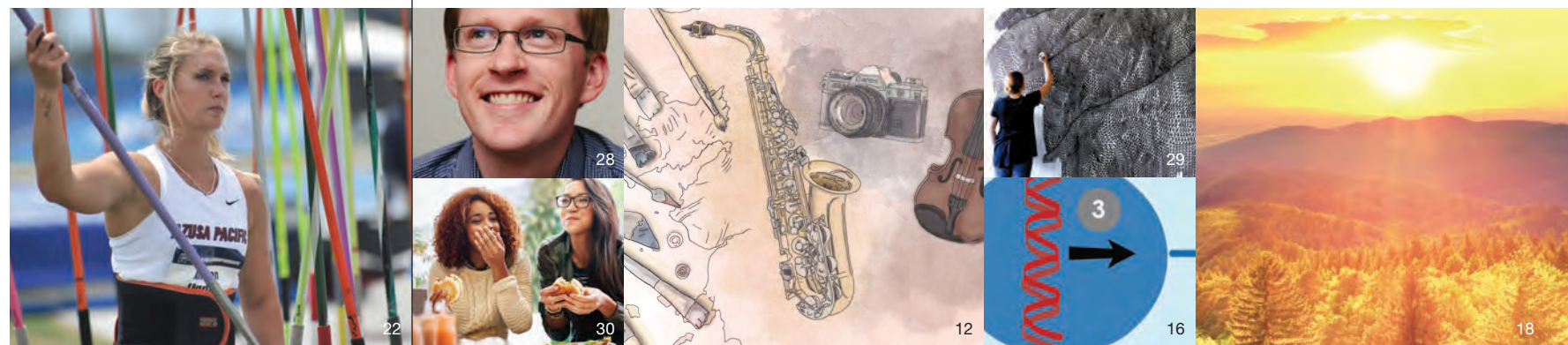
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PHOTO BY JEANETTE SANCHEZ

The Azusa Pacific University community welcomed more than 1,300 new students to the Cougar family during New Student Orientation Weekend. With the theme of “Welcome to the Family,” highlights included move-in day; Candela, where President Jon R. Wallace, DBA, commissioned the next generation of APU difference makers; and prayer gatherings alongside loved ones. To watch the New Student Orientation film, visit [apu.edu/video/messages/orientation2016/](http://apu.edu/video/messages/orientation2016/).

## Senate Bill 1146 Update

Senate Bill 1146 (SB 1146), introduced by State Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens), raised serious concerns for more than 50 California faith-based higher education institutions, including Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, and evangelical colleges and universities. The original bill posed significant religious freedom restrictions and called into question the ability of the schools to live out their deeply held values and beliefs.

The author drafted the legislation to address concerns for student safety, transparency, and recourse, particularly for LGBT students. Azusa Pacific and its peers seek those same protections for all students.

Amidst these challenging circumstances, APU reached out to churches across denominational lines to express concern in Sacramento.

APU and Biola University hosted the first of four pastors' luncheons held throughout the state. Archbishop José H. Gómez of the Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles and Bishop Charles E. Blake, presiding bishop of the Church of God in Christ and pastor of West Angeles Church of God in Christ, penned an unprecedented joint statement, stating their objections and noting the important contribution of faith-based education to the state. APU updated alumni and stakeholder networks and encouraged respectful engagement with legislators when expressing concerns with the bill. These efforts widened to include religious and political leaders at the national level.

Along with a growing Church coalition, the faith-based schools worked with the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities to lobby in Sacramento. APU and more than a dozen other religious schools later formed the Association of Faith-

Based Institutions to advance the cause of religious higher education through grassroots efforts and a media campaign.

In August, Lara removed the provisions that presented First Amendment challenges and would have limited access and choice for California's most economically disadvantaged youth to use their Cal Grant awards to attend faith-based institutions. That compromise led APU and other prominent faith-based institutions such as Biola University, California Baptist University, Point Loma Nazarene University, Westmont College, and William Jessup University to move from an "oppose unless amended" position to "support."

The bill, now containing only disclosure and reporting provisions, passed the Assembly, returning to the Senate for concurrence and passing on August 30. Governor Brown has until the end of September to take action on the bill. To check the status of this bill and other legislation impacting higher education, visit [apu.edu/president/legislation/](http://apu.edu/president/legislation/).

### Fulbright Music Faculty Teaches in France



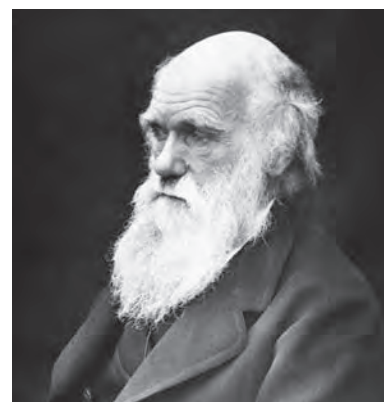
L'Université Paris-Sorbonne invited Kimasi Browne, Ph.D., director of ethnomusicology and music research, to share his expertise with faculty and students. A Fulbright Specialist in American Studies Grant enabled Browne to devote 16 days in Paris last March in the company of some of France's most gifted musicians and musicologists. During that time, he presented lectures to undergraduate and graduate students, led seminars, collaborated with colleagues, and facilitated workshops for university members and the community at large, offering insight into the rich history of

gospel, soul, and northern soul music.

Browne lectured on several topics, discussing the differences between popular music and American ethnomusicology, presenting research and scholarly work in the field, and making connections between soul, Motown, and northern soul, an alternative genre with roots in northern England. Browne spent time with the university's jazz ensemble members discussing how to incorporate gospel and soul music into their repertoire. He also spoke to electroacoustic music students on electronic process innovations made by Motown during the 1960s and '70s.

The experience proved mutually beneficial. Catherine Rudent, Sorbonne music department chair, praised Browne's valuable contributions to the university and sincere engagement with the students and faculty. The visit also satisfied Browne's agenda to promote an understanding of American music genres and help students realize their potential to make individual contributions to the field of music. The opportunity provided for an important exchange of ideas and knowledge between two of the world's most musically influential countries, and strengthened Azusa Pacific's international reputation and leadership.

Beyond the scholarly interchange, the trip fulfilled another vital purpose. Prior to his journey overseas, Browne prayed, asking God what He had planned for him and those he would encounter in France. "Encourage them," God told him. As Browne concluded his time at the Sorbonne, he received feedback from multiple sources through emails and personal encounters. Among them, eight students and four professors specifically thanked him for his encouragement. For Browne, this sabbatical experience proved to be academically and spiritually "triumphant."



### Science and Religion Discussion Springs from Unexpected Source

Exploring and contributing to the ongoing debate between religion and science from a multidisciplinary perspective, Mark Eaton, Ph.D., director of graduate studies and professor in the Department of English, participated in Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford (SCIO) in Oxford, England. The program, which involved two consecutive summer seminars themed Bridging the Two Cultures of Science and Humanities, gathered 25 faculty members from Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU) schools to engage in productive dialogue and develop skills and understanding central to the fields of science and religion. Through a grant from the Templeton Religion Trust, SCIO provided funding for participants to create a valuable opportunity for developing scholarship at their home institutions. Eaton used this support to facilitate two events last spring that presented unique perspectives of Charles Darwin's life as a catalyst for dynamic discussion on the Azusa Pacific campus.

Last spring, APU hosted a lecture by Edward J. Larson, Ph.D., the Hugh and Hazel Darling Chair in Law and professor at Pepperdine University School of Law. The Pulitzer Prize winner explored the context of the time period in which Darwin lived, establishing a framework for an

academic and critical analysis of his views. Rather than focusing on the controversial theory of evolution, Larson presented "Darwin and the Victorian Soul" as part of APU's annual Center for Research on Ethics and Values lecture series and spoke about Darwin's life within the context of 19<sup>th</sup>-century politics, philosophies, and mores.

The following week, APU's Black Box Theater presented *Mr. Darwin's Tree*, a play by Murray Watts and starring Andrew Harrison. Approved and sponsored by the CCCU, the show toured the country with performances at several institutions, highlighting Darwin's private life and relationships, including his wife, a Christian with a deep and abiding faith.

Both events investigated Darwin from unique and nontraditional angles and generated compelling dialogue about faith and Creation. The SCIO seminars and the resulting events on campuses throughout the world helped train a new generation of leaders in civil discourse surrounding issues of science and religion.

### APU Forum Addresses Poverty in U.S.

With 13.5 percent of Americans, roughly 43.1 million people, falling below the poverty threshold, according to the latest U.S. census, this acute national crisis demands attention from multiple angles and professions. Leading the discussion, Azusa Pacific's Department of Social Work hosted a crossdisciplinary forum on poverty in America on March 17, raising awareness of and generating dialogue as part of National Social Work Month. Given the complexities of defining and approaching poverty, social work professionals, academicians, and politicians continue to debate the variables involved in arriving at statistics and the best ways to address them. This

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## APU Hosts State's Largest Teacher Development Event

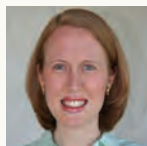


Azusa Pacific's School of Education welcomed educators from throughout Southern California to the second annual Better Together: California Teachers Summit. Open to all California pre-K-12 teachers, teacher candidates, school administrators, and other educators, the free event provided a day of learning and networking in Upper Turner Campus Center on July 29, 2016. APU served as 1 of 38 locations across the state where teachers shared ideas and learned effective strategies for implementing the California Standards in their classrooms.

This year's summit featured keynote addresses by education leaders, TED-style EDTalks presented by area teachers, and EdCamp discussions on

topics such as the California Standards in English/language arts and math, and the Next Generation Science Standards. Teachers also benefited from access to new resources and proven classroom tools.

Several institutions partner to facilitate this summit, now the largest teacher development event in California, including the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities, the California State University system, and the New Teacher Center. "The summit aligns with our commitment to provide ongoing professional training opportunities for our teacher candidates, alumni, and teachers in local districts," said Anita Henck, Ph.D., dean and professor of the School of Education.



### Reading Recommendations from Lyrica Taylor

Lyrica Taylor, Ph.D., is an associate professor and interim associate dean of undergraduate studies, School of Visual and Performing Arts, and director of the M.A. in Modern Art History, Theory, and Criticism program.

***Devotion by Design: Italian Altarpieces before 1500*** by Scott Nethersole (National Gallery London, 2011)

***The Gates of Paradise: Lorenzo Ghiberti's Renaissance Masterpiece*** edited by Gary M. Radke et al. (Yale University Press, 2007)

***Louis C. Tiffany and the Art of Devotion*** edited by Patricia C. Pongracz et al. (Giles, 2012)

***The Sacred Made Real: Spanish Painting and Sculpture 1600-1700*** by Xavier Bray et al. (National Gallery London, 2009)

***Visions of Paradise: Botticini's Palmieri Altarpiece*** by Jennifer Sliwka (National Gallery London, 2016)

Section sponsored by the University Libraries and compiled by Liz Leahy, MLS, MAT, professor of theological bibliography and research and chair of the James L. Stamps Theological Library. [l Leahy@apu.edu](mailto:l Leahy@apu.edu)

## Computer Science Students Collaborate with Namibian Counterparts



PHOTO COURTESY OF DANIEL GRISSOM, PH.D.

Launching a new technology ministry program, 10 APU computer science students traveled to Namibia, Africa, May 8-31, 2016, to begin the initial project stages of the Namibia Health Informatics Project (NHIP). The project partners students and faculty from Azusa Pacific and the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) as they work collaboratively to convert the paper-based medical record system of Namibia’s public hospitals to digital systems.

Daniel Grissom, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Engineering and Computer Science, led the group to Namibia, where he previously established connections with Shawulu Nggada, Ph.D., a professor in NUST’s computer science program. They had agreed upon a joint project that would benefit both universities, have a positive social impact, and engage students.

The NHIP fulfills those goals by seeking to increase hospital efficiency, organization, and safety through the students’ combined efforts in the fields of computer science and engineering. In addition to interviewing local medical doctors and information

technology professionals, APU students formed a long-term collaboration with NUST students and professors by not only working together in the classroom, but also spending time building interpersonal relationships through social gatherings and outings. Together, they visited several private clinics to evaluate procedures and determine the best way to develop a relevant system tailored to the specific needs of Namibian health care facilities. The APU students also visited orphanages and participated in worship services and Bible studies during their stay. Each walked away with a greater appreciation for the Namibian culture, a higher level of multicultural competence, and a deep desire to dive into the project more fully this fall alongside (albeit long distance) their classmates in Namibia.

As the professors at both institutions continue to seek government support from the Namibia Department of Health and Social Services, 20 students have enrolled in a course to work on the project throughout the upcoming school year. The APU team plans to return to Namibia next summer for additional on-the-ground research and development.

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event engaged educators, students, and community members in a robust discussion about poverty from various economic, academic, national, and theological perspectives. Faculty panelists Anupama Jacob, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Social Work; Roger Conover, Ph.D., professor and chair of economics, finance, and international business; Kay Higuera Smith, Ph.D., professor in the Department of Biblical and Religious Studies; and Richard Slimbach, Ph.D., professor in the Department of Global Studies, Sociology, and TESOL, led the conversation, which included a question-and-answer session.

Jacob began the event by discussing the multidimensional nature of poverty, including economic and social factors, and how other countries take a holistic approach to assessing and responding to poverty. She also highlighted the flaws in the over-50-year-old federal system used for measuring poverty in America, explaining that modern cost-of-living expenses, among other aspects, must be taken into account when identifying the poor. Conover introduced the situational complexity of poverty and the importance of understanding how and why people move in and out of it. As a theologian, Smith presented scriptural support for the Christian’s response to the financially poor, the spiritually poor, and those who propagate institutional oppression. Finally, Slimbach added a global perspective to the discussion and pointed out that while equality of resources is impossible, successful alleviation of poverty must begin with a focus on equal opportunity.

Jacob and Rukshan Fernando, Ph.D., associate dean of the School of Behavioral and Applied Sciences, received financial support from the National Association of Social Workers and an APU Faculty Research Council Grant to convene this event. More than 70 people attended, each committed to learning more about how poverty is conceptualized and measured in the U.S., how various disciplines understand

poverty, and how the framing of poverty shapes and informs poverty alleviation strategies.

### Postdoctoral Fellowship Advances Special Collections Research

Azusa Pacific’s University Libraries welcomed Josiah Chappell, Ph.D., as a postdoctoral fellow on March 1, 2016. Facilitated by Robert Duke, Ph.D., dean of the School of Theology and professor in the Department of Biblical and Religious Studies, the 10-month agreement is the first fellowship by the Scholars Initiative, the research arm of the Museum of the Bible. The fellowship allows Chappell to comprehensively research, document, and catalog items in APU’s rare Special Collections.

The twofold objective of the fellowship involves complementary research projects that benefit APU and the Museum of the Bible, an organization dedicated to engaging people with the Bible through research, education, and a permanent museum. Chappell works under the supervision of Ken Otto, MLIS, associate professor in University Libraries and Special Collections librarian. Primarily, Chappell helps identify and generate descriptions of APU’s Special Collections holdings with relevance to the biblical text, particularly in the Leaf Collection, which contains more than 400 leaves. He also focuses on identifying possible connections between items owned by APU and those in the Museum Collection, one of the world’s larger collections of rare artifacts. Within the first weeks in his role, Chappell was able to trace the provenance of an early manuscript leaf, discovering its date, its scribe, and the monastery location. This academic detective work promises to make important connections among the antiquities at Azusa Pacific and several other institutions.

As part of the fellowship, Chappell also studies Cairo Genizah manuscripts in the Museum Collection. In keeping with one of the main goals—to pair students with established scholars in the research process—philosophy major

## By the Numbers

**15:** The regional ranking of APU’s School of Nursing by NursingSchoolsAlmanac.com. The organization compared data on 3,200 institutions nationwide and named APU as 15<sup>th</sup> (among the top 3 percent) in the West based on academic prestige and value, breadth and depth of the nursing curriculum, and history of student success.

**35:** The number of music and worship students who spent time with Tommy Walker, renowned singer/songwriter and worship leader, on April 15, 2016. Walker led chapel worship, incorporating music from his recent *Generation Hymns 2* album featuring APU’s Sean Beck ’10 and Kesha Nugent ’10, then shared powerful stories from his personal life, providing insights for students pursuing worship leadership and addressing relevant issues in songwriting, ministry relationships, and faithfulness to one’s calling.

**13:** The number of letters in *recalcitrante*, the winning word in the California Spanish Spelling Bee, sponsored by APU’s Department of Modern Languages since 2013. The first of its kind in the state, this year’s event, facilitated by APU faculty Aroldo Solórzano, Ph.D., and Marcela Rojas, MFA, Ph.D., drew participants from 18 high schools.

Isaac McAllister ’16 partners with Chappell to study these manuscripts, gaining firsthand research experience. The research and resulting documentation from this fellowship will significantly advance the discoverability of items in the Leaf Collection, affording APU faculty and students, as well as the greater academy, more complete information and greater access to these rare primary source materials.

### Three Alumni Earn Prestigious Fulbright Scholarships

From among the thousands of annual U.S. applicants, Azusa Pacific alumni Claire Dresselhaus ’15, Kendall Iaquina ’16, and Emma Palm ’16 garnered elite Fulbright Awards this year, increasing APU’s student Fulbright scholar count to 35 since 2003.

Dresselhaus, a psychology major, will teach English at the Corporación Universitaria del Huila in Neiva, Colombia; Iaquina, a biology major, will teach English in Malaysia; and Palm, a sociology major, will serve as an assistant English teacher in Taitung, on the southeast coast of Taiwan.

An international educational exchange program sponsored by the

U.S. government designed to “increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries,” the Fulbright Program has provided more than 300,000 participants—chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential—with the opportunity to study, teach, conduct research, exchange ideas, and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

As these scholars engage with the global community and learn more about new countries and cultures, they take with them the service and leadership skills they developed at APU, eager to broaden their worldviews and become lifelong learners.

### Faculty Member Selected as Emerging Scholar



Anupama Jacob, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Social

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, named Azusa Pacific’s

**1975:** The year Azusa Pacific launched the School of Nursing, now a world-renowned educational institution for clinical nurses and nursing educators that offers 4 undergraduate BSN programs, 2 minors, 8 master’s programs, and 2 doctoral degrees. Celebrating this legacy, in September 2016 the School of Nursing hosted The First 25 Years, a reunion for students who graduated from 1975-2000.

**7:** The number of *The Saint John’s Bible Heritage Edition* volumes in Azusa Pacific’s Special Collections upon the arrival of three additional volumes last summer. The acquisition adds to the existing four volumes and completes the set. This collection presents a modern, illuminated manuscript encompassing the traditional elements of handwritten texts. To learn more, visit [apusaintjohns.wordpress.com](http://apusaintjohns.wordpress.com).

**27:** The number of workshops offered by the Writing Center on topics such as prewriting, argument, and documentation. The center serves students on the Azusa campus, at all six regional locations, and online, assisting scholars at every level. The center served 2,622 individuals totaling 9,738 appointments during the 2015-16 academic year.

Work, as the next emerging scholar for the Self-Sufficiency Research Clearinghouse (SSRC). The organization recognizes those who produce research on topics relevant to economic self-sufficiency for low-income individuals and families. Jacob’s work in the area of multidimensional poverty measurement garnered her this prestigious recognition.

As this quarter’s featured SSRC scholar, Jacob will present a webinar on multidimensional poverty in America for policymakers and practitioners throughout the country in September. Specifically, Jacob’s research addresses limitations of the federal measurement of poverty. She contends, along with many global scholars, that poverty can more aptly be described as a constellation of deprivations and disadvantages rather than the subsistence measure used by the government since 1963. Primarily, Jacob’s research seeks to advance a more holistic understanding of poverty among vulnerable populations in America today and examine the resulting implications for poverty alleviation strategies. Ultimately, this award gives Jacob a platform from which to educate policymakers about how deprivations and disadvantages vary across population

groups and how to best meet the needs of the country’s poor.

Over the past two years, Jacob, along with colleague Rukshan Fernando, Ph.D., associate dean of the School of Behavioral and Applied Sciences, received \$21,500 in funding from the New York Community Trust, the National Association of Social Workers, and the APU Faculty Research Council. Jacob has involved six undergraduate students in her research. As she and her team assess programs and policies that counter the one-size-fits-all approach to this pressing social issue, she calls for a more integrated and coordinated approach to addressing poverty that recognizes the multiple, overlapping facets of the problem.

### Mosaic Caucus Creates Racial Bias Awareness

Azusa Pacific seeks to reflect the diversity of God’s Kingdom in every aspect of its living and learning environment. As part of that ongoing effort, the Student Center for Reconciliation and Diversity supervises the Mosaic Caucus, an advisory group that represents the university’s undergraduate Latino,

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Black, Asian, Armenian, international, and other student populations. The group meets monthly to discuss concerns, events, incidents, and issues with relevant offices, departments, or individuals.

Primarily, the Mosaic Caucus reaches beyond the goal of merely quelling tension—the student members strive to foster racial harmony and change the way the APU community reacts and responds to racism and discrimination. The Mosaic Caucus formed in fall 2015 in response to an incident involving culturally insensitive behavior and helped resolve the situation by helping all involved parties seek perspective and reconciliation.

Today, the group comprises 15 students and administrators committed to facilitating dialogue that moves to action. The group’s statement of purpose includes the following actions to help create a unified campus: providing a space to facilitate healthy conversation and mutual understanding concerning ethnic and racial issues within a group of diverse representatives; using social platforms to gather information and input from fellow students; issuing public statements, making recommendations, and, if necessary, writing and passing resolutions in partnership with the Student Government Association regarding university-wide diversity issues; serving as a voice to inform the decisions made by the administration and other campus offices; serving as advocates of the undergraduate student population; and creating educational opportunities for students, faculty, and staff members to prevent discriminatory incidents on campus.

### Pew College Society Reaches Record Membership

The Pew College Society, Azusa Pacific’s support program for graduate-school-bound students, included 80 members during the 2015-16 academic year—the largest group to date. The program, originated by Pew Charitable Trusts and now an undergraduate initiative fully

funded by APU under the Office of the Provost, invites individuals based on their academic promise in the pursuit of advanced studies.

The list of prestigious institutions accepting APU Pew Society students into their graduate programs this year includes Azusa Pacific University; Drew Theological School; Drew University; Duke University; Emory University; Fuller Theological Seminary; Oregon State University; Oxford University; Princeton Theological Seminary; Trinity College Dublin; the University of California, Los Angeles; the University of California, Riverside; the University of Southern California; Vanderbilt University; Yale Divinity School; and a number of others.

The Pew College Society facilitated these opportunities by offering annual seminars and lectures that promote scholarship and aid students with graduate school selection, admissions tests, and techniques for successful applications and interviews. Further, the program pairs each student with a mentor in his or her field to personalize the experience and maximize the outcome. Workshops also give graduate school applicants a distinct advantage, providing them with in-depth training in key areas such as the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and graduate school application essay writing. To further assist their efforts, the program provides up to \$375 per student per school year for reimbursements for graduate-school-related expenses such as application fees, GRE fees, and traveling to schools. These funds have made all the difference for some students, extending their ability to apply to certain schools.

Joseph Bentz, Ph.D., professor of English and director of the Pew College Society, continually works with individual departments to identify potential members, and annually presents a graduate school workshop as part of the Common Day of Learning to provide promising scholars every opportunity for success.

## Recent Grants Advance Research and Scholarship

### \$2,096,067

From the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), to the APU School of Nursing to advance three programs. The organization awarded \$1,042,162 to Kathleen S. Ruccione, Ph.D., RN, MPH, CPON, FAAN, associate professor and chair, Department of Doctoral Programs, for the 2016-17 Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP). Bonita Huiskes, Ph.D., RN, chair and professor, Master of Science in Nursing program, garnered \$319,000 for the 2016-17 Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship Program, which supports training students to become primary care nurse practitioners and/or midwives.

Further, Christina Bivona-Tellez, RN, MPH, assistant professor and director of nursing programs, Inland Empire Regional Campus—along with Aja Lesh, Ph.D., RN, professor and dean of the School of Nursing, and Elaine Goehner, Ph.D., RNC, CPHQ, chair and professor, Entry-level Master’s program—received \$734,905 to support the Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention: Bachelor of Science in Nursing Practicum in Community Settings program. The two-year grant allows APU’s School of Nursing to establish a strong partnership with San Bernardino County and Redlands Community Hospital for the purpose of increasing senior-level nursing students’ experiences in safe and effective primary care services, especially in semirural and underserved community settings. This interprofessional team model will foster learning for all members and promote substantially improved patient care.

### \$30,000

From the Center for Christian Thought at Biola University to the School of Theology and Teri Merrick, Ph.D., professor, Department of Philosophy, for the fall 2016 research fellowship focusing on Humility: Moral, Religious, and Intellectual.

### \$192,566

From the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), to the School of Behavioral and Applied Sciences and Rachel Castaneda, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Psychology, for three programs: \$158,368 for work on the “Evaluation of the Los Angeles County Adolescents Treatment System,” \$17,099 to support research mentoring services for an International Addiction Training Program, and \$17,099 to support evaluation services to the UCLA evaluation project associated with the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment program.

### \$128,542

From the Veteran Bio-Medical Research Institute to Scott Wood, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Psychology, to support a Department of Defense program grant titled “Treatment of Vestibular Dysfunction Using a Portable Stimulator.” The program seeks to determine the effectiveness of subsensory electrical stimulation in a population of veterans with mild traumatic brain injury to improve clinical vestibular function and balance function.

## Scholarship at Work



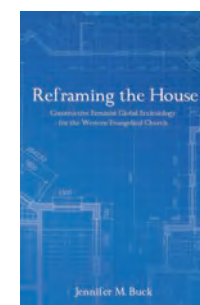
**Running Away** (Finishing Line Press, 2016) by *Rebecca Cantor, Ph.D., assistant provost*

This chapbook presents various forms of poetry, including sonnets, pantoums, shaped syllabics, couplets, and free verse. Drawing from personal experience and observation, Cantor creates rich images of ordinary people on a journey through the stages of life. From a child who runs away from home without ever leaving sight of her house to an aging woman who replays memories of her late husband as she shuffles her way across a neighborhood street, Cantor taps into the everyday sights and sounds of the circle of life and reveals the miraculous within it.



**Organizational Behavior and Management** (Cognella Academic Publishing, 2016) by *Roxanne Helm-Stevens, DBA, professor, chair of management programs, School of Business and Management; Dan Kiple, DBA, professor, director of research and faculty development, School of Business and Management; and Ronald Jewe, Ph.D., professor, associate dean, School of Business and Management*

This textbook introduces students to basic organizational behavior theories and concepts, provides valuable managerial insights, discusses best practices, and explores real-life organizational examples. The student-friendly text shares current perspectives on traditional theories and explores the kinds of challenges faced by managers today. Divided into four sections, the content focuses on management functions, individual processes in organizations, organizational processes and leadership, and how to understand and manage social processes and decision making. Specific topics include teamwork, managing change and conflict, and understanding people’s personalities and abilities and the way these impact the workplace. Exam banks and PowerPoint slides are available to professors.

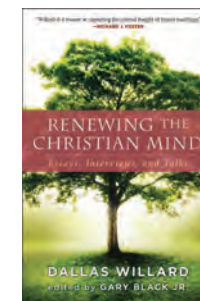


**Reframing the House: Constructive Feminist Global Ecclesiology for the Western Evangelical Church** (Pickwick Publications, 2016) by *Jennifer Buck, Ph.D., assistant professor, Department of Practical Theology* Buck illustrates how women’s voices from Africa, Asia, and Latin America serve as a critique of evangelical theology of the Church in the West. She highlights three feminist theologian voices: Mercy Oduyoye from Ghana, representing Africa; Kwok Pui-lan from China, representing Asia; and Maria Pilar Aquino from Mexico, representing the Americas. Working with these women, as well as Quakers, politicians, and other feminists, Buck presents a constructive global ecclesiology, exploring salvation, sin, peacemaking, and more.



**Dead Sea Scrolls Fragments in the Museum Collection**

(Brill Academic Publishers, Inc., 2016) edited by *Emanuel Tov, Ph.D., J.L. Magnes professor of Bible emeritus, Hebrew University, Jerusalem; Kipp Davis, Ph.D., scholar in residence in biblical studies, Trinity Western University; and Robert Duke, Ph.D., dean and professor, Azusa Pacific Seminary and School of Theology* This volume contains 13 previously unpublished Dead Sea Scrolls fragments, 12 Hebrew Bible fragments, and 1 nonbiblical fragment, presented with the full scholarly apparatus and advanced reconstruction techniques. The books from the Hebrew Bible include Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Jonah, Micah, Psalms, Daniel, and Nehemiah. These scholars conducted the work on these fragments under the auspices of the Museum of the Bible Scholars Initiative, whose mission is to publish research conducted collaboratively by scholar-mentors and students.



**Renewing the Christian Mind: Essays, Interviews, and Talks** (HarperOne, 2016) by *Dallas Willard, edited by Gary Black Jr., Ph.D., associate professor of theology, Honors College*

Black, a friend of late theologian Dallas Willard, compiled and edited this collection of essays, interviews, and articles that embody Willard’s spiritual philosophy and contributions to theology. Black, author of *The Theology of Dallas Willard: Discovering Protoevangelical Faith* (Pickwick Publications, 2013) and the *Divine Conspiracy Continued: Fulfilling God’s Kingdom on Earth* (HarperOne, 2015), extends his tribute to Willard with this compilation, which gathers key texts and prose that nurture, inspire, and offer spiritual counsel to laypeople and church leaders alike and serves as an ideal introduction and complement to Willard’s lifetime of work and ministry.



**Divine Opportunity** (Credo House Publishers, 2016) by *Ryan Montague, Ph.D., assistant professor, Department of Communication Studies*

Montague offers a challenging and convicting reminder of the many ways in which God desires to use believers daily in conversation with others, and reveals how often they miss His direction and guidance as technology and sheer busyness distract them. The book contains more than 20 inspiring stories and numerous practical tips that highlight the difference between the unfulfilled life of disengagement and a meaningful life of discovery in profound, life-changing conversations. The author inspires readers to take significant strides forward in recognizing divine promptings, overcoming conversational fears, and experiencing “God moments” firsthand through their interactions with others.

BUILDING

# STEAM:

THE VALUE OF THE ARTS

BY STEPHEN P. JOHNSON  
ILLUSTRATIONS BY BETHANY FUCHIGAMI '16

THIS USE OF MUSIC AS A TOOL  
TO TRANSITION CHILDREN  
FROM AN IMPOVERISHED LIFESTYLE  
TO A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY MERELY  
SCRATCHES THE SURFACE OF THE  
POTENTIAL OF THE ARTS IN EDUCATION.

## INSTITUTO BACCARELLI

After parking on the side of the red mud road in São Paulo, Brazil, last year, I entered the heart of the *favela*—a city slum with more than 2 million people. Remarkably, amidst the squalor stood the state-of-the-art Instituto Baccarelli, a life-changing school of music for inner-city children founded 20 years ago by conductor Silvio Baccarelli.

Inspired to help the kids in this favela where an average of four to six families live in a single room, Baccarelli pestered government officials for months until they assigned him 30 of the most troubled kids. He began teaching violin, viola, cello, and double bass to the children, and they thrived. Today, more than 1,200 kids from early elementary age to high school study music rather than follow their peers who often become drug dealers and peddlers. Instead, most continue on to college and areas of business.

Through a high-level approach to music education, Instituto Baccarelli empowers students who were born in a favela to qualify for admission to top universities and successful careers. Building on that momentum, the São Paulo government added other family services in the community, with the Instituto Baccarelli as the anchor establishment, and plans to copy the paradigm in neighboring cities.

This use of music as a tool to transition children from an impoverished lifestyle to a world of opportunity merely scratches the surface of the potential of the arts in education. Recognizing the symbiotic relationship between the arts and other disciplines, educators in the United States have begun a movement from STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math).

## STEAM

With the establishment of STEM as the cornerstone of public education, many have rallied a coinciding swell of support for taking a more rounded pedagogical approach by adding the arts to the movement. One of the leading advocates, the Rhode Island School of Design, seeks “to foster the true innovation that comes with combining the mind of a scientist or technologist with that of an artist or designer.” This movement contends that the various arts disciplines are vital components of the growth of the modern mind with an eye toward preparing children to meet the multifaceted challenges that face their generation.

Research on the value of including the arts in the educational process abounds at all levels, and educators and professionals in multiple fields emphasize the training of the entire person. Howard Gardner, Ph.D., professor of cognition and education at Harvard Graduate School of Education and author of *Frames of Mind* (Basic Books, 2011), wrote, “What is important is that every human being deserves to learn about the arts and humanities, just as each person should be cognizant of the sciences.”

What is the value of arts education and how does one measure it? Is it economically viable? What demonstrable good do the arts disciplines have on the STEM disciplines? Do they better the functioning of society?





#### ECONOMIC VALUE

According to the U.S. Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account, a joint work of the National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, arts and cultural production contributed a total of \$704.2 billion to the U.S. economy in 2013. The National Endowment for the Arts chair, Jane Chu, said, “This tells us that the arts remain a valuable and desirable commodity for U.S. customers, and that the arts are a strong contributor to America’s economic vitality.” This trend has been measured over 15 years and demonstrates a 32.5 percent growth of the GDP from arts and cultural production since 1998. These disciplines include film and television, performing arts, independent artists, and advertising and graphic design. In fact, in 2013, the American motion picture and television industry provided 1.9 million jobs and paid \$113 billion in wages. This analysis contradicts the idea of a “starving artist” and moves the discussion toward viability and sustainability of entrepreneurial pursuits in the arts.

#### COGNITIVE VALUE

Multiple studies point to increased performance quality on many scholastic tests among students who are engaged in artistic preparation. Many of these studies include the areas of neuroscience and statistics. James Catterall, Ph.D., professor emeritus of UCLA’s Graduate School of Education & Information Studies, discussed the arts in education from that perspective. “The cognitive research community has explored roles of the arts in science and mathematics learning in recent years, with positive results in individual studies investigating such things as music learning and spatial reasoning. ... Based on accumulated individual studies, it is fair to say that we understand a great deal about how various visual and performing arts experiences impact diverse areas of understanding. The STEAM team has a substantial research-based case for the potential roles of arts in science and technology learning.”

In 2014, the University of Vermont College of Medicine conducted a significant study on the impact of musical training on the brain development of children. In addition to confirming the already-assumed improvements to children’s ability to succeed in math, this study demonstrated that musical training provides significant benefits to children’s emotional and behavioral maturation. These findings stand in contrast to the trend in the American education system in the last few decades. Within this study, the research team led by James Hudziak, MD, professor of psychiatry and director of the Vermont Center for Children, Youth and Families, reported that three-quarters of U.S. high school students rarely or never take extracurricular lessons in music or the arts. “Such statistics, when taken in the context of our present neuroimaging results, underscore the vital importance of finding new and innovative ways to make music training more widely available to youths, beginning in childhood,” said Hudziak.

#### LEGISLATIVE PUSH

Despite the supportive research on the economic impact the arts have with the STEM disciplines, unless there is support from the federal government, the inclusion of the arts in public schools will remain an uphill battle with isolated pockets of success. Although the No Child Left Behind Act of 2002 sought to raise the quality of education in public schools and bring America to the forefront of education competition, it produced the negative side effect of initiating a downward trend in art education.

However, the last two years have been productive, thanks in part to the actions of a bipartisan Congressional STEAM Caucus. Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), cochair of the STEAM Caucus, successfully added an amendment last November to the rewrite of the nation’s Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) legislation to integrate the arts into STEM education. This amendment passed unanimously. A few weeks later, in December 2015, President Obama signed into law the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which included the amended provision. As part of the inclusion of arts into STEM education, funding that was not available with the initial STEM implementation will now be extended to the arts.

The momentum continues on the state level in California. In January, Senate Bill 916, the Theater and Dance Act (TADA), was introduced into the California Legislature. This bill helps remedy a gap in California (one of two states in the U.S. that does not offer teaching credentials in theater and dance) by allowing theater and dance instructors to obtain credentials in their specific fields rather than in physical education and English.

WE BELIEVE IN BOTH THE **ECONOMIC VIABILITY** OF THE ARTS ENTREPRENEUR AS WELL AS THE **INTRINSIC, IMMEASURABLE** VALUE OF THE ARTS ON THE **HUMAN SOUL**.

#### COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND THE ARTS ENGAGEMENT

Within the College of Music and the Arts at APU, we continually ask ourselves, “How will we engage a robust approach that will prepare graduates for successful careers in a competitive marketplace?” We believe in both the economic viability of the arts entrepreneur as well as the intrinsic, immeasurable value of the arts on the human soul. With this foundation, we pursue a variety of current and new academic programs. Three new programs launching in 2017 demonstrate this variety: M.A. in Art Education, M.A. in Screenwriting, and M.A. in Music Entrepreneurship. These programs join an impressive list of arts degrees at APU that cultivate artistic excellence and authentic Christian faith, while successfully connecting our students with the various arts markets.

Through the M.A. in Art Education, we will be able to serve art teachers at schools all around the country in an online format, and through two one-week “summer practicums on campus

supported by the scholarships and underwriting of a \$4.5 million endowment established for this program. We are poised to assist teachers as they navigate the recently amended provision of the ESEA, which brings funding to the arts that was previously reserved only for STEM disciplines. A unique aspect of this program is that it connects our art educators in schools, museum programs, home education, and community programs across the country with their craft as makers of art. We believe that when research and engagement in a primary discipline is an active part of teachers’ lives, it enlivens every aspect of their interaction with their students. Conversely, the more an artist strays from active engagement in the arts, the more he or she runs the risk of extinguishing the fire within their students and themselves.

That fire burns brightly at Instituto Baccarelli as the faculty and students passionately impact their culture by maintaining a heart for service, an entrepreneurial spirit, and a willingness to take risks. These three attributes resonate with the faculty of APU’s College of Music and the Arts, and we have partnered with Instituto Baccarelli. Now, those students move from the favela in São Paulo, through the institute, to APU. Likewise, APU students now have the opportunity to teach and learn within the favela. With this firsthand experience, our domestic and international students may gain a vision for taking the arts into their own communities and be lights in their cultures.

As local school systems embrace and implement these changes and new funding promotes and supports the arts, children will become innovators equipped to change the world and solve the complex problems that face their generation—just as Silvio Baccarelli did in a favela in São Paulo, Brazil.

*Stephen P. Johnson, DMA, is the founding dean of the College of Music and the Arts. stephenjohnson@apu.edu*



# FIGHTING CANCER USING GOD'S DESIGN

by Megan Prosser  
Illustrated by Carol Arevalo '17

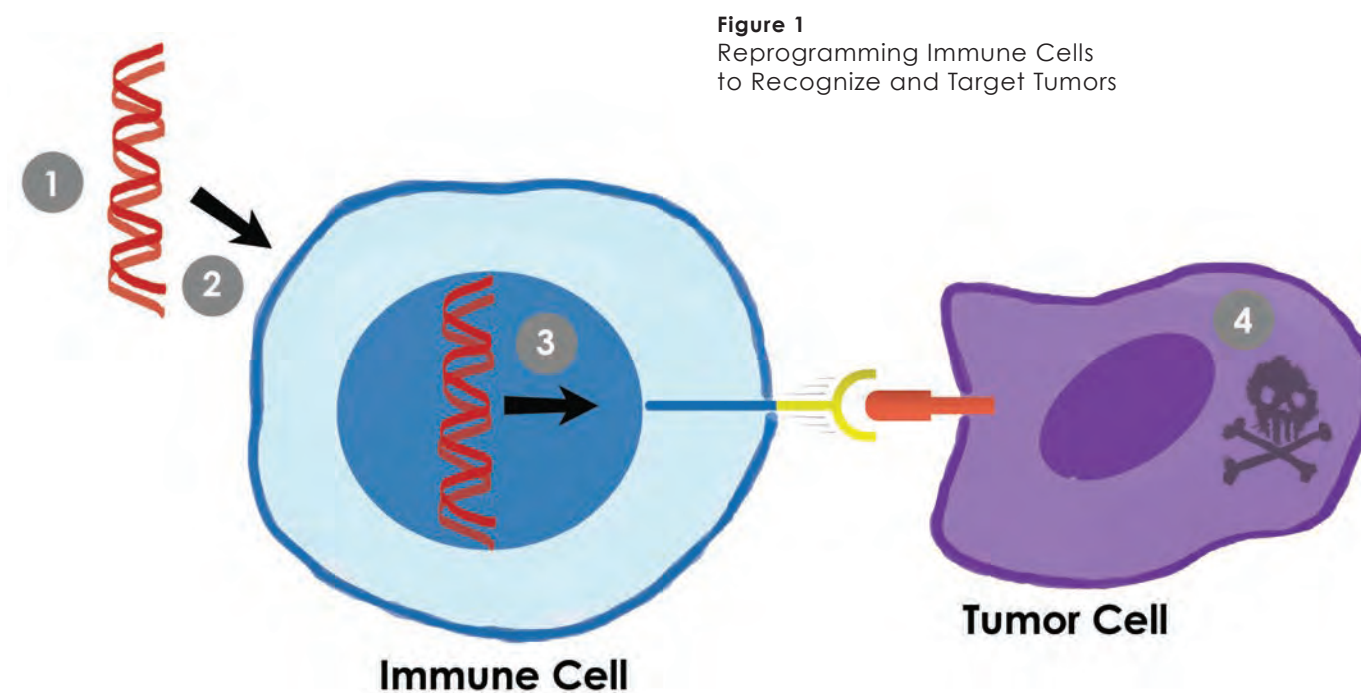
Far too many people know the ravages of cancer. Whether through firsthand experience or caring for loved ones, most have felt the devastating impact of a disease that has invaded the narrative of nearly every family's ongoing story. Yet, while the personal battles, triumphs, and treatment successes are well known, society at large understands little about the disease's biological background and the strategies for treatment.

As the undergraduate students in my Azusa Pacific research program discovered, different types of cancer call for different approaches. Exploring beyond the current standard of therapy, we have been working on a novel strategy for treatment—immunotherapy, a way of boosting the body's natural defenses to fight the disease.

To understand how this works, one must first understand the basics of cancer, a disease of fast-growing cells that develops following a number of DNA mutations (normally a minimum of 4-7). These mutations typically alter genes that function to regulate cell division or repair of DNA damage. These changes enable the cell to grow without growth controls, ultimately allowing the cell to invade surrounding tissue and metastasize to distant sites. The genetic alterations that enable tumor formation vary from one cancer to the next, making each cancer type a different form of the disease. As a result, the typical standard of care includes radiation and chemotherapy, which target cells that grow rapidly. However, many noncancerous, fast-growing cell types also succumb to these treatments, making standard cancer therapy harmful to healthy tissue. This underscores the need for more specific forms of treatment to eliminate the cancer cells without damaging the normal body.

**Figure 1**

- 1 **Develop DNA that codes for a protein to be expressed on the surface of the immune cells.**
- 2 **Insert DNA into the immune cell.**
- 3 **DNA is coded into a protein receptor that has a tumor-binding domain (yellow) that is specific to the tumor (orange) and a signaling domain (blue) in order to activate immune cell killing response once contact with the tumor (orange) is made.**
- 4 **Killing of the tumor cell is initiated upon direct contact with the engineered immune cell.**



**Figure 1**  
Reprogramming Immune Cells  
to Recognize and Target Tumors

Immunotherapy aims to harness the natural power of the immune system to target and eliminate tumor cells. Although the immune system has the capability to recognize and target tumor cells to some extent, it is limited because the immune system is programmed to target foreign invaders. Cancer cells, while behaving inappropriately, are part of the normal body, something the immune system is wired to protect. One immunotherapeutic approach, adoptive immunotherapy, utilizes genetic modification to reprogram immune cells to target tumor cells specifically. In order to do so, immune cells are engineered to express a DNA sequence that will code for a protein receptor that is specific to the tumor. This protein receptor allows for the engineered cells to recognize the tumor and, upon contact, immediately initiate a killing response (Figure 1). This highly specific form of therapy utilizes engineered cells that target and kill only cancerous cells. In addition, these protein receptors can be designed for any target, giving the potential for application to all tumor types.

This immunotherapeutic approach has shown the greatest clinical success against B cell malignancies, a cancer of white blood cells. In fact, clinical trial results across multiple centers for treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukemia (one form of B cell malignancy) specifically show remission rates ranging from 67-100 percent and exhibit a high level of safety in patients. This approach is in varied stages of clinical development for several other cancers, including, but not limited to: melanoma, neuroblastoma, glioblastoma, and breast, ovarian, cervical, and prostate cancers. My APU research program has the privilege of pursuing adoptive immunotherapy

in collaboration with the laboratory of Stephen Forman, MD, at City of Hope, which has designed several platforms, including one that is in clinical trial for glioblastoma, an aggressive form of brain cancer. My research team is focused on enhancing this immunotherapeutic approach by addressing the immunosuppressive nature of the tumor. In general, signals that inhibit immune function are turned on, while signals that stimulate immune function are turned off, within the tumor. The APU lab designs additional genetic engineering platforms that marry an "off" signal with an "on" signal in order to trick the tumor into stimulating the immune system. These platforms will be assessed in conjunction with the strategies developed for glioblastoma, and it is my hope that clinical efficacy will be enhanced. This project presents a unique opportunity for undergraduate students to learn a variety of cutting-edge techniques while performing translational research with direct implications for clinical treatment.

While several advances have already been made, adoptive immunotherapy is still a young field with endless potential for application to all cancer types. This approach allows for specific targeting of the cancer cells, enabling restoration from the disease while minimizing harm to the rest of the body. I anticipate that immunotherapeutic approaches will move on from clinical trial and become a new standard of care. In my opinion, there is no better way to approach cancer treatment than to harness the God-given system for protection—the immune system.

*Megan Prosser, Ph.D., is an assistant professor in the Department of Biology and Chemistry. mprosser@apu.edu*



# Understanding Religious Freedom

BY JENNIFER E. WALSH

Throughout American history, religious liberty has often been described as our most important right—our “first freedom.” Our founders considered the right to freely worship an inalienable, universal human right that needed no explanation, no justification, and no defense. They also believed that the primary role of government was to protect this right and all those that flowed from it, such as the right to free speech, free press, freedom of assembly, and the freedom to petition the government for a redress of grievances. They believed that without such freedoms, our grand experiment in self-government would most assuredly fail.

However, while we consider religious liberty to be self-evident, this understanding of religious freedom that has guided us for nearly 250 years is distinctly American. Prior to our nation’s founding, Europeans routinely accepted the comingling of political power with religious authority—a blending of Church and state—that made theological dissension painful, if not criminal. In fact, many of the early settlers fled their homelands to escape religious persecution. To prevent that from happening here, our founders incorporated three specific protections into the new government. First, they crafted our Constitution to limit the scope of centralized government power. The new federal government was given authority over interstate commerce, international relations, taxes, immigration, currency, and trade, but most of its interactions were with states, not individual citizens. Second, specific safeguards were included to give added protection to religious believers. The Constitution, for example, prohibits the use of religious tests as a condition of public service. In addition, the First Amendment prohibits Congress from establishing a national religion or infringing on an individual’s free exercise of religion. Third, the Constitution reserved most governing power for the states. The assumption was that the political entities closest to the people would be more responsive to the people’s will, and as a result, better able to protect their rights.

The Fourteenth Amendment, ratified at the end of the Civil War, changed much of that initial structure. With an eye to curbing racial discrimination, it stipulated that no state may “deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person . . . the equal protection of the laws.” It also gave Congress the power to enact legislation to protect these rights. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 offers a significant example of this. It primarily sought to end Jim Crow laws and other forms of state-sponsored racial discrimination, but it also barred discrimination on the basis of sex, religion, and national origin. Moreover, its scope went beyond the boundaries of state institutions and applied also to private businesses, schools, and other organizations that interacted with the public.

The growing complexity of the U.S. economy and the country’s increasingly pluralistic society gave the federal government additional reasons to regulate in areas previously under private control. Not surprisingly, this gave rise to numerous court cases by those alleging violation of their constitutional rights. Some of these cases argued that the government had inappropriately established a national religion by allowing the Ten Commandments or nativity scenes to be displayed on public property. Other cases involved plaintiffs who alleged that their right to free exercise of religion had been violated because they were no longer allowed to pray with students in public schools or teach from a public school curriculum that integrated the Scriptures.

On issues alleging the establishment of religion, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled fairly consistently that government need not be “a-religious,” but it also could not allow some religious activity while banning others. For example, a nativity scene on public property may be constitutional if other religious groups are given the same opportunity to erect their religious displays at the same time.

The Court has also ruled that the Constitution does not require us to censor symbols, words, and phrases associated with our religious heritage. It does not violate the Constitution, for instance, to have religious imagery, such as depictions of Moses, engraved on our national buildings, nor is it problematic to have “In God We Trust” imprinted on our national currency. Even the current practice of having a taxpayer-supported legislative chaplain offer up prayers at the beginning of each session of Congress is considered acceptable in light of our longstanding traditions.

**If this trajectory remains unchanged, we will soon be looking at a society where religious believers of all types will be in the minority.**

National surveys from the last two decades reveal that

**25%**

of adults claim no religious affiliation, especially among millennials.



## “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

JOHN ADAMS

In order to protect the religious rights of others, the Court has also consistently ruled that the government must provide a significant or compelling reason before it may infringe on the constitutional rights of religious believers. For example, the government might have a good reason for requiring students to attend high school, but the Court ruled in *Wisconsin v. Yoder* (1972) that it was not compelling enough to justify coercing Amish families to violate their sincerely held religious beliefs. In other cases, the government has successfully passed the “compelling interest test” in situations that involved the well-being or safety of others. This justification has been used to require parents to provide life-saving medical treatment for their children, even when it violated their religious beliefs. However, even when a compelling interest exists, the Court has indicated that it must first consider all other means available. Recently, this stipulation worked to shield Hobby Lobby and the Little Sisters of the Poor from having to comply with the controversial birth control mandate of the federal Affordable Care Act.

The Constitution’s high regard for religious liberty also means that governments regularly make voluntary accommodations for religious believers. Charitable contributions to churches and other faith-based institutions may count as tax deductions, and state laws routinely exempt religious institutions from measures that prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion. Others take active measures to ensure that religious institutions are included as equal players with regard to funding for social welfare programs, educational programs, or other aid initiatives. School voucher programs, for example, regularly allow parents or students to use taxpayer funds to cover tuition costs at private, sectarian schools. In addition, federally funded Pell Grants, the GI Bill®, and other college tuition programs permit students to use their government grants at the accredited university of their choice. In many ways, these protections have helped to keep churches and faith-based institutions strong, even in an era of increasing government regulation. But that should not be too surprising, since religious communities have long been viewed as purveyors of social good.

However, that positive view of religion may be changing. Acts of terrorism by a few religious extremists, such as what we witnessed this past year in San Bernardino and Orlando, have caused some to advocate the revocation of civil rights for all Muslims. This would not only violate their constitutional rights, but also reverse our long-held tradition of promoting religious tolerance for all. Others have openly questioned the character of Christians who disagree with majority opinion on significant social issues, such as mandatory vaccination laws, right-to-die laws, and the Supreme Court’s ruling last year on same-sex marriage.

Although these threats to religious freedom are significant, the greatest existential threat to religious liberty may still be yet to come. Surveys from the last two decades reveal that regular church attendance is declining and, as a result, nearly 25 percent of those adults claim no religious affiliation. Even more troubling, more than one-third of millennials categorized themselves as religious “nones.” If this trajectory remains unchanged, we will soon be looking at a society where religious believers of all types will be in the minority. That will likely lead to a slow erosion of religious liberty. Governments will be less likely to consider the impact on religious communities when they adopt policy, and they will be less predisposed to make accommodations for religious believers negatively impacted by public policy. Perhaps most significantly, future judges, who are drawn from the community at large, may be less willing to defend religious liberty when future constitutional challenges arise.

Despite these challenges, the good news is that we can act today to preserve religious liberty for tomorrow. First, we can model reverence for religious freedom by extending tolerance to others. Our commitment to religious liberty cannot extend solely to our own faith community, but must be widely championed for all. Christians should be the first to defend the constitutional rights of Muslims and those who belong to minority faiths. Second, we can practice good citizenship by obeying the law, even when we disagree with it (Romans 13); helping all our neighbors, not just those within the community of faith (Luke 10:25-37); and treating all people—including political leaders with whom we profoundly disagree—with love and respect (John 13:35). Finally, we can prioritize evangelism and discipleship in order to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20) and reverse the rise of the “nones.”

John Adams once remarked, “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.” If we are able to live out the commands of Scripture by sharing our faith, demonstrating tolerance toward others, and loving our neighbors as ourselves, then we will do more than just safeguard our religious liberty. We might just preserve the nation itself.

*Jennifer E. Walsh, Ph.D., is dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and professor of political science. [jwalsh@apu.edu](mailto:jwalsh@apu.edu)*

# RIGHT ON TRACK

BY MICAH MCDANIEL



PHOTOS BY JOE REINSCH '01, MBA '10

Allie Updike '15 had plenty of time to think about life's big questions—including “What do I really want from college?”—as she moved mulch and plants at a nursery near her home in Herndon, Virginia, just a few miles south of the Potomac River. It was a typical summer job for a college student, except it was spring 2013. A few weeks earlier, Updike had surprised everyone and walked away from a full NCAA Division I track scholarship from the University of Georgia.

As a freshman at Georgia, Updike won the 2012 Southeastern Conference javelin championship and finished ninth at the NCAA Championships. She enjoyed instant success and had a bright future. But something was missing. “On the surface, I seemed happy, but I really wasn't,” said Updike. “I felt like I was just a performer, and if I didn't perform, then I didn't matter to anyone. Some people thrive in that atmosphere, but it wasn't for me. I needed something more than track.”

So Updike packed up her car, walked away from the limelight, and headed home. “My parents didn't believe I was leaving until I showed up in the driveway. I'm sure they were shocked, but they've always been supportive.”

A few months later, while working at the nursery and trying to figure out her next step, Updike began talking with

the Air Force Academy, but that path was not for her. The throws coach at Air Force, however, placed a call on her behalf to a longtime friend of his—Mike Barnett '83, M.A. '97, Azusa Pacific's director of track and field.

A few weeks later, Updike trekked across the country for a visit and found her new home. “I knew right away this was the place. I went to morning weights with the team, and there was a different atmosphere that I hadn't experienced before. The athletes weren't just athletes, they were people, and the coaches cared for them. That was the first thing I saw, and I wanted that more than anything.”

It was also the first thing Updike's parents could see on Allie's face when she came home the following Christmas. “As soon as she walked through the door, we knew immediately she had made the right decision. She found joy there,” said Jackie Updike, Allie's mom.

“Track and field is something I do, but it's not who I am.” Allie Updike '15



However, just as Updike settled into her new home, adversity struck. During her first semester, she felt something pop in her shoulder. The doctors initially told her it was tendonitis, so she went about her business as usual, but her performance did not meet her standards. Despite this challenging circumstance, she maintained the positive attitude that her new community nurtured. Once the season finished, however, she learned why her results had waned. The problem was not tendonitis, but a torn labrum, which required surgery in August 2014. “It was a downer, but I received so much support from the community. It was almost as if the coaches were more upset about it for me than I actually was.”

Updike spent that fall rehabbing, and just five months after surgery was cleared to throw. Four months later, she won her first NCAA Division II championship with a meet record. She then repeated that feat at the 2016 NCAA Division II championships last May with a meet-record throw of 56.03 meters (183 feet, 10 inches), winning by more than six feet on her first throw. Each of her subsequent three throws would have also won the competition. Updike, who owns three of Division II's top five throws of all time, also posted the eighth-best qualifying mark for the 2016 Olympic Trials, in which she competed in July and finished 15<sup>th</sup>. But for her, the track accomplishments are just icing on the cake.

For all her championships and honors, Updike is more proud of the things she has done off the track—things she likely would have never accomplished if not for her decision to come to Azusa Pacific. Things like mission trips to Mexico, being a Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) leader and team captain, or a month-long mission trip to Hawaii in 2015 with Surfing the Nations, serving the community, cleaning up beaches, feeding the hungry, and investing in relationships.

“APU has made me more confident, and I don't know where I'd be or what I'd be doing had I not found this place. The people here have made my life that much sweeter. I didn't know what it meant to serve a community, but they gave me opportunities to be a blessing to others. There was a piece of my heart that was missing, and I found it at APU. Coach Barnett is not just a coach; he's been a godly father figure and showed me my value. He made me realize that my life is not all about the javelin. Track and field is something I do, but it's not who I am.”

*Micah McDaniel '99 is a freelance writer living in McKinney, Texas. micah.mcdaniel@gmail.com*

# Cougars SPORTS ROUNDUP

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## Pro Cougars: Vogt Repeats as MLB All-Star, Watson Joins Browns Practice Squad



Major League Baseball: Stephen Vogt '07 (Oakland Athletics) was named to the MLB All-Star Team for the second consecutive season. He joins seven other former Cougars at various levels of professional baseball. Kirk Nieuwenhuis '09 (Milwaukee Brewers) is having his best MLB season as a regular starter in the Milwaukee outfield, registering career highs in virtually every offensive category. Brandon Sisk '07 was an Atlantic League All-Star in 2016 before the Seattle Mariners purchased his contract in August and assigned him to Double A. Josh Staumont '16 (Kansas City Royals) and Zach Hedges '15 (Chicago Cubs) also earned midseason promotions to Double A.



National Football League: The Cleveland Browns invited running back Terrell Watson '14 to their practice squad after he wrapped up the preseason with his new organization (Watson was on the Cincinnati Bengals practice squad in 2015). Offensive lineman Luke Marquardt '13 also gained his first live NFL preseason experience, appearing in all four preseason games with the Detroit Lions.

## Updike, Almazan Nominated for NCAA Woman of the Year



The Pacific West Conference nominated Mayra Almazan '16 and Allie Updike '15 for the 2016 NCAA Woman of the Year Award, advancing them from a pool of more than 500 nominees across all three NCAA divisions to be considered for 1 of the 10 recipients from each NCAA division. The NCAA Woman of the Year program honors the academic achievements, athletics excellence, community service, and leadership of graduating female college athletes from all three divisions.



Almazan, the 2015 PacWest Women's Soccer Player of the Year, led the Cougars to a 16-3 overall record while helping Azusa Pacific reach the regional championship game in the program's first NCAA playoff appearance. She also spent the previous summer playing for the Costa Rica women's national team.

Updike, a two-time NCAA Division II national champion, holds the record in women's javelin. Her national championship performances in 2015 and 2016 earned her a spot in the U.S. Outdoor Track and Field National Championships both years, including this summer's U.S. Olympic Team Trials. After claiming three consecutive PacWest Women's Track and Field Scholar-Athlete of the Year awards, Updike wrapped up her collegiate career with the conference's female Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award in 2016. She also earned her second consecutive first-team selection to the College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-America Division II Track and Field/Cross Country Team.

## Cougars Repeat 17<sup>th</sup>-Place Division II Directors' Cup Finish



Azusa Pacific repeated a top-20 finish in the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup standings, placing 17<sup>th</sup> for the second consecutive season. When the Cougars placed 17<sup>th</sup> a year ago, it was the best Directors' Cup finish by a first-year Division II program in 14 years. Prior to joining NCAA Division II, Azusa Pacific won an unprecedented eight consecutive NAIA Directors' Cup trophies (2005-12).

The best 2015-16 team finishes for Azusa Pacific were top-10 finishes for women's soccer and men's outdoor track and field. In all, 10 Cougar teams made NCAA Division II postseason appearances, an improvement over 9 teams advancing to the postseason in 2014-15.

## Merrill Represents Team USA at Paralympic Games



Trenten Merrill '14 earned a spot on Team USA for the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. Merrill is 1 of 40 men and 26 women on the 66-athlete delegation, earning his place on the squad after claiming a bronze medal in the long jump and eighth place in the 100 meters at the 2016 U.S. Paralympic Team Trials in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Paralympic Games will be Merrill's second international competition after he won a silver medal as part of the 4x100-meter relay at the 2015 Paralympic World Championships.

### BASKETBALL

November 4-6 | Men's Basketball (3 games) at Division II Tip Off Classic | Anaheim Convention Center  
December 10 | 1 p.m. (women) and 3 p.m. (men) | Cougars vs. Dixie State | Felix Event Center

### FOOTBALL

October 15 | 6:30 p.m. | Cougars vs. Humboldt State | Citrus Stadium  
October 29 (Homecoming) | 6 p.m. | Cougars vs. Central Washington | Citrus Stadium  
November 5 | 6 p.m. | Cougars vs. Western Oregon | Citrus Stadium

### MEN'S SOCCER

November 4 | 7 p.m. | Cougars vs. Point Loma | Cougar Soccer Complex

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

November 5 | 2:30 p.m. | Cougars vs. Point Loma | Cougar Soccer Complex

### VOLLEYBALL

October 1 | 3 p.m. | Cougars vs. Concordia | Felix Event Center  
November 19 | 3 p.m. | Cougars vs. California Baptist | Felix Event Center

## We Heard You

Thank you for responding to the 2016 Alumni Attitude Survey—the results are in.

Your engagement in the process far exceeded the national average response rate: APU participants represented every school and department, all degree levels, and every graduating class for nearly six decades. Your willingness to voice your thoughts enables us to better understand what you need from Azusa Pacific and how we can provide the most relevant resources as you navigate your life and career.

Here are some of the highlights:

**God First matters.** You overwhelmingly affirmed the university's commitment to faith integration throughout every program and policy, every classroom and curriculum. You fully support concerted efforts toward graduating difference makers who will impact the world for Christ.

**Focused communication.** You asked us to take a fresh look at the way we communicate with you, including both the format and the content. You identified the most and least relevant topics and issues as well as the best ways to reach you most conveniently and effectively.

**Department affiliation.** During your time as a student, your department activities and relationships kept you motivated, inspired, and connected. No one knows you and your field better than those who trained you and worked alongside you. You want that affiliation to continue, strengthen, and thrive beyond graduation.

**Career partnership.** The marketplace is crowded, competition is fierce, and every advantage helps. You want APU to partner with you in job interviews,

networking, and career changes. Through APU Connect (apuconnect.com), educational events, job placement assistance, career partnerships, and other resources, you want to continue your APU education formally and informally. Start making those connections today by contacting the Center for Career and Calling (apu.edu/career), where career resources and internship and job opportunities are available to alumni for life.

Your vision for Azusa Pacific has inspired us, and your feedback has fueled important dialogue as we process the data and plan for the future. To stay abreast of the progress, please confirm that we have your current contact information at apu.edu/alumniparents/contact/information/. To learn more about the benefits available to APU alumni, visit apu.edu/alumni/.

AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

# HOMECOMING

AND FAMILY WEEKEND

2016

IMPACTING THE WORLD FOR CHRIST

### October 27-29, 2016

Join us for APU's longest-standing tradition, including beloved highlights such as the Homecoming Golf Tournament, Dinner Rally, the Homecoming Tea, a Short Film Showcase, the Block Party, In-N-Out trucks, the football game, and more! apu.edu/homecoming

## HOMEWORD | AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

## Keeping the Spark in Your Marriage Alive *by Jim Burns*

It has often been said that the best thing you can do for your children is to love your spouse. At times, this means putting your spouse's needs before your children's. Many who grew up in a home where the parents had a child-focused marriage say they have a difficult time knowing what a good marriage looks like exactly. In other words, your greatest family investment may be in your marriage.

Over time, every couple's relationship can become predictable. Romance, sex, and even conversation can become routine or nonexistent. If "routine" or "predictable" sums up your situation,

then it is time to refocus energy on your spouse. If your relationship is suffering due to lack of attention, here are some questions to help you evaluate what needs to happen to light the spark again:

1. When you and your spouse were dating, what did you do to make him or her feel special?
2. What are you currently doing to make your partner feel special?
3. What was the last fun activity you and your spouse did together?
4. How often do you participate together in activities you both enjoy?

5. If you asked your spouse to list your top five priorities based on where you devote the most time and effort, what do you think your spouse would say?
6. Where does your spouse rank on that list?

These questions might be a good start to get the dialogue moving in the right direction and to fan the flames so that they burn brighter than ever.

Most couples tell me that they love each other, but that they're just too busy with their work, kids, and all the activities they are juggling. Most of their time is focused on good things, but in that busyness they have neglected their marriage. They hope to make some changes in the near future, but now is the time to make the important decisions to invest in their spouses.

To find time to replenish your relationship, you might need to cut something out of your busy schedule. Can I let you in on a secret? Kids would rather have parents who like each other than learn how to play one more musical instrument or score another goal in soccer. I'm not suggesting that you back off completely, but find a rhythm for your family that works for everyone—including you and your spouse—and is healthy for your marriage.

*For more information, visit homeword.com. The HomeWord Center for Youth and Family at Azusa Pacific University with Jim Burns '75, Ph.D., and Doug Fields values strong marriages, confident parents, empowered kids, and healthy leaders.*

1960s

**CHARLES PINEDA '64** served with the 8<sup>th</sup> Army in Korea. He has worked as a parole board judge with the Youthful Offender Parole Board, the Board of Prison Terms, and the United States Parole Commission, United States Department of Justice. Charles received a CJD from Harvard Law School for the advancement of criminal justice, and designed and directed the Department of Youth Authorities Gang Violence Reduction Project based on his dissertation on gang barrios in East Los Angeles/Maravilla. He and his wife, Rose, live in Sacramento, California. cpjr66@aol.com

**1 PAUL YEUN '68** serves as an adjunct professor at Winebrenner Theological Seminary in Scotland, Pennsylvania. Paul teaches ministerial students in the area of pastoral care and counseling, and serves as the director of the Department of Pastoral Services with Summit Health. He is responsible for two

hospitals and 27 health care facilities. He also serves as an adjunct clinical supervisor in pastoral care at Palmer Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. After APU, Paul earned an M.Div. and M.A. in Pastoral Counseling at Asbury Theological Seminary, and a D.Min. in Pastoral Care of the Aging at Lexington Theological Seminary. He is a board-certified clinical chaplain, licensed professional counselor, and marriage and family therapist. Paul and his wife, Elisabeth, a registered dietitian, live in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.

1980s

**2 JOSEPH HANDLEY '87, M.A. '93,** and his wife, **VASILKA "SILK" (DEMITROFF '87), M.A. '93,** will move with their son, John, to Tokyo, Japan, for ministry. Joe serves as president of Asian Access. Silk will teach at the Christian Academy of Japan, where their son will be attending. They look forward to fulfilling Asian Access' mission "to unite the Church, multiply

leaders and congregations, and extend the transforming power of the Gospel." The couple has two other children, **REBECCA (HANDLEY '14) GUTKNECHT** and Rachel. jhandley@mac.com; vhandley1@mac.com

1990s

**CHRIS HALL '94** coached in the 2016 East-West Shrine Game, an annual postseason college football all-star game that supports Shriners Hospitals for Children and their mission to care for children in need of expert medical care. Chris also recently joined Edward Jones as a financial advisor. He and his wife, Barbara, have two children, Jenae and J. T. work.hall@gmail.com

**DANIELLE (WYKOFF, M.A. '94) JORGENSEN** was named head women's varsity basketball coach for the 2016-17 season at Ontario Christian High School. She brings her experience from coaching the Azusa Pacific University women's basketball team from 1994-2001. Danielle also

serves as an adjunct professor in APU's Department of Exercise and Sport Science. Her husband, **GORDON, M.ED. '98,** serves as assistant dean of APU's University College. The couple has three children, Hayden, Annaka, and Nolan. Hayden, a sophomore, plays baseball for Azusa Pacific University.

2000s

**3 JASON LIVESAY '00** and twin brother **NOLAN '00** tag team as composers, orchestrators, and conductors for film, television, and musical theater. Recent projects include *X-Men: Apocalypse*, *X-Men: Days of Future Past*, *The Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials*, *My All-American*, *Non-Stop*, *Unknown*, *Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey*, *Dragons: Race to the Edge*, *Crisis*, *Second Chance*, and *When the Game Stands Tall*. The brothers also work as studio violinists and can be heard on numerous film soundtracks. twincomposers.com

**JEFF MARTINEZ '03** recently joined Dave Ramsey as a stewardship advisor. His wife, **CLARA (MACALUSO '01),** serves as a site leader for an after-school care program through Williamson County School District. The couple lives in Spring Hill, Tennessee, with their two children, Anthony and Ella. The family attends Crosspoint Church in Franklin.

**WESLEY ELLIS '08** graduated with a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Youth Ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary on May 21, 2016. Wesley received the Robert Boyd Munger Award in Youth Ministry at the commencement ceremony. Additionally, he writes the blog *Whatever Is Good*, sharing Christ-centered stories, tips, and insights from his daily life. Wesley was recently hired as a pastor at First United Methodist Church of Toms River in Toms River, New Jersey. He also started a Ph.D. program studying practical theology through the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. Wesley and his wife, **AMANDA (BIDWELL '08),** live in Toms River, along with their son, Henry, 2. whateverisgood.blogspot.com

2010s

**JUSTIN KNOWLES '10** is entering his second year serving as lead next-generation pastor at Christ's Church of the Valley in San Dimas, California. Justin is also a writer for Download Youth Ministry, an online youth ministry resource. Previously, he worked at Saddleback Church in Lake Forest as pastor of high school ministry and small groups, as well as high school ministry weekend coordinator. Justin lives in La Verne with his wife, Kristin.

**BRIAN C. KRAFT '10** works as a senior associate at Vriens & Partners' Jakarta office, supporting multinational corporations' operations in Indonesia. Previously, Brian worked as an associate for Asia Group Advisors in Jakarta. He earned an M.A. in Asian Studies, with a focus on international development in Southeast Asia, from George Washington University. He has worked as an Indonesia researcher for the Center for Strategic and International Studies, as an intern for the U.S.-Indonesia Joint Council on Higher Education Partnership, and as a graduate intern for the public affairs sections of the U.S. Embassy in

Jakarta. He also received two consecutive Fulbright scholarships to Indonesia.

**4 BRIANNA SPERBER '11** just finished her third year as an English teacher in Spain, where she has lived the last four years. In her role, she improves teacher and student understanding of the English language with a focus on developing language skills. She has traveled extensively throughout Europe and will continue working full time in an English academy in Sevilla.

**NICOLE FLEWELLEN '12** recently graduated with an M.A. in Digital Publishing from Oxford Brookes University in Oxford, England. She serves as the marketing editor at Dudek, an environmental consulting firm in Encinitas, California, that helped bring the newly operational Carlsbad Desalination Plant to fruition. The plant is the largest in the western hemisphere, and converts more than 50 million gallons of ocean water to drinking water per day for San Diego County.

**NATHAN HUGHES '12** and twin brother, **NICHOLAS '12,** serve as full-time pastors. After returning from a two-year mission trip to Malawi, East Africa, Nick received a scholarship to attend seminary in Jackson, Mississippi. He now serves as the associate pastor of students at Broadmoor Baptist Church in Madison, Mississippi. Nathan serves as the young adult pastor at The Grove church in Chandler, Arizona.

**AMIE KOMAE '13** works as an English language teacher at Kashiwa Municipal High School in Kashiwa, Chiba, Japan. The city chooses one native English speaker every few years from its sister city and Amie's hometown, Torrance, California, to teach at the high school. Amie will hold this position until August 2018. Previously, Amie served as a photojournalist intern with Krochet Kids in Gulu, Uganda. She posts her photography and shares stories of her life and work in Japan on her blog at chaniebon.com.

**VICTORIA PENNELL '13** works as a registered nurse at St. Joseph Hospital in Orange, California. When not at the hospital, Victoria works with The Circuit Riders to bring unity and revival to universities across America. Prior to these positions, Victoria served with Iris

Ministries in the Middle East, developing relationships with Syrian refugees grappling with post-traumatic stress disorder. She also volunteered as a nurse at Annoor Sanitorium for Chest Diseases, caring for patients from all across the Middle East while sharing the love of Jesus.

**DEIRDRE PEARA '14** serves as a recruitment consultant at Michael Page, a multinational recruitment firm in Mexico City, Mexico. Prior to this position, Deirdre received a Fulbright business program grant, giving her the opportunity to study for an MBA while working in the fraud division at EY, a global finance service firm.

**5 JEREMY BISHOP '15** is working as a freelance photographer throughout Australia for a year. Jeremy also serves as a photographer and conference volunteer for Hillsong Church in Sydney, Australia. He lives in Sydney. unsplash.com/@jeremybishop

**COLBY DIUGUID '15** was recently named Jurupa Area Recreation and Park District general manager. He previously worked in the district as the recreation coordinator from 1998-2000, and more recently served the Murrieta Community Service District as the recreation supervisor.

**JENNIFER FRAGA '16** began serving as a living skills specialist with the Portland, Oregon, branch of Youth Villages. Jennifer works with the Mosaic Program, assisting young adults who have aged out of foster care by teaching daily life skills and assisting in completion of their GED or diploma. Jennifer credits APU's Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program for her readiness for this position.

JUST MARRIED

**6 JEROLD JOHNSON '97** to Frances Brewster on June 26, 2015, at San Dimas Canyon Golf Course in San Dimas, California. The wedding party included **JENNIFER JOHNSON-MARLOW '92.** Jerold provides consulting services in mobile SMS and strategic marketing with local small-business owners at J6MediaGroup.com. Fran is a store manager at Target. They live in La Verne and have four children: Nicholas, Mitchell, Garrett, and Elizabeth.

**7 BETHANY JOHNSON '10** to Dustin Tobey on May 2, 2015, in La Mirada, California. Members of the wedding party included **REBECCA SKILBRED '10; SARAH WILLIAMS '11; JOHANNA CASTILLO DERAS, M.A. '14; CHRIS CONWAY '07, M.DIV. '10;** and **TYLER LEMEN, M.DIV. '14.** Bethany works as a labor delivery nurse and Dustin as a mechanical engineer. The couple lives in San Dimas.

**8 KATHERYN SMITH '10** to Daniel de Arakal on December 19, 2015, at Dove Canyon Golf Club in Trabuco Canyon, California. The wedding party included **SARA (COOK '10) GAYLORD, BETHANY (BLANCHARD '10) VINATIERI '15,** and **HELEN (SCHOENENBERGER '11) JOHNSON.** Katheryn works at Azusa Pacific University and will graduate with an M.A. in Clinical Psychology in December 2016. Daniel works at Orange County School of the Arts and teaches at Chapman University. The couple lives in Monrovia, California.

**9 JONATHAN AGUIRRE '13** to Sierra Falco on April 23, 2016, at a private residence in Simi Valley, California. The high school sweethearts were engaged at Point Dume in Malibu. The wedding party included co-best-man **JOSH VALDIVIA '14, ALEX TIPTON '14, RUSSELL HAGGARD '14,** and **ANDREW SINNER '14.** Jonathan works in operations at Mill-Tex Sportswear in Commerce, and Sierra works as a speech language pathologist assistant in the Newhall School District.

**10 ELISA VAN BEEK '13** to Peter De Jong on May 20, 2016, at Koetsier Ranch in Visalia, California. Elisa works as an assistant to a financial advisor. Attending Tulare Community Church, Elisa serves on the worship team and high school small-group leadership team. Peter works at a dairy, where the couple will live.

**11 EMMA SUNDSTROM '14** to **MYLES TAYLOR '16** on March 19, 2016, at Greystone Mansion in Beverly Hills, California. Emma works as a venue manager in Long Beach, and Myles works as a police officer while pursuing a degree in political science at Azusa Pacific University.

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COUGAR INTERVIEW—MICHAEL-DAVID "MO" MORALES '00



From comforting soldiers to coaching swimmers, Michael-David "Mo" Morales '00, chaplain for the U.S. Army Reserves and Methodist Hospital; and an adjunct professor, discipleship leader for Men's Mentoring, and assistant swim coach at APU, seeks to strengthen spirituality in others and train up young leaders for faith-based and secular environments.

**APU LIFE:** What is your calling and how does it play out in your different roles?

**MORALES:** I seek to be a minister of God's Word. As a coach, I know each of my student-athletes needs something different. For some, it's mentoring, while others might just need a little bit of encouragement. I'm blessed to get to hang out with college kids, influence them, and walk alongside their families in that season of life. As a chaplain in the Army, I work closely with the commander, making sure she understands the spiritual needs of the soldiers. As the only noncombatant, I focus all of my time on taking care of them. Each faces issues with family, the Army, and life in general. I'm happy to have even a little bit of a positive influence on their lives and point them toward God.

**APU LIFE:** What life skills do you impart to your athletes?

**MORALES:** They are going to spend much more of their lives beyond their sport than they do with swimming. Therefore, everything we do, both in practice and in competition, prepares these young athletes to live lives of significance, and maybe gives them a

little insight into what life can be like if they continue to follow God with all their hearts.

**APU LIFE:** Whom do you admire and why?

**MORALES:** Selfless people who give of themselves in service to others garner my admiration. The man who brought me to Christ when I was in high school, Kevin Cobb, has been one of the most influential people in my life and continues to mentor me on a weekly basis. I admire APU associate chaplain (COL) Rick Givens '83, M.A. '03, who helped me navigate my journey to becoming a chaplain in the military. I also admire the most godly people I know, my parents. My mom taught me that hard work wins, and she never allowed me to complain. When I told her that something was unfair, she told me to get over it, rise to the occasion, and succeed. My father, however, is the most influential person in my life. A quiet leader, he conducts himself with poise, confidence, and respect, both for himself and for others. He is the reason I am the man I am today.

**APU LIFE:** What do you do to reenergize and become your best self for others?

**MORALES:** I'm actually a highly introverted person. Finding energy means continually withdrawing and investing time in myself so I'm able to give my very best to my soldiers and my students. I love reading. A mentor once said, "Not all readers are leaders, but all leaders are readers." I always try to keep at least one of the classics in my reading rotation.

**APU LIFE:** What motivates you?

**MORALES:** I love watching people grow and create a culture of leadership. I want to be around people who want to become better. Each day, I try to be the very best I can be and expect nothing less from my soldiers, athletes, and colleagues. God has called upon each of His children to do great work, and I want to be around people who choose to motivate others, which in turn motivates me.

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF

FAITH

&amp;

POLITICS

BY RACHEL WHITE

Eric Teetsel, M.Ed. '10, never dreamed that less than a decade after graduating from Azusa Pacific with a Master of Education in College Student Affairs, he would find himself playing a key role in one of the most significant and contentious presidential election campaigns in modern history. Yet, an unexpected opportunity to work in Washington, DC, with two prominent think tanks paved the way for Teetsel to emerge as a leading voice among evangelical millennials and capture the interest of former presidential hopeful Marco Rubio's (R-FL) campaign, which recruited him to serve as director of faith outreach.

In this role, Teetsel organized a coalition of supporters comprising evangelical, Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish leaders to provide guidance on important topics central to the election, such as religious freedom, marriage and family, and sanctity of life. Teetsel's position garnered much media interest, including from CNN, which featured him in an article titled "7 Types of Evangelicals—and How They'll Affect the Presidential Race."

Teetsel focused on appealing to an important base of potential voters—evangelicals who do not feel well represented in American politics. This includes millennials—those age 18-39—but the divide is not solely generational.

"Millennials grew up when the Christian political witness seemed more political than Christian," Teetsel said. "We had very few role models who integrated faith and politics well. So now we ask the question, 'How do we participate in politics in a truly Christ-centered way?'" Teetsel points to history for inspiration. "[Dietrich] Bonhoeffer and [William] Wilberforce were driven by their faith to engage



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIC TEETSEL, M.ED. '10

culture in pursuit of the common good. We, too, can seek to increase the welfare of our neighbors and communities by engaging in the political process. The trick is to do it God's way."

Teetsel sees public policy as a means to trigger debate and ultimately evoke change. "Public policy can either increase human flourishing or diminish it. One timely example is the ongoing debate

over the meaning and extent of religious freedom. We see an increasing threat to this foundational civil liberty. This should concern people of all faiths, and even those with no faith at all; for if the government can violate our right to freely live out our most deeply held beliefs, what can't it do?"

A graduate of APU and Wheaton College, Teetsel views Christian universities as ground zero in the

"America is at its best when we live in proximity with others we don't necessarily agree with—and we talk, we debate, we learn from one another."

—Eric Teetsel, M.Ed. '10

battle for religious freedom. "I am a product and a champion of Christian higher education," he said. "The integration of faith and learning is a unique strength of Christian universities that must be preserved. Where else can young people, during the most crucial time in their development, learn that it is not *what* you are becoming but *who* you are becoming that matters?"

Amidst a deepening political and cultural divide reflected in the heated election cycle, Teetsel admits the future seems unclear, but he offers hope. "Consensus is difficult to find. However, America is at its best when we live in proximity with others we don't necessarily agree with—and we talk, we debate, we learn from one another. Then we shake hands and agree to continue a conversation. This makes everyone better. Christian leaders can inspire this type of discourse and remind us of our shared humanity."

Rachel White is associate director of public relations in the Office of University Relations at Azusa Pacific University. [rewhite@apu.edu](mailto:rewhite@apu.edu)



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATY ANN GILMORE, MFA '14

## The Landscape of an Artist

In 2011, Katy Ann Gilmore, MFA '14, made the long drive from her home in Southern Illinois to Azusa, California, watching the flat lands of the Midwest give way to the rise of the San Gabriel Mountains. Influenced by the shifting landscapes on that drive, she used pen and pencil, sculpture, and mixed media to bring topographical forms to life as she earned her MFA in Visual Art at Azusa Pacific University.

Today, as a full-time, Los Angeles-based artist, Gilmore also draws inspiration from another somewhat surprising source: mathematics. "Art and math once seemed at odds," she said. "As an undergraduate, I thought I would have to choose one over the other for my career."

## Love the Lord with All Your Mind

In 1825, Princeton Theological Seminary (PTS) professor Charles Hodge published the *Princeton Theological Review*, a new journal featuring the work of leading theologians that, over the next century, grew into the premier theological journal in the nation. However, in 1929, economic hardships forced the seminary to discontinue publication. Despite a short revitalization in the mid-1990s, the journal's legacy seemed to have ended—until Christopher Waks '13 gave it new life.

In 2014, Waks, recipient of the 2013 APU Servant Leadership Award and a student in the Master of Divinity program at PTS, saw the potential of this lost publication to impact today's Church. He noticed that many churches excelled at guiding people through the initial stages of faith but lacked strong initiatives to disciple believers toward a deeper understanding of God and the Christian faith. "Often, the Church is suspicious of the academy, and academics lose sight of ministry's importance," said Waks. "The journal can help bridge that gap, providing a tool to deepen the mind of the Church and showing the inseparable nature of theological study and ministry."



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER WAKS '13

But Gilmore's intriguing work blends both. Often with acrylic markers, she crafts hilly landscapes in the form of grids and explores the relationships between perpendicular planes and their distortions in 3D space. "I work between logic and creativity, beginning many of my pieces with a mathematical concept, graph, or equation, and setting up boundaries for my creativity," said Gilmore. This interdisciplinary approach drove her decision to earn her MFA at a liberal arts school. "I wanted to be surrounded and inspired by different disciplines and ideas," she said. "Anything from math to philosophy can play a role in art."

Rather than limiting, Gilmore's use of mathematical constructs opens her work to new horizons of beauty and mystery. Many of her drawings feature the dark webbing of intricate graphs seemingly concealing mysterious geometric shapes and structures. In 2015, she created "State of Dissolve," a 10x15-foot mural, with an acrylic marker on a wall at Greenville College in Greenville, Illinois. Involving more than 25 hours of work, the drawing depicts thousands of small triangles that form a netted graph appearing to shroud a massive, rugged mountain range.

Whatever the subject, each piece springs from a fascination with the existence of dimensions and colors invisible to human eyes. Gilmore encourages others to see the world from different perspectives, challenging viewers to rethink what they consider mundane by asking, "What do we see with our eyes, and what exists there that we can't see?"

Since graduating, Gilmore has featured work in exhibitions throughout California, developed a strong social media following, and spent three months as a resident artist at the competitive Red Bull House of Art in Detroit, Michigan. In the midst of art shows, hundreds of hours of drawing, and running her own studio, she still hikes in the same foothills that inspired her work as a graduate student. To students embarking on their own artistic journeys, she offers this advice: "Be open to the ideas that come to you. Every artist's path looks different."

Along with four fellow Princeton seminarians, Waks secured funding and sent out a call to 40 institutions across the globe for graduate student papers centered on one theme: missional theology. In January 2015, the first volume launched with an online version and more than 450 copies offered as a free resource to students, professors, pastors, and libraries. "Most journals offer a platform for established theologians, while the quality papers of master's students fall by the wayside," he said. "We provide a global presence and larger sphere of influence for master's and early doctoral students' work."

With his solid theological background and strong writing skills honed at APU, Waks took on the role of executive editor, continuing the journal's legacy of academic excellence with a unique focus: making materials relevant and accessible to lay pastors and members of other disciplines as well as theologians. "The content focuses on the intersection of theology and ministry and encourages people in broader fields like sociology and anthropology to connect their work with service," he said. "Ultimately, the journal serves the academy and the Church, and is used by scholars conducting research and pastors preparing sermons."

In 2016, Waks and his editorial team printed 600 copies of the journal, distributing them internationally among libraries, seminaries, universities, and individuals. Following graduation from PTS this spring, Waks leaves behind a flourishing academic journal. Inspired by faculty at APU and PTS who led careers as both professors and pastors, he plans to work in ministry and teach theology. "The academy and the Church often appear separate," he said. "But they can accomplish much more for the Kingdom of God when they work together."

# CALLIED TO THE TABLE

BY EVELYN ALLEN

IT'S SATURDAY EVENING IN THE HEART OF THE CLAREMONT VILLAGE, A DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY GATHERING PLACE NESTLED IN THE FOOTHILLS OF CLAREMONT, CALIFORNIA, AND THE DINNER CROWD IS OUT IN FORCE.

Locals and out-of-towners pour into a restaurant where fire pits and string lights on the patio lend a warm glow to the darkening sky. Conversations and background music blend into a comforting din as Mark Perone '98 surveys the scene. He steps forward to greet the families and couples laughing and playing on the bocce court between bites of food and then nods in approval as his kitchen and wait staff move at a hastened clip to serve the influx of customers.

Five years after opening the popular Union on Yale eatery, Perone knows the effort that goes into orchestrating such a moment, one in which the front-of-house operations, from the hosts and waiters to the bartenders and floor manager, and the back-of-house team, including the chef, line cooks, and dishwashers, operate seamlessly from guests' perspectives. "There is far more going on than meets the eye," said Perone, one among many APU alumni who have carved out successful careers in the restaurant industry, making their marks on a field known even to outsiders as competitive and demanding, albeit alluring. According to research published in the *Cornell Hospitality Quarterly*, some 60 percent of restaurants fail within the first year, and 80 percent do not make it to the five-year mark. Despite those statistics, data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Small Business Administration reveal that restaurants involve no more risk of failure than other business startups. Still, for an independent owner like Perone, reaching the five-year milestone represents an unqualified achievement. "Opening a restaurant is one of the most daring things I've gotten myself into, and the learning curve was tremendous as a first-time restaurant owner," said Perone. "We're still here five years later, and that brings a great sense of satisfaction."

Much of that satisfaction comes from overcoming the many obstacles to create something extraordinary. "The most important conversations happen around the table, whether it's at home or at a restaurant," said Luke Siwek '15, chef at Hillstone restaurant, part of the Hillstone Restaurant Group, in Phoenix, Arizona. "It's an honor to be chosen as the setting for one of those moments. When people come out to enjoy an amazing meal, celebrate an event, or take a break from life, it puts a great deal of responsibility on the restaurant to make that occasion all it should be."



"THE MOST IMPORTANT CONVERSATIONS HAPPEN AROUND THE TABLE." — LUKE SIWEK '15

Balancing that commitment to guests with the day-to-day realities of running a multifaceted business requires dedication. "This is a sacrificial business," said Joseph Bitonti '03, co-owner of Domenico's Jr. in Glendora, who joined a family restaurant legacy that stretches back to the 1960s. "When most nine-to-fivers are taking their families out on a Friday night, we're in the restaurant working to feed them. You give up a lot of family time and miss out on the traditional holidays, because food service is a round-the-clock job, and you have to be able to make peace with that."

Recognizing the demands the industry puts on personal lives, Jennifer (Keen '96) Small began exploring the blend of restaurant and family life with a dash of humor through her blog, *EmulsifiedFamily.com*, which has been regularly featured in *The Huffington Post*. Married to a career chef, Tom Small (attended '92-'94), who now serves as chief culinary and operations officer for the Opper Melang Restaurant Group, overseeing

14 restaurants across Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington, she sought to encourage others navigating a similar path. "I spent many nights home alone or working the opposite schedule as my husband. Add children into the mix, and this life can really begin to test your patience," she said. "Connecting with others who help you laugh and support you during the difficult spots reminds you of the blessings that flow from accepting God's call on your life with grace."

Most often, that support and laughter comes from family. Bitonti recalled his earliest steps into the business: "Growing up, while most kids were going to the park, I was in a restaurant every day. Now, I watch as my kids play in the back on the giant sacks of flour and jump around my storage room from case to case. That's my childhood all over again."

Brothers Michael '95 and William Kefalas '96 remember their parents whipping up traditional fare during Greek cultural festivals while they played

just out of sight beneath the serving tables. The brothers acquired a love of culinary experiences, and alongside their business training at APU and the many years each spent working in restaurants, it seemed the next logical step to own one. This year they celebrated 11 years of running The Only Place in Town in quaint Sierra Madre, California. "Mike is meticulous and detail oriented; he helps the whole operation stay on task and ensures everything is done properly. I like being creative, finding new ideas, and drumming up business," said William, describing their dynamic partnership. "Our strengths complement each other and allow us to keep our sanity in a tough business."

All restaurateurs face the daily challenges of legislative or regulatory issues, employee management, ballooning food costs, and keeping customers happy, but they all admit the real payoff is the unique privilege of watching life unfold around the table. "That is what drives me to make my restaurant the best place possible," said Perone.

And he is onto something. When done right, restaurant life represents a microcosm of the broader culture, a non-nuclear family united under extreme circumstances. "One of the most compelling aspects of the industry is the many cultures and personalities you'll find in any given restaurant, especially the kitchen," said Siwek. "I love that the true diversity of God's Kingdom is represented in our kitchen, and we're all there to help each other win."

And the victories are many. For a restaurant owner, it's a singular business challenge with myriad variables for which to solve. For a server, it's the opportunity to earn while extending a gracious hand of hospitality. For a chef, it's a chance to start fresh, quite literally, each day, bringing delicious new culinary concepts to a hungry clientele. These individual narratives are nourished by all those called to the table.

Evelyn Allen is a senior editor in the Office of University Relations. eallen@apu.edu





Every effort is made to publish all photos submitted to APU Life. We apologize if your photo was not published.

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**12** To **HALEY HOOK '15** to **BRIAN JESSUP '16** on April 24, 2016, at Saddleback Church in Rancho Capistrano. Brian serves as the executive assistant to Rick Warren at Saddleback Church. Haley works with Peggy Campbell, chair of APU's Board of Trustees, at Ambassador Advertising Agency, assisting with marketing, graphic design, and social media.

**FUTURE ALUMNI**

To **FEDERICO ROTH '00** and his wife, **JACQUELINE (SPELTS '02)**, a daughter, Liliana Georgia, on April 24, 2016.

**13** To **STEPHANIE (SEAL '01) MACZKA** and her husband, Greg, a daughter, Penelope Rose, on January 19, 2016. Stephanie serves as a social worker for low-income seniors and Greg as a market research consultant.

**14** To **LORI (LARSSON '02, M.A. '05) DUKOWSKY** and her husband, Rich, a son, Zachary Joseph, on June 16, 2016. Zac, joins big brother, James, 4, and big sister, Natalie, 2. Lori is a stay-at-home mom, and Rich is a chemistry teacher.

**15** To **RUTHIE (FOWLER '03) SMITH** and her husband, Charlie, a son, Beckett Charles, on March 21, 2016. Beckett joins big brother, Cooper. The family lives in San Diego after spending the previous three years in Hawaii and Romania.

**16** To **SHILOH (SLACK '05) RACICOT** and her husband, **RYAN (ATTENDED '01-'03)**, a son, Zeke, on October 2,

2015. Zeke joins big brother, Micah. Ryan serves as a mechanical engineer in the medical device industry, and Shiloh runs a small yoga gear business. The couple lives in Berthoud, Colorado, and attends Lifespring Covenant Church in Loveland.

**17** To **KARI (VIRDING '05) CHRISTENSEN** and her husband, Eric, a daughter, Ellie Grace, on July 17, 2015. They reside in Wilsonville, Oregon.

To **JONATHAN BERGLUND '06** and his wife, Anna, a daughter, Easley Faye, on April 3, 2016. Jonathan serves as the communications pastor at the Church

On The Way in Van Nuys, California, and is continuing his education at Fuller Theological Seminary.

**18** To **RONI HIGGINBOTHAM, M.A. '15**, and her husband, Adam, a son, Cohen Nathaniel, on May 5, 2016. Cohen joins big brother, Declan. Roni serves as a special education teacher at Cullen Elementary, and Adam is the program coordinator in the Office of Residence Life at Azusa Pacific University.

**Notable and Noteworthy**  
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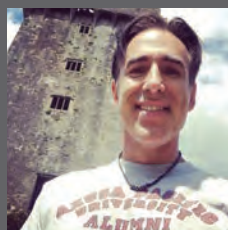
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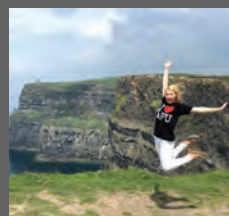
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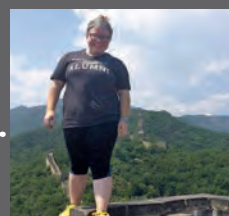
**Attention alumni:** Send us your photographs of the places you have been with your Cougar wear. If we print your submission, you will receive an APU T-shirt to wear while visiting your next exotic or interesting destination. Send your photos,\* along with a description of the location where the photograph was taken, and your T-shirt size, to the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, PO Box 7000, Azusa, CA 91702-7000, or alumni@apu.edu. Or you can add your photo to the Azusa Pacific Everywhere Flickr account at flickr.com/groups/apueverywhere/. \*Please send high-resolution images or prints only.



MICHAEL LEE '90  
BLARNEY CASTLE,  
THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND



JOY KNEPPER '14, M.A. '16  
THE CLIFFS OF MOHER,  
IRELAND



EMMALEIGH CARLSON '16  
GREAT WALL OF CHINA



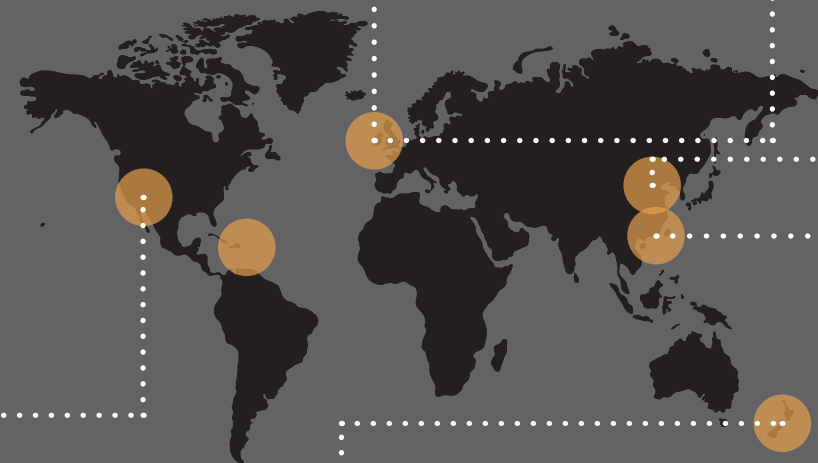
MELINDA  
MUYARGAS '12, M.A. '13  
GRAND CANYON NATIONAL  
PARK, ARIZONA



ERIC MATSUMOTO '11  
AND SHAYNA (FONG) '11  
MATSUMOTO  
WAITOMO, NEW ZEALAND



KIRSTEN FERRAMOLA '16  
AND REBECCA ACUNA  
DRAGON BACK TRAIL,  
HONG KONG



### The Pinkhams

Throughout its 117-year history, Azusa Pacific University has been blessed with 16 Christ-centered presidents. Two came from the Pinkham family. The Training School for Christian Workers (TSCW, predecessor of Azusa Pacific University) elected Bertha Theresa Pinkham, a Quaker from the Ohio Yearly Meeting, as its third president on August 4, 1903. Within eight months, the school built a large building (estimated construction expenses of \$8,000) on a plot of land valued at \$2,000, located on the corner of First and Figueroa streets in downtown Los Angeles. During her one year as president, the Training School sent a group of missionaries to Guatemala that made a significant impact in that country. When Pinkham married William T. Dixon on June 23, 1904, she stepped down as president and began a long career in evangelistic work. Her 68-year-old father, William Penn Pinkham (seated above, first row center),

accepted the fifth presidency of the TSCW in summer 1909. The elder Pinkham brought valuable experience gained from serving as a Quaker minister, college professor, trustee at Malone College, acting president of Earlham College, prolific book author, and editor of the *Evangelical Friend*. At its new Huntington Park location, William Pinkham's decade-long tenure included dedicating a new wing to the school building, raising funds for further expansion, and, together with the faculty, developing a prescribed curriculum required for graduation. Today, under the leadership of its 16<sup>th</sup> president, Jon R. Wallace, DBA, Azusa Pacific continues its heritage of service in the traditional mission field as well as in local church involvement, through volunteerism and vocation, extending the legacy of sending out difference makers.

—Ken Otto, MLIS, associate professor, Special Collections librarian



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A large crowd of students and alumni at a homecoming event, many holding white signs and cheering. The scene is captured from a low angle, looking up at the crowd.

AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY  
**HOMECOMING**  
AND FAMILY WEEKEND  
2016

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