

# APULIFE

AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

Summer 2016 | Volume 29 | Number 2

ON LIVING AND AGING ■ HUDDLED MASSES ■ COMMUNITY BUSINESS



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SEEING VALUE AND WORTH IN EACH PERSON

2016

*God First Since 1899*

# APULIFE

Summer 2016 | Volume 29 | Number 2



I recently reflected on the journey through Christ-centered education at Azusa Pacific University. This journey equips and develops all of our students—undergraduate, master's, doctoral, and adult learners—and profoundly shapes them for a life of ministry, service, and vocation. However, the life of a disciple, committed in obedience to following Christ, does not guarantee a pain-free existence. Each of us experiences challenges that stretch us to breaking, moments of need that seem hopeless, and seasons where God's love and provision seem beyond our reach. This is the life of obedience we are preparing our students to live.

Many years ago, while guiding a group of students during their 10-day Walkabout experience, we decided it would be an exciting adventure to repel from a high rock face, appropriately named Night Watch, under a full moon. I remember accompanying our students at midnight to the summit. The first student to the precipice's edge declared that this would certainly be an adventure because it embraced her two greatest fears: darkness and heights.

We had a plan. We placed one instructor at the top to impart confidence for the students stepping into the unknown, and I awaited them at the bottom to encourage them toward firm ground. Though every student wore a climbing harness and a secondary safety line keeping them from physical harm, these did little to alleviate the fears of darkness and height.

Maybe, like me, you have been in the same situation. In your heart and mind, you believe in the assurance of the harness that holds you securely and the braided rope with nearly unlimited strength to keep you from falling, but the abyss of fear takes a step of faith, and hope dangles over shadowed ground.

That is the reality of the life of faith we prepare our students and alumni to live—a life of faith and hope anchored in our Savior, Jesus Christ. One of my favorite Bible stories related to this can be found in 2 Kings 4—the story of a woman whose partnership in ministry with her husband comes crashing down upon his death. As a widow hounded by creditors who demand that her two sons enter servanthood to satisfy her debts, her commitment to ministry leaves her dangling over an uncertain precipice with quickly fading hope. Elisha enters the story as God's prophet and instructs her to borrow as many empty jars as she can so that she may witness a miracle of God's provision. The story ends with a miraculous multiplication of her meager resources, filling every borrowed jar, enough so that her debts are paid and her family has a hope and a future. She overcomes the precipice and reaches solid ground.

This is the mission of Azusa Pacific University that you support with your prayers, encouragement, and giving—a mission to prepare men and women with a faith to face all of life's challenges while trusting God's great provision—a trust that comes through the sacrifice of His Son and the indwelling of His Holy Spirit to bring us where He intends us to land, for His purpose and on solid ground. I want to thank each of you for providing as you do in support of Azusa Pacific University.

*Jon R. Wallace*  
 Jon R. Wallace, DBA  
 Sometimes over the abyss, sometimes on solid ground . . . always held by His hands

That is the reality of the life of faith we prepare our students and alumni to live—a life of faith and hope anchored in our Savior, Jesus Christ.

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PHOTOS BY SIDNEY DIONGZON

Upon this field of dreams, records will be made, runs scored, and friendships forged. For some, this marks another important step along the journey to the big leagues. And for everyone who plays at APU, this field represents hard work and determination, helps build character, and hones skills. All are APU's boys of summer.

**New Assistant Provost Named**



After a six-month search, Provost Mark Stanton, Ph.D., named Rebecca Cantor, Ph.D., assistant provost on January 28, 2016.

Cantor will oversee strategic academic projects, research and apply best practices in higher education, facilitate communication from the provost's office related to important academic issues, and help advance university initiatives. Specifically, she will help support efforts to accomplish the university's Academic Vision 2022, which outlines goals to increase APU's academic reputation as a high-quality, comprehensive university and cultivate a culture of trust and collaboration in the pursuit of excellence.

An experienced administrator, writer, and educator, Cantor earned her doctorate from Claremont Graduate University and taught at Loyola Marymount University and the University of California, Irvine, and

brings a wealth of practical experience to this position. She began her tenure at APU in 2009 as an adjunct professor for several years, then served as Writing Center director for two years, and most recently as the first executive director of writing programs. In that role, she focused on establishing the writing curriculum as part of the new General Education (GE) program that involves a cross-discipline approach to writing. Beginning in fall 2016, the GE program will include three new writing courses that build on one another and advance students' skills throughout their college years. Upon completion, students will walk away with skills that transfer from class to class and into their careers. Given the significance of that charge, she will initially divide her time between both positions to ensure a smooth transition.

**Faculty Member Discovers APU Link to Japanese American Mission Church History**

Delving into the rich history of her ethnic and spiritual heritage, Evelyn Shimazu Yee, MLIS, associate professor of University Libraries and head of

community relations, conducted her sabbatical research on the stories of early California Japanese American Christian missionaries. Titled "California Missions: Historical Japanese-American Preservation and Research Project," her work records, catalogs, and archives photographs, artifacts, and other documents representing more than 120 years of history. The research focuses on Japanese-American Christian mission church groups and may represent the first comprehensive academic faith-based ethnic archive of its kind.

Yee's project, funded by a nearly \$10,000 Haynes Foundation grant, explores history from the late 1800s through the post-World War II era. On March 2, she presented some of her findings to the APU community in her lecture "Uncommon Brotherhood in Extraordinary Circumstances (Part III): Japanese American Christians from Evacuation to Resettlement," where she chronicled the first Japanese settlers who came to California almost 140 years ago and the flourishing Christian communities that followed. She also highlighted the strong connection with the Training School for Christian Workers (Azusa Pacific University's forerunner), which included a significant Japanese American population and a connection to these early mission churches.

The onset of World War II temporarily derailed the lives of these believers as they were forced into camps. Yee notes that in 1942, when the Japanese Americans were forced to leave their land, some Issei (first-generation Japanese) farmers sold their farms to the Marshburn brothers, Quakers, with deep connections to APU. The Marshburns paid them fair market value for their farms when many Issei farmers were forced to sell at a loss or leave their farms unattended. This reciprocal supportive friendship between the Marshburns and the Japanese American farming community remains

an inspirational part of the testimony of the Japanese American families who suffered tremendous losses, but were sustained by their faith and the support of many in the Christian community. Years later, the Sakioka farming family honored that relationship by making a donation of \$100,000 to Azusa Pacific University. Those funds established the Sakioka Computer Training Center in the William V. Marshburn Memorial Library.

Yee's research weaves together individual stories of Christian servants into a cohesive tapestry of key leaders, such as the young Rev. Dr. Hideo Aoki, former APU faculty; Rev. Dr. Victor Fujiu, 1940s class worship leader who marched with Martin Luther King Jr. in Selma; Rev. Dr. Arnold Nakajima, past student body president and hostel leader; Maude Thornton and Dr. C. Dorr Demary, Free Methodists; Rev. Ralph Mayberry and Rev. Dr. Paul Nagano, Baptist ministers; and Cornelius P. Haggard, Th.D., former APU president, to name a few. God used each of them to strengthen the Kingdom by supporting the faithful Japanese-American and Anglo missionaries who established a thriving community of believers that continues today with approximately 100 affiliate churches and organizations.

**New Program Prepares Seniors for What's NEXT**

Graduating seniors face real and perceived pressure from multiple sources as they wrap up their final year of college, and many want to be better prepared for life beyond campus. APU's NEXT program comes alongside them, addressing a wide range of issues and ensuring a smooth transition into the next phase of their lives. This new program, an extension of the former Omega program, launched last spring with its first conference on February 23, 2016, a TED Talk-like event that featured seven speakers and drew more than 220 seniors seeking the tools to succeed after graduation.

Keynote speaker Megan Fate Marshman '09, director of student ministry resources, kicked off the event with the topic of *Purpose*, establishing a firm foundation for students regarding their identity in Christ. By reminding students that they are not defined by any job or other worldly measurement of success, she set the tone for the other speakers, who presented complementary advice and practical tools for attendees. Ed Barron, M.A. '12, Ed.D., chair and assistant professor in the Department of Leadership and Organizational Psychology, spoke about *You*. He urged students to let go and walk through life with an open grip, ready to encounter God; to step back and reflect on their lives, so they can see what God is doing; and to lay hold of the plan God has for their lives. Matt

Browning, M.Ed. '94, Ed.D., associate vice president for internationalization, talked about *Friends*, explaining how different life will be as relationships shift, and how to cope and hope with the change. Wendi (Waldron '94) Dykes, assistant professor in the Department of Leadership and Organizational Psychology, followed with an address about *Jobs*, including how to find the right job, how to keep it, and how to grow in it. Jacqueline (Spelts '02) Roth, executive vice president of Bolton & Company, presented *Money*, and advised students to set a budget, automate their expenses, and save, give, and live. Michael Bruner, Ph.D., assistant professor, School of Theology, spoke about *Home*, describing it as both a point of origin and a destination. Finally, Albert Tate, Board of Trustees

member and senior pastor of Fellowship Monrovia, explored the *Church* as Gospel-centered, multiethnic, and intergenerational, culminating with a call for each student to intentionally build relationships with people who are different from them.

This inaugural event set the tone for a new direction and focus for graduating seniors that provides a plethora of practical resources to empower them and give them every advantage for success. After the conference, attendees were invited to sign up for the NEXT Discussion, a five-week, small-group session that meets once a week with a faculty member to discuss issues relevant to transitioning out of college, including: Taking Care of Yourself, Working the 9 to 5, Developing a Post-college Community, Managing

Money, and Transitioning Well. The initial session enrolled 60 students and engaged them in practical dialogue about what to expect and how to prepare. Kalli Frampton '14, alumni and student coordinator in the Office of Alumni Relations, oversees NEXT and intends to grow the program with more conferences, discussion sessions, and other resources and events that meet the needs of outgoing APU students. "We have received an incredible amount of positive feedback from these first two events," she said. "Students have told us this is exactly what they needed, and that they feel so much more confident as they look ahead to graduation and beyond."

**Disability Awareness Week Debuts**



Photos courtesy of the artist, Mario Ferrante, who developed the "Crushed Impressionism" technique that applies paint to canvas using his wheelchair. His art was displayed on campus.

Establishing a new tradition based on long-held university values, several departments cosponsored Azusa Pacific's inaugural Disability Awareness Week in March 2016. The event highlighted the diversity of disabilities; educated students, faculty, staff, and the broader community about the scope and impact of disabilities in various contexts; and encouraged attendees to explore the *Imago Dei*, the image of God, within themselves and others.

More than 54 million Americans live with disabilities, according to Survey of Income and Program Participation data. At APU, more than 4 percent of the student population receives accommodations. The Learning Enrichment Center (LEC) offers four comprehensive academic support programs for students, including Disability Services, and has come alongside these students with disabilities for 38 years. The numerous resources and services, based on the individual learning needs of each student, include

advocacy, academic and technical support, registration assistance, testing accommodations, assessment referral, liaison with university academic service areas, liaison with community agencies, and more.

Disability Awareness Week further supports APU's resolve to appreciate uniqueness and pursue Christ-like unity. Three primary events focused the community on important issues related to disability. On March 2, Travis Davis '11, coordinator of the Family and Teen Career Resource Center at the YMCA of Central New Mexico, spoke on "Empowering Voices: Disability and the Student Experience" at the student leadership chapel. A faculty/staff luncheon followed as attendees listened to an enlightening presentation by Amos Yong, Ph.D., director of the Center for Missiological Research and professor of theology at Fuller Theological Seminary, who addressed "Disability Perspectives and Liberal Arts Education." On March 4, a panel, Perspectives from

the Inside, moderated by Bill Fiala, Ph.D., associate dean of student life and director of the University Counseling Center, included six panelists: Davis; Suzanna Holden, Ph.D., clinical therapist; Kimberly Wiedefeld, senior director of undergraduate admissions; Aaron Hinojosa, executive director, Student Center for Reconciliation and Diversity; Mary Mercurio, tutoring coordinator, Learning Enrichment Center; and Mario Ferrante, CEO of Joe Ferrante Music Academy.

Attendees walked away with a broader understanding of the diversity within the disability population and gained a new perspective on less-apparent issues, such as diverse learners, parents of children with disabilities, and others who do not fit traditional categories. The event generated valuable dialogue about how the APU community can reframe its consideration of this population and intentionally view one another through a lens that more closely reflects the Kingdom of God.



**Reading Recommendations from David D. Esselstrom**

David D. Esselstrom, Ph.D., is professor and chair of the Department of English.

***The Wounded Healer: Ministry in Contemporary Society***

by Henri J. M. Nouwen (Doubleday Image Book, 1979)

***Zorba the Greek*** by Nikos Kazantzakis (Simon & Schuster, 2014)

***The Sun Also Rises*** by Ernest Hemingway (Scribner, 2006)

***An Actor Prepares*** by Constantin Stanislavski (Routledge, 1989)

***Hamlet*** by William Shakespeare (Simon & Schuster, 1992)

Section sponsored by the University Libraries and compiled by Liz Leahy, MLS, M.A.T., professor of theological bibliography and research and special assistant to the dean of University Libraries. lleahy@apu.edu

## Archeological Teams Uncover Biblical City



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROBERT A. MULLINS, PH.D.

Abel Beth Maacah, an archeological site in northern Israel near the Lebanese border, holds significant historic, geographic, and biblical significance. Robert A. Mullins, Ph.D., Azusa Pacific professor in the Department of Biblical and Religious Studies, in partnership with Nava Panitz-Cohen, Ph.D., of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, began excavating the mound in 2013 along with students from their respective institutions and volunteers from around the world. The first two years produced remains from the Iron I, Late Bronze, and Middle Bronze ages, including a hoard of silver pieces found in a small jug. The latest find, however, has revealed a major administrative complex dating back to the time of Samuel and Saul.

This section of the site, termed the “lower city,” includes an altar in the main entrance, as well as evidence of bronze and iron metalworking activity in an adjacent hallway. In the “upper city,” the teams discovered a major building that appears to date to the reign of Tiglath-Pileser III, the Assyrian king who conquered Abel Beth Maacah when he invaded the northern kingdom of Israel in 733 BC as recounted in 2 Kings 15:29.

The Bible also references Abel Beth Maacah in the time of Joshua (Joshua 13:13) and David (1 Chronicles 19:6-7) as an Aramean city that David later conquered and incorporated into Israel. According to 1 Samuel 13:19-21, the Philistines had a monopoly over iron production in order to keep it away from the Israelites. If this site is indeed Aramean, the presence of iron suggests that the Arameans also had access to this valuable metal, which was stronger than bronze and therefore better for weapons.

As Mullins, Panitz-Cohen, and their teams revisit the region to explore the site this summer, they continue to add fresh insight into ancient civilizations and contribute valuable data to the collective body of biblical and historical knowledge. The APU student contingent will welcome the assistance and collaboration of peers from Cornell University, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Indiana Wesleyan University, and the University of Arizona.

For more information on the excavation, visit [abel-beth-maacah.org](http://abel-beth-maacah.org).

### APU Hosts National Nursing Theory Conference

Facilitating groundbreaking dialogue guided by seven of the field’s most influential leaders, Azusa Pacific hosted the national Nursing Theory Conference in Monrovia, California, April 15-16, 2016. Themed “Advancing Disciplinary Knowledge to Inform, Transform, and Reform Healthcare through Practice, Education, and Research,” the event gathered more than 250 attendees, including researchers, educators, and practitioners from APU and throughout the country.

Dorothy Jones, Ed.D., RNC, ANP, FAAN, professor of adult health at the William F. Connell School of Nursing at Boston College, senior nurse scientist at Massachusetts General Hospital, and chair of Nursing Theory Guided-Practice Expert Panel of the American Academy of Nursing, delivered the opening keynote address, “Advancing Disciplinary Knowledge: Now, More Than Ever.” Plenary and breakout sessions followed, presented by: Eileen Gigliotti, Ph.D., RN, City University of New York; Callista Roy, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, professor and nurse theorist, Boston College Connell School of Nursing; Afaf Meleis, Ph.D., Dr.PS (hon), FAAN, University of Pennsylvania; Christina Sieloff, Ph.D., RN, Montana State University; Jean Watson, Ph.D., RN, AHN-BC, FAAN, University of Colorado; and Susan Taylor, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, Sinclair School of Nursing, University of Missouri.

This conference gathered the pioneers of nursing theory for the first time on the West Coast in more than 20 years, due in large part to the efforts of APU’s Vivien Dee, Ph.D., RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, who also organized the conference at the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1990. This year, APU—ranked as 1 of the 10 Best Colleges for Nursing by *USA Today* in January 2016—provided the ideal venue for discourse and collaboration with these nursing legends.

The event enabled educators, practitioners, and researchers to

network with one another, promoted synergy among these various areas, and invited discussion about how theoretical thinking strengthens the impact of nursing’s disciplinary knowledge on health policy. Roy’s closing keynote addressed “Voice of the Discipline to Lead Healthcare of the Future,” inspiring attendees to make positive changes to the systems and institutions within their spheres of influence to transform nursing practice.

### APU Chaplain Earns National Award



Honoring the longtime service of Rev. Kevin Mannoia, Ph.D., and his faithful call to ministry, the Wesleyan Theological Society

(WTS) presented the Azusa Pacific faculty/staff and graduate and adult student chaplain with the Pastor-Preacher-Scholar Award on March 11, 2016, during its annual meeting in San Diego. The society recognized Mannoia for his pastoral leadership, his influence on higher education institutions in establishing a culture of Christ-centered scholarship, and his commitment to excellence in Wesleyan-Holiness ministry.

Ordained in the Free Methodist Church, founder and chair of the Wesleyan Holiness Consortium, and a board member of America’s Christian Credit Union, Mannoia models the essence of WTS, which comprises Wesleyan-Holiness theologians and scholars who encourage the exchange of ideas and stimulate scholarship among younger theologians, pastors, and laity. Specifically, the group pointed to Mannoia’s many contributions and service to the Church as a pastor and bishop, his work in the academy as a scholar and chaplain, and his leadership in the Wesleyan Holiness Consortium.

His nationwide reputation stems from several influential roles, such as past posts as dean of APU’s School of

## By the Numbers

**3:** The number of new writing, math, and language placement systems implemented by the Learning Enrichment Center for undergraduate students in fall 2016. The Write Class eliminates two writing development courses and allows for a self-directed approach. In math, the ALEKS system creates broader opportunities for students’ course placement and, in some cases, allows them to meet their quantitative literacy requirement. Finally, the new OPC provides a way for students to demonstrate foreign-language proficiency, including an optional self-assessment. This new approach creates more pathways for students to place into the most appropriate college courses.

**24:** Azusa Pacific University’s rank among the top 284 service-oriented schools. *Bestvalueschools.com* investigated the nation’s best colleges and universities for those seeking careers in community service or the nonprofit sector, and ranked the institutions based on their 30-year return on investment. The organization specifically recognized APU’s service staff, courses, financial aid support, community service participation and hours, and ROTC participation among students and alumni.

Theology and president of the National Association of Evangelicals. He has also authored numerous books, including *Masterful Living: New Vocabulary for the Holy Life* (Metaformation, Inc., and WHC Publications, 2011), *Fifteen Characteristics of Effective Pastors: How to Strengthen Your Inner Core and Ministry Impact* (Regal Books, 2007), *Church 2K Leading Forward* (Precedent Press, 2006), *The Integrity Factor: A Journey in Leadership Formation* (Regent College Publishing, 1996), and *Church Planting: The Next Generation* (Clements Publishing, 1994).

As APU’s chaplain, Mannoia also oversees the APU care ministry to graduate and adult professional students, SoulQuest, which he founded in 2004. In multiple capacities and through various innovative ways, Mannoia has dedicated his life to helping others discover God’s love through a personal encounter with Christ. “I consider this honor a blessing and an affirmation of God’s call in my ministry,” said Mannoia. “I am so grateful to be part of an academic circle of the Church that values the role of bringing theology into practical ministry.”

### National Conference Advances Women in Leadership

In observation of national Women’s History Month last March, the field of higher education focused its efforts on advocating more women in senior-level leadership roles. Specifically, the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCCU) and Pepperdine University’s Center for Women in Leadership announced their partnership for the inaugural conference, “Women in Leadership in Higher Education,” held March 7, 2016, in Malibu, California.

The event drew attendees from throughout the country, including 50 from APU, and presented the diverse and compelling stories of female leaders while highlighting the critical need to advance women into more positions of influence in America’s colleges and universities. Keynote speakers included Shirley Hoogstra, JD, the CCCU’s first female president; Sally Helgesen, internationally acclaimed writer, speaker, consultant, and coauthor of *The Female Vision: Women’s Real Power at Work* (Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 2010);

*continued on page 10*

**100:** The number of concerts performed each year by Richmond Symphony, which selected HyoJoo Uh, APU Artist Certificate student in the School of Music, as assistant principal viola. This allows Uh the unique opportunity to move directly from education to participating in a full-time professional orchestra.

**150:** The number of junior high and high school students who made a first-time decision for Christ, along with 400 who recommitted their lives, at the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Night of Champions on March 19, 2016. Hosted by APU, In-N-Out, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the beloved event drew 3,000 young students to campus for an afternoon of fun and an evening of worship.

**12:** The number of teams that competed in the Special Olympics Basketball Tournament hosted by Azusa Pacific for the third consecutive year on April 23, 2016. More than 200 adult athletes participated in the Los Angeles/San Gabriel Valley regional tournament supported by 125 APU volunteers, who served as scorekeepers, escorts, first-aid administrators, hospitality representatives, and fans in the stands.

## One APU Life for Everyone

Many families consider attending Azusa Pacific University a legacy. Multiple generations call APU their alma mater, and often siblings attend simultaneously. While these family connections strengthen the fabric of the institution and contribute to the rich traditions of the university, those with several alumni in one household know that it can also mean receiving duplicate issues of *APU Life* magazine.

In order to reduce waste and serve as better stewards of university resources, the staff at *APU Life* will move to a “one issue per household” policy, beginning fall 2016.

If you are receiving multiple issues of the magazine, please look at how each is addressed. Is there a slight variation? If so, please update your record to eliminate the duplication. If the addresses are identical, but the recipients differ, determine if you need to provide a current address for a party who has moved or if you prefer to receive a single issue addressed to “Alumni and Friends of Azusa Pacific University.” If the way you are referenced is not preferred or correct, please provide your updated information. All changes may be emailed to [development@apu.edu](mailto:development@apu.edu), or visit [apu.edu/apulife/contact](http://apu.edu/apulife/contact) to submit the change online.

Thank you for faithfully reading *APU Life*, a publication for all family and friends of Azusa Pacific, for encouraging the staff with your positive feedback and support, and for helping to streamline the mailing list.

## APU Student Named 2016 Miss Rodeo USA



PHOTO COURTESY OF HARMONY LATHAM '17

Combining her love for horses, sports, and beauty pageants, Harmony Latham '17 earned the 2016 Miss Rodeo USA crown. She secured the title at the pageant's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary held in Oklahoma City in January 2016. The event involved a rigorous competition process, including speeches, interviews, modeling shows, a written examination on equine science, and two rounds of horsemanship conducted in front of a panel of judges. As Miss Rodeo USA, Latham will travel more than 100,000 miles this year, representing the International Professional Rodeo Association at rodeos and charity events across the nation. She will also share her literacy platform, Royalty Reading, with thousands of schoolchildren.

Latham's journey began at an early age. She competed in every sport available in her small hometown of

Wrightwood, California, where she even played as an offensive lineman—the only female on her eighth-grade football team—and earned all-conference honors. When she was not riding horses or playing sports, Latham traded in her muddy boots and football pads for high heels and fancy dresses. Sixteen years of pageants, with many titles and crowns along the way, prepared her for the Miss Rodeo USA competition.

Yet, Latham points to another training ground that ultimately helped shape and ready her for success—APU. She has served as an Alpha leader and a student worker in athletics, and helped launch the first year of Zuventurez, the university's startup business plan competition for APU students. Latham hopes to use those experiences and the Miss Rodeo USA platform to inspire others to celebrate their strengths and follow their dreams.

*continued from page 9*

Pamela Eibeck, Ph.D., University of the Pacific president; and Karen Longman, Ph.D., professor and Ph.D. program director in APU's Department of Higher Education. Longman, a longtime proponent and pioneer of women in leadership in higher education and a major advocate for reform in the area of gender biases in leadership, is coediting an eight-volume series of books sponsored by the International Leadership Association titled *Women and Leadership: Research, Theory, and Practice* (Information Age Publishing). Gail (Vaughn '79) Wallace, M.A. '96, Ph.D., adjunct professor in the School of Nursing, and Kate Wallace ('10) Nunneley also presented a breakout session titled "Women and Work: Theological and Generational Perspectives."

The sold-out conference hosted 230 attendees eager to address sobering national statistics cited in a 2016 American Council on Education report: women make up roughly 47 percent of the workforce, but less than 3 percent of CEOs in the U.S. are female, and only 27 percent of higher education presidents are female. Through this event, participants sought to raise awareness of this disparity and prepare women of all ages and at all stages in their career for professional advancement, influence, and impact. The fact that approximately 60 percent of students across the CCCU campuses are female adds to the importance of providing senior-level role models for all students.

This conference launched the first in a series of annual March events co-sponsored by the CCCU and hosted by member institutions designed to recognize national Women's History Month and increase visibility across Christian higher education for the contributions of women in leadership and the urgency of advancing more women into leadership.

### Faculty and Students Explore Original Biblical Artifacts

Face to face with the rare texts they had been studying and the artifacts they had only read about, Azusa Pacific students gained an extraordinary scholarly opportunity when they explored the *Passages* exhibit on March 19. David Weeks, Ph.D., dean of the Honors College, teamed with Robert R. Duke, Ph.D., interim dean of the School of Theology and professor in the Department of Biblical and Religious Studies, to immerse students in the rich context of biblical history at this groundbreaking event, knowing that the firsthand experience would add depth and meaning to the young scholars' education. Nearly 40 Honors College students and 15 from the School of Theology's Center for Vocational Ministry made the trip to Santa Clarita to witness the Museum of the Bible's traveling exhibit during its Southern California appearance.

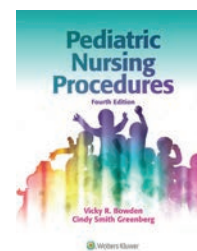
Spanning 30,000 square feet and containing more than 400 priceless artifacts, the exhibit featured treasures from Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox faiths, chronicling the history of the Bible from its transmission and translation to its impact and controversies. Within these four sections, individual rooms designed to engage visitors in an authentic visual experience offered a unique glimpse into ancient eras. From a walk through the caves of Qumran where a shepherd boy stumbled upon the Dead Sea Scrolls, to "Gutenberg's Press Shop" where visitors encountered a working replica of the original printing press, to the simulated surface of the moon and the actual microfiche Bible that traveled on the Apollo 14 mission, participants found themselves transported into other worlds and times.

For APU students, the day started with a brief lecture by Duke about the connection between APU and the Museum of the Bible, which began in 2012 when Duke began working with the Scholars Initiative. Steve Green, founder of the Museum of the Bible and president of Hobby Lobby, established

one of the world's largest collections of biblical artifacts, and envisioned a place dedicated to a scholarly and engaging presentation of the Bible's impact, history, and narrative. As those plans come to fruition in the form of a permanent 430,000-square-foot nonprofit museum in Washington, DC, slated to open in November 2017, *Passages* uses the artifacts to invite people to engage with the Bible.

Duke, the western region director of the Museum of the Bible Scholars Initiative and distinguished scholar of Hebrew texts, touted the opportunity as an invaluable experience for these students, as it exposed them to primary sources of research and provided an amazing connection between history, literature, theology, and the humanities.

### Scholarship at Work



**Pediatric Nursing Procedures, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.** (Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2016) by *Vicky R. Bowden, DNSc, RN, vice provost for undergraduate programs, and professor, School of Nursing; and Cindy Smith Greenberg, DNSc, RN, CPNP*

This newly updated resource encompasses the vital principles, interventions, and strategies of family-centered pediatric care. Emphasizing interdisciplinary teamwork, it offers clear direction on more than 120 pediatric procedures, all based on current research and international best practices. All procedures address community-care settings with a focus on school and home-nursing issues. This volume serves as an ideal clinical guidebook for nurses delivering care to children in any health care setting, and a vital text for all nursing students. The step-by-step guide covers a broad range of pediatric procedures, including current clinical evidence, best practices, and nursing standards, and new chapters on pediatric health assessment, intravascular therapy peripheral lock and flush, and palliative care.



**The Sabbath Experiment: Spiritual Formation for Living in a Non-Stop World** (Cascade Books, 2015) by *Rob Muthiah, Ph.D., professor, Department of Ministry; director of mentored ministry, Azusa Pacific Seminary*

Written for busy Christians trying to navigate the demands of a fast-paced culture, this book offers a resource for those who long for something more—or something less—by presenting the ancient practice of the Sabbath. It explores whether a spirituality rooted in Sabbath is realistic in modern society and offers insight through stories, Scripture, and theological reflection. Muthiah reveals how the Sabbath is about more than rest, celebration, and relationships. He shows how the Sabbath leads believers to resist the temptation of consumerism, reduce the allure of excess technology, and pursue God's justice on behalf of all people.

## Recent Grants Advance Research and Scholarship

### \$599,614

From Lilly Endowment, Inc., to Chris Adams, Ph.D., executive director, Center for Vocational Ministry, and associate professor, Azusa Pacific Seminary, for supporting the Youth Leadership Initiative (YLI) project at APU. The program seeks to identify theologically minded young people in local communities and come alongside them as they deepen their faith and chart a path toward becoming leaders in the Church and society at large. YLI is an integral part of the Center for Vocational Ministry (CVM), APU's comprehensive resource for those called to a life of service. CVM cultivates resilience in ministry leaders through formational resources, including coaching (vocational discernment, health, and leadership), consulting, community (clergy peer groups), and continuing education. The center serves prospective leaders at various stages, including high school, college, and seminary students as well as seasoned pastors, missionaries, and parachurch leaders seeking to increase the knowledge and skills that will equip them for a vocation in ministry. Specifically, CVM assists those sensing God's call by linking them with pastor-mentors and helping them better understand and communicate their unique story to help develop them into effective leaders prepared to impact communities as they have been called and gifted to do.

### \$20,000

From the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare to Aja Tulleners Lesh, Ph.D., RN, dean and professor, School of Nursing, funding scholarships for one Ph.D. Jonas Nurse Leader Scholar and one DNP Jonas Nurse Leader Scholar.

### \$9,500

From Pomona College under the auspices of the American Council of Learned Societies, the Arnold L. and Lois S. Graves Award in the Humanities to Veronica Gutierrez, Ph.D., associate professor of Latin America history, Department of History and Political Science, to further her research on "A Quetzal Feather for St. Gregory: Understanding Religious Feather Art in Colonial Mexico via the Bird Specimens in Occidental College's Moore Lab of Zoology" to develop a new specialty course exploring the pre-Hispanic tradition of amantecayotl to better understand its appropriation during the colonial period in Mexico.

### \$8,000

From the California Space Grant Consortium to Theodore Szeto, Ph.D., associate dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and associate professor, Department of Mathematics and Physics, for the 2016 Aerospace Workforce Development Program. The program provides seed support for training students for aerospace and high-technology careers and to positively impact the aerospace workforce pipeline.

### \$178,906

From the Education Bureau of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the People's Republic of China, to Mary Shepard Wong, Ph.D., director, field-based TESOL programs, and professor, Department of Global Studies, Sociology, and TESOL, and Chong Ho Yu, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Psychology, for evaluating the Enhanced Native-speaking English Teacher Scheme in Secondary Schools.

# Sawubona.

*I see you.*

Faculty, staff, and students often ask what I mean when I say the word *DIVERSITY*. While the question seems straightforward, what they really want to know is: Who is included in diversity, and who is not? Does APU take a liberal or conservative approach to diversity? Is there space for people like me at the table? To begin to paint the picture of diversity within the APU mosaic, I often refer to aspects of our diversity statement in our *What We Believe* booklet. It explains that diversity encompasses more than race, and includes gender, class, disability, and more. Given this context, the key questions encompass a bigger picture: Do we all really matter? And if so, how do we make diversity a more integral and transformative part of our lives—in our country, in our neighborhoods, and at Azusa Pacific University?

## Inclusive Excellence: Integrated and Intentional Diversity

by KIMBERLY B. W. DENU

### COMMUNITY

I believe one of our most basic human needs is to belong. From birth to adolescence, from young adulthood until our final years, we all seek to belong. Community matters. During my time in South Africa as a Fulbright scholar, I became familiar with the Zulu greeting, *sawubona*. Although similar to “hello,” the actual translation is, “I see you!” I love this greeting because the meaning goes beyond seeing the physical person. It actually means I see your value and worth. When I think of an important aspect of diversity at APU, I think of a community in which we see people—their value and worth.

### COMPREHENSIVE CULTURAL COMPETENCE

For diversity to be effective, it must be intentional and comprehensive. To capture this idea, last fall we started using a broader term to highlight diversity—*inclusive excellence*. The term comes from the Association of American Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) and proposes four important things. First, “diversity is a *fact*, not just an end goal,” as Frances Wu, Ph.D., assistant professor in APU’s M.A. in Leadership program, often says. In an increasingly diverse society, especially in places like California, we must address diverse populations as a reality and provide resources to support the changing needs of our population. Second, academic excellence occurs when institutions remain mindful of all their students and work hard to close gaps that indicate certain segments of students thrive while others do not. This means paying attention to graduation rates across gender, race, and class. Disaggregated data often reveal disparate experiences and outcomes for different groups of students. Inclusive excellence says we cannot achieve true excellence until we support the excellence of all our students. Third, diversity efforts on college campuses require a systematic integration of diversity into

practices, policies, and programming. Every area of Azusa Pacific should reflect God-honoring diversity, including the mission, institutional values, strategic plans, hiring practices, curricula, and the classroom. Simply put, diversity does not happen accidentally. It must be an intentional, comprehensive, and central component of our efforts, not just an addendum. Finally, cultural competence coupled with cultural humility should be an expected outcome for every graduate when he or she crosses the stage at commencement and engages a pluralistic society that often looks, acts, and thinks very differently. Understanding such societal complexities can provide our alumni with an advantage when it comes to finding jobs. The AAC&U recently reported that “96 percent of employers agree that all college students should have experiences that teach them how to solve problems with people whose views are different from their own,” affirming that cultural competence equips students with a clear professional advantage.



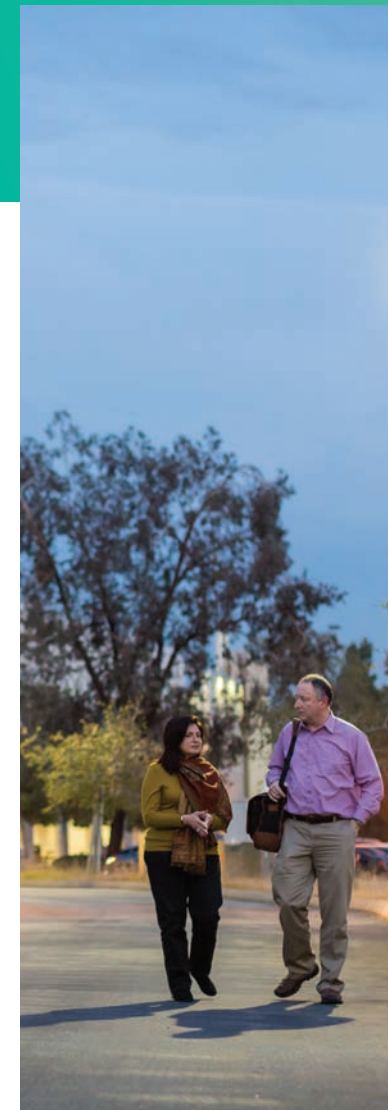
### CHRIST

For Christians, diversity *must* represent more than a cultural reality or a personal or professional benefit. In fact, I consider it a spiritual mandate. What is the spiritual importance of diversity? Scripture tells us we cannot say we love God if we hate our brothers and sisters. So ultimately, anything that separates us from loving each other, including “isms” (e.g., racism, sexism, classism), ultimately separates us from God. Philosopher and writer Nicholas Wolterstorff uses the concept of *shalom* to describe the ultimate goal: right/reconciled relationship with God, with each other, and with self. I believe it is important for Christians to embrace this part of inclusive excellence and to strive to live this out daily.

### COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Inclusive excellence is not the work of any one person, but rather a team. We deliver educational trainings, impactful programming, and strategic planning in the area of diversity. We accomplish this work through two primary diversity centers that provide diversity programming and training to the entire campus. The Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusive Excellence offers diversity service and training opportunities for faculty and staff, and the Student Center for Reconciliation and Diversity provides programming and support primarily for undergraduate students. Together, we launched our first comprehensive diversity campus climate study; initiated a holistic diversity plan that looks at APU’s programming, policies, and practices; and developed a number of educational training initiatives for faculty, staff, students, and administration. Are we where we want to be? No. But together, we are hopeful about where we are going. *Sawubona*.

Kimberly B. W. Denu, Ph.D. is vice president, chief diversity officer at Azusa Pacific University. kbwdenu@apu.edu



PHOTOS BY EVOKEPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

# ON LIVING AND AGING:

## The Voices of the Oldest Old by Julie Puztai

Hardly a day passed when I did not talk to someone growing old or someone with an aging parent, spouse, family member, or friend. This includes my own father, a member of that growing population age 85 and older—the oldest old. I wondered how they lived with all the changes and was eager to understand. Phenomenology, my doctoral research approach, provided a way to listen to them—to examine this most ordinary, yet extraordinary, experience of growing very, very old with its losses and gains, sadness and happiness, satisfaction and disappointment, and sense of meaning and purpose.

Phenomenology investigates the actual lived experience of a phenomenon by describing and interpreting narrative data. Thirteen people from 87 to 100 years old who represented diverse backgrounds, ethnicities, and genders participated in my study. They shared their stories with me during three separate interviews that focused on their life history, typical day, and experiences of aging. Each



approached these late years influenced by the unique context of their past, present, and envisioned future. All had their own tale to tell, and all shared with honesty.

Most people recognize the physical changes that occur as a result of living a very long life. When the body reaches oldest-old age, it speaks loudly. Caregivers must listen attentively to gauge the impact this has on the individual's life and the person's resulting daily challenges. Practical matters need attention and falls must be prevented. Slowness and fatigue persist, and living with pain may become the new normal. Losses of vision, hearing, and memory, even the ability to walk without assistance, usually lead to surrendering drivers' licenses and the dreaded decrease of independence and increase of dependence. While all of these limitations produced significant, personal meaning, it was through listening and relisting to the narratives of these 13 people that I began discerning the hard work and intentionality used to prevent these challenges and changes from determining their attitudes. They walk on a tightrope, gripping their balance pole to remain hopeful and positive.

One factor that helps them maintain that balance is staying connected, largely through family. The narrators explained that they gained great satisfaction from strengthening family ties, discovering

the trustworthiness of children, and feeling celebrated and important to others. And while most identified aspects of a satisfying life, some could not. A few respondents stated: "I can't think of anything positive." Such bleakness and discouragement signal a red flag to caregivers and loved ones to respond with support and encouragement.

Those who exhibited prevailing positivity, however, revealed a common pattern. Over the course of their very long, and at times difficult, lives, these oldest-old people developed vibrant habits of the heart and mind that inspired them to focus on the good and live with gratitude. One comment still rings in my ears: "What does it profit?" Without exception, these wise elders recognized that no good comes from dwelling on the challenges and changes that confronted them.

**Over the course of their very long, and at times difficult, lives, these oldest-old people developed vibrant habits of the heart and mind that inspired them to focus on the good and live with gratitude.**

### Lessons for Longevity:

1. Stay physically active.
2. Maintain a social network and involvement in clubs or organizations.
3. Nurture ties to friends and family, those who know and care about you.
4. Pursue spiritual growth. Focus on thoughts and activities that inspire you.
5. Anticipate, plan for, and talk with family about alternatives when driving is no longer safe.
6. Recognize the reality of interdependence, and allow family to offer support and assistance.
7. Be known. Talk with family and friends about the changes and challenges of aging.
8. Like mom always said, "Eat your fruits and vegetables."
9. Use a cane or a walker to get around. Don't just sit. Don't back up. Turn around slowly.
10. Keep an active mind. Do puzzles, learn new things, take a class.
11. Keep a gratitude list—write down things for which you are thankful.



Instead, "I like thinking of good things," "I just go with the flow," and "I choose to be positive" became lifelong practices. They consider themselves survivors, and they have a discipline that leads them to hope and positivity. As an 88-year-old woman expressed, "It's a thing of learning . . . learning a new way of being and doing." The themes of "I can" and "I cannot" in the aging experience take on deep and rich meaning when employed to understand the losses at that stage of life. This resulted in corresponding changes in the "I am's" and "I am not's" and the relinquishment of long-held notions of identity. In the face of this, we can recognize and support the resilience in these survivors and affirm new ways of being.

Very old age reminds us all of our mortality. These people in their ninth and tenth decades took advantage of today, knowing tomorrow cannot be taken for granted. This boundary speaks to them about what is meaningful, what matters, and where to channel their energy. Living in positive relationships provides the love, care, and source of purpose and meaning for being in the world. They serve as reminders of meaning that can get lost when one is weary, the days are long, and the walk on the tightrope seems especially arduous. Helping our aging loved ones work through losses and find purpose constitutes a foundation of support. While spending time with the oldest old, I had the pleasure to learn that on most days, they balance on that tightrope; they taught me the importance of not yoking our most senior seniors with the burden of aging "successfully." Instead, we need to know such elders well, understand what aging means to them, and hold them close, knowing that we will most likely inherit their place and seek to do so with the same measure of grace and dignity we can learn from them.

*Julie Puztai, Ph.D., RN, is director of the Azusa Neighborhood Wellness Center and an assistant professor in the School of Nursing. jpuztai@apu.edu*



# On Living and Aging: THERAPEUTIC TOUCH

by D. Lynn Woods



**By 2050**, those over 65 years old will comprise about 17 percent of the world's population. In the United States, someone turns 65 every 9 seconds, and this will continue for the next 19 years. In fact, people over the age of 85 represent the fastest-growing segment of the population. Along with these statistics come corresponding concerns specific to older adults such as dementia, specifically Alzheimer's disease (AD), the most common form of dementia. Alzheimer's disease causes problems with memory, thinking, and behavior. Symptoms include restlessness, agitation, wandering and getting lost, and inappropriate and aggressive behaviors that embarrass the person and the family members.

As a nurse clinician during the mid-1980s working in a short-term assessment and treatment (STAT) center for older adults in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, I encountered many AD patients with behavioral symptoms and began to wonder what could be done for them. Drugs often prove ineffective and have numerous deleterious side effects. I recalled a technique I had learned called therapeutic touch (TT), developed by Delores Krieger, Ph.D., RN, a professor at New York University, in collaboration with Dora Kunz, a renowned natural healer in the 1970s. Derived from the laying on of hands, therapeutic touch offers a holistic, evidence-based therapy that incorporates the intentional and compassionate use of touch to promote balance and well-being, using the hands as a focus to facilitate the process.

I wondered if TT might help alleviate behavioral symptoms and produce a calming effect on a person with AD. I applied this technique at the STAT center and found that after just one treatment, my AD patients' agitated behavior decreased and they became calmer. Since this was an outpatient facility, patients returned to their homes in the evening, frequently a residential facility. A staff member at one of the facilities phoned and asked what I had done for the AD resident. For the first time in a long while, she was smiling appropriately and using her fork by herself. I decided to research this phenomenon further.

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**Derived from the laying on of hands, therapeutic touch offers a holistic, evidence-based therapy that incorporates the intentional and compassionate use of touch to promote balance and well-being, using the hands as a focus to facilitate the process.**

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I applied to the University of Washington to complete graduate work and a study on the effects of therapeutic touch on agitated behavior in those with AD. A three-group experimental study—using TT, simple touch, and usual care—showed a significant decrease in agitated behavior as a result of therapeutic touch. After obtaining my doctorate, I completed postdoctoral studies at the Center for Aging at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

and continued my exploration of therapeutic touch as a treatment for behavioral symptoms for those with AD, in addition to examining the relationship of this treatment to stress hormones, stress reduction, and calming. Academic accomplishment and scientific satisfaction aside, the personal connection moved me deeply. When I treated people, I stood behind them to apply the technique, and frequently after a treatment, the patients would pull my arms around



them for a hug. One woman with severe dementia smiled up at me and said, "I feel such ease." These experiences were unexpected and powerful.

In 2008, a reporter from the *Boston Globe* asked me to comment on the story of Sol and Rita: "Every day, Sol Rogers asks the aides to make room for him on his wife's bed. He removes his glasses and puts them on the table next to the door. Slowly, he takes off his shoes and swings his 89-year-old frame onto the tiny twin hospital bed. He cuddles up to Rita, his wife of 61 years, wraps his thin leg over hers, and squeezes her shoulder. He presses his face into hers and kisses her. 'I love you, Rita, I love you,' he says. 'Do you love me?' 'Yes,' replies Rita, his 85-year-old bride with advanced AD."

Sol later told me that more people should do this. Let the person know that they are loved. People with AD frequently yearn to be touched. Sol's presence and his physical contact likely decreased stress and anxiety for Rita, improving her quality of life and allowing Sol to continue to communicate with her.

After several experiences, I realized that TT could be taught to family

members and caregivers to alleviate some of AD's distressing symptoms. By using TT, these important people in the AD patient's life felt connection when other forms of communication proved ineffectual. My current study examines the effect of therapeutic touch on oxytocin, a "bonding" hormone, and on the mutuality between the direct care staff in a residential facility and residents with AD.

Meanwhile, I encourage loved ones and caregivers of those with AD to explore the benefits of therapeutic touch.

*D. Lynn Woods, Ph.D., is associate professor in the School of Nursing. Woods' research, outlined in several academic publications and articles, is taught and used internationally (Australia, Canada, Japan, Norway) by professional nurses and the families of those with AD to alleviate behavioral symptoms. dwoods@apu.edu*



# Community Business

by Cynndie Hoff  
Illustration by Carol Arevalo '17

Collaboration

Every big business started small. Mark Zuckerberg created Facebook in his dorm room. Apple began as a fledgling idea in Steve Jobs' garage. And while some companies eventually expand into megacorporations, according to the 2010 census, 99.7 percent retain their small-business status and serve as the mainstay of the American economy. Small businesses create jobs (almost half of the nation's private sector workforce is employed by small businesses), innovate new products (they produced 16 times more patents per employee than larger competing firms, according to the Small Business Administration), and strengthen and bolster the economic vitality of communities across the nation. Tapping into this symbiotic relationship between communities and small businesses, 2 APU professors, 39 undergraduate, and 8 graduate students rallied to support a struggling local business last fall.

Dana Matejka of California Tool and Die (CTD), a family-owned and -operated manufacturer in Azusa, reached out to the School of Business and Management. She asked for help with what she called a "business turnaround project." Stuart Strother, Ph.D., professor in the School of Business and Management, and his undergraduate microeconomics class, and Tom Cairns,

DBA, associate professor and director of graduate programs, and his graduate business class, collaborated with the CTD team.

"The recession and cheap imports from China had hit the company hard," said Strother. "Sales had declined, and the staff downsized. Like all business owners, Dana bore a heavy burden. I asked her to forecast her financials, and she sighed, 'At current trends, we could be out of business in 18 months.'"

Matejka came to the right place, and the right professors. Strother, an expert in economic development, business and economics in China, and statistics, has traveled numerous times to China with more than 400 APU students since 2004, learning about international business and observing Chinese businesses from the inside out. "The program has received more than \$800,000 in external funding, some of that money circulating into the Azusa economy," said Strother.

Cairns, a former senior vice president of human resources for NBC Universal and presidential appointee to the Department of Homeland Security, specializes in talent management, mergers and acquisitions, project management, leadership development, executive coaching, and strategic planning. "This was an ideal opportunity for my students in the project-driven Young Executive Master of Arts in Management program," said Cairns. "Working closely with a small business would lay solid groundwork for upcoming major projects, such as internal consulting for Kaiser Permanente and Target."

An analysis of the operation showed that several areas of the company required updating and streamlining, but also revealed an

important underlying element. "While CTD produces a multitude of various metal products, what it really creates is jobs. To me, CTD represents the American entrepreneurial spirit, and I believe that manufacturing is the backbone of the American economy, which remains, without dispute, the greatest economy in the world," Strother said.

Seizing the opportunity to strengthen this relationship, support the community, and offer invaluable hands-on experience to their students, Strother and Cairns worked with their respective classes to reverse the downward trend at CTD. Cairns' students visited the site twice and explored the business operations from a management perspective that would inform their recommendations to the company. Strother's students formed teams to address a multitude of issues from strategic angles, such as marketing, sales, and accounting. "Working with APU's School of Business and Management team was a great experience," Matejka said. "The students even found some tax breaks for us and developed a product design that has a patent pending. But the most important thing they did was encourage us to take a step back from being *in* the business, so we could focus *on* the business. They got me thinking again about working smarter and building our company. I was so impressed with the students' creativity, positivity, and engagement that I am considering offering an internship in the future. This experience has given us hope."

Taking on this project not only benefitted CTD and the students, it also presented an ideal opportunity for service-learning—a hallmark of APU. "This collaboration allowed



"I was so impressed with the students' creativity, positivity, and engagement that I am considering offering an internship in the future."

—Dana Matejka,  
Small-Business Owner

our students to walk the talk of Azusa Pacific," said Cairns. "Our students experienced what it means to contribute to the community and be good corporate citizens, while showing our neighbors who APU is and living out our *God First* motto."

At a time when more and more consumers rank corporate social responsibility above profitability, Azusa Pacific provides a place where students can support the movement at a grassroots level. "Our students consider this community and its people their neighbors," said Ginny Dadaian, director of community relations and lifetime Azusa and Glendora resident. "Opportunities that connect classroom learning with service form the building blocks of civic engagement. This project tapped into the power of collaboration, creativity, and teamwork, enabling our students to help a small-business owner and explore the intersection of their interests, calling, and career." Learning how to conduct commerce with integrity, partnering with local merchants and manufacturers, and giving back to the community equips APU graduates to envision business as usual differently and shape a new industry ethos that inspires companies to be accountable, transparent, and civic minded.

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FOCUS

INTEGRITY

POSITIVITY

SUPPORT

HARD WORK

PRODUCTIVITY

CREATIVITY

# HUDDLED MASSES

by Jim Willis

Illustration by Gabrielle Rodriguez '17

“Welcome to the new Middle East,” said a native Palestinian engineer, now driving a taxi in Berlin. I had just entered his cab in the German capital upon arriving to cover a major story for newsok.com and *The Oklahoman* newspaper. His greeting may have summed up the feelings, fears, and even hopes of the German people who are hosting up to 1 million refugees—mostly Syrians—who are running for their lives and have come to Germany to find peace. For those displaced by violence and turmoil, Chancellor Angela Merkel is affectionately known as “Mama Merkel.” Like orphans, they have come seeking a forever home in her country.

In the wake of the November 13 terrorist attacks in Paris, Germany’s open-door asylum plan for Syrian refugees sounds compassionate to many, dangerous to others, and insane to still others. Nevertheless, this country’s constitution mandates offering asylum to persons from other lands fleeing life-threatening conditions. As a result, Germany welcomes throngs of refugees that other countries—including the United States—are reluctant to accept at all.

To take in these refugees, Germany receives assistance from thousands of everyday volunteers and relief organizations like Doctors Without Borders, Save the Children, and churches across the country. In so doing, many Germans seem intent on putting into practice the words of poet Emma Lazarus found on America’s Statue of Liberty: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore.”



“Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore.” Emma Lazarus

The fact is that one in three of these refugees are children, many of whom perish making the Mediterranean crossing in rickety boats. Germans seem aligned with Jesus when He said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them” (Matthew 19:14, NIV).

Robin Shulz-Algie, assistant manager of domestic programs at Save the Children Deutschland, underscored the emphasis on the safety of the young. “The biggest challenge at the moment is safeguarding the children,” he said. “That is the major task we take on. The biggest program for Save the Children at the moment is creating child-friendly spaces.”

“We want to try and make sure these children are not retraumatized,” said Diane Nakschbandi, communications officer with Save the Children. “They have already been through so much trauma in their home countries and in their journeys to Germany.”

Many nationals applaud Chancellor Merkel’s efforts. They know she grew

up on the dark side of the Berlin Wall in the former East Germany and that she understands what it is like to fear for her life and the lives of family members.

However, other Germans expressed serious concerns after the Paris attacks that killed more than 100 innocents. German newspaper headlines trumpet the danger of Muslim extremism. On the Sunday following those attacks, the popular *Bild* streamed a one-word headline, all in capital letters. It read simply, KRIEG, the German word for war. And, the next day, the *Allgemeine Zeitung* blacked out much of its front page and simply stated: Paris, 13.11.

Attacks like those that transpired in Paris always resonate strongly in Germany, but one carried more local impact because some of the blasts went off right outside Stade de France, where Germany was playing France in soccer. “Like 1989 (when the Berlin Wall fell), these days are politically very important ones again,” said Karl Renner, Ph.D., professor of journalism at Johannes

Gutenberg University in Mainz. “Now it’s not about the German reunification, but the future of our political culture and the future of Europe. We are witnessing very climactic events.”

Keeping things in perspective, this is a country roughly the land size of Michigan but with eight times its population. The million refugees would amount to just a little more than 1 percent of the country’s 80 million people. According to Pew Foundation research, Germany has a Muslim population of only 5 percent, with projections of 7.1 percent by 2030.

Clearly, the German people are wrestling with a clash of two competing emotions: empathy and fear.

Perhaps the owner of a 500-year-old inn said it best. “Here we are like a social family. We look out for each other,” said Trudel Weiler, who operates a quaint inn in the town of Oberwesel nestled along the Rhine River with her husband, Klaus. “People who live along the Rhine are usually a happy people, and we welcome visitors. But it is troubling when you cannot see the face of a stranger because much of that face is covered.”



For those displaced by violence and turmoil, Chancellor Angela Merkel is affectionately known as “Mama Merkel.” Like orphans, they have come seeking a forever home in her country.



Weiler’s community now includes 50 Muslim refugees, and 50 more are expected soon. Despite their concern—and yes, fear—of terrorists sneaking in with the refugees, the people of Oberwesel try to make the Muslims feel welcome.

The town of Oberwesel can be viewed as a metaphor for countries like Germany and America as they try to balance the often-competing emotions of fear and compassion. It’s a balancing act that individuals must address for themselves.

*Jim Willis, Ph.D., a veteran news reporter and editor, is a communication professor at Azusa Pacific University, author/coauthor of 14 books on the media, frequent overseas lecturer, and special correspondent who has covered the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing and the 10<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the fall of the Berlin Wall. jwillis@apu.edu*



# Building Advantage

by Micah McDaniel

Mark Bohren '93, M.A. '99, director of tennis, is more than a coach—he is an architect. Over the past two decades, he has built, reinforced, and shaped Azusa Pacific men's tennis into a collegiate power.

His 21-year résumé reveals his consistency and expertise—more than 400 wins, an average of 20 wins per season; 19 consecutive national tournament appearances dating back to 1997; 9 conference championships, including 6 straight from 2002-07; 5 consecutive national championship match appearances from 2003-07; and three national championships. Bohren built the program with many different parts, using a mix of local talent as well as some international influence.

One country, however, has proven an undergirding structure in APU's tennis program—Germany. It started with Holger Rudl in 1996, and in the 20 years since, 10 others have come through the German pipeline to Azusa Pacific. "Tennis is an international sport, so it made sense to start looking around the world," said Bohren. "What's important is that we find players who are a good fit for Azusa Pacific. As this process unfolded, I learned German

tennis players are typically great at the sport and even better students. They're highly motivated and quickly adapt to the school."

Jan Meyer '14 exemplifies that ideal match of student to institution. As the first Cougar ever ranked No. 1 in NCAA Division II, he dominated the court, compiling a winning streak against NCAA Division II competition that lasted nearly 24 months until March 2016. In October 2015, he became the

first Cougar to win the ITA/USTA National Small College Championship, claiming the only singles title in NCAA Division II tennis.

The two-time All-American has devoured his opponents with a grind-it-out style, limiting unforced errors, developing points, taking advantage of opportunities, and playing proficiently. "I'm a tall guy, so when people look at me, they expect me to be a big server, but that's not the case," said Meyer. "I just like to be solid, efficient, and use a variety of shots."

Meyer translated that effectiveness to the classroom. Between transferring in a handful of units from his high school work in Germany, traditional semesters, summer work, online classes, and College Level Examination Program exams, Meyer squeezed four years of academic work into two, earning his bachelor's degree after what should have been his sophomore year. "I wouldn't consider myself to be highly intelligent, but I know what I am capable of, and once I learned I could actually finish it in two years, I went for it. I just wanted to use my time as best as possible. It's also how I am on the court. I don't like to waste time. I don't even like to take naps."

Finishing a bachelor's degree in two years is a feat in and of itself. What makes it extraordinary in Meyer's case is that English is his second language—while he came to the States with an understanding of it, he wasn't comfortable speaking or writing it. "Aside from learning a new culture, the biggest struggle has been becoming fluent in English," said Meyer. "But it's also the biggest benefit. That is a huge advantage if I decide to go back to Germany. It will be nice to have that on my résumé."

With a bachelor's degree under his belt and two years of tennis eligibility remaining, Meyer continued his education and kept playing. As he works toward his MBA with an emphasis in finance, he continues rising to the top of the NCAA Division II tennis world. "I've been really blessed

to be in a great tennis program and on some great teams," said Meyer, who helped the Cougars win the NCCAA national championship his freshman year. "I am happy I chose APU. It helped that the tennis program had a lot of Germans before me. It also helped that APU has a long-standing reputation as an excellent school in a desirable location. I heard nothing but good things about the university, and that's been my experience. This community is distinct, and it helped me adapt and get comfortable right from the beginning."

**"I am happy I chose APU. It helped that the tennis program had a lot of Germans before me. It also helped that APU has a long-standing reputation as an excellent school in a desirable location."**

—Jan Meyer

"I've been a part of APU for 25 years, and what I've learned is that students come to APU because of how wonderful this school is, and as a result, they leave as better people," said Bohren. "Jan is no exception. He is gifted. Academically, he's a workhorse. He's highly motivated and has improved each year. He has made our program better, and he's made me a better coach. I've coached a lot of talented players over the years, but he's up there among the best. He can do just about anything he wants to."

*Micah McDaniel '99 is a digital and content marketer living in McKinney, Texas. micah.mcdaniel@gmail.com*

# Cougars

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

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### Pro Cougars: Marquardt Signs New NFL Deal; Vogt and Nieuwenhuis on MLB Rosters

**National Football League:** The New York Jets signed offensive lineman Luke Marquardt '13. Originally signed by the San Francisco 49ers in 2013, Marquardt spent the 2013 season on the 49ers' nonfootball injury list before he was released in May 2014. Marquardt is one of two former Cougars on NFL rosters entering training camp, as Terrell Watson '14 is with the Cleveland Browns.

**Major League Baseball:** Stephen Vogt '07 (Oakland Athletics) and Kirk Nieuwenhuis '09 (Milwaukee Brewers) made Opening Day rosters for their respective clubs, and five other Cougar alumni join them in the professional ranks with assignments to minor league affiliates. Joseph Daris '15 (Atlanta Braves), Zach Hedges '15 (Chicago Cubs), and Josh Staumont '16 (Kansas City Royals) began the year at the Class A advanced level, while Daniel Martin '16 (St. Louis Cardinals) and Adam McCreery '15 (Atlanta Braves) await assignments to Class A short-season clubs.



### Spring Sports Updates

**Acrobatics and Tumbling:** Azusa Pacific posted its second winning season in program history, going 5-4 while advancing to the National Collegiate Acrobatics and Tumbling Association quarterfinals for the sixth consecutive season.

**Men's Basketball:** After claiming the program's second consecutive PacWest regular-season title, Azusa Pacific won its NCAA Division II West Region playoff opener over Seattle Pacific before falling to No. 1 seed and eventual regional champion Western Oregon. For the second straight year, head coach Justin Leslie '00 was voted PacWest Coach of the Year, while sophomore forward Petar Kutlesic '18 earned All-PacWest second-team honors.

**Softball:** Azusa Pacific won 11 straight games to close out the regular season, clinching the program's first PacWest Conference championship in a 40-12 campaign. The Cougars hosted an NCAA Division II regional tournament in APU's first NCAA playoff appearance. Junior second baseman Nicki Sprague '17 was named PacWest Player of the Year for the third straight year, and head coach Carrie Webber was selected PacWest Coach of the Year.

**Baseball:** Azusa Pacific is poised for a top-three PacWest finish, rebounding from a slow start to win 20 of 29 games heading into the final two weeks of the regular season.

**Men's and Women's Tennis:** The Cougar men's team clinched its fifth consecutive 20-win season and made its 20th consecutive national tournament appearance by hosting UC San Diego in the first round of the NCAA Division II championships. In women's tennis, Azusa Pacific finished the season with a 14-8 overall record and ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in Division II.

**Track and Field:** Shakiel Chattoo '19 won the men's heptathlon national title at the NCAA Division II Indoor National Championships, giving Azusa Pacific track and field three consecutive individual national champions in men's combined events. Amber Panapa '16 repeated her fourth-place national finish to earn her third career NCAA Division II All-American honor and lead the women's team at the indoor championships.

The Cougars hosted the PacWest Track and Field Championships, sweeping both men's and women's team titles while producing 18 individual PacWest Conference champions. Cydnie Jones '16 and Panapa were named PacWest Women's Track Athlete of the Meet and PacWest Women's Field Athlete of the Meet, respectively, while decathlete Justin Balczak '16 earned All-PacWest honors in three of the seven events in which he competed to pick up the PacWest Men's Field Athlete of the Meet honor.

**Women's Basketball:** After claiming the program's first Pacific West Conference regular-season championship, the Cougars added the PacWest Tournament title before earning the No. 1 seed in the NCAA Division II West Region Tournament. Kelly Hardeman '16 collected PacWest Player of the Year and West Region Player of the Year honors, along with selections to the Conference Commissioners Association (CCA) Division II All-American second team and Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) All-American honorable mention.

**Women's Water Polo:** Azusa Pacific posted a 10-20 overall regular-season record and went 2-5 in its third season competing in the Golden Coast Conference. Ashley Taylor '18 earned All-GCC second-team honors, and ranked third on the APU team in goals, assists, and steals.

### Upcoming Athletics Events

#### FOOTBALL

September 1 | 7 p.m. | Cougars vs. West Texas A&M | Citrus Stadium

#### MEN'S SOCCER

September 10 | 7 p.m. | Cougars vs. Sonoma State | Cougar Soccer Complex

#### VOLLEYBALL

September 2-3 | Cougars at Concordia Labor Day Invitational | Concordia University, Irvine

#### WOMEN'S SOCCER

September 3 | 7 p.m. | Cougars vs. Chico State | Cougar Soccer Complex

### A Gift from Azusa Pacific University



APU has partnered with RightNow Media to equip alumni with tools that mobilize the Church and help them emulate Christ in their homes, neighborhoods, workplaces, and the world. RightNow Media, a nonprofit ministry, serves as "Netflix for the Church" by offering an online video resource with more than 10,000 Christian-based films, including 1,000 videos for kids.

These resources offer insightful and creative ways for kids, youth, parents, married couples, college students, single adults, and working professionals to live out their faith daily. APU alumni can now access all RightNow Media video content via TV, desktop, laptop, Roku, and iPhone and iPad applications. Additionally, APU alumni may also give the gift of RightNow Media to others through the "Invite Others" tab.

To obtain your free gift, simply register through this link: [rightnow.org/account/invite/apu/](http://rightnow.org/account/invite/apu/).

RightNow Media resources are Christian-based, though some videos may differ from APU's Wesleyan Holiness tradition.

## HOMEWORD | AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

### 10 Ways to Transform Your Marriage

by Jim Burns

Too many couples settle for mediocrity in their marriages, when they would never settle for such in other areas of their lives. A marriage that is a true union of souls—a connection of love, respect, romance, and spiritual oneness—may sound like a fairy tale, but it is possible to build such a relationship with AWE (Affection, Warmth, and Encouragement).

Here are 10 strategies that can transform your marriage:

**1. Adjust your attitude.** You might not be able to change your spouse, but you can change your attitude, and it just may make a world of difference in your marriage.

**2. Show affection and warmth.**

Simple words and actions that demonstrate your love for your spouse can change your spouse's mood and the atmosphere in your home.

**3. Offer encouragement.** It takes nine affirming comments to make up for one critical comment. If you are like most people, you owe your spouse a boatload of encouragement. Watch for opportunities—and then take them—to give your husband or wife an affirming word.

**4. Give sexual intimacy the time and attention it deserves.** Find at least two hours per week to spend on romance and intimacy. And flirt with your spouse—reminding him or her that he or she is still the apple of your eye.

### Save the Date



### Homecoming and Family Weekend

October 27-29, 2016

[apu.edu/homecoming](http://apu.edu/homecoming)

Registration opens August 1.

**5. Be friends with your spouse.**

The basic principles of friendship should also apply to marriage: friends tend to have more patience with each other; they extend grace, forgiveness, and kindness toward one another; and they have fun together.

**6. Schedule (yes, schedule) more fun in your marriage.**

Look for creative date ideas—don't just go out for dinner and a movie. Your willingness to put some thought into enjoyable, out-of-the-ordinary things to do together will speak volumes to your spouse.

**7. Practice "thank therapy."** Sit down today and list at least 20 reasons you are grateful for your spouse.

**8. Accept that not all problems are resolvable.**

Some problems will always be in our lives in one form or another. Compromise and find a workable solution you can both live with.

**9. Nurture spiritual growth.**

Start by praying daily for your spouse and your relationship. Besides attending worship services together, develop a regular time to practice spiritual disciplines such as devotions, Bible study, prayer, and reading.

**10. Review and renew your marriage vows.**

This will move you toward spiritual intimacy. As you read over your vows, you will be surprised to see how often the AWE factor is present in the words, symbols, and the ceremony itself.

*For more information, visit [homeword.com](http://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.*

1970s

**MIKE PALUMBO '75** and his wife, Nancy, direct a team of volunteers planting a new church in Texcoco, Mexico, with United World Mission. Mike and Nancy were married in March 2015 and live in Ecatepec de Morelos, north of Mexico City. Mike has five children with his first wife, Tami, who passed in 2008. Together, they ministered in Latin America, especially Mexico City, for more than 25 years. frazierlea@gmail.com

**1 LOWELL BEERS '79** recently retired from his position as director of information technology projects at Samaritan's Purse and the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. He served for 15 years on the IT staffs of those ministries. Prior to his career in information technology, he worked for five years as a writer and editor at Prison Fellowship Ministries. Lowell and his wife, Cindy, have been married for 34 years and live in Fort Mill, South Carolina. LBeers@comporium.net

1980s

**2 JOSEPH HANDLEY '83** and his wife, Silk, plan to move to Tokyo, Japan, with their son, John, in August 2016. Joe will continue serving as the president of Asian Access, and Silk will teach at the Christian Academy of Japan, where their son will be a junior. They plan to serve the region by helping to create a community of servant leaders, unite the Church, multiply leaders and congregations, and extend the transforming power of the Gospel.

**JENNIFER LEADER '89, M.A. '91**, published a book, *Knowing, Seeing, Being: Jonathan Edwards, Emily Dickinson, Marianne Moore, and the American Typological Tradition* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2016). The book examines Edwards' legacy as depicted through two American poets: Dickinson and Moore. His legacy survived among transcendentalists, and especially among the Reformed and Edwardsean churches. Jennifer explores Edwards' profound impact on the poetry of Dickinson and

Moore, whose works demonstrate their faith as revealed through nature. Jennifer is a professor of English and American language at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, California. She lives in Claremont.

1990s

**CHRIS HALL '94** recently joined Edward Jones as a financial advisor. Another highlight of the year was coaching in the 2016 East West Shrine Game in Tampa. Chris and his wife, Barbara, live with their children, Jenae, 11, and J.T., 9, in Redding, California. work.hall@gmail.com

**3 DAWN (JOHNSON '95) CHMIELEWSKI** joined the senior management team of First Northern Bank as senior vice president/human resources director. Previously, she served as California regional human resources director for Comcast/NBC Universal in Roseville, California, provided human resources support at Boston Scientific, and partnered with corporate organizations at eBay Inc.

**PHILLIP PI '98** is a remote quality assurance (QA) user interface (UI) engineer contractor at Cisco. He lives in La Habra Heights, California. philpi@earthlink.net

2000s

**DENISE WYNN '00** published her first book, *The Prayers of Many: The Story of a Church on Mission* (Armory Press, 2016), which shares the story of a 25-year prayer movement launched by a megachurch in Denver. The stories highlight specific prayers for unreached people groups and the church's missionaries, both long- and short-term, who went to spread the Gospel. Her book shows how prayer was powerful and transformative for an ordinary church that obeyed God's call to reach out to a highly resistant people group. Denise lives in Littleton, Colorado.

**4 JENNY (LEI '01, M.ED '03) ELSEY** began her position as director of intercultural life at George Fox University in Oregon. Previously, Jenny served as assistant director at APU's Center for Student Action. She and her family moved to Newberg, where her husband, **ERIK '99, M.A. '04**, took a position in educational and corporate sales at Lewis Audio and Video. They have two children: Kai, 5, and Rhys, 2. jelsey@georgefox.edu

**5 MARK ANDERSON, M.A. '05, PH.D.**, was honored by the Association of California School Administrators Region XV for his exceptional educational leadership and named Secondary Administrator of the Year. Since 2011, Mark has been the principal of Pasadena Unified School District's Marshall Fundamental Secondary School, which teaches grades 6-12. Previously, he served in the Rowland Unified School District, where he held positions as the district's learning director and as vice principal of Nogales High School. Mark has also served in the Azusa and Covina Valley districts, where he taught language arts for Sierra High School and South Hills High School. In addition, Mark has trained district personnel through the Sacramento County Office of Education in teaching language arts curriculum and intervention at the secondary level.

2010s

**6 EDGAR BARRON, M.A. '12**, received his Doctor of Education in Higher Education from the University of Southern California. He serves as chair and assistant professor in the Department of Leadership and Organizational Psychology at APU. Previously, he served as vice president of Promise Keepers, a nonprofit that encourages Christian men in their call to godliness, for seven years. He and his wife, Lucia Villa-Barron, have three grown children: Daniel Villa, **JESSICA '05**, and **BRITTANY '09, M.S. '11**. Ed and Lucia live in Azusa. ebarron@apu.edu

**7 BERNARD MULIADI, M.A. '14**, is the volunteer associate and worship pastor of Newborn Church in Rowland Heights, California, where he also preaches twice a month. He also preaches occasionally at other churches' Sunday services and retreats. Outside the church, Bernard manages two start-up companies: Smart Tutor and Crescendo Ice Cream. He is the chief financial officer of Smart Tutor, a nonprofit tutoring company that specializes in K-12 students. Smart Tutor's mission is to support children to excel academically both locally and globally, and 10 percent of its proceeds go toward sponsoring children through the charity Compassion International. Crescendo Ice Cream produces liquid nitrogen and exotic tea-infused treats through its catering and pop-up sales. In addition, Crescendo partners with and supports local independent artists, such as Christina Grimmie, third-place winner of *The Voice*, season 6. Bernard also works for Nordstrom Rack, supporting all departments. His passion for the fashion industry is implemented in his design of leather jackets, jogger pants, and simple jewelry under his label, Mr. Bern. Previously, he was an office and operational manager for Topkids, a charitable organization that provides after-school enrichment programs, summer camps, and academic services for students in grades 2-6. Bernard was also the co-founder of Share Impact Productions, an independent production house that helped independent artists in the fields of music, fashion, film, and more. Bernard lives in Pomona. bmuliadi88@yahoo.com

**BETHANY (WEIL '14) PURDY** recently began her position as administrative assistant for Both Hands Foundation. The organization coaches adoptive families across America and helps Christian families fund their adoptions through service projects. Bethany and her husband, Nathan, live in Brentwood, Tennessee. bethany@bothhands.org

**BRANDON WATTIES, PSY.D. '15**, is a clinical psychology postdoctoral resident and captain in the United States Army. He is stationed at San Antonio Military Medical Center, the largest military hospital in the nation. Brandon's specialization is in treating trauma in soldiers who have recently returned from a combat deployment, but he also provides behavioral health treatment to soldiers for psychological disorders, including major depression, adjustment disorders, and family problems, primarily using evidence-based therapeutic techniques. He assists soldiers in their recovery and helps them return to a stable life following traumatic combat events. In addition, he provides guidance to military leaders on how to facilitate their growth and recovery. Brandon's father, **WARREN "CHAPPY" WATTIES, M.DIV. '92**, was a chaplain in the United States Air Force, which greatly influenced his career choice. Brandon and his wife, Leyate, have a daughter, Hannah, born February 7, 2016. The family lives in San Antonio.

JUST MARRIED

**8 HEIDI MARSHALL '03, M.A. '09**, to Jason Leppert on February 27, 2016, in Poway, California.

**9 LAUREN MAYFIELD '11** to **GAVAN WYRICK '11** on December 6, 2015, at the Wedgewood/Glen Ivy Golf Club in Corona, California. The couple met as APU theater arts majors and worked together behind the scenes and on stage. Gavan is the shop foreperson for APU's Department of Theater Arts, and Lauren works for a Web marketing business and is training for a career in voice acting. They live in Pomona.

**MATT WOODS '12** to **HALEY SCOTT '13** on June 13, 2015, in Northern California. Members of the wedding party included **KATIE BURNS '07, ALLIE SCHLAFFER '13, KRISTA DAVIDSON '09, SKYLER KATZ (ATTENDED '08-'13), JOHN THOMPSON '12, and SAM FALK '12**. The couple lives and works in Oakhurst, California, where they are involved with the APU High Sierra community.

**10 JAMES BROOKS '13** to **MEGAN O'BRIEN '13** on October 10, 2015, in Pomona, California. Members of the wedding party included **KATELYN (CLEVINGER '12) ZIMMER, NATALIE (ROOT '13) O'DEA, CRISTINA BROOKS '11, NOAH BRANSON '13, PAUL CORDS '13, MARC MOORE '13, and TOWNSEND "TOWNIE" LOSEY (ATTENDED '09-'14)**. Both work at APU—Megan as an assistant residence director and James as a worship coordinator for the Office of Chapel Programs. They live in Azusa. jbrooks@apu.edu

**11 MARC MOORE '13** to **LIANA BRAKBAND '13** on November 21, 2015, in Upland, California. Members of the wedding party included **JAMES BROOKS '13, KRISTEN SANG '13, LIDIA (MIRANDA '13) TEJEDA, KURT GILBERTSON '13, NICKI VILLA '15, MEGAN HATCH '16, and AARON BRAKBAND '18**. Marc is a pharmacy technician for Costco, while Liana is a teacher for Foothill Christian School in Glendora. The couple lives in Ontario. marconiusmoore@gmail.com

**12 KATIE PENSE '13** to **DREW ROBERTS '13** at Willow Glen United Methodist Church in San Jose, California, on October 17, 2015. Members of the wedding party included **JENNIFER CLINE '12, HEATHER KOCH '13, ALYSSA HETSCHER '13, ALLIE ROBERTS '15, ANDREW CHAVEZ '13, ETHAN LOWE '13, and MICHAEL NUNEZ '13**. Katie works with autistic children, and Drew is a contract writer.

**13 BRADY ANDERSON '14** to **KIARA QUINN '14** on January 30, 2016, in San Diego. Members of the wedding party included **MARISSA QUINN '11, SARAH (BYRNE '14) DIENER, SCOTT KINNEY '14, JAMARCO WASHINGTON '14, BRETT BERKEY '14, and JORDAN KUSCHEL '15**. Brady and Kiara met during their freshman year when they were on brother and sister halls in Smith and Adams. They met at Good Times during Orientation Weekend, were friends for a couple of years, started dating their junior year, and got married three years later. Brady is a project coordinator for Mark Beamish

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COUGAR INTERVIEW—RENNA NIGHTINGALE '14



An actress and prolific blogger, Renna Nightingale '14 inspires people to turn life's unexpected plot twists into catalysts for change and empowerment. Propelled by passion, exuberance, and imagination, she seeks to motivate Millennials to make the most out of life. Plottwistlife.com

**APU LIFE:** What do you hope to accomplish with your blog, Plot Twist?

**NIGHTINGALE:** I want to create a home base for those who dare to live

interesting, powerful stories and help them feel connected. I'm honored that, as a young person, my words, insight, and experiences can impact people of all ages. Each week, I create inspirational and comical MON-day Videos—"mon" means "my" in French, so "Mon-days" should be our days; Wonder Woman Wednesdays, where I feature a blog post from a woman who makes a difference in her community through her passions; Fashion Fridays to inspire plot-twist style; and Sunday Stories to encourage my readers to start their week out strong. A recent favorite is an entry titled "Ten Seconds of Bravery" about facing fear, taking chances, and living outside of your comfort zone. Better an "oops" than a "what if."

**APU LIFE:** What life lessons have you learned from blogging?

**NIGHTINGALE:** We can each create our own opportunities. With acting, I'm extremely dependent on casting directors and project timing. The blogging format enables me to move forward when my imagination strikes with an exciting idea

rather than wait for the phone to ring. My discipline has grown as well. In order for my blog to feel like home to my visitors, I must be consistent. I earn their trust by creating new content when I say I will.

**APU LIFE:** How do you deal with the rejection and disappointment characteristic of an acting career?

**NIGHTINGALE:** Faith has been my saving grace. It's taught me that my value does not come from my performance, but from being created in the image of God. So there's no real risk. Even when I fail—and I do—the stakes are high from an emotional standpoint, but not a personal one. I am loved, and there is a purpose for my life. I believe that failure is imperative for humility. Then, after a good cry and some frozen yogurt, failure sparks action.

**APU LIFE:** How did college prepare you for life as both a writer and actress?

**NIGHTINGALE:** I chose APU over an acting conservatory because I wanted a liberal arts education. How could I possibly effect change through the arts

without being informed about the world? I got involved in leadership opportunities, like Alpha, Service and Leadership Team (SALT), and studying abroad in South Africa. Classes with amazing professors like Bruce Baloian, Rachel Tracie, and Megan Fate Marshman challenged my thinking. After one class with Jennifer Dornbush, I added screenwriting as a minor and, for the first time, considered turning writing into a career. Since then, I've had one film produced, and another is in preproduction. Without that class, I don't think I would have written my book or started my blog.

**APU LIFE:** What's next?

**NIGHTINGALE:** I am thrilled about my recent film that just hit theaters in March 2016, *Hello, My Name Is Doris*, with two-time Oscar winner Sally Field, and Max Greenfield, who stars in the television show *New Girl*. I was lucky enough to be on set for Sally's last shot of the film. As everyone was saying goodbye, she pulled me into a hug and said, "You're going places, kid." I'll always remember that!



BY SCOTT BLEDSOE

## Mentoring: A Journey of Compassion and Kind Curiosity

After class one day, Charity Wabuke, MFT '12, stopped by to ask for my advice. It surprised me to hear that she, one of my most gifted students, felt insecure about her future and her ability to become a successful therapist. Although her fears were not so different from those of other aspiring students in the clinical field—"Will I be able to effectively help clients heal from their emotional pain?"—Charity shared her worries about successfully entering a new profession after working in the business world for more than a decade. "I've always had high expectations of myself and in sales and marketing, where I could achieve my goals through formulating strategies and meeting deadlines," she said. "Yet, it was harder to define success in the world of counseling, where outcomes were less tangible." That conversation marked the first of many deep and meaningful discussions about her qualifications, essential preparation to enter the field, and what goals she should set in order to rise to the top of her profession. Over the years, it turned into a mentoring relationship that continues to this day.

Charity began her traineeship at Emmaus Road Christian Counseling in Covina, and we met monthly to discuss her therapy with college-age students and also the dual demands of practicum and graduate schoolwork. Her clients often suffered from low self-esteem, and I worked with Charity to develop positive interventions in this area. "Regardless of all your technical training," I once told her, "your most powerful intervention is yourself." This opened a door to many spiritual conversations about God and His power to guide Charity in her work. We also discussed my role as a male professor mentoring a female student, which helped bridge the gender differences between us. As I watched her develop into a more confident therapist, I realized that God was working through me, and I cherished the opportunity to witness Charity's progress. At the end of her practicum experience, she thanked me for my compassion and "kind curiosity," which she explained as "gently inquiring me to think on a deeper level. It was helpful in opening new pathways for understanding."

After graduating from APU, Charity acquired an internship position at Phoenix House, a treatment center for emotionally disturbed adolescents and their families. She felt challenged by the broad range of clients with whom she worked, and we often discussed issues of diversity that impacted her counseling relationships. "As a single, college-educated African American woman," she told me, "I sometimes felt

overwhelmed by the differences—race, age, socioeconomic status, and more—between my clients and me." When working with one Hispanic client with a third-grade education and five kids, for example, Charity confided, "I was afraid of not truly understanding her story and the hopelessness she experienced." I encouraged Charity to talk with the client about their cultural differences and any barriers that might hinder therapeutic progress. By doing this, the client felt honored to share her concerns about racial differences, which resulted in a stronger therapeutic bond between the two. "Instead of just seeing therapy solely in terms of client symptoms," she said, "Scott taught me to bring culture into the room in a powerful way." Soon, Charity exhibited more confidence in her ability to work with clients from diverse backgrounds.

During her time at Phoenix House, Charity thought deeply about issues of low self-esteem that impacted many of her clients. Using a card game format, she designed an interactive counseling game to promote client strengths and positive affirmation with creative questions to build self-esteem. She told me that the game was born partly out of her initial insecurities about

applying to graduate school and making a significant career change, and partly out of her goal to incorporate some of the learning experiences that came from our mentoring relationship. "In that way, it was very prevalent to my own journey as a clinician." Her efforts caught the attention of the Guidance Group, a premier source for counseling games and resources, and they eventually agreed to publish her work. The game, titled "Yes I Can . . . Feel Good about Me," is set for worldwide distribution in June.

Meanwhile, Charity serves as a licensed marriage and family therapist, has a private practice in Valencia where she specializes in providing psychotherapy for teens and young adults, and still works at Phoenix House in the quality assurance department. She has turned her previous struggles with self-esteem and diversity into powerful therapeutic tools, resulting in countless client success stories. Our mentorship, which continues through periodic meetings, has stimulated my ability to promote self-confidence and diversity awareness with my own therapy clients; and in my Cultural Diversity class, I am able to teach students important lessons about honoring differences in the therapy environment. As Christ has walked alongside me with compassion and kind curiosity, I've been humbled to share these qualities in my relationship with Charity. I have watched Charity grow into a fine clinician and entrepreneur and am excited to see what God has in store for her.

*T. Scott Bledsoe, Psy.D., is an associate professor in the Department of Graduate Psychology. He teaches in the Psy.D. and M.A. clinical psychology programs and is active in the greater Azusa community, serving as a board member of the Azusa Neighborhood Homework House and on the Azusa Homeless Voucher Task Force Committee. tsbledsoe@apu.edu*

# Full Circle

by Bethany Wagner

**Diana Faatai, Ed.D. '16, remembers sitting in her eighth-grade classroom in Wilmington, California, as her fellow students recounted their weekends. Some went bowling, some saw movies, but Faatai helped her father prepare and cook a pig in the backyard for her church family's traditional Samoan feast.**

"I often felt I lived a double life," said Faatai, the daughter of American Samoan immigrants. She attended school with other children, studying math and literature and playing sports. But at home, she lived immersed in the rich culture of the islands, speaking only the Samoan language, wearing traditional clothing, and following Samoan family dynamics of respect and obedience.

Most important, her parents set an example of a strong work ethic. Her father walked 10 miles every day to work at a car wash, and her mother labored long hours at a factory for less than a dollar an hour while pregnant with Faatai's younger brother. Both held their children to a high standard in their schoolwork and instilled in them a philosophical approach to life summed up in three Samoan words: *tu* (stand), *vaai* (observe), and *faalogo* (listen and obey). "First, we stand up for our beliefs and for others," Faatai said. "Second, we observe needs before they arise, coming up with proactive solutions. Finally, *faalogo* reminds us to listen for God's voice and obey Him." These simple but profound words guided

Faatai through her education and into her career as a teacher and administrator in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Faatai became the first in her family to attend college, studying English and secondary education. "After my first day of student teaching, I knew I had found my calling," she said. "I saw I could make a difference, especially in inspiring underrepresented kids." Years later, Faatai returned as a teacher to her alma mater, Carson Senior High School, where she started a chapter of Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), a program that expands students' writing, critical thinking, teamwork, organization, and reading skills, also focusing on preparing underrepresented students for success in college and beyond.

During the AVID awards ceremony that spring, officials announced the college-bound graduates. "I quietly

counted each name called, noting with tears the number of students who would not have enrolled in a four-year university without the support they received," she said.

After working for 12 years as a teacher, Faatai turned to impact education on a larger scale. Drawn by the school's *God First* focus, she earned her Doctor of Education at Azusa Pacific University. "At APU, my professors supported me through prayer, encouraged me in my transition to administrative work, and truly reflected God's love," she said. With this support behind her, she followed God's calling to Wilmington as assistant principal of the Banning Academy of Creative and Innovative Sciences, supporting teachers and students just a few blocks away from the factory where her mother once worked.

Today, Faatai's work has come full circle as she transforms policies and classroom instruction practices throughout the same school district where she began

her education journey. Her own son follows this legacy of empowering others, starting a nonprofit at 7 years old that provides shoes, clothing, and food to children and families in need in the Independent State of Samoa, Mexico, and Los Angeles.

Faatai desires for her son, as well as every student in her school district, to emerge a strong learner and critical thinker. "God created the mind, and we need to exercise that gift in our classrooms," she said. Even in her work as assistant principal, the Samoan ideals of *tu*, *vaai*, and *faalogo* passed down by her father remain foremost in Faatai's mind as she seeks to challenge, inspire, and empower the next generation of learners. "I want students to graduate with strong voices, prepared to defend their beliefs and stand for others."

*Bethany Wagner '14 is a freelance writer and editor living in Portland, Oregon. bethanykwagner@gmail.com*

## A Family's Approach to Life

**tu** (stand)    **vaai** (observe)    **faalogo** (listen and obey)



Faatai (bottom row, second from left) surrounded by her family and education mentors.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DIANA FAATAI, ED.D. '16

# GOING ON A SOULQUEST

BY CAITLIN GIPSON



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE RODRIGUEZ '14

Thirty minutes changed Jonathan Verdugo's life. One night, his Azusa Pacific University Master of Business Administration (MBA) class took a "SoulQuest break," a pause for refreshments and Bible study led by APU chaplain Kevin Mannoia, Ph.D. God used those 30 minutes to redirect his career. "I worked for California Edison during downsizing, and I felt devalued; Kevin's talk spoke right to that," Verdugo said. "He shared about job choice, emphasizing that Christians seek more than a 'good' job, we seek the 'right' job—the position we're called to." That point struck Verdugo and prompted a job change. "I talked to my wife that night, and pursued my position with the Department of Homeland Security." Now, he prepares communities for national disasters and stands ready to serve survivors.

Verdugo's experience exemplifies the life-changing fruit of SoulQuest, APU's spiritual care ministry for graduate and professional students. Celebrating 10 years, SoulQuest, and the 15 chaplains it brings to APU's Azusa and regional campuses, dramatically impacts student lives.

The seeds for SoulQuest began germinating in 2003, when Mannoia served as dean of APU's School of Theology. Then-provost Michael Whyte, Ph.D., convened a task force to address spiritual care for adult and professional students. "APU richly invested in residential undergraduates," Mannoia said. "As graduate and professional students outnumbered undergraduates, the need to serve them became apparent."

Graduate students did not live on campus, attend chapel, or regularly interact with APU's staff. Many worked in their field and viewed degrees as commodities. "APU's existing systems

didn't apply well here," said Mannoia. "How could we transform students' lives so they could advance God's work? In mid-2004, I agreed to address this important task."

The endeavor started slowly. "No models existed," Mannoia said. "It was like church planting, creating something from nothing." First, he outlined three primary goals: to provide an encounter with Jesus Christ, to minister to students at their point of need, and to communicate APU's Christian commitment. "Every student should know what APU stands for and what Christianity means."

The program began small with the School of Business and Management. Professors agreed to position their 30-minute dinner period as "a SoulQuest break," and Mannoia appealed to students with food and a Bible study.

Gradually, he discovered that this regular contact led to deep relationships and conversations. "I was able to introduce people to Christ more frequently than ever before," he said. "I became part of the big events in their lives." Students, and even staff, began to ask him for counseling, to lead retreats, to baptize them, or to preside over weddings and funerals. "Spiritual care started with 30 minutes and evolved into reminding students of God's abiding love in hard times, helping unlock potential, and exploring life's deepest questions."

As the program grew to include dedicated chaplains for each school and regional campus, the food and



"SoulQuest break" were the only constants. "It's contextual by design," said Col. Rick Givens '83, M.A. '03, M.Div., APU's first associate chaplain for SoulQuest and more than 600 military students. "It's not an out-of-the-box program implemented the same way everywhere. The regional campuses, schools, and our military ministry do SoulQuest differently, because each audience has different needs. Our chaplains seek out face-to-face connection, to be present for life now, so that we're on students' radar when they need us."

Mannoia elaborated, "SoulQuest boils down to a 'ministry of presence.' Our presence is more important than our words. Chaplains are free to minister as they see fit, to bring spiritual care alive wherever they are deployed."

According to Barbara Smith-Mustin, D.Min. '16, the School of Nursing chaplain, the "deployment" mentality increases the program's reach. "At the seminary I attended, if they offered a chaplain service, you had to seek it out," she said. "SoulQuest reaches out to students, meeting them at their point of need."

Mannoia points to the lack of a central office as a benefit. "SoulQuest is mainlined into the life of the university. We use office and regional campus administrative staff, which taps into their latent desire to make a difference. SoulQuest empowers frontline staff to extend SoulQuest to students as they see spiritual concerns."

"Spiritual care started with 30 minutes and evolved into reminding students of God's abiding love in hard times, helping unlock potential, and exploring life's deepest questions."

—Kevin Mannoia, Ph.D., APU Chaplain and SoulQuest founder

Rev. Gino Pasquariello, Ed.D., the San Diego Regional Campus chaplain, finds that SoulQuest encourages degree completion. "Most adult students go through major events during their program. They have kids, lose jobs, get in car accidents—life happens, and many need inspiration to persevere in pursuing their calling and education without getting derailed."

This proved true for Robin Xu, a Chinese scholar who brought her daughter with her to the U.S. She felt disconnected and replied to the weekly SoulQuest email with a prayer request. Mannoia responded immediately, and Liz Leahy, MLS, M.A.T., professor of theological bibliography and research, and 1 of the 70 APU faculty and staff members who pray for SoulQuest students, decided to befriend her. "I enjoyed reading the SoulQuest email every week," said Xu. "The vivid words were encouraging, but more

importantly, I received practical help from Liz. I praise God for providing Kevin and Liz, angels who helped me out of academic anxiety." Xu went back to China this year, with a lifelong friend and strengthened faith—another quiet victory for SoulQuest.

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

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Waterproofing, a construction company, and Kiara is an accountant for Lance Soll & Lunghard. The couple lives in Brea. [kiaraquinnanderson@gmail.com](mailto:kiaraquinnanderson@gmail.com)

**FUTURE ALUMNI**

**14** To **MELAINE (ROSECRANS '99, M.A. '01) TROESH** and her husband, **JEREMY '01**, a daughter, Jiavinah Jeanette, on May 3, 2015. She joins big brothers, Elias David, 6, and Matteo Anthony, 5. Melaine is an elementary administrator at Kingsley Conservatory of Music in the Ontario-Montclair School District, and Jeremy is a counselor at Claremont High School. The family lives in Upland, California.

**15** To **DAVID EWELL '03** and his wife, Cheryl, a son, Davis, on February 2, 2016. He joins big brother, Sawyer, 5. The family lives in Cumming, Georgia.

**16** To **GEORGE YOUNAN '04** and his wife, **J. J. (HARDING '07)**, a daughter, Mia, in August 2015. She joins big sister, Sadie, 3.

To **JOSHUA KNABB, M.A. '07, PSY.D. '10**, and his wife, **ADRIENNE, M.A. '07**, a son, Rowan, on November 7, 2013. He

joins big sister, Emory, 4. The family lives in Riverside, California.

**17** To **MARYANN (ZOSLOCKI '08) MALLORY** and her husband, Alan, a daughter, Kinsley Brooke, on August 21, 2015. She joins big sister, Harper Reece, 2. The family lives in Modesto, California. [maryann.zoslocki@gmail.com](mailto:maryann.zoslocki@gmail.com)

**18** To **ASHLEY (THOMAS '10) ESCOBAR** and her husband, Matt, a daughter, Tatum, on August 30, 2015.

The family lives in San Diego. [ashley.escobar@sdrock.com](mailto:ashley.escobar@sdrock.com)

**19** To **MEGAN (WILLIAMSON '11) DAVIS** and her husband, **BRIAN '13**, a daughter, Berkley Joy, on December 23, 2015. The family lives in La Verne, California.

**20** To **KATIE (WALTERS '13) HAVENS** and her husband, Jonathan, a son, James Raymond, on June 21, 2015. The family lives in Phelan, California.

**Notable and Noteworthy**

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## WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE YOU WEARING YOUR APU CLOTHING?

**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.



JOSE GONZALEZ, MBA '10  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



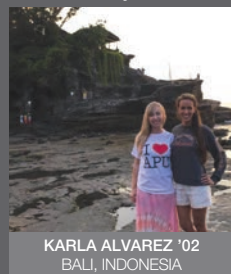
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JONATHAN VANG  
GUERRERO, MÉXICO



KARLA ALVAREZ '02  
BALI, INDONESIA



MEGAN UHRICH '01  
CHIANG MAI, THAILAND



## Transportation

Southern Californians are on the move—driving to work, school, and cultural centers. Likewise, throughout the past century, transportation has proven an important aspect of APU and its predecessors as community members rely on cars and buses, trains and trolleys. In 1974, as shown above, buses lined up at the Seven Palms Shuttle Stop waiting to carry faculty and students between the Valley Campus (now East Campus) and the former Hillside Campus of Azusa Pacific College. Today, APU drivers continue to transport passengers between East Campus and West Campus using brightly colored trolleys. The newest transportation development debuted on March 5, 2016, when the APU/Citrus College Metro Gold Line Station

opened. Once construction and the traffic signal near the station are completed, APU community members will fully enjoy yet another mode of traveling to and from campus. The Gold Line will not only accommodate APU faculty and students who trek to Pasadena and Los Angeles, but it will also make it easier for guests from Los Angeles and beyond to attend the many events held at APU. Whatever the mode of transportation, APU continues on its Christ-centered path, encouraging students to develop a Christian perspective of truth and life.

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



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