

The magazine of George Fox University | Fall 2008

George Fox

JOURNAL

'We should in every aspect be a dwelling place of God.'

Richard Foster's ('64)
Celebration of Discipline turns 30

— PAGE 12

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by Tamara Cissna | After 30 years, Richard Foster (G64) has a growing hope that the core message of his top-10 Christian classic will truly hit home.

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Sixty-five students arrive on campus as part of the China and East Asia Studies Program ... PAGE 18



Editor's note: *An incident on our campus in September led to one of the most painful weeks in the university's history. Amid the varying media reports we want our readers to know the facts.*

At 7 a.m. on Sept. 23, a George Fox University employee discovered a life-sized cardboard cutout of then presidential candidate Barack Obama hanging by fishing line from a tree near Minthorn Hall. A sign that read "Act Six reject" was taped to the cutout. The employee immediately removed it. It is believed only two students saw the cutout.

President Robin Baker met that night with the students in Act Six, a scholarship and leadership initiative that awards full-expense scholarships to student leaders from urban Portland and the surrounding area. He addressed more than 1,200 students and staff the next morning. "We will not tolerate such displays and condemn it in the strongest terms," he said.

An internal investigation led to four students who confessed their involvement. The students expressed remorse and claimed their message was a political statement, not an attack on the Act Six scholars. After an internal judicial process, several disciplinary measures were taken — including immediate long-term suspension and community service.

The incident — which was shared with the media by a concerned student's family — received international attention, from CNN to the Drudge Report. Hundreds of calls and e-mails flooded the university.

The university's swift and open response was described as "extraordinary" by *Oregonian* columnist Steve Duin. Excerpts of his column follow:

"[President Baker] stepped up without

flinching ... He took responsibility for the ugliness that unfolded on his watch.

"Baker later told me ... "If it can be us, we need to own it. If it ends up being someone else, they were just as wrong, and we'll own that as well, and try to express love to them."

"Sometimes, I guess, it comes down to this: If you truly believe you are called to model the love of Christ, you can't forget that he took the sins of others on his shoulders ...

"If it's surprising what can be done if you don't care who gets the credit, imagine the miracles possible if you don't mind taking the blame."



The 2008 cadre of Act Six students

Tell us what you think

We'd like to hear your opinion about the *George Fox Journal* or any articles printed in the magazine. Please send letters to *Journal*, George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg, OR 97132, or e-mail us at journal@georgefox.edu. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Please include an address and daytime phone number.

Obama incident

As an African American, I am very proud to be a graduate and board member of George Fox, and know this is not indicative of the university and its history.

*Brenda Dizer ('04), Board of Trustees member
TIGARD, ORE.*

I am sincerely disappointed that there are splinters of your constituency that would promote such a deplorable act.

"Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world. Red and yellow, black and white; they are precious in his sight."

That means everyone — including both Republicans and Democrats.

*Colleen Finley
BUENA VISTA, COLO.*

I want to thank George Fox leadership for boldly addressing issues of racism and injustice. We often hold back negative information like this and handle it "privately," which can lead to actually affirming the negative message in our attempts to protect the institution. Instead, you are making a strong stand. I am so proud of your response and the willingness to make it public.

*Steve Bury ('83), Urban Impact
Executive Director
SEATTLE, WASH.*

I am thankful for all the support Robin Baker has given to the Act Six students, and not just throughout this incident. The last two years he and the rest of the administration have given us wonderful support and encouragement. The leadership he has displayed is commendable and a great example for the entire campus, especially the student leaders.

*Vanessa Williams, Act Six Scholar, '07 cadre
HILLSBORO, ORE.*

Read the university's response at georgefox.edu/response.

On campus as it is in heaven



John's Revelation tells us that every tribe, language, people and nation will stand before the throne of heaven. Because we know that this "divine diversity" is God's intention for his people, one of our primary goals at George Fox is to create a campus that reflects the Kingdom of God as described by John. Our deep passion to convey the love of Jesus to all cultures makes this essential.

From an educational perspective, we know the world our graduates will engage will be one of conversations and collaborations with people of different cultures from across the globe. But these opportunities are diminished when students have never encountered someone from another culture. It's one thing to talk about people from other cultures, but getting to know and understand someone from a different culture is something else. In this

Journal, you will read about our efforts to bring students to campus who more broadly represent the diversity of the people of God. One such effort is our China initiative, which has brought more than 60 Chinese undergraduate students to campus this semester. Another is our Act Six leadership and scholarship initiative, which now comprises 17 students, mostly people of color, serving in leadership roles on campus.

In September, an incident (see opposite page) occurred on campus that was entirely out of step with a university that upholds love for God and people as its highest value. The news of this event sent shockwaves and pain throughout our university, the local community, and beyond. Many in the African-American community were particularly hurt as the event refreshed memories of the horrible mistreatment and even hanging of African-Americans in the United States.

The incident also dismayed our students, faculty and staff who embrace our goal to create a community that reflects God's kingdom. Of course, our Act Six students were especially hurt and confused by the display and by implied messages about them. But despite their pain, many expressed belief that this event could be turned around for good and become a catalyst for deeper dialogue on campus — a campus they say has been welcoming and warm to them. And that is precisely what is happening. God continues to use this heartbreaking event to open up dialogue and bring deeper understanding of perspectives informed by cultures different than our own. Through the faithfulness of our students, faculty and staff, the George Fox community continues to pursue our passion for diversity on campus as it is in heaven.

There will be many challenges ahead for George Fox University as we continue preparing students to understand and love all people — knowing the risks and pain that may come as a result. Erwin McManus' book *Soul Cravings* describes God's love this way: "This is the story of Jesus, that God has walked among us and he pursues us with his love. He is very familiar with rejection but is undeterred. And he is here even now, still pursuing you with his love."

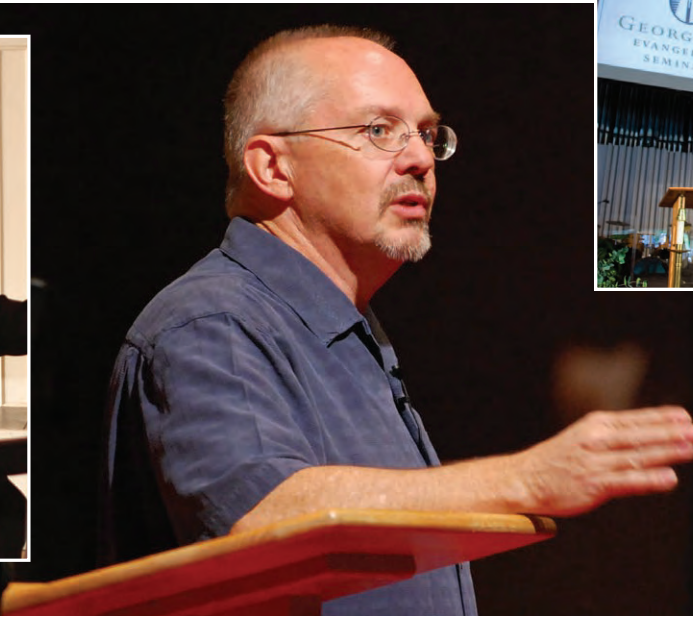
McManus is right about God's love. At George Fox University, we know God is pursuing all of us to draw us closer to him, and it is our mission to make the love of God known. I know of no other way forward.

One of our
primary goals at
George Fox is to
create a campus
that reflects the
Kingdom of God

Robin Baker
President



Visiting authors pose challenges



Far left: Gary Allen Middle left: Devan Marchbanks Near left: Loren Kerns

Tony Campolo

Pastor, author and speaker Tony Campolo spoke on the theme “Bring Forth the Kingdom” as the featured speaker at the Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Church annual meeting, held on campus in July. He shared that “red letter Christians” – those who focus on Jesus’ words in the New Testament as God’s most vital revelation – can unite in their core purpose. “We’re looking for a new way of doing politics that transcends partisanship and polarization,” says Campolo, professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern University. Rather than adopting a liberal or conservative political philosophy, it means conversion to a radical lifestyle of obedience to Christ, he said.

William Paul Young

William Paul Young, author of *The New York Times* best-seller *The Shack*, told an October chapel audience that his book was “fiction ... but real.” The novel is about a man, Mack, who returns to the shack where his daughter was murdered. Mack encounters the Trinity and faces his deep anger and pain in the midst of God’s grace and love. “It’s a metaphor for my own life,” says Young, who told listeners the story is symbolic of his own spiritual journey through an abusive childhood and depression as an adult. The author originally wrote the novel as a gift to his children and never expected to publish the story. It has now sold more than 1 million copies.



Dallas Willard

Author and philosophy professor Dallas Willard encouraged seminary students and friends to reclaim moral knowledge at the seminary’s fall Ministry in Contemporary Culture Seminar.

Addressing about 300 people, Willard explained how today’s culture asserts that knowledge must be scientific to be deemed authoritative. Unfortunately, the “removal of the knowledge of moral knowledge results in lives consumed by enslavement to desire,” says Willard, who teaches philosophy at the University of Southern California. “That’s why a Christian education is so important. If we don’t have this knowledge, it’s all a shot in the dark.

“Jesus teaches that desire must be subordinated to love because love seeks what is good for what is loved.”



Hoop dreams in Ghana

The George Fox women's basketball program has enjoyed 15 straight winning seasons and five Northwest Conference championships since 2000, but some successes can't be measured on the court.

Last May, the Bruins scored points *with a court*, as nine team members and two coaches partnered with the Courts for Kids organization to build an outdoor concrete court for Sonrise High School in Ghana, West Africa.

"I wish I could have experienced a trip like this when I was in college," Bruins head coach Scott Rueck says. "Their culture obviously doesn't have the luxuries we have, and yet there seems to be more joy. It was amazing to see people loving each other in community. They truly need one another. We're a lot more individualistic here, secluding our-

selves and buying things we think we need, so this trip put a lot of things in perspective."

The team also conducted a basketball clinic at an orphanage and competed against local girls in an exhibition soccer game.

"What was amazing to me was to see how much they looked up to our players," Rueck says. "It really opened our eyes to what is important — relationships, both with each other and with God."

George Fox learned of the school through Meri Tracy, a teacher on a one-year mission trip to Ghana and sister to Bruins' assistant coach Megan Dickerson.

This was the Bruins' second mission trip in three years. In 2006, several players went to Mississippi to help with the Gulf Coast cleanup following Hurricane Katrina.

Millage scores top volunteer award

For more than 30 years, Don Millage has been a fixture at George Fox men's basketball games as a scorekeeper — more than 300 games in all. That dedication earned him the George Fox **Volunteer of the Year** honor for 2008.

Millage, who retired as the university's vice president for finance in



2001, retains his scorekeeper's seat at midcourt — a spot he's occupied since 1975. He also donates time to the school by annually assisting on tax statements for the individual Holman Education Trusts. After retirement, he continued for several years to complete trust fund tax statements for the financial affairs office and, until this year, to do faculty contract work.

Millage's volunteer work spans decades. He was treasurer of Newberg Friends Church through the early 1980s, and until 1999 he managed the Friends pastors' pension funds. He also formerly managed the charitable trusts for Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends.



Right: Scott Rueck / Far right: Janelle Townsend



Samek returns to lead School of Education

Linda Samek returned in July to George Fox — where she taught from 1996–2000 — to serve as dean of the School of Education. But in some



ways, she never really left.

“I stayed connected to George Fox’s wonderful people since leaving in 2000 to work

for the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission,” Samek says. “I felt called to return to programs I had left in the early stages of development at that time.”

Samek served six years at Corban College previously, where she was provost the last two years and dean of graduate studies, director of teacher education, and professor of education and mathematics from 2002–2006.

At George Fox, she assumes leadership of a School of Education that this spring gained accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Former dean Jim Worthington remains at the university as professor of education and coordinator of the Educational Foundations and Leadership Department’s reading endorsement program.



Mac Pros: George Fox supplies every incoming traditional undergraduate student with a MacBook laptop. The Computers Across the Curriculum program has provided free computers since 1991.

Left: Kelly James

Faith and politics

As both evangelical and progressive, U.S. senator Mark Hatfield demonstrated courage and convictions that often infuriated high officials in both political parties. Lon Fendall’s (G64) new book, *Stand Alone or Come Home* (Barclay Press), recounts the career of a man whose spiritual convictions guided his public policy positions. Hatfield may be best known for opposing the Vietnam War — he stood alone against it at the 1965 governors’ conference — but Fendall goes beyond detailing Hatfield’s place in history.



Fendall, director of George Fox’s Center for Peace and Justice, explores Hatfield’s consistent value of human life, his concern for the environment, and his work for social justice.

“My hope in writing this book is that we would more fully understand people who aren’t easily labeled and consider their values and courage worthy of following today.”



Talking transformation

How do Christians respond to the needs of the poor around the world? To what extent do they first concentrate on physical needs before ministering to spiritual needs?

These were among the questions posed at the inaugural Transformational Development Conference, cosponsored in August by George Fox and Food for the Hungry, a Christian missions and humanitarian organization. Bryant Myers, professor at Fuller Theological Seminary and author of *Walking With the Poor*, was the keynote speaker, and President Robin Baker contributed as a plenary speaker and panelist.

Nearly 150 leaders in academia, relief and development, missions, and philanthropic giving attended the event.



At the top of their class

University announces faculty awards for 2007-08

RESEARCH

Irv Brendlinger

At the center of Irv Brendlinger's research is the belief that church history is vital to the faith of students



today. "Students relate to people of the past," he says. "Some of these men and women – like Martin and Katie Luther and Susannah Wesley and her son, John – become our friends and inspire us on our journeys."

In the past two years, Brendlinger has published two books – one about John Wesley, one about the antislavery influence of Anthony Benezet – and presented a lecture in the Bahamas that commemorated the bicentennial of the abolition of the British slave trade.

"My research has allowed me to delve into lives from the past and find how they can be mentors to me and my students," says the professor of religion, who arrived at George Fox in 1993. "I love seeing students become involved with the course content in ways that make a difference in their lives."

As one student says of Brendlinger's teaching, "I have a more concrete understanding of the history of Christianity and a greater appreciation for those who risked their lives for their faith, which is now my faith."

GRADUATE TEACHING

Daniel Brunner

Daniel Brunner loves people, the church and teaching. That passion compelled him to spend three weeks in Africa this summer teaching a church history course at Hope Africa University in Burundi. "The whole experience affected me deeply, and I am only beginning to work through what I learned spiritually and emotionally."

Closer to home, he teaches at the seminary because "the learning enterprise is so energizing." He is also a student himself, earning a 2008-09 fellowship through the GreenFaith organization, dedicated to educating and training lay ministers to be advocates for faith and the environment.

What Brunner appreciates most, he says, are the students themselves and the relationships he's formed at the



seminary since he arrived in 1995. "I feel like I'm making a difference in the lives of students who are changing the world for the sake of the church and God's kingdom," says Brunner, professor of Christian history and formation. "That's motivation enough to keep me in the classroom."

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

Neil Ninteman

Mathematics and engineering assistant professor Neal Ninteman says he feels like the proverbial kid in a candy store. "This job is a blend of my two passions – teaching and helping students grow spiritually," he says.

For that reason, Ninteman has no trouble getting motivated to show



up for work. "I guess the word that describes me best is 'enthusiastic,'" says Ninteman, a professor at George Fox since 2000. "I live with the delusion that the students love calculus as much as I do. If they don't, I believe that once they understand the beauty of the concepts, they will fall in love with it."

Students say his love of the subject matter is infectious. "Your enthusiasm for calculus has really reinforced my love for it," says one. "Believe it or not, I found myself looking forward to physics problems by the end of class," says another.

Ninteman is demanding. "If a student tells me, 'I worked so hard in your class, but I really enjoyed it and I learned a ton,' then I feel like I've done my job," he says.



Manuscript man



Left: Wayne Torborg

A nation's cultural heritage is at stake. Some of Ethiopia's most precious manuscripts have been locked away and inaccessible, with no backups in case the originals are destroyed. Now 175 of them are a little safer than they were – and more will be safer soon.

Steve Delamarter, professor of Old Testament at George Fox Evangelical Seminary, spent three weeks in Africa digitizing and cataloging manuscripts. After limited success renting manuscripts in Nairobi, Kenya, his approach changed when Elsabet Giyorgis, director of the Institute of Ethiopian Studies in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, offered access to the IES inventory.

"There are probably only one or two libraries in the world with more materials than the IES," Delamarter says. "It is not just the quantity – it is the quality of the manuscripts. They have royal manuscripts; they have some of the oldest manuscripts. They have it all. And they are kept in conditions that invite disaster."

With the help of seminary student Jeremy Brown and local staff – and despite lapses in electricity – Delamarter digitized 175 manuscripts in the IES, about 10 percent of its collection. Many were made in

the 15th century.

The handwritten manuscripts contain not only the literature and liturgy of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, but also details about marriages, births, deaths, business transactions, land grants, and other historical and sociological information.

Delamarter was invited to return and digitize manuscripts at the Patriarchate Library and Museum, which houses a collection of about 400 pieces and has jurisdiction over manuscripts in the churches – with possibly 35,000 manuscripts in the Addis area.



Manuscript photos: Steve Delamarter

To read more about Delamarter's pursuit of ancient manuscripts, visit georgefox.edu/journalonline/spring05.

Best in the West

A new college ranking released in August by **Forbes.com** ranked George Fox University in the top 25 percent of "America's best colleges," second among Oregon institutions. Among schools in the 105-member Council for Christian Colleges & Universities, George Fox received the highest ranking on the West Coast.

For a fifth consecutive year, **The Princeton Review** honored the university as one of its "Best in the West" schools – a designation that went to 120 colleges and universities in 15 western states and 630 institutions in four regions nationwide.

The rankings consider academics, quality of life, admissions selectivity, and financial aid. George Fox students were invited to participate in an online survey hosted by the magazine. "My advisor is very interested in how I am personally doing and lets me know that he cares about me," an engineering major said in the survey.



Serving women and at-risk children in Thailand

Playing with kids on the street ... teaching English to Hill Tribe villages ... reaching out to women in bars ... and showing youth that someone cares about them.

These were ways George Fox students on a May Serve trip to Thailand demonstrated the faithfulness God requires — showing justice, mercy to our broken and flawed world.

The trip, led by professors Roger and Sue Newell, was organized after George Fox alumni Kelly Riechers (G06) and Brittany Quinn (G07) spoke in chapel about their work helping women and children in (or at risk of entering) the sex industry in Thailand. Eighteen students signed up to help them for three weeks.

After attending a few language and culture classes, the team played with neighborhood children, went on prayer walks, visited families in the slums, and picked up trash on the street while working at the Garden of Hope Drop-In Center in the red-light district. Female team members taught English to women and visited women in bars.

After two weeks at Garden of Hope, the team assisted Remember Nhu, another ministry that focuses on at-risk children. Ryan MacKenzie, a senior biology major from Redmond, Ore., recounts his time teaching English in the Hill Tribe villages, one area of the organization's ministry: "I was given a class of 20 fourth-graders and left alone for the day. It was extremely draining, but fun."

With few tools and scavenged wood, Ryan spent a couple of days helping build the roof, doorframe and door for a cement block shower for the orphanage. "I made a level out of a water bottle," he says. "But the trip was

mostly about building relationships, and in doing so to show God's love, grace, mercy, and justice to those in need."

Dot Tobey, a senior writing/literature major from Salem, found it hard to leave. "I was content to just play with these kids, feed them dinner, wipe their noses, and see to it that they knew someone cares for them," she says. "I guess the biggest thing I've been seeing is the importance of patience and journeying with others even when situations seem hopeless. Maybe great faith means believing that God is moving even when answers don't seem immediate or imminent."



Ryan MacKenzie (G07, top) and Meg Moline (G07, bottom) finished their senior years working for organizations that offer help and hope to Thai youth and women.

Under new management

Ken Armstrong, a former dean at Anderson University in Anderson,



Ind., is the new dean of George Fox's School of Management.

Armstrong served most recently as the Austin/Cooper

Endowed Professor of Global Business Studies at Anderson. As dean of the school's College of Professional Studies (1995–2003), he oversaw the School of Education, the School of Nursing, the Department of Computer Science, and the Falls School of Business.

Previously dean of Anderson's Falls School of Business (1991–2003), he was instrumental in developing the school's MBA and doctor of business programs. He also worked for more than a decade at Olivet Nazarene University as a professor and department and division chair. Armstrong earned a doctorate from Northwestern University and an MBA from Central Michigan University.

Dirk Barram, former interim dean, returned to the classroom full time as professor of business.

Ken Watson

‘Servant engineering’

Building solutions to meet real-world needs at school for the blind

by Lynn Otto

Electrical engineering professor Gary Spivey and senior Chris Hammond are hunched over a lab counter, soldering components on a tiny piece of circuit board.

“When people hear the words ‘Christian service,’ they don’t usually picture this,” Spivey says. “They might think of mission trips — building a church in Jamaica, teaching English in China, handing out sandwiches to the homeless — but nothing that requires the skills of an engineer.”

But Spivey and Hammond are working on the model of an earpiece that will help some of the students at the Oregon School for the Blind hold their heads level, helping them stay attentive and maintain a more socially acceptable posture. It’s called a postural assist and was designed over the past two years by faculty and students at George Fox University. And it all started with Serve Day.

Spivey and Neal Ninteman, assistant professor of mathematics and engineering, had discussed getting involved in assistive technology — designing things for people with special needs. Then on Serve Day in 2006, Ninteman found that his assignment was taking students to do maintenance work at OSB’s residential campus in Salem. “I called Gary at the last minute and asked him to come along,” he says. “I thought we should find out if there was anything they needed that we could engineer.”

Their request to talk with teachers and students resulted in a full room and a two-hour conversation. “The question was barely out of our mouths before they inundated us with challenges, ideas and wishes. It was a profoundly sober awakening to the



Professor Neil Ninteman (right) believes George Fox fosters an ethos that encourages vocation as ministry.

difficulties that blind people face every day,” Ninteman says. “At the same time, we were like kids in a sandbox. They would talk about something they wanted, and we would look at each other across the table, nodding, excited, thinking we can make that!”

“And we were blown away by the opportunity to serve right here,” Spivey adds. “We have a list of ideas that could keep us busy for a very long time — things we would never have thought of because we can see.”

One student asked if they could design something to make swimming laps easier. She wants to know when it’s time to kick-turn with-

out relying on an assistant. Another complained that cars were getting too quiet and asked if they could design something that would enable blind people to know when one was approaching. Many requested a portable money-reader.

One student asked for a graphing calculator with a tactile display. “The main thing that’s limiting this person in his study of math is his inability to read a standard graphing calculator,” says Ninteman, who has a hard time imagining a mathematician being without one.

A teacher asked if they could design something to help her students learn to hold their heads in a more upright position. “That’s the project we started with,” Ninteman says.

Junior and senior students helped design the prototype, using the department’s printed-circuit-board fabrication line to build the electronics and a 3D printer to produce housing models. “It’s an earpiece that vibrates when the wearer’s head tips forward. It

A student at the Oregon School for the Blind tests the postural assist prototype designed by George Fox’s engineering department. →





uses an accelerometer as a tilt sensor — something you'd find in a Wii game controller — and a potentiometer thumbwheel that lets you vary the angle at which it's triggered."

Spivey and Ninteman returned to Oregon School for the Blind on Serve Day the next two years with engineering students in tow. After working on the grounds this year, they met with staff and students to get feedback on the postural assist prototype and ask for more ideas.

"They had plenty," Ninteman says. "It was great for our students to experience what Gary and I did. Although the innovations of engineering have an impact on a great deal of human experience, there are areas that are largely untouched. By God's providence, we've been dropped into this pocket of need."

The engineer stereotype — scientist holed up in labs with computers, calculators and circuit boards — doesn't hold true at George Fox, Ninteman says. "In addition to God gifting us with the ability to use technology to solve problems, he also has given us the desire to love our neighbors. Working with the Oregon School for the Blind has been helping us do both."

Research grants allowed upperclassmen Hammond and Garrett Blizzard help Spivey and Ninteman fine-tune the postural assist last summer. On Serve Day this year, they demonstrated the prototype, which was well received.

What's next?

"We've done some work on a money reader," Ninteman says, "and Gary's been involved in research that might help us build lap-swim assists, and we'd really like to make the graphing calculator — a major project that would take significant funding."

But Ninteman and Spivey have an even bigger dream: a George Fox Center for Engineering Outreach that would develop and support a culture of "servant engineering." "The goal would be for the engineering department to become a center for service projects undertaken by Christian engineers — our students and those in industry — who feel a deep calling to use their gifts outside of their careers. We want to connect them with the need and colleagues and equipment to make solutions a reality."

'Bursting the bubble' — Serve Day marks 10th year

When former President David Brandt instituted Serve Day in 1999, he did so with a vision: that George Fox "would be Christ's hands and feet" to the communities around it. On the event's 10th anniversary, that goal hasn't changed.

What began as a small service project for new students during orientation weekends in the mid-1990s has blossomed into an outreach that now assists more than 70 organizations in four Portland-area counties. The annual tradition returned this September, when the university closed so that 1,500 students and employees could visit the elderly; work on weeding, painting, and cleaning projects; serve meals; and pick



up trash for nonprofits, public agencies, churches, retirement homes, and individual citizens.

The idea of shutting down campus for an entire day was a radical idea in 1999. George Fox was the first university to do so, according to Campus Compact, a national coalition that promotes community service in higher education (compact.org). It has become vital to those served. "Without volunteer support, like that of the students and staff of George Fox, we could not do the work that we do," says a Christie Care employee.



President Brandt sports his trademark tie-dyed shirt during the first Serve Day in 1999.

"It would take us many volunteer hours and considerable financial resources to get done what George Fox does in a day," says a Juliette's House employee.

Students, too, recognize the day's significance: "A lot of people say that when you're at Fox you're sort of in a bubble ... but I've noticed, with days like Serve Day, a huge emphasis on bursting the bubble," says junior Jordan Weiss.

This year's theme, "Celebrate," based on Philippians 4:4-5, was fitting in light of what the day has accomplished through the years. Since Serve Day began, about 9,000 volunteers have logged more than 100,000 hours at more than 150 unique sites.

"It's a day that has become a deeply rooted tradition in the life of the George Fox community as we seek to show the love of Christ through service," says Brad Lau, vice president of student life.

Or, as one Serve Day recipient puts it, "They say God sends angels, and that's what happens on Serve Day — God sends his angels to help us."



Serve Day 2008 included game-playing with residents at the Cedar Creek Assisted Living Community in Sherwood, Ore.

A vision for a God-filled life

Celebration of *Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth* has sold 2.5 million copies. The spiritual classic, translated into more than 20 languages, is listed by *Christianity Today* as one of the top 10 best religious books of the 20th century.

Author Richard Foster is still watching to see if the book — never out of print in its 30 years — will be a true success.

Are lives changing in substantial ways, he wonders? Is today's focus on spiritual formation causing people to experience deep life with God, centered in the person of Jesus? Are people engaged in serious discipleship so that the character of Christ may be formed in them?

That's what matters to Foster — devoted Quaker, lover of ancient sources, and 1964 George Fox graduate.



by Tamara Cissna

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Foster was not seeking fame when he wrote the book after finishing his doctorate at Fuller Theological Seminary. He was serving on a team of pastors at Newberg Friends Church and was disheartened by the many Christians failing to overcome inner struggles and by the lack of substantive resources available to them. Popular approaches to spiritual growth seemed shallow to him.

“I wrote the *Celebration of Discipline* for all of those disillusioned by the superficiality of modern culture, including the religious culture. That’s a large group of people,” Foster says, while waiting to address a congregation in Portland during a recent speaking tour.

“Now in many ways, that superficiality has not changed a great deal. Religious folk in particular still hanker after the flavor of the month. Another great problem is distraction — much-ness, many-ness, noise, hurry and crowds. And the third major problem is consumerism. And all of those three still are with us, and we have a lot of work to do.”

Foster’s aim in writing *Celebration of Discipline* was to teach people how to get free from ingrained habits that made misery of their lives. The disciplines are not a means to please God, he says, but a means by which people place themselves before God and allow him to transform their lives.

The language of spiritual formation — essentially the development of a person’s spiritual life and interactions with others via spiritual disciplines or practices — is much better known now than it was 30 years ago, Foster acknowledges. In fact, spiritual formation is now part of curriculum required

for Association of Theological Schools accreditation. Many churches offer programs, as well.

The book divides the disciplines into three movements of the Spirit: inward disciplines — prayer, fasting, meditation and study; outward disciplines — simplicity, solitude, submission and service; and corporate disciplines — confession, worship, guidance and celebration.

“There are wonderfully encouraging signs that spiritual formation will take root,” Foster says. “Part of the reason for those signs is that the failures — a gospel that has been totally divorced from life, or the sort of a gospel of heaven when I die — the weaknesses of that have become glaringly obvious.

“Evangelism has reached the point of diminishing returns because people say, ‘What am I supposed to be converted to?’

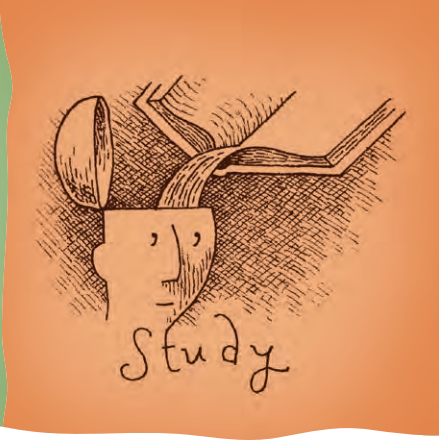
Christians look pretty much like everybody else, and a life of love, joy, gentleness, goodness and long-suffering — all the fruits of the Spirit — they don’t really see that. However, just because the hunger and the longing are there, does not mean that people will engage with the material and do the work. But it does create a great opportunity and an open window.”

Discipline

Foster wrote *Celebration of Discipline* during solitary retreats in the prayer chapel at George Fox’s Tilikum Retreat Center. As he wrote, he admired a farmer patiently tilling his land in a nearby field — the antithesis of noise, hurry and crowds. “I wanted to ask him for his autograph. ... We don’t ask farmers for



Throughout his ministry, Richard Foster has taught practical strategies for reaching spiritual maturity. He finds ancient sources trustworthy mentors.



their autographs,” he muses.

Foster uses the metaphor of a field to illustrate the purpose of disciplines in the book:

A farmer is helpless to grow grain; all he can do is provide the right conditions for the growing of grain. He cultivates the ground, he plants the seed, he waters the plants, and then natural forces of the earth take over, and up comes the grain. This is the way it is with the spiritual disciplines — they are a way of sowing to the Spirit. The disciplines are God’s way of getting us into the ground; they put us where he can work within us and transform us. ... They are a means of receiving God’s grace.

There’s nothing instant or easy about growing crops — nor is engaging with the devotional masters’ teachings and incorporating them into everyday life. *Celebration of Discipline* is no primer for attaining your best life now.

Foster stresses that the spiritual disciplines require, well, discipline. Merely discussing the disciplines and deeper resources without engaging with the material and doing the work is unfruitful, he says. “In the early days, Christians described themselves as the athletes of God. That involves disciplined training, not just trying.”

Results will come, he says. “Over time and experience, God uses the disciplines to form the life, and this is a guarantee really. We must be patient with it, and we must learn and grow, and do it in community. But the life comes. It happens over and over again.”

Getting back to the ancients

One of the reasons Foster draws from the ancient Christian sources is because the classical disciplines, once commonly practiced, had all but been forgotten in modern times. Instruction on how to practice the disciplines is again necessary.

Foster’s eyes glisten when he elaborates about the richness in

these resources. He relishes in the retelling of Brother Bernard pretending to sleep while listening to St. Francis of Assisi — “God’s troubadour” — as he knelt near a window repeating the whole night long, “My Lord and my all, my Lord and my all ...” By morning, Foster shares, Brother Bernard “gets it” and goes on to become one of the early Franciscan brothers.

“Or you take St. Ignatius of Loyola’s *Spiritual Exercises*, or Jeremy Taylor’s *Holy Living and Dying*,” Foster continues, seemingly transported away from a contemporary church office near shopping malls, freeways and residential developments.

“Or take William Laws’ *A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life*, Julian of Norwich’s *Showing of Love*, Teresa of Avila’s *The Interior Castle* — all these kinds of writings that soak people into substance. That’s what the serious quest for spiritual growth leads to.”

It begins to sound intimidating.

“The key is not to have read everything, but to have read deeply,” Foster says. “And to stay with a few writers for extended periods. There’s a lot I haven’t read.”

“I wrote the Celebration of Discipline for all of those disillusioned by the superficiality of modern culture, including the religious culture.”

The man himself

So one wonders, how do practicing the disciplines impact the everyday life of Richard Foster, the man often credited as the father of today’s spiritual formation movement?

“It’s important to remember that the spiritual disciplines are only the means; they are not the ends,” he answers patiently. “The disciplines have no righteousness in them — they just place us before God. And at that point, they reach the end of their tether and the grace of God steps in. We are learning to train in the spiritual life, and the specific training will move according to your own need. And now — I’m coming to me personally — the need for me right now is solitude.”

Foster is in the midst of a speaking tour, promoting his most recent book, *Life with God*, published to coincide with the 30th anniversary of *Celebration of Discipline*. His stop in Portland was



Simplicity



Solitude



Submission



Service

one of his last stops along a months-long tour. He is road weary.

Solitude is essential for right engagement with people, he says. "Solitude teaches us to live in the presence of God so that we can be with people in a way that helps them and does not manipulate them. As Thomas à Kempis says, 'The only person who's safe to travel is the person who's free to stay at home.'"

When he is home in Colorado, Foster enjoys walking and praying in a canyon near his home. In nature, you learn to set aside noise and hurry and crowds, says Foster, who loves hiking and snowshoeing in the Rockies.

"You give up the need to control and manage. You give your family and your work to God. You learn that none of us is the CEO of the universe. And you learn, as one of the old writers put it, to 'hear God's voice in his wondrous, terrible, loving, all-embracing silence.'"

Some years back Foster discovered he had a Native American background — of the Ojibwa nation. He chose to honor this heritage by growing his hair long. "Over the years, it's been kind of a reminder — an icon, if you will — to remind me to pray for First Nation peoples that they may know the fullness of life that is in Jesus," he says.

Dark night of the soul

In 1978, no one would have guessed *Celebration of Discipline's* impact would be so strong, including its publisher, Harper & Row. After the book was printed, the marketing staff explained to Foster they simply were unable to advertise all their books, including his. But book sales took off, and Foster's life changed beyond his imagination.

"So in all these different places — liberal, conservative, high church, low church, 25 or so different countries — this movement was going on, and that opened up a whole world. And, of course, I was out speaking and traveling."

And then he hit a low point that grounded him for a time.

"After a decade, I wasn't quite sure *Celebration of Discipline* was helping anybody because I saw people trying but not training," he says. "I saw that people were scattered rather than gath-

ered. And I saw that people had a narrow, myopic vision rather than a synoptic vision. And that led me to a period where I stopped all writing, I stopped all speaking, and at that time, I didn't know if I would ever write or speak again."

This period — Foster's "dark night of the soul" — lasted about 18 months. When he emerged, he created *Renovaré* in 1988, a Christian church renewal organization that provides training and support to people earnest about spiritual growth. *Renovaré*, which means "to make new" in Latin, holds conferences and retreats, and creates small groups that study spiritual life together.

"*Celebration of Discipline* has been part of that story," Foster says, "because the hunger and longing for a substantive life will lead automatically to the spiritual disciplines."

This year, as *Renovaré* marks its 20th anniversary, Foster is retiring to focus on writing. Replacing him is Christopher Webb, previously an Anglican vicar in several churches in Wales.

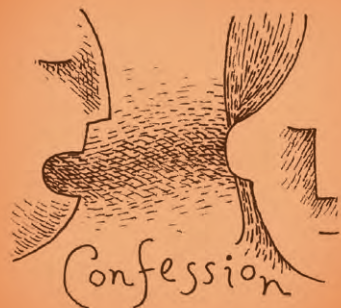
The true end goal

In recent years the emerging church movement has embraced Foster as one of its mentors, reflective perhaps of a burgeoning dissatisfaction with "formulaic religiosity sometimes found in the established church," as George Barna research reveals in *Revolution*.

"This phenomenon people are talking about right now of the emerging church, that's part of that hunger for deeper resources, and often that's tied to going back to some of the ancient sources and interest in a higher liturgical form," Foster says. "But most of those things are just shuffling the ecclesiastical furniture around. Whether you're Pentecostal low-church or whether



Richard Foster graduated from George Fox with a degree in philosophy and religion in 1964.



you're Anglican high-church, that doesn't make much difference at all. The real issue is, do you have the substance of a life that is like Jesus?"

Foster cringes when asked if his teachings encourage people to turn to Eastern religions, as some critics claim. "The goal of the Christian experience and life is to be filled with God, not to

merge with the cosmic consciousness, not to lose your identity, not to lose desire," he says. "We must have desire even to live. And we become more fully alive. The Christian witness is to a filling of the life with the radiant vision of God. So it is not an emptying, but a filling."

One of the common failings in today's spiritual growth programs is focusing on the wrong ends — fulfillment or self-gratification. That gets it entirely wrong, Foster says.

"It's a consumer mentality that expects 'coming to Jesus' means I'm going to be just so enraptured," he says. "What it means is that we're going to learn to be like Jesus, to be faithful. We must not think of a life with God as this sort of enraptured state. We see it as transforming, and there are enrapturing experiences, but that's not the key. The real issue is, do you have a life that is like Jesus?"

Practicing the disciplines will not ensure happiness then? "Exactly not," Foster says. "We are seeking after God, and sometimes that feels very bad. Of course, what we find is that God is seeking us, the hound of heaven is after us to do us good always."

Shifting the ground

Celebration of Discipline has had a tremendous impact, says Dallas Willard, noted spiritual formation author and philosophy professor at University of Southern California. "Richard's book simply shifted the ground under many people's feet so they could think about spirituality in a different way — spiritual life as something you lived, discipleship. We were in desperate need of this."

The book also influenced the decline of denominationalism, Willard says. "People understand today that the spiritual life is not about being Quaker or Baptist, but about being a disciple, and that's where Richard's book has been very helpful. And it opened people up to the Christian past. Suddenly those teachers became relevant, interesting and powerful."

Foster prays that in this generation the church will move beyond knowledge of those resources and into active engagement and training so their lives will be transformed. His goal for *Celebration of Discipline* is unchanged from 30 years ago — that it may be used by God as an instrument to draw people to Christ.

"The spiritual life is all about life with God. Immanuel — God with us," he says. "We should in every aspect be a dwelling place of God."

"The spiritual disciplines are only the means; they are not the ends. The disciplines have no righteousness in them — they just place us before God. And at that point, they reach the end of their tether and the grace of God steps in."

Learn more about Renovaré, the Christian church renewal organization founded by Richard Foster, at www.renovare.org. For information on George Fox Evangelical Seminary's 42-credit master's degree in spiritual formation, visit www.georgefox.edu/seminary.

Life with God: Reading the Bible for Spiritual Transformation

An excerpt from Richard Foster's new book

The divine assurance thundering throughout the ages is also a divine invitation:

"I am with you—will you be with Me?"

This dynamic is the absolute unifying center of the Bible. Every story in the Bible, no matter its twists and turns, whether the human characters are trustworthy or untrustworthy, whether the story is sad or happy, is built on this clarion call to relationship. "I am with you—will you be with Me?"

"Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live", God calls to us through the prophet Isaiah (55:3). When we lose our way through disobedience, we must learn how to turn back toward God. From Genesis to Revelation, throughout human history, the Bible tells the stories of people learning to turn back to God. Always, it is God's grace and power drawing them and supporting them, giving them the means to become transformed into the kind of people who will gladly and freely choose life in the eternally loving community of God's People. God wants relationship with us, not mechanical transactions. And so he teaches us through the flesh and blood of ordinary people whose wayward steps were straightened and made firm by the power of God at work among them.

As we read and reread the Bible's stories, we learn how life with God takes place in the rough and tumble of real-life situations. The crucible of change is our everyday world. The tools of our transformation are the choices arising from our everyday circumstances. The Bible fleshes out this with-God life in the give-and-take of everyday experiences. If we will allow them, these stories can draw us in irresistibly until they become emblematic of our story, as well.

We read of Abraham trudging up Mount Moriah, struggling with the decision to sacrifice Isaac, and we hear of God speaking to us, too. The *Kol Yahweh*, the voice of the Lord, is calling us to surrender our most priceless possession—and in that surrender, the meaning of "my" and "mine" are changed forever.

We follow the Israelites from their exciting Exodus from Egypt into the boredom, uncertainty, and fear of wandering in the wilderness. In their wandering, we see our own travel

across unknown landscapes, and we learn to focus on God instead of on how soon we will make it to the next place of safety and whether we will have bread or meat for tomorrow.

We meditate on the angelic encounter with Mary, and we feel the combination of fear and joy in the direct call of God. We, too, are invited to respond to the divine call with the overwhelming word of obedience: "Behold, I am a servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

We see Peter walking on water, and we, too, are challenged to take up the humanly impossible task in our contemporary world, possible only if we will fix our gaze on Jesus and not look away in fear. ...

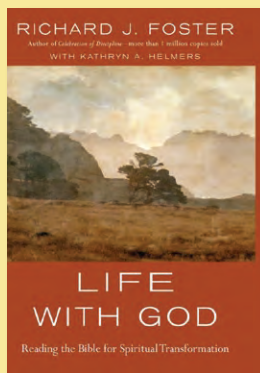
We are drawn into the story of David acting on his lust for Bathsheba, and we recognize that the spirit of lust and possessiveness has taken up residence in us, too. We understand that our bodies themselves are testing places for our character, not mere vehicles of gratification.

We marvel at the courage of Esther and long that we, too, might have the same holy courage for the tough decisions of life. We realize that all the little choices we make in each ordinary day of our lives shape us in ways that prepare us—or not—for the big choices that can face us unexpectedly in an instant.

We learn from Daniel's confidence in the lions' den, a confidence born out of an unshakable belief in a living God, and we, too, long to believe in a living God. We learn that "faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen," along with all the other stories recounted in the Scriptures—for our benefit, surrounding us with a "great cloud of witnesses" for encouragement in our journey of faith (Heb. 11:1; 12:1).

And we learn most of all from Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God" (Heb. 12:23).

From Life with God: Reading the Bible for Spiritual Formation, published by HarperOne. Copyright 2008 by Renovaré Inc. All rights reserved.



As we read and reread the Bible's stories, we learn how life with God takes place in the rough and tumble of real-life situations. The crucible of change is our everyday world.

CONNECTIONS

CULTURES



Kelby James

Chinese students arrive at George Fox to find a drastically different place — culturally, religiously, relationally — yet still find plenty of reminders of home



by Sean Patterson

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The 12-hour flight from Beijing to Portland became, from Yuedan Wang's perspective, a journey to another world — a land of empty roads, small buildings and lush green valleys.

"The Oregon roads had no people on them," observed the 20-year-old Wang, one of 30 Chinese scholars to enroll in the first year of George Fox's China and East Asia Studies Program last fall. "The air was fresh and there was all this open space."

Yet in some ways, the place seemed familiar.

America bore reminders of home: KFC restaurants, Starbucks coffee shops, McDonalds, and Wal-Mart's. Thomas Peng, director of the East Asia program, can't

help but chuckle at the irony that "KFC" triggers memories of China. "Nowadays, the world is becoming like a small village," he says. "Chinese goods are sold here; American goods are sold in China — a very small village indeed."



Big adjustment

Wang and 29 of her compatriots, representing about 10 high schools and colleges in China, arrived at George Fox in August last year. The majority came to study business and economics, but that was not the most important reason. “They came because they are intrigued by America and want to know what makes it great,” Peng says. “They respect America and its place in the world, so they wish to gain a better understanding and appreciation for this nation and culture.”

To qualify, students had to meet numerous criteria: visa approval, proof of financial solvency and good grades, and a proficiency in English. Originally, 50 were admitted to the program, of whom 30 were approved. “There is a lot of bureaucratic red tape,” Peng admits. “Only about half get through the visa interview, so just qualifying to come here is half the battle.”

Upon their arrival, there are many more hurdles — cultural, religious, logistical, relational and educational — to overcome.

As a native Chinese, Peng can appreciate the magnitude of students’ adjustment period. “The entire first semester, they are in culture shock,” he says. “They don’t know the language real well, they have no friends, they might get stomach problems because of the food, most don’t have transportation, and they take Bible courses they don’t understand.”

For Wang and fellow student Yile Wei, the biggest challenge was trying to fit in.

“I know English, but I still find myself asking my friends, ‘What are you talking about?’” says Wei, a 21-year-old from Hunan Institute of Science and Technology, located in the central Chinese city of Yueyang. “I understand what is being said, but I don’t understand the meaning. For that reason, it’s very difficult to make deep friendships here.”

Wang concurs but was impressed with the warm welcome she received. “My biggest surprise came on my birthday in August. My RA and floor mates met me in the lobby and sang the birthday song to me and gave me flowers and a card.”

“Still, it is very difficult to make real friends here because of

the fact we have different values than the American students. We weren’t raised with the Bible, for instance, so I had trouble understanding it. Many of our classmates already knew the parables of Jesus. To me, they were all new, and I didn’t understand many of them.”

Even the educational system itself was new. “In China, we are used to lectures, with the professor telling us what we need to know,” Wang says. “Here, there is more group work and discussion time. I found it difficult to get used to this. It was hard to get involved in group learning. Very hard.”

Peng admits the transition can be tough. “I have gotten my share of complaints from professors, often because students are late to class,” he says. But, for this grievance, he is quick to provide an explanation. “Here, people say ‘I’ll see you tomorrow at



The university’s 10th anniversary Serve Day celebration gave Chinese students a chance to enjoy a carnival atmosphere. Many reflected on the joy they felt in serving.

3 o’clock.’ In China, we just say, ‘I’ll see you tomorrow.’ It may be morning, it may be afternoon. We aren’t as concerned about what time.”



The language barrier presents the biggest hurdle to Chinese students in the classroom.

Finding a niche

As challenging as the new environment was, many of the visitors engaged in campus and community life. Student Danxi (“Dancy”) Li spent her summer volunteering to work with the elderly in Newberg. QingLin (“William”) Yi invited his American roommate to tour China with him over the summer. A Chinese church service was started on Sunday afternoons during the school year.

For Dou Dou Li, making a new friend became a necessity at one point.

“I couldn’t figure out how the toilet worked, so I had to find someone who could fix it,” says the senior transfer student from the Hunan Institute of Science and Technology. “Not only did I get someone to help, they ended up inviting me to their church.”

Li, an international business major, has plans to remain in America after graduation. “I’d like to stay here and go to grad school. If I were to choose what business I was to get into, it would be working at an ice cream company. I love ice cream, especially with lots of peanuts.”

Li remained in Newberg over the summer and worked for the university’s maintenance department. One of her duties was, ironically, cleaning toilets. “I know how they work now,” she laughs.

Li’s fascination with things American is typical of Chinese students, Peng says. And it works the other way as well.

“I find that Americans are fascinated with our culture — they are intrigued by the fact we have a history of more than 3,500 years,” Peng says. “The feeling is mutual. We are also fascinated with the United States. There is so much we can learn from each other, and that is why these friendships are being formed.”

Alex Pia, director of International Student Services, concurs, adding: “These students become vital members of our campus community — they’re eager to learn from us and equally eager to share their stories with their American classmates.”

Why East Asia?

Aside from obvious cultural and religious differences, George Fox President Robin Baker was reminded of another reality during a two-week trip to China in the spring: This isn’t the world he

New friends, old ties

George Fox began a teaching exchange relationship with China’s Wuhan University of Technology in the early 1990s, but only last fall did the university initiate the China and East Asia Studies Program to recruit a significant number of Chinese students.

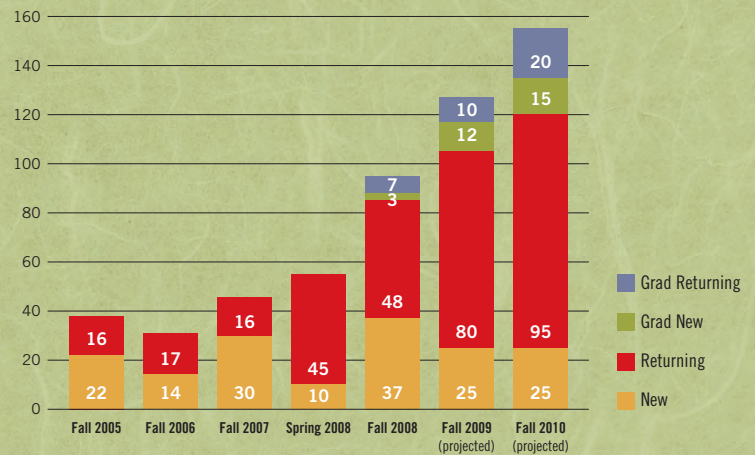
Thomas Peng (MA Christian studies ’96) returned to Newberg last year after serving as director of admissions and services for international students at Harding University in Arkansas since 2003. A native of China, Peng first became acquainted with George Fox while at Wuhan University of Technology in the late 1980s. It was there he met a visiting professor, Dennis Hagen, who had taught at George Fox since the mid-1960s.

George Fox initiated the China and East Asia Studies Program at a pivotal point in China’s history. The country, long isolated from the West under communism, is emerging as a global economic power. “China and India are the largest emerging economies in the world today,” George Fox President Robin Baker says. “If we want to reflect the future and not the past, we need to embrace these cultures. We in the U.S. had a tendency to be isolationists in the past. We can’t afford to do that anymore.”

The program also reflects the school’s commitment to bridging cultural, racial and religious boundaries. George Fox is ranked among the top 40 out of more than 1,300 schools in the country for the percentage of students who study abroad.

“Are we going to face huge challenges by bringing them here? You bet,” Baker says. “But engaging in these cross-cultural experiences is part of our DNA. It’s who we are as a Christian institution. Not only are we helping these Chinese students better understand American culture and our strong faith commitment, we are extending the opportunity for our American students to better appreciate cultures outside of their own.”

For the history and timeline of the university’s involvement with China, go to georgefox.edu/ChinaTimeline



International Student Enrollment

grew up in, when the Cold War created a divide between East and West, and the United States and the former Soviet Union were the world's undisputed superpowers.

Newsweek editor Fareed Zakaria, in his book *The Post-American World*, notes that the world's tallest building is in Taipei, Taiwan; the largest publicly traded company is in China; and India will soon have the world's biggest oil refinery. Today, Zakaria asserts, the centers of power, finance and trade have realigned into three

blocks: the United States, the European Union and Asia.

"It almost appears to be a culture on steroids," Baker says of China. "No matter where you look you see vast economic growth — new high-rise residences, new freeways, new sport complexes. Change is happening so rapidly it is hard to predict the result of the changes."

The recent Olympic Summer Games — at which Wang volunteered — were a coming-out party of sorts for the country. "The timing of the Games couldn't have been better for us," Peng says. "We demonstrated to the world that we are no longer so isolated, so closed to outside ideas. We are a welcoming people."

China's emergence on the global marketplace — and, subsequently, its more tolerant open-mindedness toward Western ideas — prompted George Fox to "really focus in the last couple of years on this idea of bringing Chinese students here," Baker says. The result: 65 students on campus for the 2008-09 academic year, with the goal of 100 on campus within four years.

"When you consider the hurdles — the language barrier, the trouble you have to go through to get visas approved — you might begin to question why you're doing it," Baker says. "Yet we need to come to the realization that, if we're going to be competitive and relevant in a global context, we have to seriously ask ourselves 'What do we need to do to engage other cultures?' Our response is to bring these students here."

Why George Fox?

The Chinese student population is about 60 percent high school students and 40 percent college transfers. They find out about George Fox through Peng's visits and the contacts he's developed over the years. In addition to his work at Harding, he served as a missionary to Chinese college students and, in the early 2000s, set up the first department of cultural studies — dedicated to discussing ethical, political

and religious topics among cultures — at Central China Normal University in Wuhan.

Peng also says word of mouth plays a big role. "Schoolmates, friends, parents, colleagues, and relatives of students tell their stories," he says. "And soon we have inquiries from people saying, 'Who is this George Fox? We want to know more.'"

Once the students get acquainted with the school, Peng says the appeal of the university is threefold: The school is respected academically in the United States; it has a history of more than 100 years; and it has an ideal West Coast location, between Seattle and San Francisco.

The majority of visiting students are the sons or daughters of businessmen and businesswomen, are employed by the Chinese government, or are educators themselves. "Their students come for the education, yes, but also to develop understanding, appreciation and friendship," Peng says. "After all, if you don't make the effort to try understanding one another, how can you expect to establish good relations with them?"

Bridging the gap

Peng admits the U.S.-China relationship has been strained somewhat by negative publicity — particularly concerning China's conflict with Tibet — and it pains him. "Unfortunately, the media here have a tendency to be stereotypical, painting all Chinese in a negative light," he says. "It's important not to judge a nation by watching the mass media. Generally speaking, people in America don't understand the nature of our conflict. The majority of Chinese have no direct relationship or involvement with Tibet, yet the U.S. media make it sound as if our whole nation is involved. It is a racial and religious conflict that involves a small segment of our population."

Peng says it works both ways: The Chinese often draw the wrong conclusions about the United States because of what is portrayed in the media. "Parents say to me, 'Is it safe there? Those Americans ... they shoot guns.'"

Still, Peng says the East Asia program is overcoming any negative stereotypes. "Our students recognize that the opinions of the media are not necessarily those of their teachers and friends," he says. "Retention is high because they feel welcome, they recognize that my office provides a good service, offering some scholarships, and because our school has a reliable academic standing."

From a more practical standpoint, the most noticeable divides are reli-





gious and philosophical in nature. While most of the students are receptive to studying Christianity and the Bible, some show a degree of skepticism and even reluctance.

"Some say, 'Why do I need to study the Bible? I don't see the rationale for doing so,'" Peng says. "But most are intrigued by what the Bible says. They are curious and want to find out what is behind Christianity."

In Wei's case, the required Bible classes have given her a new appreciation for Christianity. "I want to learn more about Christianity and what it is about," she says. "In China, the communists say there is no God — that we should believe in materialism. They make many hollow, empty statements — that you should be good to your fellow man — but I don't see any action. In the United States, the Christians seem committed to acting, to caring for others. They do so because they want to do good deeds and go to heaven."

On his trip to China, Baker engaged in dialogue that covered everything from sports to religion. "What I found on my trip was an overall openness to Western ideas — and a willingness to sit

down and talk about cultural differences, religious differences, you name it," he says.

And that, Baker says, is the crux of the program: to cultivate relationships in a world that is increasingly "flat." "It's a good thing to get out of our box and discover that there is much we can learn from people of other nations," he says. "Driving us is the knowledge that we have much to offer them and they have much to offer us. It's important we remember that God loves all people and that he moves beyond our Western culture.

"I'm convinced that developing partnerships in China will help us prepare our students for the future in a way that will make them more competitive for jobs, and more importantly, more effective servants of the kingdom."

Baker, too, couldn't help but notice the blurring of cultures. "There's a Starbucks right there at the Great Wall," he marveled. "And there are 68 Starbucks in Beijing. I knew I'd see that kind of stuff, but it did catch me a little off guard."

Small village, indeed.



1970-79

Phil Thornburg (n73) is owner of Winterbloom, Inc., a home-based landscaping business in Tigard, Ore., employing 11. He established it in 1983, using his degree in agriculture/horticulture from Oregon State and experience in nursery work. He teaches low-cost, four-week classes in do-it-yourself landscaping through colleges, schools and churches.

Gary Merritt (n75) has completed studies and been ordained as a pastor in the Church of the Nazarene. For the last six years he has served as executive pastor at New Hope Fellowship in Stuart, Fla., where he lives with his wife, **Irene (Jaques) Merritt** (n75).

Becky Ankeny (G77) is on a year-long sabbatical from her position as associate vice president for academic affairs at George Fox. She is completing work on an executive MBA at the University of Oregon and will work with Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends as a recorded minister and elder.

Kathleen (Norton) Carroll (G77) has taught preschool for the last 14 years, the last three at Andi Panda Child Enrichment Center in southeast Portland, where she teaches 2- and 3-year-olds.

Diane Dayton (G78) owns Dayton Communications and Class Act Entertainment, based in Lancaster, Pa. They focus on radio and TV production, advertising/public information, voice over and voice training, and event entertainment and coordination. She recently was inducted into Pi Kappa Delta, a national forensics honor society promoting excellence in spoken communication.

1980-89

Judith (Karnes) Casey (MA80) has been promoted to associate professor of psychology at Palm Beach Atlantic University in West Palm Beach, Fla. She has completed seven years at the university after serving 15 years in various classroom and counseling positions within the Palm Beach County School District.



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OR 97132; call 503-554-2126;
e-mail alumni@georgefox.edu*

Connie (Pittman) Carlson (G81, MA84) and **James Carlson** (MDiv91, DMin student) are in Spokane, Wash., where she is early childhood education liaison in the professional/technical education division at Spokane Falls Community College, and he owns Bison Grazing, a consulting firm that helps established church fellowships find new life through joining with newly established fellowships.

Tammy (Stockman) Malgesini (G82), after two years as a general assignment news reporter at the *East Oregonian* newspaper in Pendleton, Ore., has transferred to the *Hermiston Herald* as arts and entertainment editor and reporter. The change follows the acquisition of the Hermiston, Ore., newspaper by East Oregonian Publishing Co. Her assignments include community,

religion, Hermiston and Echo school districts, and breaking news.

Michelle Stecker (G84) is an ordained Presbyterian minister and has served Presbyterian and United Church of Christ congregations in Ohio and Michigan. Until June she was a contract mediator in Lucas County Juvenile Court in Toledo.

Kellie Carlsen (G85) is a stewardship forester with the Oregon Department of Forestry, administering state forest practices laws and assisting private landowners desiring to improve their timber stands. Living in Lakeview, Ore., she serves as a safety officer on a department incident management team and as incident commander, division supervisor, and fire investigator on local wildfire incidents.

Dixie (Schoonover) Downey (G85) has joined George Fox's plant services staff as an administrative assistant. A stay-at-home mom for the past seven years, she previously worked for four years as a programmer/analyst with Rentrak Entertainment and for several years with computer companies in Boulder, Colo., Portland, and Hillsboro, Ore.

Robert Legg (G85, MDiv88) has been named executive director of the Lake Stevens, Wash., Chamber of Commerce. He has been a chamber member since 1991, serving recently as a board member. From 1990 through May 2007 he was senior leader of Lakeside Community Fellowship church. He has served in the U.S. Air Force since 1978. Commissioned as an officer in 1991, he is currently attached to the 446th Air Wing at McChord Air Force Base (Wash.) as a reserve officer with the rank of major. He is a member of the George Fox Evangelical Seminary Board of Regents.



Teresa (Black) Ketelsen (G86) is the new curriculum director for the Gresham-Barlow (Ore.) School District. She began July 1, moving from West Orient Middle School (Gresham) where she was principal for five years. Prior to that she was assistant principal at Athey Creek Middle School in West Linn, Ore., and previously taught middle school mathematics for 14 years.

Nancy Olson (G87) has been named acting director of the Volunteer Action Department, a new department at California Volunteers, a part of the governor's office. It is responsible for statewide initiatives, including the California Volunteer Matching Network, the Governor's Mentoring Partnership, Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning, and a statewide conference held in August in conjunction with the White House Office of Faith-Based Initiatives.

Robyn Simpson (G88) in March received a master of arts degree in community counseling from Canyon College, Caldwell, Idaho.

Barbara (Salyer) Doran (n89) is the new "voice" of George Fox, since March serving as the university's switchboard operator. She and her husband have co-owned Doran Automotive in Newberg since 1989, where she was office manager and bookkeeper.

KEY

- G Traditional graduate
- n Traditional nongraduate
- MA Master of arts
- MS Master of science
- MAT Master of arts in teaching
- MBA Master of business administration
- GFES George Fox Evangelical Seminary
- MDiv Master of divinity
- DMin Doctor of ministry
- MEd Master of education
- EdD Doctor of education
- PsyD Doctor of psychology
- SPS School of Professional Studies

Judy (Warner) Miller (G89, PsyD04) has a private practice in Tigard, Ore., as a licensed psychologist.

Joy (Headings) Wilson (G89) has been hired as marketing specialist at the accounting firm of Bryan P. Fitzsimmons, CPA, in Newport, Ore. She counsels and advises clients about their businesses, goals and plans. Previously she was director of communications and marketing for the Cascade Division of the Salvation Army, headquartered in Portland, and worked for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the Oregon Food Bank.

1990-99

Pat Casey (G90), for the third year in a row, has won the Slat's Gill sportsperson of the year award for the state of Oregon. The award was presented in January at the 56th annual Oregon Sports Awards ceremony at the Tiger Woods Center on the Nike campus in Beaverton, Ore. Casey in 2007 guided his Oregon State University baseball team to its second straight College World Series title. He is the first person to win the award three times in a row.

Angie (Milholland) Clarkson (n91) in July was hired as administrative assistant in the George Fox Murdock Learning Resource Center. Previously she was an academic secretary for science, math, computer science and athletics at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton, Ore.

Scott Curtis (G91, MAT94) has been hired as principal of Beaver Creek Elementary School in the Oregon City School District. He moves from St. Helens, Ore., where he was principal of St. Helens Middle School after being assistant principal at McBride Elementary. He previously taught science, math and physical education at several schools in Oregon and California and was

Peace hostages

Tricia Gates Brown (G96, MA97) continues to promote peace by sharing the stories of Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT). Her new book, *118 Days: Christian Peacemaker Teams Held Hostage in Iraq* (Cascadia Press), recounts the hostage crisis endured by the organization and its team members in Iraq in 2005. The three released hostages — Harmeet Singh Sooden, Jim Loney and Norman Kember — contributed chapters to the book as did CPT members

and sympathizers involved with securing their release and others affected by the crisis.

118 Days examines the daily lives of CPT delegations and sheds light on the life and death

of hostage Tom Fox.

The chapters weave a story of hope, friendship, fear, courage and forgiveness.

Brown, who resides in Nehalem, Ore., holds a PhD in New Testament studies from University of St. Andrews. She has published several other books and serves as a CPT reservist. Her play, *Whatever Kindles*, premiered at George Fox in 2007.





youth pastor at Northside Community Church in Newberg.

Jennica (Hein) Jenkins (G91) is a psychologist with Teen Intervention, a private therapy practice in Sacramento, Calif., providing therapy and social skills support groups for preteens with autism.

Ken Stone (PsyD91) has joined the psychology department at MeritCare South University, Fargo, N.D. Previously he worked at Southeast Human Service Center in Fargo.

Kristin (Potts) Van Tassel (G91), after having been at Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kan., since 2005, has been promoted to associate professor of English. She has taught at Kansas Wesleyan University, Kansas State University at Salina, and the University of Kansas, from which she earned a PhD in English.

Ron Wolfe (G92) is the new manager for the Newberg branch of Columbia River Bank. He has had six years in commercial lending and previous experience in insurance, benefits administration, and small business administration.

Brian Stocker (G93) is owner of American Coin and Gold in Keizer, Ore., following in the footsteps of his father, who owns a coin shop in nearby Salem. In an article in the Aug. 15, 2008, *Keizer Times* he says the moment in life that most profoundly affected him was "in a business class at George Fox University my junior year with 50 students I respected and a professor we really respected. He singled me out and said, 'This guy out of every student reminds me of myself when I was his age.'"

Kristi (Marquette) Brown (G94) and **Stephen Brown (G96)** live in Greeley, Colo., where he is a police officer and she teaches physical education in nearby Windsor, Colo.

Paul Horton (G94) is the morning news meteorologist at KPHO-TV (Channel 5) in

Phoenix, Ariz. He joined the CBS affiliate in September, moving from WXIX-TV, the Fox affiliate in Cincinnati, where he was chief meteorologist. He received a certificate of meteorology from Mississippi State University and previously has worked at stations in Kennewick, Spokane, and Seattle, Wash.

Michael Pender (G94) and **Michael Hampton (G00, MBA08)** have purchased Jim Fisher Roofing and Construction and will retain that name for the Sherwood, Ore.,-based firm founded in Newberg in 1979. It has 50 employees and specializes in maintenance and repair of roofs and gutters in addition to design and construction services for dormers, skylights and patio covers. Hampton has been with the firm for eight years and Pender for four.

Trey Doty (G95, MDiv00) is the new director of development for George Fox Evangelical Seminary. He began in July, moving from the Arthur Lutz Foundation, Portland, where he oversaw grant strategy, donor management and fund development from 2005 to 2007. Previously he was pastor of Christus Church in Portland. He is a recorded minister of Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Church.

Gennie (Sluder) Harris (G96, MEd99) in June received a PhD in education from Oregon State University. Her dissertation was "White Racial Identity Development in Transitional Space: Discourse and Praxis Among Christian Teacher Educators." A faculty member at George Fox since 2001, this fall she joined Linfield College as assistant professor of multicultural education.

Pat Sharp (MEd96) is superintendent of the Crane (Ore.) School District. She began in January, moving from her eight-year position as principal of Twality Middle School in the Tigard-Tualatin School District. She had been with the district for 22 years. In her new role in the Harney County system she guides one of the last public boarding schools in Oregon, with dormitories for

students who live there during the week to avoid the long-distance travel to their homes.

Robert Allen (MAT97) teaches English at Hannam University in Deejeon, Korea. His thoughts on the teaching of English in Korea were carried in a Jan. 30, 2008, opinion column in the *Korea Times*.

Wendy Brown (SPS97) and her husband, Jason, are approved missionary candidates with American Missionary Fellowship. They live in Boise, Idaho, while raising funds for support, headed for full-time ministry at Shiloh Bible Camp, a 66-acre complex 25 miles southeast of Aberdeen, Wash. They will work with teens in discipleship and with maintaining the camp grounds.

Heather Adams (G98) is copy editor for the *National*, a recently launched newspaper in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. She recently completed a graduate certificate in Middle Eastern cultures and religions at Jerusalem University College.

Bob Larson (G98) received statewide attention in Oregon with media coverage in April of his public protest of the war in Iraq after learning of the monthly cost. He stood on a traffic island on busy Highway 99W in Newberg holding signs urging an end to the war. The retired banker and U.S. Air Force veteran and president of the Newberg City Council said he was not a peace activist but concerned by the estimated \$15 billion that is spent each month for the wars in the Middle East. Some drivers honked and waved in agreement; others hollered their opposition. Now 77, Larson received three degrees (business economics, sociology and psychology, and political science) when he graduated from George Fox after four semesters, completing the two years of college he started decades before.

Hans Schneiter (G98), after four years at Newberg High School as boy's soccer



coach and biology teacher, has moved to South Albany (Ore.) High School, where he has the same duties and will be helping resurrect a horticulture program.

Michael Hampton (MA99) is director of Western Oregon University's Career Services/Service Learning Department. At the Monmouth university since 2004, he heads an "alternative break" program in which students take part in relief projects in the spring and winter. In November in Las Vegas he received an award from the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators for his efforts in complementing education with experiential learning opportunities.

Craig Woodworth (SPS99, MBA06) in June became claims manager for A&I Benefit Plan Administrators, Inc., Portland, a 70-employee firm serving 700 employers with 30,000 employees. Previously he worked 13 years for Liberty Mutual Insurance.

2000-07

Melody Abarca (G00, MAT04) teaches Spanish at St. Paul (Ore.) High School, just a few miles away from her hometown of Gervais.

Cindy Aggson (MBA00) in the last three years has started three businesses: Carpe Viam, a marketing and consulting firm; Character Tree, a specialized gift company; and Give 'n Gobble, a nonprofit organization. The Sherwood, Ore., mom of three previously worked in corporate marketing for three firms until deciding to shift her focus to people-driven ventures. Last fall she organized the Thanksgiving Day Give 'n Gobble Walk/Run, which as a first-year event drew 500 participants, raising \$5,000 for a local charity, Helping Hands.

Wendy (Clark) Goodwin (G00), a professional musician in Portland, has created her own company, Effesenden. Through the company she produces CDs and performs as



Ring leader

By day, **Perla Rodriguez** is principal of the 400-student Cornelius (Ore.) Elementary School, championing Latino education.

By night she determines champions of a different sort.

Most evenings, after her 12-hour school days, she's a mother at home with her husband and three children. But, on occasion, she becomes one of just a few in the nation with her third job — a professional boxing judge.

She's Oregon's only female boxing judge. Outside of a few women in Florida and California, there are few others in the nation. In Oregon, the Oregon State Athletic Commission sanctions six pro-

fessional judges — five men and Rodriguez.

Rodriguez, who received a doctorate in education from George Fox in 2006, grew up regularly watching pro boxing on her Uncle Mundo's television. She became a boxing judge in 2005, two years after being named principal in the Forest Grove School District. Previously she taught for five years as a Spanish immersion teacher at the Echo Shaw Elementary School in Cornelius.

Of her busy life (told in a feature story June 30 in *The Oregonian*), Rodriguez says: "I care so much about so many things, how can I slow down?"



Blindness no barrier for naturopath

Chris Cooke (G87) thought she'd found her niche in life when she became a music teacher following graduation. Totally blind, as an accomplished pianist she began sharing her talent with young people. That seemed remarkable enough.

Now Cooke has a new career that is even more distinctive. She is believed to be the only totally blind naturopathic physician in the United States.

Opening her practice this spring in the Sherwood (Ore.) Naturopathic Medicine office, Cooke offers a full range of services. Naturopathic medicine is a complementary and alternative medicine that emphasizes the body's innate ability to heal and maintain itself, with a holistic approach to care.

Making a career switch and pursuing four years of medical

study (National College of Natural Medicine, Portland) was "a daunting road," Cooke says. "I've always been excited about doing things that have never been done before." Inspiration for the career change came about 10 years ago when she fell and broke cartilage in the right side of her face. She says prayer and natural medicine healed her — and inspired her.

Cooke uses a computer program that reads her e-mails, a gadget attached to her computer that scans reference books and then reads them aloud, a talking blood pressure cuff and blood glucose reader, and a Braille labeling machine that allows her to mark her remedies.

Living in southwest Portland, Cook also operates a sliding-scale clinic for people on low or fixed incomes two Saturdays a month out of a church in southeast Portland.

a violinist at occasions ranging from weddings and churches to corporate events. She has released three CDs, the most recent *Road Less Traveled*. She has a master's degree in music performance from Portland State University (2002) and offers violin lessons to students at all levels.

Caleb Harris (G00) is the new principal at Oakdale Heights Elementary School in Dallas, Ore. He moved from the Beaverton (Ore.) School District where he began as an elementary teacher. In 2004 he became an administrator in that district with positions including state testing coordinator, classroom assessment supervisor, staff supervisor and student supervisor.

Katie (Scorza) Simpson (G00) is a financial advisor for Country Financial in Redmond, Ore.

Rick Brumble (SPS01, MBA05) in February 2008 accepted a position as project manager with Kaiser Permanente in Portland. He earned certification as a project management professional in June. He also is an adjunct professor in George Fox's School of Professional Studies.

Nathan Goff (G01) this spring started a new job as senior business analyst for Pop Art, Inc., a Portland interactive agency helping clients engage in online dialogue with their customers using web-based technology.

Kelly (McCabe) Hansen (G01) is project manager for Keystone Land and Development in Bellevue, Wash.

Youqing Ma (SPS01) is international trade specialist with the office of international trade under Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa in Los Angeles.

Renee Mitchell (MBA01), a columnist with *The Oregonian* until September, was named the top columnist in five states (Ore., Wash., Idaho, Mont., Alaska) by the Society of Professional Journalists. She has written *Tangoing with Tornadoes*, a 300-page novel available as an e-book, which



she is now crafting into a one-woman show. This year she spoke in New Orleans for the Boston-based Victims Rights Law Center, and was scheduled to speak in Guam and other islands in October as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Debra Schwarze (MA01) is a licensed clinical professional counselor in private practice in Rockford, Ill. A counselor since 1992, she has been in private practice for more than two years, following work in community mental health and at a public school system as a behavioral specialist. She participates as one of the experts offering advice and help through HealthyRockford.com.

Lauri Bolton (MBA02), with 13 years of human resources experience, six in health care, has joined Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital in Lincoln City, Ore., as human resources director. Previously she worked with Providence Health and Services in Portland, and Sutter Health in Crescent City, Calif.

Linda Kidder (SPS02) is the new health information director for Mountain View Hospital in Madras, Ore. She moved this spring from the position of Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and information technology coordinator at Deschutes County Health Department in Bend, Ore. Her expertise is in oversight of hospital medical records functions and enforcement of national standards to protect the privacy of personal health information.

David Killian (G02, MAT03) has been named coach of the track and field team at Barlow High School, Gresham, Ore., from which he graduated in 1998. He also has a math teaching assignment. For the last five years he has been an assistant track coach and math teacher at Reynolds High in Troutdale, Ore.

Jonathon Melot (G02) and **Pamela (Mattson) Melot** (G02) live in Avon, Colo., where he is in sales at Ritz-Carlton and she is a child-

care center director.

David Ranz (SPS02) has passed the Washington State Bar exam and has opened a law office in Federal Way, Wash. His practice focuses on personal injury, traffic infractions, and foreclosures.

Kris Thompson (SPS02) this summer opened a new restaurant, The Orchard House, in Caldwell, Idaho. She and a business partner purchased a former restaurant location and renovated it. Previously she owned a coffee shop near the Karcher Ranch Market in Nampa, Idaho, for eight years.

Lindsay Walker (G02) works for PlanetWisdom Student Conferences as a representative for a 13-stop national tour. Its goal is preparing teens for the future with “events that take teens from a student point of view and get them looking at their world from God’s perspective.” She lives in Dallas, Texas, after receiving a master’s degree in parachurch ministries from Dallas Seminary.

Cori Clausen (G03), as work force development director, coordinates between the Salem-Keizer (Ore.) School District and local businesses to better prepare students to enter the work force. She is community outreach coordinator for the school district, involved with the Chamber of Commerce.

Julie Dempsey (SPS03) has been named manager of the Fairview branch of Home Federal Bank, Boise, Idaho. She has 10 years of experience in branch management, most recently as section manager at Key Bank’s Western Loan Center in Boise.

Matt Noonan (SPS03) has taken a George Fox class project and turned it into a full-time business, foxholetoys.com, selling toy military vehicles, aircraft, figures, play sets, and action figures. He developed the database and much of the website in class. With his Portland business growing, he left his position as a Costco manager.

Uriel Plascencia (G03) has completed his first year as a graduate student at the University of Oregon. One of 1,300 graduate teaching fellows, he taught Spanish 101 while enrolled in courses in which he focused his research on Spanish-speaking people in the Northwest – those who couldn’t go to college in their native country.

Jessica (Moore) Bates (G04) in November became economic development officer for Gilliam County, Ore., overseeing economic and business development, marketing and promotion, economic strategic planning, and tourism development. Previously she was with Painted Hills Natural Beef in marketing, advertising and development.

Matthew Burg (G04, MAT05) teaches physics at Sunset High School, Beaverton, Ore., where he also coaches cross country and track.

8

Chehalem Valley awards

Eight alumni earned recognition at the Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce awards ceremony in the spring. Brothers **Marc** (G85), **Mike** (G90) and **Matt** (G94) **Willcuts** were named Newberg’s Citizens of the Year and also won an award for a new building project, sharing city beautification honors with fellow grads **Dan** (G89) and **Andy** (G91) **LaVeine** and **Roger** (G47) and **Mildred** (G46) **Minthorne**. The chamber’s Edward Stevens Distinguished Service Person of the Year award went to **Frank Engle** (G82).



Derek Dougherty (G04) has been hired as the boy's soccer coach at Eagle Point (Ore.) High School. He was a volunteer junior varsity coach last season and has been a math teacher for two years at Eagle Point.

Doug Felder (SPS04) has joined Plexus Corp., an electronics manufacturing firm in Boise, Idaho, as purchasing leader. Previously he was with Micron Semiconductor, West Valley Medical Center, Toshiba, Point 4 Data Corp, and Printronix.

David Panther (G04) has been accepted into the Loma Linda University (Calif.) School of Medicine, leaving his position in research at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, one of the U.S. Dept. of Energy's 10 national labs, in Richland, Wash. He was co-author of a scientific paper, "Submicrometer and Nanoscale Inorganic Particles Exploit the Actin Machinery to Be Propelled Along Microvilli-like Structures into Alveolar Cells," in the December issue of the American Chemical Society's journal *ACS Nano*.

Jessica (Tessen) Baker (G05) started in September as a third-grade teacher at Open Bible School in Newberg.

Sally Bartlett (MA05) is the new economic development coordinator for Grant County, Ore. She began last fall, moving to Canyon City, Ore., from Boise, Idaho, where for the last seven years she was a child nutrition programs coordinator for the Idaho Department of Education. In her position she is charged with encouraging and coordinating economic development efforts and strategies, with business retention efforts, and with expansion and recruitment of businesses.

Bryna (Finch) Closson (G05) is the resident trainer and show jumping specialist for her family's Larkspur Farm, five miles north of Kalispell, Mont. It is a new hunter-jumper equestrian boarding and training facility featuring an 80-by-204-foot indoor arena, two turnout yards, sand ring, and 24 boarding stalls.

Brian Cottrell (G05) and **Andrew Riese** (G07) returned this year to Shanghai, China, to teach English at Sanda University under the auspices of Educational Services International. Also teaching in Shanghai last year was **Matthew Stratton** (G06), who was an independent contractor at a private education center.

Steve Delaney (SPS05) in January became chief executive officer for Orange County (Calif.) Employees Retirement System. He heads a staff of 57 in the administration of the \$8 billion public pension fund. He moved from a position as deputy director of the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System, which he held for three years.

Alice Long (G05) is a real estate agent with Windermere in Walla Walla, Wash.

Jesse Merz (MAT05) in June received an MFA in acting from the University of California, Davis. He now has a position as assistant professor of acting at Wayne State University/Hilberry Repertory Theatre in Detroit. This summer he again was director of the Columbia Gorge School of Theatre, which he founded 12 years ago for students ages 8-18.

Brittany Moseley (G05) in June returned from a five-month deployment in Iraq, finishing her second year in the U.S. Air Force. Stationed at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, she now works as a sensor operator for the MQ-1B Predator, a medium-altitude, long-distance, remotely piloted aircraft.

Marc Buffington (n06) has been hired as the head baseball coach for Poudre High School in Fort Collins, Colo., where he teaches business and social studies. A 2000 graduate of the school, he was assistant coach the last two seasons.

Jon Hanson (G06) lives in Tualatin, Ore., where he is a real estate agent with Keller Williams Realty in Oregon and Northwest Properties Brokers Network in Washington.

CoryAnn (Crooks) Imhof (G06) is in her second year of chiropractic medical school at Western State Chiropractic College, Portland.

Dan Johnson (MEd06) has helped Philomath (Ore.) High School become one of just three schools in the nation to garner a Grammy Foundation award recognizing outstanding commitment to music education by underfunded music programs. The Enterprise Award, which had 350 applicants, includes a \$5,000 grant. Johnson is director of performing arts at the school, leading the band and choir and heading the drama program. He moved to the Philomath school in 2004 after directing middle school and high school bands for many years at Corvallis, Ore.

Brittany Quinn (G06) has been selected by the Krista Foundation, Spokane, Wash., as a Krista Colleague, one of about 20 young adults in the Pacific Northwest recognized for commitment to service. She receives a \$1,000 grant for global citizenship. After graduating from George Fox she moved to Thailand to serve at the Garden of Hope, a nonprofit organization that provides counseling and vocational training to women and youth exploited in the sex industry. In May she and **Kelly Riechers** (G07) hosted 18 George Fox students volunteering at Garden of Hope during a month-long serve trip. (See related story on p. 9)

Janine Allen (EdD07) has been named dean of education at Corban College and Graduate School, Salem, Ore. For the last five years she has been dean of the School of Education and Counseling at Northwest Christian College, Eugene, Ore.

Christopher Cadwell (MBA07) has been hired as a commercial banker at the Boise (Idaho) office of Sterling Savings Bank. He moves from Wells Fargo Bank where he worked for 11 years in retail and commercial banking.

Justin Hudec (G07) has joined the George Fox admissions office as undergraduate admis-



You may kiss the bride

Many more people attended **Steve Fulton's** renewal of marriage vows last June than were present at his wedding 21 years ago. Several hundred thousand more observed the occasion on national television.

Fulton (MAT07) and his wife, Marilyn, renewed their vows atop a float in the annual Portland Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade. They were one of three couples chosen in an "I Do Redo" contest to ride on the Portland General Electric parade entry.

The couple lives in Sherwood, where he is a substitute teacher, teaching math and history in Sherwood, Tigard and Newberg, seeking to become a full-time history teacher. He retired four years ago from the U.S. Navy.

The couple met during the 1986 Rose Festival when he was an officer aboard a visiting ship and she had volunteered for the Host a Sailor program. They made their home in San Diego until his naval retirement.

In his application for the contest, Fulton wrote that he and Marilyn "share ideas, successes, defeats, triumphs and



tragedies ... share their thoughts and often find themselves thinking the same things as if by telepathy."

The Fultons won in the 10-to-24-year-marriage category. They received a package of gifts in addition to the opportunity to ride in the parade.

sions counselor. He was an intern in the office from 2004 to 2006 and the last two summers has been on-site director of the day camp program at GFU's Tilikum Center for Retreats and Outdoor Ministries.

Lisa Baumann Hunt (MBA07) lives in Beaverton, Ore., where she operates A Plus Gatherings, an event planning business she founded in January to serve the Portland area.

Megan Weiss (G07) is account coordinator with Vital Technical Marketing, Inc. Beaverton, Ore. The company does communications management for technology companies worldwide, including public relations and events, initiatives and engineering management.

Cary Griffith (G08) and his wife, **Kayin Griffith (G08)**, have both joined the George Fox staff. He is web development specialist in the marketing communications office, where he worked as a student for two years. She is the new administrative assistant in the spiritual life office. She was the university's Serve Day coordinator in 2007 and served in that capacity this year.

Sara (Whelan) Logue (G08) has been hired to teach a fifth-grade class of talented and gifted students at Tom McCall Upper Elementary School, Forest Grove, Ore.

Melissa (Marek-Farris) Martin (G08) is employed by Proactive Sports Orthopedic and Physical Therapy, Vancouver, Wash., while her husband, Andrew, is a student in George Fox's nursing program.

Dot Tobey (G08) began in July as an undergraduate admissions counselor at George Fox. She was an admissions office intern her senior year.

Ben Quintana (MA08) has been named director of business development for the Boise (Idaho) Valley Economic Partnership. He has worked for the Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce for the last four years and will continue to manage its Boise Young Professionals work. Last year he was honored as one of the *Idaho Business Review's* "Accomplished Under 40" recipients and received the community service award from the Idaho Lions Club.



Wordstock Reunion

Two of George Fox's most acclaimed alumni writers will be reunited this fall at the Pacific Northwest's largest annual book and literary festival. Former classmates **Rolf Potts** (G93) and **Gina Ochsner** (G92) will share their insights on writing as guest speakers and workshop leaders at Wordstock (wordstockfestival.com), held Nov. 8-9 at Portland Convention Center.

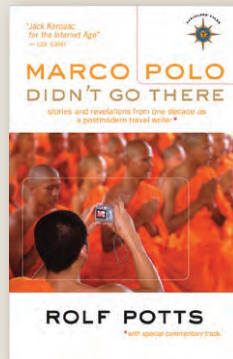
Dubbed "Jack Kerouac for the Internet Age" by *USA Today*, Potts has reported from more than 60 countries for the likes of *National Geographic Traveler*, *The New York Times Magazine* and *Slate*. Although he has

a farmhouse in rural Kansas, his adventures have taken him across six continents, and include piloting a fishing boat 900 miles down the Laotian Mekong, traversing Israel on foot, bicycling across Burma, and driving a Land Rover from Sunnyvale, Calif., to Ushuaia, Argentina. The award-winning author of *Vagabonding* (Random House, 2003), Potts' newest book is *Marco Polo Didn't Go There: Stories and Revelations From One Decade as a Postmodern Travel Writer*.



Keizer, Ore. resident Ochsner's stories have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Best American Nonrequired Reading*, *Kenyon Review*,

Prairie Schooner, and many other magazines. Her first two books — *The Necessary Grace to Fall* and *People I Wanted to Be* — both won the state's top award for short fiction at the Oregon Book Awards. In support of her first novel — due out this spring — she has received a Creative Writing Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts and a grant from the Guggenheim Foundation.



Robbie McClaran

JUST MARRIED

Julie Bitar (G91) and Ryan Zook, Dec. 29, 2007, in Portland.

Josie Smith (G98) and Glover Weiss, June 28, 2008, in Leavenworth, Wash.

Rachel Huang (G00) and Wen-Cheng Tseng, Feb. 23, 2008, in Taoyuan, Taiwan.

Kelly McCabe (G01) and Ted Hansen, Oct. 20, 2007, in Seattle.

Julia Smith (G01) and Nathan Cooley, Feb. 23, 2008, in Portland.

Jennifer Gale (G02) and Scott Angus, Sept. 22, 2007, in Portland.

Kendra Heinrichs (G02, MEd06) and Mark Jones, Nov. 9, 2007, in Beaverton, Ore.

Pamela Mattson (G02) and **Jonathan Melot** (G02), Dec. 1, 2007, in Vail, Colo.

Kyle Pfeiffer (G02) and Rama Miller, March 26, 2008, in Maui, Hawaii.

Heidi Stuelpnagel (G02) and Nick Amrine, May 9, 2008, in Kings Beach, Calif.

Sarah Dorsey (G03) and Charles Parsons, Sept. 22, 2007, in Portland.

Matthew Burg (G04) and Megan Ankeny, June 21, 2008, in Newberg.

Katherine Grabner (G04) and Micah Briedwell, Jan. 18, 2008, in McMinnville, Ore.

Matthew Johnson (G04) and Sarah Jackson, Dec. 15, 2007, in Vancouver, Wash.

David Panther (G04) and Cami Davis, April 5, 2008, in Walla Walla, Wash.

Daniel Predoehl (G05) and Jennifer Harlow, March 8, 2008, in Agoura Hills, Calif.

Haley Stapleton (G05) and Josh Liston, June 23, 2007, in McMinnville, Ore.

Cory Crooks (G06) and Andrew Imhof, June 30, 2007, in Salem, Ore.

Holly Dobbeck (G06) and Greg Giesbrecht, May 23, 2008, in Newberg.

Arlund Kunz (SPS06) and Wanda Callahan, June 7, 2008, in Bend, Ore.



Travis Lund (G06) and **Eva-Lynn Johnson** (G07), July 20, 2008, in Colton, Ore.

Kayla Morgan (G06) and **Joshua Mitchell**, Dec. 28, 2007 in Beaverton, Ore.

Stefanie Philips (G06) and **Michael Stern**, July 13, 2008, in Silverton, Ore.

Matthew Steenslid (MAT06) and **Arin McCoy**, July 28, 2007, in Keizer, Ore.

Zachary Bascom (G08) and **Lindsay Waring** (G08), June 7, 2008, in Bend, Ore.

Kathryn Galloway (G08) and **Dennis Caudle**, May 25, 2008, in Eugene, Ore.

Kelsie Howell (G08) and **Shawn McKenzie** (G08), June 7, 2008, in Tualatin, Ore.

Melissa Marek-Farris (G08) and **Andrew Martin** (student), May 31, 2008, in Salem, Ore.

BABY BRUINS

Debbie (Luther) McMillin (G91) and **Phil McMillin**, a boy, **Joshua Lee**, Dec. 15, 2007, in Portland.

Jennifer (Brownlee) Sinclair (G91) and **Pete Sinclair**, a boy, **Samuel John**, July 25, 2007, in Portland, and a girl, **Kayla Leloney**, born June 8, 2005, in Seattle, adoption being finalized.

Megan (Heasley) Cutter (G92) and **Denis Cutter**, a girl, **Esther Elizabeth**, Dec. 30, 2007, in Anchorage, Alaska.

Tammy (Morris) Heerwagen (G92) and **Eric Heerwagen**, a boy, **Timmy Myeong-bo**, Oct. 22, 2007, in Seoul, South Korea, adopted May 30, 2008, in Beaverton, Ore.

Sergio Mendoza (G92) and **Adriana Mendoza**, a girl, **Vanessa Nicté**, June 1, 2007, in Las Vegas.

Mark Pothoff (G93) and **Olivia (Fromdahl) Pothoff** (G00), a girl, **Kaselyn Rose**, Oct. 23, 2007, in Clackamas, Ore.

José Vargas (G93) and **Angela (Bixel) Vargas** (MA06), a girl, **Araceli Rose**, April 10, 2008, in Newberg.

Jenny (Davis) Duquette (G94) and **Jon Duquette**, a girl, **Lucy Jean**, Dec. 16, 2007, in Portland.

Dana (Wright) Klinkner (G94) and **Shawn Klinkner** (G97), a boy, **Josiah Seth**, Dec. 15, 2007, in Portland.

Sally (Johnson) Moore (G95) and **Kent Moore**, a boy, **Finley Patrick**, March 7, 2008, in Newberg.

Tomoko (Araki) Mori (G95) and **Yoichi Mori**, a boy, **Kishin Joyous**, June 13, 2008, in Newberg.

Bryan Boyd (G96) and **Kim (Tirrill) Boyd** (G96), a girl, **Sara Uriza**, May 25, 2008, in Key West, Fla., adopted May 28 in Key West, Fla.

Sara (Scanlon) Brown (G96) and **Roby Brown**, a boy, **Kieran Scott**, May 13, 2008, in Austin, Texas.

Amy (Smith) Karjala (G96) and **Aaron Karjala**, a girl, **Abigail Lynn**, June 24, 2008, in Newberg.

Lori (Mills) Thune (G96) and **Derrick Thune**, a boy, **Zachary Raymond**, June 17, 2008, in Portland.

Ryan Chaney (G97) and **Kristin (Delrich) Chaney** (G98), a boy, **Treyson Micah**, June 8, 2008, in Salem, Ore.

Alison (Kilpatrick) Craker (G97, MA02) and **Brian Craker** (G08), a boy, **Tyler Edson**, Jan. 19, 2008, in Portland.

Laura (Johnson) Joubert (G97, MAT98) and **Michael Joubert**, a girl, **Katelyn Marie**, Aug. 30, 2007, in Vancouver, Wash.

Melissa (Thomas) Laninga (G97) and **Nathaniel Laninga** (G97), a boy **Niekolaas "Cole" Thomas**, Aug. 1, 2007, in Silverton, Ore.

Jennifer (Hawkins) Maurer (G97, MAT98) and **Bernard Maurer**, a boy, **Benjamin Ian**, July 24, 2007, in Raleigh, N.C.

Elissa (Anderegg) Vanlandingham (G97, MAT00) and **Robert Vanlandingham** (n99), a girl, **Amelia Hope**, Sept. 10, 2007, in Corvallis, Ore.

Caleb Williams (G97) and **Kara (Fouts) Williams** (G98, MAT01), a girl, **Elisabeth Autumn**, March 19, 2008, in Salem, Ore.

Tabitha (Hewitt) Burgtorf (G98) and **Marshall Burgtorf**, a boy, **Noah Brennan**, June 23, 2007, in Bend, Ore.

Kimberly (Johnson) Evans (G98, MAT00) and **David Evans**, a boy, **Jack David**, Jan. 18, 2008, in Kirkland, Wash.

Ken Gilmore (G98) and **Corrie (Hoenhaus) Gilmore** (G99), a girl, **Kylie Elizabeth**, Nov. 25, 2007, in Hillsboro, Ore.

Felicia (Marsolini) Handley (G98) and **Trevor Handley** (G98), a girl, **Jillian Louise**, May 5, 2008, in Bellevue, Wash.

Tim Hanson (G98) and **Jennifer Hanson**, a boy, **Cole David**, Oct. 26, 2007, in Corvallis, Ore.

Josh Howery (G98) and **Sherilyn (Gerig) Howery** (G00), a girl, **Eva Gabriella**, May 28, 2008, in Newberg.

Stephanie (Jones) Teahn (G98) and **Munty Teahn**, a girl, **Samantha Kristine Favor**, May 21, 2008, in McMinnville, Ore.

Kelly (Lyda) Alvarez (n99) and **Alejandro Alvarez**, a girl, **Analia Jeanne**, Sept. 3, 2007, in Hillsboro, Ore.

Nate Kuske (G99) and **Jenny (Freeman) Kuske** (G01), a girl, **Anna Marie**, Dec. 28, 2007, in Silverdale, Wash.

Michael Moody (G99) and **Carolynn Moody**, a girl, **Eliana Grace**, March 4, 2008, in Kirkland, Wash.

Cory Morgan (G99) and **Tiffany (Smith) Morgan** (G00), a boy, **Isaac John**, Jan. 11, 2008, in Portland.

Marshall Pickens (G99, MAT00) and **Stacy (Frazier) Pickens** (G00), a boy, **Liam Jesse**, Jan. 8, 2008, in Anchorage, Alaska.

Benjamin Smith (G99) and **Heidi Smith**, a girl, **Grace Elizabeth**, Oct. 2, 2007, in Germany.



Jonathan Williams (G99) and Carol (Walter) Williams (G01), a boy, Eilam Wendell, Feb. 21, 2008, in Big Rapids, Mich.

Eric Beasley (G00) and Kareena Beasley (G02), a girl, Alina Elizabeth, April 22, 2008, in Newberg.

Teddi (VanHooser) Bledsoe (G00) and David Bledsoe, a boy, Colt McCray, Jan. 23, 2008, in Boise, Idaho.

Heather (Irvine) Borin (MAT00) and Brian Borin (MDiv01), a girl, Kenna Lee, Feb. 19, 2008, in Clackamas, Ore.

Nate McIntyre (G00) and Kim McIntyre, a boy, Calvin Michael, Feb. 19, 2008, in Portland.

Melissa (Heuberger) Nisly (G00) and Ryan Nisly, twin girls, Adie Lee and Eliza Mae, Nov. 25, 2007, in Salem, Ore.

Wendy Pool (G00, MAT01) and Marc Pool, a boy, Bain Emerson, Dec. 10, 2007, in Brownsville, Ore.

Debra (Ross) Taylor (G00) and Seth Taylor, a boy, Joel James, April 7, 2008, in Madras, Ore.

Sarah (Rush) Van Dermeyden (G00) and Kevin Van Dermeyden, a boy, Boyd Harold, April 9, 2008, in Visalia, Calif.

Janet (DeYoung) Wright (G00) and Aaron Wright (G01), twin boys, Thomas Nelson and Benjamin Howard, Dec. 12, 2007, in San Diego.

Amy (Forbes) Arnold (G01, MA03) and Forrest Arnold (G01), a boy, Ephraim Alvis, April 4, 2008, in Renton, Wash.

Megan (Luginbill) Fisher (G01) and Troy Fisher, a boy, Asa Troy, Feb. 14, 2008, in Boise, Idaho.

Erin (Shank) Kingsley (G01) and Matthew Kingsley, a girl, Sylvia Grace, May 28, 2008, in Lone Tree, Colo.

Neil Cantrall (G02) and Kelsey (Baron) Cantrall (G03), a boy, Elliott Edward, Dec. 14, 2007, in Lima, Peru.

Travis Creason (G02) and Traci (Dawson) Creason (G03), a boy, Gabriel Travis, Dec. 24, 2007, in Beaverton, Ore.

Ryan Dearing (G02) and Jessica (Nelson) Dearing (G04), a girl, Taylor Ann, April 8, 2008, in Salt Lake City.

Betsy (Walker) Dixon (G02) and Kyle Dixon (G02), a girl, Brooklyn Kate, Oct. 11, 2007, in Eugene, Ore.

Katherine DuPriest (MA02) and Matthew DuPriest (MA02), a girl, Naomi Grace, March 27, 2007, in Portland.

Benjamin Friesen (G02) and Angela (Nichols) Friesen (G03), a girl, Elizabeth Ann, May 7, 2008, in Moscow, Idaho.

Carly (Page) Greenland (G02) and Nate Greenland (G02), a boy, Caleb Adrian, Sept. 5, 2007, in Everett, Wash.

Nathan Paisley (G02) and Melissa (McKenzie) Paisley (G03), a girl, Megan McKenzie Rose, July 3, 2008, in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Sarah (Powell) Sanders (G02) and Phil Sanders, a girl, Keilah Naomi, July 25, 2007, in Salem, Ore.

Tanis (Culver) Trapp (G02) and Scott Trapp, a boy, Dylan Lewis, Nov. 21, 2007, in Snohomish, Wash.

Emily (Martinez) Brent-Fulps (G03) and Evan Brent-Fulps, a boy, Brandon Russell, May 30, 2008, in Portland.

Abigail (Foster) Harris (G03, MAT05) and Andrew Harris (G04), a girl, Adelaide Ann, April 14, 2008, in Portland.

Ben McGarry (G03) and Chelsea (Philips) McGarry (G04), a boy, Alek James, March 19, 2008, in Bend, Ore.

Angela (Woods) Pearson (G03) and Lewis Pearson, a boy, Samuel Kiyoshi, March 19, 2008, in Waco, Texas.

Ursa Shaw (MAT03) and Jay Shaw, a boy, Henry Jay, June 12, 2008, in Newberg.

Corrine (Buttrick) Strandy (G04) and Zach Strandy (G04), a girl, Abigail Cynthia, May 8, 2008, in Spokane, Wash.

Casey Baker (MAT05) and Angela Baker, a boy, Harold Thomas Audubon, May 25, 2008, in Lincoln City, Ore.

Loving life in Latvia

Liva Fokrote (GFES 00) is now dean of academic affairs at Baltic Pastoral Institute (BPI) in Riga, Latvia. The institute, which opened with 13 students in January, trains pastors for church planting in the Baltic region.

A native of Latvia, Fokrote returned there after completing a master's degree in theological studies at George Fox Evangelical Seminary. She taught at Latvian Christian Academy and Riga International Bible Institute, then joined Josiah Venture Latvia as its first national missionary, eventually becoming administrative director.

Frustrated with the shortage of new pastors and youth leaders with the character, competence and knowledge needed for ministry, Fokrote's team at Josiah Venture came alongside the Baptist Union of Latvia to jointly develop the pastoral institute.

"This country needs God's called leaders who not only have a heart for ministry but are also trained for ministry," says Fokrote. "I am glad to be part of it."



Liva Fokrote



Picture perfect

The praise was effusive: “It just left you with the ‘wow’ factor.” And, “This was truly a magnificent piece of art.”

The glowing comments honored the work of the nation’s top television photographer for 2008, **Scott Jensen** (G96). The National Press Photographers Association awarded Jensen the Ernie Crisp Television News Photographer of the Year title.

This is not the first award for Jensen; he also won the top award in 2003 in the annual Best of Photojournalism contest.

This year Jensen, photojournalist at KTUU-TV, Anchorage, won specific praise for “A Far Off Wild Place” in the in-depth/series category. “‘Wild



Place’ is an awesome, mesmerizing story about brown bears in the McNeill River,” judge Bob Gould said.

To get to the top prize, Jensen received first place in the team entry category (“The Cliffs at Mt. Marathon”), third in the in-depth/series category, honorable mention in the general news category (“Iditarod on the Yukon”), and honorable mention in the deadline

news category (“Totem Teardown”). Judges said Jensen “had to deal with more obstacles when covering all of his stories.”

Jensen has been at KTUU-TV in his hometown since 2005, after working at KARE-TV in Minneapolis from 1996 through 1999. He has won more than 100 awards, including four Edward R. Murrow Awards and five Emmy Awards.

Robert Gaslin (G05) and **Josey (Hilton) Gaslin** (G06), a boy, Harris Robert, Jan. 11, 2008, in Salem, Ore.

Troy Snyder (G05) and **Rebecca (Wahls) Snyder** (G06), a girl, Aubrey Joy, May 29, 2008, in Portland.

Christopher Ball (SPS06) and Meredith Ball, a girl, Marissa Davis, Dec. 26, 2007, in Newberg.

Arwen (Presley) Weisser (G06) and Samuel Weisser, a boy, Zephaniah Phillip, Feb. 12, 2008, in Portland.

IN MEMORY

Dora (Bales) Cronyn (n37), Jan. 21, 2008, in Newberg.

Marjorie (Otis) (Hadley) Newkirk (G38), May 23, 2008, in Portland.

Walter Schaad (n41), June 27, 2008, in Newberg.

Jean Chase (n43), Feb. 11, 2008, in Portland.

Glenn Moor (G50), Feb. 9, 2008, in Newberg.

G. Caroline Engle (G51), Feb. 2, 2008, in Newberg.

Bonita (Barnes) Richardson (n53), April 28, 2008, in Portland.

Alice (Hodson) Clark (G54), Aug. 8, 2008, in Gresham, Ore.

Regina (Deibele) Mainwaring (n65), March 9, 2008, in Medford, Ore.

Andrea Bales (G71), March 16, 2008, in Portland.

Ronald Crecelius Jr. (n71), June 12, 2008, in Boise, Idaho.

Timothy Voth (G76), Feb. 18, 2008, in Portland.

Richard Benham (n79, MA96) May 31, 2008, in Newberg.

Gilbert Ablard (GFES81), Jan. 3, 2008, in Sheridan, Ore.

Bonita (Anderson) Crumley (G84), March 14, 2008, in Estacada, Ore.

Sharon (Shari) Gillaspie (n89), May 1, 2008, in Newberg.

Janet (Ker) Porter (SPS89), July 8, 2008, in Welches, Ore.

Joyce (White) Gibson (SPS92, MBA98), April 23, 2008, in Portland.

Terry Woods (SPS94), April 24, 2008, in Salem, Ore.

Benjamin Hawkins (G04), March 30, 2008, in Newberg.

Neil Grant (SPS06), July 3, 2008, in Sherwood, Ore.

Embracing a life of less

by Lisa Graham McMinn

I buy eggs from the Higgins. Mary Etta is the primary farmer; Ed teaches literature and writes poetry at George Fox. I buy from them because I prefer to eat eggs laid by happy chickens; hens that wander outside eating bugs and grain, that are warmed by the sun, and whose sounds co-mingle with neighboring birds, cows and goats. It's also more personal than buying eggs at Fred Meyer. It creates a social bond of sorts — I help Ed and Mary Etta in their farming endeavors, and they give me eggs produced locally, with minimal harm to the environment and the hens that lay them.

Besides prophetic voices like Wendell Berry encouraging us toward gentle living, we have our Quaker heritage. Embracing a life of less, rather than the constant pursuit of more, seeking justice for disenfranchised and marginalized populations, and being good stewards of God's creation are values Quakers hold. My current writing project is about walking gently — living in ways that will foster the flourishing of life beyond the 21st century. We face unique challenges in that regard. We're celebrating 200 years of industrial and economic growth, but our progress has included trampling God's garden a fair bit. I'd been reading what geologists, climatologists, politicians and business leaders have to say about ecology, but I wanted to know what Christians in earth sciences were saying — on and off the record. I wanted to hear their thoughts on global warming and the energy crisis. So I went to the American Scientific Association meetings hosted by George



“I’m convinced that we’ll live better lives (and more sustainable ones) if we rediscover ways to forge our community ties.”

Fox this summer — and the presentations I attended portrayed global warming as an indisputable reality, and nearly all thought it *anthropogenic* — that is, caused by human activity.

Global warming will most affect the poor and those already living at the margins economically and/or environmentally. Deserts in sub-Saharan Africa are expanding with droughts and dried up aquifers. Food shortages, already compromised in Africa, are growing more severe. But it isn't all bad news. The good news is that we have technology for alternative energy sources and models for how individuals, communities and nations are already lessening their carbon emissions dramatically.

I came away from the meetings assured that the best solutions to global problems will bring together multiple perspectives. Sociologists help us explore the meanings people associate with owning SUVs, why some resist switching to more efficient light bulbs, or think inflating tires is a political statement. Maybe insecurities about global shifts in power cause us to hang on to

what we have — including the right to consume available resources. Maybe our American understanding of Manifest Destiny, and what it means that God gave humans dominion over this earth makes this a particular challenging conversation for some of us. The most productive conversations about caring for Earth will include theologians, political scientists, economists and sociologists.

As Christians, we believe we are created for relation-

ship. We are not isolated individuals, but individuals in community, bound to and dependent on each other and to the earth that sustains us. I'm convinced we'll live better lives (and more sustainable ones) if we rediscover ways to forge our community ties. When I think of myself as a member of a community and live with *neighborliness*, I live better. When I buy the Higgins' eggs, produce from local farmers, and pay extra for local renewable energy to fuel my home, I'm working toward *shalom*, a peace that comes when the world is set right. When we live simply as communities, it makes a difference. We are collectively recognizing that all souls matter — not just our own. And we are recognizing that our well-being is intrinsically connected to the well-being of all of life — including critters, flora, fauna and ecosystems intended to bless, sustain and nurture us all.

Lisa McMinn (G91), professor of sociology, is the author of *The Contented Soul* (IVP 2006), and *Growing Strong Daughters* (Baker 2007).

Kaleo

February 7, 2009

Followers of Christ are ordinary people living radically in the love of Jesus Christ, called to bring forth another world among us. With



stories of his own life from the streets of Philadelphia and the war zone of Iraq, speaker Shane Claiborne, author of *The Irresistible Revolution* and *Jesus for President*, will share how the church is being transformed with deep new vision and prophetic imagination. Kaleo is for people who minister to youth — pastors, parents, teachers, mentors and friends — who are called to be challenged to think and live differently for the sake of Christ and the youth they love and lead.



kaleo.georgefox.edu

Homecoming

February 20-21, 2009

Homecoming 2009 is a great opportunity for all alumni to return to George Fox and reconnect with old friends. Whether you graduated in the last few years or many decades ago, studied as an undergraduate or in a graduate or degree-completion program, you are welcome. We hope you will come home to your alma mater and join in exciting homecoming festivities.



Reunions will be held for the classes of 1939, 1949, 1969, 1979, 1984, 1989 and 1999. Affinity reunions also will take place for anyone associated with the George Fox football program and for all alumni who went through a business program at either the graduate or undergraduate level.

[503-554-2130](tel:503-554-2130) or rlarson@georgefox.edu



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GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY



Alpine Europe tour

Alumni, parents and friends of the university are invited to tour alpine Europe and see the Passion Play at Oberammergau, Germany, in early summer 2010. The 11-day trip departs May 31 and includes visits to Frankfurt and Munich, Germany; Salzburg, Austria; and Lucerne and Interlaken, Switzerland. The itinerary also includes visits to the Neuschwanstein and Heidelberg castles and Rothenburg, Germany's best-preserved medieval town. Highlighting the tour is the one-day play, a production that dates back 375 years and is performed every 10 years in a magnificent outdoor-covered amphitheater with the Bavarian Alps as a backdrop. Early reservation is required as tickets to the play sell out well in advance.

alumni@georgefox.edu or 503-554-2131



Happy campers

↑ Tell us more ...

Each spring, a section of lawn on the Newberg campus is transformed into a campground. What is this university tradition and what are your memories of it? Ever get caught in a storm or wake up to find a fellow camper had pulled a prank on you? What pranks did you pull on others? We'd love to hear your stories. Submit your entries to journal@georgefox.edu or mail them to *Journal*, George Fox University, 414 N. Meridian St. #6069, Newberg, OR 97132. All responses will be entered in a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to the University Store.



← **Oral History** | At the turn of the 20th century, Pacific College (the forerunner of George Fox University) used nearby Newberg Friends Church as the location for many major events. On March 10, 1905, many of the state's top orators paid a visit to Newberg for the Oregon Collegiate Oratorical Contest – a competition captured in a "Tell Us More" photo we published in our Spring 2008 issue.

Several readers correctly identified the sanctuary of Newberg Friends Church as the site of the big event – and a few of you shared your oratorical memories. "I remember an extemporaneous competition held at Pacific College in '35," wrote Esther McVey (G37). "The general topic was communism. I was a 17-year-old and I had to speak on communism in the ranks of labor. One of the bright moments of my life was when I was announced the winner. I was offered a college scholarship to Willamette University – which included pipe organ lessons – but I had to turn it down because, as my father pointed out, "What would people think if the daughter of a Friends minister in Newberg went to a Methodist university in Salem?"

Congratulations to Gary Brown (G68), whose response to the "Tell Us More" photo contest was selected at random. He will receive a \$50 gift certificate to the George Fox University Store.



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