Voices of the Association

In May, I had the pleasure of conducting a one-on-one interview with President Pamela A. Eibeck in Los Angeles. We talked about her first year on the job and various aspects of the University. Here are a few highlights from our discussion.

DS: What does your vision of Pacific entail?
PE: It is very much grounded in what we've been. We will continue to be student-centered and student-focused. We've also been connected with our community, and clearly my vision is to expand serving our communities, not just Stockton, but Sacramento and San Francisco. We have tremendous opportunities to pull together our three campuses as a single University. The other vision I have is to make sure we are prepared for the students of 2020 and beyond. Student demographics are changing. How is our University positioned to educate a much more diverse group of people from very different cultural backgrounds?

DS: What can alumni do to help the University?
PE: Our alumni can help tremendously by being engaged and volunteering their time on our advisory boards, with the Alumni Association and other organizations. Being engaged in the quality of the educational experience and mentoring our students can make a big difference. And of course, alumni can help by donating to the University. The quality of our education is so dependent on having a robust endowment. The return from that endowment can provide scholarships and program support that help us ensure the highest quality for our students and our academic programs.

DS: Can you describe the new Alex and Jeri Vereschagin Alumni House?
PE: It is so important to have an alumni house on campus, a dedicated space for alumni to come back to and have a sense of belonging at the University. It is going to be in the center of campus — at a hub where students move between classes. It's a beautiful site... I'm quite impressed by the design and the way in which alumni have stepped forward to make this a reality... This is not only a functional building for alumni to use... but it is also a symbolic message to our students that they are Pacific Tigers for life.

DS: What key message would you like to send to alumni?
PE: First of all, that we're very proud of you. Our alumni have done so much, not only to develop a strong professional career path, but in giving back. We appreciate and love having our alumni back on campus and engaged with our students. They get energized by seeing what happens to graduates of our University.

Pacific has been fortunate to have outstanding administrators over the past several decades, and President Eibeck continues that trend with her vision, enthusiasm and leadership. You can hear more of the interview with President Eibeck at www.PacificAlumni.org/PresidentInterview.

I look forward to seeing you at alumni events throughout the year.

Go Tigers!

Denny Stilwell ‘88 COP, Association President

President Pamela A. Eibeck and Denny Stilwell ‘88 COP, Association President
Do You Know “What’s Up?”

The Pacific Alumni Association keeps you up to date with a weekly e-newsletter that delivers campus buzz, photos, alumni news, event announcements and more!

As part of the Pacific Alumni Online Community you can:
• update your personal profile
• post class notes and family pictures
• reconnect with classmates and friends
• check out upcoming events

To sign up for e-mails:
Go to www.PacificAlumni.org, click on “Sign up for e-mails” at the top right and enter your e-mail address.

To join the Pacific Alumni Online Community:
Click on “first time login.” You will be asked to enter your last name and enter your constituent ID number — just add 988 to the six-digit code found above your name and address on the back of this magazine. Go to “My Account” to create your username and password and get started.

Get Connected… Online!

Alumni Mentor Network
You Can Make a Difference

Help a Pacific student figure out their college, career and life goals by joining the Alumni Mentor Network. Mentors are matched with students who have similar career interests or paths of study. Mentors can choose their level of commitment to the program by indicating how many students they are able to mentor each year. Alumni of all class years and careers are encouraged to participate.

Sign up at www.PacificAlumni.org/Mentor.

“ I’m really excited I decided to connect with someone, because it looks like it will be a definite benefit!”

— Elaine Campion ’09

Ashby Brown ’10 COP, Marcie Spencer ’81 COP and Elaine Campion ’09 COP
Helping Hands in Haiti

The 7.0-magnitude earthquake that struck Haiti 10 miles west of Port-au-Prince in January shattered the landscape, killed thousands, and left countless others homeless and severely injured. Pacific alumni were among those around the world who mobilized to help. Here are a few of their stories.

Mike Hahn ’02 EDU

Hahn and his wife Christa first traveled to Haiti last October as ambassadors of their nonprofit organization His Little Feet and spent a month at the Hope for Haiti Children’s Center in Ouanaminthe, a city located about 200 miles northeast of Port-au-Prince. After the earthquake, the Hahns returned to the orphanage and helped provide medical assistance, comfort, recreation and other basic need fulfillment to children orphaned by the earthquake. Many of them were severely injured, scared to go inside of buildings and plagued by nightmares. During their month-long stay, the Hahns provided the children a sense of normalcy by teaching games and songs and giving the children a sense of community and fellowship. Mike also helped coordinate teams of American volunteers, including doctors, nurses and other medical personnel. A former Pacific basketball standout, Mike says that the couple’s connection to Pacific has been instrumental in their efforts. He said many coaches, boosters and former Pacific athletes are supporting their organization. They described participation by Pacific alumni in their endeavors as a “neat display of support.” For more information about His Little Feet, visit www.HisLittleFeet.org.

Travis Medley ’97 BUS

Medley has been going to Haiti with his best friend’s church group since 2006. In January, Medley and the group made their already-scheduled trip to the Robert Ford Haitian Orphanage in Cap Haitien, about 80 miles north of Port-au-Prince. Structurally untouched by the earthquake, Medley said the effects could still be seen everywhere as homeless and injured people were bused into the area, and loved ones mourned family members and friends who were killed or missing. The group helped build a playground, which brought joy and laughter to the children. Medley also traveled with a medical team and worked in a clinic where he saw infants and children who were badly injured, many of whom lost their parents in the quake’s destruction. One child had survived a school collapse that killed 500 of his classmates. Medley said the diversity of his experiences at Pacific gave him the confidence to volunteer in Haiti and said his time spent there has been “incredible.”

Shirley King ’60 COP

King is the founder of Gramma’s Hugs International, a nonprofit organization that gives blankets to needy children. She responded to the crisis in Haiti by shipping almost 500 items to an orphanage outside of Port-au-Prince. Due to Haiti’s tropical climate, the group sent twin-sized cotton sheets and cotton blankets made from print flannel. They also sent large drawstring cotton bags to hold children’s belongings. King says they will be sending more items soon but are waiting for more donations. To find out more about Gramma’s Hugs International, visit www.GrammasHugs.org.
San Joaquin Pacific Club

*Left:* The San Joaquin Pacific Club hosted two behind-the-scenes tours of Petco Park in April. Alumnus Anthony Bernal ’02 EDU spearheaded the effort, and Scott Baird ’09 COP arranged for an insider’s look at the venue, home of the San Diego Padres.

Black Alumni Pacific Club

In June, the club hosted its first event in Southern California. Held at the home of Joy (Parrish) Howell ’71 CAL in Chino Hills, the event was open to incoming and current students, as well as alumni from the region. Assistant Vice President for Student Life Lisa Cooper attended and shared updates about Pacific’s efforts to increase African-American applications and retention rates. Rickey Boyland ’79 BUS and Norma Ivy ’74 COP helped organize the event.

Bakersfield Pacific Club

With more than 400 alumni in the area and a growing group of current and incoming students, Bakersfield could be a hotbed for Pacific alumni activity! Before the summer temperatures really kicked in, Davyd Morris ’77 COP held a reception for prospective students, families and alumni at his home.

Pacific Club of the Nation’s Capitol

*Left:* The Pacific Club of the Nation’s Capitol hosted a “Spy at Night” outing at the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C. The mastermind of the declassified operation was Stacy (Pierce) Gustafson ’05 BUS.

Pride Pacific Alumni Club

*Right:* In May, the club co-hosted the annual Lavender Graduation, a new tradition at Pacific, celebrating the achievements of Pacific’s LGBT and allied students. This year two alumni, Robert Oakes ’86 BUS, ’90 LAW and Mary Jane Villalovos ’89 COP, delivered keynote speeches to the crowd of more than 50 students, faculty and staff. Graduates received rainbow tassels and guests enjoyed inspiring words about students’ academic and co-curricular accomplishments and their contributions to increasing respect for all communities on campus.

San Joaquin Pacific Club

*Right:* In April, alumni were treated to a luncheon on the stage inside Faye Spanos Concert Hall. In addition to a flute duet by students Dana Carey ’13 and Arturo Rodriguez ’11, guests also enjoyed an inspiring speech by Faculty Mentor Award winner Eric Hammer ’73 MUS and Dean Giulio Ongaro, both of the Conservatory of Music. The stage was the setting for a delicious meal in the first of what we hope will become a series of events, which San Joaquin Pacific Club co-chair Alan Cook ’77 COP suggested we call “lunch in unusual places.”
East Bay Pacific Club

Volunteers handled approximately 20,000 pounds of food at this year's community service day for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano in Lafayette, Calif. Alumni volunteers participated in the letter carriers’ annual food drive, “Help Us Stamp Out Hunger,” organizing food donations collected by the letter carriers as they delivered mail in their neighborhoods.

Sacramento Pacific Club

Did you know there is a jail cell and a parking lot inside Arco Arena? Alumni got to see behind the scenes during their group tour of the arena, followed by a great lunch and the Kings game against the Denver Nuggets in January.

Arizona — Valley of the Sun Pacific Club

Above: Phoenix is a vibrant city with a new active Pacific Club, chaired by Bob Webster ’59 BUS. Bob and his wife Janet helped to organize the club’s event in May at the Heard Museum. After a successful first event, the club is excited to help the University recruit new students and to bring Pacific representatives from the schools and colleges out to Phoenix.

For more information about regional and affinity clubs in your area, go to www.PacificAlumni.org or call 866.575.7229

Half Century Club Luncheon & Class of 1960 50th Reunion Celebration

May 15–16

The Class of 1960 celebrated its 50-year reunion during Commencement Weekend. The group was formally honored during the commencement ceremony as they followed the processional of graduates in the traditional rose walk. They were inducted into the Pacific Alumni Association’s Half Century Club and reminisced with classmates at reunion activities throughout the weekend.
Oregon Shakespeare Festival
August 6–9, 2010
Join Pacific English professor and Shakespeare authority Courtney Lehman in a weekend of glorious theater and captivating discussions on this third annual Tiger Trek to Ashland, Oregon. Enjoy three to five performances, pre- and post-theater discussions, fun group meals and accommodations within walking distance of the festival.

Provence
September 21–29, 2010
Discover the allure of French Provence, where beaches and rolling hills tie the Mediterranean to the Alps. Discover the village of Le Lubéron, view the impressive ruins at Arles and visit delightful Les Baux. Throughout your trip, there will be a pleasurable mixture of seminar and excursion.

China
October 11–24, 2010
Explore the secrets of China's mystique and view its most amazing landmark sights, including Beijing's Forbidden City, the Great Wall, the Terra Cotta Warriors near Xi'an, the distinctive landscape of Guilin, the spectacular beauty of the Three Gorges region and the Bund in cosmopolitan Shanghai.

For more information on these and other trips, contact Kelli (Williams) Page ’87 at the Pacific Alumni Association toll-free at 866.575.7229, or visit the Alumni Web site www.PacificAlumni.org and click on Benefits.