“Mentoring is a lot about planting seeds, then nurturing them to grow and watching what blossoms.”
— James Hetrick

HONORING FACULTY MENTORS

The Pacific Alumni Association recognized three current and emeriti professors for their lifelong mentoring of students and alumni at the annual Faculty Mentor Awards Brunch on Nov. 15.

James E. Hetrick, Physics
College of the Pacific

James Hetrick joined Pacific in 1997 and is professor and chair of the physics department. Being a teacher allows him to relive the discovery of physics and other subjects through his students. As his students develop, he takes pride in knowing that he played some part in making them who they are. He is also active in outreach programs that get children and youth excited about science and provides instruction to teachers in the teaching of science.

“I can’t say no when someone asks me to help out with a student project or to come visit a 4th grade class,” he said. “You never know when explaining how a cool science demo works or taking the telescope to a school will open up a new interest and direction in someone’s life. I know, because I had several mentors who took time to explain or show something to me and altered the course of my life.”

“The thing that makes Jim Hetrick stand out is his skill at providing me just the right balance of challenge and support,” said former student Brian Thomas ’99 COP. “He was always there to help, but never made it too easy. He gave me a real vision of who I wanted to be professionally and helped give me the skills I needed to get there.”

Antonio Serna ’90 EDU, Educational Administration and Leadership
Gladys L. Benerd
School of Education

Antonio Serna joined the faculty of the School of Education in 2006 after 23 years as a school principal. He enjoys interacting with students who have a passion for leading public schools, as well as teaching and working with students individually and in small groups.

“As a professor,” he said, “I mentor aspiring and new school administrators as they begin their journey into the challenging field of school administration. I visit students out in the field to offer support, guidance and encouragement. As students become alumni, they invite me to speak to their school parent groups… and I invite former students as guest lecturers in my classes.”

“He’s sympathetic to students and enables them to be critical thinkers, and he assists in the development of real problem-solving strategies,” said former student Adriana Cruces ’05 EDU. “His motto is ‘Always listen and be honest, everyone appreciates genuine honesty,’ and Dr. Serna models this.”

J. Connor Sutton ’61 COP, ’63 EDU, Emeritus, Sport Sciences
College of the Pacific

J. Connor Sutton spent his entire career at Pacific, totaling 30 years as a teacher and coach. After graduating in 1961, he returned to Pacific as assistant water polo coach, eventually becoming head water polo and swim coach and aquatics instructor. Deciding that he liked the classroom best, however, he left to complete his PhD and then joined the sport sciences faculty, where he taught, coached and helped to develop the Human Performance Lab.

“Connor led by example. He is a man of action,” said former student Franz Vaiarello ’74 COP. “Through his knowledge and hands-on approach, my understanding of the human body, its capabilities and what it takes to maintain it over time went through the roof. To this day I utilize that understanding as I cycle thousands of miles annually. Most importantly, however, Dr. Sutton imparted an open-minded, fact-driven approach to discovery and solutions.”

Sutton retired in 1999, and now lives in Oregon. “Seeing students go on to success, and knowing that I contributed to that at least in some small way is rewarding,” he said.
George Druliner '47 BUS, Scottsdale, AZ, was 93 years "young" on Nov. 6. He still plays doubles tennis 3-4 times a week. His tennis career includes approximately 300 USTA-sanctioned tournament wins; national USTA doubles titles on clay, indoor and hard courts. He is in three Halls of Fame: Pacific Athletics, Southwestern USTA Section and the USTA Arizona Section.

Tom Rosqui '51 COP (deceased), was mentioned and featured in a photograph in The San Francisco Chronicle on August 7, 2015, as “a Bay Area character actor.”

William “Bill” Jones ’51 COP, San Rafael, CA, was the featured guest on Captail Public Radio’s Insight with Beth Ruyak, where he and Steve Jacobson ’07 EDU, associate vice president for student life, talked about the new film Jacobson produced about Jones and his role in history as the first single man in California to adopt a child.

Thomas P. “Tom” Collins ’66 COP, Prescott, AZ, retired from teaching theater at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 2001, and he and his wife, Wendy (Wight) Collins ’66 COP, moved to Prescott, AZ, where he volunteers at the Sharlot Hall Museum Library and Archives and conducts research on the Arizona Territory. He has published two books: Stage-Struck Settlers in the Sun-Kissed Land (2007) and Arizona on Stage (see Bookshelf, p. 14). He and Wendy give readers theater performances about theater in the Arizona Territory.

Glen Chin ’71 MUS, Hong Kong, has had a long entertainment career, including two films with Steven Spielberg, and appearances on Seinfeld and in a Michael Jackson video.

Kenneth Andrus ’71 PHS, Fresno, CA, retired in January 2015 after 44 years as a compound pharmacist in Fresno and used the chemistry skills he learned at Pacific to develop Velvet Night brandy and founded “In Distill of the Night Spirits.”

Douglas Riddle ’73 MUS, Flagstaff, AZ, retired in 2013 after 40 years as a high school choral director, his last 24 years as the choral director at Coconino High School in Flagstaff. At the 2015 Arizona Music Educators Association In-Service Conference in January, the Arizona Choral Educators branch of AMEA honored him with their Lifetime Achievement Award. He was also the recipient of two other awards from the AMEA, the O.M. Hartsell Excellence in Teaching Award (1995) and the George C. Wilson Leadership-Service Award (1998).

Karen (Goodman) Kennedy ’73 COP, Marina Del Rey, CA, was named a Woman of Influence of 2015 by Real Estate Forum magazine. Kennedy is the president and founder of National Asset Services.

Suzanne Mudge ’77 MUS, Bend, OR, has been named director of community engagement for the Carmel Bach Festival.

Dr. Robert Chan ’77 PHS, Reno, NV, was elected to the California Pharmacists Association – Academy of Managed Care Board of Directors in February.

Austa Falconer ’78 EDU, Milpitas, CA, was honored with the 2015 Leo B. Murphy Teacher of the Year award. Falconer has taught at Marshall Pomeroy Elementary School for 30 years and has been a teacher for 35 years.

John “Jake” Aller ’79 COP, Washington, DC, is a labor officer for the U.S. Department of State. He has served almost 27 years in four different regions, and completed tours as a consular officer, econ officer and political officer. In his current tour as a labor officer, he is looking at labor rights issues in Latin America.

William H. Parish ’80 LAW, Stockton, CA, has been recognized as a 2015 Northern California Super Lawyer, his sixth time appearing on the list. With more than 34 years of litigation experience, he represents Fortune 500 companies, small businesses and individuals in matters ranging from complex business litigation to personal injury.

Martín Burt ’80 ECC, Turlock, CA, has been named a distinguished alumnus of the Eisenhower Fellows. He is the founder and executive director of Fundación Paraguaya, and general secretary to the presidency (chief of cabinet) for the president of Paraguay.

William Seegmiller ’80 LAW, Santa Monica, CA, collaborated on and wrote the chapter “What can make or break a personal injury case” in the new book *The Soul of Success Vol 2: The world’s leading entrepreneurs and professionals reveal their core strategies for getting to the heart of health, wealth and success*, edited by Jack Canfield and Nick Nanton (CelebrityPress, August 2015). Seegmiller is the founder of one of Southern California’s most distinguished personal injury law firms.

John M. Gerrard ’81 LAW, Lincoln, NE, was nominated by President Barack Obama to become U.S. District Court judge. The U.S. Senate confirmed his nomination in 2012.

Mary Lynn Ferguson-McHugh ’81 BUS, Switzerland, has joined the board of directors at Molson Coors Brewing Company. Ferguson-McHugh is the group president of Global Family Care for Procter & Gamble Company, one of the world’s largest makers of consumer packaged goods. *Fortune* magazine named her one of the most powerful women in Europe.

**Together again**

Former 70s classmates teamed up this year for the first time since they were together at Pacific.

Robert Coburn ’72 MUS and Todd Barton ’71 MUS were classmates at Pacific’s Conservatory of Music. Today they are team teaching the conservatory’s new Analog/Digital Composing and Performing course. Coburn is chair of the Department of Music Studies program, program director for Music Theory and Composition and the artistic director of the Soundimage Sound International Festival of New Music and Video. Barton retired in 2012 after 43 years with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, where he held the position of resident composer. During his tenure he composed music for 250 plays, including the entire Shakespeare canon — twice. He is currently a consulting artist for Buchla Electronic Musical Instruments.
Dr. J. Renee (Chapman) Navarro ’82 PHS, San Mateo, CA, has been honored with an “Insight Into Diversity 100 Inspiring Women in STEM Award.” She is the vice chancellor of diversity and outreach at University of California, San Francisco.

Marly J. Galindo ’83 ENG, Bremerton, WA, retired in September as lead structural engineer at the Pacific Northwest Naval Intermediate Maintenance Facility in Bangor, WA, after 36 years of federal service, including 19 years at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and 17 years at the Naval Intermediate Maintenance Facility.

Julie Coons ’83 COP, Washington, DC, was named as a Trending Association Leader in the 2015 edition of the “40 Trending Association Leaders.” As president and chief executive officer of Electronic Retailing Association, Coons oversees the official trade organization representing the vast direct-to-consumer industry, encompassing marketers involved in radio, television and online technologies to reach consumers across the globe. Prior to joining ERA, Coons served as president and CEO of the Tech Council of Maryland.

Ryan Davis ’84 LAW, Zephyr Cove, NV, has joined Sierra College as the vice president of human resources.

Kevin M. Seibert ’85 LAW, Sonora, CA, has been appointed to a judgeship in the Tuolumne County Superior Court.

Cheryl (Demetriff) Marcell ’87 COP, Sacramento, CA, has been named president and CEO of the California State Railroad Museum Foundation. Formerly, she worked as the deputy director of business development at the Mineta San Jose International Airport.

Robert Filppo ’89 COP, Fresno, CA, has been a bullpen catcher for the Los Angeles Dodgers for the past 14 years.


Jason Hancock ’92 COP, Pierre, SD, has recently moved with wife, Rebecca (Spencer) Hancock ’91 EDU, and their three children from Boise, ID, to Pierre, SD. He was recently appointed director of the Legislative Research Council, which provides nonpartisan research, legal, budgetary and administrative support to the South Dakota Legislature.

Glenn Walsh ’93 LAW, Portland, OR, has joined Anderson Tax as managing director in the Los Angeles office.

David Volz ’93 ENG, Orlando, FL, is in China working on the design of Shanghai Disneyland. Volz is a staff mechanical engineer with Walt Disney Park and Resorts.

Christopher Hilleary ’95 PHS, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, is the managing director for PharmASEAN Advisory Group. His team assists organizations in their assessment of the pharmaceutical needs of underprivileged populations in ASEAN countries with the goal of developing efficient strategies for supplying essential medications where they are most needed. Hilleary is also the co-director for The Assistance Fund of Cambodia, a nonprofit charity organization founded to address problems like AIDS, physical deformities and illiteracy.

Reza Izadi ’95 DEN, Irvine, CA, a Southern California endodontist, is the founder/CEO of Denteractive Solutions Inc., which is using technology to change the way patients and dentists engage with each other, starting with their new app, Denteractive, a dentist-patient technology to change the way patients and dentists engage with each other. Prior to joining the company, he was a staff mechanical engineer with the Walt Disney World Resort.

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Kim Austin ’90 COP, San Jose, CA, recently returned from her second medical mission trip to Vietnam’s Mekong Delta with the International Extremity Project. IEP is a nonprofit medical mission that performs surgical correction for severe lower-extremity deformities to the underserved. She has volunteered with IEP for nearly 10 years and is currently the marketing director. ExtremityProject.com

Stasia (Melton) Mitchell ’98 BUS, Costa Mesa, CA, was promoted to director at Ernst & Young LLP. Mitchell is the West Assurance Business Development Markets Leader and Orange County/San Diego Business Development Leader.

00s

Amit Patel ’00 DEN, Dover, DE, was selected for “Delaware’s Top Dentists 2015” in the June 2015 issue of Delaware Today. Patel has been actively practicing modern cosmetic dentistry for more than nine years. In 2008, Patel began volunteering at the Christiana Hospital in Wilmington, DE. He enjoys sharing his time and experiences with the dental residents and takes pleasure in teaching them modern cosmetic dentistry.

Reina Minoya ’02 LAW, Sacramento, CA, received the distinction of Top Lawyer in Sacramento from Sacramento magazine. Minoya is being recognized for her exemplary practice in general litigation.

David Pace ’02 PHS, Stockton, CA, was awarded the prestigious American Physical Society’s 2014 Landau-Spitzer Award for his contributions to understanding the physics of nuclear fusion. In October, his research article “Keeping fusion plasmas hot” was published and featured on the cover in Physics Today (Vol. 68, No. 10).

Carolynne (Leonard) Nocella ’02 LAW, Anaheim, CA, is the director for government relations and minority business development for Disneyland Resort.

Kristoffer Applegate ’03 LAW, Sacramento, CA, has been appointed assistant secretary for legislative affairs at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
What’s New?

Send your Class Note and photo to classnotes@pacific.edu or mail to Pacific Alumni Association, 3601 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA 95211.

Send us your baby’s name and birth date and get your “Future Tiger” baby bib.
Matches

Scott Jenkins ’97 BUS and Tracy Grisham ’97 COP, 5/31/14, Folsom, CA — 1
Benicia Ortiz ’11 COP and Eddie Alvarez, 2/20/15, Keaua, HI — 2
Emma Head ’11 COP and John Clouser ’10 BUS, 8/8/2015, Pleasanton, CA — 3
Garrett Larson ’04 BUS and Katie Mesic, 8/15/2015, San Luis Obispo, CA — 4
Amy VanHollebeke ’09 COP and Jordan Ferrell, 8/1/2015, Vista, CA — 5
Laurel Handly ’92 COP and Dennis (Marrer) O’Connor ’92 ENG, 6/21/2014, Granite Bay, CA — 6
Mathilde Billaud ’13 BUS and Frank Patmon ’14 BUS, 5/30/2015, Dublin, CA

Tiger Cubs

Jocelyn (Ruppell) Lagier ’07 PHS and Jack Lagier, a son, Theodore Francis, 5/13/2015, welcomed by brother Nathan, Scotts Valley, CA — 7
Suzie Mangum Mevorah ’06 EDU and Jason Mevorah, a son, Benjamin Jason, 8/19/2015, Las Vegas, NV — 8
Yvonne (Ramirez) Estrada ’12 COP and Nicolas Estrada, a daughter, Alessia Rogue, 6/8/2015, Stockton, CA — 9
Lori Luces-Nakagawa ’02 COP and Brandon Nakagawa ’02 ENG, a son, Tristan Jacob Kazuo, 4/24/15 — 10
Darrin Lim ’04 LAW and Jim Wayand, a son, Matthew Wayand-Lim, 8/20/2015, Tiburon, CA — 11
Stephanie Faucett ’07 COP and Andrew Faucett, a son, Cruz James, 2/3/15, Stockton, CA — 12
Erin Quinlan Riley ’98 COP, ’02 LAW and Jason Riley, a daughter, Beatrice Dove (Birdie), 5/22/2015, welcomed by sister Matilda Evelyn. — 13
Colette (Carroll) Magnetta ’94 BUS, and Tom Magnetta, a son, Ronan Lorenzo, 8/26/14, welcomed by big sister Gabrielle, Los Angeles, CA

Shawnterra Moore-Thomas ’04 EDU, Stockton, CA, has been chosen as the new superintendent for the South San Francisco Unified School District and began the new post in August. Previously she was the district’s associate superintendent of educational services and categorical programs.

Katherine Pettibone ’06 LAW, Sacramento, CA, was appointed Western Region vice president for state affairs for the American Insurance Association. Previously she was director of legislation for the Civil Justice Association of California. An avid sailor, Pettibone competed in the 1995 America's Cup as a member of its first all-women racing team as well as multiple races around the world, and has recently begun training for Olympic Trials with the U.S. Sailing Team.

Felicia Rodini-Wilson ’07 EDU, Woodland, CA, was named principal at Zamora Elementary School in Woodland, CA, in July 2015. Rodini-Wilson worked for the Elk Grove Unified School District for the past 19 years serving as a teacher and vice principal for both middle and elementary schools and has been an administrator for 13 years.

Erin Guy Castillo ’07 LAW, Stockton, CA, is being recognized as the Leadership Stockton Class of 2015 Distinguished Class Member of the Year. Leadership Stockton is the oldest adult community leadership program and is working to inspire a new generation of influential community leaders. Castillo also serves as vice president of the Mary Graham Children’s Foundation, as a mock trial volunteer teacher for the First Impressions program and as commissioner of the Charter Review Advisory Commission for the 2015-16 term.

Paul Lanning ’07 EDU, San Jose, CA, has been appointed the vice president for university advancement at San Jose State University.

Maya Taylor ’07 COP, Stockton, CA, won a Gold Medal Presidential Award for more than 500 hours of community service at the recent Texas United America Pageant in San Antonio, TX.

April Woo ’09 COP, Granger, IN, has joined the University of Notre Dame swimming and diving program as an assistant coach.

Annie-Sophie Bauer ’15 BUS, signed with Le Cannet volleyball in France.

Emily Mae Heller ’10 EDU, Los Angeles, CA, was nominated for a 67th Los Angeles Area Emmy Award for her work as one of the producers on the documentary The Wedge: Dynasty, Tragedy, Legacy, about the famous surfing spot in Southern California. Heller works as a marketing and branding coordinator for an experienced design agency in Los Angeles and continues to be actively involved in multiple theater companies by producing, writing, directing and performing.

Daniel Shipp ’10 EDU, Omaha, NE, was promoted to vice chancellor for student affairs and enrollment management at the University of Nebraska.

Kimberly Perry ’10 EDU, Bellingham, WA, was named president of Bellingham Technical College, the only technical college in Northwestern Washington state, serving more than 8,000 students. Perry served as superintendent/president of Butte-Glenn Community College District in California’s Sierra Nevada foothills from July 2011. Before that, she was vice president of academic affairs at Los Angeles City College. She began her new post on July 20.

Justin Delacruz ’11 LAW, Elk Grove, CA, has been appointed to the State Bar of California’s Attorney Diversion and Assistance Program Oversight Committee.

Gabrielle Illiani Olivo ’12 EDU, Los Angeles, CA, received her master’s degree in special education from Loyola Marymount University in May 2015. Her mother is Myriam Casteneda ’78 ECC.

Than Do Ngoc ’12 ENG, Columbus, OH, received one of only eight national fellowships from Mortar Board, the premier national honor society for college seniors.

Timothy Thomas ’14 COP, Brentwood, CA, will play basketball with S.C. Lusitania EXPERT of the Liga Portuguesa de Basquetebol.
In Memoriam

Irene H. Breed ’51 COP, 5/19/2015, Columbus, IN—
Breed had been retired since May 2010 with her husband, Allen, at the Four Seasons Retirement Center. She is survived by a daughter, son-in-law and two granddaughters.

Joyce Harris ’53 COP, 7/18/15, Stockton, CA—
Harris taught first and third graders for 38 years, primarily for the Lincoln Unified School District in Stockton. She was a member of Epsilon Lambda Sigma Sorority.

Morgan Stoltz ’56 COP, 08/25/15, Auburn, CA
Wayne Gohl ’64 PHS, 8/25/15, Acampo, CA—
Gohl was a pharmacy owner and prison system supervisor. He was the only pharmacy student in Pacific’s history to serve as president of the all-university student body (1963). He also served on the Class of 1964 50th Reunion Committee and made a leadership contribution to the Powell Match endowed scholarship project. He was an Alpha Psi alumnus.

Karen Rigor Baird ’66 MUS, 12/1/14, Santa Cruz, CA—
A music major and member of Delta Gamma Sorority, Baird was known for her bubbly enthusiasm and love for Pacific. She was an enthusiastic member of the cheering squad and an active participant in the annual Band Frolics. During her senior year, Baird was voted Miss Stockton. For 35 years, she was a popular special education teacher. She is survived by her three children, Jeffery, Kevin and Katie.

James M. (Jamie) Shumway ’70 COP, 10/10/14 Morgantown, WV—
Shumway passed away last October following a long battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig’s disease). Shumway had a long and distinguished career in medical education, including serving as associate dean for medical education for 20 years at West Virginia University Medical School until his retirement in 2012. He also participated in the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, reviewing medical schools throughout the United States and Canada as part of the accreditation process. In 2011, he earned the Southern Group on Educational Affairs Career Educator Award for sustained excellence in educational leadership, scholarship and service to medical education. He also is remembered for his environmental advocacy in West Virginia, including the establishment of the West Virginia Rivers Coalition.

Judge Norman Robison ’71 LAW, 8/9/15, Gardnerville, NV
Joshua Ryan Chipponeri ’11 COP, 7/29/2015, Modesto, CA—
Chipponeri was killed in a car accident in July. He was 27. He earned his bachelor’s degree in theatre arts with a minor in history and was active in many theatrical performances on campus. He also played lacrosse, participated in the Guatemala Immersion Program, tutored in the after-school program, worked at the Harold S. Jacoby Center for Public Service and Civic Leadership, and helped coordinate the “Beyond Our Gates... Into the Community” open forums in 2009. After graduating he worked at Bay Direct in the San Francisco Bay Area. He will be remembered by friends and family for his passion, his generous and helpful spirit, and his sense of humor.

Fillmore Charles Marks Jr. ’51 COP
1929–2015

Fillmore Marks passed away on July 27 at home in Hillsborough, CA, with his family by his side, following a recent stroke. He was 85. Marks was a Pacific Fund founder and long-time supporter of Pacific, having contributed annually to numerous scholarship programs for the past 55 years. He established the Fillmore C. Marks Endowed Scholarship in memory of his father, who was a Pacific regent from 1941–1950. He also supported the Pacific Athletic Foundation, the Brubeck Institute, and the Alex and Jeri Vereschagin Alumi House, among other projects.

Born in San Francisco and raised in Stockton, he earned his bachelor’s degree in economics in 1951, was a member of the Omega Phi Alpha fraternity and served on the National Commission.

He served in the army during the Korean War. After his military service, Marks worked at Pacific Coast Aggregate and then at Coldwell Banker & Company as a commercial real estate broker for 16 years before forming Banker and Marks in 1974, a commercial real estate business that continues to this day.

Ron Pulley ’65 COP, 06/26/15, Laramie, WY
Karen Rigor Baird ’66 MUS, 12/1/14, Santa Cruz, CA—
A music major and member of Delta Gamma Sorority, Baird was known for her bubbly enthusiasm and love for Pacific. She was an enthusiastic member of the cheering squad and an active participant in the annual Band Frolics. During her senior year, Baird was voted Miss Stockton. For 35 years, she was a popular special education teacher. She is survived by her three children, Jeffery, Kevin and Katie.

Max Paulsen
Pacific Athletic Foundation founder and Tiger booster
1923–2015

Long-time Pacific athletics booster Max Paulsen passed away on July 23 at age 92, with his family by his side.

A founder of the Pacific Athletic Foundation (PAF), a board member, fund drive worker, donor and friend, he was a Tiger through and through. The South Dakota native moved to Stockton in 1961 with his wife, Marion, when he was hired as general manager for New York Life. He soon became a fixture at Tiger basketball games. His son, Rick ’82, is a former Pacific basketball and baseball player.

Paulsen first got involved with Pacific Athletics in 1970 when he helped found the Pacific Athletic Foundation, the annual fundraising arm of the Athletics Department. He served on the PAF Board for 45 years and, along with his son, Rick, raised well over $2 million for Pacific Athletics.

In the 1980s, during a time when PAF was without a director, Paulsen volunteered for a year and half to fill the void and was inducted into the Pacific Athletics Hall of Fame in 1989-90. In addition, the PAF named the annual fund drive New Cash Award in his honor and dedicated the 2015-16 fund drive to him.

Karen Rigor Baird ’66 MUS, 12/1/14, Santa Cruz, CA—
A music major and member of Delta Gamma Sorority, Baird was known for her bubbly enthusiasm and love for Pacific. She was an enthusiastic member of the cheering squad and an active participant in the annual Band Frolics. During her senior year, Baird was voted Miss Stockton. For 35 years, she was a popular special education teacher. She is survived by her three children, Jeffery, Kevin and Katie.
J. Ronald Pecchenino ’56 COP  
Emeritus professor of art, College of the Pacific  
1932–2015

Professor Ron Pecchenino passed away on Aug. 4, surrounded by his family in Kona, Hawaii, his home for the past two years. He was 83. During his more than 40-year career as an art educator, he spent 26 years at Pacific, including 10 as department chair. He guided Pacific’s art department through a renaissance in the early 1980s, brought in new faculty, restructured instructional programs and renovated the studio, lecture hall and gallery facilities. He brought computer technology into the art curriculum, initiated a new degree program in graphic design and worked to obtain Pacific’s first full program accreditation for degrees in studio art and graphic design. He served on many university committees and task forces.

He served in the U.S. Air Force as a cryptographic operator before returning to complete his bachelor’s degree in art from Pacific and a Master of Fine Arts at California College of the Arts in Oakland. He taught art for 15 years in Manteca Unified School District before joining the Pacific art faculty in 1970.

He cultivated community and regional support for the art department’s programs, served on the College of the Pacific Campaign Leadership Council, and on the Jeanette Powell Art Center and Geosciences Center Project Committee. In 1992, he was recognized for his teaching and scholarship with Pacific’s Distinguished Faculty Award, and at his retirement in January 1996 was awarded the Order of Pacific, the university’s highest honor.

A nationally recognized artist, Pecchenino worked skillfully in a variety of mediums and was best known for an acrylic lacquer inlay technique he developed. He completed numerous commissions for businesses and organizations, and garnered more than 80 awards in competitive exhibitions and had close to 50 one-person shows of his own work. He was actively creating up to his final weeks.

His wife of 47 years, Regina (Feltz) Pecchenino ’56, preceded him in death in 2004. He is survived by their son and daughter-in-law, Brad ’82 and Karen (Spicer) Pecchenino ’86, ’90, and their children.

Robert “Bob” Winterberg ’51 COP  
Former vice president of finance  
1928–2015

Bob Winterberg passed away on July 20, surrounded by his family. He was 87. Winterberg served nearly 40 years under three university presidents, moving through the ranks from assistant business manager to financial vice president, a position he held for 26 years. He shepherded the university’s financial stability during a period of unprecedented growth, and was instrumental in mergers that extended the university’s footprint into San Francisco and Sacramento.

He earned his bachelor’s in business administration at Pacific, was a member of Alpha Kappa Lambda and was named to Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honor Society. Winterberg was first hired in 1950 while he was still completing his degree. He left from 1952 to 1955 to serve a tour in the U.S. Army and returned to Pacific following his discharge, eventually serving as financial vice president from 1963 until his retirement in 1989.

In addition to his role in Pacific’s merger with the College of Physicians and Surgeons, now the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry, and the acquisition of its Webster Street facilities, he also oversaw the merger with McGeorge School of Law and the building out of what is now the Sacramento Campus. Numerous other developments under his leadership included construction of the Alex G. Spanos Center, Robert E. Burns Tower and Grace Covell Hall.

In 1968, Winterberg received an honorary doctorate of business administration from Ohio Northern University, and in 2011 the Winterberg family received the Outstanding Family Award from the Pacific Alumni Association. Winterberg was a past president of the Western Association of College and University Business Officers and served on the board of directors for the National Association of College and University Business Officers. An active Rotarian, he was president of the North Stockton Rotary Club, district governor and served on the international budget finance committee.

At his retirement from Pacific, the Robert Winterberg Outstanding Senior Award was created through contributions made in his honor. It is awarded each year to an Eberhardt School of Business graduate.

George M. Houser ’36  
1916–2015

The Rev. George M. Houser, a Methodist minister and lifelong champion of civil rights, passed away on Aug. 21 at age 99. He was believed to be the last living member of the inaugural Freedom Ride — the volatile, sometimes violent bus trip through the South by a racially mixed group in 1947. Houser co-founded the civil rights group Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in 1942, which rose to national prominence. For his efforts, Houser was a recipient of the Thomas Jefferson Award for the Advancement of Democracy in 1948 from the Council Against Intolerance in America. He also worked to end apartheid in South Africa, helping to found the group Americans for South African Resistance and serving for more than 25 years as executive director of the American Committee on Africa. For his work, he received the Oliver R. Tambo Award in 2010 from President Jacob Zuma of South Africa. He authored several books, including No One Can Stop the Rain: Glimpses of Africa’s Liberation Struggle (1989) and co-authored Mozambique: Dream the Size of Freedom (1975).