

The magazine of
Willamette University
Fall 2016

Willamette

Inside: Willamette (like the rest of the country) tries to understand the election; Take a Break alumni share how their lives changed; We look back on President Steve Thorsett's first five years. Fall arrives in a blaze of color.





During Bearcats Give Back, a student-run service project, first-year students kicked off the school year by donating time to assist Salem non-profits including the Willamette Humane Society.

In this new approach to our Not Unto Ourselves Alone article, members of the Willamette community describe how the university's motto is made visible and tangible in their lives. Here, Michael Beseda, publisher of this magazine, shares his Willamette story.

When I arrived at Willamette in June 2013, Emeritus Dean of Admission Jim Sumner sent me a list of 50 key faculty, staff and alumni to seek out for their insights about the university. I decided to ask each Bearcat the following three questions:

What is your Willamette story? What do you think makes Willamette distinctive? What advice do you have for me?

Professor Bill Duvall's response to the third question was to keep talking to more people. I learned very quickly that everyone I spoke with had something to teach me, and the list hit 100 and kept growing. The nuggets from these conversations became the foundation for a host of communications efforts — including Willamette magazine.

Now that I'm leaving this amazing place to take a position with another university, it's time I shared with you my Willamette story.

Last summer the mother of an undocumented first-year student from a small town in the South called. She was seeking my help in making sure her child came to Willamette. She phoned from the hair salon where she worked, the lively sounds of beautifying-in-progress transmitting from the South to the Pacific Northwest.

As is often the case, there was a daunting gap between her daughter's aid award and need. These financial challenges and those of distance, privilege and race had been compounded by a

local "advisor," who was encouraging the student to stay home and go to the local community college for two years and then transfer to the local state college.

But mothers often know best. And this mom was utterly convinced that Willamette was her daughter's path to a new and better world, a new and better life.

When I phoned the daughter, it was clear she had made up her mind that Willamette was out of reach: The cost was too much, the gap too large and the distance too far. Still, we chatted about Willamette and possibilities and options, and I connected her with colleagues in admission and financial aid. Those colleagues reported back that she was almost certainly headed to a nearby junior college.

But Mom would not give up. She implored, "Mr. Beseda, you've got to find a way to convince her to go to Willamette. She can't miss this chance." One more call from me, no change.

Before speaking to the undergraduate faculty about the new class — just two days before new students' move-in day — I stopped by my office and found another phone message from Mom. "Mr. Beseda, my daughter may not go to Willamette. You've got to convince her. I'm going to the church right now to pray for you that you find a way."

So I went to a higher power. At the end of my presentation to the Willamette faculty, I shared this story and this mother's prayer. Almost immediately, faculty members



In his time at Willamette, Michael Beseda, vice president for enrollment and university communications, has seen firsthand how the university changes lives.

from the student's part of the world were identified and offered to make contact. Money was found, a plane ticket was purchased, a faculty member who grew up near her little town drove to PDX to bring a Bearcat-in-the-making to Willamette. A mother's prayers were answered.

Months later, I'm in my son's apartment in Manhattan stuffing the Thanksgiving turkey when the cell phone in my pocket vibrates. I check quickly and notice it's from a number I don't recognize. After dinner I remember to check the message. It is from that student. "Mr. Beseda, this is the student you spoke to this summer about coming to Willamette. I'm calling to say thank you. I'm having an amazing, wonderful time at Willamette. Mr. Beseda, you changed my life."

And yet, I've never met this young woman, wouldn't

recognize her if we stood in line together at the Bistro. But I did share with her stories of Willamette I heard from others, and I did share her story with Willamette faculty members. And now I've shared it with you.

Sometimes the unlikely stories have very happy endings. I didn't really change this young woman's life — her persevering mom and the people at Willamette who stepped in with care and resources made it happen.

But I was honored to help, and I was privileged to be a Bearcat for three wonderful years.

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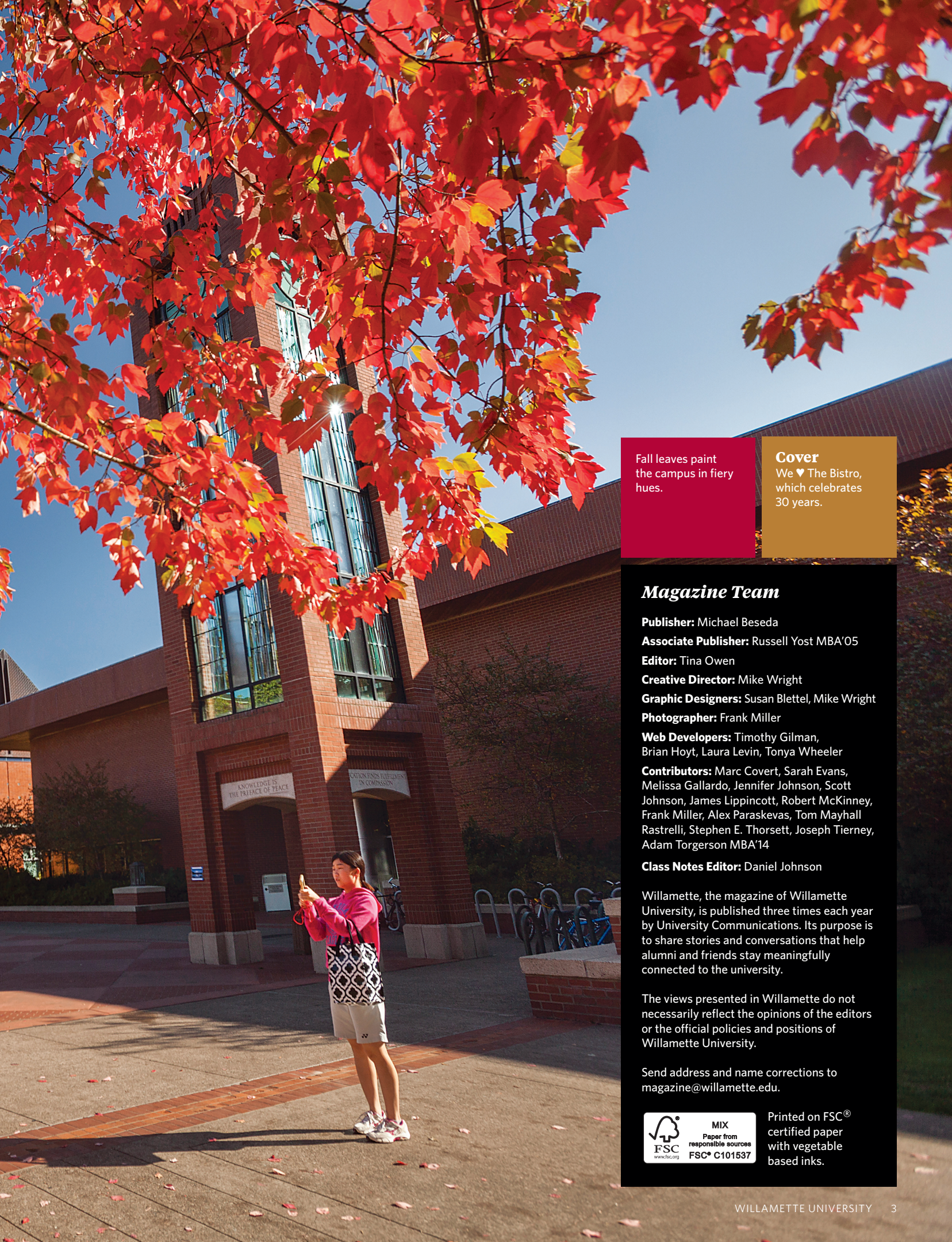
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**This Scary, Frustrating,
Crazy, Unprecedented
Election**

The 2016 presidential election has been one for the history books. Willamette professors, classes and events help students — many of them first-time voters — make sense out of it all.

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Fall leaves paint the campus in fiery hues.

Cover

We ♥ The Bistro, which celebrates 30 years.

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The views presented in Willamette do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors or the official policies and positions of Willamette University.

Send address and name corrections to magazine@willamette.edu.



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“In Nature’s Grip” (Summer 2016, p. 14) was a fascinating article.

However, there is more to the story.

Last year, a long-time client of mine, Dorothy Gage ’47, died. Even though I had represented her for years, I did not know that Dorothy was an alumna of Willamette University, nor that she was a Fulbright Scholar.

What I did know was that her trust donated the funds for Oregon Public Broadcasting to produce the two “Oregon Field Guide” programs mentioned in your article. Dorothy had a passion to protect the environment.

— Colin Lamb ’66, JD’69

I applaud the inmates, professors Michaux and De Muniz, Rabbi Perlstein and the Willamette students for helping to create and participate in the “Reforming Criminal Justice” class (“Questions of Justice,” Summer 2016, p. 24).

It was fascinating and hopeful to read about students working with inmates. The capacity for understanding, compassion and broader perspective lends itself to the greater dignity and humanity so sorely needed in the world at large, not just the prison system.

“A class like this makes me honored to be a Willamette parent.”

I realize that the Salem penitentiary is male-only, but the lack of an incarcerated female voice left a hole in the article. It will be interesting to see how teachers and students work to bridge that gap in an effort to address inclusivity and diversity. Doing so can only broaden perspective and understanding of a minority within a minority.

The Willamette class lays the framework for forgiveness and the many other facets of love-compassion, understanding, empathy, acceptance, cooperation, kindness, caring, consideration, respect and creativity.

A class like this makes me honored to be a Willamette parent.

— Jo Anna Chamarro P’20

I’m writing to comment on the “Then & Now” article about the student admission viewbooks (Summer 2016, p. 23). I have a copy of that 1950 “We’re going to Willamette” brochure, and I’m featured in it. That’s me in the saddle shoes, paintbrush in hand, observing the paintings in the old art building. I appear again, seriously lighting a candle in the Waller Hall chapel. There are many other photos of my Pi Beta Phi sisters and friends. The man on the front cover pushing the car is Sherm Bliss ’52 (deceased), whom I was dating at the time.

My two years at Willamette were memorable and a significant part of my life. In 1951, I married Roger Adams ’50. Roger died in 2012, but we attended many of our class reunions. The most recent was in the fall of 2013, when two of my daughters accompanied me, and we had a lovely time.

— JoAnn Richardson Adams ’53

Time for a Time Capsule

Willamette University celebrates its 175th anniversary next year. Although there are no official plans for a time capsule, we’re curious: If you could contribute an item to a time capsule, what would you include that represents Willamette — and the world — in 2016? Send your ideas to magazine@willamette.edu.

Where’s Tufton?

Congratulations to Mary Hadlock Bunn ’70, who was the first reader to locate Tufton Beamish in the summer issue. She spotted the “Tuftonline” in the photo on p. 39 of the students practicing slacklining between two trees by the Mill Stream.



Can you find Tufton in this issue? Send your sightings to magazine@willamette.edu.

We love to hear from you! Send us your thoughts and feedback about articles in Willamette magazine.

Email magazine@willamette.edu or send letters to University Communications, Willamette University, 900 State Street, Salem OR 97301. Published correspondence may be edited for length and clarity.

Saghar Sadeghian, visiting assistant professor of history, practices the Baha'i faith that is persecuted in her homeland of Iran. Her unique perspective is stretching Willamette students' worldview.

> What were some of the difficulties you experienced in Iran?

While Iran's Shia-Muslim government discriminates against other religions and sects, Baha'is are the scapegoats of society. At the beginning of the Islamic Revolution in 1979, hundreds of Baha'is were imprisoned or executed. Now, even though Baha'is represent the largest religious minority, we are not allowed access to higher education or official jobs. I completed my undergraduate education at an underground Baha'i university in Iran but had to travel to the U.K. and France to gain my master's degree and doctorate. My research caused me some difficulties with the Iranian government, so I'm unable to return home.

> What are students most surprised by in your classes?

They are surprised by what they don't know about the Middle East. When we talk about women, for example, many students imagine women hidden in their houses, unable to work, travel or participate in society. When they read about such things in an academic context, they find differences from what they hear in the media and from American and Middle Eastern politicians. Often, it may be totally different from the reality in countries like Iran. My classes aim to change such superficial ideas. I try to give a wider perspective of the region and change mentalities about geography, population, ethnicity, religion and culture.

> What has your experience taught you about discrimination?

Discrimination can happen to any minority group. When you divide society into two groups — majority and minority, those who have power and those who don't — it's the beginning of discrimination. When you start labeling people differently, you divide the community into "us" and "others." This can be based on religion,

ethnicity, gender orientation, language, accent or hair color — anything to say, "We are better. You are not the same as us."

> What courses are you teaching this semester?

"History of the Modern Middle East" covers a general history since 1800, while "Middle East and the West" studies political, economic and cultural influences or clashes since 1800.

> How does your research inform our understanding of Iran today?

My research is focused on Iran's non-Muslim communities in the late 19th and early 20th centuries — the period of the Constitutional Revolution. I am trying to uncover the roots of contemporary misunderstandings and animosities.

Today, Iran's religious minorities face discrimination. Separate quarters and many more distinctions and separations still exist for Christians, Jews and Zoroastrians. If someone doesn't know the history of the region, they assume this discrimination started in 1979, whereas some regulations have existed since the 18th and 19th centuries. While religion was a pretext, most discrimination and separation was based in economics and politics, both internal and foreign efforts.

> How does being Baha'i inform your worldview?

The Baha'i faith believes in the unity of mankind. As a Baha'i, I believe that I should be at the service of humanity. Because we believe in universal peace, I try to bring common understanding to the community I'm living in and to remove animosity and resentment to create a better and more peaceful world. ☒



Advances in technology have transformed the classroom of Brandi Row Lazzarini '96, associate professor of exercise science. When Row Lazzarini's students explore biomechanics — the study of mechanical principles applied to the structure and function of the human body — they now use cutting-edge wireless systems that capture the body's natural movements in ways never before possible.

"In the old days, research subjects were tethered to a computer by cables," says Row Lazzarini. "Now, with wireless devices, they can move more naturally and therefore provide better results for research."

The Myometrics motion capture system from Noraxon USA, Inc. uses wi-fi to transmit to receivers and a laptop the information from sensors worn on a person's body. Researchers and students can see the complex interaction of bones and joints that lies behind even the simplest movement.

Motion capture technology helps animate digital characters in videos and movies, but it's also used to analyze and improve athletes' performances, identify and treat patients' injuries or posture and movement problems, and train healthcare professionals.

As the Myometrics system is portable, students can conduct research beyond the Integrated Exercise Science Laboratory on the first floor of Gatke Hall.

"The classic struggle in our field has been whether to work in an artificial lab-based environment or in a place where people can move more naturally," says Row Lazzarini. "This system opens up opportunities for students to go out into the field and do research during real-life activities. Students are really excited about it."

These are the high-tech tools that Row Lazzarini's students use:

1. Sensors

The Integrated Exercise Science Laboratory owns four lightweight sensors that can be used on legs and arms. To capture the action of her leg flexing and extending, Row Lazzarini wears four sensor devices — one attached to the back of her pelvis, two positioned on Velcro bands above and below her knee and one on her foot.

2. Receiver

A small black box topped by a wireless antenna, the receiver collects the data from the sensors and feeds it to a laptop.

3. Software

The Myomotion biomechanical analysis software recreates Row Lazzarini's movements in a three-dimensional, real-time visualization. As Row Lazzarini walks around, lifts a leg or squats, a virtual skeleton displayed on the screen duplicates the actions.

The software provides precise data such as joint angles, which can then be exported to Excel. "As they saw the animation while the information was being collected, students have a better appreciation for what the data mean," says Row Lazzarini.





1

3

The **FIRST** *Five* *Years*

By Tina Owen





What's developed at Willamette in the first half-decade of Steve Thorsett's tenure as president? And what makes him so optimistic about the future?

With the Willamette University seal emblazoned on each side of his ceremonial cardinal and black robes and on the silver medallion of office around his neck, President Steve Thorsett stood on the convocation stage on the Quad and welcomed the class of 2020 to campus.

Echoing the sentiments of the university motto on the seal — “Non nobis solum nati sumus” — he stressed the “shared sense of belonging to something bigger than our individual selves” and encouraged students to participate in their new community, engage with ideas and find their path in life.

“The national mood is unusually dark,” he noted. “But I’m at heart an optimist. And universities like Willamette are fundamentally optimistic endeavors.”

While Thorsett primarily addressed new students and their parents at convocation in August, his words resonated with a wider university audience.

Thorsett joined Willamette on July 1, 2011 as the university’s 25th president, but it wasn’t his first experience on campus. Thorsett’s father, Grant, was a Willamette biology professor, so Thorsett grew up immersed in the university’s culture. He enjoyed Bearcat athletic and cultural events and worked part-time jobs on campus, including washing dishes at Doney Hall.

In his inaugural president’s message in the fall 2011 issue of *The Scene* magazine, Thorsett wrote, “I am honored to be at the helm of an institution that was such a formative force in my early life and to rejoin a community in which I have deep familial roots and connections.”

But a series of national and Willamette-specific events over the next few years raised concerns on campus about transparency, shared governance and access to higher education.

Thorsett and other campus leaders pledged to address such issues head-on, with the faith that Willamette will emerge as an even stronger institution.

“I hear your concerns loud and clear — and you can expect action from me in the days, weeks and months ahead. ... Important and difficult issues like these take time to address, but I look forward to working together to take these first steps to bring us together,” Thorsett wrote in a campus announcement email in May. “Through this work, and in the necessary conversations that result, I am confident we will develop a shared vision for Willamette of which we can all be proud.”



President Steve Thorsett (left) and Steve Wynne '74, JD'77, chair of Willamette's Board of Trustees, listen to a speaker during the 2016 commencement.

Reasons for pride

In his first days on campus, Thorsett familiarized himself with his new presidential duties. He met with trustees, got to know faculty and staff, mingled with alumni at events and made connections in the Salem community.

Mary Louise VanNatta '86, who is also the parent of a current dual degree student, says she often saw Thorsett and his wife, Rachel, at local business and nonprofit events. "I enjoyed seeing the Thorsetts around Salem and appreciated their interest in life outside the Willamette campus," she says. "It was like getting a regular update on the university's activities, which helped me stay more connected to my alma mater."

Thorsett also returned to the familiar environment of the classroom and the joy of teaching students. In 2013, Conner Mertens '17 took Thorsett's College Colloquium course, "Do I dare disturb the universe? Choosing to act in an uncertain

world," which explored logical, emotional, mathematical and other approaches to decision-making.

Mertens was also one of several students for whom Thorsett served as academic advisor. On the first day of the colloquium course, Thorsett allayed any nerves or awkwardness the freshmen may have felt about how to interact with their university president. In his affable way, he said, "Just call me Steve."

Mertens remains grateful for Thorsett's obvious commitment to students' academic and personal well-being. In 2014, Mertens became the first U.S. college football player to come out publicly while still active in the sport, and the Bearcat kicker's announcement that he was bisexual produced a flurry of regional and national attention.

"The next day, I was walking across campus feeling very uneasy and like all eyes were on me," Mertens says. "Luckily I came across President Thorsett on the way to class. He went out of his way to give me a hug and tell me he was proud."

In the next few years, a number of Willamette accomplishments provided additional cause for pride. During its comprehensive accreditation process in 2011 and then the three-year review in 2014, the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities not only accredited Willamette but did so without any reservations about its performance, integrity and quality — a rare occurrence during the commission's thorough assessment process.

In 2014, the College of Law was reaccredited by the American Bar Association. And a year later, the Atkinson Graduate School of Management (AGSM) maintained its business accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. AGSM is also accredited by the Network of Schools of



"The next day, I was walking across campus feeling very uneasy and like all eyes were on me. Luckily I came across President Thorsett on the way to class. He went out of his way to give me a hug and tell me he was proud."

—Conner Mertens '17

Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (reaccredited in 2016), making it one of only two schools in the world to be recognized for both business and public administration.

Several college guides also attested to Willamette's quality and accessibility. In 2012, *Colleges That Change Lives* cited Willamette as one of its 40 "schools that will change the way you think about colleges," saying "Willamette is a rising star — a place that does its work well and has momentum to claim its rightful spot among the few colleges in this country that prioritize undergraduate education."

Forbes, U.S. News & World Report, the Fiske Guide to Colleges and the Princeton Review also provided positive ratings and reviews. The National Jurist magazine gave the College of Law an A+ rating, placing it alongside Stanford, Harvard and Yale, while Moody's Investors Service ranked it in the top quartile of a nationwide survey of law schools.

The Princeton Review, Forbes and U.S. News & World Report also recognized AGSM as a leading, well-run and effective school, as did Inc. and CEO magazines. Bloomberg Businessweek's 2015 rankings listed AGSM as "a top business school," while for three consecutive years, from 2013-15, Poets and Quants selected it as one of the nation's 100 best MBA programs.

Many of these guidebooks stressed the excellent teaching found at Willamette, and in 2013, politics professor Sammy Basu was named Oregon Professor of the Year. Basu joined ten other Willamette faculty members honored since 1990 by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

A changing world

Such accomplishments took place during a time of unprecedented national challenges to higher education and particularly liberal arts colleges.

A 2013 report from the National Center for Education Statistics predicted a dramatic decline in college enrollment overall, accompanied by an increase in the growth of historically underrepresented students. Such students may be more likely to need financial and other assistance.

In addition to changing demographics, universities and colleges face criticism about rising costs. Worried about the cost of a college education and crushing student loan debt, many students and their parents now want to be assured that a degree will lead to a career. That's a tough

conversation for liberal arts colleges, whose degrees may not seem to have an obvious vocational or professional connection.

"The role of liberal arts college in U.S. higher education has changed even in the five years I've been president," Thorsett says. "The broader national conversation has lost track of what we are and what we do. Liberal arts aren't seen by American culture in the way they once were, so we have to explain it more. We have to be much more thoughtful about how we talk about our value. It's a bigger piece of my job."

Willamette is addressing these changes in other ways. In August, the Chronicle of Higher Education commended the university's commitment to supporting underrepresented students. In an article on whether rich colleges educate enough low-income students, the publication noted that, despite a significantly lower endowment than many wealthier colleges, Willamette has set ambitious goals around affordability and access.

The article referred to a plan, approved by the Board of Trustees in 2015, to increase the number of students from low-income, first-generation and underrepresented groups — and to help all College of Liberal Arts students graduate in a timely manner with less student loan debt than undergraduates at peer institutions.

This fall, as part of that commitment, Willamette became test-optional in admissions, giving students the choice of whether to submit ACT or SAT scores with their applications. National research over the years indicates that standardized tests may not be the best indicator of college success.

Plus, the committee that reviewed the test-optional policy argued, many talented, underrepresented students may be dissuaded from applying to Willamette if they have to provide test scores. Instead, students write an essay about how Willamette's motto and values apply to their educational and career goals.

Other challenges to higher education include national conversations around the response of colleges to sexual assault and violence. In response, Willamette organized the President's Working Group on Sexual Assault and Harassment to review campus protocols, provide resources to survivors and support the adjudication process. Thanks to the work of many members of the Willamette and Salem communities, the university's "Not Alone" program advanced training for all staff and faculty members, added Sexual Assault Response Allies (SARAs) for students and provided a

Thinking Strategically

Approved by the Board of Trustees on Feb. 23, 2013, the strategic plan aims to help Willamette "become the Northwest's leading institution for rigorous, personalized liberal arts and graduate

professional education, attractive to students and faculty from across the nation and around the world." Its four main objectives are:

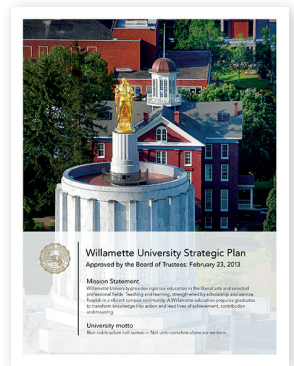
- Deliver the highest-quality student experiences;
- Expand access for bright, talented students who will contribute to a diverse Willamette community;
- Demonstrate the lifelong value of a Willamette undergraduate degree;
- Cultivate an authentic engagement with place.

The plan capitalizes on Willamette's location in the beautiful Pacific Northwest by focusing on the "pedagogy of place."

"At a time when many institutions risk becoming bland 'universities of nowhere,'" it says, "we believe that learning contextualized by place — engaged in a particular history, art, culture, environment, politics and economy — has enormous potential to foster moral and ethical development, critical awareness, social responsibility and self knowledge."

Overall, the plan reflects Willamette's mission and envisions a university "that will continue as a place where hearts and minds are awakened, where knowledge becomes action, and where we heed the call to service as the truest path to a life of meaning."

Read more: willamette.edu/go/strategic-plan



better-defined system around responding to sexual misconduct issues.

A stronger infrastructure

When students arrive at Willamette, they benefit from a number of other improvements that have taken place since 2011, including the \$7 million renovation of Sparks Athletic Center, the relocation of the Portland-based MBA program to new quarters in the Pearl District and renovations to campus residence halls.

Beyond such bricks-and-mortar projects, Thorsett has supported critical policies and plans — from a strategic plan (see sidebar on page 11) to investments in new IT and human resources systems — that underpin the university’s work and put it on a strong footing for the future.

“President Thorsett has been very astute in assessing the critical underlying needs of the institution,” says Steve Wynne ’74, JD’77, chair of Willamette’s Board of Trustees. “He is aggressive in attacking significant structural problems quickly, and he’s brought the university’s budgeting process and its resource use in line with its capabilities. He’s a very skilled problem-solver.”

When he took office, Thorsett soon realized the need to address Willamette’s

relatively high visibility both in and out of our region ... [and we are] strengthening the academic profile and diversity of our student body.”

Challenging times

Diversity proved a hot-button topic on campuses around the nation this year. Students at several institutions, including Princeton, Harvard, Yale, the University of Missouri and Claremont-McKenna College, demonstrated against racist and unwelcoming campus environments, a lack of diversity among faculty and a lack of support for people of color in higher education. Many of the protests were aligned with the national Black Lives Matter movement.

At Willamette, a rising tide of low morale and anger in the campus community came to a head during the spring 2016 semester. Proposed changes to Willamette Academy — the university’s program to help local middle- and high-school students from underrepresented groups prepare academically for higher education — sparked several student protests and demonstrations and concern from alumni and the Salem community.

In response to issues about diversity, Thorsett created a task force on equity

university closed Zena Farm to address issues around its land use agreement.

Following months of outcry and protests by students, faculty, staff and members of the local community, as well as the unexpected resignation of the student government president, 71 College of Liberal Arts faculty members wrote a public letter expressing their frustrations.

In the letter published in *The Collegian*, the faculty members called for “transparency in all governance, with full participation of faculty, staff and students. Considered decisions must allow for the participation of all stakeholders, and emerging decisions must be made in alignment with a clear common vision.”

In response, Thorsett collaborated with faculty members, trustees and students to create a joint agreement on shared governance, consultative decision-making and communication. He also introduced a new University Council that includes faculty, student and staff representatives in institutional decision-making.

In an 85-2 vote in June, the faculty approved the joint agreement on shared governance that set out three guiding principles: consultative and transparent decision-making, responsibility and accountability, and equity. As part of the



“I’m optimistic about liberal arts education generally. I strongly believe this kind of education is even more — not less — important than it was a generation ago. What we teach students is not just important in their careers but also in how to figure out society’s complex problems.”

—President Steve Thorsett

financial situation. His predecessor, M. Lee Pelton, had invested in more faculty in order to help Willamette become more competitive. But then the Great Recession of 2008 negatively impacted the university’s endowment.

When he presented a draft university strategic plan to the Board of Trustees in 2013, Thorsett acknowledged the challenges ahead. But he also stressed Willamette’s strengths: “We have the strongest faculty we have ever had, in CLA and in the professional schools. We enjoy a campus of great beauty and utility. We have

and inclusion that comprises 22 faculty, students and staff, who are charged with assessing and recommending to the president whether the university needs to create a position for a chief diversity officer — and if so, to help determine the goal, scope and structure of the position.

For many on campus, the upset over Willamette Academy brought back memories of the closure of the Graduate School of Education in 2014. Many students also called for better consultation, not only about the academy but other programmatic decisions, such as when the

joint agreement, the University Council is designed to serve as an advisory body to ensure that faculty, staff and students play a meaningful role in guiding the strategic direction of the university.

Work on these initiatives is already underway. The University Council also met for the first time in September to learn about Willamette’s budget challenges as well as other upcoming university projects.

Within the first few weeks of the fall 2016 semester, the equity and inclusion task force met twice to discuss its literature review related to university chief diversity

officers. Then, in October, Emilio Solano '09 started work as the new executive director of Willamette Academy. While a student at the College of Liberal Arts, Solano served as a tutor at Willamette Academy, and his brother, Nicholas Solano '11, was a member of the academy's inaugural cohort.

"The Willamette and Salem communities are enthusiastic about his hire," says Ellen Eisenberg, Dwight & Margaret Lear Professor of American History and co-chair of the search committee that hired Solano. "We're excited to see the new course he charts for the program."

An optimistic future

Five years ago, in The Scene's article introducing him as the university's new president, Steve Thorsett referenced Robert Noyce, a Willamette parent and an early leader of Intel. He spoke of Noyce's emphasis on "the role of optimism in enabling people to make hard choices."

While both he and the university have faced hard choices in recent years, Thorsett remains positive.

"I'm optimistic about liberal arts education generally. I strongly believe this kind of education is even more — not less — important than it was a generation ago," he says. "What we teach students is not just important in their careers but also in how to figure out society's complex problems."

For Wynne and other trustees, Thorsett's passion for a liberal arts education was obvious from the beginning. Five years into his tenure, they believe he's set the university in the right direction. "Overall this institution is in a much stronger position, particularly financially, than it has been in quite a while," says Wynne. "President Thorsett has used the first five years of his presidency to lay the groundwork to build a really remarkable institution. He's settling in to Willamette in a way that speaks well of his ability to lead the institution for a long, long time."

Thorsett knows much work remains to be done to cement Willamette's place as a Pacific Northwest leader for diversity and access; to heal divisions and restore trust on campus; and to give talented students a quality education that will serve them — and their communities — for the demands of a fast-changing world.

His main source of optimism is Willamette's people — its students, staff and faculty. "The faculty I remember from my childhood are no longer around, but the faculty who are here two generations later haven't changed in terms of their



Favorite moments

President Steve Thorsett recalls some of his most memorable and enjoyable experiences from the past five years.

- A few years ago, a Hallie Ford Museum of Art exhibit of Italian Renaissance drawings brought together faculty from different disciplines in a series of lectures and concert performances. "I loved the way our community members came together to talk and share their passions," says Thorsett. "I just thought that was 'so Willamette.'"
- The two world record-setting games of Red Light/Green Light on the Quad.
- Floating down the Mill Stream in an inner tube to celebrate the Atkinson Graduate School of Management's 40th anniversary during its annual Brownwater event.
- The campus visit and lecture by actor and social activist George Takei.
- Meeting alumni at receptions around the country. "Alumni are so passionate about the university — not just the way it used to be but what's going on now," says Thorsett. "The ways in which Willamette remains identifiable to them often goes back to the university's motto."
- Celebrating the summer solstice in Alaska with a group of Willamette law alums.
- Watching and feeling proud of football player Conner Mertens '17, who became in 2014 the first college football player to publicly come out while still playing. "The press conference was held at Sparks," recalls Thorsett, "and all Conner's teammates and coaches sat with him at the table."
- Thorsett once took a prospective student to see the Willamette Chamber Choir perform. "Professor Wallace Long had both of us sit in the middle of the singers as they stood in a circle, held hands and sang 'Nunc Dimittis,'" he says. "I think it was the student's 17th campus visit, but by the time she got to the airport, she'd made up her mind to come to Willamette."

commitment to students," he says. "That's incredible."

Such spirit and determination recall the university's early days, when, burdened by debt, Willamette struggled to shape a safe, secure future.

"We need to remember the men and women who built our institution," says Thorsett. "They faced day-to-day hardships, but they didn't despair or lose faith in working towards the long-term growth and improvement of the university. Now, it's our turn — to live up to our motto and to help Willamette become a better and more authentic version of itself." ☐



Among the Best

Willamette's College of Liberal Arts is ranked among the best liberal arts colleges in the country by U.S. News & World Report, The Princeton Review and Washington Monthly. For the second consecutive year, the university also earned a top-15 ranking by The Princeton Review as one of its top U.S. "Green Colleges."

Willamette Welcomes New Students

In August, 483 new Bearcats joined the College of Liberal Arts. The Atkinson Graduate School of Management welcomed 68 new Early Career and Career Change MBA students in Salem and 36 students into the evening MBA for

Professionals program in Salem and Portland. The College of Law welcomed 116 new students — 112 pursuing JD degrees, one an LLM and three a master of legal studies (MLS).

483

College of Liberal Arts

68

Early Career and Career Change MBAs

36

MBA for Professionals



112

JDs

1

Master of Laws

3

Master of Legal Studies



75 Years Ago

In 1941, Willamette's football team traveled to Honolulu for a Dec. 6 bowl game against the University of Hawaii. When Pearl Harbor was attacked the next day, the Bearcats and their fans became part of the historic events that led to the U.S. entering World War II.

Visit this Willamette Library webpage to learn more and to watch ESPN's brief documentary about the story of the Willamette players' service during the aftermath of the attack: willamette.edu/go/pearl-harbor.



Summer Makeovers at Doney and Baxter

While many students were away over the summer, the university gave two residence halls a facelift.

Doney Hall (above), which used to house some campus offices, has been transformed into an exclusive living space. It has additional apartment-

style rooms with kitchenettes and private baths, as well as a new kitchen and common areas. With the addition of 21 bedrooms, Doney's total occupancy is 132.

At Baxter Hall, new lounges on every floor create more space for students to enjoy studying, entertainment and dining. Students can also access the hall through multiple entry points, thanks to a new elevator and outdoor stairwell. Ten extra bedrooms bring Baxter's occupancy to 117.



Setting Goals to Lead in Access and Affordability

A recent Chronicle of Higher Education story highlighted the work of Willamette trustee Sandy Rowe and the Committee on Access and Affordability. The article delved into the ways colleges — especially those with the most resources — struggle to set appropriate goals in providing access to higher education for all students.

Willamette's endowment per student is well below the "rich colleges group" defined in the article, yet the university has set ambitious goals to match peer institutions' enrollment of first-generation students and those who are eligible for Pell Grants. At the same time, Willamette also aims to enroll more students of color, have comparable graduation rates for different student groups and keep student debt low.

Rowe said in the article, "We have not accepted a mush, national, unclear definition of access and affordability."

Read more at willamette.edu/go/access

“It’s important for us to stop thinking as individuals. We are on this planet together.”

— Filmmaker Keith Beauchamp, who spoke about racism and social justice at a campus Convo session in September. As a result of Beauchamp’s documentary about Emmett Till — the 14-year-old African-American whose lynching in 1955 changed America’s civil rights movement — the FBI reopened the cold case into Till’s murder.

Season of Shakespeare

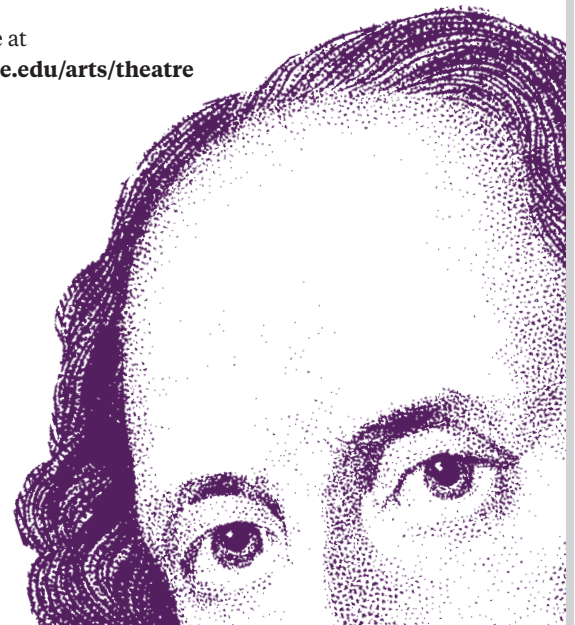
To honor the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare’s death, Willamette University Theatre scheduled a Bard-inspired season. Seven productions will explore Shakespeare through drama, music and dance.

The season opened with the existential comedy “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead.”

In November, “Overture: Music Inspired by Shakespeare” features the Willamette University Symphony Orchestra, while “Perception/Reality,” Willamette’s annual dance concert, will use movement to delve into Shakespearean themes.

Two contemporary plays — “Shakespeare’s Will” and “Lear’s Daughters” — and the classic “Macbeth” round out the season.

Read more at willamette.edu/arts/theatre





AFTER THE BREAK

Take a group of Willamette students, drop them into unfamiliar surroundings, and what do you get? When it comes to the student-led Take a Break (TaB) program, you get changed lives, expanded worldviews and, in some cases, career paths that focus on social justice.

**TAKE
BREAK**

by Marc Covert

Since 2001, the TaB alternative break program has worked to send groups of Willamette students to cities and regions around the nation with the goal of engaging them in community service and experiential learning. If ever there was a way to burst the “campus bubble” this has proved to be it — spending spring break in a place outside students’ comfort zone, living and working in communities beset by poverty, racial inequity, illiteracy, food insecurity, marginalization of immigrant groups, homelessness, HIV/AIDS, environmental destruction and more.

The program is coordinated by the university’s Office of Community Service Learning, but it’s been student-led from the start. Take a Break leadership teams propose their own trip topics, destinations, educational materials, learning outcomes and classroom agendas. They also create itineraries; set budgets; arrange transportation, food, and lodging; recruit participants and raise

funds to help cover the costs of their trips. Leaders and participants take part in extensive volunteer events leading up to the one-week service trip in March, and about 30 hours of reflection per student during and after the trip. It’s intense and demanding — far from “volunteer tourism.”

Along with other campus-based community engagement efforts, Take a Break has helped Willamette University be recognized with the 2009 Presidential Service Award (the highest federal award of its type) and included with distinction on the 2012 Presidential Honor Roll for Community Service. But most importantly, TaB has had an immeasurable impact on the lives and careers of those who embrace its motto of Community, Justice, Service, Simplicity.

Here, four TaB alumni share how the program changed their careers and lives.

Mikki Trowbridge '07, MBA '08

She finds it humorous now, but when Mikki Trowbridge started at Willamette in 2003, she had her life all planned out. She was going to major in economics, get a joint MBA and law degree, and then work as a corporate lawyer. A spring break trip to Philadelphia changed her life completely — something Trowbridge also laughs about today.

“Take a Break changed my trajectory and purpose in life,” she says. “All because I was lured in with a \$35 trip!”

Trowbridge and her group were sent into areas where poverty, homelessness and mental illness were stunning not only in scale but in lack of access to services. Her “Aha” moment came when she realized the same issues were taking place in the city of Salem and in the hometowns of every member of her service team.

“I didn’t want to return to a life where I was turning a blind eye to hardship and not being active in my community,” she says. “My experience in Philadelphia made me

realize a core piece of who I am and that my purpose in life revolves around helping others — and by keeping that as a priority I could make a career out of it.”

The TaB program came to dominate Trowbridge’s experience at Willamette. She served as a trip leader to New York City in 2005 and was TaB’s program director for three years, from 2006 to 2008. She spent eight years in the nonprofit field after graduation, launching HandsOn Mid-Willamette Valley, a Salem-area volunteer



center; directing alternative break programs through United Way Worldwide; and fundraising for Boys & Girls Club. She credits TaB with providing a solid foundation for her lifelong calling: “It was my first real service experience, my first venture into nonprofit work, my first time leading a team, and my first time running a business or organization, managing budgets and raising money.”

Trowbridge is now the owner of Mikki Trowbridge Yoga in Salem. When people think of service-centric professions, yoga instructor doesn’t typically come to mind, yet Trowbridge’s love of yoga and helping others proved to be a perfect fit.

“I didn’t feel good about becoming a full-time yoga instructor unless I could incorporate a service component,” she says. While she taught at studios in the Salem area and hosted Yoga + Beer events at breweries around the state, Trowbridge didn’t make her jump from nonprofit work to full-time yoga until landing a contract with Oregon State Hospital.

“Yoga can be a big help to people suffering from mental illness,” she explains. “One of my students worked at the state hospital, and she told me they wanted to bring in a contractor to focus specifically on yoga for patients. That was the final piece of

the puzzle for me. The service component was there.”

Trowbridge now teaches morning yoga classes to patients. She emphasizes reconnecting mind and body through meditation, breathing techniques and finding the ability to sit quietly with oneself.

“For some patients that’s really hard, so sometimes the classes just serve as a quiet, safe place, since the hospital setting and, quite often, their own bodies and minds don’t provide this,” she says. “We give them a space to take some self-control back, and hopefully give them some skills for dealing with life: how to stay calm in anxious moments, or how to pull back when they can tell they’re about to get angry.”

In weaving together the importance of service as well as professional gratification, Trowbridge often remembers the Willamette motto, Not unto ourselves alone are we born.

“It’s a beautiful motto for a university, but also a beautiful motto for life,” she says. “We made it a big part of TaB every year, a way to point out the importance of focusing on others, even when you have a mortgage and a job and a family after leaving Willamette. Not everyone needs to travel across the county to serve, not everyone needs to volunteer every week, but anyone can find personal ways to give back.”

Jill Summers '05

Jill Summers got in on the ground floor with the Take a Break program, spending a week volunteering at a Catholic Worker house in Tacoma, Washington, in 2002 — TaB’s inaugural trip.

Summers’ second trip was to Chicago, to learn about service programs in urban areas. By the time Summers (who prefers gender-neutral pronouns) entered their junior year at Willamette in 2004, they were eager to serve as a team leader on a trip to Jonestown, Mississippi — or so they thought.

“It was really, really hard,” Summers says now, recalling an experience that often left them shaken, riddled with self-doubt, and struggling to deal with being thrust into an environment where they were no longer part of a racial or socioeconomic majority.

“I balked at first when I realized we were spending our week in a poor black community,” Summers says. “I went to an inner-city middle school in Tacoma, and as a white person I was more of a minority there. The thought of putting myself back into that situation triggered some feelings I thought I was finished with, so I was uneasy, uncomfortable. My feelings were, ‘What if this is something inside that I can’t help and it won’t go away? What if I just suck as a person?’”



Looking back now, Summers admits embarrassment about “the ignorant, borderline-racist entries in the journal I kept during the program. But I’ve learned so much in the last ten years and don’t still think like that. I’m proud of my growth.”

Summers’ uneasiness melted while working in the Jonestown community and attending church services, but the week was fraught with hardship and discord within the TaB group. The students questioned why they were just painting houses and building a fence when they were surrounded by grinding poverty and suffering. To make matters worse, a cousin of one of the Jonestown residents they were working with was injured in a shooting.

“The shooting hit everyone really hard,” Summers says, “and I just didn’t know how to help people process that at the time.”

After the trip, Summers learned another difficult lesson when some of the students’ reflection evaluations criticized Summers’ preparedness and leadership. “That was

instructional to me, moving forward with my life. It was painful, but we really were unprepared,” Summers recalls. “That trip brought home to me how ineffective it could be to try to solve the problems of a group from the outside, without having an understanding of the problems, the culture or the part you play in the mess.”

Since graduating with a sociology degree, Summers has worked in various social service positions, first as an AmeriCorps patient advocate at a cancer resource center in Mendocino, California, and now as program coordinator for Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN), working primarily with families who are experiencing homelessness. Summers is also entering the final term of a master’s degree in social work at Portland State University.

“I think I’ll probably be in social work my whole life,” Summers says. “It’s near and dear to my heart.”

The past 12 years have provided time for

reflection, and Summers sees the importance of what TaB does best: giving students a look at real-world problems, unfiltered by media or preconceived notions.

“The actual work that students do tends to be surface-level stuff,” Summers explains. “It helps, it does good, but that’s not where long-term, sustainable change happens.”

To that end, Summers recently hosted six Willamette first-year students at IHN, teaching them about barriers many people face when they lose their homes and engaging the students directly with families served by the shelter.

“If I can instill a passion for social justice in Willamette students — or anyone really — that’s where I can further the Take a Break spirit,” Summers says. “In Jonestown, we didn’t talk about the big picture, and I didn’t have the leadership skills or critical understanding to help others do that, let alone myself. So maybe now I’m trying to make up for that.”

Erik Willis '10

Majoring in biology at Willamette, Erik Willis spent much of his time conducting medical research, a primarily solitary pursuit that extended into his post-graduation career at a biotechnology startup in San Francisco.

He credits TaB with tempering the focus that easily leads to a separation from campus and other communities. “You can get so insulated, and not interact with people in that type of environment,” he says. “I really missed the interpersonal communication that I discovered on Take a Break, so I decided being a doctor would be more in line with my values than the medical research business.”

Willis heard about TaB through word of mouth but didn’t decide to sign up until his senior year in 2010. He chose a trip to New Orleans, where his skills would help with repairing homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

He’d never been to the South, and he thought New Orleans would be interesting and get him out of his comfort zone. What awaited Willis’ group in New Orleans was devastation and misery still apparent five years after Katrina uprooted more than one million people, who scattered to states across the U.S. and often never returned to the city.

“It was quite a shock, as there was still so much to be done,” he says. “Reading about it is one thing, but when you’re there you see houses that haven’t been touched, you hear stories about wealthier homeowners



buying out lots next to theirs and then building bigger houses. I'd never seen anything like that before. And being in the South — a new culture — was pretty jarring.”

Willis' group spent the week repairing a house for a couple who lost their home and had been living in a FEMA trailer since the storm. The husband had been diagnosed with cancer at the time Katrina hit.

Willis says he felt humbled to hear that and many more stories. “They just wouldn't give up,” he recalls. “They wanted to rebuild.”

While relaxing outside the house after work was completed one day, the volunteers

were introduced to a couple next door who were also struggling. “We asked them if we could do anything for them and they said they could use some help painting their apartment,” he says. “We hadn't planned on it but we went in and helped them paint, and they ended up making a huge dinner for us that night — the whole group, people they didn't even know. On both sides, it was really a very positive experience.”

Most of Willis' energies these past several years have been taken up by applying to medical schools. He quit his job in biotech to take science courses and study for the MCAT this past year, and he plans to take an

EMT course and then work as an emergency medical technician before getting into medical school.

He credits his TaB experiences for his desire to practice medicine in rural, underserved communities, something he may not have thought about if he had chosen to stay put on the Willamette campus.

“Knowing those people's stories and struggles drives me to help as a physician in the community,” he says. “Visiting a place like New Orleans made me realize how much need there is right under our noses.”



R.E. Buckley '12

You could say R.E. Buckley was destined to a life of service. Proof can be seen in Buckley's four years at San Jose's Notre Dame High School, founded by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur (“who were strong, focused on social justice and got things done,” says Buckley). Next came stints at Willamette as a community service learning coordinator and Take a Break leader, followed by experience as a Teach for America Spanish teacher in Jackson, Mississippi.

But such a simple statement would overlook a fundamental change that has taken place in Buckley's conception of service.

“I think about equity a lot more now, and power,” says Buckley. “At the time I worked

with TaB I didn't fully understand the power I held as a Willamette University student — the ability to say ‘Hey, this trip sounds nice, I'll get to work with new people for a week and learn about their issues and then I can move on.’ To me now, the term ‘service’ connotes ‘I'm doing you a favor, I'm coming from a place from above and bringing something to you.’ I've learned to think more about how to use the power I have to make change, and the spheres of influence I can access that others can't.”

That uneasy relationship between volunteers and people they serve wasn't lost on Buckley's TaB coordinators, who encouraged their group to work through the inevitable discomfort they felt on service trips to places like Sisters of the Road Café and Blanchet House of Hospitality in Portland, Oregon.

“When you first recognize the privilege you've grown up in and the things you've gotten based on your skin color and class status, it's shocking because you've had the privilege of ignoring it for so long,” says Buckley. “Our TaB leaders constantly challenged us to take that discomfort and sit with it and think about it, to recognize that you've been on the receiving end of a system that's favored you in a lot of ways. It was uncomfortable but it was definitely something that has stuck with me since then.”

Buckley (who prefers gender-neutral pronouns) sees their time since graduation from Willamette as a constant growing process, trying to understand where they need to put their efforts in building equality. “I believe in educational equity,” says Buckley, “but I question having done Teach America, going to Mississippi to teach Spanish. While I built relationships with my students, on a systemic level I think I was part of a revolving door of teachers who come and go.”

In addition, Buckley earned a master's degree in public administration at Syracuse University and completed a Hatfield Resident Fellowship with Clackamas County Emergency Management, where they developed a white paper on the Americans with Disabilities Act's impact on emergency planning and policy. All the while, they have been drawn to opportunities aligned with TaB's principles of equity and social justice.

Buckley is now a research assistant at the Providence Center for Outcomes Research and Education in Portland, which focuses on improving the health of underserved populations. “We do health care policy research with a focus on social determinants of health — such as living environment, social structure and culture — and how they impact specific communities disproportionately,” says Buckley. “Something as simple as filling out a form for a job or social services becomes an access barrier when you don't have stable housing.”

Buckley's advice to current Willamette students and TaB participants? “Try not to be defensive about your position of power, and don't assume that we all have the same identities. We hold both privileged identities and oppressed identities simultaneously, and that doesn't make one greater than the other. Be open to hearing people's stories and also think about how you can build relationships that go beyond just the week you spend in your communities.” ☒

Marc Covert is a freelance writer in Portland.

Does this article inspire your own TaB memories? Share them at magazine@willamette.edu.

HAPPY CAMPERS



Five years after Jan Taborsky '10, MBA'11 and Lacy Gillham '10 founded their own business, Happy Campers Gluten Free, they're living up to their venture's name. With sales of their gluten-free breads rising steadily and the company expanding into states beyond Oregon, Taborsky and Gillham have discovered that going gluten-free can be as good for your business as for your health.

THE RECIPE FOR A SUCCESSFUL BAKING COMPANY

1 MIX

A gluten-intolerance diagnosis and MBA classes turned out to be the perfect mix for Taborsky and Gillham. Unable to find healthy and tasty gluten-free food to fuel their outdoor adventures, they started making their own bread — an enterprise that eventually became one of Taborsky's class projects at the Atkinson Graduate School of Management.

2 LET RISE

The couple developed recipes, baked a few times a week and started selling bread at local farmers' markets. After outgrowing a tiny, borrowed commercial kitchen, the company moved to a dedicated bakery, and this summer, it moved again to a 10-times-larger, certified gluten-free bakery in Portland, Oregon. The company now has 12 employees, who produce about 1,100 loaves and buns a day. Although they still spend time in the bakery, Taborsky and Gillham focus more on sales, marketing, and research and development.

LOCAL FLAVOR



Happy Campers Gluten Free still retains its quirky, handmade, Pacific Northwest vibe, right down to the colorful outdoors-themed illustrations of forest, rivers and campgrounds that Gillham drew for the website.

“BREADGINEERING”

There’s a reason many gluten-free baked goods suffer from a stodgy reputation: The lack of gluten makes it difficult to produce a light, open and crumbly bread. Taborsky and Gillham have refined the process through “breadgineering.” Instead of the simple four-stage process of making glutenous bread, their loaves go through multiple different stages with precise timing for mixing ingredients, temperature shifts and moisture management.



3 PUNCH UP

“This past year has been the biggest year in our company’s history, in nearly all measurable ways,” says Taborsky. In fall 2015, Happy Campers Gluten Free expanded into the greater Seattle area, its first major inroad beyond Oregon. Northern California soon followed, and southern California is up next. The company’s products can be found in over 200 stores and restaurants in nine states. Plus, the online store ships about 1,500 loaves per month across the country.

4 BAKE

As well as being gluten-free, the company’s products are suitable for people who want or need to avoid wheat, soy, dairy, eggs, sugar, rice and corn. They’re also organic and free of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Happy Campers Gluten Free makes four kinds of breads (Stompin’ Good Seedy Buckwheat Molasses, Cravin’ Raisin Cinnamon Spice, Classy Slice and Hemp Hemp Hooray) and Wild Buns. Ingredients include quinoa, sorghum, millet, buckwheat, amaranth, tapioca, pea protein, raisin juice, yeast, pumpkin, flax and sunflower seeds, and olive oil.

A GROWING MARKET

When Taborsky and Gillham started their business, the gluten-free market was in its infancy. “We saw it as the perfect opportunity to marry our new baking passions with the nascent GF market,” says Gillham. “We wanted to do GF right, to show how good it could and should be.”



Today, an estimated one in five Americans avoid gluten, and the retail market for gluten-free foods is expected to exceed \$2 billion by 2019. While delighted to be part of this growing industry, Willamette’s happy campers also retain a healthy attitude: “Sure, we’re bakers; we’re business people,” Taborsky says. “But we’re simply passionate about wellness. The way we promote, support and encourage it is by baking a staple in most people’s lives — bread.”

Learn more
happycampersgf.com



WILLAMETTE MBA STUDENTS OFTEN HEAD TO FULFILLING CAREERS IN THE NOT-FOR-PROFIT SECTOR. To help them gain valuable experience and make an impact in real organizations, the program organized a scholarship to fund internships at Oregon nonprofits. Here, six MBA students share what they learned.



Liebson



Song



Sevostyanova



Bright



Bassett-Smith



Galen

KEVIN LIEBSON '15, MBA'17

Hometown: Manhattan Beach, California

Organization and mission: Career and Technical Education Center (CTEC), Salem; a college and career prep organization for high school students

What he learned: “The solution that works in theory doesn’t always work in reality. While working at CTEC, I amended my proposals to measure student performance several times before submission to make sure my solutions were feasible and easily understood. Although there were others I wanted to incorporate that I felt would better resolve the issue, they weren’t feasible or were too complex to be implemented.”

INA SONG MBA'17

Hometown: Beijing, China

Organization and mission: Astra Women’s Business Alliance, Lake Oswego; an organization supporting women-owned businesses

What she learned: “During my internship at Astra, I got to work with a group of 20 teenage girls who participated at the third Astra Science Technology Engineering Arts Math Summit, an event I helped organize. Watching these girls pitch their new venture business and app ideas to a panel of judges and in front of their peers, mentors and parents after the summit was truly a rewarding experience.”

ANNA SEVOSTYANOVA MBA'17

Hometown: Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Organization and mission: Boys and Girls Club of Salem, Marion and Polk Counties; providing character, leadership and education development to disadvantaged youth

What she learned: “Nonprofit organizations attract some of the most amazing, kind-hearted and accepting people. My internship also allowed me to deeply study U.S. labor laws, which was an exciting journey because the laws are very different from those of my home country of Uzbekistan.”

HEATHER BRIGHT MBA'17

Hometown: Portland, Oregon

Organization and mission: Mercy Corps Northwest, Portland; an organization that serves low-income residents of Oregon and Washington

What she learned: “Sometimes, you’ve got to get creative to solve the big problems. Part of Mercy Corps’ Community Investment Trust team’s mission is to create a new model for asset-building that caters to individuals of all backgrounds. The CIT team has accomplished this by taking a real estate model that has been around since the ‘60s, flipping it on its head a bit, and turning it into a model that mobilizes program participants to become investors.”

TREVOR BASSETT-SMITH '10, MBA '17

Hometown: Keizer, Oregon

Organization and mission: Salem-Keizer Education Foundation; an organization that enhances education and provides resources and programming for Salem and Keizer youth

What he learned: “How to implement process change, how to collect and manage data, and how to evaluate program effectiveness. Because I was largely in charge of a project, I had to learn how to communicate about data effectively to other staff members who work in various roles that were not directly involved in data analysis.”

ANDREW GALEN MBA'17

Hometown: Los Altos, California

Organization and mission: Family Building Blocks, Salem; an organization striving to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect by providing resources for high-risk families

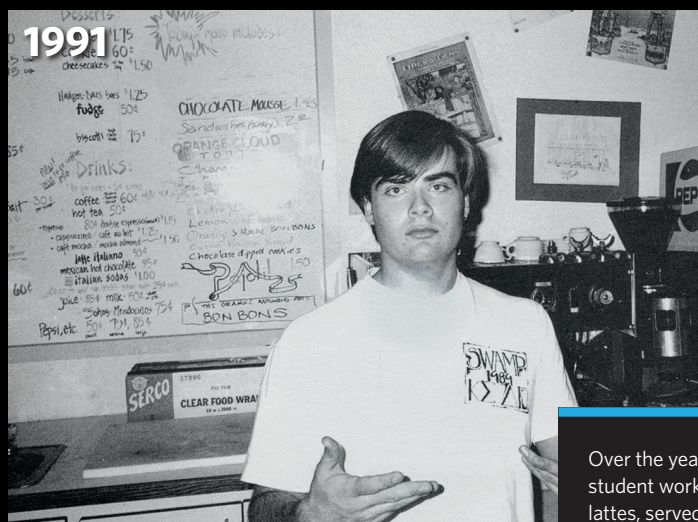
What he learned: “The scope of this internship covered an array of projects in data management, marketing and event planning. One of my biggest takeaways from this experience is the importance of being nimble and able to add value to the organization in a number of different ways. Needs can change quickly in any organization, but especially at nonprofits.”



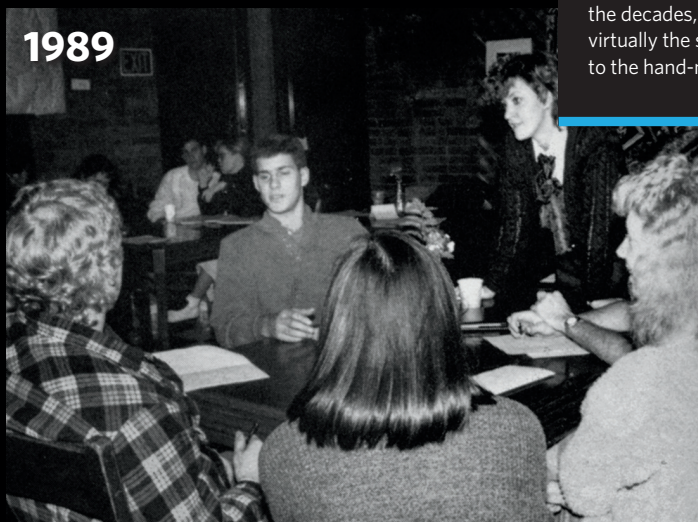
In 1986, two enterprising Bearcats decided that what Willamette really needed was a coffee shop run by and for students. Three decades later, The Bistro remains at the heart of campus. It's *the* place to meet with friends and professors, study for a test, enjoy live music or open mic nights — and yes, grab a cup of coffee.



During a campus visit to celebrate The Bistro's 30th anniversary, founders Eric Friedenwald-Fishman '88 (left) and John Donovan '88 caught up with their old haunts (and their younger selves).



Over the years, hundreds of student workers have poured lattes, served food and baked treats including the legendary Buzz bars. Pictured throughout the decades, The Bistro looks virtually the same — right down to the hand-me-down furniture.



This _____ Election



Scary



Frustrating



Crazy



Unprecedented



This year's extraordinary presidential election has made voters across the country anxious and angry.

At Willamette, professors and classes help students navigate through the confusion and understand why their informed vote is important.

By Sarah Evans

Quinlyn Manfull, a whip-smart Willamette University sophomore from Anchorage, Alaska, first started knocking on doors and calling potential voters for the Democratic Party as a 16-year-old high school student. In fact, she knocked on more doors for the November 2014 election than any other Democratic volunteer in the entire state.

But when Election Day came, the student with a passion for politics was too young to cast her ballot — something she describes as “heartbreaking.”

Now 18, the politics and economics double major is campaigning hard for her favorite presidential candidate: Hillary Clinton. Last spring, she called Alaskan voters from her dorm room in Salem, and during spring break, she volunteered at and voted in the Alaska Democratic Caucus. Come November, Manfull '19 might be one of the most eager students on campus to vote in her first presidential election.

Her enthusiasm, however, is coupled with unease.

“I’m scared, to say the least,” Manfull says. “And I really wish I weren’t, because in another circumstance, I would be extremely excited because I think Hillary Clinton will be a phenomenal president. But I am scared because of the whole Donald Trump situation and a lot of the vitriol he has created and promoted.”

Manfull is not alone in feeling apprehensive. Ask students and political scholars across campus for their thoughts about the presidential election, and words like “anxious,” “disappointed,” “unprecedented” and “unusual” come up frequently — and they’re talking about both Trump and Clinton.

Nationwide, many voters are scratching their heads at how we came to this point with these two major candidates: a Republican outsider with no experience in office, whose controversial actions have led more than 100 leaders in his own party to say they won’t vote for him; and a Democratic insider who battled a potential indictment as well as a tough opponent whose die-hard supporters fought long and hard against her and the system she represents. A Gallup poll in mid-July showed that one in four Americans disliked both candidates.

“I think it is unfortunate that the first election I will be able to vote in is one in which I’m not necessarily going to be proud to cast a vote in either direction,” says Tyler Harris '17, who is president of Willamette’s College Republicans but does not support either major candidate. “This is a massively disappointing circumstance and really a concerning thing for many people in our country and around the world.”



Words like “anxious,” “disappointed,” “unprecedented” and “unusual” come up frequently — and they’re talking about both Trump and Clinton.

The unusual nature of this election led many professors of politics-related courses, even those who have taught about elections for years, to re-tool their syllabi and re-examine the ways they addressed the topic this fall. Their guidance in how to analyze candidates and the political process can be critical to college students preparing to vote for president for the first time.

“This election looks so different and raises so many new questions,” says associate professor of politics Melissa Michaux, who teaches “Parties, Elections and Campaigns” every four years. “I don’t think we’ve ever had an election quite like this one, where there’s a real possibility of a breakup or disintegration of the party system that we’ve had in place.”

What’s different this time?

Politics professor Richard Ellis, a nationally known expert on the American presidency, has written books on how the presidency was founded and how it developed into what it is today. He admits that it’s tempting, as a historian, to say this election isn’t that different from some in the past. Yet, he struggles to make that claim.

“If it had been Hillary Clinton versus Ted Cruz, it would have been a divisive and bitter election, but I don’t think that would have been anything new,” Ellis says. “Trump does feel new. You’d be hard-pressed to find another major party nominee in the past 50 years who has had so many people from their party’s intelligentsia, as well as former elected and government officials, who have distanced themselves from and won’t endorse their party’s nominee.”

Many of those Republican leaders based their denouncement of Trump primarily on his contentious rhetoric. So many, in fact, that at the end of August, The New York Times posted an online graphic titled, “At Least 110 Republican Leaders Won’t Vote for Donald Trump. Here’s When They Reached Their Breaking Point.” The graphic depicts two vertical timelines comparing “What Trump Said” to “When They Walked.”

Politics professor Michael Marks, who taught “Political Metaphors” last spring, attributes Trump’s use of provocative rhetoric to one reason: It works.

“Trump doesn’t speak in terms of broad metaphorical concepts like progress, and apart from ‘Make America Great Again,’ he rarely presents slogans,” Marks says. “He talks to people like they talk. They feel, in a weird sort of way, less talked down to because he doesn’t use slogans that they feel are devoid of meaning, like a lot of other politicians do.”

But it’s not only Trump who has changed the rhetorical dynamic of the campaign, says Robert Trapp, director of the Willamette Debate Union and chair of the Civic Communication and Media department.

“It’s the most divisive election that I have ever seen,” Trapp says. “I blame Donald Trump for a lot of that, but he’s not the only one doing it. There is so much name-calling on both sides. Some of the early Bernie-Hillary debates were good — they both got to express their arguments, and we learned a lot. As the election tightened, they just got mean.”

The tensions between Bernie Sanders supporters and Clinton supporters during the hard-fought Democratic primaries often led to vicious personal attacks. Manfull experienced this firsthand while trying to promote Clinton to other voters at the Democratic Caucus in Anchorage. Sanders followers greatly outnumbered those for Clinton (he ultimately won the state caucus with 81.6 percent of the vote), and they were aggressive, she says — calling her unprintable names when she asked them to stop filming her as she talked with voters.

“The primary was a scary time for me in terms of being a Hillary supporter because things like that were happening all the time,”



In his “Public Opinion Polls and Surveys” class, associate professor of sociology Kelley Strawn helps his students understand the pros and cons of such efforts to predict voter behavior.

she says. “You had to deal with attacks from the left and from the right, and sometimes they were the same attack.”

On the Republican side, despite Trump’s incendiary rhetoric and the best efforts of the “Never Trump” Republicans, the fundamental dynamics of the race have remained largely familiar, Ellis says — which is surprising in itself.

“If you look at the polls, the states in play are mostly the same as in 2012 and 2008,” Ellis says. “One sure sign of our hyper-polarized politics is that Trump has a floor below which he doesn’t seem to sink, no matter what he says or how many Republican elites distance themselves from him. However, the really important question is, ‘Where is his ceiling?’ and the answer to that question seems to be ‘not high enough to win.’”

Shifting classroom discussions

In mid-August, just two weeks before fall classes began, several Willamette professors teaching classes about the election said they still were finishing their syllabi — a tough task when the dynamics of the race kept changing, sometimes daily.

“What I was wondering all summer was how does the way we’re going to end up talking about the election shift because of the way

the people involved do and don’t use evidence,” says associate professor of sociology Kelley Strawn, who is teaching “Public Opinion Polls and Surveys: Understanding and Evaluating Information in an Election Year,” a College Colloquium class for first-year students.

“We seem to be way out there into the realm of public people willingly making stuff up. And I don’t just mean Donald Trump. When Hillary Clinton says that the FBI director said her statements were truthful, I think, ‘No, he didn’t. He said he couldn’t prosecute you.’”

Strawn led his students through the methodologies of how polling works before tackling the various ways people use the results, from the common voter who is curious about how the candidates are doing to the politicians who rely on the data to plan campaign strategies.

“There is civic responsibility embedded in the questions we address,” Strawn says. “How do you make decisions? How are you going to be critical of the information you’re receiving? Which information will you trust, and which will you not trust, and why? What a great thing to work with, especially with 18- and 19-year-olds who will be voting in their first election.”

Watching the Debates

By Adam Torgerson MBA'14

Hundreds of Willamette students and members of the local community crowded into the Cat Cavern on Sept. 26 to watch the first presidential debate between candidates Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump.

It was the second presidential campaign in which Willamette has held a DebateWatch to encourage students and others to participate in and learn more about this essential exercise in democracy.

First held in 2012, DebateWatch is part of the “Public Sphere” course taught by Cindy Koenig Richards, an associate professor in the university’s Department of Civic Communication and Media (CCM). The course was designed to inspire students to actively participate, regardless of political affiliation.

“In class, we study theories about the relationship between discourse and democracy,” says Richards. “DebateWatch gives students the opportunity to transform this knowledge into action by facilitating productive discussions in our community and around the world through social media.”

Four years ago, students, faculty, staff, journalists and other community members filled Montag Den to see Barack Obama debate Mitt Romney. Hundreds more watched the debates that followed, including one newspaper editor who wrote about his experience in a column titled “How Willamette University students restored my faith.”

Students taking the fall 2016 course faced an even bigger challenge than their predecessors in terms of analyzing the election campaign and the candidates. Instead of

relying on newspaper and television for information, audiences now increasingly turn to social media such as Facebook, which uses an algorithm designed to select content based on what users have already viewed, liked or shared.

If a user clicks on a negative article about a candidate, they receive more negative articles about that person. Google adjusts search results based on search history and behavior as well, so results are more likely to confirm users’ biases — delivering what users want to hear so they keep using the website.

Through DebateWatch, students create spaces for informed discussion without the demagoguery or vitriol that often characterize contemporary political discourse in the media and on social media. Willamette was one of 40 universities and colleges across the country to participate in the events. Using the #WUDW, #TRDW and #DebateWatch hashtags to organize the discussions on Twitter, audience members responded to candidates’ remarks, checked facts in real time, and asked and answered questions.

“We don’t care who you vote for, but we do want you to look deeper into candidates’ positions,” says CCM major Caden Crowston ’18. “Willamette is very liberal, so conservative voices can get squeezed out of the discussion. By inviting diverse groups to campus and by focusing on ideas and issues rather than people, we want to encourage honest conversations about important issues.”

For most students, these events were their first opportunity to participate in a presidential

Strawn says people often discredit polls when they don't accurately predict the election outcome. But the problem isn't the polls themselves, he says — it's that you're asking voters to predict an action they will take in the future.

"Polls should be trusted only for what they actually tell you, which is the candidate people think they would vote for if the election were today," he says. "It does not mean that they're going to. Tomorrow, they could change their mind."

"Still, it's appropriate that we're all being skeptical of polls in the current election, because it's not following patterns that historians, political scientists and sociologists have identified in recent elections that would predict who wins."

In her "Parties, Elections and Campaigns" class, Michaux typically teaches students the purpose and role of the party system while examining how it developed over time. This year, she and her students are grappling with a new question: Are we at the end of the useful party system?

"It's interesting that Trump did better in states with more open primaries, as did Bernie Sanders," she says. "Historically, we really have needed political parties to overcome the institutional fragmentation and decentralization of our system. One of the



A Gallup poll in mid-July showed that one in four Americans disliked both candidates.



The DebateWatch events on campus helped Willamette students and community members analyze and discuss the presidential campaign and candidates.

election as a registered voter. "It was all new to me, and I was just taking it all in," says CCM major Danielle Saunders '18, who also emphasized the importance of inclusivity and reaching out to invite diverse on- and off-campus groups. "I think it's important for all citizens in a democracy — especially college students — to hear the flip side of what they

discuss in class or at home."

Both students saw DebateWatch as an opportunity for colleges to kick-start public discourse. Crowston hopes the events move students from passive observers to active participants in the political process.

"Everyone's busy, and it's hard to take things you talk about and turn them into action," he

says. "I hope DebateWatch encourages honest public discussion and inspires more people to take individual action to support causes and candidates they support."



“Which information will you trust, and which will you not trust, and why? What a great thing to work with, especially with 18- and 19-year-olds who will be voting in their first election.”

questions I’m asking in my class is, ‘Are parties still serving that function, or does this most recent election finally challenge us to think about how to serve that function in other ways?’”

When Ellis taught “What’s the Matter with American Politics?” last spring, he and his students spent much of the time trying to identify the reasons for Trump’s rise. Ellis says that he works to assign a wide range of readings that showcase different perspectives and ways of approaching a subject. But during class discussions, the idea of “balance” is less important to him than “searching for the truth, as you see it, and respecting the truth as other people see it.”

“I think it’s important to create a space where everybody feels that their points of view, backed up by evidence, are respected,” he says.

“I don’t talk in the classroom about whether you should vote for Trump or not. But I don’t feel the need to pull punches when Trump or his supporters say or do things that are genuinely alarming or dangerous, especially when his rhetoric and that of his supporters closely parallel authoritarian, ethnocentric and xenophobic appeals in the American past and that of authoritarian leaders and movements across the world, past and present.

“The reality is that Trump’s success, whether he wins or loses the election, is a sign of how much is wrong with the current state of democracy in this country. It starts with an ill-informed and distrustful public, a polarized political elite, a media driven by the imperative to maximize clicks and views, and national political institutions that have become hopelessly gridlocked and seemingly incapable of constructively addressing the many real problems the country faces.”

Students weigh in

Gerardo Jauregui ’17 has complicated feelings about this election, but he sums them up with two words: anxiety and suspicion.

The fast-talking international politics junkie has a long list of why he’s feeling anxious. Because the next president will be appointing at least one new Supreme Court justice, who could impact such issues as immigration reform — an issue that is particularly important to him as the son of Mexican immigrants. Because Trump’s rhetoric around foreign policy is “problematic and alarming,” he says, especially in regards to issues like banning Muslims from entering the country and providing only conditional support to NATO members.

His suspicion is directed at both Trump and Clinton. Her actions relating to the Benghazi attack and the email scandals make him question how she might handle difficult issues as president. “Having trust and integrity will be really important for whichever candidate gets elected,” he says. “There is a lot of suspicion among many voters of both Clinton and Trump, and that will have long-ranging implications.”

Despite his reservations about Clinton, Jauregui says he plans to vote for her in November. That’s true for a historic number of younger voters. A USA Today/Rock the Vote poll conducted in mid-August showed Trump gaining just 20 percent of the vote among people younger than 35 — compared to 56 percent for Clinton — the worst showing for a major candidate among young voters in modern American history.

Multiple Willamette students — both Democrats and Republicans — cite Trump’s attitudes relating to racial, ethnic and religious tolerance as major factors in why they do not support him.

Harris, the College Republicans president, said in late August that the chapter would likely not endorse Trump (they had not decided by press time). He says, “We’ll have a conversation as a club about whether this is the point at which our moral standing conflicts with the current direction of the Republican Party.

“Personally, a large part of the reason I’m not a Trump supporter is because he hasn’t, as a candidate or as a businessman, engendered the kind of reputation that allows me to put my trust in him unconditionally. On top of that, there are all of the issues with his rhetoric that I share with a lot of my friends across the political spectrum. ... His statements about a lot of ethnic and cultural groups have been distasteful at best and terrifying at worst.”

Jauregui, like many young voters on the Willamette campus, was a Sanders supporter during the primaries. Despite feeling that Clinton’s experience as secretary of state placed her in a better position to manage foreign policy, he was attracted to the “unparalleled level of discussion” that Sanders brought to issues like education, immigration, economic inequality and prison reform. And he appreciated the way Sanders energized many young voters.

Anna Carlin ’17, president of Willamette’s College Democrats, hopes she and other politically active people on campus can capitalize on that excitement to get students more involved in both the presidential race and the campaigns for other offices and ballot measures.

Carlin has been a Clinton supporter all along — she has three Clinton stickers on her water bottle and laptop, and wore a Clinton T-shirt to her interview for this story. But she recognizes that many other students are skeptical of her chosen candidate. “A lot of people on this campus are Bernie supporters, and it makes sense because his platform was a lot more youth-focused,” she says. “But Clinton is, in my mind, one of the most highly qualified presidential candidates we’ve ever had. There’s a lot to get excited about with her.”

Although she has clear views of whom she supports and why, Carlin still struggles with how to make sense of her first presidential election as a voter. “There are points where I feel like I’m going to wake up and it’s going to be last November, when the Republican debates were just getting underway, and none of this election will be real,” she says. “It just feels so surreal and at points absurdist.”

Many students look to their classes — like those taught by Strawn, Michaux and Ellis — to help them on the path to making an informed decision.

“My classes have helped me better understand foreign policy and economic policy, which are extremely large issues in today’s elections,” Manfull says. “Being a better learner, a better listener and a better consumer of information are things I have grown in while I’ve been at Willamette.”

Jauregui feels the same. He credits Marks, his politics advisor, with kindling his interest in international affairs while showing him how to analyze issues with a wider lens.

“When a candidate proposes things like conditions on NATO members, my initial reaction is to use what I learned in class about international relations theories, and I apply that to the candidate’s proposals,” he says. “At the end of the day, I have to decide if what I think is right aligns with what a candidate is proposing.”

Just vote, already

No matter what the tone of the election, or how different it might be from those of the past, Willamette professors say they still convey one message that endures.

“I make it a point never to tell people how they should vote, but that they should be informed and that they should vote,” Strawn says. “Make your own decision, and do it with good information, but go do it.”

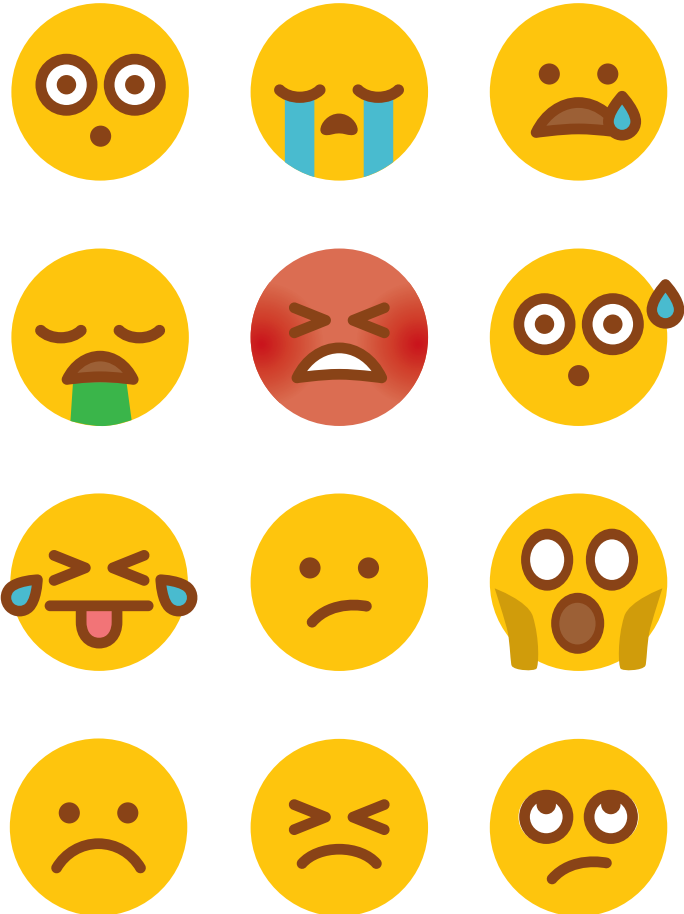
Ellis typically concentrates on this point in his introductory American politics course, which includes many younger students who are not politics majors and may not be as interested in elections. He requires them to read the Washington Post online daily, in hopes of setting the stage for them to become well-informed voters.

Ellis also teaches students about how elections work and why they are important to the overall political process.

“The basic structural problem at the moment is that young people vote in presidential elections and then don’t vote in local, state and off-year congressional elections,” he says. “I’m trying to get the students to see why young people don’t vote and what difference that makes to the kinds of outcomes we get.”

For many of Willamette’s politically active students, the message is getting through — even if they struggle with the unusual nature of the election. Harris, when asked in August, had not yet decided who would receive his vote. But he knew one thing for sure: he definitely would submit his ballot.

“To not vote at all is a waste,” he says. “It’s a waste of the right to be a part of our democracy, and it is tantamount to saying you would rather hide and deal with the consequences of others’ decisions than to be actively involved yourself.” ☑



What were your feelings about the election? And about this article? Share them with us via magazine@willamette.edu.

Sarah Evans is a freelance writer in Salem.

ON LOCATION

For new students, the first few moments on a college campus are filled with excitement, anticipation and even a little nervousness.

But this summer's Opening Days events energized and welcomed new Bearcats every step of the way. From the football team lending its muscle during move-in, to a special farewell time for families ("Goodbye, Mom"), students observed Willamette's motto at work as they embarked on one of the most memorable chapters of their lives.

At matriculation that evening, the candles that students floated down the Mill Stream lit the way for the adventures and discoveries to follow.





Cardinal

A soccer goalkeeper in a yellow uniform is shown in action, catching a soccer ball with both hands. The goalkeeper is positioned in front of a goal net, and the background shows a clear blue sky and some greenery. The word "Cardinal" is written in large, bold, blue letters at the top of the page.

**Willamette to host
NCAA Cross
Country Regional
on Nov. 12**

**Joshua Fuentes '17,
a NWC Student-
Athlete of the
Week, defends the
Bearcat goal.**

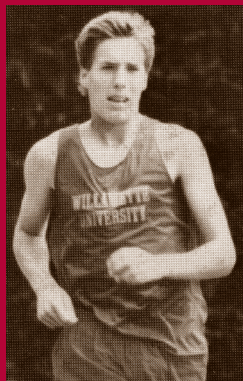
& Gold



**Bearcat football
rallies to defeat
California
Lutheran, 28-24**

**Seventy-seven
Bearcats named to
NWC Scholar-Athlete
List for 2015-16**

**Willamette men's golf ranked #1
in NWC preseason poll**



A few of our 2016 inductees: (clockwise from top left) Ron Lee '67, Nick Symmonds '06, Elliott Becken '39, Kelly (Sorenson) Ioane '01, Andrew Hermann '93 and Leslie Wickman '80

Brazier Small '17*

Football, Baseball, Track and Field

Harold Dimick '20*

Football, Basketball, Baseball, Track and Field

Paoul Wapato '21*

Football, Basketball, Baseball

Gurnee Flesher '29*

Track and Field

Elliott Becken '39*

Football

Roy Harrington '50*

Football, Basketball, Baseball

Jim Robinson '61

Football, Track and Field

Dexter Maust '63*

Football, Track and Field

Ron Lee '67

Football

Ian Fulp '69

Wrestling, Football

Bob Lundahl '71*

Basketball

Dan Stocker '73*

Track and Field

Mike Anderson '79

Swimming

Leslie Wickman '80

Track and Field, Basketball

Robbie Wright '85

Cross Country, Track and Field

Andrew Hermann '93

Track and Field

David Snyder '95

Basketball

Kelly (Sorenson) Ioane '01

Basketball, Volleyball

Nick Symmonds '06

Track and Field, Cross Country

1982 Men's Soccer Team

* Posthumous induction

Making Hall of Fame History

Ron Lee '67 has dedicated most of his life to football — nearly 50 years of coaching high school and college students — and he credits it all to Willamette.

“It really started with Willamette,” he says. “I’ve been blessed, and I’m very grateful to the university for the lessons it taught me about hard work, perseverance and sportsmanship.”

Lee, a Hawaii native, competed in football at Willamette and was named First Team All-Conference as a linebacker in 1964 and '65. His outstanding commitment to the sport led to his recent induction to the 2016 Willamette University Athletic Hall of Fame. He is among the largest group — 19 athletes

and one team — of honorees ever to be inducted.

A ceremony for honorees was held Sept. 22 on campus during Alumni Weekend. Lee, who could not attend, received a plaque at a special family event in Hawaii, which included a visit with President Steve Thorsett.

For many families, having a son or daughter inducted into the university’s Hall of Fame is a one-time honor. For the Lees, it’s a family tradition.

Ron’s brothers — Calvin '70 and Tommy '63 — were inducted in 1992 and 1995, respectively. Calvin was the only Willamette athlete to be a two-time, first-team National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics All-

American player, while Tommy was a one-time head coach and athletic director of the Bearcats football program. Now, Ron’s name and photograph will join theirs in the Hall of Fame display in Sparks Athletic Center.

Lee says the university really brought his family together. “At one time, Tommy, Cal and I were all together in Salem for a few years,” he says. “I’ll always be grateful to Willamette for that.”

The Hall of Fame showcases the enduring ties between Willamette and its student-athletes. Athletic Director Valerie Cleary says this year’s selection is an excellent one.

She adds, “It’s wonderful that we’ve stayed close to our student-athletes and

now we can celebrate with them their well-deserved induction into the Hall of Fame.”

Several athletes inducted this year saw glory in the early 1900s through the 1990s. Many, such as **Elliott Becken '39**, have been recognized by other halls of fame. An All-American football player who was inducted into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame in 1966, Becken also served during World War II and was awarded a Purple Heart, among other honors.

Other honorees this year include **Leslie Wickman '80**, a track and field and basketball star who later became a NASA Hubble Space Telescope engineer; **Andrew Hermann '93**, who competed in the 2000 Olympic Games in the 50K race walk; and two-time Olympics runner **Nick Symmonds '06**. A middle-distance runner, Symmonds competed in the 2008 Olympics and ranked fifth in the 2012 Olympics. He was preparing for the Olympic Track Trials this summer before an ankle injury prevented further progress. During his collegiate career at Willamette, he won seven NCAA Division III national titles, four for the 800m and three for the 1,500m.

Kelly (Sorenson) Ioane '01, a member of the women's basketball and volleyball teams from 1998-2001, was also inducted this year. In basketball, she was named First Team All-Northwest Conference in 2001 and, at the time of her induction, ranked second all-time in career scoring with 1,208 points.

For Ioane, “volleyball was kind of an accident.” By her senior year of high school, she was a basketball recruit who had already agreed to play softball. She waited until the spring that year to ask about volleyball tryouts. A knee injury her freshman year prevented her from playing softball, so she devoted more time to volleyball, and the mishap paid off. She earned First Team All-NWC recognition in 2000, the same year she led NCAA Division III and the NWC with 5.79 digs per game. She recorded 504 digs in 87 games played.

Now a business teacher at North Marion High School, Ioane still plays basketball with other teachers three times a week before class begins. The only woman who participates, she credits the athletic prowess earned at Willamette for the ability to hold her own against male colleagues.

Moved by the Hall of Fame recognition, she says: “It allows me to re-live the days and the effort I put into a sport I love.” ☒

NEWS & NOTES

Five Bearcats Compete at NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships

Five Willamette track and field athletes competed at the 2016 NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Waverly, Iowa. **Taylor Ostrander '16** led the way by placing 11th in the women's 3,000-meter steeplechase. She placed 11th for the second time, matching her finish at the 2014 NCAA Championships. She was 13th in 2015 and placed 22nd in 2013.

Also competing were **Hannah Swanson '18**, **Olivia Mancl '17**, **Patrick Loftus '18** and **Hannah Bressler '16**. Swanson placed 13th in the women's 3,000-meter steeplechase; Mancl was 19th in the women's 5,000-meter run; and Loftus took 19th in the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase. Bressler finished 21st in the women's 3,000-meter steeplechase. She also placed 21st in the steeplechase in 2015.



Two Selected for NWC Scholar-Athlete First Team

Willamette University athletes **Kyle Johnson '16** and **Hans Lehndorff '16** were named to the Northwest Conference Scholar-Athlete First Team for the 2015-16 athletic year. The award honors the top male and female athlete from each NWC college and university based on athletic, academic and community achievement.

Johnson, an environmental science major, competed as a sprinter on the Willamette women's track and field team. Lehndorff, who graduated with a double major in economics and religious studies, was a defensive lineman on the football team and a thrower on the men's track and field squad.

This spring, Johnson ran the anchor leg when the Bearcats won the NWC championship in the women's 4x100-meter relay in 48.44 seconds — the second-fastest time in school history. Willamette won the race by .07, with Johnson providing a thrilling finish.

In addition, she placed third at the 2016 NWC Championships in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.73 seconds, and fourth in the 200-meter dash at 25.69 seconds.

A three-year starter in football, Lehndorff played in 27 games as a defensive lineman. In track and field, he won the 2014 and 2016 Northwest Conference championships in the discus throw, as well as placing fourth in the discus in 2013 and fifth in 2015. He earned the 2016 title with a personal record throw of 158-2 — the best by a Willamette athlete since 1963 and good enough to put him into third place on the Bearcats' all-time list.

This spring, Lehndorff took second place in the NWC in the shot put with a career-best throw of 52-5.25. He was named First Team CoSIDA Academic All-District VIII for 2015-16 and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa.





Well Read

The 2016 presidential campaign has raised important questions about the American political system. To provide insights on those topics, here are books that Willamette professors recommend or use in their classes.

The Making of the President 1960

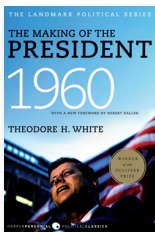
By Ted White

This classic, Pulitzer Prize-winning account of the presidential campaign clash between John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon is credited with creating modern political journalism.

Merging journalism and narrative storytelling, the book captures the historic nature of the campaign, which featured the first televised debates, the larger-than-life personalities of the two candidates and the inner workings of the political process.

Going behind the scenes, White followed the political action from the primaries through to the election to provide insights that are still relevant 56 years later. As *The New York Times* reviewer wrote, “No book ... has caught the heartbeat of a campaign as strikingly.”

Recommended by Norman Williams, Ken and Claudia Peterson Professor of Law



Democracy for Realists: Why Elections Do Not Produce Responsive Government

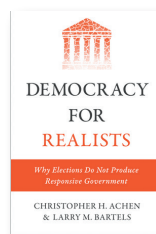
by Christopher Achen and Larry Bartels

In this scholarly work, two political science academics offer a dark view of politics, taking aim at what they call the “folk theory” of democracy — that “[D]emocracy begins with the voters ... [and] what the majority wants becomes government policy.”

The authors argue that such a theory rests on participation by informed voters. Instead, most people are too busy with their everyday lives to be sufficiently informed about political issues in today’s complicated world. As a result, they vote primarily according to their social identities, partisan loyalties or late-breaking natural or economic disasters.

The “realist” solution the authors propose is to revamp democratic politics by focusing on identity groups and political parties, rather than the preferences of individual voters.

Used in class by Melissa Michaux, associate professor of politics



Polling and the Public: What Every Citizen Should Know

by Herbert Asher

“We want to hear from you!” “Your opinion matters!” “Tell us what you think!”

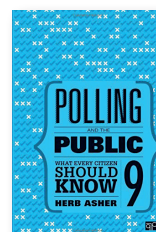
With their insistent requests to know our opinions on subjects that range from trivial to critical, public opinion polls are a ubiquitous element of modern life, especially at election time.

As many online surveys are either poorly designed or misused by interest groups, Herbert Asher has updated his classic guide to “help people become wiser consumers of public opinion polls.”

He offers information on the types of polls, their analysis and interpretation, their pros and cons and their role in American democracy.

As he warns, “The increasingly difficult challenge for citizens will be to sort out the good from the bad and to avoid being misled and manipulated by the polls.”

Used in class by Kelley Strawn, associate professor of sociology



Plutocrats United: Campaign Money, the Supreme Court, and the Distortion of American Elections

by Richard L. Hasen

Included among all the things that money *can't* buy are American political elections.

So says Richard L. Hasen, who writes that “the relationship between money and politics in the United States is more complicated than mere vote buying.”

He adds, “Without any politician taking a single bribe, wealth has an increasingly disproportionate influence on our politics.”

As he examines the problems of campaign financing, Hasen considers the role of the First Amendment, the Supreme Court and the Citizens United ruling. Arguing that money in elections reduces political equity, he proposes democratizing election funding by providing voters with publicly funded campaign finance vouchers to support their favored candidates, parties and interest groups.

Used in class by Richard Ellis, Hatfield Professor of Politics





**Welcome to Bearcat
World: News, views
and happenings
from the Willamette
alumni community.**

A Bearcat Celebration

From near and far, hundreds of Bearcats returned to Salem to reconnect with their friends and their alma mater at Alumni Weekend, Sept. 22-25.

A chilly start on Friday couldn't dampen the enthusiasm, and throughout the weekend participants shared smiles, laughter and warm hugs.

With over 700 registrants, the event was one of the best-attended ever. The class of 1966 set an attendance record for a single group, with over 80 members celebrating their 50th reunion.

The group organized special tours, get-togethers and a dinner where members sang the university's alma mater and the "Bearcat Fight Song." On behalf of the class, representatives also presented President Steve Thorsett with a check for \$103,222 to further endow the Class of 1966 Scholarship.

Attendees from all class years also sat in on classes, participated in panel discussions, toured residence halls and enjoyed both formal and informal get-togethers. They celebrated Bearcat accomplishments at the induction ceremony for this year's class in the Athletics Hall of Fame and at the dinner that recognised recipients of the 2016 Alumni Awards.

Don't miss next year's Alumni Weekend, Sept. 14-17, which will celebrate Waller Hall's 150th anniversary and the university's 175th.





5



6



7



8



9

1. Andres Oswill '15 (right) talks with Ed Lutrell '74, MBA'77
2. Dan Findley '82 greets Steve Baxter MAT'13
3. Roger Bergmann '66 and Doug Bamford '66
4. Pi Beta Phi alumnae Pam Forsch Bauman '71, Betsy Wilson Merchant '71, Tina Anderson Gordon '71, Cathy Welch Tronquet '70, Cindy Smith Hereford '71, Carol Taranoff Stearns '71, and Jan Brecht Shellenberger '71
5. At The Bistro 30th Anniversary reunion gathering
6. At the Quadfest Lunch for students and alumni
7. Current student Holly Walsh '18 chats with Steve Jackson '66 at the Greek Reception
8. Don Brown '68
9. Stew Butler '61 and Dorr Dearborn '61
10. Rich Litchfield '63 talks with Terry Albright Thorsos '66



10

Class Notes

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Couples are listed under the graduation year of the person who submitted the class note, unless they specify otherwise.

1951

Pat Elling MED'55 and **Kay Elling '60, MED'64** are enjoying life at Capital Manor, a retirement facility in Salem. Pat no longer plays tennis, but still plays pickleball every week.

1957

Dollie (Cummings) Armstrong and **Dr. Hugh Armstrong** co-founded and opened the Washington State Ski and Snowboard Museum on Snoqualmie Pass. Dollie and Hugh have been teaching skiing for the past 35 years.

At the age of 80 and after serving as an associate, partner and shareholder for 50 uninterrupted years, **Robert Joseph LLB'63** retired from the Portland law firm of Schwabe Williamson and Wyatt. In recent years, Robert has stayed involved with Willamette by serving on the advisory board for the Delta Zeta chapter of the Sigma Chi fraternity. He and his wife, **Gail (Larsen) Joseph '61**, continue to lead active lives dedicated to family and friends.

1960

Nancy (Weeks) Federici returned to Willamette in September to accept a Distinguished Alumni Citation from the Willamette University Alumni Association at Alumni Weekend.

Longtime public relations professional **Fred VanNatta** was featured in historian Gene Kopelson's new book, "Reagan's 1968 Dress Rehearsal: Ike, RFK, and Reagan's Emergence as a World Statesman," which maps Ronald Reagan's presidential campaign enterprise. The book details Fred's time as the western regional director for the Oregon primary in 1968.

Remember to submit Class Notes to willamette.edu/magazine, or directly to Class Notes editor Daniel Johnson at johnsond@willamette.edu. Your note may be edited for style and for space constraints.

1961

Class Liaisons – Alice (Stewart) Pailthorp and Bill Richter

Karen (Henninger) Cheeld traveled to Scotland this past August to visit a longtime friend. In September, she reunited with several of her Delta Gamma sisters and also returned to Willamette for Alumni Weekend.

1962

Singer **Ray Blouin** is playing with B Squared +2, a folk quartet based in Virginia.

Marcia (Ruby) Douglas and **Tom Caylor '60** recently traveled to Memphis and Nashville, Tennessee, to relive the great music from the 1950s and '60s. In Nashville, they had their photo taken onstage at the historic Ryman Auditorium.

1963

Dave Robertson appears regularly as the bass trombone soloist with the Lincoln Pops Big Band in Gleneden Beach, Oregon. Dave stays busy composing and arranging for a number of groups, including a recent arrangement for Katie Harman and the Newport Symphony Orchestra that was performed during the orchestra's Fourth of July concert.

1964

Rosalie (Johnston) Whitney Czapszys attended the International Rotary Convention in Brazil and toured the country. She later visited Japan, meeting up with a friend she had not seen in 35 years. Over the next year, she will be hosting and then visiting a group from Croatia on a Rotary friendship exchange.

After living in Pennsylvania for 37 years, **Mike Kelly** and **Penny (Tower) Kelly** have retired to Mill Valley, California, and are enjoying their new life there.

Bob Rieder recently retired from his 40-year position as chief university counsel at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.



Marcia (Ruby) Douglas '62 and Tom Caylor '60



Ray Blouin '62

1965

Barbara (Davis) Kroon recently finished writing her first suspense-thriller, "Trick Play," set in the world of football and sports business.

In July, **Carol (Gibson) Ratzlaf** took a trip to the Galápagos Islands with family. She says, "We saw so many wonderful animals and other sights. It was the trip of a lifetime!"

1966

As president of the University of Nevada's Athletic Association endowment fund, **Roger Bergmann** has helped raise \$7 million for athletic scholarships at the university since 1991. A retired lawyer, Roger assists his wife, Nina, with her cooking website, NinaCucina.com, and spends time traveling.

Linda (Moore) Stumpf and her husband, Bill, moved back to Salem in July. They sell real estate with John L. Scott and recently attended their 50th class reunion at Alumni Weekend.

1967 50TH REUNION

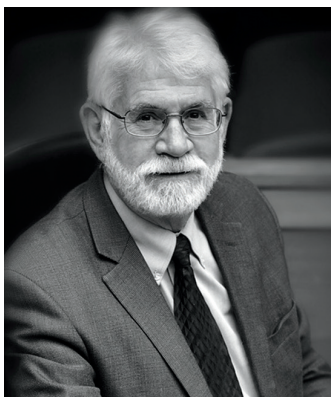
Mark Campbell is retiring after 43 years as a general practitioner in San Jose, California, and looks forward to making his permanent home in Gleneden Beach, Oregon. He also recently finished a nine-year humanitarian project in Guatemala that he calls a "real heart-warming project."

1968

Dr. Peter Carlson, professor of public administration at Christopher Newport University in Virginia, has been selected to teach a group of study abroad students at the University of Glasgow in Scotland for the spring semester of 2017. His wife, **Rhonda (James) Carlson '69**, and two granddaughters will accompany him for this six-month assignment.



Barbara (Davis) Kroon '65



Chuck Bennett '70

1969

Class Liaison – Teresa (Krug) Hudkins

A true lover of classical and folk music, **Claire (Hauntz) Mohr** has worked as a musician and music teacher for many years. She plays the violin, viola, piano and pipe organ, and has played in many chamber groups and orchestras. She lives with her husband, Ralph, in Coos Bay, Oregon, which is also home for her two daughters and five grandchildren.

Now retired from the U.S. Army Reserve and as an ER social worker, **Charles Smith** enjoys walking, gardening and spending time at his beach house with his wife of 25 years, Carolyn.

1970

Chuck Bennett was elected mayor of Salem and will assume office in January. He has been a member of the City Council for over nine years.

Staying Hungry for New Challenges

As an appellate lawyer, **Thomas Hungar '84** argued 26 cases in front of the U.S. Supreme Court. As a member of a large team of lawyers, he successfully persuaded the country's best legal minds in some of the most important decisions of the last decade, including the Bush v. Gore Supreme Court cases surrounding the contentious 2000 presidential election and the vote recount in Florida.

This past July, Hungar took on a new challenge when Speaker Paul Ryan appointed him general counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives.

As head of the Office of General Counsel, Hungar leads six other attorneys in providing legal advice and assistance to House members, committees, officers and employers — and the House itself — on matters related to their official duties. In his new role, he may represent the House in a case against a government department or serve a congressman who has received a subpoena in the course of a government investigation.

"I'm honored by the appointment," Hungar says. "From a litigation standpoint, my job is to help the House of Representatives do its job and its committees do their jobs, and with the growth of the executive branch and its power and authority, the challenge gets bigger and bigger."

After earning bachelor's degrees in economics and computer science from Willamette and his law degree from Yale, Hungar started his law career as a clerk for Circuit Judge Alex Kozinski (1987-988) and then for Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy during Kennedy's first year on the court, 1988-89.



Photo: Aaron Hayes/Daily Report

"I remember walking down the halls or climbing the stairs up to the second floor of the court where my office was and just pinching myself," he says. "It was an incredible opportunity to see how the court decides cases and to be able to participate, even at a very junior level, in the process."

He remembers the intense pressure when he later argued cases in front of the court. "It's always an intimidating prospect," Hungar says. "The stakes are higher and the Supreme Court justices ask hard questions. It's a very active court, so you have to be prepared to give your most persuasive and precise answer because you're not going to be given much time."

In the Bush v. Gore case, Hungar distinctly remembers

the incredibly compressed time period under which he and the other litigators had to operate. The case's historical significance and accompanying media frenzy only magnified the pressure. "Once litigation started," he says, "it was basically five weeks of relentlessly long days, with only a few hours of sleep here and there."

As general counsel, Hungar looks forward to embracing the complexities of every case that comes across his desk.

"I like the intellectual challenge," he says. "I'm always learning new areas of the law and working with very smart people to try to figure out how to best persuade a decision-maker."

Class Notes



Daniel Hall '76



Sally Purbrick-Illek '76



Harold Zagunis '79 and George Nunes '80



Robert Hulshof-Schmidt '88



Patricia Freeman '90

SUBMIT CLASS NOTES at willamette.edu/magazine or directly to class notes editor Daniel Johnson at johnsond@willamette.edu. Your note may be edited for style and for space constraints.

1972 45TH REUNION

Robert Foster MM'76 and his wife, Jennie, completed their move to Sunriver, Oregon, this past May. They have visited with **Sue Fratt** and her husband, **Leonard Parker '73**, and hope to make more Bearcat connections in central Oregon.

1973

Nick Bozovich retired after 35 years with the CNA Insurance Companies and eight years in law enforcement in Oregon. He and his wife, Karen, celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary in August. They have five married sons and 12 grandchildren. The couple has lived in York, Pennsylvania, for the last 22 years.

1974

Gary Duell MBA'77 of Duell Wealth Preservation recently partnered with Clackamas Fire District #1, Station 5 and the Oregon Food Bank to provide free, secure document destruction for local community members.

1975

Class Liaison - Patti (Lalack) Hutterli

1976

Daniel Hall is vice president for administration and finance for SUNY Orange. A higher education administrator since 2007, Daniel previously served as vice president for finance and facilities at North Hennepin Community College in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota.

Sally Purbrick-Illek is now semi-retired, which enables her and her sheepdog, Pepper, to fully embrace the Australian lifestyle through herding, tracking and bikejoring (a kind of dog-mushing activity).

1977 40TH REUNION

Cassandra (Grand) Carpentier recently retired from Shell Exploration and Production after 34 years. She now works part-time at Eric Hutson Nationwide Insurance in Houston, Texas, and also volunteers at Citizens for Animal Protection, a local animal shelter.

With more time to travel, Cassandra has visited Turkey and Morocco, and plans to see Peru and Norway.

1980

In June, **Tamara Krautkramer, George Nunes** and **Harold Zagunis '79** continued their love of exploring remote ancient Mayan ruins by helicoptering into El Mirador, a huge site deep in the Guatemalan jungle. Howler monkeys and deadly snakes made the camping rough, but the helicopter made the trip easy. Harold and Tamara are married and live in Sonoma, California. Harold is the CFO of TriplePoint Capital in Menlo Park, California, while Tamara is a photographer and avid tennis player. George is the director of development for the Mesa Arts Center in Arizona and lives in Phoenix.

1981

In May, **Don Kraemer JD/MBA'87** was recognized with the 2016 Gala of Hope Giving and Living Award by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation of Oregon. The gala raised over \$600,000 for juvenile diabetes research.

1982 35TH REUNION

1984

Class Liaison - Diane Babbitt

Ann (Barnes) Johnson '84 and her husband, **David Johnson '82**, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in October.

1985

Brooks Houser MBA'87, JD'90 and **Lori (Shmer) Uren '82** live in Portland with their five children. Brooks is a financial advisor with Northwestern Mutual in Lake Oswego, Oregon, while Lori works as a certified public accountant with Perkins & Company in Portland.

1987 30TH REUNION

1988

Robert Johnson founded Robert B. Johnson Investment Management, specializing in stock and bond

management, in Walnut Creek, California. Previously, he spent 23 years with Merrill Lynch.

Robert Hulshof-Schmidt is the director of development and communication at Classroom Law Project, a nonprofit in Portland that brings civic education programs to students and professional development services to teachers throughout Oregon.

1989

This spring, children's and young-adult author **Patrick Carman** completed a six-week book tour at schools across the U.S. In March, he released his first graphic novel, "Fizzopolis."

1990

Patricia Freeman was promoted to vice president of finance and CFO of the consumer division at EarthLink in Atlanta. EarthLink provides managed network, security and cloud solutions for multi-location businesses. Patricia also recently delivered the keynote address at Host Analytics World 2016.

In May, **Bob Seibert MBA'08** was named chief operating officer of Pacific West Bank, while retaining his existing role of chief financial officer.

1992 25TH REUNION

1993

Trevor Wentlandt '93 earned a master's degree in strategic studies with academic distinction from the U.S. Air Force's Air War College. He was promoted to colonel earlier this year. Following graduation, Trevor and his wife, Karen, moved to Omaha, Nebraska, where he is the National Reconnaissance Office's senior field representative to U.S. Strategic Command.

1995

Suzanne (O'Brien) Crawford is a professor of religion and culture at Pacific Lutheran University. She is on sabbatical for the 2016-17 academic year.

Singer **Susannah Martin** performed as a featured act at the Howlin' at the Highlands concert in Prescott, Arizona, this summer. A favorite

Believing in Students and Their Bright Future



At the foot of the South Mountain in Phoenix, Arizona, a shy little girl with big, brown eyes sat quietly in her classroom. Eager to learn, she read book after book.

Now, 15 years later, Ashley is entering her junior year at Arizona State University. The first in her family to go to college, Ashley credits **Renée Purdy '00**, one of her first teachers, for showing her how to persevere in the face of challenges and to set high expectations.

After graduating from Willamette, Purdy started her teaching career through Teach For America (TFA) at Maxine O. Bush Elementary School in Phoenix. "Willamette's motto, 'Not unto ourselves alone are we born,' inspired me to do TFA," she says. "I felt grateful for the experience I had at Willamette, and I wanted to make a positive change in the world."

In Phoenix, Purdy discovered her passion for helping students like Ashley reach their potential. "My students had not been held to high enough expectations," she says. "I don't believe the achievement gap in education needs to exist. It's going to take a lot of time and resources, but the gap can be bridged. Every

child can excel."

Purdy grew up listening to a kids' song with a refrain so catchy, it's become a theme for her classroom: "We don't allow no stinkin' thinkin' around here!"

"Stinkin' thinkin'" makes you want to give up," explains Purdy. "We don't allow it. It might get hard, it might be tough, but you keep trying, you keep working through it."

In her classroom, she works hard to erase the stigma around failure by instilling in her first-graders that mistakes are integral to learning. Now, when someone makes a mistake, the children say, "That's okay, your brain is growing."

After two years in Phoenix, Purdy moved to San Leandro, California, where she currently teaches first grade at Roosevelt Elementary School. She discovered that Latino families faced a language barrier that prevented them from becoming involved in the school.

As one of only two bilingual teachers at the school, Purdy co-founded the parent group Cuentos Familiares, which provides parents with tools to establish a daily reading routine and develop strong vocabulary with their children, as well as a forum to discuss parenting concerns, school

involvement and family goals and traditions.

Purdy's success with this group, along with her teaching methods, inspired a colleague to nominate her for the 2016 Teach for America Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching.

After a rigorous assessment process, Purdy became one of only nine teachers nationwide recognized for their deep impact on students' lives. She was considered from more than 11,000 alumni educators, who teach pre-K through 12th grade at schools that often have a large low-income student population.

Purdy thinks that lessons learned outside of the classroom are important, too. A former Willamette tennis and volleyball player, she believes in modeling a healthy life for her students. After a crushing loss in her adult tennis league, Purdy trained hard and beat the player the following spring.

"That particular match made me learn more than any other I had played. I went nearly undefeated the whole season," she says. "I use that lesson in my classroom, so my students will understand how to overcome adversity by working hard and setting goals."

Class Notes



Dr. Amy Van Wey Lovatt '01



Melinda Hepp '03



Lynn Miyahira '03 and her husband, Chris Kupa



Sukhee So '03 and her husband, Gary Chinn



Mikaela Wingard-Phillips '05 (left) and her wife, Amanda



Michelle (Levin) Barsook '06, MAT'07



Noe Owen, son of Lori (Northcraft) Baxter '04 and David Baxter

vocalist of Highlands audiences for several years, Susannah has lent her vocal talents to big bands, jazz combos, Latin jazz ensembles and a cappella vocal groups, as well as Motown, classic rock, Top 40 and R&B funk bands.

1997 20TH REUNION

Ryan Teague Beckwith is working as a senior editor at Time magazine's bureau in Washington, D.C. He also teaches journalism part-time at the Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies.

Craig Jackson recently earned a master's of science in sport management from Northern Illinois University. He was also named faculty department chair for health and human performance and director of athletics at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon.

Davin Kubota received the Board of Regents' Excellence in Teaching Award for Kapi'olani Community College. He lives in Waialae, Hawaii, and misses Willamette and Phi Delta Theta very much.

Kara Ritzheimer published a book with Cambridge University Press titled "'Trash,' Censorship, and National Identity in Early Twentieth Century Germany."

1998

Akie Toyama earned a master's degree in global studies from Sophia University in Japan. Her husband is studying for a master's in environmental engineering. The couple has a 5-year-old son, Victor.

2001

Audra (McDonald) Brown received the Oregon PTA Teacher of the Year award in June.

Dr. Amy Van Wey Lovatt received the 2016 Zonta Science Award from the Zonta Club of Wellington in New Zealand. Established in 1990, the award aims to further the status of women in scientific fields.

2002 15TH REUNION

Since becoming tenured in 2015, North Seattle College art professor and art department chair **Kelda**

Martensen has won the Dan Evans Innovation Award in teaching. A practicing artist whose work can be seen at keldamartensen.com, Kelda serves as an artist-in-residence at Pratt Fine Arts Center. Her husband, **Michael Olsen '01**, is a collaborative special educator and department chair at Highline High School in Burien, Washington. Michael earned his National Board teaching certificate in 2013 and curates a vintage world music podcast. The couple lives in West Seattle with daughter Inez and dog Kenya.

2003

To **John Hall MBA'05** and Emily Barrett, a son, Walter Duncan Hall, born July 26, 2016.

In May, **Melinda Hepp** was promoted to vice president at Blattel Communications, a leading public relations and marketing agency specializing in professional services and business-to-business communications in San Francisco.

Lynn Miyahira and Chris Krupa were married on July 1, 2016, in Kailua, Hawaii.

Sukhee So and Gary Chinn were married on May 21, 2016, in Portland, Oregon.

2004

To **Lori (Northcraft) Baxter** and David Baxter, a son, Noe Owen, born June 21, 2016. Lori recently accepted a position with Handicap International in Vientiane, Laos, supporting victims of land mines and unexploded ordnance. Lori and her family moved to Laos in September.

Carol-Ann Nelson established Destination Rehab, a nonprofit organization that provides rehabilitation to people with neurological conditions through community training and outdoor challenges. In June, the organization received a seed grant from The Pollination Project.

2005

Class Liaison - Nathan Love

Anna Derr received her master's degree in mythological studies with an emphasis in depth psychology

from Pacifica Graduate Institute in California.

To **Nicole Lindquist** and David Panush, a daughter, Rose Allegra Lindquist Panush, born May 25, 2016.

To **Audrey (Pederson) McGeeney MBA'07** and **Kyle McGeeney MBA'10**, a son, Alistair Henry, born in 2016. Alistair joins sister Samantha and brother Theodore.

Mikaela Wingard-Phillips and her wife, Amanda, were married on June 19, 2016, in Issaquah, Washington. They live in Seattle's Greenwood neighborhood.

2006

Michelle (Levin) Barsook MAT'07 received a certificate in diagnostic medical sonography from Loma Linda University in California.

Following receipt of a meritorious honor for sustained excellence in his work at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, **Eric Swinn** was awarded tenure as a foreign service officer with the U.S. Department of State.

To **Julia (Lemmerman) Wigren** and Simon Wigren, a daughter, Eleanor Jane Wigren, born May 31, 2015.

2007 10TH REUNION

Mid West Music Fest co-organizer **Sam Brown '07** celebrated the festival's seventh anniversary this past spring. The annual event, held in Winona, Minnesota, most recently featured about 75 bands from across the Midwest.

To **Sarah (Potts) Rose** and her husband, Eric Rose, a daughter, Adelaide Alice Rose, born July 13, 2016. Sarah and Eric are smitten with her, and Sarah is already recruiting her for both Willamette and Alpha Chi Omega.

To **Lindsay Selser** and her husband, Kyle, a son, Boone Braxton Jackson, born April 14, 2016. Boone joins his 2-year-old sister, Willa. The family lives in Eugene, Oregon, where Lindsay works as a transportation planner for the City of Eugene.

2008

In May, **Louis Pappas** graduated with his MBA from the Yale School of Management.



Julia (Lemmerman) Wigren '06 and husband Simon Wigren with daughter Eleanor



Aria, daughter of Caprielle (Barlow) Larsen '10 and Allan Larsen



Dillon Daniel-Hoffman '10, MAT'11

2009

Nathaniel Cordova was selected as a presidential management fellow and secured a position as a management analyst-communications coordinator at the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Brianna Grinnell and **Nick Kummert '10** were married on June 25, 2016, in Snoqualmie, Washington. Nick and Brianna met through mutual friends from Willamette in 2012.



Lindsay Selser '07 and her husband, Kyle, with son Boone and daughter Willa

2010

Dillon Daniel-Hoffman MAT'11 made local and national news when he wore a custom-made split Portland Trail Blazers/San Antonio Spurs LaMarcus Aldridge jersey to the Blazers game in which Aldridge returned to Portland for the first time since joining the Spurs. Aldridge saw and autographed the jersey. Also at the game, Dillon met a top ESPN sideline reporter who tweeted pictures of Dillon's jersey to his million-plus followers. Dillon and his experience at the game were the subjects of an Oregonian feature article.

To **Caprielle (Barlow) Larsen** and Allan Larsen, a daughter, Aria, born Aug. 24, 2015.

Ryan Moothart published his first book, "Towards Cascadia," which explores the civic identity and national character of the Pacific Northwest.

2011

Class Liaison - Shaffer Spaeth

2012 5TH REUNION

Class Liaison - Rafael Baptista

Rafael Baptista was promoted to strategic initiatives analyst for the Durham County Government manager's office in Durham, North Carolina.

Kaileigh Westermann graduated with a master's degree in leadership for sustainability education from Portland State University.

2013

Class Liaison - Molly Ward

The University of California Global Food Initiative named **Caroline Cahill** to its 30 Under 30 list for her work as a Child Hunger Corps Fellow in Alabama with Feeding America.



Brianna Grinnell '09 and Nick Kummert '10



Jason Pegis '16



Joellen Sweeney '14 and Alec Chase '14



Kassie McKay '15



Jessica Munoz '16



Nina Kulander '14 (left) and her wife Beth Freese '11

Dustin Daniel is director of media relations and broadcasting for the Billings Mustangs, a minor league baseball team and affiliate of the Cincinnati Reds. Previously a broadcaster with the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes of the Northwest League, Daniel was the Mustangs' radio voice for all 76 regular season games this summer and serves as the team's primary media liaison.

Lauren Vannini graduated with a master of public administration degree in nonprofit management from the Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University.

2014

Class Liaison – Alex Schrimp

Kyle Flowers is student activities coordinator at Willamette. He

earned a master's of science degree in college student services administration and received certification in college and university teaching from Oregon State University. At OSU, he also received the Outstanding Graduate Student Award for service in the fields of orientation, transition and retention in the Northwest Region.

Nina Kulander and **Beth Freese '11** were married on Oct. 15, 2016. Their bridesmaids included **Alex Schrimp, Kelli Gano '11, Jacque Vaughn, Nina Berger '15** and **Margaret Woodcock '16**.

This summer, **Benny Kuo** interned at HP Inc., applying his experiences to the future products group aiding in the creation of new markets and product designs. Benny is still in contact with many Willamette graduates, including his mentor,

David Parry MBA'05. He is working on his MBA in innovation management from Oregon State University. Oregon State's College of Business featured Kuo in a story about his decision to attend the school.

Lauren Roberts is the assistant director of alumni programs and giving at The Shipley School, a K-12 independent school located outside of Philadelphia.

Joellen Sweeney and **Alec Chase** were married on Aug. 15, 2016, at the Laurelhurst Club in Portland.

2015

Class Liaison – Natalie Pate

Kassie McKay became the first all-star trainer at MOD Pizza Firehouse Crossing. She was also chosen as the all-star cook to train employees at the new MOD location in Gresham, Oregon, which opened in September.

This past summer, Cooperstown Graduate Program student **Peyton Tracey** interned in the curatorial department of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York. As a Seattle Mariners fan and aspiring museum professional, Peyton was thrilled to intern at the Baseball Hall of Fame in the same year that longtime Mariners outfielder Ken Griffey Jr. was inducted.

2016

Jessica Munoz became an eighth-grade science teacher at North Panola Junior High in Como, Mississippi, through the Mississippi Teachers Corps (MTC) program. The MTC trains and places teachers in high-need schools through an alternate-route teacher licensing program. During the two-year program, members earn their master's degree while teaching full-time in their own classroom.

This summer, **Jason Pegis** attended the Zodiac Music Festival in southern France and did a counselorship at a cello camp in Minnesota. For the fall, he received a full fellowship award to study cello performance with world-famous cellist Matt Haimovitz in a graduate degree program at McGill University in Montreal.

ATKINSON GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

In April, **Juan Aguiar JD/MBA'02** began serving as the director of legal advice in Ecuador's Attorney General's Office in Quito.

Matthew G. Matrisciano JD/MBA'08 is the owner of MGM Law Firm LLC in Bend, Oregon. Focusing on estate planning and probate, Matthew's practice takes a holistic and personal approach to designing a client's personal estate plan or business succession plan.

After graduating from AGSM, **Amit Mehta MBA'10** returned to India and set up Unived Healthcare, a dietary supplement company. Unived is a leading dietary supplement brand in India, as well as the only brand certified by the Vegan Society and PETA. "This year, we have begun exports and hope to enter U.S. markets soon," writes Amit.

Nick Footer MBA'11 recently rebranded his company Intuitive Digital. The Portland, Oregon-based full-service digital marketing agency has been in business for nearly four years and is on track to break \$1 million in revenue in 2016.

Bobby Powers MBA'11 is corporate treasury team lead at Clearwater Analytics, an investment accounting and reporting firm in Boise, Idaho. Bobby was previously account manager for several of Clearwater's large corporate clients, including Facebook, LinkedIn and SanDisk. In his new role, he leads a team that services corporations across the southern half of the United States.

To **Loren Crawford MBA'12** and her husband, Shogo Oki, a daughter, Kiku Oki, born in May 2016. Loren works for HP Inc. as a business manager of emerging markets and lives in Portland.

Lora Roba MBA'12 and Matthew Hoeltje were married in October in Phoenix, Arizona. Fellow Atkinson MBA alumni in attendance were **Matthew Alex '08 MBA'12, Funmilayo Ojikutu MBA'12** and **Eric Shin MBA'12**.

Alumni Association Update

Meet WUAA officers and new directors for 2016-17

Officers

Adam DuVander '01, president
 Sue (McAuley) Pyne '86, vice president
 Matt Benjamin '02, MBA'05, secretary
 Linda (Walker) Kelly '69, immediate past president

Newly Elected Directors

Peggy (Ringler) Berglund '71, Portland, Oregon
 Jim Lottsfeldt '85, Anchorage, Alaska
 Barry Nelson '99, Salem
 Nikki (Trammel) Pantera '03, JD'07, Boise, Idaho
 Lopaka Purdy '05, Bethesda, Maryland

See the complete Board of Directors roster online at willamette.edu/go/wuaa.

Nominations

If you are interested in serving on the WUAA board — or know a Bearcat who would be a great candidate — please let us know. Find out more and make your recommendation online: willamette.edu/go/wuaa



Activities for All

From the ballpark to happy hours to service projects, alumni have enjoyed a variety of opportunities to connect over the summer. One hearty band of Bearcats took on the whitewater of southern Oregon's Rogue River for three days with biology professor David Craig. And in Anchorage, Alaska, alumni, students, parents and friends gathered for a summer solstice celebration hosted by Robin Brena JD/MBA'83. Watch your email for news of upcoming gatherings and activities for Bearcats across the country and around the world!



50 Years Later...

Members of the class of 1970 were among alumni present at the matriculation ceremony for the undergraduate class of 2020. Alumni lit candles for the students to float on the Mill Stream as we welcomed our newest Bearcats to the family.

Alumni Survey Is Coming

It's been several years since the last alumni survey, and we'd like to hear about your experiences as students and as alumni. A deeper understanding of your attitudes, relationships and preferences will help the university and alumni association better serve the alumni population. Watch for your email invitation to participate.

A Happy Return

A familiar face returned to campus this summer, when Tyler Reich '06 joined Willamette's advancement team as associate vice president for university relations.

In addition to earning his bachelor's degree in politics from Willamette, Reich worked for several years at the university. He joined the advancement department in 2007, attaining the position of director of annual giving by the time he left in 2013. He returns to Salem after a three-year stint at Occidental College in Los Angeles, where he led the alumni and parent engagement, annual fund and donor relations teams.

In his new position at Willamette, he'll manage a reorganized unit called University Relations that brings together the the alumni and parent engagement and annual fund teams.

Reich and his wife, Katie (Bechtel) '06, MBA'12, look forward to watching their year-old daughter, Harper (class of 2037), grow up on the campus where her parents first met.

ALUMNI NEWS BITS

In Memoriam

Jean (Eastridge) Birrell '37
Dec. 8, 1913 – May 23, 2016

Jean Birrell was born in Stevensville, Montana. At Willamette, she met her future husband, **George Birrell '29**. The couple married in 1938 and built a home in Salem, which they lived in for the next 78 years. During the 1950s, Jean worked for the Democratic Party as a member of the Jane Jefferson Club and the League of Women Voters. From 1964 to 1978, she worked as the executive secretary to Oregon's state treasurer. After retirement, she maintained an interest in politics, enjoyed traveling abroad with George, and she took several courses at Willamette. She was preceded in death by her sister, **Dorothy (Eastridge) Gillam '32**, and brother, **Donald Eastridge '50**. Survivors include sons **George "Bruce" Birrell '62**, Gordon and Mackenzie.

Suzanne (Curtis) Shepperd '39
March 13, 1917 – April 14, 2016

Suzanne Shepperd was born in Portland, Oregon. At Willamette, she joined the Pi Beta Phi sorority and earned a bachelor's degree in political science. She went on to a career as an educator at Gresham High School in Gresham, Oregon, teaching several subjects, including Latin. Survivors include daughter **Rosemary (Shepperd) Guttridge '73**, and son Scott.

Charlotte (Ellingsworth) Aslanian '42, LLB'45
Dec. 29, 1920 – April 18, 2016

Charlotte Deane Aslanian was born in Pateros, Washington. At Willamette, she earned her bachelor's degree in political science, and in 1945, a law degree as one of two women in her graduating class. After graduation, Deane worked in real estate law in Los Angeles. In 1959, she began a 21-year career in education, working as a kindergarten teacher with the Alisal Union School District in California. In retirement, Deane volunteered her time with programs such as Adult Literacy and Reading Is Fundamental. Survivors include children Cynthia, Greg and Charles.

Richard L. French '42
July 10, 1920 – June 23, 2016

Richard "Dick" French was born on a farm in Yakima Valley, Washington, and raised in Salem. At Willamette, he studied sociology and psychology before going on to earn his master's degree in human resource management from the University of Utah. During World War II, Dick spent four years working in mental institutions in Washington and New Jersey, serving developmentally disabled and epileptic patients. This led to a 35-year career as an administrator in psychiatric hospitals, first at Eastern Oregon State Hospital in Pendleton, Oregon, and then at Oregon State Hospital in Salem. After retirement, he served for many years as a docent for the Mission Mill Museum Association. He was preceded in death by his brothers, **Curtis French '31**, **Alfred French '32** and **Robert French '47**. Survivors include his wife, Marge; sons Roger, Jerry and Brian; daughters Sharon and Suzy; and nephew **Alfred French III '67**.

Stanley J. Buch '45
Feb. 4, 1924 – Aug. 19, 2016

Stanley Buch was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. After graduating from National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, he served in the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1945. Stan then earned his bachelor's degree in biology from Willamette and a bachelor's of science in pharmacy from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. He operated Buch's Pharmacy from 1948 to 1971, when the company merged with Manor Pharmacy to form Pharmacy-Lab Associates. For many years, Stan served as president and treasurer of Lancaster County Pharmacy, and was elected as a charter member of Academy of General Practice of Pharmacy. Serving the Lancaster YMCA for more than eight decades as a staff member and eventual senior director, Stan received the organization's Outstanding Service Award three times (1959, 1965 and 1969). Survivors include his wife of 69 years, Irene, and children Eric and Linda.

A Patriot and a Bearcat

Robert M. Sayre '49
Aug. 18, 1924 – March 31, 2016

Former U.S. ambassador and State Department inspector general **Robert Marion Sayre Sr.** was born in Hillsboro, Oregon. In 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served as a first lieutenant in Europe during World War II. He commanded a truck company in the European theater and remained in active duty until 1946.

After returning home, Robert went to Willamette University, where he joined the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, participated in Glee and earned his bachelor's degree in political science. He continued his education by earning a law degree from George Washington University in 1956 and a master's degree in economics from Stanford University in 1960. In 1965, Willamette University awarded him an honorary doctor of law degree.

In 1949, Robert began a long and distinguished career in Washington, working as a senior staff member in the White House. He also worked as deputy assistant secretary of state, as well as acting assistant secretary in the Bureau of Latin American Affairs. Robert became an ambassador to Uruguay in 1968 and went on to serve as ambassador to Panama (1969-74) and to Brazil (1978-81). He was the State Department's inspector general from 1974 to 1978.

As an ambassador, Robert was a specialist in Latin American policy, working on numerous international issues involving the Panama Canal, the U.S.-Mexican border and a Fidel Castro-led Cuba.

Before retiring in 1985, Robert served as the State Department's counter-terrorism director from 1982 to 1984 and as a top anti-terrorism expert to the Ronald Reagan administration. During this time, he dealt with attacks against U.S. interests abroad, including the 1983 U.S. Embassy bombing in Lebanon. However, he also foresaw future threats against the United States and often stressed the importance of increasing the department's budget and resources. He also advocated turning terrorism cases over to police and local law enforcement agencies.

A longtime resident of Falls Church, Virginia, Robert maintained influence in the nation's capital. After retiring from the State Department, he served as undersecretary for management of the Organization of American States.

Retired as a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, Ambassador Sayre was interred on Aug. 23 at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

Survivors include his wife of 64 years, the former Elora Moynihan; children Marian Sayre-Oreska, Robert Jr. and Daniel; and nine grandchildren.



Dorothy Gage '47
Jan. 2, 1925 – July 30, 2015

Dorothy Darlene Gage was born in Lewiston, Idaho. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in sociology from Willamette, she joined the Oregon Prison Association, collecting statistics regarding child incarceration. Dorothy returned to school a few years later and earned a master's degree in social work from the University of Washington in 1954. In 1959, she was granted a Fulbright Scholarship to study prisons in Australia. Shortly thereafter, she began a long career working with children and families, first for the Oregon Health Department and then as a school counselor at Gilbert Middle School. A passionate community activist and neighborhood leader her entire life, Dorothy was named Volunteer of the Year by the Ashcreek Neighborhood Association in Portland. Survivors include her nephews, David and Andy.

Sylvia (Wilde) Hedeem '47
March 31, 1925 – May 29, 2016

Sylvia Gladys Hedeem was born in Howe, Idaho, and raised in Junction City, Oregon. After earning a bachelor's degree in English from Willamette, she taught at the Oregon School for the Blind in Salem. Sylvia was a substitute teacher in Salem elementary schools while her children were young, and then worked for Children's Services in foster care before retiring in 1984. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Paul Hedeem '50**. Survivors include daughters Paulette and Sylvana, and son Arden.

Rev. Jackson Hazelett '49
June 12, 1926 – June 18, 2016

The Rev. Jackson Hazelett was born in Salt Lake City. In 1944, he registered for college at Willamette and volunteered for the U.S. Army Air Corps. After being honorably discharged in 1946, he returned to school to finish his degree in business administration. In 1962, he was called to the ministry and moved his family to California as he attended seminary training. After returning to Oregon, Jackson began his professional ministry at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church in Portland, and later served the congregation of St. James

Episcopal Church in Tigard until his retirement in 1992. The parish and community hall at St. James is named Hazelett Hall in his honor. Survivors include his wife, Elizabeth; sister, Phyllis; and son, **Stafford Hazelett '71**.

Mary (Phelps) Phillips '49
Aug. 31, 1926 – Jan. 13, 2016

Mary Kathryn Phillips was born in Omak, Washington. At Willamette, she met her lifelong best friend, **Artie (Phillips) Rodgers '48**, and eventually married Artie's big brother, Robert. In 1976, the couple and their daughter, Elizabeth, moved to Port Angeles, Washington, where they retired 10 years later. Survivors include her daughter, Elizabeth, and friend Artie.

Barbara (Bates) Martin '51
Oct. 25, 1929 – June 12, 2016

Barbara Ruth Martin was born in Salem. After attending Willamette, she earned her bachelor's degree in art history from the University of Oregon in 1951. Barbara started her career as an interior designer in Portland and went on to work at Parker Furniture. She also ran her own design business and studios for many years. She was a member of the American Institute of Architects. Barbara retired to Surprise, Arizona, in 1996, but returned to Salem in 2014 to be closer to her family. Survivors include sons Slade and Bryce, and siblings **Dale Bates '48** and **Laura (Bates) Reed '48**.

Louise (Ulvin) Straumfjord '51
Jan. 25, 1929 – May 2, 2016

Louise Straumfjord was a graduate of Willamette and Oregon Health and Science University. She worked as an operating room nurse before having children. Louise was preceded in death by her son, Agnar; brother, **Henry Ulvin '48**; and partner, Gerald. Survivors include her daughter, Karen.

Sara (Kibbey) Kruse '52
Oct. 31, 1930 – June 18, 2016

Sara "Sally" Louise Kibbey was born and raised in Coos Bay, Oregon. While at Willamette, she joined the Alpha Chi Omega sorority. Sally's first job was working for The News-Review of Roseburg, Oregon, becoming the first of three generations that would work for the

newspaper. Later, she dedicated her time to running Kruse Farms, became committed to community service and was actively involved in the Douglas County Republican Party, serving as an Electoral College delegate for the 1968 presidential election. Survivors include her husband, Don; sister, Lillian; children **Jeff Kruse '73**, Denny and Karen; and granddaughter **Rhiannon Kruse '99**.

Alexander Yusha Jr. '52
May 25, 1922 – June 2, 2016

Alexander Yusha was born in Tokyo. As World War II continued in 1941, his family immigrated to the United States, making their home in Corvallis, Oregon. After earning his bachelor's degree in biology at Willamette, Alex went on to receive his master's degree in science at Oregon State University in 1958. A microbiologist and scientist at OSU, he co-authored "The In-Vitro Cultivation of Tissue and Cells of Pacific Salmon and Steelhead Trout."

Doris (McCulloch) Ness '53
Jan. 29, 1931 – July 11, 2016

Doris "Dorrie" Ness was born in The Dalles, Oregon. At Willamette, she was a member of the Chi Omega sorority. After college, she worked as an elementary school teacher in Medford, Oregon, where she was also active in the Medford Junior Service League and the United Fund. She left teaching in 1957 to devote her time and attention to raising her four sons. Survivors include her sister, Jean, and sons Greg, Brad, Todd and Steve.

Sue (McElhinny) Rankin '53
May 4, 1931 – April 13, 2016

Sue Rankin was born in Salem. After attending Willamette, she transferred to the Oregon College of Education to obtain her teaching credentials. After graduating, Sue married Bruce Rankin and moved to Pullman, Washington, to teach fifth grade while Bruce finished veterinary school. After a stint teaching in Delaware, Sue and Bruce moved back to Salem in 1957 to raise their family. Sue taught there until 1960, when Bruce started a veterinary practice for which she served as office manager until retirement. In retirement, she remained active in the community,

teaching parenting classes at Sprague High School and supporting environmentally friendly efforts, such as the Oregon Bottle Bill. She was preceded in death by siblings **Jean (McElhinny) Nelson '37**, **Charles McElhinny '43** and **Hugh McElhinny '49**. Survivors include her husband of 63 years, Bruce, and daughters Nancy, Julie and Katy.

Barbara (Sloan) Smith '55
Feb. 27, 1933 – March 30, 2016

Barbara Ann Smith was born in Dallas, Texas. After attending Willamette for two years, she went on to graduate from UCLA and began working as a banking advisor to seniors at Bank of America in Los Angeles. Barbara was also a dedicated community volunteer, serving with organizations such as the Girl Scouts and the Literacy Council. Survivors include her husband of 62 years, Barry, and daughters Carrie and Diana.

Yvonne (Bowles) Sears '56
Aug. 16, 1934 – March 24, 2016

Yvonne Sears was born in Portland, Oregon. After attending Willamette for two years, she graduated from the University of Oregon Nursing School in 1957 with a bachelor's and nursing degree. In 1959, Yvonne earned a master's degree in education at the University of Rochester. She and her husband, David, later moved to San Antonio, Texas, and eventually settled in Houston. Amidst the moves, Yvonne pursued a variety of occupations, including as a nurse, a sales associate, an office manager and a real estate agent. She was elected a ruling elder of the Presbyterian Church, participated in four medical mission trips to rural Honduras and sang in the Mastersingers Symphony Chorus in San Antonio. She was preceded in death by her sister, **Geraldine (Bowles) Olsen '50**. Survivors include her husband of 57 years, David, and children Geoffrey, Cameron and Andrea.

David G. Johnson '57
July 12, 1935 – July 9, 2016

David George Johnson was born in Salem. After earning a bachelor's degree in psychology at Willamette, Dave went on to graduate from Stanford University with a master's degree in education. He taught

In Memoriam

middle school English, social studies and journalism in Palo Alto, California, from 1959 to 1991, when he and his wife, Ollie, retired to Ashland, Oregon. Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Ollie; brother, Charles; and sons Brian and Keith.

Donald R. Neu '59 **Aug. 6, 1937 - April 14, 2016**

Donald Robert Neu was born in Twin Falls, Idaho. He earned his bachelor's degree in education at Willamette and went on to teach physical education in Salem, before settling into a 33-year career in auto claims and attorney negotiations with State Farm Insurance in Seattle and Tempe, Arizona. A star pole-vaulter in high school, he remained active in sports throughout his life. Don played softball for 40 years and coached soccer and basketball at the YMCA for many years. At the age of 53, he picked up tennis and achieved numerous accolades in the sport, becoming nationally ranked in both singles and doubles, and earning certification from the United States Professional Tennis Association. Survivors include his wife, **Sandy (Stageberg) Neu '63**, and children Kendall and Jeffrey.

Loren F. Alexander '62, JD'65 **April 13, 1940 - June 9, 2016**

Loren Francis Alexander was born in Portland, Oregon. After earning both his bachelor's and law degrees from Willamette, Loren became a successful entrepreneur in Oregon and later in Texas. He was owner and CEO of the RTS Corporation, a software development, marketing and service company. Even in retirement, Loren continued to work as a business consultant. In 2010, he moved to Ventura, California, to enjoy life on the beach and to spend time with family and friends. Survivors include his sister, Marilee; partner, Carol; children Kellee, Christine, Michelle and Sarah; and stepchildren Jennifer and Jeffrey.

Rosemary Stanbery '62 **Feb. 1, 1941 - July 14, 2016**

A lifelong resident of Portland, Oregon, Rosemary Stanbery graduated from Willamette with a bachelor's degree in English before also graduating from the University of Washington. She taught advanced high school English and American studies for more than 30 years, mostly at Clackamas

High School in Oregon, where she influenced not only the direction of the English department, but also the school's block scheduling. Survivors include her sister, Roberta.

George E. Sullivan '62 **June 17, 1932 - July 1, 2016**

George Earl Sullivan was born in Kansas City, Missouri. After high school, he joined the U.S. Navy and served in combat during the Korean War and in post-World War II Japan. He was honorably discharged in 1954, and began working as a guard at the Oregon State Penitentiary a year later. While working there full-time, he earned his bachelor's degree in sociology at Willamette. By 1968, he had risen to superintendent of the Oregon State Correctional Institution, where he served until 1984. Later, George served as a warden in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and as a deputy director of operations for the Colorado Department of Corrections. After retiring from Colorado, he returned to Oregon but continued to serve as a consultant, auditor and expert witness on an array of correctional matters, and even assisted in the design of several state-of-the-art prisons. Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Rose, and children **Kevin Sullivan '83**, **Kathy Sullivan '92** and **Robert Sullivan JD'98**.

Max. V. Moorhead '64 **Dec. 1, 1940 - May 7, 2016**

Max Virgil Moorhead was born in Salem. He studied music at Willamette and at the University of Oregon. In 1973, he and his family moved to Anchorage, Alaska, where he started a 10-year career with CMH Consultants, a professional engineering and surveying firm. He later went to work for several other local engineering firms. Survivors include his wife, **Evelyn (Landrith) Moorhead '63**, and children Mark, Jennifer and Deborah.

Steinar R. Christiansen '65 **March 9, 1941 - March 2, 2016**

Steinar "Stan" Roger Christiansen received his bachelor's degree in economics from Willamette before embarking on a business career in Oregon. From 2001, he was the owner of Westridge Properties, an operator of nonresidential buildings based in Oregon City. Survivors include his wife, Carma.

Cheryl (Bohannon) Dawson '65 **Aug. 20, 1943 - April 2, 2016**

Cheryl Dawson was born in Portland, Oregon. After attending Willamette for three years, she transferred to the Oregon College of Education, where she met her future husband, John Dawson. Cheryl then embarked on a teaching career that started in Milwaukie, Oregon, and later took her to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and various locations in Japan, where she served the children of military personnel in the Department of Defense Dependent Schools system. In 2004, Cheryl and John retired to Hillsboro, Oregon, to assist in the care of their aging mothers. Survivors include her husband, John; daughters **Holly (Dawson) Driggers '91** and Jennifer; and brother, **Frank Bohannon '66**.

Sybil (Reed) Bunton '66 **Sept. 25, 1944 - May 25, 2016**

Sybil Ann Bunton was born in Portland, Oregon. At Willamette, she majored in history and made many lifelong friends as a sister of the Chi Omega sorority. She supported her family as a seamstress and as a devoted caregiver to many young children at her house in Portland Heights. When her children were grown, she worked at a dental office for many years. She was preceded in death by her parents, **Patricia (Otten) Reed '41** and **Murdon Reed '41**. Survivors include her husband, Mark; children Mishael and Liesl; sisters Patricia and Mary; and brother George.

Andrea (Bristol) Nebel '66 **Sept. 15, 1944 - July 20, 2016**

Andrea Sue Nebel was born in Pasadena, California, and grew up in Newberg and McMinnville, Oregon. At Willamette, she met her future husband, **Sam Nebel '66**, whom she married two days before their graduation. She was a school social worker at Burton Elementary School in Vancouver, Washington, and was named School Social Worker of the Year in 2003. Survivors include her husband of 50 years, Sam; sons Kirk and Jay; and siblings Terryl, Greg and Tim.

Jeffrey R. Slottow '67 **Sept. 29, 1945 - June 10, 2016**

Jeffrey Richard Slottow completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Puget Sound in 1967 after attending Willamette. Later, he received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in computer science from UCLA. He went on to enjoy a long and successful career working for the City of Los Angeles as an accounting clerk. Survivors include his wife, Joan, and a son, Edward.

Stephen E. Smith '68 **Dec. 22, 1945 - July 15, 2016**

Stephen Eugene Smith was born in Seattle. After graduating from Willamette, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in an artillery unit in Vietnam from 1968 to 1970. Following his discharge, Stephen earned his MBA at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, where he met his future wife, Diane. They married in 1971 and settled in Portland, where Stephen worked at Arthur Andersen accounting firm until he retired as a tax partner. Survivors include his wife, Diane, and children Christina and Scott.

Elizabeth Donaldson '69 **Aug. 2, 1947 - March 15, 2016**

Elizabeth Donaldson earned her bachelor's degree in English from Willamette. She worked as a risk manager for Group Health Cooperative and, after retirement, as a tutor for Laurelhurst Elementary School in Portland. She was preceded in death by her brother, Charles.

Jane (Moore) Webb '69 **Sept. 28, 1947 - June 27, 2016**

Jane Ellen Webb was born in Ephrata, Washington. After attending Willamette and the University of Washington, she found a career in the financial market, where she thrived on the diversity and challenge of the work. Survivors include daughters Sara and **Rachel (Webb) Allen '00**, and brother Peter.

Ian S. Dunlap '70
March 27, 1948 – July 20, 2016

Ian Scott Dunlap was born in Grand Falls, Newfoundland, Canada. In 1951, the family immigrated to the United States. While at Willamette, he earned a bachelor's degree in biology and met his future wife, **Donna (Hartig) Dunlap '73**. From 1984, Ian was the human resources manager at the West Linn Paper Company. Survivors include his wife, Donna; sister Cynthia; and children Ian and Heather.

Dr. Ronald Rainger '71
June 28, 1949 – May 25, 2016

Ronald Rainger was born in Salt Lake City. After completing his undergraduate education at Willamette, he went on to the University of Utah and Indiana University, from which he received his Ph.D. in 1982. After teaching at a preparatory school in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and as a visiting professor at the University of Arizona, he became a professor of history at Texas Tech University in 1983. During his tenure, he received numerous awards, including Outstanding Graduate Teacher of the history department (1995) and the President's Excellence in Teaching Award (2001). Ronald was the author of many articles, book reviews and presentations in the field of history of science and technology, and was an editor for two books on the development of American biology. Survivors include his wife of 33 years, Judy, and brother Bill.

Thomas D. Williams '71
June 14, 1949 – March 31, 2016

Tom Dolan Williams was born in Tillamook, Oregon. A four-sport letterman athlete in high school, Tom became an All-American football player at Willamette and earned a bachelor's degree in economics. He was drafted by the New Orleans Saints in the ninth round of the 1971 NFL Draft. Tom moved to California, where he worked in insurance, finance and real estate, eventually opening his own real estate business in 1981. Tom was preceded in death by his brother, Edwin "Butch" Williams. Survivors include his son, Cainen, and sister, Linda.

Susan Loder '72
Sept. 1, 1949 – June 23, 2016

Susan Marjorie Loder grew up on the San Francisco Peninsula in California. After receiving her bachelor's degree in political science from Willamette, she went on to consult on national, state and local political campaigns, successfully raising millions of dollars for many Bay Area organizations, including the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Bay Area Hearing Society. Survivors include her brother, John.

Mitsuru Kitaichi '80
Sept. 10, 1957 – April 26, 2016

Mitsuru Kitaichi earned his bachelor's degree in economics from Willamette. He was one of the first two Japanese students to join the university's Beta Theta Pi fraternity, where he went on to make lifelong friends and unforgettable memories. Following the sudden death of his father in 2001, Mitsuru became president of Japanese jewelry company M Kitaichi Co Ltd. Survivors include his wife, Yuko, and close friends **Mike Matsuno '81, Al Banks '80** and **Masaki Shimada '80**.

Erin (Aaberg) Givans '89
July 20, 1967 – July 31, 2016

Erin Ann Givans was raised in Sacramento, California, before attending Willamette as a political science major. While at Willamette, Erin successfully spearheaded the anti-apartheid divestment campaign on campus. After earning her bachelor of arts degree, Erin became a child health advocate for the California Children's Lobby and the founding executive director of the Children's Specialty Care Coalition. Her work resulted in improvements to the state program, California Children's Services, and increased access to care for children with chronic illnesses and rare conditions. Survivors include her husband, Troy, and children Baxter and Kira.

Imparting Knowledge, Wisdom and Life Skills

Jerry W. Canning
Sept. 29, 1935 – May 15, 2016

Beloved family man, mentor and former Willamette professor **Jerry Canning** was born in Silver Spring, Maryland, to Harold and Nancy Canning. After being raised on the East Coast, Jerry attended St. Anselm's Priory (now St. Anselm's Abbey School) in Washington, D.C. and later attended the University of Maryland, where he earned both a bachelor's degree and a Ph.D. in philosophy.



In 1956, Jerry married Donna (Steller) Canning, and the couple soon started a family. They moved to Salem in 1963, when Jerry accepted a teaching position at Willamette University as a professor of philosophy.

Gifted in presenting complex concepts in a clear and easily understandable way, Jerry was known for his articulate and creative teaching style, which usually included a good amount of humor. As a professor and department chair, Jerry enjoyed a 26-year teaching career at Willamette before retiring in 1989.

Away from Willamette, Jerry served as a visiting professor at schools such as the University of California and Oregon State University; and even in retirement, he led seminars and educational retreats at various churches, organizations and institutions, including Salem Hospital.

Jerry became a pastor and brought his teaching methods to his congregations. From 1990 to 2005, he volunteered at Salem Alliance Church, as well as at the First Christian Church and the New Horizons Church in McMinnville, Oregon. He taught classes, led retreats and presented workshops on communication skills, maintaining healthy relationships and strengthening families.

While his students appreciated his creativity and ingenuity in developing innovative methods for experiential learning, family and friends will remember his imaginative mind and zany sense of humor. Jerry was a known prankster, spirited storyteller, gracious party host and athlete.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Kathy; children Terry Canning-Steller, David Canning, Elizabeth Canning and **Lauren Canning-Luckenbach '87**; stepchildren Andy Lane and Katie (Lane) Clanton; grandchildren Chaz, Melissa, Cris and Aman Bogner; and step-grandchildren Emilia and Piper Lane.

We've expanded the conversation in our IMHO article by inviting more Bearcats to share their opinions. Here, Willamette students and alumni on LinkedIn weigh in with advice for this year's incoming class.

"Get involved! Volunteer, find a campus job, ask staff members questions. The more visible and personable you are, the more opportunities arise — not just in college, but in life as well. But be careful not to overextend yourself into too many things (as most Willamette students do). Quickly assess whether you are doing something for your own enjoyment or not." — Benny Kuo MBA'17

"Unless you are near death, go to class. Show up 100 percent every single day."
— Stephanie Davidson '08

"Get to know your professors! Not only will this come in handy for letters of recommendation, some babysitting or house-sitting side gigs, and a better overall class experience, but you may make some good friends and life coaches along the way. Willamette has some rad professors."
— Victoria Binning '14

"Take advantage of the open door policies of many professors at Willamette.

Professors will know your name and care about your success. They chose to teach at Willamette because of their desire to interact with students, mentor them and show them how to better the world with the knowledge they are gaining." — Cybelle Tabilas '15

"Be kind, be humble, speak less and listen more. Be curious and work hard. You'll be alright." — Tejeswara Reddy '12

"Network. Meet everyone you can. Find a balance between good grades and learning new things/meeting new people. Employers will care more about your experiences, as that's what sets you apart."
— Tania Weets MBA'13

"Evolve. The most transformative years happen in college. New people. New ideas. New experiences. You will have boundless opportunities to expand your understanding of you. Don't let these opportunities pass you by. Grow, stretch and dream. Your future self will thank you." —Anthony Tham MBA'13

"Appreciate and soak up every high and low moment, be spontaneous with your friends and plans, and work hard. But don't worry about the future too much — things all fall into place." —Charlotte McGeever '16

"Get to know American Studies Program (ASP) students and other international students! Intercultural communication is crucial to becoming a global citizen in today's world." — Rachel Dierken '13

"Put down your phone, engage your professors and your colleagues, read the classics and try hard enough that you fail at least once." — Daniel Beacham '92



"Break some rules, but always keep your friends safe. Consider your positions of privilege and use them to call out even subtle and coded racism, classism, misogyny, transmisogyny and ableism."
— Christine Sandall '15

"Learn as much about as much as you can. Go to every convocation, guest lecturer, play and musical performance you can. The learning never gets better than when you're, well, learning." — Jeffrey Himstreet '89, JD'03

What do you wish you'd known when you started at Willamette? Email magazine@willamette.edu.

Save the date to *celebrate*



Not only will Willamette commemorate its 175th anniversary in 2017 and its place as the first university in the West, it will also prepare to be first in the future.

Milestone Events

WILLAMETTE DAY Feb. 1, 2017 — Willamette's official 175th birthday, including a special Atkinson Lecture featuring renowned author Ta-Nehisi Coates.

DAY OF SERVICE March 11, 2017 — Bearcats around the world give back to their communities.

COMMENCEMENT May 14, 2017 — Celebrating the graduates of the university's 175th year.

SOLAR ECLIPSE Aug. 21, 2017 — Special activities and events as Salem experiences a unique celestial phenomenon.

UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION Aug. 25, 2017 — Welcoming the newest group of Bearcats.

ALUMNI WEEKEND AND HOMECOMING Sept. 14-17, 2017 — A special celebration welcoming alumni home to Willamette and commemorating the 150th anniversary of Waller Hall.

FAMILY WEEKEND Oct. 13-15, 2017

CLOSING CELEBRATION Dec. 8, 2017 — Concluding a year of celebration while ringing in the holiday season and re-lighting the campus' famed Star Trees.

For more information, visit willamette.edu/175

BEARCAT EXPLORERS

Lifelong learning is a natural extension of a liberal arts education, and a core goal of the WUAA. The Bearcat Explorers program allows Willamette alumni, parents and friends the opportunity to experience a wide variety of places and cultures — both near and far — and to make new connections within our Bearcat community.

Find details and updates at: willamette.edu/go/explorers



Croatia & Pearls of the Adriatic Coast **May 18 - June 1, 2017**

Croatia and the Adriatic Coast have become a prime destination for travelers because of their natural beauty and history. In addition to three nights in luxury hotels in Zagreb and Opatija, the highlight of this trip will be a seven-night cruise along the gorgeous Adriatic Coast in a 27-passenger yacht reserved just for Willamette alumni and friends! *Operated by Vantage.*



Historic Harbors of New England & Canada **Oct. 3-13, 2017**

Enjoy spectacular fall colors and a six-star cruising experience aboard the 1,000-passenger Crystal Serenity. The theme of this cruise, Historic Harbors, will be highlighted by visits to the harbors of New York; Newport, Rhode Island; Boston; Portland and Bar Harbor, Maine; Halifax and Sydney, Nova Scotia; and Quebec City. *Operated by AHL.*

In the works...

Kayak the San Juans **July 21-23, 2017**

We return to the beautiful San Juan Islands for an excursion with Joe Abraham, director of Willamette's Sustainability Institute. Operated by Discovery Sea Kayaks.

New York Theatre Tour, Fall 2017

Join us for a week in the Big Apple featuring plays and musicals, private discussions with actors, directors and writers, top restaurants, luxury hotels and more. Operated by Cultural Tours.

Shakespeare on a Budget **October 2017**

Our popular gathering at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival returns for a fourth consecutive year! This one-day gathering will feature a casual meal and two plays with Willamette faculty and students.

Patagonia/Antarctica **January 2018**

We're planning a once-in-a-lifetime trip to the far reaches of the southern hemisphere!

A DECADE OF DOCUMENTING

With a mission to collect, preserve and make available university records of enduring value, as well as primary source materials focusing on the Pacific Northwest, the Willamette University Archives celebrates its 10th anniversary this year.

HERE'S A SNAPSHOT OF SOME HISTORIC TREASURES THAT THE ARCHIVES CONTAINS:



122
physical collections
open to the public
for research

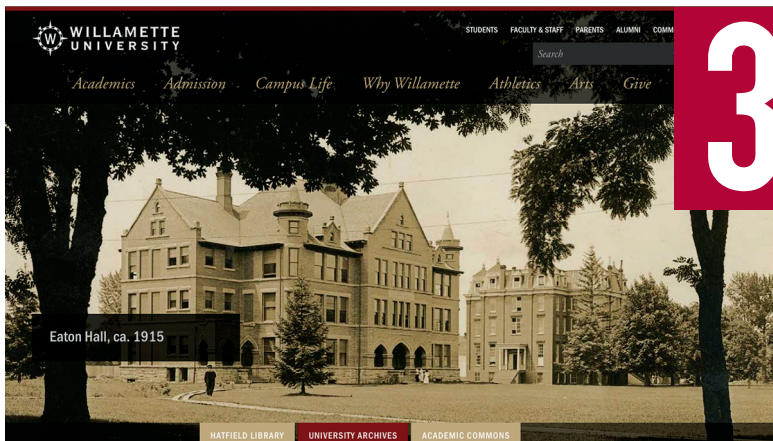


35 **University Archives and Records** collections, including administrative records, campus photographs and publications, and Freshman Glee records

8 **Political Collections** of papers, photographs, memorabilia and audiovisual materials of elected officials representing Oregon at the state and national level

39 **Personal Papers** collections, with a focus on the early days of Salem, the university and the Northwest region

40 collections in the **Pacific Northwest Artists Archive**, a collaborative project with the Hallie Ford Museum of Art



31

digital collections, which include:

3,118 issues of the Collegian student newspaper

163 issues of alumni publications

1,044 glass plate negatives

3,377 photographs

192 letters



LEARN MORE:
library.willamette.edu/archives/