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Readers share memories of the Puget Sound profs who challenged, entertained, and inspired them.
JUST A PINCH
Students hold a western fence lizard just prior to swabbing it as part of their research with Professor Stacey Weiss to investigate the protective microbes female lizards pass on when they lay eggs. Learn more about the research on pg. 8.
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ALWAYS A LOGGER

Vol. 48
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AUTUMN 2021

Featured Contributors
Kelsey Davis (cover, p. 14) is an illustrator and animator whose clients include Door Dash, Visit Seattle magazine, and Harlequin publishing.

Savita Iyer (p. 10) is a senior editor of the Penn Stater magazine, as well as a freelance writer and former business journalist.

Kris Crews (p. 12) does photography, video, web design, and e-commerce consulting in the Seattle/Tacoma area.

Greg Stevenson (p. 28) is an illustrator who has done work for The Atlantic, the Hockey Hall of Fame, IBM, and The Wall Street Journal, among others.

Michael Weinreb (p. 28, p. 40) is the author of four books and has written for ESPN, Rolling Stone magazine, The New York Times, and other publications.

Kristin Baird Rattini (p. 41) is a freelance writer whose credits include People, Family Circle, National Geographic, and other magazines.

Cover: Loggers tell tales of the profs who meant the most to them. See p. 14. Illustration by Kelsey Davis.
You seemed pretty jazzed to see students and parents back on campus at the end of August. Absolutely. It’s just been so uplifting. I don’t know what we would have done this past year without Zoom, WebEx, and GoToMeeting, but nothing beats being in person with your students, even if we have to be masked. It’s just been fantastic—their energy, their enthusiasm, their sense of what tomorrow may bring is palpable.

Was there a theme in what students and parents were saying to you?

Yes, they’re absolutely happy to be here and ready to resume a more normal collegiate experience. We also had a number of students who deferred from fall of ’20 to join us now, and a lot of those students and their parents said they followed us very closely over this past year. They were impressed with the way we managed COVID-19 and prioritized the health and safety of our community while continuing to move forward. They became even more convinced that this was the place for them.

In your remarks to the faculty and staff the first week, I detected a theme: that the sciences, especially the health sciences, will be a priority for the school in the coming years.

Yes, that’s right. We are a residential liberal arts college in the fullest sense and have a strong focus on interdisciplinary coursework and understanding, but something we do particularly well at Puget Sound is science education and health sciences education. In this very competitive higher education marketplace, we have to speak to our strengths—so we’re going to lead with that in a few ways. We have fantastic faculty and facilities, and our student outcomes in the sciences are terrific. For example, the acceptance rates of our students into medical schools are well above national averages, and we were named a leading college for women who go on to pursue doctoral degrees in STEM fields. We have outstanding programs in occupational therapy and physical therapy, and we’ve just launched a new master’s in public health. We think the world needs more liberal arts-educated people in these areas, and we feel called to meet this need. We’ll look to expand our existing programs and bring new ones to market.

Are you able to say what those new programs might be?

I don’t want to get ahead of the faculty or the provost on that, but we’re looking into a number of areas. I can tell you that we are moving forward to develop a major in data science that will eventually include a pathway for a graduate program. But in terms of the health sciences, we’re going to be very thoughtful and bring forward new programs that are consistent with our mission, build on our strengths, and will help to meet the regional and national demand for health care professionals.

I know that undergraduate enrollments aren’t where you’d like them to be just yet, but the graduate programs are doing quite well.

Yes. We’re very fortunate. We’re developing a comprehensive strategic enrollment plan that will stabilize and grow undergraduate enrollment. We’ll be fine once we get through this period of COVID and its lingering effects. So that will get solved. But we are very fortunate right now to be doing particularly well with our graduate enrollment. Again, we have really well-regarded and in-demand programs in OT and PT and in the School of Education, and the new master’s in public health program complements those nicely. We’ll nurture those and grow those incrementally in the years to come.

Can you elaborate on the concept of a liberal arts-focused graduate education?

I think that’s something that makes us distinctive, being a liberal arts college that has select graduate programs. The way we go about graduate education is framed within our liberal arts ethos. We look to engage and develop the whole person through an integrated course of study and experiences that provide graduate students with not just knowledge, expertise, and skill but also the capacity for self-reflection and a sense of justice and commitment to ethical action.

You’re also talking about creating a center of scholarship around Pacific Rim studies, right?

We are. We have a signature Pac Rim study abroad program that is truly distinctive to the University of Puget Sound, and we feel that we have some opportunities to expand programming and experiences for students in those regions. We’re talking about the Pacific Rim broadly speaking—not just Asia but Latin America, as well. We’re well positioned to be at the center of study, research, global exchange, and other activities that pertain to these regions. And these are regions that are emerging as the cultural, economic, and political engine of the future.

—Interview by Tina Hay
What We’re Talking About on Campus

We’re Back!
Students celebrated their return to campus in late August with an expanded three-day LogJam! that included dozens of student club information tables (pictured above), as well as spikeball, foam ax throwing, cornhole, a food truck, and live music. This year, ASUPS—which sponsors LogJam!—also bathed Jones Hall in a different color of light each night of orientation week: purple on Monday to represent resilience; blue on Tuesday to honor frontline workers; yellow on Wednesday for optimism and friendship; orange on Thursday for respect; and maroon on Friday to show “what it means to be a part of the Logger community, a united collective.”

And We’re Vaxed
The university made COVID-19 vaccinations mandatory for students, faculty, and staff, effective fall semester. As of mid-September, 98.5% of students and 96.3% of faculty and staff were fully vaccinated, with the rest having approved medical or religious exemptions. At press time, all campus members and visitors, regardless of vaccination status, were required to wear masks indoors, and indoor spaces were operating at 75% capacity.

Get Out
Passages, Puget Sound’s weeklong orientation for first-year students, offered new Loggers the chance to get to know campus, each other, and the beautiful Pacific Northwest. A slew of immersive experiences took students off campus, encouraging them to try new things, such as hiking on Mount Rainier, car camping, rock climbing at local gyms (above), and more.

Head Start
In early August, a select group of first-year students completed a two-week ramp-up prior to joining their classmates for orientation. The new program, called First Year Inside Puget Sound—FYI Puget Sound, for short—aims to help students deeply engage with their new surroundings and with academic life. This year’s theme explored social justice issues in the United States and around the world.

Nailed It

Sugar and Science
It’s an annual tradition in the science, math, and computer science departments: the Research Dessert Contest. Students and faculty members create edible representations of their summer work, and awards are given for Most Tasty, Most Creative, and Most Aesthetically Pleasing. Among this year’s 16 entries were a Kitchen Subduction Zone Cake from the lab of Mark Martin, associate professor of biology, and Vorticella Molasses Cookies.

A Virtual College Tour
The producers of the Amazon Prime video series The College Tour made a stop at University of Puget Sound in August, interviewing seven students (including Cyrus Shafiei ’22, above, at Point Defiance Park), two faculty members, and an alumna for an upcoming segment. The show gives prospective students a virtual inside look at a range of colleges and universities; the series has spotlighted 17 schools so far. More info: thecollegetour.com.
Ask the Expert: Roger Allen
Mind, Body, and the Pandemic

The pandemic has ushered in a slew of mental and physical issues for people to navigate. Distinguished Professor of Physical Therapy Roger Allen, who specializes in pain management, shares tips for physical wellness—plus a healthier and happier mind—in a post-pandemic world. —Amy Downey

CURB THOSE LOCK-DOWN HABITS
The pandemic has amplified inactivity; those “Quarantine 15” pounds are a sign to get moving. Allen suggests finding exercise you truly love—preferably, aerobic and low-impact—so you’ll want to keep doing it. Motion is especially key for those still working from home: “Sitting is hard on your back,” says Allen, “and if we maintain maladaptive postures, we create new pain sources.” His advice? Get up every 15 minutes for some spinal extensions, stretching, and shoulder rolls. (Allen incorporates “postural breaks” for his students during his three-hour anatomy class.)

BE KIND TO YOUR MIND
When someone is stressed, explains Allen, their nervous and endocrine systems are overridden—and these are the two systems that are supposed to keep everything regulated. When this happens, no organ system is immune from harm; elevated blood pressure will be nearly unavoidable.

REALLY, LOWER THAT STRESS
All pain, no matter what it is, becomes a condition. Allen studied the cause of flare-ups for those who suffer from chronic neuropathic pain, like migraines and fibromyalgia, and learned that pain can peak as much as 10 days after enduring a stressful situation. (That’s how long it takes for thyroxine, a hormone released during stress, to break free from its protein bonds.) “This lifts the veil off the cause,” says Allen. “It helps patients predict and plan for future flares.”

ALL IN YOUR HEAD?
Allen has explored how the brain relies on an intricate, powerful network called the neuromatrix to relay pain through the central nervous system. “We’re seeing more of the brain becoming involved with pain, which means any time we activate other areas of the brain, it can trigger the memory of the pain.” That means something like chronic stress could stimulate the neuromatrix into making people think there’s a problem somewhere. But stay positive: The brain’s internal mapping system can change over time through new sensory experiences and memories.

LISTEN TO YOUR BODY
If there’s an ache or pain, pay attention. “Pain is meant to be very unpleasant,” says Allen, explaining that this sensory pathway is tremendously important for survival. “It’s a signal to stop doing whatever it is that you’re doing to cause damage—and learn not to do it again.”

Darwin Revisited
Professor Kristin Johnson drew on her experience teaching in the Science, Technology, and Society Program to write a new historical novel, The Species Maker (University of Alabama Press). Set in the Seattle area in the years leading up to the 1925 Scopes Trial, the book looks at tensions among science, politics, and religion through the eyes of a fictional entomologist teaching college biology. Johnson supplements the novel with suggested readings and discussion topics at thespeciesmaker.com.

Called to the Hall
Five individuals and a team were inducted into the Puget Sound Athletics Hall of Fame during Homecoming and Family Weekend in October. This year’s honorees: former Logger pitching ace Gregg Bemis ’75; Richmond Butler ’94, M.A.T.’98, who won two NAIA swimming titles; Christopher Raymond ’03, the school’s all-time leading scorer in men’s soccer; Bridget Stolee McCormick ’05, a three-time soccer All-American; former head football coach Ron Simonson, whose 53-19-1 record from 1978 through 1984 is tops in program history; and the 1988–89 women’s swim team, which won the NAIA national championship.

Pulitzer Winner To Speak
Viet Thanh Nguyen, whose debut novel, The Sympathizer, won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for fiction, will deliver the fall 2021 Susan Resneck Pierce Lecture in Public Affairs and the Arts. Nguyen will speak Nov. 16, at 7:30 p.m., in Schneebeck Hall; the event will be available to watch remotely. Information is available at pugetsound.edu/events.

from the lab of Rachel Pepper, associate professor of physics. The colorful panna cottas pictured are from the lab of chemistry profs Eric Scharrer and Johanna Crane.

Summer Scholars
A hundred students received grants to support 10 weeks of summer research. Projects covered a range of topics: nonconformist gender presentation in stories of courtly love and other high medieval source material, disability justice and racial equity in high school classrooms, what honeybee brain science can show about Parkinson’s disease, and more. See a sample of student projects at pugetsound.edu/summer-scholars.

Head of the Class
Recognized for her student-centered approach and for cultivating a classroom environment where students feel safe and supported while exploring challenging concepts, Sara Protasi, associate professor of philosophy, is the 2021 recipient of the President’s Excellence in Teaching Award. Protasi’s research is in moral psychology and ethics. Her courses include The Good Life, The Philosophy and Science of Human Nature, and Philosophy of Disability.

New Trustees
Three new members joined the university’s board of trustees on July 1: Carla Lanter Cooper ’72, Brian Gross ’98, and Karen Jenkins-Johnson ’82. A fourth, Lyle Quasim ’70, Hon.’05, returned to the board after having served previously. Meanwhile, three trustees—Chris Pohlad ’07, Mike Veseth ’72, and Linda Bagnall Wilson ’75, P’12—finished their terms, with Veseth getting a commendation for an uncommon triple play: He’s been a Puget Sound student, professor, and trustee.
I wholeheartedly recommend getting involved … if getting to visit beautiful islands, ride boats, count birds, stick cameras in holes, bushwhack through salmonberries, and make friends with sea otters are some things that interest you!”

OLIVIA FROSS ’23, TELLING HER INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS ABOUT DOING SUMMER RESEARCH WITH BIOLOGY PROF PETER HODUM

NUMERICAL ORDER

They made it! In August, the newest batch of Loggers arrived in Tacoma. Here, a few numbers on the Class of 2025:

3.55
Average high school GPA of the Class of 2025

17 and 33
Ages of the youngest and oldest members of the class

7
Number of countries in which members of the class attended high school (Austria, Azerbaijan, China, Singapore, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates, and United States)

33%
Percentage of incoming students who identify as students of color

20
Number of languages spoken, including American Sign Language, Arabic, Hindi, Kannada, Oromo, Portuguese, Russian, Turkish, and Vietnamese

11%
Percentage of the class with a family member who also attended Puget Sound

30%
Percentage of the class planning to participate in Logger athletics

OH, SNAP!

Last First Day One start-of-school tradition continued for Hana DeGuzman ’22, whose mom celebrated her last first day. @fourkidsmama

Logger BFFs Friendship means agreeing to be maid of honor when your bestie since first-year orientation asks. @katybrettrosen

Proud Pooches Who has the harder goodbye: Kosei and Korra, sending Milan Lam ’23 off for junior year, or Milan? Definitely, Milan. @kosei.and.korra

Hello, Puget Sound Micah Beardsley ’25 said Goodbye, Coulee City, and Hello, Puget Sound during move-in weekend. @curt.beardsley

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Where Science Meets Art

A new exhibition at Collins Memorial Library brings together the work of scientists and book artists from throughout the Pacific Northwest.

BY AMY DOWNEY

There’s an intriguing collection of books on display now at Collins Memorial Library. It’s called Science Stories, and the exhibition is appropriately named—they are, after all, stories about science. But these aren’t typical books; instead, artists from the Pacific Northwest have taken scientific research by faculty members at Puget Sound and other nearby schools, and interpreted that work into an array of imaginative “artist books.”

Book artists use color, imagery, a variety of intriguing materials, and even the way the book is bound to connect with their audience. The medium is an especially intriguing way to convey scholarly research, creating an experience much different from deciphering scientific text in black and white. “Science can be intimidating,” says library director Jane Carlin, “but the art helps to visualize and engage.”

Carlin is one of three curators for Science Stories. When she and biology professor Peter Wimberger were looking to collaborate on a new interdisciplinary project in 2019, they brought in visual artist Lucia Harrison, who taught art and science at The Evergreen State College and is a founding member of the Puget Sound Book Artists organization. In January 2020, the trio organized a meet-and-greet on campus at Slater Museum of Natural History, where Wimberger is director, for local book artists and scientists to talk about their work in a “speed dating” sort of environment. After the event, people were matched up, usually in pairs—one scientist, one artist—and each pair started to collaborate on what their particular book would be. (Because of COVID-19, most of the collaborating took place via Zoom.)

One of the artists was Jessica Spring, a printer who’s lived in Tacoma for nearly 20 years, and whose letterpress shop, Springtide Press, is just down the street from campus. She paired up with Puget Sound Professor Emerita Alyce DeMarais, a developmental biologist who has long been interested in environmental issues. DeMarais has worked with Puget Sound students to understand how bisphenol chemicals from polycarbonate plastics can affect egg development in the ovaries of zebrafish. They concluded that these plastics, found in food and drink packaging, could also affect fertility in other vertebrate organisms, including humans. “Plastic has enhanced life in so many ways, but it’s caused a lot of harm, as well,” says DeMarais.

For their artist book, titled “Tensile: A Sublime Love Story,” Spring touched on society’s obsession with plastic by weaving the zebrafish research with romantic text from a 19th-century poem by Percy Bysshe Shelley. (“Tensile,” which means strong and flexible, is a nod to the longevity of plastic.) The artist also used single-use plastics to print the patterns onto the pages: She placed items like old bubble wrap, bendy straws, contact lens cases, bread bag clasps, and produce netting (think: avocado bags) into her press—even those skinny rings that we discard when opening milk containers. “Nothing printed quite as expected, and that made me like it even more,” says Spring. “These were materials that I hadn’t really thought about, but I found them really compelling.” She chose fluorescent ink for a provocative effect, while a ribbon of red paper running through the middle of the book prominently displayed the research findings of scientists, including DeMarais and her group.

Plastics pollution is a global problem, and DeMarais says that’s why Spring’s decision to use discarded plastics to design the book was so powerful: “That’s just a tiny piece of what’s out there in the environment.” The timing of the book also was interesting, notes Spring, because the use of plastics was at an all-time high during the pandemic, from restaurant takeout packaging to the plexiglass installed in stores and the workplace. “What struck me is that this plastic that we use so much to keep us sterile is literally making us sterile,” says Spring. “The irony is just so painful.”

“Tensile” tells just one story. The exhibition includes 20 additional artist books that focus on other scientific and environmental issues in the region. For example, artist Sarah Horowitz tackled the topic of climate change by hand drawing the landscape from various stops along Washington Pass. (She used stones to hold down her massive sheets of paper as she drew.) Meanwhile, Portland-based artist Shu Ju Wang conceptualized Wimberger’s studies—i.e., the beaver’s role in an ecosystem—by painting a stunning watercolor story in an accordion format. And Harrison, who is concerned about habitat loss in the Pacific Northwest, drew a series of booklets about native plants and the wildlife that depend on them.

Carlin says that there are many similarities in the ways that artists and scientists approach their work, be it creative problem-solving or a willingness to try new methods: “Art is often an experimentation—some things work, some things don’t.”

“Art is often an experimentation—some things work, some things don’t. Scientific research is very much like that.”

Science Stories is on exhibit until Jan. 15, 2022, at Collins Memorial Library. To see the collection online, as well as videos of the artists and the scientists, visit blogs.pugetsound.edu/sciencestories.
A DIFFERENT READ

Book artists use unusual materials and imaginative bindings to connect with their audience.
Adaptation

COVID-19 kept Stacey Weiss and her students from traveling to Arizona for their research on the striped plateau lizard. So they found new lizards closer to home.

BY RYAN JONES

Stacey Weiss often spends summers doing research with students in southeast Arizona. When the pandemic prevented that, the William L. McCormick Professor of Natural Sciences adapted. She found locations near Tacoma where she could continue her research on the protective microbes that female lizards pass on during egg-laying. We asked Weiss about the switch, the joys of collaborating with undergrads, and why swabs and miniature lassos are essential to her work.

You received a $730,000 National Science Foundation grant to study striped plateau lizards. What are you hoping to discover? Our hypothesis is that maternal microbes coat the lizards’ eggs and protect them from fungal pathogens in the nest environment. In reptiles, parental care is rare; is there a way for the mother to protect her eggs in her absence? We’ve learned that when an egg is laid, it acquires protective bacteria as it passes through the cloaca—the tube that’s the shared end of the digestive and reproductive tracts. Those bacteria result in less fungus and more hatch success.

What’s the broader significance of all this? It’s multifold. We now have good support for the evolution of egg-protective cloacal microbes in one lizard species, but this mechanism could potentially be very widespread among oviparous, or egg-laying, animals. If so, it would open up new ways to think about the role of microbes on their hosts. Since I’m trained as a behavioral ecologist, I’m interested in investigating how my microbial work intersects with the evolution of parental care—or lack thereof—and of female sexual signaling. For instance, might females advertise their high-quality, egg-protective microbiome to potential mates? It’s also critical in our field that we’re studying a diversity of host species, environmental pressures, and adaptations—and, so far, lizards tend to be underrepresented in microbial ecology. So even the basic descriptive components of our work are important.

Could there be any relevance to humans? Yes. Since we’re looking at antifungal properties of cloacal bacteria, our work could potentially identify new antifungal agents. That isn’t what drives my intellectual curiosity, but it’s the only time in my career when my research could have direct impacts on human health.

How does one measure bacteria and fungus on lizard eggs, anyway? It’s actually pretty fun. To catch the lizards, we use a lasso slipknot—a fishing line at the end of an extendable fishing pole—and we get a loop around the lizard’s neck and flick up. Then we take a swab and gently twirl it around in the cloaca to collect a microbial sample. We also take basic measurements—sex, mass, length—and take a little snip of tail tissue so we can learn about their diets using stable isotope analyses. Then we put a small dab of paint on their back, to help keep track of them, before we release them. Back in the lab, we can culture the material from the swab in a petri dish, see what grows, isolate it, extract and sequence the DNA, and use databases to find its identity. We also use high-throughput sequencing to identify all the microbes in the sample; this requires advanced bioinformatics to give us measures of microbial diversity and composition.

The pandemic has kept your research fairly close to campus, including beaches on and around Chambers Bay. That’s right. We normally work in the Chiricahua Mountains in southeast Arizona. The region’s amazing—about 5,500 feet elevation, oak scrub habitat, 40 miles from Mexico and 10 miles west of New Mexico, incredibly high biodiversity. The main species I study there is the striped plateau lizard. When I couldn’t get to Arizona in the summer of 2020, we focused on the western fence lizard, which ranges from Baja California up to Washington state, and began to investigate how the cloacal microbial community varies across populations.

How has that transition gone? There’s a lot of legwork involved in starting new populations, but I had three students lined up and a wonderful lab technician, and they came to it with great ideas. We take a team mentality to our fieldwork, and while we’re out in the field collecting microbial samples, we simultaneously address other questions. One student, Alexi Ebersole ’23, is interested in how species adapt to local conditions—on the beach, they live on driftwood, and at the higher-elevation site, they live on rocks in dry creek beds. He found really interesting morphological differences that suggest the lizards adapt to their local environment. Now, we’re also comparing the role of marine-based food resources on the diets of lizard populations across the Puget Sound using those tail tissue samples I mentioned.

How integral are the students to your work? It’s really a mutual collaboration, and I’ve been so fortunate to have amazing students working with me. Many of the questions we’re investigating are student driven. Usually when I meet with students interested in research opportunities, I tell them my aims for the upcoming summer and ask them what they’re most interested in contributing to. Especially when we’re doing stuff that’s a little bit off from my main expertise, we work together, but they take ownership of the project. It’s really one of the most rewarding parts of my job.

For a longer version of this interview, see pugetsound.edu/adaptation.
Students play a big role in Professor Stacey Weiss’ research. “Many of the questions we’re investigating are student driven,” she says.
The Joy of Dance

Through her exploration of Kathak, a centuries-old classical dance form from India, Assistant Professor Ameera Nimjee experiences South Asia’s performing arts as vibrant, cosmopolitan, and ever changing.

BY SAVITA IYER

Kathak, Nimjee says, is an art form that’s well suited to her as a dancer in her exploration of Kathak, an Indian classical dance form known for its crisp, rhythmic footwork and evocative storytelling through hand movements and facial gestures. She is every inch the dancer: graceful, poised, expressive with her hands and eyes—even though she didn’t begin dancing until she was 18.

The statue has been with her since she began studying Kathak in 2006. She keeps it next to an etching of a sura, a Qur’anic verse, trained in Kathak, an Indian classical dance form known for its crisp, rhythmic footwork and evocative storytelling through hand movements and facial gestures. She is every inch the dancer: graceful, poised, expressive with her hands and eyes—even though she didn’t begin dancing until she was 18.

Nimjee has been interested in the arts since she was a child: She began playing the piano at age 4, and she majored in classical piano performance at University of Toronto. She first encountered Kathak in a college class called Introduction to Music and Society. The instructor was an expert in the tabla, a pair of hand drums whose beats set the rhythm for Kathak dancers—and that ignited something in me,” Nimjee says. “I was hooked, I needed to have it in my body, I needed to learn it.”

Kathak, Nimjee says, is an art form that’s been molded by the changing nature of its performers—Hindu, Muslim, men, women, members of the transgender community—as well as by changes in performances and audiences over time. The result, she says, is a “grammar rather than a vocabulary” that can tell a variety of stories and express universal emotions: love, lust, sadness, joy.

The dance is said to have originated in ancient times as a storytelling device for traveling bards recounting the great Hindu epics, the Mahabharata and the Ramayana. When the Mughal emperors—generous patrons of the arts—ruled the northern part of the Indian subcontinent from the mid-1500s to the mid-1700s, court entertainers choreographed dances to poems and music that fused Indo-Islamic cultures. Kathak dancers performed for both Muslim Nawabs and Hindu Maharajas. Today, Kathak is integral to Indian contemporary dance, which melds Indian classical dance with folk styles and other Western dance genres.

Nimjee has been interested in the arts since she was a child: She began playing the piano at age 4, and she majored in classical piano performance at University of Toronto. She first encountered Kathak in a college class called Introduction to Music and Society. The instructor was an expert in the tabla, a pair of hand drums whose beats set the rhythm for Kathak dancers—and that ignited something in me,” Nimjee says. “I was hooked, I needed to have it in my body, I needed to learn it.” A Google search of “Kathak” and “Toronto” led her to the studio of Joanna de Souza, one of the first students of the late Pandit Chitresh Das, who brought Kathak to North America in the early 1970s. Nimjee loved dancing so much and worked so hard at it that within a few years, she began performing with de Souza and her troupe, excelling in spontaneous composition and choreography while delving further into Kathak and other South Asian performing arts. She researched contemporary Indian dance for her doctorate at The University of Chicago.

The classes that Nimjee teaches at Puget Sound—inform both by her scholarship and by her years of dance performance—are premised in the notion that South Asian performing arts are not static, that they’re vibrant, ever changing—both inside the region and outside. South Asia is a huge place, and the global South Asian diaspora is also very large, she says, so it’s tough to cover every aspect of the performing arts. But Nimjee offers her students glimpses into as wide an array as she can, including in her courses case studies on the diversity of music in Nepal; the evolution of Bharatanatyam, the classical dance of South India, in Sri Lanka; and the influence of traditional South Asian music genres on carnival music in the Caribbean; among others. One of her favorite case studies is Coke Studio Pakistan, the country’s longest-running live TV music show that brings together artists who mix traditional South Asian Islamic music forms with hip-hop, rock, and jazz.

“In all my courses, I also try to contextualize current events—movements around gender, queer identities, race, politics, and social change—through performance,” she says, “and to start a dialogue on the importance of culture in our lives and what performance can tell us about the world we live in.”

Nimjee is still dancing, of course—she takes lessons twice weekly via Zoom with her teacher in Toronto. And she continues to develop new choreography, working with her husband, Matthew DelCiampo, adjunct professor of musicology and ethnomusicology. Like Nimjee, DelCiampo is interested in the different ways that culture shapes performance—and performance shapes culture.
RICH HERITAGE
Assistant Professor Ameera Nimjee offers her students a glimpse into the art and music of India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and other South Asian regions.
HOME, SWEET HOME
It was a welcome and familiar sight Aug. 21, when most of the Class of 2025 arrived on campus to move in to their residences and begin Passages, the weeklong orientation for first-year students. Photo by Kris Crews.
I was so fortunate to walk into Bruce Lind’s math class my first semester as a nervous, timid freshman. Dr. Lind was consistently kind, patient, and willing to help outside of class. Plus, his teaching made the subjects so easy to understand. I went from avoiding math classes in high school to taking every math class he taught in my time at Puget Sound, resulting in a minor in math. When I had the opportunity to teach math at the high school and community college levels, I tried to emulate how well Dr. Lind explained the concepts. And I tried to also be as kind and patient with my students; you never know whose life you may change.

A second memorable professor was George Blanks. I took his human genetics course for nonmajors, and it changed my life. I switched my major from French to biology and went to graduate school in medical genetics. I loved teaching genetics as a community college professor. Dr. Blanks was kind and encouraging, another great example for me.

Diane Anderson Palmquist ’76
Tacoma, Wash.

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED
I had the honorable distinction of being the first person foolish enough to audit one of Jan Leuchtenberger’s Japanese literature classes.
Her courses were the most challenging and engaging I took, and nearly a decade later, I still refer back to the concepts learned. Jan had high expectations but was always willing to work with us to develop our ideas and improve arguments. I am a better writer and critical thinker today because of the time I spent in her classes and the countless revisions she helped me work through. The discussions were lively and thought provoking, and many of my closest Puget Sound friends were made in her classes. 

Jessica Lefton ’13
St. Louis, Mo.

**PASSION FOR A PLAYWRIGHT**

My most memorable professor was LeRoy Annis, from whom I learned all things Shakespeare. His lectures changed my life. I became an English lit major, reckoning that as long as I was paying for it, I’d study what I liked. I’d worry about how to earn a living later; at that moment, I was there to learn, to absorb, to be transported to a world different than anything I’d known before. Dr. Annis did not disappoint. My love of language and theater, poetry and prose, comes from time spent in his classroom. My pilgrimages to Ashland [home of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival] began as a Puget Sound student. During too many years of too much work and too little fun, I recalled those lectures and that trip, determined to one day get that piece of my life back. And so I have. I will always be grateful to Dr. Annis, and to Puget Sound, for enriching my life, as it turns out, for the rest of my life.

Tammra Lund Mertz ’81
Olympia, Wash.

**CAN’T STOP AT JUST ONE**

I graduated from Puget Sound more than 40 years ago, and I still remember three professors who made an impact on my life.

I had absolutely no interest in economics when I signed up for the class to fulfill a requirement. Michael Veseth demonstrated every day how learning could be fun. I still remember a lecture on wealth distribution where he introduced a caveman who owned the biggest rock and named him the “Rockefeller.” I ended up taking more classes from him just to enjoy the presentation. I have always tried to add silliness and fun in my own elementary classroom.

LeRoy Annis challenged my sheltered upbringing and encouraged me to explore societal “myths.” He did so without ever embarrassing me for my naivete.

My fondest college memories center around my time playing trumpet in the Wind Ensemble under the direction of Robert Musser. My fellow musicians were my best friends and supported me throughout my time at Puget Sound, and I continue to play to this day.

D. William Kusler ’78
Snohomish, Wash.

**“TEACH” EARNED HER NICKNAME**

Of all the classes required for an elementary education major, the storytelling class taught by Martha Pearl Jones was the most valuable, the most relevant, the one class and philosophy that served me for my entire teaching career—and, later, when I earned my master’s to become a school counselor. She remains unforgettable, a warm memory in my retirement years. I remember “Teach” because she illuminated my college experience with her energy and humor. She was ageless, wondrous, a legend for all time. She was a storyteller, a teacher, a friend. When it rained, she talked of rainbows. When we failed, she picked us up, brushed us off, and told us to “get on with it.” She taught us about the world without depending on textbooks. She spoke of love through childhood magic. She used knowledge and sprinkled wisdom. She gave me insight into all the possibilities of life. She inspired me with the desire to teach and to teach well. Here’s to you, Martha Pearl Jones. Because of you, I am a better person, a compassionate teacher, and a wise counselor.

Judith Lindberg ’66, P’93
Port Angeles, Wash.

Martha Pearl “Teach” Jones was small in stature, but with a large and mighty presence in the classroom. In the ’60s at Puget Sound, the education department classrooms were large, high-ceiled rooms with wooden floors, a large bank of tall windows, and a heavy, tall wooden door. We would all wait quietly for our class to start, and in would burst “Teach” Jones, all 4’10” of her, wearing her black, thick-heeled shoes that would click loudly on those wooden floors. Her surprisingly loud voice would boom, “Hello, class!” We, being too cool in our 20s to shout back, would murmur, “Hi.” She would then do an about-face to head back out the door and call over her shoulder, “I must be in the wrong class, because I said, ‘Hello, class!’” Then we’d respond with our own booming voices, “Hello, Teach Jones.” She would smile and say, “That’s more like it!” and begin our class. It was a daily pattern that we came to expect and enjoy. I always loved her energy; even though she must have taught these classes hundreds of times, she still knew that we were there for the first time. One thing she repeated many times is this: “If you want young children to remember what you are teaching them, sing it to them, feed it to them, or have them act it out.” I did these things in my 36-year career teaching kindergarten, and it worked. I appreciated her style, energy, and love for her students. She helped me be the teacher I am.

Janice Batten Colby ’69
Poulsbo, Wash.
HER AUTHENTIC SELF

Lisa Wood inspired me to pursue a doctorate in psychology. Dr. Wood presented as authentic and passionate and, in turn, cultivated a vast level of curiosity for questioning the human spirit, personality, and diagnoses. She taught me how to be a professional in the field and incorporate my personality and uniqueness toward the healing of others. She allowed me to show up not only as who I truly am, but as the best version of myself as a student, scholar, and therapist.

Caitlin Fuller ’14
San Diego, Calif.

ART APPRECIATION AND MORE

Ronald Fields, former head of the art department, along with his wife, Harriett, and baby daughter, Rachel, led our trip to London for the fall of 1973 semester abroad program. Rachel turned 1 year old while we were there and was toted about in her baby backpack on our weekend getaways or daily field trips aboard the London Underground to various museums. When I think of the enormous responsibility that Ron and Harriett had for us students, I am humbled. We were a spunky group and felt very independent and grown up. Our classroom was any museum or architectural wonder in London or around the English landscape. It was wonderful to see Ron see the real iconic works of art up close, for the first time. His enthusiasm and passion were infectious to us. Over the years, we have been invited to their home for reunions and dinners. And to this day, when I visit any art museum, I always send them a postcard to say “hi” and “thank you” for instilling my love of art history.

Kate Johnson Spector ’75
Evanston, Ill.

MAKING THE VIOLIN PLEASANT

When I was growing up, violin practice was an obligation, another aspect of nightly homework. I practiced dutifully and played on demand for recitals and family gatherings. As a freshman in Tim Christie’s violin studio, I considered myself a mediocre musician and a product of the Suzuki factory—no more, no less. Today, my sheet music from Puget Sound is covered in pencil markings—notes about bow strokes, fingerings, and key changes. Sprinkled throughout are the true gems: Tim’s reminders to breathe, to visualize, to embrace frustration, and to find balance in a moment. Over four years of lessons, these notes became mantras for my life as much as for my music. Tim encouraged me to choose music that matched what I wanted to say. He taught me to use my violin for more than notes on a page—to shout, whisper, growl, and sing—to find my own voice. My violin is my confidante and companion, a solace I turn to in times of sadness or stress, and my conduit for joyful noise. Tim helped me find my own voice through music, and I am forever grateful.

Kate Preteska ’09
Albuquerque, N.M.

HALLWAY RACES: OTHER DUTIES AS ASSIGNED?

I looked at him and he stared right back at me—without exchanging any words, we both knew the race was on. In a flash, geology professor Jeffrey Tepper and I were tearing down the Thompson hallway, flying past thesis posters and display cases full of rocks. I was in a swivel chair and he was on foot, and that is the only reason he beat me that day. Jeff is one of those professors who brings passion and joy to everything they do. Whether he is thoughtfully
explaining the geologic processes that formed an ancient outcrop on the side of the freeway or playing croquet with students at the annual department barbeque at his house, he is always wearing a smile. My time at Puget Sound was strongly shaped by this truly terrific teacher. He showed me the magic that is geology, pushed me to write a thesis and present it at conferences, helped me through challenges both in class and in life, and made me laugh time and time again. I will treasure those memories for the rest of my life.

Miriam Cohen ’19
Sunnyvale, Calif.

TRAVEL GUIDE AND MORE

Herr Professor Doktor Warren Tomlinson accompanied the 1967 study abroad students to Vienna. We had a week each in London, Paris, and Rome before living in the heart of Vienna for the semester. Each of those first three weeks, we had a day of touring in the city, and then a day to see points of interest in the surrounding countryside. Part of the remaining week we were on our own, and Dr. Tomlinson did all he could to get us out of our hotels and exploring. Each week, we were also required to write a paper about where we had been and what we learned. As it got closer to Easter holiday, Dr. Tomlinson started asking where we were planning to spend that long week. Many thought skiing would be good; Dr. Tomlinson asked if there might be some other countries these skiers might want to visit, as that chance might not come again. Then he announced that when everyone made their plans, he would accompany the largest group. The week before the holiday, it became clear that our beloved professor would be going to Greece. Having Dr. Tomlinson with us gave us a much richer experience, as his lifelong travels enabled him to direct us to experiences we might not otherwise have had in Europe’s major cities. His encouragement to explore, as well as his piercing questions, made it a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Alice Ann Glenn ’68
Monterey, Calif.

COLORFUL TALES

Mine is—hands down—the late, great Arpad Kadarkay from the politics and government department. He brought concepts of political theory, philosophy, and history to life by weaving their stories together in a rich and interesting way that always had me locked in. He’d spend so many days on a colorful historical tangent about some political figure that he would have no choice but to add it as a finals essay question choice. His enthusiasm always showed, and it was contagious through the twinkle in his eyes and conspiratorial way he’d weave the tale of how big ideas have been harnessed to create the nation states of our world.

Lindsey O’Rear ’05
Grass Valley, Calif.

STATISTICS PARADISE?

Without a doubt, Alison Paradise was my most influential Puget Sound professor and mentor. Her statistics class was taken by most athletes, and always included a few minutes of recap from the game the night before, whether that be volleyball, basketball, or soccer. Her support extended outside the classroom, and she was a near constant presence at the women's basketball games, both home and away. As time went on, Alison morphed from professor to friend. My former teammates and I always look forward to seeing her when we’re back at Puget Sound for Homecoming or a game. Alison inspired me to become a high school math teacher, and I always hoped to be as supportive and involved with my students as she was. Now, as an assistant principal at a high school, I hope to instill in my students the idea that, with perseverance, hope, and kindness, anything truly is possible. Thank you, Alison, for inspiring me and countless others to reach for our dreams but also enjoy the ride along the way.

Lindsay May McQuiston ’05
Vancouver, Wash.

PRAISE FOR PERRY

In the fall of 1985, as a new and very green student, I elected to take Mandarin Chinese from Professor Lotus Perry (or Sun Laoshi). Second only to the decision to marry my wife, it was the best decision I ever made! Chinese study was not easy, and I was not her best student—by a good margin. However, she somehow tapped into an unknown interest in the unique culture and the excitement of learning about a people and place so different from my own. For the summer of 1987, she encouraged me to study in Taiwan at Tung Hai University. I did and learned so much. I was hooked. She then supported my effort to study for a full academic year (1988–89) at Beijing Normal University. Although I left China a few days prior to the June 4, 1989, crackdown in Tiananmen, I did work for CNN for several months as the demonstrations gathered steam. These memories I will never forget. I have since lived for 30-plus years in China, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Tokyo, building a career, having a family, and enjoying every minute. Sun Laoshi inspired me to take risks, explore, and learn.
I have a tremendous debt of gratitude for her wonderful support.

Mark Smith ’89
Tokyo, Japan

Lo Sun “Lotus” Perry was my advisor. As a lost and homesick Hawaiian freshman, she helped me acclimate to life on campus. For her students, Sun Laoshi created a community that extended beyond classroom borders and gave me a sense of belonging: Because of her, I practiced my fledgling Mandarin at a local Chinese restaurant in the Proctor District and at language conversation hours, made dumplings, and watched an acupuncturist demonstrate traditional Chinese medicine. She had a knack for making Chinese language, history, and culture relevant and fun. Students learned nursery rhymes at the same time as her daughter; I can still sing “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes” in Mandarin—useful as I now have a toddler of my own. Sun Laoshi guided me toward intensive study abroad programs in Taiwan and Beijing, which were life-changing experiences. With her assistance, I also qualified for a Trimble Grant to return to Taiwan the following summer to research my senior thesis and finalize a B.A. in Asian studies and a minor in Mandarin. I will never forget the one and only time I ditched her class to sleep in; the following day she inquired if I was feeling unwell or needed anything. I never ditched her class again.

Lacey Chong Hayes ’03
Sterling, Va.

CAREER INFLUENCER

Kate Stirling was my advisor junior and senior year and guided me through one of the most transformational times in my life. Not only did she become a support person as I came out of the closet and navigated my first relationship, she advised me on my thesis—a thesis that ended up launching my career. This paper helped me land my first job as a water resource economist and was eventually published and presented at conferences. I’ve grown from that research into leading a full-service water engineering practice across six states in the PNW. But I’ll always remember the biggest smile and hug from Kate walking across the stage at graduation! She really helped shape me into the leader I am. Without her, I wouldn’t be in the position I am now.

Alex Shannon ’14
Seattle, Wash.

HISTORICAL INFLUENCES

In the summer of 1965, I was an Air Force captain at McChord AFB seeking a B.A. at Puget Sound and signed up for both courses in medieval history. On the first day of class, a nattily dressed, youngster looking man walked into the classroom and introduced himself as Professor Walter Lowrie. I was immediately impressed by his manner, and when he began to lecture, I was smitten! No other professor had ever brought life to history as he did. His depth of knowledge was remarkable, and he conveyed it in a manner that left me spellbound. I had been thinking of an academic career once my Air Force commitment was up, and he was the type of professor I wanted to emulate. Unfortunately, life intervened and I lost contact with him. In 1983, while attending my son’s graduation from Puget Sound, I sought him out and we had a great reunion. I now have a Ph.D. in history due, in part, to the love of history that I acquired from him. I have never forgotten him.

Sheldon Goldberg ’67, P’83
Silver Spring, Md.

ANOTHER STATS STORY

All of my psychology major upperclassmen friends scared me when sharing their experience in Carrie Margolin’s statistics classes, saying they were so difficult and she was so tough. I had the opposite experience and aced both classes, and she ended up asking me to be her teaching assistant for a year. What I learned from her prepared me for graduate school. I was a step ahead of everyone else because of my degree from Puget Sound!

Melinda Jose ’86
Montebello, Calif.

A LOVE OF LATIN AMERICA

In January 1994, my senior year, I got into Don Share’s Latin America Study Tour class. It was competitive and highly revered. We were headed to El Salvador, just after the story of the 1981 El Mozote massacre, the worst massacre of the Salvadoran civil war, had been published in The New Yorker, and the country was also about to vote in its first postwar elections. With an idealistic heart and some basic academic knowledge, I boarded a plane with a small group of students accompanied by our dream team of professors (Don Share, Karl Fields, and David Sousa). After a week of travel and meeting with different sectors of society—left-wing, right-wing, religious, and civil society groups—and visiting the site of the massacre, I was never the same. I learned that the truth is infinitely more complex than what can be read on a page and that I deeply wanted to get involved in social justice in Central America. After graduation, I did intensive Spanish-language training in Guatemala, then went on to get two master’s degrees at Columbia University, and spent over 12 years in Guatemala and El Salvador doing community development and disaster relief. I now am the director of foundation and strategic partnerships at an international conservation organization—and married to a wonderful Salvadoran man. To say that Don Share shaped my life is an understatement. I am forever grateful.

Karina Copen ’94
San Marcos, Calif.

SOLID FOUNDATION

In the mid-1960s, I came to Puget Sound with a B.A. in philosophy from another university to
complete my English major and gain certification as a teacher. My most memorable professor was education professor Nathan “Nate” Gross. As an ethnic Jew, Nate was especially concerned about the state of civil rights in the United States, and he addressed those concerns and the importance of awareness among teachers.

At Christmas, Nate invited his students to his home for a Christmas party complete with a Christmas tree, and he introduced us to the music of Bob Dylan. Since then, I spent 50 years in the field of education as a Peace Corps volunteer teacher in Kenya, and a teacher, school administrator, and university professor in the Puget Sound area. Nate Gross certainly gave me a solid foundation in education.

Edward M. Shipman M.Ed.’79
Seattle, Wash.

A LASTING IMPRESSIONIST

It was only an elective. People said it was a pretty good class, and it didn’t require a term paper. I was intrigued because I thought it might be interesting. So, I signed up for Understanding the Arts, taught by Francis Chubb. I really enjoyed the class and was sorry when the semester ended. However, I didn’t realize that what I learned in that class would stay with me for the rest of my life. Every time I go to an art museum, I remember what Miss Chubb had to say about the impressionists and later painters. It is still thrilling to see the works of art in person after learning about them more than 50 years ago. Miss Chubb gave me a lifelong appreciation of art.

Cammy Jones Seguin ’70
Tuscola, Ill.

A MAJOR HELP

All of the professors I had at Puget Sound were very caring, inspiring, and memorable. But one stood out: Andreas Madlung. His passion for both teaching and biology comes through in his lectures and how he interacts with his students. His plant physiology and molecular biology course opened my mind to the amazing world of plants and the vast opportunities of biological study as a career. As my advisor, he helped me through my indecision in choosing my major, and for that I will be forever grateful.

Juliet Heller ’21
Davis, Calif.

IS LIZARD WRANGLING ON THE SYLLABUS?

Ernest Karlstrom, who taught in the biology department, had an interest in the ecology of South Pacific islands. He had a grant to study monitor lizards on Eniwetok Atoll in the summer of 1968. Normally, he would have chosen a graduate student to be his research assistant. Fortunately for me, he knew I was on the Puget Sound basketball team, and I guess he thought I would be helpful to the lizard-capturing team. We arrived at Eniwetok on a military air transport funded by the Atomic Energy Commission. The first sign I saw said “DANGER—Radioactive Area” (in the 1950s, this had been the site of U.S. atomic bomb testing). Soon, I was running through the jungle, salmon dip net in hand, pursuing 5-foot monitor lizards, and climbing to the crown of palm trees chasing lizards to the end of fronds, with Dr. Karlstrom standing below with the net. I was good at finding lizards, climbing palm trees, and attaching radio tracking devices to them. When a lizard bit me, nobody knew if they were poisonous.

Then I realized why Dr. Karlstrom had chosen me, a lowly undergraduate “B” student: because I was expendable!

John Colby ’69
Poulsbo, Wash.

THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS DESK

I had many excellent professors, but Lyle Stanton “Stan” Shelmidine stands out. Shelmidine had taught at the American School in Tarsus, Turkey, from 1930 to 1934, during which he traveled throughout Europe and the Middle East. An accomplished linguist, he became fluent in six languages and multiple Arabic dialects. In 1936, he was hired as a history instructor at College of Puget Sound, with a salary of $1,800 a year. He received a Ph.D. from University of Iowa in 1939 and completed postdoctoral work at Princeton before returning to Puget Sound. In 1942, he joined the Office of Naval Intelligence and ran its Balkan Desk. In 1944, he was assigned to the American Naval Mission to the Turkish Naval College, where he interacted with many of his former students, now active in the Turkish government. He returned to Puget Sound in 1946. A tough and uncompromising teacher, he demanded clear writing, critical thinking, and an acute awareness of the world around us.

C. M. Smith ’61
Richland, Wash.

AT EASE IN HIS OWN SKIN

I was fortunate enough to sit in one of the first urban studies classes taught by Dan Kelleher in the late 1960s. The urban studies department was new, and his classes energized and relevant to what was happening in Tacoma and the world. The university seemed so insular to me, coming from the East Bay Area and spending a lot of time in Berkeley growing up. Dan was a leader in a new direction and approach to the college-community relationship; he sought to dissolve the membrane that separated Puget Sound from what was going on around it.

That’s not why I remember him, though. He is remembered for what was within him and behind his holistic and organic approach; simply
Still more favorite profs

While most Loggers emailed us about their most memorable professors, others weighed in on social media. Here’s a sampling.

Bill Haltom. He brought in dinner or snacks for our Friday-evening class, where we watched law-related movies. —Evie Schell Cartwright ’02

Tim Hansen, English. He had a profound impact on my life in so many ways; we stayed friends and kept in touch long past my UPS days. I’ve been teaching internationally for over 20 years now, and he played a big part in that decision. —Jeri Hurd ’83

I loved reading the novels Tim Hansen assigned and now recognize how they broadened my perspective. Professionally, I have benefitted from his insistence that you can express yourself in a one-page paper. —Lisa Dawson ’85

Only one? Don Share—thoughtful listener. Laura Laffrado—brought English and history to life through literature. Karl Fields. Too many more! —Justin Canny ’90

Laura Laffrado, who came to the college in the mid-’80s and taught early American lit. She was dynamic and interesting and, contrary to what you might think, made me love the Puritans. And the incomparable Robert Musser, conductor extraordinaire of the Wind Ensemble and Band. —Julie Hornick ’88

John Hanson, who taught organic chemistry. He said, “More is always better! You can always decant it off, boil it, steam it off.” It seemed like good life advice. Plus, who else do you know who wears a T-shirt with the organic chemistry symbol for the Red Hot Chili Peppers! —Katy Ratz Mooberry ’01

Definitely the most memorable moment was Dr. David Tinsley throwing Gerard the Giraffe across the room while teaching German prepositions. Unforgettable! —Rachel Glover ’16

Matt Pickard would meet with me as many times as I needed to figure out integrals. Barry Anton was the best at making me laugh and was so excited to teach the next generation of psych professionals. And Sunil Kukreja invited us into his home while we were all learning abroad, and he had an amazing ability to get a group of young adults who, as a result of being white in America, hadn’t thought a lot about race and equity, to a place where conversations on these topics became about enlightenment and inspiration as opposed to the typical “colorblind” dialog that was happening 20+ years ago. Thank you all! —Marsha Setzer ’01

Ray Preiss. His lectures were great predictors for the current social media and news environment that we see today. —Brian Kruse ’84

Karl Fields, Bill Haltom, and Suzanne Barnett were my favorites, and I’m greatly indebted to them. All three were so generous and supportive, taught me so much, and pushed me to be a better writer and deeper thinker. Couldn’t have asked for better professors. —Eric Grouse ’98
William Turner ’65 first fell in love with art as a child growing up in Lakewood, Wash. His family stopped at a restaurant on the way home from a trip to Seattle, and he was fascinated by the colorful paintings that hung on the walls. Later, he became interested in drawing. It was the beginning of a prolific abstract painting career that would span decades. His work has won numerous awards and has been exhibited in a number of museums in the Pacific Northwest and nationwide. Next year, it’s scheduled to be the focus of an exhibition at Ryan James Fine Arts in Kirkland, Wash.

Many collectors have told Turner how much joy his creations bring to them on a daily basis. “That’s what brings me joy,” he says. “That’s when I know the painting is done, that it’s in the right place.”

After graduating from high school, he attended Washington State University; three years in, he reconnected with his interest in art and began painting watercolors. He transferred to Puget Sound and joined a class with Prof. Berkeley Chappelle, who taught painting and drawing. He also studied watercolor and design under Bill Colby.

Two weeks after graduating, Turner was drafted and sent to Vietnam. After his discharge, he traveled to Europe, and one day, sitting at a cafe in Rome, he read an article about the journey from northern Africa to Tanzania, which was said to be impossible to complete overland. Turner decided on the spot he would set out to prove the article wrong. He trekked from Tunis to Tanzania in under a year, hitchhiking and traveling by riverboat.

It was a transformative trip. One night, he and his friend pitched a tent on the Serengeti and were awoken by snorting water buffalo. He
recalls sleeping under the stars among ancient ruins in Egypt and gazing up at the full moon on the same night as one of the Apollo missions. After returning home, Turner resumed his pursuit of art, earning his M.F.A. at University of Washington.

The first stage of Turner’s process consists of laying down thick, haphazard brushstrokes. He prefers oil paints for their “yumminess.” Next, he’ll study the shapes and colors, waiting to see what emerges—an object, a figure. As he continues to add layers, he gets a sense of how the painting will come together. His favorite part is “the moment when the magic takes place,” when the finished painting reveals itself to him.

As a young man, Turner developed a passion for classical music and jazz, often driving to Seattle to see legends like Miles Davis and Charlie Parker perform at underground clubs. Nowadays, he’ll often paint while listening to jazz, which influences the rhythmic, improvisational spirit and colors of his work. Big swashes of color, overexaggerated brush strokes, color and rhythm bouncing off the canvas, all have become his signature.

His wife, Josie Emmons Turner, believes the stunning palettes of his travels come through in his paintings. And now, at age 80, the same open mindset that led to Turner’s earlier adventures is also helping him cope with Parkinson’s disease, a result of Agent Orange exposure in Vietnam. In fact, his frequent advice to young painters also serves as good advice for life in general: Find the positive. Don’t look at an obstacle as an obstacle, but instead as a chance to learn. Be open to the unexpected.
Don’t look at an obstacle as an obstacle, but instead as a chance to learn.
THE BUSINESS OF BASEBALL

BY MICHAEL WEINREB
ILLUSTRATIONS BY GREG STEVENSON
Kai Correa ’11 has a theory as to why a handful of Puget Sound alumni have landed positions in the upper echelons of professional baseball in recent years. And while some of it has to do with the Loggers’ on-field success in the sport, much has to do with what happens in the classroom.

“The vast majority of the classes are smaller and are in boardroom settings—and if you didn’t come strapped in, having done the reading and willing to hold your position, you were going to get bulldozed,” says Correa, who is the bench coach for the San Francisco Giants. “And in higher-level baseball, you have a ton of meetings, discussion, and debates with really bright people, from front-office employees to coaches and players and scouts.”

That level of preparation at Puget Sound makes Correa feel like he’s still sitting in a classroom when he engages in his professional life. And it’s helped a number of other Loggers forge careers in a sport where analytics and data play a bigger role than they ever have.

Here are five of those success stories.

ERIC CRISPELL ’17

**Hometown:** Pleasanton, Calif.
**Current gig:** Innovation and research assistant, Milwaukee Brewers

**How he got there:** “One day in mid-January, I was eating lunch in ‘the sub’ contemplating my summer plans,” says Crispell, a former pitcher for the Puget Sound baseball team. After realizing he didn’t have any summer plans, Crispell recalled that Professor of Exercise Science Gary McCall was seeking a summer research assistant for his sabbatical work. McCall said he was looking for a sophomore or junior; Crispell, a soon-to-be fifth-year senior, decided to inquire anyway, and got the gig. That experience led McCall to encourage Crispell to pursue an internship with the Milwaukee Brewers, which eventually led to a full-time job.

**Trade secrets:** Crispell isn’t permitted to go into too much detail about his research for proprietary reasons, but, he says, “I can say that I work with various departments throughout the organization, and that my work is rooted in sports science.” That means collaborating with everyone from strength and conditioning coaches to player development staff members, like hitting and pitching coaches, plus scouts, research and development, and medical staffers, as well as outside companies or vendors from which the Brewers may have purchased technology. Crispell works mostly with the Brewers’ minor leaguers in Phoenix, but he also works with major league players during spring training.

**Information delivery:** “The willingness of players to have an open mind and learn about how they could improve their performance has changed drastically,” Crispell says. Still, that information has to be delivered in a nontechnical way so that the player can incorporate it into their performance—and that can vary from person to person. “It really is an art form,” he says.
**ANTHONY BRADY ’16**

**Hometown:** Idaho Falls, Idaho  
**Current gig:** Director of sports science, Driveline Baseball

How he got there: After undergoing two Tommy John surgeries while at Puget Sound to reconstruct the ulnar collateral ligament in his pitching arm, Brady rebuilt his career with a stint at Driveline, a data-driven pitching incubator near Seattle that focuses on honing mechanics and building velocity. He worked toward his graduate degree in biomechanics while pitching for University of Northern Colorado, and then went back to work full time at Driveline, where he now supervises a sports science staff of more than a dozen—including another Logger, Ben Jones ’16.

Big names: Brady idolized San Francisco Giants pitcher Tim Lincecum while growing up—and later got a chance to work with him at Driveline when Lincecum was trying to revive his career. By now, Brady’s gotten used to bold-faced names coming through Driveline, including multiple Cy Young Award winners. Driveline works with youth players and high school athletes, but also has contracts with a multitude of professional and college teams, as well as international franchises in the Dominican Republic and Japan, and some major league franchises.

What he’s learned: “There are no rules,” he says. “There’s so much individuality with movement patterns when it comes to pitching.” Velocity is king: A 2019 Washington Post story referred to Driveline as “the epicenter of baseball's velocity movement.” That move toward analytics and sports science has been a mixed blessing for Major League Baseball, where home runs and strikeouts have supplanted the “small-ball” that often defined the game in the past. “There are aspects of that small-ball stuff that are exciting,” Brady says. “But I also think watching [New York Mets pitcher] Jacob DeGrom go out and throw 100 mph is awesome.”

**KAI CORREA ’11**

**Hometown:** Hilo, Hawai‘i  
**Current gig:** Bench coach, San Francisco Giants

How he got there: After his playing career at Puget Sound ended, Correa and teammate Craig Driver ’11 coached a local traveling team; then Correa got a job as an assistant on the Loggers staff, where he helped turn around the team’s defense. He was then hired at University of Northern Colorado, where he again helped the team’s defense—and, because of the school’s lack of recruiting resources, he began recording videos on social media that quickly drew a following from baseball people at all levels. After joining the Cleveland Indians organization in 2018, he connected with Gabe Kapler, then managing in Philadelphia, and when Kapler went to the San Francisco Giants in 2020, Correa was one of his first hires.

Meticulous approach: Correa’s father and grandfather both coached high school baseball in Hawai‘i, but he prides himself on combining old-school ideas with more analytical thinking. And he credits the rigorous academic atmosphere at Puget Sound with developing his approach. “I think the system and the process and the intellectual curiosity are important for the improvements that happen, more so than an actual specific physical change, because it’s so different from player to player,” he says. “It was about creating systems that led to long-term results.”

Working with professionals: The leap from working with small-college players to working with All-Stars like Giants shortstop Brandon Crawford can seem huge, but “arguably, the most important thing is remembering that this game is exceptionally hard,” Correa says. “Just because they’re guys who have baseball cards and play in front of thousands of people, it doesn’t mean that they’re not going to make mistakes. That’s the one advantage I think players who have less expensive playing backgrounds like myself have—I never ever think that the game is easy.”
CRAIG DRIVER ’11
Hometown: Seattle, Wash.
Current gig: First base/catching coach, Chicago Cubs

How he got there: After playing three years at Puget Sound, Driver became the catching and first base coach in 2012 under then-coach Brian Billings (a former catcher himself), then served as recruitment coordinator and head assistant coach from 2014 until 2016. After a stint at Yale, he was hired as the Phillies’ bullpen catcher and receiving coach, largely on the strength of his ability to tutor catchers like three-time All-Star J.T. Realmuto and help them “frame” pitches by using subtle movements of the wrist and body to win more called strikes from umpires. He joined the Cubs before the 2020 season.

Built to catch: “I was really born into the catching position,” Driver says. “My dad was a catcher, and his experience with the position always pushed me to it.” For Driver, leadership and game management are two of the keys to success at the catching position, but he also focuses on teaching physical skills that “often get missed in programs that don’t have a coach dedicated to coaching catchers”—something that he had during his time at Puget Sound, under both Billings and former Puget Sound assistant Joe Dominiak.

Evolution of the catcher: “The position has definitely become more analytically driven with the way that people value receiving or pitch framing,” Driver says. “It’s created somewhat of an arms race, where all teams are working to figure out how to win more strikes.” Sometimes, Driver says, that leads to less of an emphasis on blocking balls or throwing out base-stealers. Still, he says, the key to successful coaching remains “your relationship to your players. If they know you’re in their corner and can help them, most will listen.”

BRYSON NAKAMURA ’12
Hometown: Honolulu, Hawai`i
Current gig: Director of player performance, Milwaukee Brewers

How he got there: After physical therapy and targeted workouts helped him recover from an elbow injury as a high school pitcher in Hawai`i, Nakamura became fascinated with studying PT. He started college at Oregon State, then transferred to Puget Sound, and after graduating, went to University of Oregon to get his Ph.D. in human physiology. That led to a sports science internship with the Tampa Bay Rays, then an internship with the Brewers before he landed a full-time role as a medical and performance coordinator in Milwaukee. Eventually, he moved up to become director of player performance.

Research vs. reality: “It’s definitely a balance between research and translating that knowledge into real-life applications for our coaching staff and players,” Nakamura says. Determining an individual plan for each player to improve can take more time and effort, but it’s also helped Nakamura carve a niche for himself. “Sometimes the position you want doesn’t exist yet, but that doesn’t mean you can’t do it,” he says. “Observe, find the questions that aren’t being answered, and fill the gaps.”

The data revolution: As science and data have become more relevant topics within baseball, Nakamura says, the emphasis on analytics should always be balanced out by what a baseball scout or coach might “see” with the naked eye during an evaluation. In other words, it’s impossible to measure everything with data, and the instincts of those who have been around baseball for years should still count for something. “It’s my belief that both perspectives could, and should, live in concert with each other,” he says. “Let’s measure what matters. And then let’s use our experts to fill in and contextualize the information that we collect.”
I was working in the World Trade Center 20 years ago when the planes hit. I got out without a scratch—but the aftereffects linger to this day.

The Towers’ Long Shadow

By David Kelly ’80
As Told To Tina Hay

How I came to be in Tower One of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, is a story that starts at Puget Sound. I joined a fraternity house, Beta house, and in my sophomore year, my fraternity brothers told me about a scholarship opportunity at Kemper Insurance. I ended up doing a few summers with Kemper, and after graduation they offered me a trainee position in Chicago with their large-account division. I took the job, and stayed with that division for 25 years.

In 1985, I met my wife, Laura, who also worked at Kemper—we both worked on the McDonald’s account. In 1990, we transferred with Kemper to L.A. with our 2-year-old son, Sean, and newborn, Ryan; later, we were transferred back to Illinois, and then, in 1998, I moved to the Summit, N.J., office, outside New York, and my wife decided to stay home with the kids. In February 2001, I was transferred to our offices in the World Trade Center.

On Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001, I left my house in Berkeley Heights, N.J., around 6:30 a.m. for the Newark train station. I took the PATH train to the World Trade Center and got to my office on the 35th floor of Building One, the North Tower. Skies were crystal clear and the temperature was mild, one of the prettiest days we had had in a long time. At around 8 a.m., I set up my laptop, logged in, got a cup of coffee, and had a quick chat with my assistant, Nancy, whom I had just hired six weeks earlier. I checked my emails and started to draft an announcement about a colleague who’d be transferring from our Chicago office to work in the World Trade Center.

Around 8:45, we heard a big bang and felt the building shake and sway drastically. The skies outside my window suddenly went dark. Someone thought it was an earthquake. Having lived in L.A., I knew it wasn’t an earthquake; I said it must be a boiler explosion or something on a higher floor. We heard a slow, loud, screeching noise as the building continued bending—it was the girders, straining to stay
The lights started to go out. I looked out the window to see paper, office supplies, the occasional desk flying past. Then I realized that being this close to the window wasn’t smart, so we all backed up to the interior wall.

I told Nancy we should get out of there and took her by the arm and walked her to the exit stairs. Several people were already working their way down the stairs. I pushed Nancy into the flow and went back into the office to check for others. I saw Dennis Kane, our president, on his cellphone trying to get ahold of his son, who was supposed to be at a meeting on the top floor. (Later, I would find out that his son was fine—he was delayed getting to the meeting, and that delay saved his life. There were other stories like that: The Giants had just played on Monday Night Football the night before, it was the first day of registration in New York City for the election, and school had just started—a lot of reasons why people were late to work that morning. At Kemper we had a lot of people at an off-site meeting on Monday, so they were late getting into the city that morning.)

Back at my own office, I debated whether to take my laptop. I decided it would take too long to shut down properly, and I was convinced I’d be coming back, anyway, so I just grabbed my Blackberry. I told Dick Radsch, our chief legal counsel and good friend, “Hey, Dick, we gotta get out of here,” and he said, “Probably a good idea”—then proceeded to pack his briefcase, slowly and methodically. When he finally finished, we got to the main hallway and saw smoke and smelled a strange smell coming from the elevator. (We later learned that that was drywall dust, and the smell was aviation fuel.) I got more concerned. Down the hall, our claims manager was pointing at the windows, and I saw the reflection of our building with the top stories aflame. We knew we had to get out—now.

The stairwell was crowded, but everyone was calm and politely allowed us into the horde that was moving, slowly and methodically, down 35 floors’ worth of stairs. Everyone was speculating what happened, and none of us knew. People were trying to use their cellphones but couldn’t get a connection. Around the 18th floor, I saw a man in a wheelchair and a friend standing next to him. Several of us offered to carry the man in the wheelchair down, but he declined—his instructions were to wait for the fire department to rescue him. A week later, I saw a piece on TV about a man in a wheelchair and his friend who died together, waiting for help. They were in Building One, around the 22nd floor.

We continued down slowly and calmly—I still can’t get over how calm we were—and around the 18th floor, we felt the building shake sharply and heard a screeching noise. We later learned that that was Building Two being struck by a plane. Not long after, we saw our first person going up the stairs—a firefighter—and he just looked straight ahead. People were asking what had happened, and he said nothing, just kept walking up the stairs. His eyes seemed lifeless, as if he knew he was walking to his death.

Around the sixth floor, water was rushing out of the floors into the stairwell—probably an inch or two of rushing water. Finally we made it to the plaza level and were directed to the side exit. I saw all kinds of debris in the air and on the ground—I think I saw a seat, which could have easily been an airplane passenger seat, though I can’t be sure because we still didn’t know what was going on. Once we were on the West Side Highway pedestrian bridge, we looked up to see the upper floors of both buildings on fire. We rushed into the Winter Garden Atrium; I had never seen it this empty. Nobody was left in the building; everybody was outside. Once outside, at the marina area, we picked our way through the crowd and found some other Kemper employees. It became an impromptu gathering point, as we took quick review of who was in the office and where they were the last time anyone had seen them.

I looked up at the towers, smoke billowing out of both, and realized with disbelief that people were falling from the upper floors. I couldn’t help but wonder, What if that were me? What would it have taken to take that final leap? What was going through their minds as they fell?

Suddenly, police showed up and told everyone to disperse. We didn’t know why, but guessed that they were trying to shield us from the horror we were seeing. People set off in various directions. Dick and I saw the ferry and figured, Why not try that? We didn’t know
where it would take us; we just knew it would get us off the island. As we were in line to get on, my phone rang—it was my neighbor, Kevin McHale, who transferred me to my wife so I could tell her I was OK. “Make sure you call Dick’s wife,” I told her, because Dick still couldn’t get cell service.

As the ferry workers—out of habit—asked for tickets, the captain yelled, “Forget the tickets and the count! Just load.” Dick and I got a seat on the top deck and ended up next to another colleague; as we were halfway across the Hudson to Hoboken, the three of us looked back and saw Tower Two come down, with another ferry behind us racing away from the cloud of dust and debris. From our view, we didn’t know if what engulfed the marina was dust and smoke—or concrete. I could only wonder, and hope, that everyone got away from our gathering place OK.

Ten years later, they made a short documentary about the evacuation—the largest boat evacuation in U.S. history. The film was called Boatlift, and Tom Hanks narrated it.

Once in Hoboken, Dick and I got on the next train to Newark, where my car was parked. At first, the engineer said we wouldn’t leave the station in Hoboken until the train was full. Meanwhile, everyone was comparing notes about what they knew; best we had so far was that a small plane hit Tower One, but then people started sharing the real news. Then, we happened to look over just at the moment that Tower One came down. I realized my office was gone—sad to think, but that was the thought I had.

Shortly after that, the engineer announced we’d be leaving in two minutes and that everyone should get settled—but before we could even sit down, all of the trains, including ours, suddenly started to move. Then a few miles down the tracks we came to a sudden stop. (I heard later that the other trains did too, staggered on the tracks.) Word on the train was that the Hoboken station was a potential target for another attack, and the hurried exit from the station, followed by the staggered stops on the tracks, was the best way to keep us all safe.

Eventually, we all got clearance into the stations, and Dick and I retrieved my car at the parking garage in Newark. As we checked out, the guy at the gate said a few kind words about being glad to see me again. We both knew that some of the cars would never be picked up that night.

I drove Dick to Summit, then drove on home to Berkeley Heights. I walked into the family room, where Laura hugged me and I cried in her arms. (To this day, I think Laura had the tougher morning on Sept. 11: She spent hours watching the coverage, not knowing if I was OK, and fielding calls from panicked friends and relatives.)

I had something to eat (a sandwich, I think?) and insisted on going to the local office, where my boss was working as point man during the crisis. Laura pushed me to stay home, but I was sure the boss needed to know what we had learned about who was where—we were confident that the 35th floor was cleared, and we had had sightings of many other co-workers, but we didn’t know whether everyone had gotten away safely when the buildings collapsed. So I went to the local office, where people were on the phone, and I took a phone list and started calling people, trying to confirm they were safe. We all got nothing but busy signals. In hindsight, I think they were just letting me feel like I was doing something. We all left a while later and went back to our homes. My two kids came around the corner and gave me a hug; they were in middle school at the time and had been at the next-door neighbors’ house. Then I went inside and had a drink. Or two.

That night the phone rang constantly with calls from work—including one from a grief counselor—and from family. It was decided that the management team would meet the next morning in our Princeton office, about an hour away. So we went back to work on Sept. 12, working on putting the company back together. There had been 225 Kemper employees on the 35th and 36th floors of the North Tower, and all of them got out safely. They were back at desks, at three different locations, with email and phone the following Monday.

It took me about a year to get back to work in New York City. We leased a new location in midtown, and I moved back in September 2002—and then, six months later, Kemper went out of business. (The Sept. 11 attacks were hard on insurance companies, to say the least.) In November 2003, I moved to XL Insurance in New York City to start a risk management division with some Kemper colleagues. My office was on the 27th floor, and the conference room overlooked Ground Zero. I spent 10 years in that building, with that bird’s-eye view of that hole, and I spent a lot of time describing to clients and visitors what happened that day in 2001. I’d show them a diagram of what was at the World Trade Center, so they could orient themselves looking down, and I’d show them the overlay of where the airplane debris ended up: “See that building eight blocks over? That’s where they found one of the engines.”

Sometimes, we saw the site go into lockdown when workers found human remains as they were demolishing buildings. There was one building that when they got up in the upper floors, they found bones, so they had to stop. And during street construction, they might open a manhole cover or a drainpipe and find human remains. If they found body parts of any type, everything shut down.

Because I worked in the insurance industry, part of my job after 9/11 involved spending a lot of time thinking about terrorist attacks. That day caused significant changes in how workers’ compensation insurance is regulated, and every carrier was required to report detailed statistics on how many insured employees were covered by each of its policies. Locations with, say, over 100 employees at one address were run against defined terrorist scenarios, and we had to estimate our possible losses if, for instance, a 10-ton truck bomb went off at a company’s headquarters in New York City or a manufacturing plant outside Portland. We would run numbers, how many would die, get hurt, become permanently disabled, or live. We did that every year, for every account and every prospective account. I think over the years it took a toll on me.

In 2006, I was asked to join a Columbia University study on improving escape routes in
high-rise buildings. There were 11 other WTC survivors with me on that committee, and we met every couple of weeks for 15 months. The researchers were trying to design safer, more effective evacuation plans for high-rise buildings, and it actually did change some of the building protocols in the city, in terms of fire drills and designated meeting places to go to in an emergency.

I thought I was doing a lot of good stuff. I thought I was getting a handle on things. I was doing OK mentally, thanks to my wife and family and great co-workers.

Then my father died.

He died on Mother's Day, May 10, 2009. And sometime after that, anxieties cropped up all over the place for me. I suddenly was afraid to fly. I mean, 40% of my job was flying all over the country, so this wasn't going to sell well. And I was suddenly real emotional—I'm crying at Ellen on TV, for God's sake. Somebody's giving a teacher an award, and I'm crying. I mean, I'm still very emotional today. I get it. But I just couldn't handle the anxiety that I knew was totally irrational. I was really upset with myself: Why are you freaking out about flying? Why are you freaking out about driving over this bridge?

I found a great doctor in Summit. Dr. Rose was about 80, and he was a very special person. He could prescribe drugs, but more importantly, he could talk. When I couldn't understand why I was having so much anxiety, why I was crying so much, Dr. Rose said, “The bottom line is, your level of dealing with junk, before 9/11, was down here,” gesturing with his hand. “After 9/11, you had to deal with this much more,” as he put his hand a foot higher. “And now your level-set is up here. So you're running at Mach 5. And then your dad died.” He made me see that, while I went over the top when my dad died, it really started back on 9/11.

I'll be honest: I have always been disappointed with how emotional I've been about 9/11. My father was in World War II; practically everybody I know has been to Vietnam or Iraq or Afghanistan. And I'm a sniveling idiot for one stupid day? So when Dr. Rose talked about PTSD and all that stuff, I didn't buy it at first. After all, I got out of that building. I survived.

My wife says that when I walked into the family room that day, there was not a mark on my clean, crisp French blue dress shirt and tie, not a mark on my pants. She had seen people on TV people covered in dust. To outward appearances, my experience was a piece of cake. But Dr. Rose helped me see that PTSD is a real thing, and he got me to a better place.

Dr. Rose died later that year, and I spent the next seven years self-medicating and probably being a horrible husband and father. I was fed up; I couldn't take the commute anymore and work was not as enjoyable as it had been. And I had loved my job. I took early retirement in 2014, right before my 56th birthday, sold the house, and moved to Florida. I looked for a therapist who wasn't just a drug pusher, and I just couldn't bond with anybody. In January 2019, I found a counselor I hit it off with, and she and I made some serious progress. For a while, I thought I was done with it—I felt like I had a handle on things, I wasn't taking pills, I wasn't drinking all the time. I stopped seeing her last summer.

Then I had a health scare last fall and had to go into the hospital for two weeks, including exploratory surgery. The first week was the 9/11 anniversary—and because of COVID and the no-visitor policy, I spent 9/11 in the hospital alone. I had a panic attack—really bad. It's the worst thing, because you absolutely know you're fine, and yet... I went out and found an intern and said, “I need to see a doctor, and they need to get me some kind of medication. I am not being rational. I am having a panic attack.” It was hard to convince him, but I finally got help, I calmed down, and I went through the procedure. It turns out I had a tumor that was causing all kinds of other problems.

After that, I went running back to my counselor. I see her monthly now; she's fabulous. She's been my level-set. But my rock has been my wife and sons.

I sometimes think about how, immediately after 9/11, several people—my father and others—would check on me. Many of them had been in the military, and I’d be like, “For you to worry about me is ridiculous. You went through so much more.” They would all tell me the same thing: “It's OK to be upset. We signed up for the military—we trained for it. We were exposed to bomb blasts, and we knew what we were getting into.” Whereas I was just an insurance guy. I just went to work on a beautiful day.
FREE FALLING
A wall of water, like Celestial Falls on Oregon’s White River, is all in a day’s play for J.T. Hartman ’19. See story, next page.
A Passion for Whitewater

J.T. Hartman ’19

BY MERI-JO BORZILLERI

Growing up in North Bend, Wash., J.T. Hartman ’19 spent time in and around rivers, but not paddling them. That changed when he was 12 and a family friend took him on a six-day rafting trip on Oregon’s Rogue River.

“From the second we pushed off the shore, I just needed more and more,” he says. “It was almost a visceral need to be out on the water. It just felt like nothing else.”

Since getting his degree in exercise science at Puget Sound, Hartman has channeled that desire into whitewater kayaking, a passion fueling just about every off day from his “regular job” as a medical assistant in Bend, Ore.—where a four-day, 10-hour-day workweek allows long weekends to paddle some of the most savage rapids around.

In 2019, it also led to an unexpected top-50 finish (of about 160 competitors) in the North Fork Championship, landed him on corporate sponsor Jackson Kayaks’ regional team, where he gets discounted gear and space to blog about his kayak travel adventures, which are mostly self-funded.

Hartman, 24, attributes most of his paddling knowledge to Puget Sound’s kayak club. “It’s one of the reasons I went there,” he says. Coach Clay Ross ’09 “has shaped me into both the paddler and the person I am today. He never doesn’t have a tip for you.”

Hartman’s exploits have included a Mexico group trip with one river section so remote it required a 150-foot rappel from a tree, with his kayak dangling from a rope below him. Attending nursing school in the future will limit his kayak time. But not for long—the whitewater allure is too great.

“There’s this sense of complete immersion. The second you launch into the river, you are 100% focused on whatever is lying right in front of you.”

ALUMNI COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ted Meriam ’05, president; Kevin Kurtz ’97, vice president for communications; Frank Washburn ’75, vice president; Erin Carlson ’04, secretary; Cas Almond ’23, president, Student Alumni Association; Tamara Hamai ’03, admission chair; McKenzie Ross ’06, regional clubs chair; Rick Sassara ’87, athletics chair; Betsy Campbell Stone ’79, P’14, career and employment services chair; Ken Teal ’81, Puget Sound Fund alumni chair. Open positions: affinity groups chair, class programs chair, student life chair.

1966 Wayne Martin ’66 retired after 35 years as a family physician in the Mount Vernon, Wash., area and concurrently retired from more than 50 years as a United Methodist minister. In retirement, prior to the pandemic, Martin served as a chaplain at a local hospital, and he, wife Lynn, and daughter Sarah enjoyed providing a Sunday service for members of a local assisted living community. Recently, Martin earned a master’s degree in bioethics from Trinity University in Illinois. “Only took me eight years to do it, one course at a time,” he says.

1968 At the 182nd General Convention of Beta Theta Pi, held in Oxford, Ohio, in August, delegates representing Beta Theta Pi chapters and alumni associations in the U.S. and Canada unanimously adopted a resolution to recognize the extraordinary service of George Mills ’68, M.S.’72 to Puget Sound’s chapter and the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. Being recognized by the General Convention places Mills alongside renowned UCLA basketball coach John Wooden, Sen. Richard Lugar, the Nordstrom brothers, and many others who educate young men on how to live a principled life and become leaders dedicated to the fraternity’s core values of mutual assistance, trust, intellectual growth, responsible conduct, and integrity. The recognition also honors Mills’ long-lasting impact on the Puget Sound community and, in particular, his belief in each and every Logger and their success. Following the passage of the resolution, Puget Sound’s Delta Epsilon chapter of Beta Theta Pi has decided to rename its chapter
room in his memory. The dedication ceremony is tentatively scheduled for Homecoming and Family Weekend in October.

1969 Douglas Campbell ’69 sent in this update on life since Puget Sound: After two years on campus, Campbell volunteered for military service, becoming an Army Special Forces operator before finishing his degree. Following graduation, he moved to Miami, Fla., and created Florida Building Services, growing the firm to employ approximately 600 people and selling the business in 1983. Campbell then joined Cushman & Wakefield of Florida and served as executive director for 22 years, after which he created the Campbell Real Estate Advisory Group, with which he still works on a part-time basis. Inspired by his son, Andrew, who has Down syndrome, Campbell founded the Miami Learning Experience, a school for persons with intellectual disabilities, which now has a student population of more than 130 students from birth through adulthood. Active in Special Olympics, Campbell recently started a sailing program in concert with water vessel manufacturer Hobie Cat Company with the goal of growing the program up and down Florida’s east coast and ultimately folding it into Special Olympics on a global basis. Campbell, wife Bobette Rousseau, and Andy live in Stuart, Fla., on the St. Lucie Inlet.

1973 After 48 years of teaching in the Sumner Bonney Lake School District, Don Wasielewski ’73 has retired. He began his career in the Sumner School District after graduating from Puget Sound and, in his update, notes that “a UPS grad is replacing me.” Congratulations, Don!

1979 Kevin Dressler ’79 is retiring as the director of theatre activities in the Department of Theatre and Film Arts at Mesa Community College, in Mesa, Ariz. He received an Excellence in Theatre Education award from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in 2013, and he co-founded two nonprofit professional theater companies: the Arizona Shakespeare Festival

In March 2020, Julie Davidson ’96 made a pivot. A certified facilitator, coach, and consultant—and president and CEO of her own consulting company, The JD Group—Davidson started to see her contracts dry up as employees were sent home in the early days of the pandemic. So, she leaned into a hobby: kombucha brewing.

“I started to brew more kombucha than my family and I could drink,” says Davidson, who’s been tinkering with recipes at home for years to make herself the perfect fermented beverage. “I thought, I guess this is my opportunity to take all the limitations that we’re feeling and create an opportunity.” The result was Tacoma’s first kombucha taproom, Komadre Kombucha, which opened on 6th Avenue in May 2021. Davidson’s kombucha concoctions are locally brewed, use in-season ingredients from her partnerships with local farms, and are inspired by her Latinx heritage—resulting in unusual flavors like pineapple ginger and strawberry mojito.

While most people might not see a pandemic as an ideal time to start a brick-and-mortar business, Davidson says she’s grateful for the experience—it’s made her and her business model more resilient. It helps, too, that Davidson’s childhood dream was to open her own shop. That passion, she says, and Komadre Kombucha’s community-centered mission, are what drive the business. “Relationships are everything,” she says, and that belief shines through in Komadre Kombucha’s mission and values. “The name Komadre comes from the Spanish word for someone you consider to be part of the mothering circle around your own family. Those are the kinds of relationships we want to forge.”

One way she’s building community is by partnering with Tacoma Farmers Market’s Fresh Express Mobile Market to distribute kombucha throughout the city. She also brought some of the brew to Puget Sound’s welcome event for returning sophomores in August. And her shop offers a discount to Loggers, in hopes that Komadre Kombucha will become “a treasured hangout for the university community, as well as the broader 253.”
When Adam Willard ’03 emerged from high school in Bend, Ore., and prepared to enroll at Puget Sound as a pre-med major, he hated chemistry so much that he made his teacher a promise: He would never take another chemistry course that he wasn’t absolutely required to take.

A few years later, after deciding he didn’t want to go to medical school, Willard discovered that the only way he could graduate on time was by majoring in chemistry. When he took a quantum mechanics course, he realized he’d found a branch of chemistry that he actually enjoyed.

With the encouragement of his advisor, Ken Rousslang, Willard worked at an experimental spectroscopy lab on campus, and went on to graduate school at Berkeley and a postdoctoral position at University of Texas. There, he delved into theoretical chemistry, a branch of physical chemistry that examines the structural and dynamic properties of molecules and molecular materials.

Since 2013, Willard has been at M.I.T., where he is an associate professor and recently earned tenure. He and his research group are seeking to understand the properties of plastic and polymer molecules—which tend to be more disordered than what you might see in metal or other materials—as well as the interaction between water and other molecules. It is, essentially, Willard says, a deeper dive into “the effects of disorder in physical systems.”

How the research might eventually apply to our daily lives isn’t entirely clear at this point, since the path from fundamental science to technological application can be long and unpredictable. But it could help create more flexible solar panels, more efficient batteries and lighting, or even more effective materials for quantum computing. “We’re focused on uncovering fundamental insight at a level of granularity where the practical applications are not clear yet,” Willard says. “But the more that we understand about what these systems are capable of, the more technology can emerge from it.”
To Make It Better

Maria Kolby-Wolfe ‘92

By Kristin Baird Rattini

Over the past 10 years, Maria Kolby-Wolfe ‘92 has devoted her time and skills to a range of Seattle-area arts and social justice organizations. While the nonprofits she’s worked with are varied, they all have a shared vision, she says: “They all want people to have equal access to all the opportunities that should be afforded to everyone.”

Kolby-Wolfe, in working as both a staff development director and volunteer board member, has seized every opportunity to put into practice values that were shaped on the Puget Sound campus, in Nancy Bristow’s African American History class. “It’s the idea that, even though you find yourself in a world that’s not right, you do everything you can to make it better,” she explains.

For the past six years, Kolby-Wolfe has volunteered with TeamChild, which provides free civil legal advocacy to youth involved in the juvenile justice system. She worked at Path with Art, which uses the power of art to bring dignity, awareness, and healing to people struggling with homelessness. And during her recent tenure as director of development and communications at the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, the organization successfully reunited 200 asylum-seekers in Washington state who’d been separated from their children at the U.S./Mexico border. “The work we did mattered,” she says.
Development, Tourism, and Environmental Affairs in the Free State Provincial Government of South Africa. **Thabo Mokoena ’91** is responsible for large-scale projects, including the re-commercialization of Phakisa Raceway in an effort to bring it back to its glory days. Prior to that, he was a lead economist at the South African Reserve Bank. After graduating from Puget Sound, Mokoena went on to earn an M.A. in economics from State University of New York, an M.Sc. in finance and econometrics from The University of York (U.K.), and a Ph.D. in economics from University of Pretoria (South Africa). In 2019, he co-authored *Inequality, Output-Inflation Trade-off, and Economic Policy Uncertainty: Evidence From South Africa*. “I am grateful to ASUPS,” Mokoena writes. “I am grateful to Puget Sound as helping to spark his love of academia and administration.

**Brandon Huck ’93** recently completed a Presidential Management Fellowship at the U.S. Department of State during a career transition to public service. Huck began a new position as a foreign affairs officer focused on digital economy policy with the State Department’s Division for International Communications and Information Policy in March. He lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife of three years, Karlene Dormer Huck.

**Galvin Guerrero ’96** assumed the presidency of Northern Mariana College, located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, on July 1. For more than two decades, he has served in numerous educational policy positions, including service on the Board of Education for the Northern Mariana Islands, the NMC board of regents, and as an education advisor for the commonwealth’s Office of the Governor. In K-12 and postsecondary institutions, he has held the roles of principal, director of institutional effectiveness, accreditation liaison officer, and more. In 2012, Guerrero was appointed president of Mount Carmel School and, in the nine years since, has almost tripled the school’s enrollment.

**Lacey Chong Hayes ’03** joined the Washington, D.C., office of Microsoft last year. In May, she and a colleague were featured in the Microsoft Life #PeopleOfMicrosoft Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month series, which shared stories of the lived experience of AAPI leaders, creators, and changemakers, as curated by the AAPI employee community at Microsoft. Hear Lacey’s experience and others at https://news.microsoft.com/life/lender/aapi-community.

**Robin Hansen ’09** was elected to the Washington Apple Education Foundation board of directors at the organization’s annual meeting earlier this year, as reported by *The Produce News*. After earning her bachelor’s degree in international political economy, she obtained an M.B.A. and Doctor of Law degree from Willamette University. She’s the fourth generation of her family to grow, pack, and sell apples and cherries, and joined her family’s business, Columbia Fruit Packers, about four years ago.

**Hari Sreenivasan ’95** is a correspondent on *PBS NewsHour* and a contributing editor at *The New York Times*. He began his career as a reporter for The Associated Press based in Jerusalem, covering the Palestinian uprising. In 2008, he launched the truth and stay informed. Check out the series at youtube.com/takeonfake.

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**Jay Herman ’11** and **Brian Hoffmeister ’13** found themselves reunited in New York City—just a quick flight from Puget Sound. Herman and Hoffmeister, both alumni of Puget Sound’s School of Music, went on to pursue graduate degrees in New York City. Herman graduated from NYU Steinhardt with an M.A. in music education and NYU Stern with his M.B.A.; Hoffmeister graduated from NYU Steinhardt with an M.M. in classical voice and an M.S. in strategic communication from Columbia University. They both now work collaboratively for NYU Wagner, where Herman serves as the interim director of admissions and financial aid and associate director of finance, and Hoffmeister is the assistant director of digital marketing and recruitment.

**Kevin Nuss ’12** spearheaded the Santa Barbara Zoo’s fundraising and development efforts. He worked with the zoo, having previously served as director of marketing and sales at Feld Entertainment, the world’s largest producer of live family entertainment. After graduating from Puget Sound, Nuss earned his M.B.A. at Arizona State University.
Logger Lore

BY STELLA ZAWISTOWSKI

It’s another Puget Sound-themed crossword puzzle! Solve it and send a photo to us at arches@pugetsound.edu, or post it on Instagram or Twitter and tag us (@univpugetsound). We’ll pick a successful puzzler to win a prize. (Congrats to Linda Tobie Thomas ’86 of Alameda, Calif., who won the prize from the spring 2021 puzzle!) See the solution to this issue’s puzzle at pugetsound.edu/loggerlore.

ACROSS
1. Shouts heard on Halloween
2. In no hurry
3. Restraint for a pup being walked on the Puget Sound campus
4. Birthstone of July
5. Tibetan priest
6. Roast host
7. Trash can on a desktop, for one
8. Instrument often heard in a raga
9. Many-hued structure that chronicles Puget Sound graduating classes
10. Golfer’s shout
11. Artwork seen between Harned Hall and Thompson Hall
12. Festival that brings the Puget Sound community together in September
13. Actress Aniston, familiarly
14. One, in Oaxaca
15. Sign up, to a 1-Down
16. Noisy dancing shoe
17. Off-road rides, for short
18. Instrument heard in the Puget Sound Wind Ensemble
19. Words after being beaten
20. Prefix with -center or -dermis
21. Sunscreen stat
22. Says impulsively
23. Give a new title to
24. Fancy word for a pouty face
25. Way to show school pride before the weekend
26. What fills the Puget Sound
27. “La Vie en Rose” singer Edith
28. Chrysler Building’s architectural style, for short
29. TSA or CIA employee
30. Lake you can see from the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame
31. Puget Sound tradition that honors the Pacific Islander community
32. Plants-to-be
33. Projectile in a bar game
34. Qatar’s Sheikh Tamim ibn Hamad Al Thani, for one
35.born
36. Match up
37. Twisty ski course
38. Cabinet department headed by Marty Walsh
39. Like a hairstyle where one color blends into another
40. “The Time ____” (“Rocky Horror” song)
41. Project for a student in the Master of Arts in Teaching program
42. Releases
43. Make like a Theatre Arts major
44. Huge amount, metaphorically
45. Belonging to that lady
46. “First ____...”
47. Alpha’s opposite
48. History Professor Nancy Bristow, for one
49. What the Puget Sound endowment does
50. Some social classes
51. Not so important
52. Recorded, in a way
53. Appeared, as a mustache
54. Didion who wrote “Slouching Towards Bethlehem”
55. Puget Sound English department chair ___ Wesley
56. Jennifer Johnson of Tacoma’s Happy Belly restaurant, for one
57. Many an August baby Org. that fought Japanese-American internment
58. Skinny candle
59. One making a 24-Across
60. Intelligence, informally
61. Serve-yourself dining option
62. Make changes to, as legislation
63. “Schitt’s Creek” role for Catherine
64. Broadcasting via KUPS 90.1 FM The Sound
65. Essay in The Trail, for short
66. Not doing anything
67. “Te ____” (Latin hymn)
68. Trendy superfood berry
69. Second person’s possessive
70. Used to be
71. What candles may indicate
72. Shirt with a Puget Sound logo, perhaps

DOWN
1. Londoner or Liverpudlian
2. “That really hurt!”
3. Instrument heard in
4. “____ Flux” (2005 Charlize Theron film)
5. Sign up
6. Londoner or Liverpudlian
7. Noisy dancing shoe
8. Off-road rides, for short
9. Instrument heard in
10. Londoner or Liverpudlian
11. Noisy dancing shoe
12. Off-road rides, for short
13. Instrument heard in
14. Londoner or Liverpudlian
15. Noisy dancing shoe
16. Off-road rides, for short
17. Instrument heard in
18. Londoner or Liverpudlian
19. Noisy dancing shoe
20. Off-road rides, for short
21. Instrument heard in
**Louise Jayko Rains '41**
died March 18, at the age of 101. After graduating from Puget Sound, Rains began a teaching career that spanned nearly three decades. She married her first husband in 1946, and four years later, the couple moved to Malott, Wash., where they ran an orchard and raised cattle. In 1964, after the death of her husband, Rains continued to work the orchard with her three sons. In 1968, Rains married her second husband, with whom she was able to enjoy a happy retirement, traveling throughout North America and Mexico.

**Betty Nutting Duvauchelle '51** passed away March 6. She was 91. She graduated from Wenatchee (Wash.) High School and Wenatchee Junior College before earning her education degree from Puget Sound. Enticed to the small island of Molokai, Hawai‘i, by the opportunity to teach at “a barefoot school,” Duvauchelle began teaching shortly after graduation. In 1956, she returned to Wenatchee, teaching in numerous area schools and staying active in her local church, where she served as a Sunday school teacher, choir and bell choir director, deaconess, and elder. In retirement, Duvauchelle traveled internationally and throughout the U.S., and in recent years, she was an active volunteer for CASA, advocating for abused and neglected children.

**Mitchell Washburn '51** died July 2, shortly after celebrating his 95th birthday. Growing up in Tacoma, Washburn was drafted toward the end of World War II, between his junior and senior years of high school. He survived an enemy attack in battle with a gunshot wound and received the Purple Heart. When he returned from the war, he graduated from Lincoln High School and Puget Sound, opening University Place Insurance Agency, which he ran until selling the business and retiring. As a community member, Washburn was active in University Place Presbyterian Church and served as a founding member and president of Tacoma Narrows Rotary Club. He is survived by the love of his life and spouse of 73 years, Eloise Howe Washburn '50, and their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Born and raised in Tacoma, **Maureen Dessen Maberry '53** graduated a year early from Stadium High School before attending Puget Sound on a full-ride scholarship. A cheerleader on campus, she met and fell in love with a basketball star, William Maberry '53. The couple were married and raised five children. A loving wife and homemaker, Maberry also was active in her church, teaching Sunday school and leading youth groups for decades. She was named the Lynden Tribune Woman of the Year and was famous for her delicious cinnamon rolls. Maberry was preceded in death by husband William, aunt Evelyn Swanson Stein '39, P’72, and cousin Debora Stein Munson '72, P’06, and is survived by her children, grandchildren, and scores of kids she “mothered” over the years. She died July 4, at the age of 88.

**Juanita Firman '58** died July 6. She was 84. After graduating from Wenatchee (Wash.) High School, Firman attended Puget Sound and took art classes at Wenatchee Junior College before working as a dental assistant, flower shop owner, and professional artist.

**Lifelong Tacoma resident Michael Panagiotu '64** began a long career in insurance after college, becoming Pierce County’s first director of risk management and retiring in 2009, after 32 years of public service. He was a member of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and AHEPA Greek fraternity. He especially enjoyed working the annual Greek Festival and Crab Feed. An avid sports enthusiast, Panagiotu played football in high school and remained a lifelong Seattle Seahawks and Sonics fan. He died Feb. 6.

**Longtime Alaskan John Contento '67, P'94** passed away May 11. He was 76. At Puget Sound, Contento was active in the Kappa Sigma fraternity and graduated with a degree in business. In the late 1960s, he joined the Alaska Air National Guard and was stationed at Kulis Air National Guard Base Anchorage. After his service, he managed the Northward Shoe Store in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska, before switching careers in 1989 to become a real estate appraiser. A legendary storyteller, Contento loved playing and listening to music and performed in various bands throughout college and his adult life. He is survived by brother Gary Contento ’73, son Nick Contento ’94, daughter Angela, and extended family and friends.

**Brian O’Neill ’67** died unexpectedly April 16, at the age of 79. He was born in Honolulu, where his father, a Navy pilot, was stationed during World War II. After graduating from Puget Sound, O’Neill opted for military service, himself, joining the U.S. Marine Corps. As a Marine, he flew medevac helicopters in Vietnam, then transitioned to flying jets until his retirement in 1987. In retirement, O’Neill and his wife of 43 years, Mary Alice, went on numerous sailing adventures, including a circumnavigation. They visited many of the WWII sites where his father served, and helped out island schools along the way. O’Neill will be remembered for living life to the fullest and being always at the ready to offer assistance to those in need.

**William Kennedy '69, P'99** died July 29. He graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor’s degree in religion. Kennedy is survived by wife Darlene, son Adam, and daughter Lauren Kennedy Caltrider ’99, as well as five grandchildren.

Born on leap day, **Roger Calhoun M.B.A. ’70** grew up on a farm in Graham, Wash., where he learned the work ethic for which he would come to be known. He attended Central Washington University and Washington State University, then worked for Boeing for six months prior to being drafted into the Army and being stationed in Germany. At the completion of his service, Calhoun finished his undergraduate at WSU, then earned his master’s degree from Puget Sound. He took a position as a loan officer with Federal Land Bank, launching a career that lasted more than 35 years and saw him retire as senior vice president of corporate accounts for NW Farm Credit Services. A traveler and outdoorsman, Calhoun loved skiing, hiking, backpacking, and anything that would get him out in the fresh mountain air. He died July 31, at the age of 77.

After graduating as high school valedictorian, **Stephen Urata ’73** attended Puget Sound, ultimately graduating from University of Washington with a degree in accounting. Had he not become an accountant, he could have been a world-class chef, creating tasty meals with his treasure trove of spices and preparing full-to-bursting packets of candy for trick-or-treaters each Halloween. He died May 24.
George Templeton M.P.A.’74 passed away July 13, at the age of 85. The second eldest of seven, Templeton was born in Atkins, Ark., and went on to earn a Master of Social Work after completing his Master of Public Administration at Puget Sound.

Paul Berndt ’75, P’91 died Aug. 6. He was 83. Born in Yakima, Wash., Berndt was attending Washington State University when the death of his father prompted him to return home and become a third-generation apple grower. Years later, he leased the apple orchard and joined the Washington State Patrol as a trooper. He covered Stevens Pass and grew up in Aberdeen, Wash., and went on to be a sergeant in Bellevue and Yakima before finishing his 26-year patrol career as a lieutenant. While in the patrol, he completed his college degree as a Logger. At age 75, Berndt began a third career as a realtor, finding great pleasure working right up to the time of his death. He is survived by wife Jean, son Greg, son Jeffrey Berndt ’91, and extended family and friends.

William Peltola ’77 died recently in Auckland, New Zealand. He grew up in Aberdeen, Wash., and went on to attend University of Southern California after earning his bachelor’s degree at Puget Sound.

James Rambaldini ’80, J.D.’84 died June 17. He was 63. After graduating from Mercer Island (Wash.) High School, Rambaldini attended Puget Sound, where he met his love of 41 years, Lynn. He was an active member of his fraternity, serving as rush chairman and president, and graduated with a degree in business administration before earning his law degree. After a brief career as an attorney, he transitioned to wealth management, where he enjoyed a 33-year career as a financial advisor. Rambaldini loved attending his children’s sporting events, concerts, and special events. He was an active outdoorsman, skiing, running, biking, and swimming, and even accomplished his life goal of running with the bulls in Spain. Rambaldini is survived by wife Lynn Tomlinson ’80, three children, and extended family and friends.

Arthur Thomas M.B.A.’80 died July 18, at the age of 86. Before earning his M.B.A. at Puget Sound, Thomas completed a bachelor’s degree in forestry at Michigan State University. When not working for the U.S. Forest Service or Green River Community College, he enjoyed woodworking, making all manner of furniture and wood strip boats. He was a gardener and rover, rowing every morning except Sundays. When last checked, he had rowed a total of 73,447,377 meters. Together, Thomas and his wife, Arlene, raised two children and enjoyed 63 years of marriage.

John Mallanda M.B.A.’83 died Aug. 12. He was 75. A native New Yorker, Mallanda was a graduate of Manhattan College and New York University, in addition to Puget Sound. A committed sports fan and athlete, he achieved a black belt in karate while working in Japan and enjoyed running, even completing marathons. He worked as an electrical engineer in the nuclear power industry for nearly 50 years.

James Brindle ’85 passed away July 25, at the age of 58. Growing up one of six brothers in Shoreline, Wash., Brindle earned his bachelor’s degree in Asian studies with an emphasis in marketing at Puget Sound. On campus, he was an active member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and participated in the Pacific Rim Study Abroad Program. A family man, Brindle and his wife, Kathy, raised three children and spent much of their free time together, playing tennis, finding new restaurants, and being active church members. In 2019, he retired after more than 30 years at Deere & Company. Brindle is survived by his mother; wife Kathy; three children; four of his brothers, including Daniel Brindle ’89; and beloved nieces and nephews.

Boise, Idaho, native Barbara Vandenburg Darcy ’86 died July 26. She was 57. Remembered as a very petite lady with an enormous heart, Darcy was a talented musician, dedicated mother, and loyal friend. After earning her bachelor’s degree from Puget Sound, she obtained her teaching certificate from University of Washington and began playing clarinet with the North Seattle Community Band, where she met a fellow clarinet player and fell in love. During the course of their 29-year marriage, Darcy and her husband, Paul, played in several bands and ensembles together and raised two sons.

Elizabeth Palmer Grabler ’94 passed away Aug. 8, at the age of 62. Born at Dover Air Force Base, Grabler grew up all over the U.S. and graduated from Curtis High School in Tacoma before earning her bachelor’s degree at Puget Sound. She spent her career at Group Health Cooperative and Pierce College, and will be remembered for her great sense of humor, love of the holidays, and generosity of spirit.

Correction: In the obituary for David Ernst ’56 in our spring issue, we erroneously stated that his former spouse Beverly Ernst ’58 predeceased him. She is, in fact, alive and well. We regret the error.
Get Involved!

Join the more than 1,300 Logger volunteers who help engage fellow alumni and students in lifelong connections with the university and each other.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Attend college fairs to tell high school students what makes Puget Sound amazing
- Interview prospective students
- Host or attend a happy hour, networking gathering, or speaker event in your city or town
- Support Alumni Council-led programs like the Young Alumni Career Conference and student-alumni mentoring
- Host a job shadow for a current student (in person or virtual)
- Host a watch party for a Logger athletic event
- Help plan events for Black Alumni Union, Greek alumni groups, Adelphian Alumni, Latinx Alumni Group, PacRim alumni, and more
- Help spread the word about the Puget Sound Fund
- Write postcards to admitted students
- Encourage your classmates to come back to campus for Summer Reunion Weekend

Want to find out more? Go to [pugetsound.edu/alumni](http://pugetsound.edu/alumni).
Gathering once again, these Loggers met up after COVID-19 vaccination for a weekend of much-needed fun and welcomed the newest Logger, Gracie, into the group! Pictured clockwise from left: Eric Mathis P’24, Nicole Hillesheim Mathis ’94, P’24, Allison Hatfield Ashlock ’95, Donald Harnden ’91, Johnathan Ashlock ’93, Karis Vandehey ’93, Kevin Vandehey ’93, Beth Sivertson Vandehey ’93, and Gracie Mathis ’24.

Lisa Jacobson Lyman ’09 and her husband, Johnathan, are first-time home owners in Auburn, Wash. They are now pros at painting, floor installation, and other home improvement projects, and are excited to settle in and relax in their new home.

Preston Van Buren ’13 and Chandler Fox ’12 welcomed their first baby (and future Logger, we hope!), Quentin Grey Van Fox, on June 7, in San Diego, Calif. Van Buren is starting his second year of orthopedic surgery residency at Naval Medical Center San Diego after a two-year tour in Yokosuka, Japan. An international move with two dogs and a baby on the way was quite an adventure! The family is happy and healthy and excited for the journey to continue in San Diego.

Send Scrapbook photos to arches@pugetsound.edu.

Susan Loop Spencer ’65, Nancy Skinner Willis ’65, Carol Komeda Parker-Miller ’65, and Carol Carter Larsen ’65, all members of Puget Sound’s Tri Delta sorority, celebrated 60 years of friendship at Mason Lake, Wash.
In July, Logger alumni who lived in two houses on Cedar Street (the women at 11th Street and the men at 21st Street) held a 40th reunion at the beautiful Worley family summer cabin on Hartstine Island, just north of Shelton, Wash. They recounted how Puget Sound launched their global careers, which encompass 14 advanced degrees. Pictured are (left to right): Mark Worley ’81, Linda Morrison Worley ’83, William Dienst ’81, Mark Anderson ’81, Karen De Vick Anderson ’81, Nancy Martin ’81, Jennifer McCoy ’81, and Cyril (Ron) Drnjevic ’81. Kathleen Campbell ’81, P’16 and Daniel Smith ’81 attended virtually.

After a strict two-week quarantine, these seven Loggers (along with nine other friends) rafted the Grand Canyon together in December 2020. For (back row, from left) Ben Armstrong ’13, Gaelyn Moore ’13, Tim Kelley ’13, Monica Edwards Fitzgerald ’13, and Thomas Fitzgerald ’13, this was their second trip down the Big Ditch together, joined this year by Alexandra Werner Todd ’13 and Jack Todd ’13. They are pictured here on the second-to-last day of their 22-day journey. The group hopes to continue rafting together for many years to come.
Just a few beanies—including this one—remain in Archives and Special Collections. One reason? For many years, it was traditional for students to toss their beanies into the annual campus bonfire.

THE PERFECT TOPPER?
No first-year student at the College of Puget Sound was completely dressed until they put on their green cap. The tradition dates to at least the 1920s: According to the 1921–22 student handbook, “Green caps shall be worn until Thanksgiving Day, after which they are to be worn only on special occasions, such as at athletic games, debates, musicals, etc.”
We’re thrilled to be back in person this fall and welcoming guest speakers, performers, and competitors to campus. But you don’t have to be on campus to be part of the action.

Join us online for livestreamed signature events and series, including our annual Jacobsen Series of faculty concert recitals and the Susan Resneck Pierce Lecture in Public Affairs and the Arts, featuring Pulitzer Prize-winning author Viet Thanh Nguyen.

Stay up to date with fall events at: pugetsound.edu/events loggerathletics.com