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"Occupy" by Susan Rankin

COME-UNITY

by Joe Linker and Sunshine Dixon

An artists' reception for the second in a planned series of art exhibits brought together an eclectic group Thursday evening, April 16, in the Otto F. Linn Library. The art exhibit and reception series is part of the vision of Library Director Mari Bettineski to create a venue that celebrates the creative work of the Warner Pacific community at large, including students, staff and faculty, as well as local neighbors from Portland's diverse art community.

The April 16th reception consisted of light refreshments and a 90-minute agenda of music and spoken word performance, including interviews and conversations with artists whose work is on display, Professor Emeritus Lou Foltz and student Daisy Ulloa. A video of the development stages for a painting by Chicago based artist Yemonja Smalls, "Come-Unity," which inspired the theme of the reception, played in a continuous loop as part of the artworks on display. The artworks will be on view throughout April, on both floors of the library.

Highlights of this month's art show include work from campus artists and several group projects, including Jennifer Cameron's music class, Susanna Lundgren's art classes, Kyra Pappas's leadership team, and the Hope Chain created by three of Cassie Trentaz's classes.

Local community artisans whose work is on display include Susan Rankin, whose piece titled "Occupy" also illustrates the theme of community unity. Student artist Rusty Weise contributed another of his "Krispy Kreations," an edible work of art offered to audience members at the end of the evening. Other work on display includes a collaborative, structural painting by student Mercedes Alcaraz and former Otto F. Linn library director Sue Kopp; a work by Colleen Barnhardt (wife of the library's Circulation Supervisor Jeff Barnhardt); and large portrait paintings by Portland artist Mark Bishop, who was present at the reception for questions and led a tour of the artworks on display.

The art show reception emcee duties were shared by students Luwam Kahassay, Jose Cazares, and Danitra Roberts. The show was fully supported by the Otto F. Linn Library staff, with staff member and ADP student Sunshine Dixon once again at the organizing and emcee helm. Local poet Mercedes Miller attended the reception and



performed a reading of her poem entitled "Unity Calls." The multi-talented Dr. Tim Smith of "Worship Without Borders" played cello with his trio, including Maryl Smith on flute, and Warner Pacific graduate Larry Kennedy on guitar. The trio opened the reception with several lovely, reflective and playful pieces. Adjunct instructor Joe Linker sang a folk version of "Gospel Plow," plowing away on his vintage folk guitar. The dynamic speaker, artist, and writer Heidi Marble presented material from her life experience and read her poem "Bed of Flowers," from her book "Waiting for Wings: A Woman's Metamorphosis Through Cancer."

The intergenerational aspect of the art show was highlighted by 82 year old Val Linn, who contributed art of his own as well as a portrait of his father, Otto F. Linn, for whom the library is named. In a note accompanying the photo of his father used to create the portrait, Val said, "I just remembered what is maybe the most important photo of all—a blurry old photo of Otto, as a man in his twenties, standing with brushes and paint copying a painting in New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art in the teens of the last century." Thirteen year old artist Nissa Allen, the granddaughter of Tim and Maryl, provided drawings for the show and attended the reception. Nissa attends the Arts and Communication Academy in Beaverton. Also of special note is the glasswork by the international artist Kurumi Conley, who has been using renewable energy in her studio since 1999. Local artist Susie Pitts contributed to the show as well.

The evening reception concluded with an inspirational presentation and sing-a-long call and response led by local activist and music educator



Ken Berry, co-founder of Portland's chapter of the World Arts Foundation. Participants and audiences at both of this year's artist reception events clearly appreciated the opportunity to join together for an evening that mixed art with the spoken word and music.

When asked later to summarize her response to the evening, Kyra Pappas, who presented on the theme of leadership at Thursday night's reception, mentioned she felt encouraged to see the library space used for collective creativity. Too often, she suggested, our interactions with one another are transactional, but the reception offered the opportunity to see one another outside the transactional context, to see one another in a different space.

Also in later conversation, History major and director of the College Activities Board Jose Cazares, who helped with emcee work on Thursday evening, noted the cross section of opportunity created by the event, and complemented the flow and timing of the evening's agenda and the use of the library as a space of appropriate size and layout for the reception activities.

Warner Pacific student and spoken word artist Brycen Dobbs, who presented at the first artist reception, said that he enjoyed seeing art presented in different forms and commented on the unity those forms bring to the community, and on the opportunity to be part of a collaborative art community.

The Otto F. Linn Library art exhibits promise to continue in the Fall, providing more opportunity for student artists, musicians, and spoken word performers to come together in unity to share and celebrate art.

Yemonja Smalls's artwork, which, with Susan Rankin's "Occupy" piece, provided an inspiring cover for Thursday evening's printed brochure, offers the healing vision inherent in her concept of "Come-Unity." Library Director Mari Bertineski and artist Sunshine Dixon are looking forward to reaching an even greater audience next year with more inspirational evenings blending art, spoken word, and music, with the library as a communal space for artists and audience to come together and celebrate. *Photos by Tim Jackson. Artwork by Mark Bishop.*



Goodbye, Mt. Tabor

by Tim Jackson

I've been a photographer for the Knight Times since 2012. Since then I've joined the military, met my wife Mickyla, and have created a new life, Serenity Jackson. I can see these events and sacrifices archived into the time spent writing stories and taking photographs. To say things have changed is an understatement, and now 93 other students and I embark into a world without the constant comfort of Mt. Tabor's bosom.

We uproot once again, like we did when we were seniors in high school, and migrate to work, family, and adventure. Some are crossing oceans, like soon to be wed Nick Goin and Jessica Swink, who plan to teach English in Seoul, South Korea. Jongwon Seo is doing the exact opposite; once a soldier and student in Yeosu, South Korea, he is making Portland his

temporary home and seeking to do social work with the Department of Human Services.

Home is a messy word because a piece of real estate can be as temperamental as the market; people desire more than a plot-able location on Google Maps to feel comfortable. Jesus knew the uprooted and constantly curious condition of the human heart when he said in Luke 9:58, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." That is why I love this photo of Reservoir Number 5 on Mt. Tabor in which the Canada geese are neither coming nor going; it reminds me of the cyclical characteristics of nature. For many of us, Mt. Tabor is a sanctuary from the bustle of college work in which we can see the migration of ani-

mals, and the shedding and regeneration of the seasons. Though humans are more linear and less regenerative than nature, leaving the moment we arrive at a new location and never able to lay our heads down, I would argue we find our rest in the pattern of movement. All the people that we have met, all the places we've called home, all the things we've learned, create an exponentially growing pattern in the quilted human experience.

As I phase out of this role and into the next one, Julia Toscano, a communications major and a talented staff writer begins her role as editor for the Knight Times. If you are interested in contributing photos or stories, please contact her or faculty advisor Connie Phillips at knighttimes@warnerpacific.edu.

DEAN NO MORE

After 10 years as Academic Dean,
Dawson returns to teaching

by Diana Nesukh

What is history? To some, this question does not resonate with much significance. The answer varies from “everything that has happened prior to this moment” to “events that cause social change.” To others, it is the introduction to most history courses offered by Dr. Cole Dawson. The answer that he offers to the infamous question and the premise of how he chooses to teach history is “the interpretive reconstruction of the known past.” The answer is a glimpse into Dr. Dawson’s teaching methodology. He prides himself on disproving the misconception that history courses are dull and filled with irrelevant facts and figures. Dawson takes a holistic approach to teaching history in which dates and names are not at the forefront of importance. Instead, he encourages his students to develop their analytical skills by evaluating history from different lenses. Teaching is not just Dawson’s profession, it’s his passion.

I managed to get a half hour slot to sit down with Dr. Dawson on an early Monday morning. Getting straight to the point so as to get the most out of our time, I focused on his time as Vice President for Academic Affairs. At the end of this spring semester, he will be stepping down from the position. One of the main reasons is to focus on teaching full-time and help student evaluate their lives through the study of history. Dawson puts his motivation in this way: “I have the privilege of announcing students’ names as they walk across the stage at graduation, but in the last few years I have noticed that there are some names that I am unfamiliar with.” In other words, the classroom is beckoning him back, and he is responding with eagerness.

After teaching at Warner Pacific for over twenty-eight years, Dawson was asked to take up an interim position of his current job. “I was willing to take the position for a year,” he explained. However, that year quickly turned into ten. When I asked about some of his day-to-day tasks, he offered to print out a job description. The two pages were dense and lengthy in responsibilities. The main takeaway from the description was that the Vice President of Academic Affairs “is responsible for academic budget development, course scheduling and curriculum decisions, academic assessment, hiring recommendations and decisions concerning faculty compensation and promotion, and college accreditation issues.” The next question I was prompted to ask (but didn’t) was “what don’t you do?” The two pages explained why my time with him was running out and he would be off to his numerous meetings that Monday.

Along with his desire to teach as motivation for a change, Dawson also recognizes this time for the college as pivotal, stating that “we need a fresh pair of eyes that will revitalize, re-question, and reevaluate the future of Warner Pacific.” In Dawson’s experience, at other institutions the mission statement hangs on the wall, but does not inform every decision that is made for the college. All decisions must align with the values that define Warner Pacific College, he said.



Anyone who has taken a course from Dawson knows the intellect, insight, and intentionality he brings to the classroom. He has had the same approach to his time as Vice President of Academic Affairs. Some of the highlights of the last ten years, ones that can be realistically condensed into a sentence, have been the strengthening of every department with hiring that has advanced the institution’s credibility, the advancement of accreditation, and implementing sound programs that have moved Warner Pacific towards fulfillment of its mission. Dawson describes his role in these advancements as one that lives in the realm of paradox, where the tension between his administrative role and the need to lead the academic life of the institution has to be walked delicately.

In a campus-wide email on April 11, 2015, President Andrea Cook announced the new Vice President of Academic Affairs as Dr. Reginald T. W. Nichols. Nichols will be moving to Oregon in the summer and assuming the position in the fall semester. As Dawson bids farewell to a long and well-served position, he offers Dr. Nichols some advice: “weary not in doing good, don’t get discouraged, and listen well.”



Beyond Graduation

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

by Alexa Minasian

It is that time of year again when a new graduating class of seniors is on the cusp of finishing college. This is a time in a person's life that is filled with a mix of emotions; on the one hand there is excitement at the sign of new beginnings, and on the other hand there is fear about what lies ahead. The time after graduation feels like it's make or break and that whatever choices are made in this time determine success or failure. At least, I have always thought this. As I navigate my way in the face of my looming graduation with a degree in Communications, I have come to realize that this way of thinking isn't true. The time after graduation will be hard, yes, but it isn't a permanent measure of how your life will turn out; this time is meant to explore what you want and how you will go about achieving your goals. The two obvious choices once students have graduated are to either look for employment or to continue on in their education. Many graduates even do both.

The job market has had a scary reputation in recent years as graduates have been looking for jobs and internships. There is good news to report this time though; the job market for recent graduates is improving. The Wall Street Journal reported that more than half of their survey respondents, selected from 2014 graduates, have landed full-time jobs within six months of graduation.

Market Place Economy echoes the Wall Street Journal's findings; 2015 college graduates face the best job market in years. The job market that this year's college graduates will be entering is better than it has been since what has become known as the Great Recession. The National Association of College and Employers is reporting that more than half of employers on their list are offering signing bonuses for new college-graduate hires.

Senior and Communications major Brittney Bevens is an example of this improving job market for graduating seniors; she has been offered a job as an assistant volleyball coach at Clackamas Community College. Bevens is still looking at all of her job options, but she has in the meantime accepted the position. She is still in shock over her upcoming graduation: "It hasn't hit me yet because there is still so much to do. I will not miss all of the papers."

Bevens's plans for life after graduation so far consist of living at home and continuing to pay off her student loans. She has already paid off half of her student loans by working part time over the last couple of years. Bevens hopes that she will be able to save some money, while not being too tied down and unable to do things with friends and family.

Health and Human Kinetics senior Allahna Hartwick and Communications senior Ben Himes are also living at home while they sort out life after graduation. Himes is aiming to work in the field of networking or public relations, while Hartwick wants to get her masters in athletic training, but hasn't decided which school she will apply to yet. Like Bevens, both Hartwick and Himes are nervous about graduating, but they have plenty of advice for next year's graduating class.

The most important step that soon-to-be seniors need to practice, according to Hartwick, is to "be up to date with your advisor on the classes from your graduation plan that still need to be taken." She also advises students to take advantage of the Career Center and the many tools and resources available for free to help with job searches. Hartwick advises juniors that they should take their hardest classes during sports season or at a time when their days will be more structured. She found that taking her most difficult

classes during her volleyball season was a surprisingly effective strategy in getting all of her assignments done and in on time.

Himes had similar advice; he said that students should take their HUM 410: Senior Thesis during the Fall semester, which ironically "feels less strenuous because it is shorter than the Spring semester." Himes also has advice regarding the payment of college loans, as many graduates will face that challenge as they continue to work in part-time jobs. He referred to all of the help and financial counseling available: "Students aren't alone and don't need to shoulder the burden alone."

Recent alumnus Tirzah Allen has some advice that is unique as she encourages graduates to "take a couple of weeks for yourself. You've earned it. Try not to think about school or loans or even a career that will all come in time. I encourage you to breathe; to spend time with the ones you love; to catch up on that television or book series; to get outside and go exploring; to just be at peace."

Allen is currently attending Multnomah University and studying for her Master's degree in TESOL. She has noticed a positive difference between her study as an undergraduate and what she is now experiencing in graduate school. She attends class with a small group of women who are older than she is and who are passionate about what they are studying. "Most of the women I work with have had time to experience life outside of the academic setting. They are married and have families or have already had experience teaching overseas," Allen said.

After she graduated from Warner Pacific last year with a double major in English and Communications, Allen experienced emotions of panic, worry, and restlessness. She can now

look back on those emotions and say to new graduates that they should “stay calm, pray, and keep a journal of career goals or even life goals.”

Kerri Heath is an alumna from 2001 who graduated with a degree in Religion and Christian Ministries. She describes the first year out of college as “hard” and said that this feeling led her to immediately go to graduate school in California, where she completed her Master’s in Education from Azusa Pacific University. Heath worked in the education field for five years before she went on to get her Doctorate of Education from Pepperdine. During the “very busy four years” she was getting her doctorate, she was also working full time.

Heath’s advice to graduates looking to start their career is to focus on building and maintaining relationships with people in your industry. She considers relationships to be essential as graduates look towards gaining employment or internships. “Don’t be afraid to network and introduce yourself to people you admire. Ask them for their advice and words of wisdom, and then write it down,” she said.

Alumna Shawna Downes graduated in 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts in English. She started a Master of Fine Arts degree in Writing one month after graduation, selecting a longer program that would allow her to work full time while she was still in school. She is currently in her third semester of graduate school and recently landed a full time job as a Receptionist at a doctor’s office in Hillsboro.

“My advice to students, whether they want to start a career or continue their education, is to start thinking and planning and dreaming as early as possible,” Downes said. At the end of her junior year, she consulted with her advisor to make sure she would graduate on time and spent the summer making a list of graduate programs to which she wanted to apply. Downes was able to prepare her applications for five programs with the advice of her professors during the Fall semester so that they would be complete by the February 1st deadlines.

In the end, she was accepted by four out of the five schools. “I got a phone call from Spalding University and they asked me if I wanted to go to Ireland with them that summer,” Downes said, laughing. On the phone with the school official, she pretended it wasn’t a shock. “I had no idea they had an international residency. It started in June, so if I had waited to apply until the summer, I would have missed out.” In graduate school, Downes has travelled to Ireland, Czech Republic, and Germany, and will be going to Greece and Italy next. “It’s an amazing program. The students are all so talented and they all want to learn and help each other grow as writers.”

Downes had some additional advice for future job seekers. When she started looking for jobs after graduation, she quickly realized the value of internships. “I have seen some great internship opportunities at the places where I want to work, but I can’t apply for them because I can’t afford to work for free anymore,” Downes said. “I could have done that while I was still in college, though, so I encourage other students to do that. An internship can get your foot in the door in a way your resume can’t.”

How did she find those jobs and internships? “Usually, they’re not on Craigslist. Mac’s List includes internships and I used to check the



Shawna Downes (Right) with her classmate, Julie Nichols, at the site of several of Hitler’s famous speeches in Berlin. Downes visited Germany during a graduate school residency with Spalding University’s Low Residency M.F.A. in Writing Program in July 2014. Photo by Terry Price.

Regional Arts and Culture Council’s job page a lot. Idealist.org is good for nonprofit jobs. Multnomah County also maintains a huge database for job seekers,” Downes said. “But I also recommend visiting websites of companies and organizations you want to work for and poking around for listings. If you’re looking for something in the arts or a nonprofit, usually those places are financially supported by trusts or organizations. If you look those up, that might lead you to other opportunities,” she added.

It took Downes four months of searching to land the job she has now. “Try not to get discouraged,” she said, mentioning that for every Administrative Assistant position she applied for, there were 100 other applicants applying to the same job. “Even though the economy is improving, it’s really hard out there.” She suggested that graduates having a difficult time finding a job should try working through a temp agency. “You can get some great skills and connections, and they don’t get paid unless you’re working, so they will help you find work.”

One of the hardest times in a person’s life is when they finish school and are trying to figure out their next step. Kerri Heath’s advice to recent college graduates who are experiencing an identity crisis is to travel the world or serve in some kind of ministry capacity. These two paths can show “the need to be patient in discovering your calling and focus more on becoming a great person. Enjoy the process of learning from daily experiences in this journey we call life. Remember that this is a spiritual journey, and every person we meet and every experience we have along the way can be lessons that help shape who we are.”



NOT JUST A BOYBAND

by Brandon Bush

As we waited in the darkness backstage, we could hear the speaker getting ready to introduce us. It was our first show as a group and we were antsy. We were only singing two songs, but we were opening for a well-known Christian group named Selah. Needless to say, the pressure was on. “Now, please give a hand for Bridgetone! ... Bridgetown, excuse me.” The speaker walked off the stage shaking his head. Moments after our introduction we heard a “Go!” in our in-ear monitors and walked quickly on to the stage to be greeted by warm applause. I knew there was a large crowd, but it wasn’t until I walked on stage that I realized every seat was full and all eyes were on us. A rush of excitement went from my toes to the middle of my chest during what seemed like a long journey to my spot in the formation. We got into position, and the crowd went silent in anticipation. Then, in my right ear, I heard Jason Overstreet’s pre-recorded voice say “Sunny Days” (our opening song) followed by a four count, and just like that my first Bridgetown performance had begun.

In-ear monitors were a new concept to some of the members of Bridgetown. In rehearsal last year, Jason Overstreet introduced them to all the new members: Josh, Jace, Ev, and me. Ben and Paul were returning members, so they were experts. Basically, the monitors are a metronome for just our ears only and a way for us to hear ourselves and each other without the use of wedge monitors located on the stage. Instead of one of us having to take out a shiny pitch pipe, Jason can just send the pitch directly to our ears along with a count off into the song, making transitions smooth and seamless.

It was funny to look back on the Selah performance once we began our high school appearances. At first, the idea of being a Christian vocal group singing at public schools seemed a little scary, but honestly, it was sometimes more fun than singing at churches. Some churches can be a little stiff, but with high school choir students, the reaction is much different.

We pulled into the Reynolds High School parking lot, and it was obvious Josh was eager to exit the vehicle. “Brandon, get out!” screamed Josh jokingly from the back seat. Once we had all exited the vehicle, it was like clockwork. Unlike other music groups, we are our own roadies and as soon as we arrive at our venue, we start taking equipment out of the trailer and hauling it inside. I don’t know why, but it seems like a requirement that all music equipment has to be really heavy. For each venue we sing at, it takes a second to figure out where we are going. I went to a very small high school, so some of the high schools we sang at seemed like never-ending labyrinths of numbered doors that all looked the same. For other Bridgetown members, these large high schools were pretty familiar. Every high school we went into had a similar smell, a kind of a mix of crayons, tator tots, and sweat. When we were directed to the school theater by the Reynolds choir teacher, we began to set up our sound system.



Pictured (L to R): Jace Schwartz, Benjamin Hartle, Josh Reznick, Everardo Jaime, Chris Choi, Brandon Bush. Photo by Tess Miller.

Bridgetown is very fortunate to have the sound system that we have. Our system is comprised of four speakers, two sub-woofers, six wireless microphones and two sound boards, one for Jason in the back of the audience and one for us on stage to be able to adjust our in-ear monitor settings. I started setting one sub-woofer on each front corner of the stage. I probably looked silly considering the sub-woofers are like boulders and I'm not exactly The Hulk. While Josh and I set up speakers, Jace and Ben connected cords, and Ev and Paul wired the sound boards. At the beginning of last semester, setting up the sound system took some time, but now we hardly have to think about it. It's like a dance and everybody knows their part.

Now that we had set up the system and everybody was wired up, it was time for sound check. Jason had us check each of our microphones one at a time. I was envious of Ev's bass microphone because of how it could make the floor shake. After that, we ran through a couple songs and we were ready.

Between sound check and performance, there was a little bit of free time. Now, Bridgetown spare time consists of a number of things ranging from playing on the school's piano or documenting our visits via social media, but one of our favorite pastimes was picking on Jace. We all love Jace to death, and because of that we love teasing him. While I was fiddling with my microphone, I saw Ev start to sneak up behind Jace like an animal stalking its prey. I started laughing because I knew exactly what he was going to do. Once Ev got close enough behind Jace, he ever so gently touched the side of his ear. Upon contact, Jace twitched vigorously, shouting "Hey!" and cupping his ears with his hands. Ev cackled at Jace's reaction along with the rest of us. Though we love picking on Jace during our spare time, we've also become better friends, which translates to our interaction on stage and makes us much more relatable to our audience.

Students began to flood into the auditorium. We headed back stage and waited for the "Go" from our fearless leader. "Let's welcome Bridgetown!" The choir director signaled us to come on, so we walked to our spots. "Sunny Days, one, two, three, four." One of my favorite things about tour is watching the faces of these high school students begin to light up once we got through the first four measures of our opener "Sunny Days." We wake them up right at the beginning with some vocal percussion and sweet harmonies. Josh is the one who sings the most leads in the group, and rightfully so. With his doughy eyes and curly brown hair, it makes sense why we'd have him sing up front all the time. As soon as Josh opens his mouth, the high school girls in the audience practically melt in front of us, which the rest of us non-high-school-girl-melters find hysterical. We finished our second song "My Hope" with a piano chord, which was followed by courteous applause from our high school audience.

Now it was time for our secret weapon that wins the audience over every time. Paul started his spiel to the audience about how we are a unique group in that we aren't a true cappella group because we use instruments, we aren't really a choir because there is only six of us, and so on. "But one thing we want to make sure you guys know from the very beginning is that we... are definitely... not... a boyband." Precisely after Paul finished, we all turned our backs to the audience and began to perform the cheesiest spoof you've ever heard of "I Want It That Way" by The Backstreet Boys. It's called "Subway" by Tim Hawkins, and it wins the audience hearts every time. With our combination of witty choreography and dorky word play, the audience was going nuts. The girls were screaming so loud that we were having trouble hearing ourselves. "Cause' I work at Subway." We sang the last word of the song, and ruckus applause filled the room. To be honest, when I first started learning this song I felt kind of silly, but now it's become iconic.

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GROWING PAINS

Despite challenges, wrestlers finish strong

— *by Laron Daniels*

Fall 2014 marked the opening of a new chapter for Warner Pacific College athletics, with the department introducing new women's and men's wrestling programs into the mix. In October 2013, the decision to add wrestling was finalized by athletic director Jamie Joss, and coach Frank Johnson was hired shortly thereafter in January of 2014. From that moment forward, the program was assembled: 44 wrestlers altogether, 29 men and 15 women, the largest athletic program at the college.

This isn't Warner Pacific's first tangle with wrestling. The College previously carried a men's wrestling program from 1968-75, led by Warner Pacific Hall of Honor member Dave Sanville. The program was shut down in 1975, and has since been an afterthought, that is until Jamie Joss pictured wrestling as an ideal fit for the college. "It serves our mission because wrestling is a diverse population. All shapes, sizes, weights, nationalities, socioeconomic backgrounds; it embodies what we want to do as a school," Joss said. There are few college wrestling opportunities available, so Joss sees wrestling at Warner Pacific as a great resource to assist the existing pool of high school and collegiate transfer wrestlers. "We saw the program as serving an underrepresented population, but also giving them the means to attend college through wrestling," he said.

Coach Frank Johnson was eager to embrace the opportunity for success. His college experience consists of a five-year stint as head coach at his alma mater Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon (1997-2002). Eight of his wrestlers achieved All-American status there, and the team won three regional team championships. The size of the men's squad tripled, and Pacific launched a women's program under his leadership. In 2002, seven women placed at the US Open Championships, and the Boxer team placed third overall. Johnson has been head coach

for the Forest Grove High School wrestling program since 2002. He guided the FGHS team to tremendous success, which includes two OSAA 6A individual state champions in 2007, and two more champions in 2010. Six of his wrestlers have participated in international competition, and Forest Grove hosted a team from Russia in 2011.

In early 2014, it was still unknown just how the new wrestling program would fare at Warner Pacific. "Wrestling was dropped here in 1975, so it's been that long since we've had a program. I was excited just because the program was being started to give high school kids an opportunity to further their careers," Johnson said. Several of Johnson's 2014 recruits boasted impressive resumes, having competed at high levels, performed on big stages, and accomplished success at their previous schools. Still, the primary question was how would that prior success carry over into the 2014-15 year?

There were several complications to be fixed, questions to be answered, and concerns to be cleared up right from the beginning. Complications, questions, and concerns are anticipated when introducing athletes from different backgrounds to a new program, with new living arrangements, new teammates, led by a new coach, in a new school, and, for some, in a new city.

An initial struggle for the first year program was finding a consistent facility for everyday practice. The team started off practicing at Rose City fighting gyms, where there were mats the wrestlers could practice on. Then the team alternated between various locations, including Park Rose High School, Franklin High School, and David Douglas High School. With time conflict issues, sometimes the team had to practice at 5:30 a.m., and that made transportation more difficult. As the season went on, David Douglas and Franklin became consistent practice

venues. Despite struggling with practice locations, the team still managed to find ways to continuously workout, work hard, and get better. Towards the end of the season, patience was a virtue, and the conflict was resolved; the team had finally received brand new mats that allowed them to practice in their own Warner Pacific gym.

With a recruiting class consisting mostly of incoming freshman, sprinkled in with some transfer students, a legitimate question was how would they adapt to the new level of college wrestling? The grind of being a college athlete is mentally exhausting and physically demanding. It requires far more effort and psychological fortitude than a non-wrestler would expect. As female wrestler Kaelynn Canyete described it, "Wrestling is a mental and physical sport. You must have a good mentality to be a good wrestler...Having a mental block will be your main weakness." Especially within this sport, where there's a maturity process for the wrestlers as they go from competing at the high school level to competing at the collegiate level where they'll face opponents who have been wrestling for an additional three or four years, and have more tools and tricks in their bag. It's a big challenge with the maturity of the athlete's body and the physical nature of wrestling as well.

The rough adjustment was anticipated, but also so was a high level of competitiveness from the team. What wasn't anticipated were the unfortunate circumstances of life. "I actually had higher hopes...in terms of success. Some things happened that I didn't expect. We had some transfer students become ineligible, along with injuries," Coach Johnson said. This certainly was surprising for Johnson; in five years coaching at Pacific University, none of his athletes became ineligible. This year, after the first semester, a total of six athletes from the men's and women's teams become academically ineligible. "And they were key athletes, in key



Left: Josh Crager and Eric Luna talk to coach Frank Johnson during a match. Right: Kaelynn Canyete wins her match. Photos by Anousa Sengsavanh.

weights, who had potential. It doesn't diminish my hopes for the future; I think we will be successful," Johnson said.

All and all, through the first year growing pains, the men's and women's teams pieced together strong seasons that will serve as a huge stepping stone for the upcoming year. Even though they were shorthanded through injuries, sickness, and eligibility issues, the Knights were competitive. Four wrestlers made it to nationals, freshman Josh Crager from the men's team, and three athletes from the women's team: freshmen Deirdre Creed and Breanne Diaz, and sophomore Kassi Strano. The men's team finished 7th at West Regional Qualifier. "It was a good experience for our young team in their first regional event, and we'll work to improve our results in the future," Johnson said.

What is there to expect for next year's wrestling teams? Freshman Cesar Guzman made some predictions: "The intensity is going to be hard from the get go. We're going to push hard from the very

beginning and for the whole year." The Knights have high hopes for both teams after getting a taste of what college wrestling is all about. Now knowing the rigors and requirements it takes to compete at this level, they hope to rev up the intensity. "The pace at practice and just the pace of the team; I know for a fact it's going to be a lot faster and it will make us better," Guzman said.

Next year the team will be older and more mature. Coach Johnson plans on continuing his phenomenal recruiting as well. "The goal is to bring in a group of guys and gals that are going to buy into our vision." In terms of solving existing issues, such as the practice situation, Johnson and Joss are confident that time will work everything out. "We'd love to be able to have a wrestling room on campus...and it's one of our goals that we would like to achieve, but we're very fortunate, very blessed, and very appreciative that we have wrestling, so Frank and I will be more tolerant and accepting of those challenges," Joss said.



The Knight Times

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GRADUATE PROFILE KATIE SCRIBNER

by Kathryn Jacobson

**GRADUATING SENIOR
KATIE SCRIBNER SERVED
AS ROCINANTE EDITOR-IN-
CHIEF AND WAS AWARDED
OUTSTANDING STUDENT IN
ENGLISH FOR 2015.**



Military significant others (MilSo) can be found in a wide range of places, including at Warner Pacific. The MilSo's of Warner Pacific work hard, dream, achieve, and hope for the future. Their experiences are hard but rewarding.

Senior student Katie Scribner is the wife of Andrew Scribner, who is in the United States Marine Corps. They started dating on June 2, 2014, but have known each other for eight years. They met through her brother and a mutual friend when they were in eighth grade and have been close ever since then. Andrew is enlisted and works as an aviation technician.

To keep herself preoccupied while Andrew is away, Katie works long hours. School does not preoccupy her enough; she also spends time with his family. The hardest thing to do when he is away is sleeping by herself. Katie said "I keep myself up at night worrying about him and his buddies that have become our extended family. There is something very comforting about having him next to me." They attempt to text every day and Skype a few times a week, if they can, to keep in touch with each other. She sends care packages to Andrew in decorated boxes. One of the things they say to each other regularly is, "Every day is one day closer."

Katie has support from Andrew's parents, his sister, and her own parents for their enduring relationship. They had planned to marry in December if Andrew was allowed his leave during that time. Her fear was that he wouldn't come home and there would be no wedding, but on December 20, 2014, they married. "It was the best day of my life," Katie said.

Katie is involved with Camp Courage, an organization that sends care packages to military men and women. Care packages can include entertainment, stationary, hygiene necessities, and books, but the most favored item of all are letters and kids' drawings that are included. Mai Christy, the founder of Camp Courage, started the project to impact a few Marines in the SAC rehab unit. From there, the project grew and the responses that Christy received from the recipients showed just how impactful Camp Courage is. The website of the organization includes responses from grateful recipients: "It means so much to know there are people out there that not only care about us but take time out of their day and use their own money to make sure we are taken care of," said recipient Jensen. Christy is also a Marine mom and said, "Being the mom of a military service member is not easy, but it is the most beautiful honor any mom can be given."

After finishing her last semester of college, Katie is moving to wherever the Marine Corps has taken her husband. Andrew is in a deployable unit. His station cannot be disclosed due to OPSEC (Operations Security) and PERSEC (Personal Security) in order to protect him and his unit. The Department of Defense encourages these security measures, especially online, because anything online "...enables greater volume and increased speed of information shared publically."

In the last few months, Katie has been busy with legally changing her name on personal documentation, traveling to Andrew's duty station to arrange future housing, beginning to pack everything they own for the move, and working at Chuck E. Cheese's. Katie has recently been promoted at her work and now works 40 hours a week, while carrying a 17 credit semester at Warner Pacific.

Since Andrew has been at his Permanent Duty Station (PDS), it has been hard for them to communicate because of opposite schedules. However, Katie did visit Andrew recently to explore her new neighborhood and give her personal touches to her new house. Waiting for her is a two bedroom house that she loves. Wherever Andrew goes, Katie will go, because in the end, Andrew is her home. *Photo by Tim Jackson.*

What is it like to be a MilSo?

by Katie Scribner

The question of what it's like being a MilSo is not easy to answer. Sure, we all deal with separation, but just like every person is unique, so are the relationships that MilSos are in. We all fear being told of the worst happening to our SO, we worry about deployment, and we worry about death. It's a constant fear, even if our SO is stateside, because training accidents happen. The fear of deployment is even more concerning, especially when you ask your husband, "What are the chances of you being deployed?" and he tells you, "I have no idea, babe, it just depends."

For me one of the hardest things is not being able to have everything planned out. When something comes up, that's it, we drop what we're doing and move or we change plans around to make things work. There is a picture that floats around Facebook and Pinterest that says a lot about being a military family, and one of the lines says "we do last minute," which couldn't be closer to the truth. My wedding plans were last minute, my trip to my husband's PDS was last minute, the plan to get my dependent card fell through, and the list could go on. It's not that we don't want to plan things out, it's that the Marine Corps comes first and I come second. This fact doesn't make me mad. I chose this and I would choose it again.

I can say that being a MilSo has brought some amazing people into my life. I've made friends with other wives while getting involved with an organization called Camp Courage, which sends care packages to service members all over the world. My husband has gained brothers who I share my house with and feed on weekends. We're a big huge family. A MoM (Mom of a Marine) could see me for the first time, give me a hug, and tell me she loves me simply because we all have a connection.

That is how I feel about being a MilSo. It's like being a parent; you don't know what it is like until it happens to you, and that goes the same for being a MilSo.

BRIDGETOWN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

After the applause died down, it was time for Paul's testimony. It's amazing how engaged the high school students became once Paul started to share the story about the passing of his dad when he was a freshman in high school. He explained how his father was diagnosed with stage four colon cancer and was given a five percent chance to live up to five years. "But my dad was a fighter," Paul said "After two years of chemo they gave my dad a 98 percent chance to live a normal life. Everything was fine through football season and basketball season until the last month when my dad started feeling sick. Then one Saturday morning my mom woke me up and told me to come downstairs. When I got down stairs, my sister's head was in her hands and nothing more needed to be said. My father had died on the ride to the hospital in the middle of the night. I had now become the man of the house, and through that I grew as a caretaker for my mom and sister. My church had to rent a 500 seat venue for my dad's funeral because my dad was who he was, a soft spoken and caring man. He taught me so much in life, but through his death, I have learned even more. He made me the man I am today, and I only wish I could tell him what he meant to me. Every moment on this earth is a treasure. You never know when someone you love will be called home, so make sure you tell them how much you love them."

Our final song "All Rise" came to an end and applause erupted one last time. After question and answer, we mingled, then began packing our equipment to head out. Jason interrupted our tear down and gathered us together "Hey guys, there's a girl who wanted to talk with you before we leave." Jason pointed to a girl with long brown hair and tears in her eyes, waiting patiently just off stage.

All of us walked over to her, and Jace asked, "Hey, what's your name?"

"Desaray," she replied with a shaky voice.

"What's going on?" Jace asked with a concerned tone. With as much of a voice as she could muster, she began to explain how she was feeling alone, and that she felt no one at school could relate to her relationship with Jesus. She said the loneliness led to her doubting her faith for a long time, but us coming to her school today made her realize that it was worth the fight. "You guys are such an encouragement for me," she said, smiling through her tears. Jace smiled and asked, "Can we pray for you?" We all huddled around Desaray shoulder to shoulder, and Jace started to pray.

As I took my spot in the van and we pulled out of the parking lot, I realized that we are much more than a singing group. We have an opportunity to change people's lives through the grace of God. We have been given a gift that can evoke hope in those who are feeling hopeless. For me that's the best part of being a member of Bridgetown. I looked out the window, and as I watched the high school get smaller and smaller, I felt truly blessed.

**BRIDGETOWN'S CONCERT AND RELEASE PARTY
FOR THEIR NEW CD "TREASURE" IS
SATURDAY, MAY 2ND AT 7:30PM
IN MCGUIRE AUDITORIUM**

NEW STUDENT LEADERS FOR 2015-2016

by Julia Toscano

Under the Associated Students of Warner Pacific College (ASWPC) umbrella are six different student leadership branches that serve as unique resources to the campus community. Student Government, College Activities Board (CAB), Student Diversity Counsel (SDC), Residence Life, Service Learning, and Campus Ministries all work together to create an inclusive and equitable campus atmosphere.

Each of these branches has a staff advisor. Campus Activities Board (CAB), advised by Kia Smith, engages the campus through a variety of programming that ranges from intramural sports to bake offs. This year, a new sport was added, dodgeball, which turned out to be a huge success. CAB also hosted the annual banquet, which was held in a venue in downtown Portland.

Student Diversity Council (SDC), advised by Jeanie Whitten-Andrews actively promotes justice on campus and in the broader Portland community through inclusive and educational programming. SDC supports the multicultural organizations such as MEChA, BSO, Pacific Islanders club, Eco Justice, and the newly established Mantra.

Residence Life cultivates a responsible living and learning environment where holistic growth takes place through dynamic relationships and programs. The Residence Life team, led by Nicole Thomson, hosted the famous “Undees,” which reached record attendance this year.

Service Learning, also advised by Jeanie Whitten-Andrews, engages students in direct service that is rooted in social justice and meets the tangible needs of our neighbors in the city of Portland and beyond. Service Learning facilitates monthly curricular and co-curricular programming. This year, the all campus Common Day of Service had a record number of attendees with over 400 participants.

Campus Ministries, advised by Michelle Lang, creates chapel experiences which challenge the campus to see our world through the lens of Christ. CM also facilitates small groups that provide spiritual support for students of different faith backgrounds with a deeper and more intimate space for students so they can feel comfortable and think critically about the world and themselves.

Kyra Pappas, Director of Leadership Development and Student Programs and her team of staff advisors have challenged all the branches of leadership to critically engage the campus and guide students to become leaders inside and outside of Warner Pacific. She has been here at the college for seven months now and has loved working with the students and staff. Pappas works with the staff advisors of each of leadership branch to develop leadership training and student programming. She wants to empower the student leaders to critically engage of the world and use their leadership experience to prepare

them for life outside of Warner Pacific. “Our mission is to empower students to lead, inspire students to act justly, and engage them through relevant and diverse programming... we want to develop you as a holistic person,” she said.

Pappas also works specifically with Student Government to empower, equip, challenge, and connect students through their programming. Student Government provides a great resource to the students and their engagement in the school as well as the community. Traditionally, student government has been seen as the primary leadership team; however, Pappas emphasizes that there are six total leadership branches at Warner Pacific, which are of equal importance. No branch has more influence or say than the other, and “everyone has a voice and everyone can be heard.” Student government’s responsibility in ASWPC is that it oversees activities of the various clubs and co-chairs the student senate with the Student Diversity Council. Student government also hosts monthly Forums to ask for student feedback about the core themes and mission of the College. Pappas says that student leaders want to meet the needs of the students wherever they are: “We are intentional in the resources we provide to the campus.”

Pappas also teaches a course for leadership here at Warner Pacific. In this course, there is training that she gives students to help prepare them to be able to do responsive work. She works with them to do proactive programming instead of reactive. She teaches students how to have those tough conversations, and explore their roles through the different leadership angles at Warner Pacific. Pappas says that student leaders “help see the movements that are happening on campus and help guide the conversation.” With Pappas’ passion for inclusive diversity, she will help guide the new student leaders of Warner Pacific to accomplish great things next year.

Student Government consists of eight positions and includes a representative from each of the ASWPC leadership branches. The positions are elected by the student body since these students are going to be the voice of the community. New positions to the Student Government Cabinet for the 2015-16 year are the Service Learning Representative, filled by Britny Belcher, and Head RA, filled by Shayla Collier. Ricki Ruiz will serve as the CAB Chair Representative. Mollie Meyer will serve as the Student Body Chaplin and Lead Small Groups coordinator. Paige Moreland will be serving as the Student Diversity Council Representative. Angel Castaneda has been elected as the Communication and Operations Manager. This office is an important one within student government, particularly because it combines two different jobs into one position. Currently Castaneda is working for Multnomah County and is an Act Six scholar. His job will involve consolidating and communicating the ASWPC calendar of events, along with working with the marketing team. Castaneda



Jeannie Whitten-Andrews, Kia Smith, Gimena Olguin, and Kyra Pappas pose for a group photo in Tabor Grind. Photo by Kathy Covey.

hopes to gain more student involvement through his work. “Being in [student government], just having a voice, I can have an impact. I want to be remembered here,” he said.

Another student leader elected by the student body is the new Commuter Representative. Freshmen Cindy Valenzuela is passionate about being the Commuter Rep because she feels like commuters do not have the same accessibility as residents. She gives an example of club meetings that many commuters cannot attend because they are at an inconvenient time. “In general, people are told to participate, but they have no way of doing it,” she said. Valenzuela plans to change that this upcoming year. Valenzuela is aware of the accommodations that she will have to make to engage commuters more. She plans to build on the good work done by commuter representative Adaya Perez, who set the foundation for the commuters this year. Valenzuela is impressed with the free commuter lunches that were hosted this year, but she hopes to improve them and make them a set schedule so commuters know when to come. Valenzuela is also a part of MEChA, Enactus, and Act Six, so she is experienced in the leadership system. “I am here with an open mind. I am going to be here and I want [commuters] to feel comfortable to come to me,” she said.

Another leader who is determined to create change at Warner Pacific is Vice President-elect Cathy Lara. Along with being MEChA Vice President, a collegiate soccer player, working for Academic Affairs, and continuing her position for Student Diversity Counsel, Lara will

take on the position of student Vice President, in which she will be co-chairing Student Senate and supporting the club leaders. Lara chose to take this task on because she wants to move away from the hierarchy where student leaders are separated from other students. Lara says “I want to build a bridge.” Her goal is to build personal relationships with students because Lara says that it is the only way to see what they need. She wants to find ways to sit down with someone she doesn’t know and find out what are their aspirations are.

Finally, Warner Pacific’s student body president for next year is junior Thalia Garcia Aguilar. Aguilar said that when she ran for president, she “didn’t have a master plan already in place.” However, Aguilar’s honesty and passion for what she believes in is what got her elected. Aguilar believes in the “importance for students to engage in healthy conversations about social inequities and injustices on a regular basis. One of my hopes is that we do not allow for our fears to stop us from engaging in serious matters.” Aguilar hopes to see change in how students can become aware of student government. It is “important for students to know what student government, the organizations, and clubs offer to the campus,” she said. Aguilar believes that she will be a good president for the students because of her openness to different perspectives has allowed her to connect with people. She also said that “being comfortable with diversity which does not only pertain to race, but includes all the different backgrounds that we all come from, I feel has allowed me to navigate in many different situations because I draw in the different outlooks from the people around me.”