SHEER BEAUTY

The artistry of mountain climber, skier, and photographer Sarah Strattan '11.
TO THE HEIGHTS

FROM THE PRESIDENT
Isaiah Crawford on the not-so-sleepy summers on campus.

DISPATCHES
Going-on on campus and off, including a visit by Rita Moreno, the return of the Fieldhouse Flea Market, and advice on staying safe online.

CONNECTIONS
Bella Rodriguez ’24 investigates the roots of the Cuban-American community in Portland, Ore.

GRRR
Laura Knuffel on writing and teaching—and on swimming in Puget Sound.

EXPLORATIONS
Megan Mooney ’23 gets muddy in search of parasites that threaten eelgrass.

YOU ARE HERE
Cherry trees add beauty to campus every spring.

THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND

FEATURES
14 COMING HOME
Remembering Ronald Thomas, the university’s 13th president, who passed away April 12

ALWAYS A LOGGER

PROFILES
We spotlight the 2023 alumni award winners; Alex Kaufman ’17 brings comedy to Montana; Carina Ramsay ’02 advocates for inclusion at Starbucks and Wegmans; Bob Rosner ’80 helps get clean water to Kenya.

CLASS NOTES
Updates, news, and achievements from Loggers around the world.

CROSSWORD
Get Out!

MEMENTO
Remembering members of our community who have passed.

SCRAPBOOK
Loggers share photos of their reunions, weddings, serendipitous encounters, and more.

OBJECT OF OUR AFFECTION
One hundred years ago, ground was broken for the first building on our new campus.

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No. 2
SPRING
President Isiaah Crawford on the important role that summer programming plays on campus.

What We're Talking About on Campus

WE'RE BACK!
After missing three years because of COVID-19, the Fieldhouse Flea Market returned in March. With more than 60 vendors on hand, the event raised more than $32,100 for student scholarships. The Women's League has been organizing the flea market since 1968.

NEW PROVOST
Drew Kirkhoff, associate provost at Kenyon College in Ohio, has been named provost at Puget Sound. A biologist, he's been on the Kenyon faculty since 2005; he recently led the development of a plan to abate carbon neutrality by 2040.

PUT ME IN, COACH
The university has hired two “student success coaches” to support incoming students. Tiffany Williams and Will Holland will help students find resources and navigate the challenges of the first year on campus.

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED
This year’s Logger Day Challenge in March was a strong success, raising $486,384 from 1,550 donors in 47 states. Class of ’79 alum Sylvia Pecknett led the women’s soccer team to an NCAA tournament appearance. Joyce, a pitcher and infielder on the baseball team, set the school career records for home runs (166) and runs batted in (134).

LOCAL FAVORITE
South Sound Magazine named University of Puget Sound its top college in the 2023 Best of the South Sound rankings, based on voting by readers.

BASEBALL HISTORY
Robert Guazzato, emeritus professor of English, has a new book, Jazz Age Giant: Charles A. Stoneham and New York City Baseball in the Roaring Twenties. The University of Nebraska Press is the publisher.

Love wins the day
A 17th-century French romantic comedy called Games of Love and Chance was the Department of Theatre Arts’ marquee production this spring. Mya Woods ’25 (left) and Alision Turek ’24 were among the performers in the Norton Clapp Theatre.

FULLBRIGHT LOVE
Puget Sound has once again been named among the colleges and universities that produce the most Fullbright Students, according to the State Department. Six Puget Sound students earned Fulbright awards in 2022–23.

TOP STUDENT-ATHLETES
Ana Cholakian ’23 and Dylan Joyce ’23 have been named Puget Sound’s most outstanding student-athletes for 2022–23. Cholakian netted 17 goals and led the women’s soccer team to an NCAA tournament appearance. Joyce, a pitcher and infielder on the baseball team, set the school career records for home runs (166) and runs batted in (134).

Mehgan A.T. B. Reese
Fieldhouse Flea Market – Photograph: Kristofer Nyström; Theatre: Photograph: Kurt Walls

IN PRAISE OF SALMON
Artist Eileen Klatt worked for years on a series of 61 life-size paintings dedicated to salmon species that have become extinct. Four of those paintings—including the best of the South Sound, named University of Puget Sound its top college in the 2023 Best of the South Sound rankings, based on voting by readers.
Tales of a Legend
Stage and screen star Rita Moreno visits campus to give the Pierce Lecture. By Tina Hay

Hollywood legend Rita Moreno charmed the campus community in April when she delivered the Spring 2023 Susan Resneck Pierce Lecture and spoke to a class. Now 91, Moreno is perhaps best known for playing Anita in the 1961 film West Side Story, a role that earned her an Academy Award for best supporting actress—and made her the first Latina to win an Oscar. Born in Puerto Rico, she moved to the U.S. with her mother at age 5. “I learned very quickly, with language, it was either sink or swim,” she told an audience in Schneebeck Hall. “I wanted to swim. So I learned English very quickly.”

She recalled performing at a dance recital in New York City at age 15; after the recital, an MGM talent scout in attendance gave her mother his business card. “I’m not sure she’s ready yet,” he said, “but I want to give you my card as I believe she may have a future at MGM.” Says Moreno, “I damn near peed in my pants!”

Moreno, who has earned Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony Awards, has also received the Kennedy Center Honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the National Medal of Arts, among other honors. For her lecture, she was joined onstage in a Q&A format by Andrew Gomez, associate professor of history. She also fielded audience questions. Asked who her favorite current actors are, she mentioned Brad Pitt, Bradley Cooper, and Cate Blanchett. And, asked if she sees herself ever slowing down, she offered a quick and emphatic response: “Hell no!”

Ask the Expert: Faithlina Abeshima ’16
How to Stay Safe Online

Faithlina Abeshima ‘16 was hired by the university as a technology support analyst shortly after graduating; then, in 2019, she became information security administrator. We asked her advice on steering clear of hackers, scammers, and bots. —Amy Downey

LOG ON, LOGGERS
Rule No. 1: Every password you use needs to be different. Even the strongest password is automatically weakened if it’s repeated across accounts, says Abeshima. When you ensure that each password is unique to a given site, then your data is breached in a nonessential app (e.g., TikTok), the password won’t be compromised everywhere—including places that matter.

USE PASSPHRASES
A string of words is stronger than short passwords. Why? Length trumps all. “It takes an attacker a lot longer to guess a passphrase through computational algorithms,” Abeshima says. Passphrases can be easier to remember, too—just think of a famous quote or favorite song lyric.

USE MULTIPLE EMAIL ADDRESSES
Create separate email addresses for different parts of your life, says Abeshima. Have email addresses that are specifically for work, personal correspondence, sensitive accounts (e.g., banking, online shopping, and even social media). That boosts both privacy and security. If one of the accounts gets hacked—as opposed to all of them—it should be easier to isolate and resolve the problem.

SET UP ALERTS
Adjust your account preferences to send alerts when there’s unfamiliar activity. Configure your notifications to tell you if someone logged into your account or a transaction was made.

TAKES BATH STEPS
Protecting your digital footprint may seem overwhelming. Start by securing what’s most valuable—for many, that means banking, credit card, retirement, or investment accounts. In addition, your primary email account, which is often used to reset passwords or confirm your identity, should be a top priority. “If someone has access to that,” says Abeshima, “they have keys to the kingdom.”

For more ways to stay safe online, go to pugetsound.edu/security.

His Toughest Challenge
In his first season on the Puget Sound swimming team, Brett Kolb ’23 qualified for nationals. Then his health took an ominous turn. By Meri-Jo Borzilleri

Brett Kolb’s breakout freshman swim season came with an odd aftermath: He couldn’t keep hydrated.

Kolb ‘23 would go to the Diner on campus and drink a 64-ounce cup of water. Then another. And another. He didn’t think much of it, or of the numerous nightly bathroom trips, figuring he was recovering from a hard season. Weeks later, he mentioned it to his roommate’s mother—a nurse—who urged him to get checked for diabetes.

Busy with school, Kolb didn’t see a doctor right away. By the time he did, on a Tuesday, the doctor said he probably wouldn’t have made it to the end of the week. Kolb was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, his condition serious enough that he needed to be hospitalized for two days. That was in 2019, not long after Kolb had been named Northwest Conference Freshman Swimmer of the Year and qualified for the NCAA Division III championships. Suddenly he was low on energy, faced with constant monitoring of his blood sugar, having to adapt to a radical change in diet.

He struggled with his identity (“I wasn’t viewing myself as a good swimmer anymore”) and wondered if his swimming days were over. For a time, he contemplated suicide.

“It was a really dark point where I was thinking about just not wanting to be here anymore,” he says now. He learned on a built-in support system of friends, family, and teammates. Still does, he says. Teammates and coaches helped Kolb reset his life and his priorities in the pool, making it less about times and more about fun. When he went back home to Carson City, Nev., during the pandemic, his coach, Julie Hardt, helped him train and manage his diabetes. When Kolb, who now wears a blood-glucose sensor while swimming, felt guilty about having to leave the pool due to dangerous blood sugar levels, teammates reassured him it was OK. When he felt spent after a race, teammates made sure he was safe.

Kolb rediscovered joy in the pool and his priorities in the pool, making it less overwhelming. Feeling guilted about having to leave the pool due to dangerous blood sugar levels, teammates reassured him it was OK. When he felt spent after a race, teammates made sure he was safe.

Welcome to Dnuos Tegpi! Bawa_vx_vx_world was one of many high school seniors announcing that she’ll be headed to Tacoma this fall.

Heavenly Haze @pugetoundrawn enjoyed a “fun foggy morning row” in March.

Reminding Ron Thom @rthom posted several photos and a fond tribute to the former Puget Sound president, who passed away April 17.

TO THE HEIGHTS | DISPATCHES

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An Untold Story

Bella Rodriguez ’24 has uncovered the history of 1960s Cuban refugees in the Pacific Northwest.

BY JONNY EBERLE

Growing up in Portland, Ore., Bella Rodriguez ’24 was struck by the absence of Latino stories in the narrative of the city’s history. It wasn’t until she started studying history, environmental policy and decision-making, and Latino studies at University of Puget Sound that she started to ask questions about the history of Latinos in her hometown. That curiosity led her to dig deep into the city’s complicated racial history and uncover the story of the Cuban refugee community that sprang up almost overnight in the 1960s.

“My family is Dominican, but there’s a lot of shared community in Portland between Dominicans and Cubans,” Rodriguez says. “I knew I wanted to research the history of the area, and my dad told me that there used to be a lot more Cubans there when he was growing up. In fact, he said, there were a lot of Cuban women who would watch him when he was little. “That’s when I first heard about Operation Pedro Pan.”

Following Fidel Castro’s rise to power in the Cuban Revolution of 1959, Cubans who opposed the new communist regime started to look for ways to get their families off the island. In response, a group of Catholic charities organized Operation Pedro Pan—a massive effort to evacuate children to the United States with the tacit approval of the U.S. government.

“A lot of families were afraid that their children would be indoctrinated [if they stayed in Cuba],” Rodriguez says. “When the government started shutting down religious schools, they were desperate to get their kids out of Cuba. That kicked off the largest exodus of children traveling from a foreign country to the United States in history.”

Between 1960 and 1962, more than 14,000 unaccompanied minors arrived in Miami from Cuba. Some went to stay with relatives in the United States, and the rest were sent to foster homes around the country until they could be reunited with their families. Eventually, many of them ended up in Portland, where they formed a tight-knit Cuban American community in a predominantly white city.

To learn more about this chapter in Portland’s history, Rodriguez interviewed the now-grown unaccompanied minors, known as Pedro Pans, still living in the area, relying on referrals within the community to find her research subjects. With help from her summer research advisor, Assistant Professor of History Andrew Gomez, Rodriguez developed questions and a research framework to create an oral history of the Pedro Pan program.

“It’s important to capture these stories while we still can,” Rodriguez says, pointing out that many of the people involved have died or no longer live in the Portland area.

Rodriguez asked her interviewees about their childhood in Cuba, what they know about their parents’ decision to send them to the United States, what they remember about the trip, how they ended up in Portland, and what the Cuban community in Portland was like.

Some also talk about how the experience has shaped their politics. “There is this aspect of fear around communists that a lot of these people have, understandably,” Rodriguez says. “That explains a lot as to why today a lot of Cuban people lean more conservative. If you look at the history, you can see why their experiences have made many of them afraid of more leftist politics. I think that’s really nuanced, interesting thing that’s important to look at.”

In her research, Rodriguez also has found books, monographs, and a thesis, as well as smaller snippets of the story of Portland’s Cuban community, including a news article from 1967 profiling a Cuban refugee who was crowned queen of the annual Portland Rose Festival, and a business license for a Cuban social club that has since closed. These records, combined with Rodriguez’s oral history project, help to paint a fuller picture of the brief period when Portland’s Cuban American community flourished. Even though the community shrank as people died or moved away over the years, Rodriguez still sees its mark on the fabric of her hometown.

“The history of the Pacific Northwest is very centered on white people, but there have always been other groups here. When my family came to Portland in the ’60s, the majority of Latino people that they met were Cuban. They laid the foundation for the Latino community in the Pacific Northwest today,” Rodriguez—who chose University of Puget Sound in part because it offers a chance to study environmental policy—still has another year of college to go, but is starting to think about future plans. She’s considering law school, specifically environmental law.

“Which isn’t unrelated to her summer research as it might seem: “I think there’s a lack of understanding of marginalized communities and their histories in environmental policy and environmental law more generally,” she says.

“I think that the fact that I’m spending this time learning this history will be important.”
Writer, Teacher, Catalyst

Laura Krughoff talks about her fiction writing, her dual role as an educator and an administrator, and swimming in Puget Sound.

BY JONNY EBERLE

Laura Krughoff, associate professor of English and director of gender and queer studies, is a fiction writer and essayist. She won a Pushcart Award for her short story “Halley’s Comet” in 2007 and her debut novel, My Brother’s Name, was a finalist for a 2014 Lambda Literary Foundation Award. A more recent book, Wake in the Night, is a collection of short fiction about women in rural Indiana. We asked her about her work.

“You’ve been teaching at Puget Sound since 2014. What brought you here?

I grew up in the Midwest and did my undergrad at Loyola University of Chicago. Then, I got an M.F.A. degree in fiction writing at the University of Michigan. After that, I was living in Chicago, teaching, and starting to get published. In 2008, I decided I wanted to go back to school and I started a Ph.D. program in creative English at University of Illinois, Chicago. After that, I was ready for a change and did a national job search. I found Puget Sound and I haven’t looked back.

Can you tell me about your dual role in the English department and as director of the gender and queer studies program? How do those positions complement each other?

So, I applied for a creative writing position in the English department, but even in my interview, it was clear that the university was looking for folks who could cross over in interesting ways with other departments and groups on campus. A lot of my fiction dealt with issues of gender and sexuality, so I was already interested in gender and queer studies. A few years later, I caught my first QoS course and then four years ago, I took over from Greta Austin as director. It’s an administrative position, thinking about the courses that our students are interested in, figuring out what we can offer and how to staff those classes. One of my favorite things to do on campus is seeing where the energy is and figure out how I can help foster that. What very unglamorous things behind the scenes need to be done so that these conversations can flourish? That’s the part I really love.

Beyond your work as an academic and a program administrator, you’re also a writer. Can you talk about your writing?

I have almost exclusively published fiction. My first novel, My Brother’s Name, is about gender passing and follows a character who assumes her brother’s identity. She’s successful for a while and comes to discover that she really loves this narrative that she’s creating, but it’s not her life to live. So much has changed since that book came out, and the conversation about gender and the trans experience in particular is very different now than it was 10 years ago. Not only that, but I’m different, too. What’s amazing to me is how quickly you outgrow yourself. Like cicadas, we’re always leaving our little shells behind. If all goes well, we bust through the shell and climb off to do something else. There’s nothing wrong with that shell being what it is, but it’s not you anymore—you’ve moved on. Now I’m writing fiction and essays that deal with growing up in a conservative Quaker community in Indiana. I’m thinking and writing about love and religious harm in contemporary American life. And I’m also working on a historical novel about an early 20th-century woman who was a Quaker pastor, an Evangelist, and the head of one of two competing women’s divisions of the Ku Klux Klan.

Have you always been interested in teaching creative writing, or did you discover your passion for education later?

I’ve wanted to be a college professor since I was a kid. I’d never met a professor, but I guess I’d seen enough movies to make it seem like a good profession. Now, I’ve been putting a roof over my head teaching college writing since I was barely out of school myself, and I liked it from the start. The thing I love about teaching—and this shows up in my gender and queer studies courses as well as my creative writing classrooms—is you get to be there while someone else is having an experience for the first time. I remember how powerful those first experiences were when I discovered I had something to say. There’s a feeling when you’re learning something new that a door is open and something wonderful is about to happen.

How do you spend your time when you’re not on campus?

I do a lot of open-water swimming. I’ve been part of U.S. Masters Swimming for 15 years at the downtown Tacoma Y. When COVID-19 shut everything down, I couldn’t swim in the pool anymore, so a handful of friends and I grabbed our wetsuits and went straight to the open water. It’s so fun to swim in the Sound.

“One of my favorite things to do on campus is to see where the energy is and figure out how I can help foster that. What very unglamorous things behind the scenes need to be done so that these conversations can flourish?”
Getting Slimy for Research

For Megan Mooney ’23, spending time in the muck next to the Puget Sound led to finding an important new parasite.

BY KARIN VANDRAISS ’13

Megan Mooney’s ’23 stepped onto campus in 2019 a declared biology major—unusual, since students usually take the first year to decide—and high expectations for her college career. The valedictorian of her high school in Arvada, Colo., Mooney was determined to do just as well, if not better, at Puget Sound.

“I just hit the ground running,” says Mooney on a bright April afternoon, sitting in the courtyard outside Oppenheimer Café. “This is a school where, if you get to know your professors, they become your community, cheering you on. It made me feel like I could do everything I set out to achieve.”

“Everything” feels apt. Mooney was quickly invited to the Phi Eta Sigma honor society, added a major in environmental policy and decision making, joined Pi Beta Phi, and signed up to be a resident assistant the next fall. Today, she sits on both the ASUPS Finance Committee and the Faculty Senate’s Academic Standards Committee, is a member of honor society Phi Beta Kappa, and volunteers at the Tacoma Boys and Girls Club.

Mooney figured a career in biology would allow her to maintain her strong connection to the outdoors, cultivated by weekends spent hiking with her family. Students often don’t get involved with research until their sophomore year, but Mooney knew that technically, there wasn’t anything stopping her from getting a head start. She hung back after class times included kayaking into Dash Point State Park after dark, in the middle of winter, to collect samples. (The job sometimes included kayaking into Dash Point State Park dark, in the middle of winter, to collect samples.) But something didn’t add up. The specimens all had different characteristics, and they realized they had discovered a novel, second species of parasite.

Over the next year, Mooney, Elliott, and Kate Kelly ’22 collaborated with researchers from the University of Washington’s Friday Harbor lab in the San Juan Islands. Talking with other eelgrass researchers, Mooney realized how few people ever learn about a discovery like this, despite its wide-reaching implications. She found herself doubting her work—her potential to make an impact. How could she defend the organisms she’d spent countless hours analyzing if most people weren’t paying attention in the first place?

Back at school, Mooney thought about bridging the gap between science and environmental policy. She thought of her mother, a youth criminal appellate defender. “Growing up, I saw my mom’s passion for every detail of her work, putting in insane hours trying to find the thing that could win her case,” says Mooney. “That’s the passion I’m looking for. I want to do something where I can see people’s perspectives change.”

By the end of the summer, Mooney had started studying for the LSAT, her sights set on environmental law. With her pick of schools, she recently committed to the University of Colorado Law School. Mooney was recently chosen to receive the Gordon D. Alcorn Award, given to the outstanding senior in biology, at Convocation. Elliott admits he was disappointed when she said she was going to law school, but quickly saw it was the right fit. “I think she would be a fabulous researcher,” he says. “But given her interest in environmental policy and decision making, and how she thinks about the world, this will allow her to use her skills to make a broader contribution to society.”

“How could she defend the organisms she’d spent countless hours analyzing if most people weren’t paying attention in the first place?”

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Five Yoshino cherry trees—planted in 2017—continue a nearly 80-year tradition of honoring Japanese American students who were incarcerated during World War II. Blooming beautifully outside Howarth Hall every spring.
Ronald R. Thomas is home. For 13 years, from the summers of 2003 through 2016, that beloved home was here, as president of University of Puget Sound. His irrepressible enthusiasm for all things Puget Sound so animates the campus today that it’s impossible to speak of it in the past tense. He loved it all: every student, every possibility, every building, every blade of grass. The campus looks the way it does because he was a master of master planning. He envisioned a campus that was a true “tapestry of learning,” welcoming people and connecting them not only to ideas and
the life of the mind but to each other. Before Ron, there was no Commencement Walk. No Event Lawn. No center for the health sciences, now known as Weyerhaeuser Hall. No Athletics & Aquatics Center. And perhaps his greatest point of pride: Commencement Hall—now Thomas Hall—a living and learning center meant to be both a home for ideas and a home for students.

Home. If you knew Ron Thomas at all, or heard him speak even two or three times, you know how important the concept of home was to him. Home is more than a place. Home is the people who inhabit it, the people who are welcomed there. He would quote one of his favorite novelties, Charles Dickens: “Home is a name, a word, it is a strong one; stronger than any magician ever spoke, or spirit ever uttered.”

His first home: Ocean Grove, N.J., in Neptune Township, where he walked the same streets and boardwalks referenced in the lyrics of another local soul, Bruce Springsteen, whose entire catalog Ron knew by heart. Home was The University of Chicago, where he began his academic career as an English professor; and Harvard University, where he was a fellow; and Hartford, Conn., where he served as professor, department chair, vice president, and interim president at Trinity College. Home was the City of Destiny and the University of Puget Sound. Home was the City of Destiny and the University of Puget Sound. Home was the City of Destiny and the University of Puget Sound.

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For Sarah Strattan ’11, life revolves around mountains—climbing them, skiing them, and photographing them. Strattan grew up in Evergreen, Colo., fascinated by the “Fourteeners”—the Colorado peaks that exceed 14,000 feet. In college, Puget Sound Outdoors introduced her to backpacking, and an outdoor leadership experience in Alaska taught her about mountaineering. She climbed Rainier, then Denali. Then she set her sights on the Himalayas. Strattan, who taught middle school science for a time and now works on the ski patrol at Aspen Highlands Ski Area, spends part of each summer challenging herself on Asia’s tallest peaks. Last year she summited K2, the world’s second highest mountain; this June she’ll head to Pakistan to climb Nanga Parbat. Here, she shares some images of her time in the mountains. —Tina Hay

ALASKAN SUNSET: Strattan took this photo of Mount Foraker during a Denali climb in 2013.
K2 VIEW
Strattan photographed K2—at 28,251 feet, the world’s second tallest peak—through a hole in the glacial ice at base camp. After summiting K2 last July, she wrote on her Instagram page: “Standing on top of this mountain and making it down alive is something I’ll be proud of for a very long time.”

A LESSON FROM FAILURE
In 2021, Strattan tried to reach the summit of Broad Peak in the Karakoram Range, a sub-range of the Himalayas that she calls “steeper, harsher, more imposing and incredible than any place I had ever been.” She didn’t achieve her goal, but gained a new insight: “If I can recognize and appreciate the beauty in places like these, every expedition will be a success, no matter if I reach the summit or not.”

AT HOME IN COLORADO
While she says “the beauty of the Himalayas is unmatched,” Strattan has also climbed many mountains closer to home. She took this selfie on one of the Colorado’s “Fourteeners”—Quandary Peak, at 14,271 feet.
Strattan made an expedition last fall on Manaslu, a 26,781-foot peak in Nepal. The trip was plagued by heavy rain and snow, and several climbers were killed in avalanches. Strattan didn’t reach the summit, but said later, “It’s clear that there was more beauty than negativity, more good times than bad, lots of lessons learned, and as always, memories that will be with me forever.”

Strattan photographed this Nepalese man on a trek on Putha Himchuli, a 23,773-foot peak in the Dhaulagiri Range, in 2017.

Plant life can be found even at 17,000 feet. Strattan photographed this on K2 last summer.
RAINIER: AN EARLY SUMMIT

While a student at Puget Sound, Strattan learned mountaineering skills in a National Outdoor Leadership School course in Alaska. One of her first goals was to climb Mount Rainier, which she did for the first time in 2008. “I love Mount Rainier. It’s got everything—hiking in the forest, backpacking, rivers, and then you get up on the glaciers and it’s got steep climbing, all on one mountain, which is super cool.”

STUNNING SCENERY

The rugged Karakoram Mountains, which straddle the borders of India, Pakistan, and China, are renowned for “incredible beauty,” Strattan says.
WE ASKED SEVEN FACULTY MEMBERS WHO ARE RETIRING THIS SPRING TO REFLECT ON THEIR PUGET SOUND CAREERS—AND TELL US WHAT’S NEXT.
I’ve loved teaching the senior-level quantum mechanics course. At this stage of the game, students have enough math skills and physics background to delve deeply into the subject—it’s pretty exciting for them and for me as well. It all starts to come together. I learn more every time I teach the course.

Greg Elliott, professor of physics, retiring after 30 years at Puget Sound

I was very interested in film studies as an undergraduate and in my early graduate career. While working on my Ph.D., I concentrated on legal and political rhetoric. Most of my research and teaching focused on what I call “constitutional discourse.” I dabbled in film studies over the years, and this semester I taught “Politics and Film.” My students and I over the years, and this semester I taught “Politics and Film.” My students and I delved deeply into the subject—it’s pretty math skills and physics background to delve deeply into the subject—it’s pretty exciting for them and for me as well. It all starts to come together. I learn more every time I teach the course.

Peter Winrberger, retiring after 30 years as professor of biology

I always tell students to get rich, to become billionaires quickly—so they can have a midlife crisis as easy as possible and begin to question more profoundly how they want to live, how they will spend the limited time they have here on the planet. Some of us have been totally identify with our jobs; we live to work, and have lost touch with the reality that we work in order to live. It’s a confusion of means and ends. I always hope that our students and thinking partners and continue to ponder what “the good life” might be—beyond our occupation.

Stuart Smithers, professor of religion, spirituality, and society, retiring after 34 years

I feel privileged and humbled to have helped set a foundation for what my students have gone on to do with their careers. I’ve had around 900 DPT students learn their clinical anatomy, neuroanatomy, and understanding of the knowledge and skills to help people restore lost function and ease human suffering. Over the years, I’ve learned a tremendous amount from hearing about our graduates’ therapeutic directions, the people they helped, the innovations they’ve developed, and their depth of compassion. It’s staggering to think about how many lives they have collectively touched. Genuinely illuminates the reality of “making a difference.”

Roger Allen
31 arches spring 2023

How has the Classroom Changed with the Advent of Smartphones and Laptops?

These days I routinely start each class with, “It’s time to put your devices away.” And sometimes I have to follow up by pointing out to a student that their device is still out. Pre-pandemic, this was a much smaller issue.

Terry Beck

Let’s just say that I’ve been here so long that my email address doesn’t have a first-name initial (I’m just hanso@pugetsound.edu), and I was one of the first faculty on campus to create websites for my courses.

John Hanson

Did You Make a Pivot During COVID That You’re Especially Proud Of?

Pre-COVID, I didn’t use a lot of technology such as PowerPoint in my classes. I relied on handouts and white boards. I realized very quickly that I needed a strong visual component if I was going to make a successful transition to online teaching. I would not say that I’ve developed expertise in creating PowerPoint presentations, but I think I’ve become adept at incorporating PowerPoint in my in-person classes.

Jim Jasinski

What Was Your Biggest Challenge or Regret?

I devote significant time in my classes to help students develop as writers. Perhaps the biggest challenge in that context is getting a student to understand that a really good sentence that they buried in the middle of a long, rambling paragraph needs to become the focus of one or two paragraphs that develop the idea. Students in their first year or two have a difficult time grasping this idea.

Jim Jasinski

I wish I had done more team teaching. I had two intellectually vibrant experiences team teaching over the years. I wish I had more. I developed and team-taught an upper-level chemical biology course with Bryan Thines. Teaching these courses felt like those transcendental performances when you see two accomplished musicians, who don’t normally play together, get together on stage and jam. Teaching these courses was a delight!

John Hanson

If Money Were No Object, What Trip Would You Take Students On?

I discuss Supreme Court cases and opinions in a number of my classes, so a trip to oral arguments before the court would be fantastic.

Jim Jasinski

If You Could Invite Any Guest Lecturer, Living or Dead, to Speak in Your Class, Who Would It Be?

I’ve taught a course on Barack Obama’s rhetoric a couple of times. If I could offer the class one final time, I would love to have the former president join us to discuss the composition process that shaped some of his most famous speeches, such as his March 2018 speech on race in America, his December 2009 Nobel Peace Prize lecture, or his March 2015 speech commemorating the 50th anniversary of Bloody Sunday.

Jim Jasinski

While teaching at another university in the 1980s, I had the wild good fortune of having Douglas Adams speak to my class. Tough act for anyone living or dead to follow. However, it didn’t take much time on campus with my current short guest list: the 16th Dalai Lama, Jonas Salk, Richard Feynman, Toni Morrison, Par Marneth... But there is absolutely no one I’d rather invite to speak in any of my classes than the delightfully iconoclastic science writer Mary Roach. When I read Stuff! The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers, I instantly became smitten with this enthralling storyteller’s vast inquisitiveness, delicious wit, and keen sense of blending the fascinating with the frequently absurd pursuits of scientific inquiry. She’s the best role model for lifelong learning that I’ve ever encountered—just the thing I’d love to have my students experience, enjoy firsthand, and take with them into their futures.

Roger Allen

Is There Something on Your Office Desk or Shelves That Tells a Story About Your Work?

My shelves are full of picture books I’ve used in several classes. From classics like Sendak’s Where the Wild Things Are to more contemporary books like Barnwell’s No Moremen in My Name’s House and Love’s Juliet is a Mermaid, I’m reminded of the importance of being colorful and communicating important ideas, while not taking myself too seriously.

Terry Beck

Now that I’m retiring, I’m cleaning my office for the first time. There were occasional moments when I threw things into boxes because a dean or provost was coming to visit, but my office is a living monument to teaching, to the life of the mind, and chaos! As I work through the boxes, I feel like an archeologist working down through the different levels of sediment and detritus that have accumulated. I can’t quite bring myself to throw away things like the note from a student who described me as “a formidable friend” or the photograph from a student of the high plains in Wyoming and a note on back that described him- or herself running through the vastness, only “beginning to stumble when I slowed down.” It was an example of how we communicate more meaningfully and directly through stories. My office is a check-a-block with prints, photographs, ceramic pots, and other gifts from
students. Many of the students I lost touch with as they moved on into life, formed families, and grew into careers. But one of the most rewarding aspects of life in the liberal arts is forming lasting friendships and relationships with students. When I travel, there’s often a student I will remember to have lunch with—in London, New York, or maybe Jackson, Wyo. And I am always grateful when a student remembers me years later and makes contact.

Stuart Smithers

IF YOU COULD BE A STUDENT IN ANY COURSE AT PUGET SOUND, WHAT WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

Just about any of them! The faculty here are amazing teachers. The topic isn’t really that important; an excellent teacher will make any subject come alive with—in London, New York, or maybe Jackson, Wyo. And I am always grateful when a student remembers me years later and makes contact.

Stuart Smithers

WHAT’S NEXT FOR YOU?

Some shoulder-season travelling, some volunteer work (most likely involving animals), lots of reading and bike riding. I’ll probably pick up a guitar again, maybe work on my very bad French.

Jim Jasinski

I was really on the fence about retiring because I love teaching. But when I learned that I could teach a limited number of courses as an emeritus professor, the decision was easy. My partner is a doctor serving the Yupik people in Alaska. He’s reducing his work schedule too, so we’ll be able to spend more time together. We have a place in Montana in Paradise Valley; in late summer and fall we’ll be hiding out near the Yellowstone River and the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness, fishing and hunting with our pointing dog, a 3-year-old Brittany named Nikka (she’s got a lot of fans among students and faculty in Wyatt Hall). But next spring I’ll be back in Seattle and hopefully teaching a couple courses on campus for a few more years. And I’m already putting together a couple of seminars on “Modalities of the Mind and the Good Life” that will be taught at Smoke Farm, an amazing former dairy farm on the Stillaguamish that has been developed as a kind of retreat center through the years with university alumni. I truly hope to stay in touch with students after they graduate and continue our exploration of life together. In fact, I always tell my students: We’ve got email now, so whoever gets enlightened first, let me know!

Stuart Smithers

I’m trying not to over-plan my retirement at this point. But I do know that I’ll be spending more time with family and friends. I’m also excited to have time to continue playing tennis (I’ve been playing with faculty colleagues on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon for 50 years and plan to continue that tradition), riding my bike, and reading books, as well as having the opportunity to learn a musical instrument or two. And who knows, maybe I’ll have time for more poetry writing. I’m also looking forward to finding opportunities to give back.

John Hanson

You’ll still find me in the museum. There may be a book in the works on an important but unknown early 20th century Pacific Northwest biologist with whom I’ve developed a ‘necbromance.’ There will still be some ice worms, big bug, and beaver research. Probably a little side gig being a naturalist-guide. And I might be found running a backyard speakeasy when the sun is shining.

PETER WIMBERGER

My friend Luisa Motten retired a few years ago. She announced that “retirement” sounded too much like she wouldn’t be doing anything. Instead, she’s now in “preferment”—she is doing what she prefers. That’s me, starting this summer. I’m doing whatever I feel like. I might write, do volunteer work (most likely involving animals), lots of reading and bike riding. I’ll probably pick up a guitar again, maybe work on my very bad French.

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Terry Beck

Want to share this story with a friend? You can find it online at pugetsound.edu/partingthoughts.
BY JULIANNE BELL ’13

W. Houston Dougharty, this year’s Professional Comfortable on Campus of a Southern Baptist minister, he grew up in college experience began with his own. The son of a lifeguard learner, Dougharty joined the admission start at Puget Sound in 1968, his senior year. He’s been working with students ever since.

Puget Sound changed my life and its trajectory in immeasurable ways, for which I’m forever thankful,” he says. “I feel very lucky to have the closest friends and relationships, my love for the college experience, and my lifelong enthusiasm for learning, the arts, and having fun.”

Dougharty will retire this summer and move back to New Mexico with his partner, art therapist Kimberly Pine Dougharty ’90, and their son, Fen. Their rescue pug, Otis, has become something of a Hofstra campus celebrity. “If you’re courtside, he might be right behind you,” Dougharty says.

Dougharty has worked in student affairs for more than 12 years, including as vice president of student affairs since meeting Dougharty at orientation and quipped that even if she never did, at least her kidney could live on. Today, Dougharty is healthy, hopeful, and good-humored enough to crack a joke about the experience: “I never had the chance to get a degree from Hofstra,” he says. “But my kidney has two.”

As a lifelong learner, W. Houston Dougharty “seeks out interesting classes,” he has pursued a wide variety of academic opportunities throughout his career. He has been involved in student affairs for 40 years, working at a variety of institutions, including the University of New Mexico, Lewis and Clark College, and Puget Sound.

Today, Palmer is a social impact officer at The Beacon Fund, an organization focused on social change, his role involves supporting a range of philanthropic projects. He serves on the board of The Place, a Colorado-based provider of services for runaway and homeless youth, and is active in the Puget Sound Fund Committee, the board of First Place, a nonprofit serving people with autism, and the Puget Sound Foundation for Education. He’s also active in the Puget Sound Future Fund Committee, an organization that provides financial aid for students.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, count- no less novelty bread bakers faced a conundrum: how to make something of this year’s Service to Puget Sound Award, the recipient is Marrese ‘19, future and young alumni co-chair; Gabi Marrese ’19, future and young alumni co-chair; Katherine Kehrli ’86, CEO of The Place, a Colorado-based provider of services for runaway and homeless youth, and is active in the Puget Sound Fund Committee, the board of First Place, a nonprofit serving people with autism, and the Puget Sound Foundation for Education. He’s also active in the Puget Sound Future Fund Committee, an organization that provides financial aid for students.

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From Physics to ... Comedy

Alex Kaufman ’17

BY RENÉE OLSON

On the verge of starting a Ph.D. in physics, Alex Kaufman ’17 ditched it to launch Bone Dry Comedy. The goal was to become even more comedic—some with TV credits, others with 100K+ Instagram followers—to discover, aggregate, record, shop, and VFW posts across Montana.

Tell me about your effort to seed stand-up in Big Sky Country.

I was doing open mics here in Bozeman (as a grad student at Montana State University). While in Tacoma and Seattle, I had gotten to see cool, unbelievably funny people. I was like, “It sucks that’s not here in Montana.” My motivation was to bring those experiences here.

How does Bone Dry money flow to the comedians you invite?

I guarantee them a pretty solid chunk of flow to the comedians you invite? I guarantee them a pretty solid chunk of flow to the comedians you invite? I guarantee them a pretty solid chunk of flow to the comedians you invite? I guarantee them a pretty solid chunk of flow to the comedians you invite? I guarantee them a pretty solid chunk of flow to the comedians you invite?
Bob Rosner ’80 was a best-selling author and syndicated columnist when he heard a fact so shocking that it changed his career: Every 14.5 seconds, a child dies of a waterborne illness.

He heard the grim statistic during a conversation with a colleague, former Tacoma pastor Danny Thomas, who was telling Rosner about his Tacoma-based nonprofit, Water for the World, which sends portable water filtration units to Kenya.

As Thomas developed the organization, the two kept in touch. Five years ago, Rosner joined Water for the World, putting his communication skills to use as the chief communications officer.

In pity, soundbite-ready quotes, Rosner spreads the word about the pastor who quit his communication skills to use as the chief communications officer.

Earlier in his career, he wrote books on workplace issues, such as The Boss’s Survival Guide; launched a smoking cessation initiative; and started a crime prevention program for seniors. Now he’s putting his skills to use helping children to access safe, clean water.

County Public Opinion, published by Oxford University Press. Using surveys in 14 countries and syndicated columnist when he heard a fact so shocking that it changed his career: Every 14.5 seconds, a child dies of a waterborne illness.

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U.S. investors to purchase the machines at $24,000 apiece. The investors split the profit with Kenyan entrepreneurs, who sell the water on the ground.

For every 4,200 liters of water sold, 800 liters are donated to those who can’t afford it. “It’s just an amazing business model,” said Rosner, who bought half a share of a purifying unit. After adding more units in Kenya, Water for the World plans to expand to other African countries.

Though he never worked in the field, Rosner credits the occupational therapy degree he earned at Puget Sound—as well as working with Senri Solidarios in student programs—with his talent for solving problems in a variety of ventures. Earlier in his career, he wrote books on workplace issues, such as The Boss’s Survival Guide; launched a smoking cessation initiative; and started a crime prevention program for seniors. Now he’s putting his skills to use helping children to access safe, clean water.

2009 Taylor Ash ’09 and Anna Hansen Sayre ’05 work together at The Trade Desk in New York City. Both IPE majors and Phi Chi alums, they report that “the Logger handshake is a great icebreaker at work events.”

Andrea Gorton ’09 was tenured in March 2023 as a foreign service officer for the U.S. Department of State. She’s currently posted to Tel Aviv, Israel, with her husband, Jacob, and three daughters, Evelia, Malaka, and Millicent. Her prior posts include Guangzhou, China; Azusa, Ghana; and New Delhi, India.

2010 Joan Ilepieux ’10 was one of five archivists on the plenary panel at the spring 2023 meeting of the New England Archivists in Portsmouth, N.H. Molly Brown ’15, reference and outreach archivist at Northeastern University, moderated the session, which focused on the past, present, and future of the profession. Ilepieux is executive director of The History Project: Documenting LGBTQ+ Boston.

Enjoy the beauty of Pacific Northwest—at least vicariously—with this issue’s crossword puzzle, which has the region’s outdoor pursuits as its theme. Show us a photo of your completed puzzle and you might win a prize from the Logger Store! Send the photo to arches@pugetsound.edu, or post it on Instagram or Twitter and tag @pugetsound_logger. Congrats to Eli Harris ’21 of Berkeley, Calif., who won the prize from the Winter 2023 puzzle. See the solution to this issue’s puzzle at pugetsound.edu/getout.
Merritt B. Kleinman died on April 1, 2023. After graduating from Puget Sound and serving in the Air Force during World War II, then went into business with his father at Model lumber Company in Tacoma. He worked to help rebuild his hometown in the area in the 1990s. Among his survivors are sons Greg- ory 77, and Douglas 73.

Patricia J. Hildebrandt Owen died May 28, 2022. She had been a director in art from Puget Sound and a one-time owned Owen Art School and Gallery.

Mary Emma “Polly” Packard ‘47 died on May 10, 2022, in Panama City, Fla. She was 102 years old.

Virginia Kildee ‘47, P’76 died March 2, 2023, in Tacoma. She was 96. She studied English and French at Puget Sound and worked in student services at several other West Coast universities. Beginning as Puget Sound’s vice president in her initial claim of students in 1970, English later served as acting dean of the School of Education and as a faculty member in the School of Education, twice earning the Outstanding Professor Award. She remembered colleagues for his keen sense of humor, strong moral compass, and deep commitment to his students.

A South Sound resident for 46 years, English was also actively engaged in his off-campus community, serving as a member of the Gig Harbor planning commission and an elected city council member. He enjoyed birding, books, and sports—especially baseball—and was a Mariners fan and a collector of memorabilia. He was also an active member of Puget Sound’s lunchtime basketball league for faculty and staff.

John English died in Grand Rapids, Mich., on Feb. 25, 2023. He was 83. —The Brief 18

IN MEMORIAM

Franz Krllich Shenk ‘33 of Tacoma died March 17, 2023. She studied music at Puget Sound, then worked at the Mt. Rainier Orphanage Orpheus before raising a family.

Elaine B. Dickens Cleland ‘54, ‘58, an occupational therapy degree from Puget Sound and worked as a consultant for Sunny Side Hospital in Preston until her retirement. She died Dec. 24, 2022, in Tacoma, Ore.

Fred M. Uter ‘54, a music education major at Puget Sound, then went on to get a master’s and Ph. D. From 1992 to 1997, he led the genetics group at National Marine Fisheries; he was one of the first to apply biochemical genetic techniques to understand evolution and managing fish populations. He died March 5, 2023, in Lynwood, Wash., at age 81.

Anna Mae Morris Jenks ‘55, ‘56, of De Molins, Iowa, died Sept. 3, 2022. She had been batton Alumne’s degree for three years, according to her husband, John. Her husband, who lived in Oregon, was 65 years of age. —The Brief 18

Fumiko Takahashi Kimura ‘52, a business major at Puget Sound, passed away March 29, 2023. She was 93. A chemistry major as an undergraduate, she earned a master’s in art and had a long career in art, using oil, acrylic, sumi-ink, watercolor, and mixed-media collage. She also taught art as an adjunct faculty member at Puget Sound. Her husband, Yoshikuni Kimura ‘52, died in 2009.

IN MEMORIAM

Kathleen Specht ‘71 earned an art degree from Puget Sound, where she was a CH Omega. She was an interior designer and sometimes crafted art in Spokand, and was a caregiver. She died Jan. 6, 2023. —The Brief 18

Robert Coward ‘69, a life-long resident of Tacoma, died March 2, 2023. He was a member of the Tacoma Chorale, then became an insur- ance agent. He was married to Jeanette ‘Wilk’ Wilson ‘57 for 65 years. He died Sept. 14, 2022, in Cottonwood, Ariz. He was 88.

IN MEMORIAM

Harry ‘Corky’ Dieth ‘68 was a Lodge football standout in the late 1960s. In 1968, he led Puget Sound to a 12-1-2 record in the Pacific University (Aspen) School Dis- trict for more than 30 years. He was married to Deborah, who passed away in 1986. They were the parents of Alison, titled, and later had a home theater and set design at Wayne State University. He worked with the Detroit Tigers and later taught technical theatre at a high school. He died in Jasper, Ga., May 15, 2022, at age 75.

Jeffrey J. Dawson ’70 joined the Navy during the Vietnam War, doing rescue work off the coast of Vietnam in a helicopter squadron above the USS Bennington. After his dis- service, he returned to Puget Sound and worked for the Public Works Department. He later taught technical theatre and pursued a career as a Methodist minister. He died Aug. 22, 2021, in Hilo, Hawaii. Carl was 78.

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Robert Coward ‘69, a life-long resident of Tacoma, died March 2, 2023. He was a member of the Tacoma Chorale, then became an insur- ance agent. He was married to Jeanette ‘Wilk’ Wilson ‘57 for 65 years. He died Sept. 14, 2022, in Cottonwood, Ariz. He was 88.

IN MEMORIAM

Harry ‘Corky’ Dieth ‘68 was a Lodge football standout in the late 1960s. In 1968, he led Puget Sound to a 12-1-2 record in the Pacific University (Aspen) School Dis- trict for more than 30 years. He was married to Deborah, who passed away in 1986. They were the parents of Alison, titled, and later had a home theater and set design at Wayne State University. He worked with the Detroit Tigers and later taught technical theatre at a high school. He died in Jasper, Ga., May 15, 2022, at age 75.

Jeffrey J. Dawson ’70 joined the Navy during the Vietnam War, doing rescue work off the coast of Vietnam in a helicopter squadron above the USS Bennington. After his dis- service, he returned to Puget Sound and worked for the Public Works Department. He later taught technical theatre and pursued a career as a Methodist minister. He died Aug. 22, 2021, in Hilo, Hawaii. Carl was 78.
earned an accounting degree from Puget Sound. He worked as an accountant for Viking Industries and for the Boy Scouts of America before retiring in 2011. He lived in Gretnah, Ore. We received word of his death in March.

Georgia “Lee” Clare Fischlin ’72 was a former Army nurse and an operating room nurse who earned a degree in physical therapy from Puget Sound. She died Dec. 14, 2022, in Puyallup, Wash. She was 82.

Robert Scoville ’72 was an occupational therapist at Good Samaritan Hospital in Puyallup, Wash., from 1974 until retiring in 1998. While there, he mentored many Puget Sound students in their occupational therapy internships. He died Dec. 4, 2022, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, at the age of 79.

Allan Edmiston ’72 of Grapevine, Texas, died Feb. 17, 2023, at the age of 75. He had a degree in business administration from Puget Sound.

Ronald Leighton ’75 of Fairwood, Wash., died Jan. 14, 2023. He was 70 and had lived with Marfan syndrome for many years. He attended Puget Sound on a football scholarship; after graduation he worked in welding, burning, and pipe-fitting, and owned a ship repair company in Ballard.

William J. “Bill” Tuk ’76 died Jan. 31, 2023, in Wasilla, Alaska. He was 69.

Jim M. Vincent ’76, P’14 was a chemistry major at Puget Sound and went on to earn a medical degree from Emercy University School of Medicine. He was a physician in the Seattle area at Filer and Jones, Swedish Hospital, and the concierge medical firm MG2. He died March 29, 2023, at age 69. Among his survivors is son Maxwell Vincent ’14.

Patrick Ebert ’79 of Bainbridge Island, Wash., earned an accounting degree from Puget Sound, where he was president of Sigma Chi fraternity. He worked as a CPA and certified financial planner. He died Jan. 30, 2023, at the age of 67.

Fred Amhrin MBA ’80 died Feb. 1, 2023, in Goodyear, Ariz. He was 74.

Ernset Robert “Ernie” Persson ’80, age 66, of Bellingham, Wash., died Feb. 17, 2023. At Puget Sound he was on the swim team and was active in Beta Theta Pi fraternity. He spent his career in industrial equipment sales and at the time of his death was regional wholesale sales manager for King Electric.

Donald Gary Wall ME ’82 worked in education for more than 30 years, as an assistant principal and assistant superintendent in Lynnwood, Wash., as superintendent in Granite Falls, Wash., as an adjunct professor at Western Washington University and Brigham Young University, and as director of human resources for Provo City Utah School District. He died Jan. 23, 2023, in Orem, Utah, at 73.

K. Ann A. Criseman ’83 died Sept. 26, 2021, in Port Orchard, Wash., was an education major at Puget Sound.

Scott L. Finkin ’83 of Yakima, Wash., died March 10, 2022. He was 62. At Puget Sound he was a member of Sigma Chi and met his future wife, Margaret Scandinavian ’88. He worked for JCPenney in Washington and Oregon.

Jane Keckem ’87 lived in the Bay Area for most of her life in the Old Town neighborhood of Tacoma. At Puget Sound she majored in business administration and minored in mathematics. She died June 30, 2023, at the age of 68.

Jennifer Moore Lai ’89 was in the Business Leadership Program at Puget Sound, where she served as a residence hall assistant and was a member of Pi Beta Phi. She worked in finance, first in Seattle’s high-tech sector and later in senior positions at startups, established firms, NGOs, and education. She died of breast cancer March 7, 2023, at age 55. Among her survivors is daughter Mackenzie Lai ’22.

Judy Grummey Zies ’81 died Feb. 8, 2023, in Bellevue, Wash. She was 64. At Puget Sound she participated in the Pacific Rim program and met her future husband, Jeff Zies ’87. After graduation she earned a nursing degree and, with her husband, served in the Peace Corps before returning to Washington. She worked in public health, focusing on early childhood development and advocating for families who lacked opportunities.

Candy Peterson Nelson ’80 died of pancreatic cancer Jan. 11, 2023, in Gig Harbor, Wash. She was 52. She majored in physical education at Puget Sound and was active in Tri Delta sorority; she later worked many years in physical therapy.

Brad Boyl ’04 was a business administration major and biology minor at Puget Sound, where he was active in Phi Delta Theta fraternity. He stayed connected to the school after graduation and served as president of the Portland, Ore., chapter for many years. He worked and later worked in the finance industry for Merrill Lynch and TD Ameritrade. He died March 26, 2023, in Portland.

Meghan Peterson ’13 married Alexander Dusken ’13 on Sept. 16, 2022, in Bellingham, Wash. “It was a beautiful September day and the most wonderful time,” she reports. “Alex and I started dating our senior year at Puget Sound and have been together ever since! I work in nonprofit education and Alex is in grad school.” Loggers in attendance, from left: Colin Daunt ’13, the groom, the bride, Margaret Johnson Hutchins ’12, Elisabeth Basaltis ’12, Katie Mueller ’12.

Women’s basketball alumni Kristine Miller ’14, Taylor Jones Ellison ’14, Kelsey McInnis Griffin ’13, Erin Stumbaugh Melzer ’18, Amanda Forshey-Bibbins ’15, Ashley Aguirre ’15, and Kaitie Aimee ’15 spent their annual get-together in Tacoma in February, walking campus and visiting favorite landmarks.

The New York Region Alumni Club met on April 1 for a new rounds of bowling. To join the New York group and get invited to future events, email alumni@pugetsound.edu.


On August 21, 2022, Sarah Wallis ’15 and Mark Frankle were married at IslandWood on Bainbridge Island. Many Loggers were in attendance—from left: Sofie Saloy ’14, Megan Konrad ’14, Kristian Maki ’14, the bride and groom, Paul Maki ’14, Nate Forman ’14, and Jaki Nestor ’14.
Anne Shirey ’17 and Ian Conery ’19 married on May 28, 2022, at Sun Mountain Lodge in Winthrop, Wash. Logger friends and swimming teammates in attendance to celebrate their special day included (from left): Connor Barfield ’19, Rachel Duke ’19, Connor King ’19, Aaron Zevenbergen ’19, Caleb Van Boven ’19, the groom, the bride, retired Puget Sound swim coach Chris Myhre, Aza Verhoeven ’19, Dylan Reimers ’20, Kai Haven ’20, Stuart Brown ’16, Sam Anders ’16, and Katharine Etsell ’17.

First-year roommates Brandt Rataezyk ’12 and Charlie Bogart ’12 celebrated their 10-year reunion with their partners—and fellow Loggers—Allison Schoening Rataezyk ’12, MAT’13 and Bella Vaynberg Bogart ’12, plus future Loggers, Class of 2043 Tristan and Bennett.

On Oct. 1, 2022, Tracy Anunsen ’12 proved that outdoor weddings on Puget Sound in October can work, when she married Adam Linden at the Shoreline, Wash., home where she grew up. Logger friends in attendance included (from left): Joanna Chapman ’13, Mara Felman ’13, Chelsea Jaeger ’13, Mary Koenig Green ’12, Pat Anunsen ’73, Polly Membrino ’12, the groom and bride; Fallon Boyle ’12, Adam Leuin ’12, Polly Membrino ’12, Larry Eckert ’72, MBA’84, and Kathy Murchy Eckert ’76.

Our photo of a dog wearing a Puget Sound sweatshirt in the Winter 2023 issue [Oh Snap!, p. 4] prompted two other people to send us photos of their pups in Logger gear. Stuart Allison ’81 who sent the top photo wrote, “You like dogs wearing University of Puget Sound sweatshirts? How about a dog wearing a vintage 1979 crew team sweatshirt? Angus is in the hoodie, Mabel just wants to be in the photo.” And Andrea Seibt P’26 sent a photo of “our sweet dog, Bo,” younger brother of current student Mary Seibt ’26.

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Anne Shirley ’17 and Ian Conery ’19 married on May 28, 2022, at Sun Mountain Lodge in Winthrop, Wash. Logger friends and swimming teammates in attendance to celebrate their special day included (from left): Connor Barfield ’19, Rachel Duke ’19, Connor King ’19, Aaron Zevenbergen ’19, Caleb Van Boven ’19, the groom, the bride, retired Puget Sound swim coach Chris Myhre, Aza Verhoeven ’19, Dylan Reimers ’20, Kai Haven ’20, Stuart Brown ’16, Sam Anders ’16, and Katharine Etsell ’17.

Adam Leuin ’12 and Fallon Boyle ’12 got married on August 21, 2021, in Seattle. From left to right: Ben Zedwick, Megan Chambers ’12, Harrison Diamond ’12, Karen House, Ben Chodar ’12, Jim Weber ’12, Justin Roberts ’12, Olivia Zimmerman, Kris Shoupice, Kate Nelson ’12, Maggie Cuthane, the groom, Zoe Muller ’12, the bride, Sterling Ingle-Mead ’12, Nora Wahlund ’12, Johnston Hill ’12, Polly Membrino ’12, Wiley Putnam ’12, Tracy Anunsen ’12, Ellie Barber ’12, Adam Christl, Jim Prentice ’12, Catherine Counts, Dan Reimers, and Sarah Welsh ’12.
On Oct. 28, 2022, Elizabeth Fei ’09 married her longtime partner, Curtis Peterson, in Chicago. They were joined by Loggers and Logger partners from across the globe. From left: Stéphane Mead and Clay Thompson ’09 (coming from Amsterdam), Lucinda Stroud ’09 (from Seattle), the bride and groom, Ben Wilson, and Peter Ott ’09 (from Boston).

Sharing a round of golf, lunch, and watching the Mariners make the playoffs after 21 years were Logger roommates Carol Fujimoto Fleming ’77, Jill Kotschik Anderson ’77, Jeffrey Anderson ’79, Diane Johansson ’P02, P14, and Michael Johansson ’77, P02, P14.

Hilary Jacobsen ’10 and Noah Brod ’10 welcomed their son, Julian, on Dec. 13, 2022.

Karen Pryor ’10 married Adam Gluskin at Frank Lloyd Wright’s Emil Bach House in Chicago on Sept. 4, 2022. She was joined by four of her Kappa Alpha Theta sisters: from left, Maren Stockhoff ’10, Abbey Prast ’10, Devon Wahl ’10, and Tiffany Wynn ’09, and two of her Anderson/Langdon Hall mates from their first year, Maresa Jenson ’10 and Katie Shuy ’10.

Former classmates Brendan O’Neil ’92, Greg Ochs ’90, Mike Burchett ’92, and Jon McVay ’91 gathered recently at O’Neil’s home in Arizona.

In October, former housemates and Kappa Alpha Theta sisters Alyssa Jorgenson Muhlendolff ’99; Nicole Dietrich Eaton ’99; Aubree Robinson Steffens ’99; Katie Caulfield ’99; Mandy Singer Jensen ’99; MOT ’92; and Jessica Cozzens ’99 got together for a reunion weekend at the beach. They shared laughs, celebrated 27 years of friendship, and made new memories.

Former classmates: Abigail Gore ’16 and Brian Parker ’17 were married on Oct. 8, 2022, in Dundee, Oregon. Back row, from left: Mikhail Filarski ’18, Drew Kristensen ’18, Paige Zimmerman ’17; Frances Walsh ’17, Auri Clark ’16, Julianna Echtenach ’17, Erin Jenkins ’18, Eric Lund ’18, Heidi Henderson ’15, Cady Dodge ’18, Matt Goldberg ’16, and Kerri Smith ’16. Front row: Zander Bina ’16, Hank Nicolaus ’18, the groom and bride, Bailey Marshall ’18, Elena Dodge ’16, Rachel Bowdle ’16, Austin Brittenham ’16, and Clayton Jacobson ’15.
May 22, 1923, was a “momentous day” for the College of Puget Sound, writes historian John Finney ’67, P’94. “The entire faculty and student body processed from the campus at Sixth and Sprague streets to a vacant field at North 15th and Warner streets. There Mrs. Franke Jones pledged $180,000 toward construction of the new campus. The trustees accepted the pledge, and Jones Hall groundbreaking took place immediately.”

Jones Hall is named for Franke Jones’ husband, lumberman and Civil War veteran Charles Hebard Jones (1845–1922). To see more historical photos of campus, go to digitalcollections.pugetsound.edu.
Tell Us Your PacRim Story

We’re looking for your memories of studying in Asia as part of the Pacific Rim Study Abroad Program. PacRim will mark its 50th year in 2023–24, and as part of the celebration, we want to showcase your stories in Arches. We’d love to hear where you went, what you did, and what stands out most for you today. Maybe there was one especially memorable activity or encounter. Maybe PacRim changed your outlook, your career, or your life.

Send your story (no more than 200 words, please) to arches@pugetsound.edu or the address on the inside front cover. Photos welcome too!

We’ll print a selection of tales in a future issue of Arches.