

PROVIDENCE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE



THE FEATURE STORY

WHITNEY
GAMBLE, PH.D.

*Providence's New Biblical &
Theological Studies Professor*

PROVIDENCE
HISTORY
MINUTES

2015
SPRING



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a difference a year makes. At this time last year, Providence had 52 students enrolled and retention was at an all-time low. A year later, enrollment at Providence has doubled, breaking the 100-student barrier for the first time in the history of the college, and every one of our first-time freshmen are still enrolled at Providence.

In addition, applications for fall 2015 are up 200 percent over applications at this time last year, and Providence is looking at another potential 100 percent jump in enrollment over the next twelve months. But that is not all. Our administrative staff has doubled; our faculty numbers are growing to keep up with all the new students. On the athletics side, new coaches have been hired, and we have been accepted into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). Old dorms are being renovated to get ready for the new students. New classroom space is being leased for the fall. A renewed First-Year Experience is in the works, and additional student life staff members are being hired. This growth has been energizing and contagious and has led to a new dynamism on campus. It can be felt in the classroom, in the cafeteria, in the resident halls, and on the sporting field, where the inaugural baseball team went 28-18-1 this season.

Our growth is happening because of the amazing vision of Providence—to be the best liberal arts college on the west coast. As we present this vision, we find that students are attracted to this vision and want to be part of what is happening at the college. Providence is a special place. Our mission of a dynamic and holistic learning community built around residential living, a Reformed understanding of the faith, and the liberal arts and sciences makes Providence unique among west coast colleges.

We are not training our students just for their first job, like so many colleges and universities, but for a lifetime of jobs. We are not just about a diploma; we aim for life-long learners who are curious, creative, and capable. We are committed to transformative learning both in and outside the classroom, and this means setting high academic standards, using the best pedagogical and experiential learning methods, and creating a campus culture that disciplines and shapes the imaginations and habits of our students. By the grace of God, this is happening at Providence, and we look to the future with excitement and hope.

Dr. Jim Belcher, President

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The mission of Providence Christian College as a Reformed Christian institution is to equip students to be firmly grounded in biblical truth, thoroughly educated in the liberal arts, and fully engaged in their church, their community, and the world for the glory of God and for service to humanity.

2014 FALL

DEAN'S LIST

Students named to the Providence Christian College dean's list must be enrolled full-time and maintain a GPA of 3.50 or higher for the semester. The fall 2014 dean's list:

- Andrew Bekkering
- Carissa Berger
- Sarah Bergquist
- Colin Beveridge
- Danielle Dirksen
- Nicole Dotinga
- Carissa Francoeur
- William Garrett
- Sarah Grimes
- Lorissa Haveman
- Renee Haveman
- Amanda Heck
- Ruby Jeffery
- Amelia Jennings
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- Johnathan Kruis
- Presence Massie
- Dorothy Melendy
- Lauren Otto
- Noah Shepherd
- Billie Snieder
- Tina Snieder
- Charles Southard
- Carrie Thibault
- Sterling Vander Ploeg
- Timothy Veltkamp
- Luke Walls
- Cody Walter

NEWS & EVENTS

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

The annual Academic Conference took place February 12-13, 2015, and featured Dr. Vincent Bacote, associate professor of theology and director of the Center for Applied Christian Ethics at Wheaton College. The theme for the event was "Dive In: Faithfulness to God in His Word."



THE INAUGURAL BASEBALL

program began on January 16, 2015, with a game against The Master's College. From there, it was smooth sailing for the Sea Beggars, finishing the season with an outstanding record of 28-18-1.

FACULTY UPDATES

PROFESSOR CHRISTINA

BRISTOW, director of the Chamber Singers and voice instructor at Providence, sang the soprano solos for Handel's *Messiah*, performed by the Master Chorale, the premier professional chorus in southern California, at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, December 17 and 21. Professor Bristow also sang with the LA Philharmonic earlier this year in their performance of Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, conducted by Michael Tilson Thomas.



PROFESSOR JULIETTE DE

SOTO, continuing her Ph.D. work in English at Claremont Graduate University, has been working as a research assistant for a forthcoming book on the critically-acclaimed American writer Sylvia Plath.



DR. RYAN MCILHENNY

reviewed Timothy Larsen's *The Slain God* for *Christian Scholar's Review*, and his essay "A Revolution in Mind" will appear in the forthcoming issue of *American Theological Inquiry*. Also, P&R Publishers hosted an "Author Interview" with Dr. McIlhenny regarding his book, *Kingdoms Apart*.



DRS. RUSS REEVES AND RYAN MCILHENNY participated as chair commentators for the 29th biennial *Conference on Faith and History* at Pepperdine University.



JOHN MILTON, professor of business and director of institutional research at Providence, attended the annual meeting of the California Association of Institutional Research (CAIR), an organization dedicated to fostering cooperation between post-secondary schools in their provisions for institutional research. Milton served on a panel discussion concerning "Institutional Research Departments with Limited Resources."



DR. LAWRENCE MUMFORD,

music faculty, was asked by Light of the World/David E. Smith Corporation to write a second woodwind quintet entitled "His Deep Love." This is his ninth composition published by the company. Last fall, his orchestra piece "Santa Cruz Island: the First Visitors," a musical portrait of California's largest island, was premiered by the professional chamber orchestra Ensemble Christo Los Angeles. The Providence Chamber Singers premiered his new choral work "Lift Your Glad Voices" this Easter.



DR. SCOTT SWANSON

presented a paper, "Inerrancy and the Psalter: The Truth of Christ is Torah for Wisdom," at the 2013 national conference of the Evangelical Theological Society. Dr. Swanson also delivered his presidential address, "Johannine Theology and Inerrancy: Receiving the Testimony of God as Truth," for the Evangelical Theological Society's Far West Region meeting at California Baptist University.



NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

ELLEN AVANTS '13 **STUDENT LIFE ASSISTANT**

Ellen is a Southern California native who grew up in Orange County. She was homeschooled since kindergarten and came to Providence in 2009 as a student, earning a liberal arts degree with concentrations in English and biblical & theological studies. She is thrilled to be working for her alma mater and excited to see the college's continued growth. She currently resides in Pasadena and enjoys reading in her free time.



CHRIS CHOWN **HEAD WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL COACH**

Chris grew up in northern California and has been passionate about athletics for as long as he can remember. He came to southern California to attend UCLA, where he played volleyball and earned a degree in sociology and education. Following graduation, he spent a year doing missions work in Mexico City, then returned to UCLA to earn his teaching credentials and master's degree in education. Chris has been coaching for many years and at various levels and is so excited to help build a successful volleyball program at Providence. In his free time, he loves to eat good food and play beach volleyball and soccer (or any sport, for that matter).



WHITNEY GAMBLE **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF BIBLICAL & THEOLOGICAL STUDIES**

Dr. Gamble comes to Providence with a wealth of experience and knowledge in the Reformed faith and continues to reinforce the mission and vision of Providence Christian College as a Reformed liberal arts college engaging in the culture and diversity of



Los Angeles. Read Dr. Whitney Gamble's biography and guest article beginning on page 8.

SAM MAHTANI **HEAD MEN'S & WOMEN'S SOCCER COACH**

Sam joins Providence after coaching collegiate soccer over the past five years in Chicago and Chattanooga. He completed his undergraduate studies in business management at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, IL, then continued with his master's degree from Concordia University Irvine in coaching and athletic administration. Sam has coached soccer at various levels, including summer camps, high school, college, and state Olympic development programs. In his free time, he enjoys exercise, coffee, and photography.



GEOFF SHAW **CHURCH RELATIONS COORDINATOR**

Geoff joins the Providence community after serving as a youth pastor, senior pastor, and campus minister (with Reformed University Fellowship) in Southern California. He is passionate about Providence's vision to become a substantial, influential Reformed liberal arts college on the West Coast. He is excited to have the opportunity to field new student interest even as he seeks to bolster the relationship with various Reformed churches and denominations that share and support this vision. Geoff graduated from Calvin College and Covenant Theological Seminary; he and his wife, Breanne, have four children: Avery, Adam, Tatum, and Johnny. Contact Geoff to visit your youth group or fill your church's pulpit at geoff.shaw@providencecc.edu or 310.561.2953.



NEW ATHLETIC PROGRAMS THIS FALL

by Max Belz When fall rolls around, the Sea Beggars will have added three new athletic teams: men's soccer, women's soccer, and women's volleyball. While soccer coach Sam Mahtani has been recruiting for men's and women's teams, new coach Chris Chown has been recruiting players for the women's volleyball team.

"We are looking for students who want to be Christian scholar athletes," Coach Mahtani says. "Men and women who want to grow in their faith, get a first-rate liberal arts education, and play soccer as a way to enhance that experience." Mahtani is a graduate of Trinity Christian College, where he also coached.

The volleyball team is also taking shape, thanks to Coach Chown, an alumnus of UCLA and member at Pacific Crossroads Church (PCA). "The mission and vision here at Providence are so intentionally integrated in the various opportunities that are offered," says Chown. "At this dynamic liberal arts college, student athletes will be challenged to compete, think deeply, and authentically seek the Lord."

For this inaugural season, Providence will play schools from the California Pacific Conference (CalPac) and the Golden State Athletic Conference (GSAC), the two regional conferences in the NAIA. ■

PROVIDENCE RECEIVES NAIA MEMBERSHIP

by Max Belz On April 14, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) accepted Providence Christian College as its newest member, marking another tremendous step forward in the history of the college.

"We are thrilled about this news," Athletic Director Mike Scolinos said. "Joining the NAIA will further enable us to carry out Providence's mission in athletic competition."

Scolinos was present at the NAIA's annual conference in Charlotte, NC, when Providence's application was reviewed and ultimately approved.

Providence began the membership process last fall, on the heels of starting an intercollegiate baseball team. At a positive site visit in February, NAIA representatives were duly impressed with Providence's mission, students, and expanding athletic programs.

"They have great confidence in us. It's a wonderful affirmation of what we've already been doing as a college," Scolinos said.

Membership in the NAIA brings many benefits to the college and is yet another milestone in Providence's short but accomplished history. Being a member of the NAIA will allow the athletics program to compete for regional and national championships after a one-year probationary period.

The NAIA is known for its tagline, "champions of character" and extols five core values—integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship, and servant leadership. Providence was also accepted into the California Pacific Conference of the NAIA, one of the regional conferences for intercollegiate athletics in the area. ■



WHITNEY GAMBLE, PH.D.

AN INTRODUCTION

by Sam Mahtani





She is a first-rate teacher and scholar”

– DR. JIM BELCHER, PRESIDENT

PROVIDENCE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE is excited to welcome Dr. Whitney Gamble as the new biblical & theological studies professor starting fall 2015. This marks a tremendous milestone for Providence as the first full-time faculty hire in a number of years.

Dr. Gamble comes with a wealth of experience and knowledge in the Reformed faith and continues to reinforce the mission and vision of Providence Christian College as a Reformed liberal arts college engaging the culture and diversity of Los Angeles.

Dr. Gamble’s studies were influenced by her father, a pastor and theologian, and her mother, a musician and professor of German. Dr. Gamble began studying Greek and outlining works of Puritan and Reformed theologians at the age of ten. She spent countless hours practicing the cello; at age 16 she was blessed to perform as a soloist with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and was subsequently offered a place at the prestigious Cleveland Institute of Music. Ultimately, theology and languages won out, and her interest in Reformed theology became her calling and career.

Growing up in a Reformed church and memorizing the Westminster Standards and the Three Forms of Unity ignited her passion for theology, which led her to pursue a biblical studies degree at Geneva

College. Dr. Gamble went on to receive a master’s degree in theology from the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh and later earned a Ph.D. in systematic theology at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, with the desire to teach at a Christian liberal arts college.

Outside of her theological studies and research, Dr. Gamble enjoys exploring, traveling, and learning new languages. In fact, during her Ph.D. studies, she was awarded a grant to live in Paris for two summers, during which she had the opportunity to learn French, immerse herself in French culture, and visit many museums. Other languages she enjoys studying include Japanese and Russian. In her spare time, she appreciates learning more about World War II era history, attending concerts, cooking, and exploring LA.

Dr. Belcher, president of Providence Christian College, says, “I am thrilled that Dr. Gamble is joining the Providence learning community. She is a first-rate teacher and scholar and has a passion for Christian liberal arts and mentoring students. This makes her such a valuable addition to our faculty at this time of tremendous enrollment growth.”

► ON THE NEXT PAGE, READ DR. GAMBLE’S GUEST ARTICLE ON THE WESTMINSTER ASSEMBLY.



“

When Christ came to earth in what was the greatest expression of love possible, he came with a passion for truth.

– WHITNEY GAMBLE, PH.D.

SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE

by Whitney Gamble

THE FOLLOWING is a recent Facebook status from one of my friends:

I know I'm behind the ball, but Transgender Day of Visibility still has 10 minutes left. Also, these same statistics will still be true in ten minutes (and every other day of the year) until we help make them untrue. During Holy Week especially, I'm thinking of him who loved us so much that he laid down his life for us . . . Let's love, not hate. You don't have to form an opinion or make a value judgment; you just have to love.

She professes to be a Christian and is active in her church. Her status demonstrates an overwhelming movement in American culture, and even “Christian” culture, to step away from value statements, from declaring what's right and wrong. Christians are supposed to remain silent on matters of morality; they are supposed to love and not think. There is no

physical persecution if we refuse, yet world news of Christian martyrdom gives Americans a hint at what could come in the future. Now more than ever, there is a temptation to give in to this mindset, to ignore essential theological truths of Scripture in order to avoid a form of persecution, simply to live an easier life, or to appeal to a wider audience. We are called to love one another, but that love does not have to preclude theological precision, a strong stance on truth, and the ability to offer a ready defense for the hope that we have. When Christ came to earth in what was the greatest expression of love possible, he came with a passion for truth. The same Christ who loved sinners enough to die for them also overturned tables in the temple out of zeal for the purity of His Father's worship. The same Christ who loved tax collectors, prostitutes, gentiles, and the “unclean,” also unflinchingly stated that “if you love me, you will keep my commandments” (Jn. 14:15).

If we travel back in time nearly 400 years to England at the beginning of the seventeenth century, we see that the members of the Westminster Assembly, the authors of the *Westminster Confession of Faith*, understood that clearly defining and explaining the truths of Scripture was the best possible way to bring reformation and the hope of the gospel to men and women. In the face of potential physical persecution and social ostracization, in the midst of rapid secularization and a plea for radical toleration of all religious expressions, the members of the Assembly created a *Confession of Faith* that was unwavering in its stance for truth.

In order to write their *Confession* and bring reformation to England, the Westminster divines could not work from the comfort of their studies and homes. They were called to Westminster Abbey in London as a religious committee of the Long Parliament, and, as such, the Assembly was automatically put in a hostile relationship with the reigning king, Charles I. Parliament and the king had declared civil war against each other a year before the Assembly met.

Thus, the divines who attended the first meeting of the Assembly did so at great peril, for Charles I, writing from the Royalist stronghold in Oxford a week earlier, did “streightly inhibit and forbid all and every person named ... to assemble and meete together ... declaring further the said Assembly (if they shall convene without his Majesties authority) to be illegall, the acts thereof not to be binding on his Subjects, and that he will proceed severely against all those who, after such a gracious warning, shall presume to meet together.” The divines were further warned that they faced imprisonment at the minimum and possibly the loss of their ecclesiastical livings if they disobeyed the king’s word.

Despite his warning, at least 69 of the 121 men who were called appeared for the first meeting, and, for the next ten years, members of the Assembly met and tirelessly worked to carry out their task of reformation. They worked while violent, and sometimes fatal, riots related to the war took place outside Westminster Abbey. They met while Oliver Cromwell marched troops through London. The Assembly continued to meet as its members grew sick and died. The divines met, living in London, while their families, hometowns, estates, and churches underwent pillaging by troops and sustained huge losses in battle. The Assembly carried on its work through King Charles I’s demise and only officially finished with the ascension of Cromwell to power in 1653. As a parliamentary assembly, the divines were involved in every major political debate that took place between 1643 and 1653, and their efforts were at once applauded by parliamentary supporters and deprecated by the king’s supporters.

What motivated these men to continue fighting for theological purity during these horrible years of civil war? What motivated them to continue working with their colleagues, day in and day out, despite their personal and theological disagreements? It was not fame; in fact, if the king were successful in the war, they would be severely punished. It was not fortune; the divines were at times not paid at all. Instead, these men persisted in meeting because of their passion for seeing the truths of Scripture clearly and simply, yet richly and fully, explained and proclaimed. The Westminster divines recognized the importance of fighting for and preserving the truths of Scripture, even in the midst of persecution, personal hardship, and rapid secularization. They did not water down their theology in the interest of being nonjudgmental; instead they created one of the most beautiful and comprehensive documents summarizing the

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■ SEA BEGGAR POETRY

PROVIDENCE HISTORY MINUTES

by Lorissa Haveman '15

Lorissa Haveman is a 2015 graduate from Lindsay, California, who has been through the various changes Providence has seen over the past four years, including accreditation and the possibility of a merger, all happening only a few years after the move from the Ontario campus to the present day location in Pasadena. This is her reflection in verse on the history of Providence Christian College from the very beginning: Dutch Calvinist pirates in the 1600s!

HISTORY MINUTE 1: INTRODUCTION

Avast, ye mateys! Gather round the mast!
I'm going to tell ye a tale, and I'm going to tell it fast!
I'm going to sail with ye back in time,
Before the Beggars, and before Piet Hein.
All of ye buried in books are learning,
But back in the 1600s, a war was churning!
The Spanish were trying to expand—
And they thought, let us take this Netherland!
Soon all of the Dutch were under the grip
Of a Spanish king whose name was Philip!
His Armada was formidable
But the Dutch were not hospitable.
And much to Spain's Catholic consternation
Many Dutch had joined the Reformation!
William of Orange, known for his silence
Thought, "This can only be solved with violence!"
(Oh, and by the way, another fact for you:
He also inspired the orange and blue!)
Will had been traveling in Germany,
But then he turned his eyes toward the sea.
He commissioned all the Dutch to start fighting,

But one fearless crew we'll soon be highlighting.
Avast! They're the Beggars with their little fleet!
And in the next history minute, that's who we'll meet!

HISTORY MINUTE 2: SEA BEGGARS

Weigh the anchor and hoist the mizzen!
Avast, ye Beggars, sit and listen!
Ye land-lubbering Beggar friends,
Let's sail back in time to the Netherlands!
The Dutch were fighting to be free
And William of Orange cried, "Take to the sea!"
The tension had been brewing for 80 years—
What did they need? Privateers!
So from small and large Dutch provinces
Came intrepid sea-faring Calvinists!
They approached the Armada where it floated
And captured the Spaniards with silver loaded.
The Beggars won more battles on land and sea
That finally allowed the Dutch their liberty.
But halt! Could this tale be even more inspired?
Aye! Let's take a look at one bold pirate!
What can I say? It might have been me,



*Ah, Beggars! Our history is
more than silver and ships!*

—LORISSA HAVEMAN,
“HISTORY MINUTE 3”

You can thank me later for my bravery.
My name is Piet Hein, I'm a Dutch privateer.
I followed the footsteps of my father's career.
Sailing is in my saltwater blood—
Me feet belong in seawater, forget this mud!
In my youth I was captured by a Spanish fleet
And made to work as a slave for my meat.
After four long years of this labor degrading,
I was rescued through a prisoner trading.
I sailed out to capture a ship of treasure
Silver and gold in plenteous measure.
Successful was I, and very brisk;
In fact, this journey took little risk.
But still, here I am, in all your minds
Known as a hero and called Piet Hein.
Now these Dutch pirates are known to all of you!
Like those brave souls, how small our crew!
But let us say what Luther knew:
“We are Beggars; this is true.”

HISTORY MINUTE 3: THE REFORMATION

Ah, Beggars! Our history is more than silver and ships!
Let's look at what we confess with our hearts and our lips.
But first at the history of all this reform
That took the European world by storm!
Luther was a Catholic ascetic.
His time as a monk made his health pathetic.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

But even worse, how Luther despaired
 When he saw the ways the church had erred.
 Upon the door he nailed his dissent—
 The church became angry and Luther condemned.
 Luther then wrote Scripture in his native speech,
 Now all the people had the Bible in reach.
 They could see deeds wouldn't bring them salvation.
 And this knowledge began the Reformation.
 Meanwhile in Europe, other women and men
 Were finding truth long hidden.
 Zwingli, Calvin, and Knox were some of the greats,
 And others called heretics were burned at the stake.
 But this knowledge, once found, could not be crushed,
 And on to the Netherlands the doctrine rushed.
 It came to be called the Protestant Reformation,
 And five distinct "solas" emerged in summation:
 Sola Fide, by faith alone;
 Sola Christus, by Christ atoned;
 Sola Scriptura, by Scripture we stand;
 Sola Gratia, means grace from God's hand.
 The final Sola is the point of our story:
 Soli Deo Gloria, to God be the glory.
 As Piet Hein, I've seen many a man go overboard,
 And that is an end ye just can't afford.
 So hark me words, listen to me.
 A man can fight on land and on sea,
 He can fight man and try God for his liberty,
 But he really needs Christ if he wants to be free.

HISTORY MINUTE 4: THE KITCHEN TABLE

I'm back, ye Beggars of the Sea!
 I'm back to tell your history!
 But now let's fast forward to the start
 Of a west coast college of the liberal arts!
 The 1960s began the thought
 Of a Christian college near this spot.
 However, by reasons left unknown
 Only the seeds of the idea were sown.
 Still, a west coast college of the Reformation
 Was still desired for students' education.
 Let's sail on toward times, fondly remembered!
 A small group of folks met in 2000's November.
 They met in Chino round a kitchen table.
 They asked "Can we start this? Are we able?"

They had the willpower, they had the knowledge—
 They began to pray about our college.
 And just like the Beggars of which we boast,
 A school soon settled near the coast.
 They named it Providence, on which we depend—
 The result would be thoughtful women and men.
 Godly professors would play their part
 In teaching all facets of the liberal arts.
 But in order to continue in operation,
 The school needed to gain accreditation.
 But halt! That is a story for another time.
 Until then, I'm Piet Hein.

HISTORY MINUTE 5: THE ONTARIO CAMPUS

Ahoy, my Beggars! Soon you'll know
 Of our first home in Ontario!
 Aye, that's right, ye land-lubbering crew!
 The first years were tough, the students few!
 In 2005 came aboard an intrepid crew,
 A freshman class of twenty-two.
 They were brave, although a wee bit wary—
 Why does campus smell like dairy?
 A grassroots college without a lawn,
 Those are the years we look upon.

At first the dorms were all a dismal sight.
 Sparks exploded from the lights.
 Only two classrooms in that place,
 There was no need to find more space.
 All the staff worked hours upon hours,
 And Prez Den Ouden planted flowers.
 Joanne cooked meals for 35;
 Her cookies helped all the shipmates thrive.
 The King of security kept the whole deck clear
 From troublemakers wandering near.
 A grassroots college without a lawn,
 These are the years we look upon.

Mrs. Dirksen was the first employee
 And continued working tirelessly.
 Dr. Swanson served Passover food
 And yelled at Dr. Mac to get off his roof.
 Dr. Reeves chased wayward sheep;
 Mr. Bleeker told staff to go get sleep.

Mrs. Godfrey was the academic dean
And also known as a story-telling queen.
Students studied, quizzed, and crammed
Yet claimed Moses couldn't pass a BTS exam.
Brave admissions team headed forth
"No, we're not from Rhode Island or the Great
White North."
4Ws began experiential education—
Students learned about their cultural vocation.
A grassroots college without a lawn,
These are the years we looked upon.

HISTORY MINUTE 6: THE MOVE

How do you fare, my sea-faring friends?
On the Ontario campus, our time must end.
I come from sailing in days of yore
To tell of the campus from before.
The space was small, no room for growing—
The dorms were damaged from water flowing.
City proximity was in the vision;
Moving close to LA would help our mission.
Ahoy, my Beggars, land was found!
And just like that, we were Pasadena bound.
Blimey! The Rose Bowl, Huntington, and Metro stop,
Cultural centers and places to shop.
Lots of spaces to explore,
I am sure you can tell of many more.
So in the sizzling July of 2010,
A stalwart group of women and men
Loaded up desks and bed frames and more
And headed out the Ontario door.
The wind carried them west with boatloads of stuff.
They had faith, although the sea would be rough.
And with the help of that sweaty, helpful crew,
Providence moved to the grounds of WCIU.
Desks and doctors moved into Spear,
McGavran classrooms prepared for the year.
The student body came before too long,
And China Lounge was filled with song.
It took time to settle in the new place—
Lots of wrinkles ironed out in our new space.
But here we expanded experiential education
And gained our identity as Sea Beggar Nation.
Soon students moved from quads to dorms

And helped with cafeteria reforms.
Winter winds knocked over trees
And changes were coming with the breeze.
What could possibly happen next?
Stay tuned for our next history text.

HISTORY MINUTE 7: MERGER/NO MERGER

Ahoy, me mateys, see spring of twelve!
A dramatic chapter on our history shelf!
Ye younger Beggars can't recall
Merger news that caused a squall!
For college operations, not enough doubloons—
The board needed answers, they needed them soon.
Aha! Covenant was looking to "extend their mission."
Problem solved! An acquisition!
So a letter between the colleges was sent
Stating that merger was their intent.
On the sixteenth of March to students declared
That with the merger our college was spared.
All that was needed, said Covenant
Was for the Beggars to send their president.
These were the terms to which we agreed
To save our college in dire need.
The Beggars were saddened with the thoughts
Of not being free, but under the Scots.
"Halt!" said the Beggars, "Not so fast."
"We're small, but hark! Remember our past?"
And the board said, "You can have your liberty,
But we need students' help to raise money."
So letters and prayers to many a soul
Soon helped to pay the debt in full.
After waiting and waiting "patiently,"
Word came back from the board of trustees.
"This is not the time to implement
A merge between us and Covenant.
But if we want Providence to stand,
We are going to need a new academic plan."
So now we have concentrations and only one major,
But this structure has been accepted with favor.
And since those, we've not just survived—
Our little school has begun to thrive!
So Sea Beggars, what's the plea?

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**EMILY
DE BOER**
CLASS OF **'14**



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

FROM CENTRAL MIDWEST TO CENTRAL AMERICA

by Sarah Brouwer '13

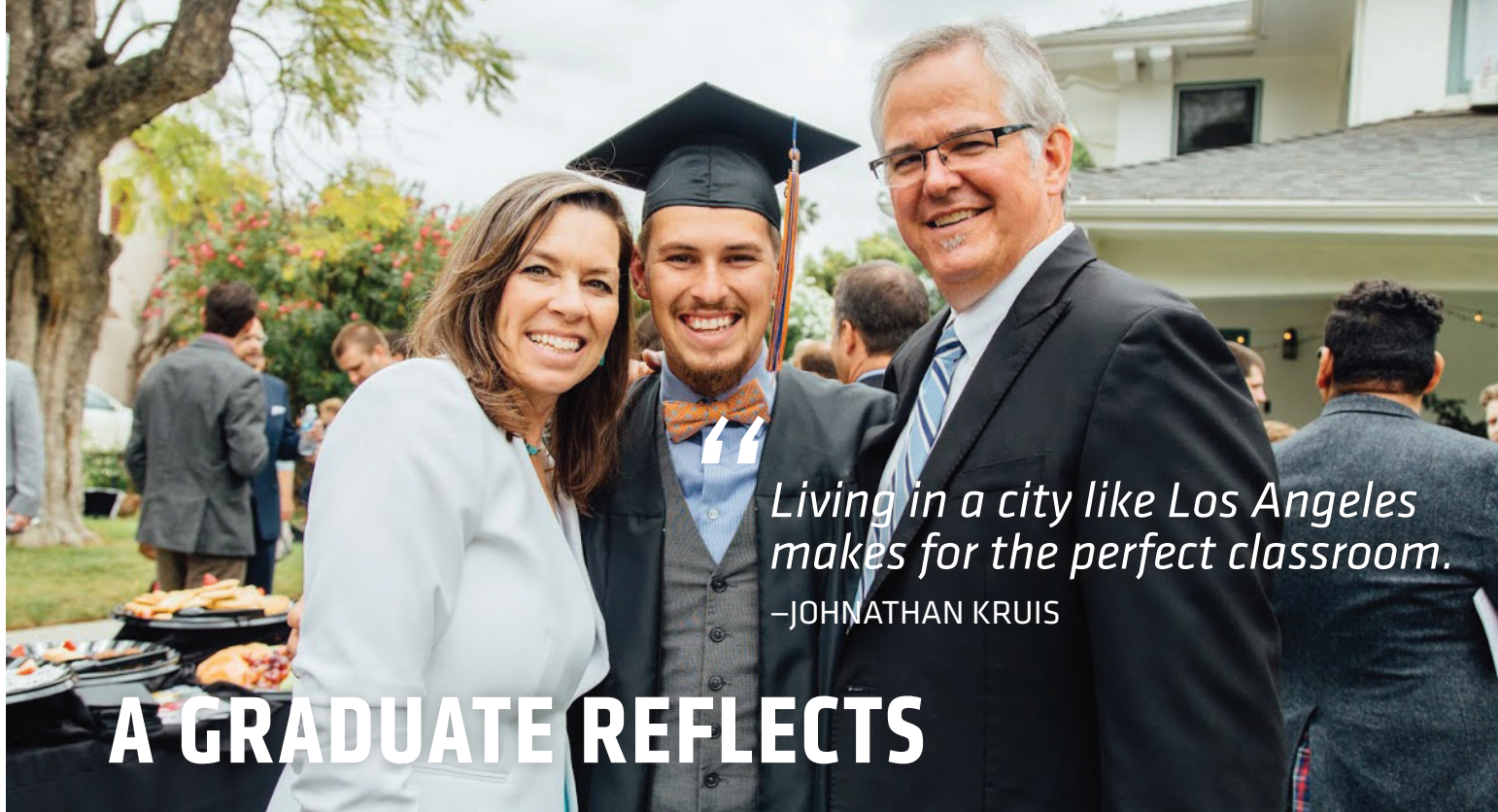
In 2010, Emily De Boer '14 chose to leave the Midwest town of Beecher, IL, to get a liberal arts education on the West Coast. She says it wasn't easy leaving family and friends to study in Southern California, but she decided to attend Providence Christian College because of its biblically foundational education and its commitment to critically engage the culture of Los Angeles. As a student, Emily specifically remembers her Avodah trips, where she traveled to Mexico and Israel and was able to gain a better understanding of the different cultures in the world, breaking her assumptions of different cultural stereotypes. She says these experiences, along with her rigorous academic schedule, challenged her to think critically and gave her a love for learning.

Although Emily has always felt she wanted to be a teacher, her time at Providence affirmed her desire to share her love of learning with young students. That love and care for students has led her to Honduras, where she is finishing up her first year at Abundant Life Christian Schools. Emily says that during the application process with

Abundant Life, the administration was impressed with her Christian philosophy of education as well as the opportunities of cross-cultural learning she had experienced at Providence Christian College.

Because of the wide range of classes students take within the liberal arts program and the opportunities to engage the city and culture of Los Angeles, alums like Emily are well-prepared to face situations that may take them out of their comfort zones.

Emily has this to say regarding her experience in Honduras so far: "Every teacher says this, but there is only so much one can do to prepare you for the reality of daily life in a classroom. Student teaching and other practicum opportunities allowed me an inside look at the nitty-gritty details of teaching. Additionally, my classes and professors really helped me to develop a Christian perspective on teaching, something that transcends differences in the cultures of classrooms and has given me a framework to try to adapt my teaching to Honduran students."



A GRADUATE REFLECTS

by Max Belz

When Johnathan Kruis '15 first visited Providence in 2010, he had no intention of making it his home for four years. Yet on Saturday, May 9, 2015, he graduated from Providence Christian College with 14 classmates.

"In high school, I was certain I would attend the University of Arizona, but figured a free trip to California sounded pretty nice," Kruis said.

According to Kruis, he was so impressed by the community during his visit, he knew right away he would attend Providence. In reflecting on his time, he credits his classes, his professors, and learning in Los Angeles for changing him.

"I am extremely thankful for Providence's mission, because it has truly turned my life around. Providence's mission has taught me to trust in Christ's death and His righteousness alone for my standing before God; that no matter what I am studying or thinking on, I am to ask this

question, 'How does it relate to Christ?'" Kruis said.

Kruis has also fully enjoyed learning in Los Angeles, something all of Providence's students do through the Avodah program. "Living in a city like Los Angeles makes for the perfect classroom. As a global city that has something to offer for every field of study, I have learned how to make my education my own by letting it influence my passions and interests," he reflected. Kruis pursued his interest in film for his senior capstone, which is a senior's final project before graduating from Providence.

"I wanted to write on this topic because I know it would be a challenge for me. My artistic education has consistently argued that it is best for Christians to portray subtle themes of their faith," he said.

"We have a deep faith, and since scripture enriches our lives, our art must flow out of this, and we shouldn't be afraid to point to these truths." ■

FIFTEEN

IN 2015
GRADUATING
CLASS

A photograph showing three young women in a gallery. They are looking at a wall covered with framed copies of Time magazine covers featuring Richard Nixon. The title 'THE NIXON LIBRARY AND MUSEUM AN AVODAH' is overlaid in large white letters.

THE NIXON LIBRARY AND MUSEUM AN AVODAH

By Danielle Dirksen '15

JANUARY 9, 1913: Richard M. Nixon was born in a small house in Yorba Linda, CA. Fifty-six years later, Nixon was inaugurated as the 37th president of the United States, serving from 1969 to 1974. Although there was much controversy surrounding his life, most notably the Watergate scandal, Nixon's legacy lives on at the Richard M. Nixon Library and Museum, located on the grounds where he was born. Nixon died after suffering a massive stroke in April of 1994 at the age of 81 and was buried next to his wife by his childhood house in Yorba Linda.

APRIL 24, 2015: Students from Providence sat down to watch a portion of *All the President's Men* (1976), starring Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman, in preparation

for the expedition to Yorba Linda. The film chronicles the story of Washington Post reporters Woodward and Bernstein and their yearlong investigation into the details of the Watergate scandal, which ultimately led to Nixon's resignation from the presidency in 1974. Students reflected and discussed different aspects of Nixon's life, presidency, and legacy. A few students also shared details from their current study of the Watergate scandal in their first-year American history class, bringing to life the discussion of this time period.

APRIL 25, 2015: The group trekked 35 miles from Pasadena down into the city of Yorba Linda for an Avodah excursion—to experience, think critically, and reflect on this important





time in U.S. history. Students toured the house where Nixon was born and explored the museum displaying items from the early 1970s. Students also had the opportunity to tour the presidential helicopter, which was used by Nixon and the three presidents before him. Students focused on three learning outcomes during the trip: (1) Identifying the legacy the museum aims to build about President Nixon, (2) reflecting on the cultural and historical context of Nixon's life and presidency, and (3) communicating the importance of his presidency.

MAY 1, 2015: Students gathered a final time to reflect on this Avodah experience, with new questions and thoughts after experiencing the film and trip to the Nixon Museum. The post-discussion helped paint a better picture of who President Nixon was and how to articulate the impact of his presidency after learning more about him and the U.S. during his lifetime.

Max Belz, director of experiential learning, listed three reasons why this Nixon Avodah is relevant:

"First," he said, "it is important because Nixon's life and presidency represent a time of such change in society regarding how we view the government, due to the events of the Watergate scandal becoming the affair it did, and also because Nixon presided over the country during one of the most tumultuous times of recent decades—the Vietnam War. Second, the state of California did not become a strong political state until Nixon's time. He was a politician for the state of California, ran for governor, and eventually made his way to the presidency, which is certainly relevant to all students studying in the great state of California. Third, it addresses intersecting areas of education and culture, such as history, politics, media, and journalism, and appeals directly to students of the liberal arts." ■





A. MICHAEL KILEDJIAN

VICE PRESIDENT FOR
ADVANCEMENT

If you have questions about gift planning, I invite you to contact me at 626.696.4058 or mkiledjian@providencecc.edu, or reach out to the helpful professionals at **Barnabas Foundation** directly toll-free at **1.888.448.3040**.

BARNABAS FOUNDATION – WHAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW



1. WHAT IS BARNABAS FOUNDATION?

It's a Christian nonprofit that provides planned giving services to its nearly 200 Christian member organizations and their constituents. Providence Christian College is a proud member of Barnabas Foundation.

2. WHAT TYPE OF SERVICES DO THEY OFFER?

- In confidential meetings, their professionally trained staff review your personal situation with you and provide estate planning guidance with a distinctly Christian perspective. They cover everything from the need for a basic will to more advanced strategies such as charitable trusts and life income agreements.
- They offer a donor-advised fund called the Stewards Fund. This fund allows a donor to make a single gift and receive the income tax deduction immediately, but defer the contributions to ministries to a later (even indefinite) date. This fund is often used to make a single gift of appreciated assets such as stock, real estate, and business interests that will benefit multiple ministries. It helps Christians give “the right asset at the right time” to obtain the maximum tax advantage.
- They act as trustee of charitable remainder trusts.
- They issue and manage charitable gift annuities that provide the donor with guaranteed fixed payments

for life, as well as possible tax advantages. Upon death of the donor, designated ministries receive the balance of the annuity.

3. IS THERE A COST FOR THESE ESTATE PLANNING VISITS?

No! There is **never** a charge for these visits because of our membership in Barnabas Foundation.

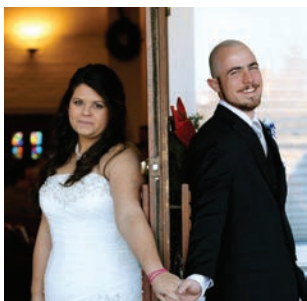
4. CAN YOU TELL ME MORE ABOUT MEETING WITH A BARNABAS FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE?

- There is no pressure to take any action.
- The visit is confidential unless you choose to share information with a ministry.
- Barnabas Foundation representatives are “neutral” as they do not promote charitable giving to any individual Christian ministry.
- They do not sell or encourage any particular financial or investment products.

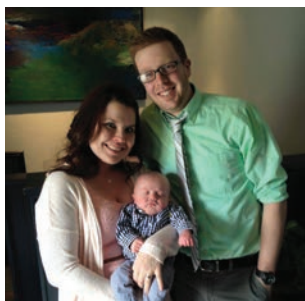
5. WILL BARNABAS FOUNDATION ELIMINATE MY NEED FOR AN ATTORNEY?

No. Barnabas Foundation staff does not replace the relationship you have with your attorney. They do not prepare any legal documents such as a will or trust. However, they are a source of Christ-centered estate-planning advice and information that often reduces costs when you meet with your attorney, since most of the discussion and decision-making have already taken place.

ALUMN UPDATES



ANNA (FERNANDEZ) '09 married Dwight Williams in December. They are currently residing in Los Alamos, CA.



ANDREW TERPSTRA '09 and his wife, Ashley, welcomed baby Oliver into the world in November.



JULIA VANDERPOL '09 is studying nursing at William Jewell College (Liberty, MO) in the accelerated track BSN program.



JAMES '11 AND JENI (ELLIS) '11 ROOSMA moved to Kelowna, BC, Canada, in February, where James received a call from a church.



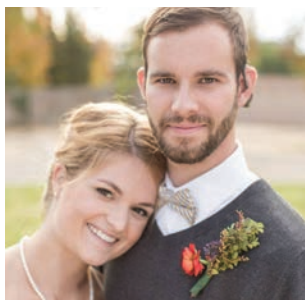
MARIE BOSMA '12 completed her professional development program and teaching certification at Simon Fraser University in November. In January, she began teaching fifth grade at John Calvin Elementary School in Yarrow, BC.



SHARA GUENGERICH '13 began study in the master's program in history at Cal State Fullerton.



SHELLI CAMMENG '13 has accepted a teaching position in English at Calvin Christian High School in Escondido, CA, for fall 2015.



ADAM '14 AND SARAH (FLEEMAN) '13 BROUWER married in November and are currently residing in Pasadena, CA.

ANNA HEITMANN '09 moved to Valley Center, CA, in February.

BECKY (VANDER BAND) '10 FULLALOVE started working at Gordon Food Service (Grand Rapids, MI) as a logistics analyst.

CAITLYN VANDENBERG '11 is studying surgical technology at Baker College of Muskegon (MI).

MEMORIAL & HONORARY GIFTS

Gifts received through April 2015

IN HONOR OF:

Martin Verhoeven
from Henrietta Vander Schaaf

Leona Verhoeven
from Henrietta Vander Schaaf

IN MEMORY OF:

Marjorie Jansen
from Michael and Kimberly Kiledjian

Harold Punter
from Bryan and Debra Punter

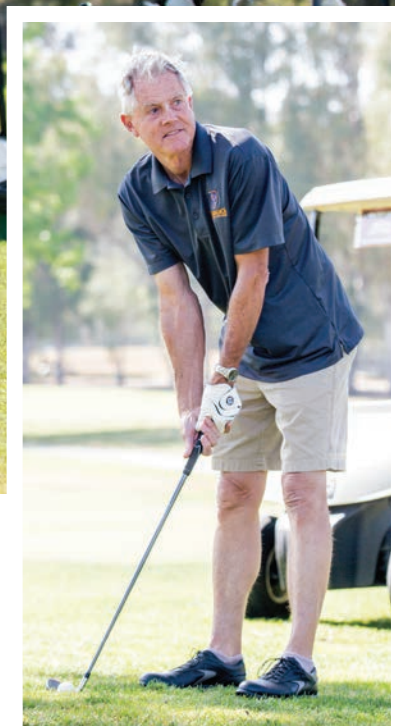
Providence welcomes honorary & memorial designated gifts. Donations and acknowledgments for the next publication should be sent by October 2015.

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GOLF FUNDRAISER

by Danielle Dirksen '15 April 13, 2015, marked the 7th annual Sea Beggar Scramble for Providence Christian College. This year, the event was held at Brookside Golf Course, located next to the Rose Bowl in Pasadena. Event directors Ruby Bleeker '09, executive assistant, and Max Belz, director of experiential learning, enthusiastically remarked that this was the greatest turnout they have seen yet. There were 104 golfers at the event this year, and the college raised over \$40,000, the largest golf fundraiser to date!

The winning foursome of the day was Team Sanchez, whose members included John Sanchez, Kevin Kwon, Tommy Ly, and

Jordan Nasser. Although Team Sanchez may have won on the green, The Beggar Legion won the team fundraising contest with over \$4,000 raised. The Beggar Legion included Andrew Bekkering '16, Gerrid Knol '18, Kyle Kortenhoeven '17, Ryan Leiber, and Micah Spano.

The evening program included dinner as well as an athletic update from President Belcher and the testimony of student athlete Tyler Marona '17. Entertainment for the evening included a silent auction consisting of items donated from 36 business and individuals, which raised an additional \$4,000 for the college.

Christian faith ever written. Their *Confession* systematically, clearly, and succinctly treats topics from creation to marriage and divorce, from the Fall to justification and saving faith. The divines knew that Christians are called to speak truth and fight for it. Truth is knowable, it's provable, it's exclusive, it's divisive, it's beautifully complex, and yet can be communicated simply to children.

The divines' passion was not for a pure but abstract theological system of doctrine, however.

Their goal was that such doctrine would consequently lead to a reformation in the hearts, minds, and lives of men and women. We have the result of the divines' work entrusted to us, and as we stand at the brink of a highly possible new age of persecution, we would do well to glean from the wisdom contained in their documents, and through them, the truth of the gospel as revealed by Scripture. For it is in the gospel that we learn that Christ offered himself as a perfect sacrifice for sinners. What could be more loving than that? ■

▼ PROVIDENCE HISTORY MINUTES CONTINUED

Tell all your friends and families!
Tell them all that it would be prudent
If they donated money or became a student!

HISTORY MINUTE 8: ACCREDITATION

Ahoy, me Beggars, I came back into port,
To share my final history report!
Something's different, where did I close?
Ah, yes, the merger had just arose.
The school was saved with lots of change
After that spring semester strange.

What was needed to keep Sea Beggar Nation?
I think you know—accreditation!
Providence had waited eight long years
With prayer and hope and lots of fears.
Thousands of pages flowed from the printer—
Staff worked tirelessly spring and winter.
The moon waxed and waned and turned to crescent,
And still they worked under lights fluorescent.
Because of the hours Mrs. Dirksen kept
For the last eight years, she has never slept.
Assembling a raft to cross this paper sea
Was the lovely, dedicated Mrs. Godfrey.
In October came the final visit at last.
We had to wait 'til spring to see if we passed.
We hoped things would be better
Once Providence received the letter.

We knew that our school would surely be lost
Without a thumbs up from the WASC.
We waited for the affirmation—
Would the Beggars get accreditation?
The days went dragging,
The letter was lagging.
Finally Dr. Aquila arranged a call—
Would this be the time WASC would tell all?
Dialed phones,
Hushed tones,
Chapel meeting,
Nervous greeting.
Students uneasy,
Stomach queasy.
Mr. Bleeker gives a word to begin:
Time to hear from Mrs. Dirksen.
No breath stirred,
Finally words!
PROVIDENCE RECEIVED ACCREDITATION!!!
Beggars erupt in celebration!!!
What a moment! What elation!
How proud to be Sea Beggar Nation!
To God be glory for accreditation.

Now it's up to you Beggars to do your part:
Tell your friends about our college of liberal arts.
Because, as your own Piet Hein can surely attest,
Sometimes smaller is really the best. ■



PROVIDENCE
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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