

PENSACOLA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
UPDATE

Fall 2016 | pcci.edu/Update



Transformations
ON CAMPUS
pg. 2 ►

From the **President**

Dr. Troy A. Shoemaker @PresidentPCC



The Lord has blessed our new academic year with an incredible start, and we're thrilled to have the best enrollment ever at the College for the second year in a row. New students are acclimating to college life with the help of upperclassmen, faculty, and staff, who go out of their way to make the transition a smooth one.

As excited as I am about a new year, I'm still thanking God for the tremendous summer our students had serving the Lord.

More than 300 students served in camp ministries across the country or in Youth Outreach Ministry, Inc. camps in Pensacola. Nearly 1,500 students went back home and actively served the Lord in their church bus ministry, nursery, youth group, and in many other ways. Another 250 students and sponsors

participated in Youth Outreach Ministry summer missions trips, which were very fruitful! (See chart below.)

Now that our students have returned, they're continuing to actively serve the Lord on and off campus, including in over 70 student-led Christian Service opportunities they can participate in each week.

What thrills my heart the most is that our students are choosing on their own to serve God, even with so many other activities going on (and classes). They're hearing God's Word preached in chapel and at Campus Church, then they're putting feet to the gospel and taking the message of salvation to the Pensacola area. What a thrill it is to see our students reaching others to make an eternal difference! ■

PCC Students in
**SUMMER
MINISTRY**
2,087





PCC HAPPENINGS

The New Palms Grille, Varsity,
Commons & Campus Store

FEATURE

Going Global: Faculty Ministry

SPOTLIGHT

A Call to Care

MAJOR FOCUS

Political Science

HIGHLIGHTS

Nursing & Engineering Programs
Receive Accreditation

Eagles Win on Home Field

CAMPUS POST

A Song in My Heart

CONNECTIONS

Employment Opportunities

02

04

06

08

10

11

12

13



Connect with Us



NEW Palms Grille, Varsity Commons & Campus Store

When students arrived this fall, they saw that several of their favorite locations on campus had been completely transformed.

The **Palms Grille** moved out of its original location and into the space previously occupied by the Florida and Crest Rooms on the Varsity's north end (overlooking the Commons Terrace). The upscale bistro design extends outside, where raised patio seating gives diners the pleasure of enjoying their meals in Florida's sunshine. With an additional exterior entrance, the new Grille connects to both the Commons and the Varsity.

The **Varsity**, after having much of the circus-themed décor removed last summer, received a reconfigured layout, aesthetic architectural elements, and, of course, new carpet.

In the **Commons**, two large meeting rooms and a display room replaced the old Palms Grille. Just steps away, the **Campus Store** received a complete make-over with a new layout, updated fixtures, and a curved checkout counter.

These improvements will enhance each student's life as the College seeks to be a good steward of the facilities God has provided. ■

Palms Grille Interior



Varsity's new salad bar features a stacked stone design and expanded selections.



DISPLAY

Display Room
in Commons



RENOVATIONS



Campus Store Interior

Palms Grille offers booth and table seating options in a warm setting.



Outdoor Patio



Varsity Interior



Great changes!!!! The Varsity was my favorite dining spot when I was a student. The improvements show the desire to give students a fantastic environment.

Amy R.
'03 Alumna

Beautifully done! Looking forward to coming back and seeing it in person.

Julie H.
'02 Alumna



DR. JOHN CIRONE
PREACHING IN AUSTRALIA



DR. JOEL PORCHER AT
ENGINEERING + SCIENCE CAMP

Going GLOBAL

This summer, PCC students engaged in ministry that spanned the globe—from Australia to Israel and places in between. They're back in the classroom this fall, learning from teachers who also spent their summer reaching the world with God's Word.

Waking before dawn, driving over 1,000 kilometers across plains dotted with emu and kangaroo, arriving at the next ministry destination well past dusk—this describes just one day of missions work for PCC business faculty **Dr. John Cirone** and his wife, Michelle, in Australia this summer (winter for Australia).

He and his wife have taken six teams to the “Land Down Under” as volunteer team leaders for the Youth Outreach Ministry, Inc. (YOM) Australia mission team. “Through preaching, teaching, and serving, it has been a joy to see lives

touched through the love of Christ and the dear relationships that have been developed with not only our Aussie family and friends but also with our mission team members,” he said.



Back in Pensacola, nursing faculty **Heather Hartkopf** has spent the past five years serving as a camp nurse at YOM's Camp o' the Pines. Although her primary role is meeting the campers' physical needs, she never ceases to be amazed at the opportunities the Lord brings her way to meet

spiritual needs. “Each summer, I am reminded again of how much the Lord can do if I simply make myself available to Him,” she said. “I remember a little girl who came to see me several evenings in a row because she was very homesick and her stomach was upset,” said Hartkopf. “As she sat in the nurse’s station sipping ginger ale, I prayed with her that God would help her not to be fearful. On the third or fourth night of camp, she accepted Christ as her Savior after chapel. She came up to me the next morning and told me that she hadn’t been homesick at all because she knew that Jesus was with her.”

While she and other faculty serve in YOM camps like Teen Extreme, Sports Center Day Camp, and Camp o’ the Pines, some serve in the high school academic and athletic camps held on campus.

Dr. Joel Porcher is always eager to join in the Engineering and Science camp. “Seeing high school students enjoy the experiments and appreciate the discussion of God’s wisdom in the created world around us is always rewarding,” he said.

In the past, some of Porcher’s campers have returned to PCC to earn degrees in engineering. One even stayed for a few years as PCC engineering faculty before going on to earn a Ph.D. To him, these memories make returning to camp a must as he serves each summer.

But not all faculty serve in a camp or on a missions trip. Some, like English faculty **John Loo**, find their ministry in the halls of academia. “I think that as a teacher, one of my jobs is to help students achieve their dreams not only academically but also spiritually. By pursuing a Ph.D. at a secular university, I have the opportunity and responsibility to serve as an example to my students that it is pos-

sible for a Christian to be a shining light for Christ in academia,” he said.

As Loo works toward a Ph.D. in English with a specialization in Composition and TESOL (Teaching English as a Second Language), part of his summer responsibilities included being the Summer Liaison for 2016. This put him in a leadership role with the summer Ph.D.

students. “Interestingly, my fellow Ph.D. scholars love the energy, enthusiasm, joy, and positive spirit that I bring to our program,” he said. “As a result, a lot of them

have approached me to find out the root of my ‘positivism,’ and thus, I have been able to share my salvation testimony and Christian beliefs with several of them.”

Whether faculty serve at a summer camp, on the mission field, or in another capacity, their vibrant love for Christ shines through, giving their summer of service an eternal focus. ■

Not all faculty serve in a camp or on a missions trip—some find their ministry in unexpected places.



Global Reach Summer 2016

13 Youth Outreach Ministries
Summer Missions Trips

11
Countries

250
Participants

18068
People Reached

1174
Salvation Decisions

A Call TO CARE

Alumnus Nathan Birky followed in his father's footsteps to become a second-generation nurse anesthetist.



While on OB/GYN rotation during clinicals, alumnus **Nathan Birky** ('02) developed a special burden for a six-week-old baby with cerebral palsy

in the NICU. Nathan had heard that the baby's birth parents were unable to care for him, and he wished that he and his wife Kelly could do something. But pri-

vacy regulations meant that he could not approach the parents or look into the baby's medical records. "He needed parents who could care for him with his special needs, and my wife and I needed a child to love and care for," Nathan said. "We prayed for God to work a miracle as we could do nothing more, and felt a peace in knowing He was in control of it all."

Nathan has always had a desire to care for others—a desire that was nurtured by his loving family and solidified through the strong work ethic they imparted to him. His mom had given up her job as a nurse to raise her sons while his father worked as an anesthesiologist. "I have always enjoyed hearing about and observing my father's work as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. I have always heard my dad, uncle, and other people in anesthesia talk about it being a good profession," Nathan said.

Choosing a major in the medical field was easy for Nathan when he came to PCC. During summer and Christmas breaks, he would go home and inevitably end up at the hospital observing his father at work. He saw firsthand the responsibility of being an anesthesiologist as well as the reward. "It is incredible to have someone's life literally in your hands as you push medicines and use a ventilator to control their breathing, heart rate, and other bodily functions," Nathan said. "People entrust to your care what is considered by many to be their most valuable commodity—the well-being of their own or their loved one's body."

In his classes, Nathan studied science with a biblical foundation. "The

pre-med program I took at PCC gave me an excellent foundation in the sciences: biology, anatomy, physiology, chemistry, and physics, all of which are important in anesthesia," he said.

"We are fearfully and wonderfully made. What better way to share about Christ with coworkers and patients than when dealing with the intricacies of the human body?" Nathan said.

After graduating from PCC with a degree in pre-medicine, Nathan pursued a degree in nursing and a master's in nurse anesthesia from Union University (TN).

It was during nursing school that Nathan and Kelly were able to adopt the baby he first saw in the NICU. A few days after he finished his rotation, Nathan received a call from the baby's birth mother. To this day, Nathan doesn't know how she got his number, but a week later the Birkys welcomed baby Kameron into their home.

The little family—which now includes 5-year-old Micah—lives on the farm where Nathan grew up. Nathan continues his work as an anesthesiologist, making the most of each opportunity to care for his patients. ■

"What better way to share about Christ with coworkers and patients than when dealing with the intricacies of the human body?"

In the Family



Andrew Birky, Nathan's brother, worked as an ICU nurse in Illinois after receiving his nursing degree from PCC in 2008. He then went on to earn a master's from Miami International University in 2014, and now works in Florida as a nurse anesthetist.

Senator Garrett Mason ('06 grad), the Senate Republican Majority Leader of Maine, discusses government service with political science students.



Past ★ *Present* FUTURE

Political science students learn from the past and the present to influence the future.

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it,” wrote the philosopher Santayana. **Dr. Bill Borges**, one of PCC’s political science faculty, believes this repetition is the key to understanding government. “Our program offers a historical perspective, so that students can easily grasp the history along with the politics, which together account for political trends and developments,” he said.



Beginning in 1993 when political science classes were first offered, PCC faculty have contrasted the world’s beliefs about government with what Scripture says. “We want our students to go to the Bible first for their answers about government and not to the leading political predictors of the day,” said faculty member **Dr. Bill Bowen**.



To Bowen, teaching political science gives him an opportunity to train a new

generation for government. “That’s not going to happen by accident,” he said. “Too many people are in government to serve their own agenda because that’s where the power is. But we need solid, God-fearing Christians in government to make a difference for righteousness. We have many students like that here at PCC.”

As students study the past and learn how God is woven throughout America’s history and government, they better understand how to bring God back into modern government.

Hunter Trout (’16) recalled what he learned in Dr. Bowen’s political science classes. “They especially prepared me for understanding the complex processes of state and local government,” he said. “The Romans 13 basis for understanding government gave me a greater perspective on the true nature of government—ultimately, the Lord directs the political powers of the world.”

When he was a student, alumnus Collin Phillips (’15), along with several of his political science classmates, had the opportunity to intern with the Maine Senate Republicans’ program. Meeting lawmakers, observing sessions in Senate, and gathering data for analysis were just a few of the valuable experiences he gained during his internship.

Currently, Phillips is a first-year law student at Florida State University School of Law. Envisioning himself someday becoming a state legislator, he said, “I want to work to promote Christian morals that are being lost, like protecting the unborn and the traditional family. PCC’s political science degree prepared me by

equipping me with a moral foundation to defend my beliefs.”

Dr. Borges likes to remind his students that lawmakers and politicians make decisions that affect their lives. “That being the case,” he said, “why not understand things involving politics, government, and law? We take special care to equip students with the tools needed to succeed in a range of careers—government, law, teaching, and many others.”

Alumna **Rebekah Gantner** (’10) be-



lieves her degree thoroughly prepared her for her position as the executive director of the Eagle Forum Education Center.

Before Phyllis Schlafly’s death this year, Rebekah also served as the founder’s assistant and media liaison.

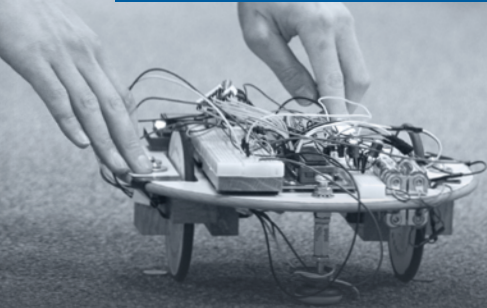
Gantner said, “The classes that I found most influential were the ones that

focused on leadership. Through the lives of the Founding Fathers such as George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, I learned the importance of leadership qualities like vision and organization.

The leadership lessons I learned have proven to be helpful to me in my role as executive director.”

Whether students are interested in politics or just want to become well-rounded and knowledgeable citizens, studying political science can lead to great opportunities. Graduates in this field have gone on to work in think tanks, law offices, and colleges, where they strive to make the nation stronger so that America is not condemned to repeat the political mistakes of the past. ■

“We want our students to go to the Bible first for their answers about government and not to the leading political predictors of the day.”



Engineering
Accreditation
Commission



Programs ACCREDITED

Engineering and nursing programs reach important milestones.

In the past year, two of PCC's academic areas reached historic milestones by receiving program accreditation.

The engineering program is now accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc.). The decision is retroactive, which means that all engineering degrees awarded since the fall of 2013 are ABET accredited.

Dr. Joel Porcher, chair of the engineering department, said, "ABET accreditation is the global standard that state engineering boards, graduate schools, and multinational employers look to for assurance that engineering graduates are prepared for their technical fields."

Last fall, both the graduate and undergraduate nursing programs were also awarded accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Accreditation is retroactive to CCNE's onsite visit in the spring of 2015, and all nursing program graduates from then on have an accredited degree.

PCC's nursing program has always followed state guidelines, helping graduates pass their state boards with exceptionally high scores and successfully pursue their careers. Dr. Denise McCollim, chair of the nursing department, said, "Accreditation is a recognition from our peers that what we have been doing all along is providing a quality education. CCNE is the accrediting body that most B.S.N. programs seek."

For years, PCC has given students the practical and technical skills necessary to successfully pursue careers in their chosen fields. And now, with the recent nursing and engineering program accreditation, the College is excited to see what the future holds for graduates as they follow God's leading in their lives. ■

The baccalaureate degree in engineering at Pensacola Christian College is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET (<http://www.abet.org>).

The baccalaureate degree in nursing/master's degree in nursing at Pensacola Christian College is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation>).



Eagles Win First Home Game

As dusk settled over Eagle Field (formerly named College Field), fireworks lit up the sky and the *Eagles* soccer team made their grand entrance for the first home game of the inaugural season. The PCC *Eagles* vs. Trinity Baptist *Eagles* quickly became a close and intense match that went into double overtime. With only minutes remaining, freshman Nick Standridge (#12) scored the game-winning goal to put the PCC *Eagles* up 3-2.

Thousands of spectators filled the bleachers on September 23, eager to see the outcome of the *Eagles*' historic match. Goalie Brent Konieczynski (*Fr., OH*) said, "I felt like we had something to prove coming out on our home field for the first time. I think we definitely made a point going against the champions from last year."

Collegian soccer fans will be pleased to know that Eagle Field will still host collegian soccer games as well as the annual Turkey Bowl on Thanksgiving Day. Students, guests, and their families can look forward to a more enjoyable soccer experience with more seating and a larger playing field. ■

Upcoming Events

Ladies Celebration

Spiritual retreat with God's Word
at Camp o' the Pines
November 3-5, 2016

(850) 478-8496, ext. 2828
pcci.edu/LadiesCelebration

College Days

for high school seniors, juniors, sophomores,
and qualified high school graduates

Nov. 23-26, 2016

Mar. 30-Apr. 1, 2017 • Apr. 20-22, 2017

1-800-PCC-INFO (1-800-722-4636)
pcci.edu/CollegeDays

Bring a group of young people to experience
PCC college life and participate in exciting
activities and classes.

PCC Spring Semester Opening Weekend

for family and friends of students

January 21-23, 2017

1-800-PCC-INFO (1-800-722-4636)

PCC Educator Recruitment
for churches and Christian schools seeking
candidates from among PCC students

February 27-28, 2017

1-800-PCC-INFO (1-800-722-4636)

PCC Career Fair

for organizations and businesses seeking
candidates from among PCC students

March 2, 2017

1-800-PCC-INFO (1-800-722-4636)

A Song in My Heart

When **Junya Minami** (*So., Japan*) came to PCC, he never expected that the entire campus would hear his music. Read how the Lord led him to study music and gave him an opportunity to win the Commencement Contest's Original Composition category for his piano concerto with string quartet accompaniment.



Musicians are very impatient people. Because they can't wait to praise God in heaven, they practice before getting there. To me, this life is preparation for eternity, and my hope is to hear and to write down some lines from heaven's doxology by the grace of God.

I was born in Japan, but when I was two, I moved to Oregon and spent my early childhood there. During that time, I got saved. After six years, I moved back to Japan where I was one of the few Christians. In general, Japanese society does not accept differences. Because of this, I didn't have friends and often felt lonely. But in those lonely hours, God was with me and comforted me.

I now believe that God was teaching me to walk close to Him and was protecting me from worldly influences. I remember praying to God for something that I could be absorbed in so that I might forget I was lonely. That's when the Lord introduced me to music.

At thirteen, I found some of my grandmother's piano scores. Old and forgotten, the scores got my interest. I somehow started to try to play them note-by-note. That was the beginning of my musical life, and the joy and excitement I felt back then is still in my heart today. I will practice to

praise the Lord until I die so that I might be well-prepared to praise Him forever.

When I decided to attend college, there were two factors that affected my decision: my desire to study music and God's calling to attend a Christian college. While praying about where to go, I heard about PCC. Interested, I researched it and was surprised to find a college with such solid scriptural beliefs. This college was the one I should attend. I am so glad that God led me to PCC so that I could learn more about Him and about one of His greatest gifts to man—music.

At the close of my freshman year, my original composition *Concerto da Camera* won PCC's Commencement Contest. I felt very thankful to God and to the people who helped me with playing and recording the piece. It was the first time for me to have my composition played in public—one of the most memorable moments of my life.

Inspiration for my works is always given by God. For this piece, it was given when I was meditating on my life verse, Isaiah 38:20, which says, 'The Lord was ready to save me: therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the Lord.' I thank God for saving me and for giving me a song in my heart." ■

"This life is preparation for eternity, and my hope is to hear and to write down some lines from heaven's doxology by the grace of God."

Employment Opportunities

Have you considered what you can do for the Lord's work on a growing college campus? Openings in the following areas—

PCC Faculty

- Accounting • Biblical Languages • Business
- Computer Science • Finance • Graphic Design
- Marketing • Mathematics • Studio Art

PCC Staff

- Advertising Digital Designer • Dining Supervisor
- HVAC Technician • IT Computer Programmer
- IT Computer Technician • IT Network Technician
- IT Senior Programmer • IT Web Programmer
- Locksmith • Scene Shop Manager
- Textbook Curriculum Writer • Video Editor

Send résumé with short testimonial to Employee Services,
P.O. Box 17023, Pensacola, FL 32522-7023, U.S.A.
EmployeeServices@pcci.edu



**Visit pcci.edu/Service
for more information.**

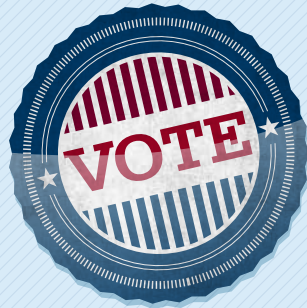
Songs that Celebrate America! In God We Trust



The Patriot Song • Shenandoah • We Who Come Behind
America, I Still Can Hear Your Song • Under God
In God We Trust • and more

Rejoice

Listen to samples and download at
RejoiceMusic.com/America



Vote Nov. 8

This election could determine America's future regarding Christian and family values. Laws harmful to your family, church, or school could pass if candidates are elected who do not share your family and freedom values. Be an informed and motivated voter. Your vote counts!

PENSACOLA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE®
P.O. BOX 18000
PENSACOLA, FL 32523-9160
U.S.A.

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PENSACOLA, FL
PERMIT NO. 34

CONNECT WITH PCC FAST

pcc.edu/GetConnected

News, events, photos, videos, social media, and more

