

PENSACOLA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

UPDATE

Fall 2013 | PCCinfo.com

History in *the Making*

Looking back at the people and events God has used to shape PCC throughout the past 40 years



From the President

Dr. Troy A. Shoemaker @PresidentPCC



In a milestone anniversary year, it is especially fitting to look at how God has blessed. To do that, this 40th anniversary issue of the *Update* gives snapshots of PCC's four decades in ministry. From the early faith-building years of the 1970s through the growing and refining of the '80s, '90s, and 2000s, God's provision has always been evident.

When I came to PCC as a freshman, the College had already been growing and developing for a decade. There was excitement on campus; and during classes, chapel, and extra-curricular activities, I saw firsthand the faculty and staff's zeal for serving God. Their dedication and commitment were contagious, spreading to us students.

Many of those faculty and staff members are still serving God here today, as excited as ever to invest in the lives of students. That kind of decades-long commitment is rare.

PCC's founders Dr. and Mrs. Arlin Horton served in Pensacola for 60 years before retiring in spring 2012. Their example has inspired Christian

educators around the world, but especially those here at PCC who have benefited from serving alongside them.

While anniversaries provide the opportunity to look back, they also provide the chance to look forward. We prayerfully anticipate that God will keep His hand of blessing upon this ministry as we continue on in our mission and purpose:

Our **mission** is to promote the cause of Christ by providing a distinctively Christian-traditional, liberal arts education that develops students spiritually, intellectually, morally, culturally, and socially.

Our **purpose** in both undergraduate and graduate programs

is to produce Christian leaders who are knowledgeable, articulate, moral, dedicated to excellence, and committed to serving Jesus Christ as they learn to influence the world by applying biblical principles in their chosen field and daily life.

By God's grace, PCC has been blessed with a strong heritage, and we look forward to a bright future. ■

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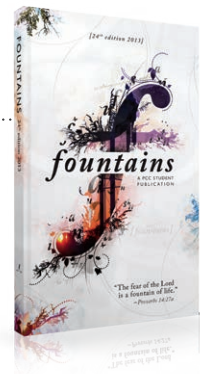
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Rescuing Citizenship and Civic Virtue

by
Michelle Malkin

As we celebrate our nation's 237th birthday, a crucial facet of American life has all but vanished. We have forsaken, in a systematic and deliberate public manner, one of our most fundamental duties: fostering civic virtue in each and every one of our citizens.

What does it mean to be an American? Politicians in both parties keep pushing to create a new "path to citizenship" for millions of illegal aliens. But if sovereignty and self-preservation still matter in Washington, citizenship must be guarded ferociously against those who would exploit and devalue it at every electoral whim.

The pavers of the amnesty pathway think illusory requirements of paying piddling "fines" and back taxes will inculcate an adequate sense of responsibility and ownership in the American way. Other fair-weather friends of patriotism satisfy themselves with shallow holiday pop quizzes on American

history to fulfill the "well-informed" part of the "well-informed citizenry" mandate of our Founding Fathers.

But Thomas Jefferson said it well: "No government can continue good but under the control of the people; and... their minds are to be informed by ed-

ucation what is right and what wrong; to be encouraged in habits of virtue and to be deterred from those of

vice.... These are the inculcations necessary to render the people a sure basis for the structure and order of government."

John Adams said it better: "Liberty can no more exist without virtue...than the body can live and move without a soul."

And Thomas Paine said it best: "When we are planning for posterity, we ought to remember that virtue is not hereditary."

Civic virtue cannot be purchased with token gestures or passed down in perfect form like a complete set of

John Adams said: "Liberty can no more exist without virtue...than the body can live and move without a soul."

family china. A life of honor, honesty, integrity, self-improvement and self-discipline is something you strive ever to attain. Being American is a habit of mind, but also a habit of heart and soul. Abraham Lincoln spoke of the “electric cord in that Declaration that links the hearts of patriotic and liberty-loving men together, that will link those patriotic hearts as long as the love of freedom exists in the minds of men throughout the world.”

Calvin Coolidge, profiled in *Why Coolidge Matters*, a terrific new book by Charles C. Johnson, echoed the Founding Fathers’ emphasis on virtue, restraint and work ethic. “If people can’t support themselves,” he concluded, “we’ll have to give up self-government.”

The failure of public schools to impart even rudimentary knowledge of self-government principles, natural rights theory and the rule of law is compounded by the suicidal abandonment of civic education. As Stanford University education professor William Damon notes: “Our disregard of civic and moral virtue as an educational priority is having a tangible effect on the attitudes, understanding and behavior of large portions of the youth

population in the United States today.”

Add militant identity politics, a cancerous welfare state, entitled dependence and tens of millions of unassimilated immigrants to the heap, and you have a toxic recipe for what Damon calls “societal decadence—literally, a ‘falling away,’ from the Latin *decadere*.” Civilizations that disdain virtue die.

Independence Day sparklers will light the skies overhead this July 4th, but George Washington’s “sacred fire of liberty” belongs in the breasts of Americans every day of the year.

How to rescue citizenship and civic virtue?

Let’s start by sending a message to politicians in the nation’s capital who imperil our sovereignty.

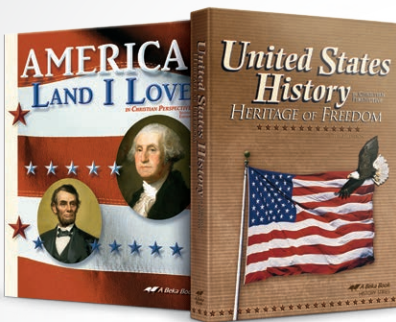
Citizenship—good citizenship—is not just a piece of government-issued paper. It is not merely a bureaucratic “status.” It’s a lifelong practice and propagation of founding principles. A nation of low information is just half the problem. A nation of low character cannot long remain a free nation. ■

Citizenship is a lifelong practice of founding principles. A nation of low character cannot long remain a free nation.

Townhall.com 7/3/13.

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Teaching citizenship with a solid biblical foundation



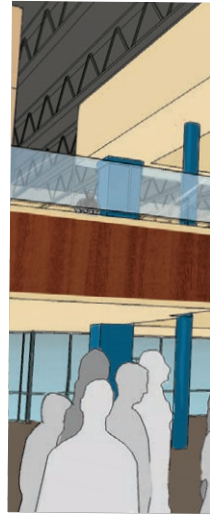
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Tentative conceptual sketch



Anything but Common

Construction has begun on PCC's "living room," the Commons, which is getting a makeover—both inside and out.



For PCC students, campus is a home away from home, where residence halls are bedrooms, and the dining facilities are a dining room. And without a doubt, the Commons is the campus living room, where students go to relax and connect.

Since opening in 1982, the Commons has served as a place for students to date or fellowship, eat at the Palms Grille, purchase snacks or supplies at the Bookstore, and receive packages from home at the post office. In the early days, the Commons even housed a bowling alley.

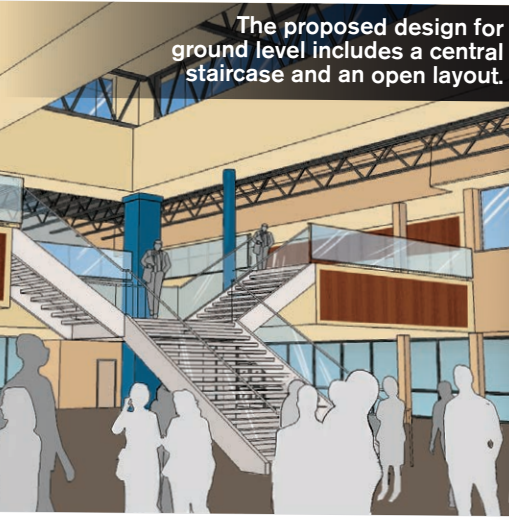
Now, to better serve the growing student body, this beloved, well-used building is getting a new look that is anything but common.

Scheduled to open July 2014, the Commons will feature a new central entry and a raised ceiling, which will allow more natural light into the building. The sunken middle section of the Commons will be raised and all the railings removed to create a more open and friendly environment while making full use of available space.

Perhaps the students' favorite renovation concept is the coffee bar

CAMPUS RENOVATIONS

The proposed design for ground level includes a central staircase and an open layout.



Second-level concept features a new coffee bar and various seating areas.



upstairs where they can purchase pastries and beverages and use wireless Internet. Last semester, students submitted creative name ideas such as Higher Grounds Café, The Eagle's Perch, Brewed Awakening, and Common Grounds.

Even the back of the Commons will be renovated to include a rear stairway entrance to the second-floor coffee bar.

During construction, campus life will continue, though tried-and-true

routes may be redirected. Students will use a portion of the Varsity dining hall as the temporary commons area, complete with vending and ATM machines. Also, the Palms Grille, post office, and Bookstore will remain open during construction.

This will be a year full of anticipation as campus listens to hammering and drilling, the sounds of growth and improvement—the sounds of God's continued blessing. ■

Campus House Renovation Underway

To most wisely use its facilities, PCC is remodeling the Campus House. In addition to receiving new carpet, paint, windows, and other upgrades, the top two floors will be repurposed into graduate assistant housing, opening space in the residence halls for the growing undergraduate population. The first floor will continue to serve as hospitality rooms for parents and guests. Construction should be complete by summer 2014.



Campus House today



Campus House renovation concept

PCC HAPPENINGS



- ① Steven Bell (*Antigua and Barbuda*) and Nathanael Trudeau (*TX*) wait for processional to begin.
- ② President Shoemaker congratulates graduate during ceremony.



President's Citation of Merit



Faculty Academic Scholarship Awards



- ③ Charis Bowman (*FL*) and Christopher St. Clair (*MO*) were awarded PCC's highest honor.
- ④ Hannah Bogard (*TN*), Scott Smith (*GA*), Elizabeth Bryan (*IA*), Nathaniel Dunlap (*ME*), and Rachel M. Smith (*IN*) earned highest GPAs.

U.S. Congressman Daniel Webster (R, Florida District 10) delivers the Commencement address.



Commencement 2013

Though May 8 marked PCC's 38th Commencement, it was the first for Dr. Troy Shoemaker as president. With families and friends filling the Crowne Centre, President Shoemaker conferred 4 honorary doctoral degrees as well as 657 seminary, graduate, and undergraduate degrees, including one to his son.

"Commencement marks the culmination of significant investment in time, in effort, in scholarship," Dr. Shoemaker told the graduates. "Keep your eyes upon [God]. It will be our greatest thrill to see how He uses you in His service."

For the address, Congressman Daniel Webster shared three principles for success: the value of time, of reading the Bible, and of listening. "You're the next generation of Christian leaders," he said. "You're closing the book on one chapter of your life, but this is a great opportunity to begin a new chapter."

These graduates join over 19,000 PCC alumni who are serving as Christian ministers and leaders. ■



History *in* the *Making*



PCC's first building—Ballard Hall—housed administrative offices, library, classrooms, chapel space, women's residence rooms (third floor), and men's residence rooms (first floor).

PCC Historical Timeline

74



• PCC Founded

Dr. Arlin & Beka Horton founded PCC 20 years after starting what is now Pensacola Christian Academy.

• First Student Body



• Campus Church



How does someone start a Christian college? By faith in God's provision! What began as an idea from God became a reality when a committed couple acted in faith to follow His leading.

The story of Pensacola Christian College begins not in 1974, but over twenty years earlier. In May of 1952, Arlin and Beka Horton arrived in a place where they had never been—Pensacola, Florida—to start a Christian school that did not yet exist.

After two years of praying and planning, the Hortons and a team of teachers

opened Pensacola Christian Grade School in 1954 with 35 students in K5 through 2nd grade.

As enrollment and responsibilities grew dramatically over the next two decades, the Hortons saw the need for Christian higher education, wondering who could start a Christian college in the area.

Once again, the answer came through praying and planning, and Pensacola Christian College opened its doors in 1974 with 100 students.

A team of dedicated faculty and staff committed to making PCC's 11 academic programs practical in application while emphasizing individual Christian character development.

In a 1974 interview with *Sword of the Lord*, Dr. Horton said that “high standards of Christian character and education will be our central theme.”

This emphasis caught the attention of Christian families throughout the country. Amidst the cultural, political, and educational upheaval of 1970s America emerged a college founded on the unchanging truths of Scripture.

By the time PCC reached its 10th year, enrollment had grown to 1,250 students. Campus had also grown with the addition of the Administration Building, Field House, Griffith Tower, Varsity Commons, and Commons to meet the student body's needs.

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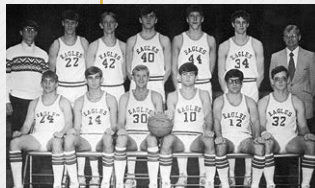
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• **Joel Mullenix**
Now PCC's vice president, Dr. Mullenix begins as dean of students.



• **PCC Seal Adopted**

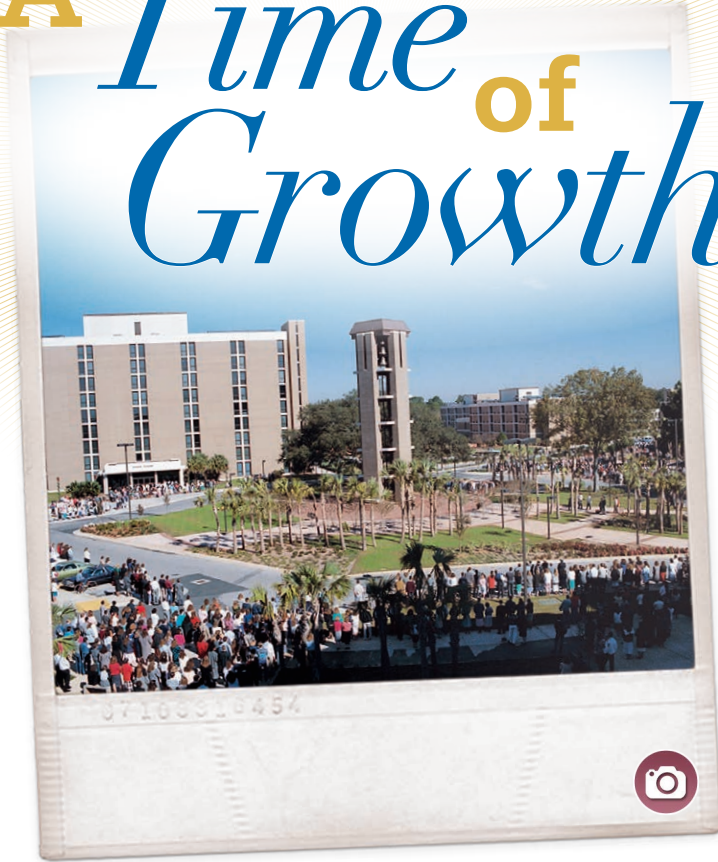


• **PCC Eagles**
First intercollegiate basketball team



• **Commons**

A Time of Growth



At the dedication of PCC's Campanile in December '89, over 2,900 listened to the carillon's first "concert." Today, the six-story tower rings the lovely tones of the Westminster Chime every quarter hour, a continual reminder to redeem the time.

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• **Troy Shoemaker**
PCC's future president begins science education degree.



• **Dale Horton Auditorium**



• **Palm Logo Adopted**



• **College Sign**
New display for Brent Lane entrance

Growth brings change. Between 1984 and 1993, the number of students doubled—from 1,537 to 3,100. PCC changed dramatically to accommodate the growth, adding over ten buildings to campus.

What brought so many Christian young people (from every state and 46 foreign countries) to PCC? A parent’s letter to Dr. Horton during that time gives the answer:

“I am sending my son to Pensacola Christian College because I believe in the direction, standards, and love for the Lord that you folks have there. It gives me such confidence to know there is such a place as PCC.”

Additionally, many students came because of the College’s variety and quality of academic programs. New offerings included mechanical engineering and criminal justice to keep pace with growing fields.

And for students to have a complete college experience, Dr. Horton envisioned a sports facility that would provide wholesome recreational and athletic activities on campus. The resulting Sports Center, named in honor of him in 2009, remains a favorite student destination even today.



1993 Sports Center

1984 Marks Beginning of Favorite Student “Holiday”

During a chapel service in 1984, Dr. Horton announced the first Presidential Prerogative day, set aside in spring (at the president’s discretion) for students to rest and study.

Nearly 30 years later, Dr. Shoemaker continued the tradition during the spring of his first year as president.

Ben Kaiser ('13, NV), a student under both Dr. Horton and Dr. Shoemaker, appreciates the thoughtfulness of the event. “Presidential Prerogative is a way to show the student body how much the administration cares,” he said. “It’s a time to refresh amidst a busy spring semester!”

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• Recording Studio

Redeemed, first recording in new studio



• Library

Named Rebekah Horton Library in honor of PCC’s cofounder



• Palms Grille

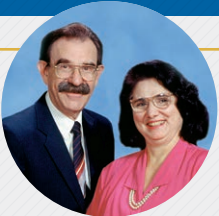
On-campus restaurant

Crowned with Goodness



Named in honor of the King of Kings, the Crowne Centre was dedicated in May 2002 as a testimony to God's goodness and blessing. With seating for over 6,000, the Crowne Centre brought the student body and Campus Church family under one roof for chapel and church services.

94



• **Alberto & Daisy Jaffé**

Renowned musicians join music faculty and bring the Jaffé Strings method to PCC.

95



• **Eagor**

Eagles mascot gets name.

96



• **MacKenzie Building**

97

98



• **Pensacola Theological Seminary**

A new century brings a new perspective. As the 21st century came into view, many who visited campus—guest preachers, performers, and parents—described PCC as a modern-day miracle.

The word *miracle* pointed to God, whose unusual blessing was the source of PCC’s growth and development. No one knew this more than those in the ministry, seeing God’s goodness and provision firsthand.

After visiting campus, a youth pastor wrote:

“I had not been to your campus in several years and was impressed with the facilities that you have now. Every staff member I talked to at PCC constantly gave glory to God. No one gave credit to anyone but Him.”

From the very beginning, PCC sought to follow God and do what was right, careful to give Him the praise.

PCC’s desire to honor God was most evident in 1996, when the College led in defending and upholding the King James Version of the Bible when it was attacked from within Fundamentalism.

Two years later, Pensacola Theological Seminary began with the purpose of equipping a new generation of Christians to become pastors, missionaries, teachers, and leaders who would know and love God’s Word.

Faculty Expresses Thanks for Founder’s Vision in Interview with Local Newspaper

For opening of Crowne Centre, the *Pensacola News Journal* featured PCC in its Dec. 2, 2001 edition. In that article, long-time faculty and chair of PCC’s education department Dr. Phyllis Rand said—

“We call Dr. Horton a man of vision. Dr. Horton comes up with a plan, and most of us sit back and say, ‘Are you kidding?’ But then it happens. There’s something new all the time, and you just want to be a part of it. I feel very fortunate.”



Phyllis Rand

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• Four Winds

New dining facility offers expanded menu and seating options.



• Planetarium

“The Heavens Declare” debuts as first PCC-produced presentation.



• Varsity Remodeled

Original dining facility gets completely new look.

Continuing the Vision



On October 12, 2012, Dr. Troy Shoemaker was formally installed as second president of PCC. Founder and President Emeritus Dr. Arlin Horton presented Dr. Shoemaker with the presidential medallion and chain of office, symbolizing the transferral of presidential authority.

04



• **Rand House**

Guest accommodations for visiting speakers and delegates

05



• **Standby Generators**

Ready to supply campus with emergency power

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• **Lady Eagles**

Women's basketball team joins intercollegiate sports roster.

08

Innovation meets tradition. Without sacrificing proven methods, PCC expanded its technological tools and personalized services to meet the needs of a new generation of students.

With most major facility projects completed, PCC used the 2000s to focus on building better technological tools and student services.

Campus-wide filtered Internet access, online class registration, *Eagle's Nest* student intranet, Campus Connection monitors, and various academic technology enhancements—all were meant to help PCC continue fulfilling its mission and purpose in the digital age.

Additionally, the College focused on refining its services to students and graduates. One key endeavor began in summer 2011, as PCC started the process of becoming accredited. In the fall of that year, PCC was awarded Candidate status by the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS).

In spring 2012, during their 60th year of ministry, PCC's founders Dr. and Mrs. Arlin Horton announced

their retirement. The Board of Directors voted unanimously for Dr. Troy Shoemaker to be the next president, continuing the vision begun nearly 40 years earlier.

Under President Shoemaker's leadership, PCC continues fulfilling the God-given vision of preparing young men and women to be all they can be for the honor and glory of Jesus Christ.

PCC alumni serve worldwide on mission fields, in churches and Christian schools, as well as in various other ministries and professions.

PCC continues fulfilling the vision God gave, preparing young men and women to be all they can be for the honor and glory of Jesus Christ.

As we celebrate this milestone, all the praise belongs to God; great things He hath done in these

40 years! With God's help and blessing, Pensacola Christian College will continue to share His truth in the future, standing as a testimony of God's unchanging faithfulness in an ever-changing world. ■

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• **Sports Center Addition**

New features include rock climbing wall, water park, inline skating track, and more.



• **Classic Organ**

23-rank pipe organ in Rawson Chapel



• **Diamond Jubilee**

Celebration honors founders for 60 years of ministry before retirement.



~~Commercial.~~ *Professional* Writing

New name expresses scope of PCC's program

“So you learn how to write television commercials?”

PCC commercial writing students got used to hearing this question about their program. They'd graciously explain that the word *commercial* meant mass market work, or work for profit.

Through growth and development over 20 years, PCC's writing program has broadened. To better reflect the scope of the program, the commercial writing program is now named professional writing. While it does teach writing for the commercial field, it also explores other types of writing—fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction.

No matter the genre, students strive to reach a level of professionalism that sets their writing apart and gives them the ability to excel in a writing career or other literary pursuits.

Students learn traditional writing principles that encourage truth, beauty, and excellence. After laying a foundation with fundamental grammar courses, the professional writing program intensifies with classes such as Copy Writing (where, yes, students learn to write commercials), Creative

Nonfiction, Technical Writing, and two semesters each of Journalism and Creative Writing.

In Copy Editing classes, students edit and polish their work and the work of others. Writing for Publication introduces students to the publishing industry and the business of freelancing.

In addition to writing courses, Photography and Digital Typography allow students to study photojournalism, layout, and typesetting aspects of the writing field, while literature electives train students to analyze the works of master writers.

Apart from coursework, students have various opportunities to practice their writing skills: an off-campus writing practicum, the student literary publication *Fountains*, the Summit yearbook, Commencement narrative contests, and the Campus Post blog.

Because of their broad program of study, professional writing graduates are equipped to pursue numerous careers. Alumni work as advertisers, editors, freelance writers, journalists, librarians, novelists, and web content writers—and none, that we know of, write commercials.

Writing Practicum Opens Opportunities

Professional writing students fortify their classroom knowledge by completing a writing practicum with magazine and newspaper publishers, churches, businesses, and Christian organizations. Working 80 hours, students submit at least three pieces to a supervisor who approves the writing for publication. This experience sharpens skills such as interviewing, researching, editing, designing, and, of course, writing.

Drew Meadows ('10, FL) spent two weeks writing e-newsletter articles for the American Association of Christian Schools (AACs), informing members and constituents of issues involving religious freedom and family values. "My practicum immersed me in every stage of the writing process, especially research," he said. "Concepts that I learned in class and through projects applied directly to the writing I did in my practicum. At PCC, students are taught to be organized thinkers and fluid communicators, and those capabilities are critical in any writing field."

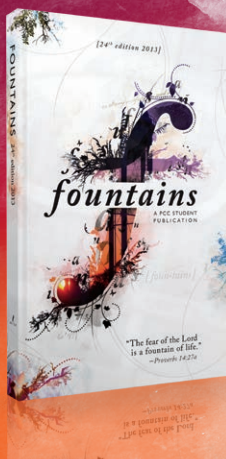
Tisha Martin (JR, IL) appreciated her behind-the-scenes involvement in the magazine industry



when she recently completed her practicum at *Answers Magazine*, an Answers in Genesis publication. "I always took reading a magazine for granted," she said. "Now, when I pick up any magazine, I'll appreciate the little things, such as the font type, photo placement, and word choices in each article. Much effort goes into all those magazines scattered across the tables in waiting areas."

In addition to experience, the practicum yields credentials and references crucial for later jobs and opportunities. During her internship, **Sarah Eshleman** ('08, FL) bonded with the staff of the small South Carolina newspaper where she wrote feature articles. "When I applied to graduate school, the editor gave me a gracious reference," she said. "Each time I visit the office, we pick up where we left off talking about the newspaper business. I learned a lot about writing at my practicum, but I also gained a sense of community."

No matter where they complete their practicum, professional writing students walk away with broader knowledge of the writing field and stronger confidence in their abilities to pursue a professional writing career. ■



Refresh with *Fountains*, PCC's Literary Publication

Professional writing students—along with students of many other majors—publish stories, essays, and poetry in *Fountains*, which is written, edited, designed, and illustrated by PCC students.

A limited number are available for only \$4 (+shipping) at Bookstore.pcci.edu.

Visit PCCinfo.com/Fountains13 to learn about the making of the 2013 edition and read excerpts online.

HIGHLIGHTS



5K Midnight Mission Run **Compassion for a Cause**

When student body officers suggested a Midnight Mission Run, they never expected the idea to take off like it did. They wanted a way to aid missionary Jeremy Pittman's work with Ugandan orphans and the Tulabots' work in the Philippines with VBS and Sunday school. They knew these missionaries were reaching out to children who were starving, hurting, and hopeless, but they didn't know the Lord would take their seed of compassion and use it to raise over \$33,000.

On Friday, April 26, college field swarmed with over 2,900 students, faculty, and staff ready to run. Sporting "making a difference" T-shirts and glow-stick necklaces, the runners raced through midnight. The best

part was the camaraderie! Cheers and whoops, pushing each other to go the distance, echoed through the runners' ranks. Many who did not run still participated by donating money to aid the missionaries' work.

The evening concluded with a reward for the top three race times. The winners were Alan Fitzer (17:57), Josh Slaughter (18:38), and Adam Paulson (18:48) for the men, and Brenda Regalado Gomez (21:00), Victoria Little (21:06), and Polly Davis (21:07) for the women. These students enjoyed a luncheon with President and Mrs. Shoemaker.

Through the Midnight Mission Run, PCC's student body personified the message of Jude 22, "And of some have compassion, making a difference." ■

Midnight Mission Run Videos Online

PCCinfo.com/Mission5K

PCC highlight video with student interviews

PCCinfo.com/5KThanks

Missionary video thanking students for serving



Dining Services Expands Menu's Healthy Options

At PCC, it's now more difficult to gain the "freshman fifteen," those pesky pounds that can show up by not following mom's portion control at college.

That's thanks to the efforts of Dining Services, which has eliminated all fried foods and expanded the menu's healthy dining options.

Throughout both the Varsity and Four Winds dining facilities, lighter options have been added for health-conscious students. New serving lines include *Garden Fresh* offering a variety of raw and steamed vegetables, as well as *Fit-n-Healthy* with lean meat and whole grain bread choices.

Anna Grace Jaquish (*JR., England*), writing for the Campus Post blog, shares her excitement about the possibilities: "Seven food lines give us a million choices to mix and match! Keep this in mind as you're possibly gearing up to come here to PCC in the fall."

To see a sample menu of what PCC's Dining Services has to offer, visit—

PCCinfo.com/Menu.

Upcoming Events

College Days

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

Nov. 27–29, 2013 • March 27–28, 2014

April 10–11, 2014

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

PCCinfo.com/CollegeDays

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

40th Anniversary Gala

Special Fine Arts Series featuring a
delightful variety program of music and
speech, looking back through the years

February 14, 15, 2014

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

Bible Conference

Uplifting Bible preaching

Speakers *Dr. Raymond Barber, Dr. Mike Monte,
Dr. George Riddell III, Dr. Scott Tewell*

March 12–14, 2014

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

PCC Commencement

for family and friends
of graduating students

May 7, 2014

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

Seminary/Graduate Summer Sessions

Challenging studies to strengthen your
ministry or career foundation

June 15–Aug. 1, 2014

(850) 478-8496, ext. 5241

PCCinfo.com/GraduateStudies

Running to Show God's Love

When PCC hosted a 5K Midnight Mission run to raise money for orphans, they never could have known that the women's winner had once been an orphan herself. **Brenda Regalado Gomez** (*Jr., IL*) lived in a Mexican orphanage until she was nearly finished with high school. **Read what she says about God's guiding her to a loving family, and then to PCC.**



“**M**y twin sister Sonia and I spent half of our childhood in a Mexican orphanage where we were among the older children. Through the staff and American missionaries at the orphanage I first heard about God's love.

When I was told that God could be my Heavenly Father and that He would never leave me, I could not believe it. I was angry and afraid because I thought if my earthly parents did not care for me, why would somebody else? But God showed me that He is faithful. Nothing in this world can satisfy as Christ does, and nothing can cleanse us from our past and sins as the blood of Christ.

When Sonia and I were almost done with high school, we needed direction. We did not have a family or home that we could claim as our own; nevertheless, Christ had orchestrated a perfect plan to bind us to a godly, loving family—the O'Halloran family adopted us by God's mercy.

My parents knew we needed to go to a good college. It was through the Answers in Genesis magazine that we first found out about PCC. After much prayer for guidance from the Lord, He made it clear that PCC was our destination.

This past semester the PCC student body organized a 5K Midnight Mission Run to raise funds for orphan children in the Philippines and Uganda. As soon as I heard the announcement in chapel,

my heart was filled with joy and excitement. I wanted to participate because I wanted to let those children know that somebody cares about them and is praying for them.

Even though I was thrilled about participating, I was not planning to run competitively; however, Sonia had other plans. She challenged me to run the best I could. As I kept listening to her, I knew that she was right. We needed to run for Christ's glory so that the orphans would see Christ's love and sovereignty over all, even their lives.

When the race began, I started to run and decided not to look back. I prayed repeatedly that God would help me to finish and that He would use this run to show the children His love. Thus, I finished the 5K in first place in the female category. I did not think I would win—I just knew that I wanted to run for Christ's glory. God is faithful!

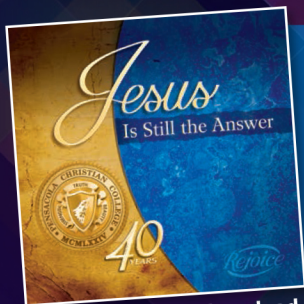
My heart is burdened for my children that I do not know yet. As I pray for the Lord's will to be done in my life, He leads me to His purposes.

At PCC, I have a concentration in studio art and a minor in Bible. I hope to use this combination to work in missions as a Christian art therapist to help orphans. I do not know exactly what the Lord has in store for me, but I do know that God is faithful and that He will accomplish all His purposes for His glory.” ■

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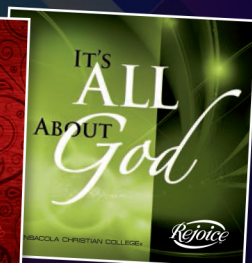
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