

PENSACOLA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE  
*UPDATE*

Summer 2018 | [pcci.edu/Update](http://pcci.edu/Update)

*A Yearbook of*  
MEMORIES  
*pg. 4 ▶*



# *From the* **President**

**Dr. Troy A. Shoemaker** @PresidentPCC



**I**n academia, the word *summer* means more time—time to rest, rejuvenate, and prepare.

After a truly outstanding year full of learning, ministry, activities, and events, the PCC family readily enjoys the extra time and slower pace that summer brings.

But over the years, I've noticed something about our students, faculty, and staff: they're eager to continue the Lord's work during the summer. So after some time of relaxation with family and friends, our team is ready to jump back in and serve in various ways.

On campus, many of our students will join our staff in welcoming campers from across the country and around the world who will be taking part in Youth Outreach Ministry summer camps. From academic and sports camps to Teen Extreme Youth Camp, our college students find joy in helping young people prepare for God's calling on their lives.

Other students, led by volunteer faculty members, are traveling around the world on Youth Outreach Ministry summer mission teams. The 12 teams

will be engaging in gospel outreach in 11 countries from May–August. Already their efforts are yielding much spiritual fruit as they serve alongside missionaries in their ministries.

In addition to camp and missions outreach, our students, faculty, and staff are also serving in local churches during their time away.

What thrills my heart is how God has kept His ministry, Pensacola Christian, focused on eternity. It began with Bible clubs in the Pensacola area, which grew into a summer camp ministry, followed by a kindergarten, then

a school, a college, and a seminary.

Nearly 65 years later, the focus on sharing the gospel hasn't changed. It's the focus that we strive to instill in our students during their time at PCC. Our hope is that, with their training, they'll be ready and willing to influence the world for Christ as they follow His leading.

To be part of a ministry so dedicated to sharing God's Word is truly humbling. May your summer be a time of refreshment for the year ahead, but also a season for sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. ■

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Connect with Us







▲ Ministries, businesses, and organizations recruit students on campus each semester.

## CAREER *Connections*

Before seniors graduate, PCC offers a variety of ways to springboard their job search and prepare them for their next phase of life through Career Services. Prospective employers and upcoming graduates can connect in person at Career Fair, Educator Recruitment, and the Display Room on campus or online through job postings on the Career Services website.

Sara Lefevers ('14) from the office of Congressman Matt Gaetz attended Career Fair for the first time this year, hoping to find interns for the fall. "We have hired PCC interns in the past," she said. "As an alumnus, I know the qualities and professionalism that are instilled in PCC students. Those characteristics have been reflected in each intern we have hired."

Terry Mahoney and her daughter enjoyed attending Career Fair as well, interviewing upcoming grads to join

Keller Williams Realty. "In real estate, it's running your own business. Keller Williams is God first, family second, and business third. So already, PCC students are learning to put God first in whatever career they decide," she said. "I know the education at PCC is strong."

Career Services started in spring 2013, replacing the Placement Office and its hard copy job lists with a comprehensive website to better meet students' employment needs, combining searches for businesses, schools, and ministries across the country and internationally.

According to Career Services Coordinator David Weaver, "Some benefits of Career Services are being able to connect with places to potentially find a job, an internship, or [for employers] to post their openings. Students can also go to Career Services for help with résumés, cover letters, and interview preparation."

Some schools like Faith Baptist Schools in California have been recruiting teachers from PCC since the '90s. "PCC's students have learned the methodology to excel as classroom teachers," said Faith Baptist's elementary principal Roland Rasmussen ('93, M.S. '95). "These are teachers who are praying with their kids, taking them to lunch. It's about their heart. We've hired some amazing PCC grads!"

At Educator Recruitment, an event on campus representing the teaching needs of over 95 schools, Rasmussen and other principals have valuable one-on-one time with prospective teachers.

Aside from Educator Recruitment, another outlet that allows for more casual yet in-depth conversation is in the Display Room. This corner room inside the Commons holds display tables for businesses or ministries to share their needs with students on a weekly basis.

For senior Cameron West (*Pre-Law, ME*), the Display Room gave him the opportunity to intern with Maine Senator Garrett Mason, a position that earned him a job after college. "PCC's Career Services gives students the opportunity to get in touch with people who can give them jobs in their area of study directly out of college," said Cameron. "That seems to be something that many college graduates in today's economy struggle to find."

During his internship, Cameron worked with state senate election and re-election campaigns as well as fundraisers, gaining a better understanding of what Senator Mason needed from him as a potential employee.

After his internship, Cameron was offered a position on Mason's staff. "The

Display Room gave me an opportunity to speak with my potential employer one-on-one in a relatively informal setting," said Cameron. "We both got to ask each other questions, talk about things both school- and job-related, and really just get to know each other."

From internships with state senators to Christian summer camps or short-term missions trips, the Display Room offers students valuable information to help them find their perfect fit.

Each spring, PCC hosts Career Fair, a venue encouraging local businesses within Florida or from 5 to 10 surrounding states to share their employment needs. This year's fair hosted over 45 vendors who came to recruit graduating seniors.

Legislative director of the American Association of Christian Schools, Jamison Coppola ('95, M.S. '97) came to Career Fair to find potential employees interested in legislative work. He said, "We work in a very competitive environment in Washington, D.C., and we work with graduates from a lot of other universities—prestigious, well-known universities. But PCC puts into students some very basic things that give them some advantages over the grads from the very prestigious universities. There's still a focus on writing well, reading comprehension, and character traits. Because those things are very real to employers, it causes Pensacola Christian College graduates to stand out."

No matter their field, students can make their first connections and first jobs from Career Services. ■

**No matter their field,  
students can make  
their first connections  
and first jobs from  
Career Services.**

**Connect with Career Services**  
**[pcci.edu/CareerServices](http://pcci.edu/CareerServices)**

# A Yearbook of MEMORIES

For over 40 years, the *Summit* yearbook has recorded the College's history, telling the story of students and staff as they follow God's leading in their lives. But just what goes into making this collectible volume and getting it into students' hands each year?

**I**n April, when students received their copy of the 2018 *Summit* yearbook, they held in their hands not only a collection of college memories but also the culmination of the school year.

Like most good things, the *Summit* does not just magically appear. Rather, it's the result of over a year's worth of creative planning, intentional designing, meticulous proofing, and, finally, the long-awaited printing.

*Summit* Advisor Esther Hallman says that as soon as the latest version of the *Summit* goes to print, the staff immediately begins brainstorming ideas for the next year's book. "Our goal is to get it designed before summer," she revealed.

Throughout the fall and into the spring semester, a handful of students assist with compiling and proofing the yearbook. "We all have different majors and interests, but we worked together toward a common goal," said Hannah Bryan (So., VA).

Andrea Kaszak (Jr., TX), a section editor, spent many hours poring over photos to find the perfect shots to include. She said, "We got to see every side of the school, which in turn made us want to do our best work for the yearbook in order to share that new-found love of our college."





# MAKING THE YEARBOOK

## Organization



- ▶ Planning for the new edition starts months before the school year begins.
- ▼ Yearbook staff carefully craft the layout.

## Production



## Distribution

Days before the semester concludes, the *Summit* lands in the hands of students eager to explore its pages.



After the book was unveiled in chapel and dedicated to Pastor Denis McBride, students filed through the Field House, claiming their copy of memories.

"I enjoyed seeing the reaction of the student body as they look through a book that captures, in a few pages, everything that this past school year has entailed," said Elijah Butler (So., GA), research staff.

Flipping through freshly printed pages, students laughed at pictures of themselves and their friends, reminiscing of all that transpired this year. ■

# ADVOCATE *for Life*

Alumna Charity St. Clair has long known her calling in life—but the path to get there has been anything but easy.



▲ An advocate for victims of human trafficking, Charity shared her experiences with students during a recent Criminal Justice forum at her alma mater.

**H**aving a near-death experience changes you. Life looks shorter and things feel more urgent,” says alumna Charity St. Clair (’13). “Selfish stuff doesn’t matter as much. You just want your life to be what it was meant to be.”

In early 2016, Charity’s health had declined to the point she was forced to quit her job. “I was sitting in my brother’s apartment when my fingernails started turning blue,” she recalled. “I got extremely cold and couldn’t stop shaking, and my vision started blacking out. My brother and sister-in-law took me to the ER and by the time we got there, my organs were starting to shut down. My body went into septic shock.”

Several years earlier, after graduating with a degree in criminal justice,

Charity looked forward to starting her future, which held several great job opportunities.

But Charity knew her calling. She had taken several overseas missions trips, and on one of them she came face-to-face with victims of sex trafficking. Furious that a child could be sold for as little as \$15, Charity could not sleep that night. “I knew God wanted me to dedicate my life to helping victims of sex trafficking,” she said. “It scared me to death, but God continued to confirm it.”

One day, she received a package in the mail. “A friend sent me a Rescue 1 Global T-shirt and told me about the organization,” Charity recalls. “I wanted to work with survivors of human trafficking,



but in a workplace that had a gospel mindset, and Rescue 1 fit that description.”

Charity accepted an internship with the organization and fell in love with the ministry as she participated in their street outreach and gained insight through training sessions.

There was one obstacle, though. “If I joined Rescue 1, I’d have to raise my own finances like a missionary,” Charity explained. “I thought that since I’d worked so hard to earn my bachelor’s in criminal justice, I should work somewhere that could pay me! It was really an area of pride in my life, and it took time for me to fully surrender to it.”

Not ready to make a commitment to raising full-time support, Charity accepted a teaching position at a private Christian school in Los Angeles. “Rescue 1 was always in the back of my mind,” she admitted. “I still really wanted to work with troubled kids, so my next job was at a juvenile justice campus that was an alternative for boys in detention facilities. After that, I worked in a home for prostituted children, mostly girls.”

While these jobs gave her opportunities to work with exploited children, Charity’s heart still lay in working with a ministry that not only helped victims physically but also presented eternal hope to them through the gospel. She didn’t know it yet, but her life was about to change forever when her health gave out unexpectedly.



Although Charity cannot recall her time in ICU, a medical note written by the doctor revealed her desperate condition: “Likely Mortality.” A miracle that Charity attributes to praying Christians took place, and Charity recovered—only to go back into sepsis six months later. “When I woke up

in the hospital again, I had one thing on my mind: if I recover this time, I’m supposed to join Rescue 1. I can’t even tell you exactly why I thought that, but it was there.”

God did heal Charity—and she contacted Rescue 1 Global, immediately dedicating herself to her calling. The days are long and the work demanding, but Charity fully embraces each challenge and rejoices with each victim pulled physically and spiritually out of despair. “When you work with people who have survived the world of sex trafficking, you learn quickly to celebrate the small victories,” she says. “The depravity that has been forced upon their lives changes their mindset, their value system, their worldview—everything. So the journey of healing is a life-long one. When you sign up to be their advocate, you sign on for life.”

“God has healed much in my body, and I’m so thankful He has extended my life to be involved in such an awesome ministry,” Charity said. “I don’t know how much life I have left, but I’ll be doing what I love, and I’ll be where God wants me. I wish everyone could know how that feels.” ■

**“I don’t know how much life I have left,  
but I’ll be doing what I love and I’ll be  
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# *Legal* MATTERS

How the pre-law program gives students a solid foundation to build a career in law

**W**hile growing up, April Wood ('94) was certain she would become a tough lawyer like the ones she saw on television. To help Wood reach that goal, her father routinely engaged her in debates that developed her ability to defend her position on an issue. In the fall of 1991, Wood's dreams were one step closer to coming true when she arrived at Pensacola Christian College to pursue a degree in pre-law.

In speech classes, Wood learned to overcome her fear of public speaking; in debate classes, she learned to ardently and articulately defend her stance on an issue. In Criminal Law, she gained an in-depth understanding of constitutional methods regarding crime; and in State and Local Govern-

ment, she learned the structure and functions of government on both the state and local levels.

Wood went on to study law at Regent University and since 2002 has served



as a district court judge in North Carolina. "What I appreciate most about my education at PCC is that several of my professors had a legal or criminal justice background," she said. "I found the experiences that they shared to be informative, interesting, and sometimes entertaining. Their life experiences provided some of the most useful information, and I still think about some of those stories when I am contemplating a decision."

With a degree in pre-law from PCC, graduates are prepared not only to successfully pass the LSAT and enter law school (including 3 of the top 10 as ranked by U.S. News and World Report), but also to thrive in the process.



While attending Florida A&M University College of Law, **Clinton Cagle, Esq.** ('99) served as the president of the Student Bar Association and assisted with the production of Law Review. He said, "PCC has an excellent academic program for those wanting to go into the legal field. While going through law school, it was clearly evident that PCC well prepared me for matriculation through law school."

Cagle graduated in the top fifteen percent of his class and currently runs his own law firm specializing in personal injury law. He said, "I feel that the Lord has used me in this position to be a Christian testimony to those who are going through difficult times."

PCC faculty Dr. William Bowen says that the pre-law program gives students a well-rounded education, placing a special emphasis on writing and public speaking skills. Not only do students take fundamental classes relating to history and law, but they also take literature classes, Advanced English Grammar and Composition, and Creative Writing.



**Patrick Callahan** ('00) appreciates the advantage his writing skills gave him during law school and beyond. "The writing skills that I developed at PCC have always been an important part of my legal career," he said. "Writing is

absolutely essential to the successful practice of law, and law school does not focus on teaching writing."

After earning his Juris Doctor from the University of Mississippi, Callahan served as a judge advocate in the Marine Corps for five years. Now, as Deputy Chief Counsel for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Texas, he is responsible for implementing policy, training attorneys, establishing litigation strategies, and providing legal advice to officers. He is certain that "had I not been through the rigorous curriculum at PCC, I would not have done as well at law school."

Most importantly, students learn to interpret the law from a biblical perspective. History faculty Dr. John Reese

said, "The advantage that we offer at Pensacola Christian is a sense of law and of politics with God's light shining through. Worldview is so crucial here—two people can look

at the same set of facts and come to two different conclusions based on their interpretation of those facts."

With a worldview founded on the Bible, pre-law students graduate fully prepared to share with the world the "reason of the hope that is in you"—no matter where their degree takes them.

A graduating senior said, "In order for law to be constant, it has to be based on something that is constant. And Scripture is the most constant thing. That is why we are doing what we are doing. It's nice to know that when I graduate, I am going to have the tools I need to succeed." ■

**"Had I not been through the rigorous curriculum at PCC, I would not have done as well at law school."**



**Watch PCC's pre-law video.**  
**[pcci.edu/LawMatters](http://pcci.edu/LawMatters)**



# Commencement

**F**riday, May 11, marked PCC's 43rd Commencement as the largest class in the history of the College—997 students—completed their degrees.

"I came as a transfer student not knowing what to expect," said Daniel Akpatsu (*Advertising/Public Relations, Ghana*). "From attending chapel services and Bible classes, I was able to understand more about the Bible and stand firm in my faith as I go into the world."

During the ceremony, just two weeks before retiring as Campus Church pastor, Denis McBride addressed the graduates one final time. He challenged them to walk worthy of their calling by remembering that "living for God is a lifelong task and passion."

Maine Senator Garrett Mason ('06), who received an honorary doctorate in humanities, also addressed the graduates. "This is not a dress rehearsal," he said. "Enjoy every second from the moment you step out of these doors until the day that you die, because you will not get to do it again."

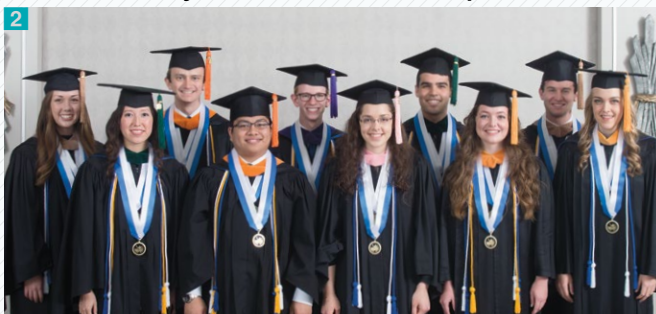
Though the graduates' college careers had ended, the lessons remained.

Isaiah Walker (*Sport Management, KS*) said, "For me, graduation means the ending of a four-year life lesson. College has prepared me for my next step in my career, but the lessons I have learned through friendships—both the ups and the downs—have had an even greater impact in my life." ■

## President's Citation of Merit



## Faculty Academic Scholarship Awards



- 1** Jeremy Carlson (*FL*) and Allyson Hohenstreet (*WA*) were awarded PCC's highest honor.
- 2** Lindsey Roberson (*HI*), Danielle Arceo (*NV*), Daniel Cochran (*GA*), Brent Basiano (*Japan*), Joshua McCroskey (*AL*), Lydia Cedeño (*FL*), Kevin Salomon (*FL*), Allison Hutt (*MA*), Joshua Grover (*OH*), and Christy Becher (*NY*) earned highest undergraduate GPAs.



## New Look for Varsity Terrace

In chapel during the spring semester, President Shoemaker announced that students returning to campus this fall would find the Varsity Terrace transformed into a more usable space.

The Terrace has long been a main thoroughfare on campus as well as an outdoor study spot due to the recent addition of more table seating. For large events like the annual Collegian Parade and Christmas Lights Celebration, the Terrace became the coveted spot for students. Many would reserve a place hours in advance, sitting on blankets or perched on the edge of the Terrace wall.

Over time, oak tree roots running deep beneath the Terrace caused the bricking to crack. In addition, a growing student body has necessitated a more spacious design to accommodate larger crowds for campus events.

In May, construction commenced as crews tore away old brick and cleared the remaining roots. Construction Manager Jonathan Abbott said, "With the new design, you will see what appears to be steps, but you'll actually have tiered seating. There will also be more tabletop areas out on the Terrace."

The project is expected to conclude in August, right on time for the beginning of the new school year and the annual Collegian Parade during Greek Rush. ■

# Upcoming Events

## Summer Seminar for Christian school administrators and teachers

**July 24-27**

(850) 478-8496, ext. 2828  
[SummerSeminarInfo.com](http://SummerSeminarInfo.com)

## PCC Opening Weekend for family and friends of students

**August 24-26**

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

## Teachers Clinic for Christian school teachers and office staff

**October 22-23**

(850) 478-8496, ext. 2828  
[TeachersClinic.com](http://TeachersClinic.com)

## Ladies Celebration Spiritual retreat with God's Word at Camp o' the Pines

**November 1-3**

(850) 478-8496, ext. 2828  
[LadiesCelebration.com](http://LadiesCelebration.com)

## College Days for high school seniors, juniors, sophomores, and qualified high school graduates

**Nov. 14-16**

1-800-PCC-INFO (1-800-722-4636)  
[pcc.edu/CollegeDays](http://pcc.edu/CollegeDays)

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

# Connections

## Stories from PCC

### *Planted in the Ministry*

**What's it like to serve at PCC?** Longtime faculty member **Dr. Chris Bowman** and his wife LuWanda have spent 40 years working at PCC, and all three of their children have served as well. Read why he and his family have chosen to invest their lives here.



When Dr. Chris Bowman isn't grading student papers or preparing teacher assistants for class, he's most likely in his orchard. Tenderly watering and weeding his plants, he has grown orange and peach trees, along with dragon fruit plants—all from seed.

This educator and gardener can't help but see the parallel of the plants in his garden and his own life. When God led him to start serving at Pensacola Christian nearly four decades ago, he felt God calling him to put his roots down together with his wife, whom he'd met in their freshman year at PCC. "We were both grateful we were asked to stay," he said. "We have never considered going anywhere else, and God has never told us to leave."

As a student, Dr. Bowman found himself strongly influenced by the teachers he had sat under during his four years of college. So it only seemed natural after graduation that he stay on as faculty, passing on that same legacy to the students he would teach. "I have been changed, molded, and formed into what I am today by the wonderful people I have worked with who took the time to encourage and inspire me," he said.

At first, Dr. Bowman taught elementary classes at Pensacola Christian School (now Pensacola Christian Academy). Twelve years later, he returned to PCC to begin teaching college classes. "Teaching in the elementary for twelve years gave me a wealth of experience

to apply in my college classes and as I work with my teacher assistants," he said. "That experience also shaped my beliefs about what education should be."

Currently, he supervises the 4th–6th grade teacher assistants at Pensacola Christian Academy and teaches Educational Psychology, Teaching Arithmetic, and Arithmetic Skills for the Elementary School at PCC, as well as two graduate classes. In his classes, he strives to weave a Christian worldview through each aspect of teaching.

Dr. Bowman is thankful for the opportunity to work at PCC, a place where he knows he is working with others who share the same values. "I love the like-minded people with whom I serve," he said. "I love to see my students grow in knowledge and in their service for the Lord."

He challenges anyone considering a move to the Pensacola area to work at PCC, "Come with the mindset you will stay forever unless God moves you on. Know that you will be taken care of well."

His strong philosophy and concern for students is why Dr. Bowman remains one of the most endearing educators at PCC. As students gather year after year in Dr. Bowman's classroom, he continues to faithfully water his seeds, watching God give the increase. "The most rewarding experience in being a teacher is seeing the positive changes that are made in the lives of my students," he said. ■



# 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

- Graphic Design • Marketing • Office Administration • Studio Art

## PCC Staff

- Auto/Truck Mechanic • Computer Technician • Construction • Electrician
- Fire Alarm Technician • HVAC Technician • Kitchen Appliance Repair Technician
- Network Technician • Painter • Production Artist • Scenic Artist • Web Programmer

## Abeka

- Print Shop Processes Engineer • Textbook Field Representative (Northeast States)

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

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## Scholarship Fund Giving

PCC gratefully acknowledges the following generous donations to the Scholarship Fund:

**Peggy Gonshor**

**Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wilson**

Visit [pcci.edu/Donate](http://pcci.edu/Donate) for information about the Scholarship Fund.

## Planned Giving

It is often difficult to make a large donation during one's lifetime, yet many would like to make a significant contribution to PCC. You may consider a bequest to Pensacola Christian College.

Visit [pcci.edu/PlannedGiving](http://pcci.edu/PlannedGiving) for information about estate planning. For information about both the Scholarship Fund and Planned Giving, call 850-478-8496, ext. 2327.

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