

# PENSACOLA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE *UPDATE*

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



## THE EAGLE WAY

pg. 2 ▶

# *From the* **President**

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



**I**n the fall of 1995, Young Tower opened as PCC's newest residence hall, joining Ballard, Coberly, Griffith, Dixon, and Bradley in meeting the needs of students living on campus. All were named after original members of the Board of Directors and prayer partners when the Christian school and College were started.

Next fall, 24 years later, a new residence hall is expected to open alongside the others. Like them, it will bear the name of a great friend of PCC: Dr. Bill Rice, III.

While his family name is synonymous with the Bill Rice Ranch Christian camping ministry in Murfreesboro, TN, Dr. Rice has also been a strong supporter of Christian education for decades. He served on PCC's Board of Directors for 20 years and as Chairman of the Board for a number of

years. In that time, his love for young people and his desire for them to follow God's call was evident.

The ministry of the Bill Rice Ranch and PCC are quite similar—providing a spiritually-nurturing environment to help young people draw close to God and follow His leading in their lives. While one is a sprawling 1,300-acre ranch in Tennessee, the other is a bustling college campus in northwest Florida. But the lives that are changed for Christ is our common bond.

As I see Rice Tower take shape on the east side of campus, I am encouraged thinking about the students who will occupy those rooms, the lives that will be built on a biblical foundation during their stay.

May God strengthen the hands of all who have dedicated their lives to this great spiritual work! ■







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Connect with Us



# *The* **EAGLE** *Way*

## How Playing Sports Develops Leaders



Eagles fans, dressed in white and blue, cheered as the clock ticked down toward the start of the game. The teams were introduced, the music stopped, and Eagle Field grew silent. The crowds leaned forward, watching, waiting for the ball to be put into play....

**W**ith so many eyes on them, the Eagles athletes know their actions are important—on and off the field or court. Each player strives to take responsibility as part of the team.

“Leadership is not defined as a title, but by action and example,” said **Hannah Harmon** (Sr., TX), a volleyball team captain. “Whether you have a title as captain or not, you are a leader in some way or another on this team.”



The Eagles understand they have a responsibility to be a good example not only to their fans and opponents but to their teammates as well. “A Christian leader can show Christ through his own personal actions on the court, but

also by pushing those around him to please the Lord with the effort they give and life they live as well,” said **Jessica Boyd** (Sr., VA), a women’s basketball team captain. “It’s a great thing to know that you’re playing for a God that is bigger than any tough game moment that may arise.”



“As a leader, I have tried to take some freshmen by the side and help them and to set up accountability groups for the team,” said **Travis Rose** (Sr., MI), a soccer team captain. “This season, it has already worked because I am trying to keep the guys focused on



the cause of Christ rather than the wins and the losses.”

It's not just the team captains that carry the responsibility of leadership. The coaches strive to be of the first examples of leadership to their teams. “Coach [Jared] Sellars is a great example of a leader!” said **Ashton Welborn** (Sr., AL), a captain for women's basketball. “On the court, he coaches us thoroughly, aids our understanding of the game, takes time to prepare for practices and games, and communicates clearly. Off the court, we know that we can go to him about anything.”

“No matter what happens, I know if I look over at that bench—whether we are losing by ten or I have just done something stupid—Coach Calyn Ohman will be there, completely calm and unmoved,” said Hannah Harmon. “She may have a quiet word or two about how to adjust on court, but mostly it's just a nod and smile with a ‘You are fine. Next point.’ It just runs confidence through me.”

In addition to coaching men's basketball, Coach **Mark Goetsch** also

serves as PCC's Athletic Director. For him, his job lasts 24/7. “My energy has to be positive every day. Very difficult after losses, but I've got to find the positives in situations to keep things going in the direction they should go,” he said. “I want to communicate with play-



ers about their strengths, using those in a variety of ways not only as an athlete but as a leader of an organization on campus, in a hall or room. Be aware of your weaknesses, seeking to improve those along the way. Sports doesn't allow you to just show up and wing it from there,” he said. “Habits, responsibility, and preparation would be

three traits I believe help young people be better leaders in their chosen fields.”

As part of its overall foundational mission and purpose, PCC seeks to “produce Christian

leaders...to influence the world by applying biblical principles in their chosen field and daily life.”

The Eagles teams work to embrace these traits and characteristics, becoming leaders in their own way—the Eagle way. ■

**Eagles athletes know  
their actions are  
important—on and off  
the field or court.**

## THE EAGLE WAY

**SPORTSMANSHIP**  
RESPECT CHARACTER INITIATIVE  
**EXCELLENCE**  
RESILIENCE HUMILITY PATIENCE  
ENTHUSIASM IMPROVEMENT  
**CHRISTLIKENESS**





# TIME TO *Reminisce*

Things may have changed since they were students, but the feeling of being back on campus was the same during Alumni Homecoming 2018.

Checking in on the first floor of the Academic Center felt reminiscent of their time as students. But rather than a welcome packet and mailbox combination, arriving alumni were greeted with gift bags containing PCC memorabilia. The second-annual Alumni Homecoming, held in October, provided a perfect opportunity to return to campus and visit with long-lasting friends.

On the Friday campus tours, alumni visited some of the less accessible areas on or near campus. Some of the first tours visited the Abeka offices, the Print Shop, and the Distribution Center. “When I was a student here, I didn’t know a lot of what went on in the Abeka building or in the Distribution Center,” said Kerri Lehmann (’85). “It’s just really

neat to see how all that comes together to make a ministry—to come back and see the behind-the-scenes part of the ministry.”

Some tours got a peek inside the Executive Offices and saw the rooms where much of the planning for PCC begins. Many took their chance to sit in President Troy Shoemaker’s desk chair and take a photo. During the first-look tour of Rice Tower, the new residence hall being constructed on campus, visiting alumni encountered spacious rooms on each floor and spectacular views from the rooftop.

As the cool evening settled on Eagle Field, alumni and current students alike enjoyed listening to PCCymphony’s Concert on the Green. Lively commentary



◀ Enjoying Florida's gorgeous October weather, alumni got to relive a classic "Dating Outing" with their spouses and children by cruising Pensacola Bay for dolphins.

▼ Several Homecoming events gave alumni the chance to connect with President Shoemaker, many for the first time.



from speech faculty Josh Hutt and Jacob Van Hall throughout the performance explained which classic cartoons each piece was used in. "I loved the Concert on the Green," said Tanya Smith ('12). "We could bring our children to that, and they really enjoyed it, too."

Saturday brought a dolphin cruise on Pensacola Bay, dinner with Dr. and Mrs. Shoemaker, and the Eagles soccer game with s'mores. At the dinner, alumni fellowshiped and shared stories about their experiences of how things used to be. "Homecoming provided an opportunity for alumni to reconnect and have a great time. We want alumni to know that we care about them and their families; we want to stay connected," said Alumni Services Director Dustin McElreath.

**"We want alumni to know that we care about them and their families; we want to stay connected."**

Throughout their visit, alumni expressed hope for the future of PCC.

"I hope for [PCC] to be [a place] where my kids can come when they have their opportunity to come to college, and I really like their vision for having

the students so involved in the process and making suggestions," said Rachel Kennedy ('08).

Whether they had seen an ad, heard from a friend, or happened to be in the area, alumni enjoyed being able to see each other on the same campus that helped to shape them into who they are today. "I think it's really neat coming back to campus for Homecoming. There's a sweet spirit among the students. Everybody is just themselves, and it's just a sweet spirit of unity," said Kerri Lehmann. ■



## BUILT *by* DESIGN

In Dearborn, Michigan, Zach Underwood ('13) grew up with a reputation for taking things apart, figuring out how they worked, and making them into something new. Now he tests hybrid batteries for functionality and safety at the Ford Motor Company.

“Growing up they used to call me ‘Zach the Lego maniac,’ which I guess was from a commercial in the ‘80s,” Zach said.

Being homeschooled allowed Zach to learn mechanics from his father, who enjoyed fixing up old cars. “My

dad would never pay for a mechanic because it was so expensive. It was always, ‘Zach, come help me with the tires’ or ‘the transmission’ or ‘the suspension.’”

After Zach finished high school, he came to PCC to study mechanical



engineering. “In engineering you joke a lot: If you’re an electrical engineer, everyone thinks that you can fix their light or their battery or something. If you’re a mechanical engineer, they think you can fix the car or something. That’s not necessarily true,” he said.

Between his junior and senior years, Zach interned at Ford Motor Company. While there, he worked on developing a charge port light ring for electric cars. Three years later, he would apply for and receive a patent for a small door, similar to a fuel door, and the charge port light ring. The light ring displayed the charge level on both the inside and outside of the door.

While other manufacturers use a color system to communicate how much a vehicle is charged, which can be difficult to remember, Zach’s design shows the amount clearly. “It’s similar to an iPhone rectangle battery icon that fills up to show how full it is,” he explained. “With this charge port light ring, if half the ring is lit up, your car is halfway charged.”

When he started college, Zach didn’t have a specific direction for his mechanical engineering degree. “I knew what I liked to do. I didn’t have a dream job,” Zach said. “I don’t know what I would’ve done. Mr. Mancigli [engineering faculty at PCC] was giving us ideas such as oil drilling or weapons manufacturing or that kind of thing.”

Before his internship ended at Ford, the company asked Zach to apply for a job. “I knew after graduation where I



### **Being homeschooled allowed Zach to learn mechanics from his father, who enjoyed fixing up old cars.**

was going,” he said. “Engineering school teaches you how to learn and how to think. It exposes you to tools. On the job every day, I’m not using calculus, but I understand the math I’ve been exposed to,” he said. “I don’t think you can go straight from high school into an engineering job. You’ve got to be exposed to problem-solving skills.”

As soon as he began at Ford in 2013, Zach went into the Ford graduate program which brings an employee through five different jobs for five to six months each, allowing him to understand each part of the company. After three years of traversing the inner workings of the Ford Motor Company, Zach began his work in hybrid battery validation. In the lab, Zach is given prototypes of vehicle batteries that have been thoroughly developed and tests them for durability, longevity, and overall safety—taking things apart, figuring out how they worked, and making them into something better.

The same things he enjoyed doing as a child have become Zach’s daily responsibilities at one of America’s most well-known automakers. He didn’t plan *where* he would work, but *how* he would work, and that was enough to set God’s plan into motion for his life.

“I wish I had understood it’s okay if you don’t know for sure what you want to be or do,” said Zach. “Even though we may not know our own minds and hearts, God has a way of putting things in our paths to get us where we need to be.” ■

# *By All* ACCOUNTS\$

Students in PCC's accounting program are finding the opportunity and tools needed to be leaders—and stewards.



**F**aithfulness in stewardship encompasses all that God has provided, including finances. That requires men and women dedicated to the honest and accurate handling of income, expenses, taxes, and other financial tasks.

For those called by God to be accountants, they dedicate their lives to helping individuals, churches, small businesses, large corporations, and government entities navigate what can be a complex system of numbers and legal terms.

PCC's accounting major has been preparing these men and women to be exemplary leaders and good stewards in the accounting field for several decades by providing a solid, biblical foundation in what being good stewards of God's resources means.

Alumni from PCC's accounting program have gone on to become auditors, bookkeepers, CFOs, CPAs, and much

more. From entering directly into the business world to furthering their education at various graduate schools, PCC accounting grads are making an impact on the world of finance with each step they take. They also recognize their undergraduate education as instrumental to the work they do every day.

"The accounting program at PCC



is well-rounded in that it helped me develop both the technical accounting skills and the soft skills necessary to succeed in public accounting," said

**Molly Barbour** ('16). At Deloitte & Touche in Boston, Molly works as a Senior Audit Assistant. Her job includes performing external audits for public companies. "A large portion of my job involves developing relationships with my clients and networking within the firm, so the liberal

arts background PCC provided proved to be invaluable,” she said.

Molly also appreciates that PCC’s accounting faculty have spent years working in the field, enabling them to offer firsthand experience to their students. “Use your teachers as resources!” she advises. “From my experience, the accounting faculty is genuinely interested in seeing you succeed.”



**Alex Oliveira** has been teaching accounting courses at PCC for four years. Prior to joining the ministry, he worked more than ten years as an auditor for various industries. From his experience, he has been able to give students vital firsthand knowledge in his classes and a piece of advice that they can carry throughout their career. “Manage your time! (1) God, (2) Family, (3) Career. Work hard, and God will lead your way,” he admonishes students.

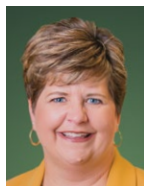
Doug Freeman worked for 23 years in private accounting, culminating in a job as a CFO before coming to teach at PCC. He uses that experience in his classes to help motivate students. “For students majoring in accounting, the passion and love I have for accounting mixed with the high level of performance I require of them further develops their appetite to learn; it makes their ultimate goal of becoming an accounting professional begin to look attainable,” he said.

As students complete the undergraduate program, many decide to further their education to prepare for specialized fields or sit for the CPA Exam. To help these students succeed, PCC has developed a working relationship with the University of West Florida (UWF) which allows accounting majors the option of applying to UWF’s MAcc program with substantial advantages.

Qualifying PCC accounting students may apply to UWF’s on-campus or online

MAcc program, with out-of-state tuition fees waived for online students, in addition to having scholarship opportunities.

“PCC’s accounting graduates are well prepared for MAcc programs,” said **Dr. Donna Marion**, Dean of Professional Studies. “Many of our graduates have experienced tremendous success in their graduate programs at schools including Vanderbilt, Ohio State, Belmont University, and Wake Forest. Our accounting graduates find the transition from the B.S. accounting program to a MAcc program seamless.”



As important as accounting principles and skills are, PCC’s program emphasizes something even more essential for aspiring accountants. “At PCC we teach accounting from a biblical perspective,” Freeman explained. “A student can come to PCC and develop a firm foundation in accounting from a Christian perspective, and then can go on to further their education with graduate work at a non-Christian college.”

With the resources to succeed within reach, PCC accounting students are, by all accounts, preparing for leadership—and stewardship—in the financial world. ■

### Alumni Spotlight Video



Alumnus Brad Fralic ('89), associate vice president and university controller at Rice University, shares the most important thing in the accounting profession.

**[pcc.edu/AccountingGrad](https://pcc.edu/AccountingGrad)**





## Eagle Express: A New Service on Campus

A new dry cleaning and laundry service has arrived at PCC.

Over the years, doing laundry has often been a busy weekend tradition for PCC students—busy because most everyone else in the residence halls had the same idea.

To help free students from some of that busyness, PCC launched Eagle Express, an on-campus dry cleaning and laundry service, this fall. In addition to the occasional need for dry cleaning, students can use the service to have their laundry washed, dried, and folded. This new service can be valuable to students who need more time while facing a tough batch of assignments.



**Toby Baker**, who oversaw the organization and preparation of Eagle Express, understands how the service can be invaluable to students during

formal events. “Eagle Express makes Fine Arts prep easier by offering the ability to have your suit or formal dropped off and picked up right here on campus,” he said.

Prices for both dry cleaning and laundry are comparable to local laundromats with the added convenience

of being able to drop off and pick up garments from the west side of Collegian Hall by the Field House and not needing to drive across town. Students, faculty, and staff who drop off their garments

can expect a 24-hour turnaround for picking up their clean clothing.

While the new laundry service enhances the small-town feeling on campus, it also provides a service that eases some of the “load” of doing laundry. ■

**The new service enhances the small-town feeling on campus and eases some of the “load” of doing laundry.**



## Allergen-Free Dining at Four Winds

For students with food allergies, eating foods prepared by someone else can sometimes pose an unintentional hazard. Allergic reactions can often be triggered by trace amounts of certain ingredients or foods being prepared too close together.

That's why Dining Services has devoted resources and staff training to meet students' dietary needs, alleviating fears that may accompany a meal prepared in a commercial kitchen.

The new AF8 line at Four Winds provides meals that are free from what the FDA classifies as the 8 most common allergens—milk, eggs, peanuts, fish, shellfish, tree nuts, soy, and wheat. "In addition, the Four Winds staff includes

five staff members who have food allergen preparation certification," said **Scott Cochran**, Director of Dining Services. "This training and certification



includes covered cooking preparation, avoiding cross-contact, and identifying allergens and their effects on customers."

With isolated kitchen space, ovens, cookware, and warmers designed specifically for AF8 food preparation, students can now dine more freely every day without worrying about potential allergic reactions. ■

## Upcoming Events

### PCC Spring Semester Opening Weekend for family and friends of students

**January 19–21, 2019**

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

### Bible Conference Uplifting Bible Preaching

**February 18–20, 2019**

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

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

**February 25–26, 2019**

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

### PCC Career Fair for organizations and businesses seeking candidates from among PCC students

**February 28, 2019**

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

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

**Mar. 20–22, 2019 • Apr. 3–5, 2019**

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

*pcc.edu/CollegeDays*

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

### Enrichment Retreat a refreshing getaway for pastors and ministry leaders

**March 26–28, 2019**

*(850) 478-8496, ext. 2828*

*EnrichmentRetreat.com*

# Connections

## Stories from PCC

### *A Long-Term Investment*

In the 1980s, Dr. John and Michelle Cirone arrived on campus to start an investment that would continue almost 30 years later—they just didn't know it at the time.

When John Cirone graduated from PCC's business administration program in 1989, he applied to teach at his alma mater, although he wasn't certain if he would get the position. "By God's grace, the College hired me and gave me several Principles of Accounting classes," he said.

A year later, after noticing **Michelle Peterson** ('91) in the church choir, a young



Cirone asked her on a date to Fine Arts. "He said that I seemed to actually believe and mean what I was singing from the expression on my face,"

Michelle recalled. The couple married two years later and began investing together at PCC through their work.

Each year, Dr. Cirone teaches undergrad and graduate business classes, has voluntarily led the YOM Australia Missions Team since 2008 with his wife as well as others, and served as the Dean of Business for ten years. During the summers of 2013 and 2014, he and his family lived in Australia where he served as Interim Pastor of the Murray River Baptist Church. "I am extremely thankful that the College gives my wife and me an opportunity to work full-time during the summer for only a few weeks until we head out on a missions trip—this is very convenient and we don't take this opportunity lightly," he said.

Over the years, Dr. Cirone's zeal for teaching Christian values in the busi-

ness classroom hasn't wavered. "People often ask me, 'What do you do?' I tell them somewhat jokingly that I'm a missionary to business majors," he said. "I really enjoy communicating scriptural truths and a biblical worldview in the classroom, particularly to our business students."

Michelle, who studied business administration, works in the Reservation Office assisting with campus events and in the Suggestions Office, organizing staff and student suggestions for changes in a specific area.

"Our office is a team, a family, and we work together," said Michelle. "I love the Christian environment and the focus on furthering the cause of Christ. Each part of this ministry is working together toward a common goal."

The Cirones didn't know that they would be finding a place where their investment would grow as much as it has, making a difference in the lives of other people. "The ministry and the classroom



give me a tremendous opportunity and platform to reach business men and women for Christ and to empower them to live for and influence others for Christ," Dr. Cirone said. And the best part? "Having an atmosphere where one can do right and have the freedom to promote Christ and His Kingdom makes it worth it all!" 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**

- Computer Science • Engineering • Marketing • Mathematics

## **PCC Staff**

- Computer Technician • Construction • Director of Budgeting and Financial Forecasting
- Electrician • Network Technician • Office Assistant • Painter • Photographer
- Vice President for Operations • Web Programmer

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For More Ministry Openings  
**pcci.edu/EmploymentOpportunities**

## Christmas Tidings Songs to Celebrate the Season



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## Scholarship Fund Giving

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

**Mr. David Valles**

**Mrs. Peggy Gonshor**

Visit **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** 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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