

PENSACOLA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

# UPDATE

Fall 2019 | [pcci.edu/Update](http://pcci.edu/Update)



*Campus on the*  
**MOOVE**  
pg. 4 ▶

# From the President

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



The College began its 46<sup>th</sup> year smoothly, welcoming new and returning students in August. The Lord has brought us a great student body eager to prepare for His calling on their lives. With their arrival, they bring a new level of excitement and enthusiasm to the whole of campus!

One of the most satisfying experiences I have in serving at PCC is the privilege of seeing both ends of the college experience. Each year I get to see new students join the student body, excited for a fresh beginning. At the same time, I also get to see seniors complete their studies, excited to begin influencing others for Christ in their respective fields.

Today, over 21,000 alumni are serving God across the globe in law, missions, medicine, engineering, ministry, and a host of other areas.

Many alumni come back to campus, reconnecting with faculty and sharing stories of their time as students. Others reach out through social media to tell us how God used PCC to prepare them not just for a profession, but for a life of service in His kingdom. Below are a few recent comments that were a particular blessing to read. They remind me that our alumni, having graduated and spread around the world, are continuing to be faithful stewards of their college training, and they want the next generation to do the same. ■

"No school can teach you everything, but I'm not exaggerating when I say this place changed my life. Their practical, yet challenging curriculum created a life-long learner in this guy. I'm forever grateful!"



*Mike Lopez ('09,  
M.Div. '15, Ed.S. '19)*

"So blessed to be there as a family as we drop off our two boys for the 1st time as freshman and remembering all the blessings and growth I experienced while being there myself 25 yrs ago as a freshman nursing student."



*Jeanie Daniels ('98)*

"Nearly 10 years later there's not a Sunday that goes by that I'm not thankful for PCC's desire to train effective communicators of the Word."



*Pastor Ben Fleet ('10)*

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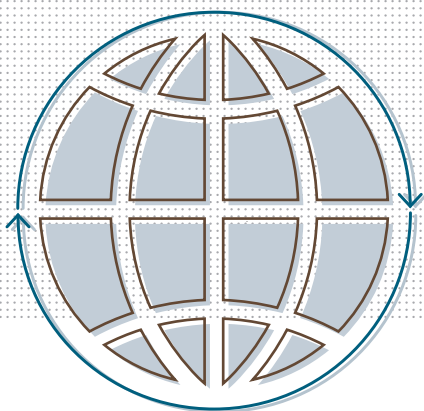


Connect with Us





Bryn



## SNAP- SHOTS OF *Service*

Each week this summer brought new opportunities for students to share the Good News with others while serving across the globe.

### Ready for Anything

**John Tilley** (Sr., VA) interned at Campus Church over the summer. “The Campus Church environment was perfect for meeting a lot of people and developing many new relationships,” he said. “If there is one thing that I have learned from working in any ministry it is this: always be ready for anything. No matter how much you plan and prepare and schedule, there will inevitably be something that you did not foresee. And that’s okay. That’s what makes it so exciting.”

John with Pastor Redlin



“**I love Campus Church and am so grateful for the opportunity to be serving this summer with the church and pastoral staff.**”  
—John Tilley



## Showing God's Love

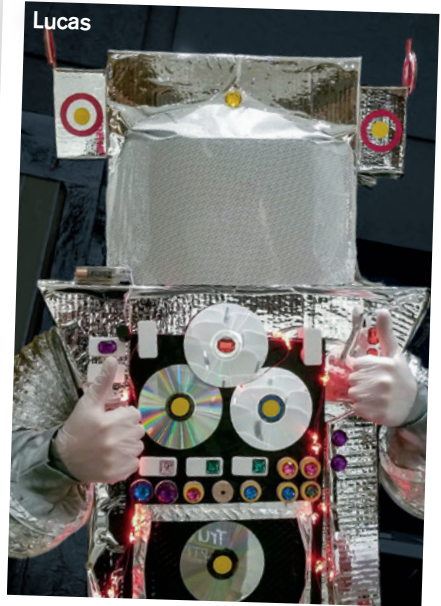
**Ina Yefimov** (*Jr., CA*) assisted with second graders at Campus Church's Vacation Bible School (VBS). "This is my third summer helping out with the VBS at Campus Church. VBS is a great opportunity to show God's love to kids. I loved VBS growing up," she said. "I still remember bits and parts of theme songs from when I was in VBS. I remember how much fun it is and how much I learned about God."

## Rejoicing in Salvation

**Bryn Collier** (*Jr., FL*) spent her summer as a cabin leader at Camp o' the Pines (COP), a Youth Outreach Ministries camp. "I had a camper who came to COP with misconceptions. She asked some tough questions and struggled, but after a couple days, she asked Jesus to be her Savior!" she explained. "Every child who comes back to pray for salvation is one more soul that the angels rejoice over. It's not about my words or the message spoken; the Holy Spirit works in spite of us, and it is a beautiful thing to be witness to."

## Moved in the Heart

**Jonah Stephan** (*Sr., IN*) went on Youth Outreach Ministry's Peru (ESL) missions trip where he and others taught English in schools and churches. "God worked in the hearts of those we ministered to, but I was most impressed to see how God moved in the hearts of those ministering," he said. "This experience has allowed me to grow more in my Christian faith, and I am eternally grateful to God for allowing me to reach so many lives."



## Willing to Serve

At his home church in South Windsor, **Lucas Ploszaj** (*So., CT*) worked on and performed in the skits for VBS. "It's always a blessing to see teen and adult leaders excited and willing to serve Christ. I've been helping since I graduated from being in VBS," he said. "Our theme this year was time travel. Leading up to VBS, I edited the script, assembled actors, and tried to get a few practices in so that the skit was not totally improvised." ■

# UPDATING *Spaces*

While students were away this past summer, many anticipated improvement and renovation projects took place on campus.

Completed in 1985, the **Dale Horton Auditorium** (DHA) was used for Campus Church and chapel services until 2001 and regularly hosts recitals, Sunday Reflections, and Fine Arts productions. This summer, the building underwent its first renovation and now features a cooler color palette of blues and greens, displayed by new wall colors, newly upholstered seating, and newly laid carpet. Some of the most difficult changes included replacing and updating air conditioning in the building and renovating the stage.

In **The Palms**, Chick-fil-A joined the trio of dining options alongside The Grille and Papa John's. "We're running about a 90 percent menu, which means almost everything that you can get at a franchise location, you can get in our licensed-unit location, which is very atypical," said campus retail manager Toby Baker. "Most of the time, a licensed-unit location will have two or three sandwiches, fries and that's about all; but we're carrying salads, nuggets, the full breakfast line, and the Icedream."

The Palms now includes Chick-fil-A alongside The Grille and Papa John's.



Enhanced lighting, new carpet, and a refreshed color palette are the most noticeable updates to the Dale Horton Auditorium.

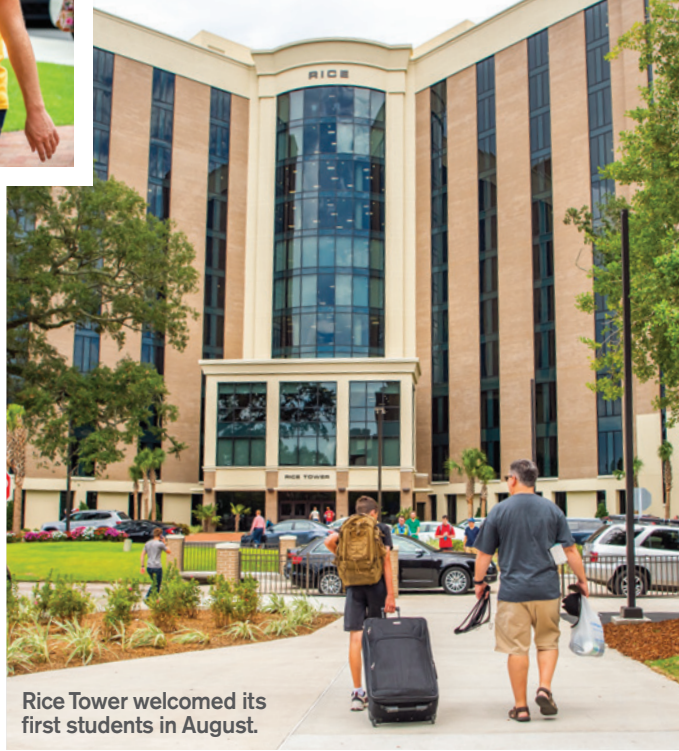


DHA Lobby





Rice Tower move in



Rice Tower welcomed its first students in August.



This fall, **Rice Tower** welcomed the first occupants since its completion. Students found a new raised crosswalk spanning Rawson Lane to make crossing easier. “In a phrase—it’s for dry feet,” PCC’s construction manager Jonathan Abbott explained, referencing Florida’s potential for heavy rains.

In the **Academic Center**, construction on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor made room to accommodate growing departments. “Student Life will now exist wholly on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and in a concentrated way,” said Abbott. “Essentially, we repositioned a few occupants of the building giving Student Life, the Seminary, and college faculty new offices all while adding more classroom space.”

Each renovation, update, and addition was carefully planned with purpose and efficiency in mind. Now that the fall semester has begun, PCC is glad to share with students these updated facilities provided by God’s blessing. ■



Student Life Offices in AC moved up to 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.



# The AUTONOMOUS Inventor

With most automakers—and some technology giants—racing toward building an autonomous vehicle, Mechanical Engineering grad Shane Elwart ('98) is on the road to the future.

For 17 years, Shane Elwart worked with the Ford Motor Company, earning the Henry Ford Achievement Award as well as the Technology Achievement Award for his contributions to the development of Pro-Trailer Backup Assist.

But two years ago, Shane left Ford to pioneer in autonomous technology with American HAVAL Motor Technology, LLC (AHMT), a start-up automotive company.

Shane trusted Christ as his Savior at a young age and has prayed for God's leading in his life ever since. As a young man, he struggled with knowing what the Lord wanted for his life.

It wasn't until he received a PCC catalog that he sensed God's leading, and in 1993, pursued an engineering

degree at the College. "As soon as I prayed about it, I knew it was what the Lord wanted, and I agreed, had great peace, and never once have I regretted the decision to attend PCC," he said.

PCC proved to be more than just a time to grow academically. Over his time as a student, God tugged at his heart during church and chapel messages. "I remember a particular message from Johnny Pope titled 'Whose Parachute Are You Packing?'—a story about a POW who landed safely because someone packed his chute," Shane recalled. "You never know the impact you have on others' lives. I still, more than 20 years later, remember that message and want to be the kind



## Shane's Career at Ford Motor Company

**17**  
years  
worked

**250**  
invention  
disclosures

**98**  
filed patent  
applications

**95**  
issued  
patents

**"From my earliest memories I wanted to be an inventor."**

of person whose life affects others for God's glory."

In 1996, between his sophomore and junior years in college, Shane got his professional start at Duckworth & Associates, an engineering firm in Plymouth, Michigan. While there, he developed an automated drafting routine and designed air seal systems, washer and paint oven systems, cooling tunnels, and air supply houses from OEM engineering specifications. Shane also developed integrated engineering calculation and design programs to streamline the reproducibility of engineering designs.

Shane worked at Duckworth for an additional year before his interests changed. In 2000, Shane was offered a job at General Motors, and shortly after, Ford Motor Company contacted him to work in research and advanced engineering. His ability led to further opportunities within the company. He developed, integrated, and proposed several different improvements that include a NOx estimation model, a total vehicle system optimization method that reduced fuel consumption by 30 percent, an anti-jackknife system for Ford Pro-Trailer Backup Assist, and a by-wire system for Ford's Autonomous Vehicle Research Platform. "The mechanical engineering concentration gave me the technical breadth and depth to be able to work in any field of engineering," he said.

After working at Ford for over 17 years, Shane was invited to lead AHTM, a subsidiary of an international automotive company, where his experience has been a great asset to the new company. As the Deputy Chief Engineer of Autonomous Driving Systems at AHMT, Shane leads management teams and mentors engineers. "Each step of the way, the Lord has brought just a little more technology, management, and leadership skills needed along the way," he said. "It is amazing to see His hand over the past decades and wonder what He has planned for the future."

Shane built the company's team from the ground up, putting together an international team with current staff of over 50 managers and engineers, and acting as the global technical lead for all start-up operations. "My favorite part about working in engineering is finding challenging problems that need to be solved—working with motivated people to create a way to solve the problem," he said.

Although each step through his career has carried him forward, Shane can only see God's perfect plan by looking back on his life. "I am so thankful for the opportunity to have attended PCC," he said. "The engineering program equipped me with all of the necessary technical training needed to start out and be successful in the engineering field. It is by all means the bootstrap for the career that God has given me." ■



## REACHING GOALS *in Sport Management*

Where a physical education course of study provides preparation for teaching sports in a Christian school, PCC's sport management program brings sports and business together to provide leadership opportunities.

**A**s they influence their world for Christ, PCC sport management graduates use fitness and athletics in a variety of positions to serve others.

**Michael Wilder** ('06) is the senior programming manager with Upward Sports at their flagship sports facility and headquarters in Spartanburg, SC. At the 120,000 square-foot sports complex, he is responsible for the sports programming including camps, clinics, leagues, tournaments, travel teams, and events. "I lead a team of employees and contractors to ensure we meet our budgetary responsibilities while fulfilling our mission—promoting the discovery of Jesus through sports," he said. "I've always had a passion for sports, so I wanted to major in something that would give me the opportunity



to do that. God has led me along the way in His timing. I've learned to accept His timing and be open to whatever His will is for my life."

In Raleigh, NC, **Brock Cavanaugh** ('15) works in sales at 323 Sports where he uses his passion for sports to help teams and customers find the right equipment. "After graduating, I got married and took a job as the athletic director and soccer coach at Rosedale Baptist School in Baltimore, MD," Brock said. "After being there for two years, I was presented with the opportunity to move back home to Raleigh and begin working for 323 Sports. Having the opportunity to meet coaches and sell products in a field that I'm passionate about is pretty cool. My job includes traveling around my sales territory visiting my customers and

to do that. God has led me along the way in His timing. I've learned to accept His timing and be open to whatever His will is for my life."

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trying to generate new business as well,” he said. “One of the coolest parts of my job is that with the flexibility of my job, it also gives me the opportunity to coach varsity boys soccer at my alma mater, Raleigh Christian Academy.”

Ryan Vanderboegh ('07) is the assistant administrator at Wilson Christian Academy in Wilson, NC. His position allows him to have a part in every facet of the ministry from overseeing child care and elementary to working with high school student transcripts, scholarships, and chapel and test scheduling. “The sport management major with a business management minor has been incredibly helpful with everything I face throughout the course of a day,” he said. “This particular major allows such a wide array of classes to be taken, and I can see how each one of them has been useful in my ministry. The coaching classes helped me to be ready to coach sports here at Wilson Christian Academy which have included basketball, soccer, golf, and volleyball, while the business classes helped me be ready for the day-to-day financial operations to help keep track of the bottom line.”

The sport management major encompasses physical education and business training, giving students the training needed to manage sports facilities, direct camp ministries, or administrate sports organizations. Specialized courses provide training in accounting, management, business law, coaching, first aid and nutrition, and facilities operation and organization to be well suited for a variety of positions.

Since going into their fields, these graduates have used their training in a variety of occupations.

“My first job after graduating from PCC was working at a Boys & Girls Club leading an after-school and summer camp program,” Michael recalled. “After doing that for two years, I transitioned

to work for the U.S. Army as a youth sports and fitness director at a military base. I was with the Army for 8 years before moving into my current role now with Upward Sports. Classes like Oral Communications in the Professions, Organization and Administration of PE, and Camp Programs and Management were valuable especially in my early years after college.”

“I’ve always enjoyed athletics and been around them my whole life,” Brock said. “The most valuable aspects of my major were the Speech and Business Communications classes. Marketing classes were great, too, because I help out with some of our company’s marketing efforts as well.”

Although their college days are behind them, these graduates look at their training at PCC as being pivotal in their personal and professional lives. “I don’t know of a better place to establish lifelong friendships, solidify a biblical foundation, and train for the specific ministry for which the Lord wants to prepare you,” said Ryan. “I am so thankful for all PCC did to train me not just for a job, but for a life serving the Lord.” ■

### Specialized Courses Provide Training in



Accounting

Management

Facilities Operation



Business Law



Coaching



First Aid/Nutrition

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ The Shining Light Players have performed *The Hiding Place* over 60 times.



## Alumni Present God's Providence on the World's Stage

Theatre—as an imitation of life—has proven to be a powerful way to share stories for centuries. Since 2013, Stephen Burke (*B.S. '04, M.A. '06, M.F.A. '12*) and his wife Alisha have been sharing stories through the Shining Light Players, a touring company they founded. Most recently, they have focused on performing *The Hiding Place: The Life of Corrie ten Boom*, a play for which Stephen wrote both the script and songs.

During his college years at PCC, Stephen got hands-on experience in every area of the theatre, learning how to better use his talents for the Lord. He also met and married Alisha (*Coggins, '01, M.A. '03*). How they decided to use theatre is not novel, but it has been a potent tool to share God with others.

Since *The Hiding Place* debuted as a Fine Arts Series performance in 2011 at PCC, Stephen and Alisha continue to perform the play with the Shining Light Players, sharing Corrie ten Boom's story of joy amidst despair with audiences across the country. The group has completed over 60 performances, 16 of those this past summer.

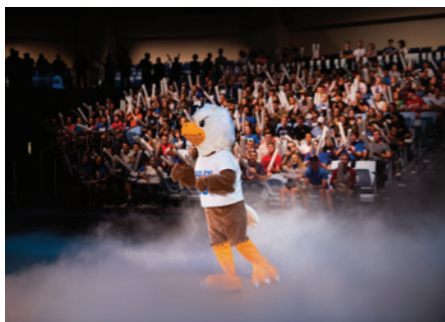
Over the years, the rotating cast has included many PCC alumni. The current

cast includes Stephen and Alisha Burke, David and Leah Hill, Christina Gibbs, and James Strasburg, with past casts having included Shelly Prenevost, Hannah Miller, Elizabeth Thomason, and Dakota Wilson. "Working with actors is always a thrill, but working with actors who are also Christians is very special. And when you are working together to share the gospel, it is so powerful," Alisha said. "There is nothing else like it."

The Burkes have found a unifying sense of fellowship while working with the cast over the years. "There is a special camaraderie among the team that I haven't found elsewhere," Stephen said. "Although everyone on the team is incredibly talented and accomplished, they have all been so humble and supportive of one another. We share a special bond in our desire to share the gospel. They have all been so genuine and transparent—our times of prayer together have meant so much to me."

Next spring, *The Hiding Place* will be returning to PCC for a one-night Guest Fine Arts performance on February 8 in the Crowne Centre. Tickets will be available in January 2020. ■





## Eagle Mania 2019: New Time, New Eagor

New things were in store for this year's Eagle Mania! The annual event, held earlier in the playing season than previous years, introduced students to the Eagles soccer and Lady Eagles volleyball teams.

The projected floor show, an added tradition since 2014, wowed the audience by displaying electricity that shattered the court with animated geometric movements.

During scrimmage matches, the Eagles soccer team quickly adjusted to the smaller playing "field" on the Sports Center Arena basketball court, the goalies impressing the audience with quick-acting saves; and the Lady Eagles volleyball team showed their fighting spirit, one player wowing the crowd when she blocked a spike. Throughout the event, the Pep Band played fan-favorite songs as well as a few new ones.

Students also got their first look at the updated Eagles mascot. Eagor, representing PCC's soaring spirit and high expectations, has brought energy and excitement to home games since his introduction in 1982. After his high energy introduction, students are looking forward to seeing the new Eagor at future home games!

Ahead of basketball season this fall, students will meet the Eagles and Lady Eagles teams during Midnight Madness on October 11. ■

## Upcoming Events

### Alumni Homecoming for graduates and their families

**October 18–19, 2019**

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

### College Days

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

**Nov. 13–15, 2019**

**Mar. 18–20, 2020 • Apr. 1–3, 2020**

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.

### PCC Spring Semester Opening Weekend

for family and friends of students

**January 18–20, 2020**

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

### Bible Conference

Uplifting Bible Preaching

**February 17–19, 2020**

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

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

**February 24–25, 2020**

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

### PCC Career Fair

for organizations and businesses seeking  
candidates from among PCC students

**February 27, 2020**

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

# Connections

## Stories from PCC

### *Part of the Team*

During basketball season, Coach Mark Goetsch can be found intently pacing courtside in the Sports Center Arena, directing the men's basketball team against their opponents. While coaching as well as teaching, he has spent the past 25 seasons as part of the team at PCC.

**I**n 1994, after he had coached basketball in California for 11 years, Mark Goetsch and his wife Melany were invited to serve at PCC. Mark had desired to coach at the college level, but his focus was always on something bigger than the game. "When I graduated from college, I prayed and told the Lord I was willing to go anywhere to teach and coach with only one request: wherever I go, allow me to stay for a minimum of five years so I could get plugged in to the ministry," he said.

Mark's time at PCC has afforded him many opportunities to get plugged in. After the family adjusted from a church of three hundred in California to a few thousand at Campus Church, they quickly found many opportunities to fellowship with smaller groups. Mark even began to lead a Sunday school class at Campus Church which he still teaches years later.

While Mark plugged in to coaching and teaching at the College, Melany began teaching music classes at Pensacola Christian Academy (PCA). She and Mark later saw their three boys graduate from both PCA and PCC. "I am most thankful for the education that my three boys received," Mark said. "The quality of

**Having been coach and faculty at PCC for 25 years, Mark likens his experiences to being on a team.**

that education is something we are so thankful that our boys had the privilege to receive, and they still give great credit to the teachers and education they received."

Having been coach and faculty at PCC for 25 years, later adding on the role of

Athletic Director in 2012, Mark likens his experiences to being on a team—working hard with others toward a common goal. He's also thankful for other opportunities the College has provided. "I'm appreciative to the administration for one other opportunity afforded to me and that is to lead a Youth Outreach Ministry missions trip for the last 12 years. To take college students to a field, expose them to missions and missionaries, letting them see for themselves how God could use them, is a wonderful opportunity," Mark said.

Since joining PCC, Mark has remained sensitive to God's calling, serving the Lord each year where He leads him. "I want to be available to the Lord for whatever is next for my life," he said. "It's been a privilege to serve in this place for 25 years." ■





# 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 • Criminal Justice • Cybersecurity • Engineering • Mathematics

## **PCC Staff**

- Chief Information Officer • Director of Operations • Maintenance Director
- Library Director • Advertising Writer • Designer • Production Artist • Carpenter

## **Abeka**

- Textbook Field Representative (South Florida) • Director of Operations
- Director of Business Development • UX Designer

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)

For More Ministry Openings  
[pcci.edu/EmploymentOpportunities](http://pcci.edu/EmploymentOpportunities)

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# EXPERIENCE

## COLLEGE LIFE FOR YOURSELF

**NOV. 13–15, 2019**

**MAR. 18–20, 2020**

**APR. 1–3, 2020**

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IS ALL ABOUT!**

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