

CAMPUS

Members of Student Senate assembled for their first meeting of the school year on Oct. 8. Find out the origins and goals of Student Senate and which senators will step into new roles this year.

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COMMUNITY

The Rasmussen Art Gallery reopened Saturday with an exhibition of work by PUC's own visual arts professors. Visitors experienced a variety of dynamic interpretations of the show's theme: Resurfacing.

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SPORTS

The men's and women's soccer teams faced off against UC Merced on Sunday, Oct. 10. Find out the outcome and read about a seemingly impossible goal scored by Olivia Jessee of the women's team.

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College President Brings New Hope to Pacific Union College



President Ralph Trecartin

By Madison Brogan

The commencement of fall quarter 2021 brings with it new beginnings for students and faculty alike, especially with the selection of the new college president, Dr. Ralph Trecartin.

He brings with him vast educational and administrative experience needed to guide the college through difficult times and into

more prosperous ones to come.

Trecartin's initial career ambition was to be a church administrator like his father, which led him to pursue a bachelor's in theology and minor in accounting at Atlantic Union College. After graduating he went on to obtain a MBA from Andrews University.

These plans were interrupted when he was offered the opportunity to teach. "I had never dreamed of teaching," Trecartin said, "and afterward I went and got my Ph.D. in finance at Michigan State University, and finally decided to go to part of the State University of New York to be a professor there."

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FROM THE EDITOR

This week, I've thought a lot about faces. Many associations come to mind with this idea. My roommate reminded me of the importance of seeing people and things for more than their face value and stopping to consider what's beyond the surface. Professor Kyle taught me that photography gives audiences a new perspective—a new face, if you will—on that which is already visible. Even the natural world around us is showing a new side of itself with the arrival of the rainy season.

At the beginning of the school year, we were introduced to lots of new faces. Now we are well into the heart of the quarter and have the opportunity to explore what lies behind them.

In this issue of the *Campus Chronicle*, we encounter a few of PUC's faces, looking below their surface and perhaps adding perspective to topics you may know little about.

Beyond the front page, you will find the journey and aspirations of our new president,

as well as introductions to unfamiliar faculty members whom you have yet to take a class with. You will learn about the behind-the-scenes work that Student Senate has begun in order to create and pass bills this year. You will also uncover the hidden history of Ambs Hall, which you may have wondered about as you passed by the building on your walk to class.

As you read—whether you flip through all the articles or just one—I hope you discover a new face of something that was previously a mystery or gain insight into a face you thought you already knew. In your reading and going about your life this week, take the time to look past what you see at first glance. Faces are important, but there is always more to know.

Happy fall, and good luck with midterms!

Sincerely,
Lauren VandenHoven
Editor-in-Chief



CONVERSATION

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Trecartin spent 19 years at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Brockport where he taught finance and took an interest in international finance. As he transitioned into administrative roles, he became more closely involved with the international affairs of the university.

“The administration asked me to step in as the acting director of the study abroad program,” Trecartin said. “We had one of the largest study abroad programs in the whole SUNY system and we were dealing with international student recruitment. We built a strong abroad program and ended up with about 100 partners all over the world. One of the most unique opportunities was where we took our students to study in Antarctica. Then they made me the executive director and then assistant provost for international education.”

After nearly two decades at SUNY Brockport, Trecartin returned to Andrews University. “I went back to Andrews as assistant provost and dean of the school of business. Soon they added aviation to my portfolio.”

At the time, he believed this was the final transition of his career. “I was expecting to stay at Andrews University until I retired,” he said. However, just like his earlier change from preparing to be a church administrator to becoming a professor, another opportunity was presented to him when he was informed that Pacific Union College needed a president.

“I want to have a dynamic and intentional spiritual atmosphere on campus. To me, that’s more important than everything. This should be an environment of faith development and service to others that will appeal to many personalities.”

Trecartin arrived at PUC during uncertain times for the college and the world at large. He acknowledged the strain of separation

COVID-19 has placed on the college community, stating, “We need to rebuild our sense of community and the connection between students, faculty, and staff. We really want that connection between people. We want this to be a place where students feel comfortable and at home, but we also want it to be a place filled with action.”

Discussing his plans for the future of PUC as the new leader of the administration, Trecartin shared his hopes for how the campus will flourish: “I want to have a dynamic and intentional spiritual atmosphere on campus. To me, that’s more important than everything. This should be an environment of faith development and service to others that will appeal to many personalities. I want us to have a dynamic spiritual atmosphere that recognizes that people with different personalities have different spiritual gifts. Paul talks about receiving spiritual gifts and that we each receive different gifts. We say learn with purpose, rise in faith, and we really want that to happen here.” ■

CAMPUS

Student Senate Meets to Discuss the Future of PUC

By Kyla Crist

On Oct. 8, the Student Senate held their first meeting of the quarter to discuss senator positions and the process of bills, and to swear in all new members. SA Executive Vice President Alexander Chuquimia led the meeting.

Before the commencement of the official Student Senate in 1948, the student body of PUC voted together on bills and proposals—a vote of 900+ people. Seventy years later, student senators gathered to read from the “PUC Student Association: Constitution and Bylaws” handbook, so as to be sworn in and made aware of the weight of their duties as student representatives.

“It’s not just about presenting bills, it’s also about setting precedents.”

The Senate Special Projects Fund grants the committee an allowance of \$10,000, plus 50% of the Student Association’s remaining balance from the general fund. Senators must draft and propose at least one bill every quarter to maintain their position. As Chuquimia stated during the meeting, “It’s not just about presenting bills, it’s also about setting precedents.”

New roles were assigned based on nomination and majority vote, including Louise Ha as parliamentarian, Austin

Kim as finance chair, and Hope Furukawa as social media chair. Cole Tanner was nominated as president pro-tempore, and is expected to assume the role after giving a speech at the next meeting. This role would be put into effect if President Aileen Kurts or Vice President Alexander Chuquimia cannot not fulfill their duties.

Four committees were also organized, each with four to five senators. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee brings together Eunece Hong, Jocelyn Thapa Saru, Isaac Joo and Nathan Hiss. The Senate Finance Committee consists of Katherine Anaya, Alma Ramirez, Eli Mercinas-Cruz, Simran Ghuman and Andrew Penners. The Senate Public Relations Committee consists of Isai Martinez, Courtney Asker, Megan Carreon and Cora Fletcher. Lastly, the Senate Rules and Oversight Committee consists of Caroline Barton-Hudson, Hope Furukawa, Isai Martinez and Jocelyn Thapa Saru. These positions give student representatives opportunities to shine and fight for the needs of the student body.

No new bills have been drafted yet, but students can expect to see their senators proposing improvements in the near future. Students who have opinions or ideas for positive change on campus should contact their respective senator for discussion.

At one point in PUC’s history, Student Senate did not exist, but its creation has made possible bills for improvements such as outdoor furniture, numerous outdoor

study areas—the newest being outside of Stauffer Hall next to the amphitheatre—and complementary feminine hygiene products in the women’s bathrooms.

Student Senate holds bi-weekly meetings in the Fireside Room that are open to the student body. With the advantage of in-person sessions, proceedings should move quickly and more efficiently than the COVID-19 pandemic previously permitted. ■

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Fri., Oct. 22	Vespers (English & History) — PUC Church, 8 p.m.
Fri., Oct. 29	Vespers (Aaron Brieno) — PUC Church, 8 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 30	Costume Bowling — Napa Bowl, 7 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 31	Harvest Party — Campus Center, 7 p.m.
Mon., Nov. 1	PUC Olympics Sign-ups Open
Mon., Nov. 1 - Fri., Nov. 5	Missions Week

COMMUNITY

Art Gallery Resurfaces with Faculty Exhibition

By Lauren VandenHoven

Students and faculty witnessed the talent and genius of PUC's visual arts professors in the first show hosted in the Rasmussen Art Gallery since 2019.

The exhibition, titled "Resurfacing," opened with a reception on Saturday, Oct. 17. The collection will be open for viewing Thursday-Sunday from 2-6:30 p.m. through Nov. 14.



Gatdula pictured with her mixed-media portrait

Amy Cronk Gatdula

Art professor and mixed media specialist Amy Cronk Gatdula shared a personal collection which was created mostly during the last two years.

The collection featured gold-painted frames of all sizes, containing sketch drawings, embroidery, collage and watercolor. The most captivating creations featured all of those media in a single frame.

Gatdula explained that the series is mostly collage-based and is composed of pieces that she created, put away and then combined or changed in order to make something new.

This repurposing and combining of past work is her interpretation of the show's theme, resurfacing. "Ultimately, this collection of work is a symbol of change and transition and the many moods associated with the process," she wrote in her artist's statement. "Each piece is a different mood moment in time that chronicles this process of resurfacing."

Gatdula said she cannot pick a favorite

piece in the series because she loves each for different reasons. However, she is particularly fond of one of the middle frames, which holds what she considers to be a self-portrait.

The design features a woman's face split into two, one side drawn in pencil and the other pieced together in a collage. Gatdula explained that these two halves represent the "balance between hiding away like a hermit, and the realization of self."

She noted that the piece symbolizes parts of the self which seem at odds with each other finding a balance. She communicates this idea in the piece through a photo of an aged eye in the collage portion of the piece, representing "the wisdom that comes from balancing both aspects."

Cliff Rusch

Design professor Cliff Rusch showcased his lesser-known photography skills in a series of black-and-white vignette-style photos of rock formations along the Northern California coast.

Rusch said in his artist's statement that he was inspired by the places where coastline erosion creates "fantastical" formations, where one can find "seemingly opposing juxtaposition of organic and geometric forms in a single space."

These particular photos were taken at a rock shelf where the waves hit, producing constant erosion. Rusch first visited the location 20 years ago and fell in love with the many textures and formations he saw in the rock. He has visited many times since and took the photos on display between 2011 and 2013.

Each time he visits, Rusch finds the rock "evolving, eroding, exposing new layers—resurfacing."

Rusch captured the formations with a film camera and developed the prints in a dark room. He said that the photos "are not manipulated much, at least not digitally."

Mike Murtaugh

Although Mike Murtaugh, a PUC artist who was on campus two years ago, was not present for the exhibition, his photos still had plenty to say.

His collection, titled "Alaska," featured

full-color photographs of oceanside cliffs, mountains and trees reflected in calm waters, a lone boulder in a sea of smaller jagged rocks, and a hill covered with fog and patches of snow.

His work is inspired by the environment he encountered on hikes "deep into the Alaskan backcountry." There, he said, "the natural world dictates the way of life and movement." The series of photos is his way of representing that natural order.



Kyle stands between his found object photos

Brian Kyle

Photography professor Brian Kyle captured the photos in his display, "Highs and Lows," after witnessing the changing landscape of a small but dynamic segment of the Napa River. He described a point near St. Helena where there is a stream which is "just a couple feet deep" in the summer, "to flood levels over 20 feet deep in fall and winter."

Now, multiple years of draught have left the area completely dry, leaving the ground perfectly suited to exploring. While looking around, Kyle said he "found [himself] intrigued by the juxtaposition of unnatural items that mark the rise and fall of the river."

The series of photos on display shows two categories of unnatural items—torn cloth, usually tangled or draped among tree branches, and leftover spare tires tossed into berry brambles or tucked under fallen logs.

There are three sets of photos, each with one photo of a torn cloth and one of a found tire.

Kyle said the sheet featured in the third set is his "most favorite found thing" because its shape has evolved so much. At one point the branches guided it into a circle, while on another visit, he saw it had been split in two.

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The Story of Ambs Hall

By Kaylyn Jakubczak

You probably have passed Ambs Hall plenty of times on your way to class and wondered about the building between Graf and Irwin halls.

Katy Van Arsdale, special collections librarian and archivist at PUC, was kind enough to help uncover the truth behind this mystery building.

Ambs Hall was built in 1929, providing students a place to study home economics. As the years went by, however, as the women's movement gained traction and new career paths opened to women, fewer students enrolled in the program. The doors of Ambs Hall officially closed in 2003 after the last few students graduated with degrees in family and consumer science.

With no home economics department, administration struggled with what to

do with the building. Ambs Hall was specifically built for home economics—equipped with a full one-floor home on the second floor and kitchen labs on the first—but not suitable for any other subject. It also had outdated features and water damage. Renovations would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Suggestions to convert Ambs Hall into a visitors' lounge, a counseling center and even a vegan culinary institute fell through the cracks. The most viable suggestion was to remodel the building to serve as home for the Honors program. John McDowell, department head of the Honors program in 2007, worked to raise money to complete the project. Administration, however, was slow to approve the changes, which resulted in the building remaining untouched since 2003. ■



Ambs Hall students in the 1950s

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However, the photo he likes best in the collection is of the cloth in the second set, because of its “translucent glow.”

Kyle said that he values photography as a way to “create something new from the world,” even when the subject of the photo may have existed before. He enjoys the chance to show people a “vantage point they may have missed.”

Jamie Hernandez de la Torre

Perhaps the most immediately compelling piece in the exhibition is the life-sized sculpture, “Of Mud and the Makings of a Life,” by professor Jaymie Hernandez de la Torre.

In her artist's statement, notably written in poetic form, de la Torre states that “Our human form, physical and emotional, resembles a nest.” She asks, “What are we but bits of mud and fibers, gathered over time, carefully layered, as we continually take shape in the world?”

In the piece, de la Torre communicates this idea with three-dimensional sculpted forms of portions of the human body suspended over an ivory cloth backdrop. Attached to



Jaymie de la Torre with her husband, Tim, and daughter, Quinn

the parts of the body which are a similar ivory color are sculpted forms resembling birds nests, appearing like the body's organs in shades of red and brown.

The artist explained that, like birds, she “love[s] to work in three dimensions and make something that takes up space in the world.”

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COMMUNITY

PUC Brings on New Professors for 2021-2022

By Lauren Jones

New faculty members have come from near and far to educate PUC students this year.



Libna Arroyo

Libna Arroyo: Assistant Professor of Psychology

Libna Arroyo has worked as a school counselor for grades 7-12, as well as for GED and alternative education. She was an adjunct professor of psychology in Aurora, Colorado. Additionally, she worked as a counselor at a mental health center with youth recovering from substance abuse. She has even worked as a Spanish teacher.

Arroyo's love of teaching psychology drew her to PUC, and she was very happy to see an opening here. This school year, Arroyo wants to share her passion for psychology. She strives to demonstrate how Christian scientists, psychologists, and counselors can make a difference. Arroyo also wants to get



Kimberly Dunker

to know her students and help them achieve their life goals.

Arroyo has lived in five countries. Her husband is hospital and air force chaplain Johnathan Arroyo; they have two children. In her free time, she loves to read, hike, bike, cook, and do zumba.

Kimberly Dunker: Chair of Nursing and Health Science

Kimberly Dunker worked for 14 years in the Massachusetts State Institution, teaching in several nursing-related programs. Most recently, she was the dean of nursing at Fortis College and Institutes.

She was drawn to PUC because of the opportunity to become the Chair for Nursing and Health Science. This year, Dunker would like to maintain the existing high standards for the nursing program. She wishes to start the RN-BS online program as well as a BS-MS program for nursing administration and business.

Dunker is a fourth-generation nurse who enjoys traveling, cooking, and baking. She was raised in New England and is a die-hard Patriots and Red Sox fan.



Jennifer Peñaflorida

Jennifer Peñaflorida: Assistant Professor of Education

Prior to working at PUC, Jennifer Peñaflorida was an English teacher at Berryville High School in Arkansas. She

recalls asking God what was coming next as she worked on finishing her Ph.D. She held on to a promise given in Psalm 32:8, and God led her to PUC.

This year, Peñaflorida has two goals: to grow her friendship with Jesus, and to reflect Jesus in all she does.

In addition to reading and writing, Peñaflorida enjoys spending quality time with her husband and children. “[I love] discussing ideas with my spouse over a shared meal and listening to my children articulate their thoughts and feelings,” she said.



Nicolette Piaubert

Nicolette Piaubert: Professor of Nursing

Nicolette Piaubert previously worked as a family nurse practitioner for the NY Health and Hospitals for Kings County. She came to PUC because she loves teaching and knows how to put students on the path to becoming experts in their field. “I want to ensure that there [are] little to no students who fail out of the nursing program,” Piaubert said regarding her goals for the year.

Piaubert is an avid writer who has been published twice and is working on her third

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book. She is TikTok famous and has been featured on national television twice.



Christa Reiger

Christa Reiger: Professor of Nursing

Christa Reiger was an adjunct clinical instructor before coming to PUC. She is

also an RN at Queen of the Valley Medical Center on the telemetry unit.

“PUC was a natural fit for me,” she says. She was pleased working as an adjunct, but states that her current job at PUC is even better than she thought. “The life and support that I have felt is amazing.”

Her goals for the school year are to provide a welcoming educational experience and to make students’ experience better through their input.

Reiger lives in Penngrove with six cows, one horse, 15 chickens, and two dogs. She enjoys watching the sunset, which allows her and her family to experience God’s wonders and blessings.

Ben Zinke: Professor of Psychology

Zinke was previously a therapist and child custody mediator before coming to PUC. He also has a private practice as a financial coach where he helps people achieve their goals.

He came to PUC because of his family’s history with the school. “I am the only one that did not go to PUC, so I am here to correct the error of my ways,” Zinke says.

This year, Zinke strives to help students develop a love for psychology. He wants to help them start planning meaningful careers, and says it is an honor to aid in a student’s success. In his free time, Zinke enjoys jogging, reading, watching TV, and playing video games. ■



Ben Zinke

SPORTS

Pioneers vs. Bobcats: A Fight to the Final Second

By Amanda Barnes

On Sunday, Oct. 10, starting at noon, the men’s soccer team, and at 3 p.m. the women’s soccer team, took on the UC Merced Bobcats in a well-matched, fierce fight that ended in two wins for the opposing team.

Men’s Soccer Game

The men’s soccer team fought to the end. At half-time the Pioneers were up 2-0. Coming back in the second half, UC Merced won the game by scoring three goals and ending the game with a score of 3-2.

Issay Bravo, #22, scored both goals from passes from his teammates. He was assisted in his scores by #9, Jose Salgado, and #10, Daniel Castro.

Multiple players were injured during the game. Jordan Baumbach, #7, sprained

his ankle and had to sit out the remainder of the game.

Women’s Soccer Game

At the end of the first half of the women’s game, the Pioneers were down 3-0. Despite a tough battle and a mini-comeback, PUC lost the game to UC Merced with a final score of 4-2.

Olivia Jessee, #24, was the first to score for the Pioneers, kicking a seemingly impossible goal from the outside the box. Judy Vallier, #10, was the second player to score another difficult goal.

Subsequently, the women’s team attempted two scores that bounced off the goal post—both kicks missing the goal by a hair’s breadth. The women’s team played hard throughout the game, despite their loss. ■



Olivia Jessee gets ready to score for the Pioneers

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She compares her work to nests not only in the physical space they take up, but also in material and process. De la Torre noted that most of the sculpting for the project was done using clay slip, a material not unlike the mud which birds use to build their nests. She also said that she and the birds both work at their task “bit by bit.”

“Ultimately this collection of work is a symbol of change and transition [...] Each piece is a different mood moment in time that chronicles this process of resurfacing.”

De la Torre said that she sees nests as a symbol for building room for growth. “We have to, through our entire lives, create a space for new life,” she said. “Growing, changing, and becoming. The question is, how do we, bit by bit, take shape in the world?”

The Student Perspective

Art student Amy Trenner spent most of her time at the show enjoying the “hyper-detail” of the reflected trees in Murtaugh’s “Sterling” from her seat at the reception desk. She appreciated it even more when she got a closer look.

“Something an old art teacher told me is that you get rewarded from back here [far away],” she said, “but come closer and you’re even more rewarded.” She explained that a closer look helps the viewer to gain perspective and make more sense of “what’s going on, whether it’s an emotion or something aesthetic.”

“We have to, through our entire lives, create a space for new life—growing, changing, and becoming. The question is, how do we, bit by bit, take shape in the world?”

Fellow art student Nat Nguyen was torn when choosing a favorite body of work on display. Nguyen noted that de la Torre’s sculpture was both literally and metaphorically “not flat, which means there’s more to consider,” but also called Gatdula’s series “mixed media at its finest.” ■



Visitors enjoy the opening reception

COMICS



Find out in the next issue!