

# WHAT'S NEW

## AT PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE

### **PUC CELEBRATES THE CLASS OF 2024**

Pacific Union College was delighted to celebrate the 245-student graduating Class of 2024 from June 14-16. Among the graduates, 177 were from the nursing and health sciences departments, 16 from the psychology and social work department, 15 from the business administration department, 10 from the chemistry department, and eight from the communication and world languages department. From completing essays and giving presentations to spending countless hours studying, they arrived at the finish line to receive their well-earned diplomas.

### **PUC RECEIVES MILLION DOLLAR GRANT TO EXPAND NURSING STUDENT ACCESS**

For the second year in a row, Pacific Union College was awarded a grant from California's Department of Healthcare Access and Information (HCAI). This year totalling \$1,050,000, the funding will support expanded training opportunities for nurses at both the Angwin campus and the

expansion campuses, and ultimately combat the statewide nursing shortage while improving access to equitable health care.

### **RENOVATIONS ACROSS CAMPUS BRING NEW LIFE TO PUC**

Renovations to Paulin Recital Hall, West Hall and the Hanson Pool undertaken at the beginning of the calendar year are nearing completion. Funded by anonymous donations and gifts from alumni, these projects improved campus facilities that are widely used by students, faculty and community members alike.

### **JUSTIN VITAL RECEIVES DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR IN CAL PAC CONFERENCE**

Captain of Pacific Union College's men's volleyball team, Justin Vital, received the 2023-2024 Defensive Player of the Year in the California Pacific Conference. This season, he was named First Team All-Conference, averaged 3.49 digs per set (#1 in conference), and totaled 181 digs in 15 season games. Vital was also Nationally Ranked #3 in digs per set in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

### **PUC'S NURSING PROGRAM SCORES HIGH NCLEX RANKINGS**

The nursing program at Pacific Union College achieved a 100% NCLEX pass rate for the December 2023 graduates, demonstrating how PUC adequately prepares students for NCLEX and their careers beyond.

### **ANGWIN TO ANGWISH SELLS OUT FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW**

On May 7, over 130 participants aged 9 to 71 ran Pacific Union College's annual Angwin to Angwish 26K, 10K, and 1 mile kids run. The trails traversed through scenic areas around the Angwin forest, offering participants a mix of challenging terrains and beautiful views of the Napa Valley.

### **NURSING PROFESSOR HANNAH SARAVANAKUMAR IS PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE'S 2024 EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR**

Pacific Union College honored Nursing Professor Hannah Saravanakumar as the 2023-2024 Educator of the Year during Community on Thursday, May 23. With over 20 years of nursing education experience, she is a highly respected nursing professor who combines expertise in leadership, didactics, clinical and simulation experiences, curriculum development, and faculty mentorship.

### **PUC CONTINUES BUILDING FIRE RESILIENCE ACROSS FOREST PROPERTY THROUGH SUCCESSFUL 13 ACRE PLANNED BURN**

Pacific Union College partnered with CAL Fire Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit and Napa County Fire Department to conduct a prescribed burn across 13 acres of the college's Angwin forest property on May 1, successfully managing overgrown vegetation, enhancing forest health, and building fire resilience. These

efforts demonstrate PUC's ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship and community safety.

### **PUC PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS ATTEND AND PRESENT AT THE WESTERN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**

18 Pacific Union College students—alongside Damaris Perez, PUC chair of psychology and social work, and professors Tuwan Ussery White, Michael Jefferson, and Libna Arroyo—attended The Western Psychological Association's (WPA) annual conference in San Francisco from April 24-28, benefitting from the opportunity to network with students, faculty, and researchers from other institutions.

### **THE 20TH ANNUAL DIOGENES FILM FESTIVAL CELEBRATES PUC'S FILM PROGRAM**

The Visual Arts Department at Pacific Union College celebrated their film students at the 20th Annual Diogenes Film Festival. On May 30 at the Cameo Cinema in Saint Helena, 120 audience members watched 22 films by 18 filmmakers.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**July 11-20: Soquel Camp Meeting**

**July 21-27: Redwood Camp Meeting**

**July 28-31: Korean Camp Meeting**

**August 22-25: Birding Bonanza & Alumni Retreat** For more info and to register visit [puc.edu/birding](https://puc.edu/birding)

**August 25: Paulin Center for the Arts Open House**

**Oct. 8-11: Academy Women's Volleyball Tournament**

**Nov. 1-3: PUC College Days** For more information about highschool visits email [visit@puc.edu](mailto:visit@puc.edu).



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READ THE FULL ARTICLES, LEARN MORE ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS AND SUBSCRIBE TO OUR EMAILS AT: [puc.edu/puc-now](https://puc.edu/puc-now)