



President Bob Brower

# Right Place, Right Time

When I came to Point Loma, I discovered that the view of the horizon was different when I stood on the highest point of campus rather than down by the shore. From the third floor of Rohr Science, for example, or from the site of the new School of Business, it's possible to see an island some forty or so miles off our coast when the conditions are right.

This summer my wife, Linda, and I took a trip up the California coast and went inland to Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks. We walked through groves of giant sequoias, overwhelmed by their size and endurance. Some are estimated to be more than 3,000 years old.

These majestic trees have flourished because, as a ranger told us, the conditions are right. At an elevation of between 3,000 and 8,000 feet elevation in a belt only about 200 miles long on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada, these largest living things on earth have been able to withstand the fire and insects that destroy lesser trees. They are in the right place with the right conditions.

I am more convinced than ever about the importance of the right conditions and right place. Over the last eighteen months, there has been much discussion, input, reflection, and dreaming from trustees, faculty, students, administrators, and community members about the future of Point Loma. We've been dreaming the answer to this question: "What will PLNU look like in 2015 and beyond?"

The vision statement you'll read about on page four is a work in progress—a look to the future that must always be open to improvement. Its purpose is to serve as a guide to our planning, operations and budgeting priorities as we strive toward greater levels of mission fulfillment. Building upon our mission statement and the commitments it represents, the vision statement sets a goal, provides a context, and identifies those areas where our work must yield effective results.

Included with the vision statement are some qualitative aspects—strategic goals—we have set for the next two years to point the direction toward our vision. Some have already been initiated, and some have yet to be started.

I believe we are in the right place and time to stand as tall and long-lasting as a sequoia, a true giant in our work.

We will have challenges, but they will make us stronger.

We will struggle with questions, but they will make us wiser.

We will face uncertainty, but it will increase our faith.

We will accomplish great things, and we will be thankful—thankful for the good work that we have been privileged to share together in this place and at this time.

This is our time. Each one of us fulfills a significant role in the university's mission and in its future. The conditions are right! We have much to do!

## PLNU MAKES U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT'S BEST COLLEGES LIST

This fall, Point Loma Nazarene University was ranked for a second year as a top-tier western regional school by *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Colleges 2005 edition.

PLNU is number 26 in the category of regional universities offering graduate degrees. Last year, for the first time, PLNU broke into the top tier of this category after reaching number one in the second tier in 2003.

The rankings have four categories: nationally recognized universities with undergraduate and graduate degrees, and an emphasis on research; nationally recognized liberal arts colleges that emphasize the undergraduate education; regional liberal arts schools with both liberal arts and professional degrees, listed by region; and regional liberal arts schools with postgraduate degrees, listed by region. PLNU is in this category.

Dan Martin, PLNU vice president for University Advancement, said the recognition is gratifying.

"Our ranking provides confirmation that the strategic plans we have implemented have us headed in the right direction. And for Point Loma, that means a direction where we can provide a Christian

environment where we challenge them to live lives of significance for purposeful gain rather than personal gain," he said.

Martin said the rankings recognize several advancements within this last year: student applications at an all-time high, significant growth at the graduate level, major new facilities being constructed, and the university preparing to extend our reach further into the community with expansion in both the School of Business and the Mid-City Health Promotion Center.



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**ON THE COVER**  
PLNU's unadulterated view of  
the Pacific horizon. Photo by  
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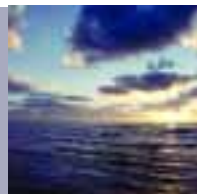
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where minds are engaged and  
challenged, character is modeled  
and formed, and service becomes  
an expression of faith. Being of  
Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to  
be a learning community where  
grace is foundational, truth is  
pursued, and holiness is a way  
of life.

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## NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING DEDICATION SCHEDULED

**P**LNLU will dedicate its new administration building at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 19. The dedication ceremony will take place at the new structure, which is just north of Mieras Hall near the entrance to the main campus.

The two-story 17,200-foot administration building will house the offices of admissions, student financial services, university accounting and the business office.

Of the three major construction projects begun a year ago summer, only one remains. The expansion to Nease Residence Hall was completed this summer and students moved in in August. Now it's down to the School of Business, which is ahead of schedule and expected to be finished in December.

After the dedication, check out the new overlook near the entrance to campus. The amphitheatrestyle design invites viewers to stop and take in the horizon of the Pacific.