



Speech and Debate Team Rated Third in Nation

At the end of the fall 2002 semester, Point Loma's speech and debate team was ranked number three in the nation. The National Parliamentary Debate Association ranks hundreds of colleges and universities that participate in this format of intercollegiate debate.

"Point Loma has been fortunate enough to be listed among the top five or six teams in the nation for each of the past six years since we began participating in parliamentary debate," said Skip Rutledge, who with Kathleen Czech, directs the forensics program. "That is a very difficult accomplishment given the hundreds of schools participating around the country."

In early February, Point Loma will again host the Sunset Cliffs Tournament, which involves hundreds of debaters. In mid-March, PLNU will host the National Christian Colleges Forensics Invitational. PLNU is a past sweepstakes champion.

Rutledge serves on the board of directors for the National Christian Colleges Forensics and Communication Association, and as division director for the Religious Communication Association's Media Studies division. He has written chapters for two books on debate, published by the Home School Legal Defense Association. He also presented a paper this fall at the National Communication Association Convention in New Orleans entitled "Ethics in Action in NPDA Debate: A Philosophical and Pragmatic Analysis of Macroscopic and Microscopic Elements of Lying in Parliamentary Debate." ◆

Two Decades of Research Leads to Genome Mapping Success

Michael McConnell, professor of biology and chemistry, reports that after nearly 20 years of work, a research project that had its origins at PLNU in the mid-1980s came to fruition in October.

PLNU submitted the genomic sequence of the salmonella-specific bacteriophage, Epsilon 15, to the National Center for Biotechnology Information at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. The center maintains GenBank, the nation's major database repository for genomic sequence data.

Completion of the 39,671 base pair sequence genome occurred in stages, beginning with the construction (by PLNU undergraduates) of an accurate physical map of the genome. The first actual DNA sequence data was generated in 1994 during McConnell's sabbatical visit to a laboratory at the University of Sydney in Australia. Subsequent collaboration at the University of Arizona led to completion of a "rough draft" sequence of the entire genome in 1999. Detection and editing of sequence errors continued at Point Loma over the next three years.

The Epsilon 15 sequence will become accessible to the general public this spring along with the publication of a journal article by McConnell. ◆

Freshman Art Major Wins Prestigious National Award

Nathan Closson, freshman art major from Whitefish, Mont., won the prestigious 2002-2003 Federal Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest with his acrylic work, "Mallard Morning." The painting of two ducks was the top entry among winners from 50 state competitions plus the District of Columbia and American Samoa. It now appears on a \$5.00



Nathan Closson

U.S. Fish and Wildlife stamp. The competition, patterned after the annual Federal Duck Stamp contest, supports an arts and conservation educational program. Sales of the stamp to collectors and conservationists also supports scholarships for contest winners.

Nathan says he plans a full-time career in fine arts.

(Right: Nathan's award-winning piece, Mallard Morning.)



LoveWorks Expands World View of Students and Leaders

More than 10 teams are headed to the outer reaches of the globe this summer, as well as close to home, as another season of LoveWorks mission trips approaches.

Destinations include Suriname and Slovenia, Ireland and El Salvador, Madagascar and Papua New Guinea. Point Loma students will be ministering in Rwanda, the Philippines, South Africa and an island country called Sao Tome. Plus there will be a team going to the Casa Robles Missionary Retirement Home in Pasadena.

Overseeing the summer operation will be the new director of Outreach Ministries, Rebecca Modesto. She takes the reins from Jeff Bolster, who resigned in December to pursue graduate studies.

"I'm excited to begin this journey," said Modesto, who graduated from Point Loma in 1991 with a degree in English. She has studied at Nazarene Theological Seminary and Shaw Divinity School in Raleigh, N.C. She will also be responsible for guiding the university's nearly two dozen campus ministries, which are flourishing.

Bolster accumulated more than a decade of experience at PLNU. An 1993 grad who was student body president, Bolster said his view of ministry has changed in the 10 years since he joined the department of Spiritual Development, first as

an intern in 1993 and then full time in 1995. Or, perhaps not so much changed, as expanded.

"My world view has been so shaped by the opportunities to be alongside missionaries, pastors and students in ministry," said Bolster. "I've learned how to do ministry where being a Christian is not easy."

He leaves behind a strong program that has impacted hundreds of students and helped dozens of Nazarene missionaries. Nearly 2,000 students, faculty, staff and alumni have traveled to over 50 world areas to serve.

"Jeff has built up LoveWorks's reputation in the mind of overseas ministries," said Michael Pitts, vice president for Spiritual Development and university chaplain.

"LoveWorks's focus is on the needs of the field rather than fitting their ministry to meet our needs," he said.

Both Student Ministries and LoveWorks directly parallels Point Loma's "teach, shape, send" mission, said Pitts. He views the programs as "rubber-meets-the-road Christianity," meeting needs eye to eye.

LoveWorks teams are better prepared for the rigors of overseas ministry than most groups, thanks to Bolster, said Pitts. He points to the year-long training program Bolster has established during his tenure, requiring students to meet



Jeff Bolster (right) who concluded his successful tenure in Spiritual Development in December. "My world view has been so shaped by the opportunities to be alongside missionaries, pastors and students."

weekly for study and prayer. The training covers topics like cross-cultural communication, global perspectives in Christianity, poverty, group dynamics and travel health and safety.

"It's been an honor to be here," said Bolster. "The people of this place, its students, faculty and staff, have been so key in my formation."

Modesto is enthusiastic about arriving. Her husband, Kevin, joined the faculty of the department of Sociology and Social Work last fall. She and her husband planted an urban church and non-profit community organization in Raleigh before moving to Point Loma. She also has been a college-level instructor in a variety of settings.

Pitts is excited about the growth of Point Loma students in ministry. "I would love for every student, sometime between the time they enroll and they walk across the stage in the Greek, to have experienced a LoveWorks mission trip," he said. "This is a wonderful way to help students become 'world Christians,' aware of needs outside their comfortable borders." ♦



Rebecca Modesto

President Brower Elected to CCCU Board of Directors

President Bob Brower has been elected to the board of directors for the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities. The 17-member board guides the 103-member CCCU in its mission to advance the cause of Christ-centered higher education. ♦



Faculty notes...

The faculty of the department of Art and Design is presenting a Faculty Exhibition from January 27-Feb. 19, 2003 featuring work by **David Adey, Bryan Fitz, Eugene Harris, Bill Kelly, Paul Kinsman, Peter Mitten, Karen Sangren, Michael Strauser and Jim Skalman.**

In the fall, department chair **Jim Skalman** and adjunct professor **Peter Mitten** exhibited sculpture at the Boehm Gallery at Palomar College in San Marcos, Calif.

Karen Sangren, professor of art, conducted workshop sessions as a member of San Diego City Schools Professional Development Cadre. This group of arts professionals works with classroom teachers in selected schools to incorporate the new California Arts Standards into the curriculum. Sangren held training sessions for artists-in-residence about how to develop integrative arts planning strategies and arts lessons in San Diego City Schools. A third workshop on "Visual Arts Infusion in a Standards-Based Curriculum" was given at the Fall Education Conference at PLNU Arcadia in November.

Sangren has been a member of the Visual Arts Advisory Panel for

the Commission on Teacher Credentialing since 1991.

Victor Labenske, professor of music, published *Hallelujah! Amen! 14 Hymns for Worship*, a sacred piano collection for the intermediate pianist published by Lillenas.

Keith Pagan, professor of music emeritus, who was recently chosen to be included in the new *Who's Who in America*, conducted a sing-a-long version of Handel's *Messiah* at Santa Ana Church of the Nazarene. He conducted numerous choral-related workshops for churches, schools and PLNU this fall.

Hadley Wood, professor of French and literature, and chair of the department of Literature, Journalism and Modern Languages, was interviewed on San Diego's KGTV about the film, *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*. Wood, an expert on J.R.R. Tolkien and his work, has read the trilogy more than 30 times.

Rick Hill, professor of writing, recently published *Mark Twain Among the Scholars: Reconsidering Contemporary Twain Criticism* (Whitston Press, 2002). His co-author is Jim McWilliams.

Bettina Pedersen, associate professor of literature, presented a paper at the Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States conference in October titled "Touching Erotic Desire: Christina Rossetti's 'Goblin Market' and the Challenge to Traditional Theology and Marriage."

Dean Nelson, professor of journalism and writing, received

the Alumnus of the Year award from MidAmerica Nazarene University during MNU's Homecoming in October. The second edition of his book, *Heart and Soul*, written with Dr. Gary Morsch of Heart to Heart International, has been issued with a forward by J.C. Watts.

Nelson also hosted a KPBS public affairs show in October, discussing news coverage of a San Diego County murder trial. Colleague **Karl Martin**, professor of literature, appeared on the same show the following night, to discuss the fall season of new television shows.

Todd Morano, associate professor of education, presented the results of two research projects in January at the Hawaii International Conference on Education. Topics were "The Cultural Transcendence of African American Vernacular English as a Phenomenon of the Adolescent Speech Community," and "Reading to Learn: The Case for Strategic Reading Instruction at the Middle Level."

Morano also recently finalized plans for an internship program for liberal studies students in Belize. This summer 13 students will be teaching English in an elementary school in the rural jungle village of Armenia, Belize.

Chuck Downing, professor of education, presented four one-hour sessions to approximately 250 teachers at the National Science Teachers

Association convention in Portland, Ore., in November.

Beverly Foster, professor of education, was a guest on San Diego radio station, KPBS, in December. She was interviewed on a current events talk show, "These Days" about home schooling.

Linda Beail, associate professor of political science, and eight political science majors attended the American Association of Political Consultants student outreach conference in Washington, D.C. in November. While there, they attended a taping of the CNN show *Crossfire*; talked with campaign professionals about polling, media, campaign ethics, campaigning on the Internet and the aftermath of the 2002 elections, and visited PLNU alumni now working in government, interest groups and consulting firms.

Michael Lodahl, professor of religion and **Sam Powell**, professor of philosophy and religion, have written chapters which appear in a recently published book, *Thy Nature and Thy Name is Love: Wesleyan and Process Theologies in Dialogue* (Abingdon Press). Lodahl wrote on the doctrine of creatio ex nihilo (creation out of nothing) and Powell on the Trinity.

A book by Powell titled *Participating in God: Creation and Trinity*, will be published this spring by Fortress Press.

C. S. Cowles, professor of religion, finalized a book called *Show Them No Mercy: Four Views on Canaanite Genocide and God*, to be published by Zondervan.

He also completed a number of writing assignments for Nazarene Publishing House: 52 devotionals for *Grow Magazine*; two sets of adult Sunday school lesson expositions for WordAction; and a chapter titled "The Changing World Around Us," for a book, *Why Won't They Listen?*

John Wright, professor of religion, published a critique of *The Prayer of Jabez* with Rodney Clapp in the Oct. 23 issue of *Christian Century*. Wright also published "A Tale of Three Cities: Urban Gates, Squares and Power in Iron Age II, Neo-Babylonian and Achaemenid Judah," in *Second Temple Studies III*. He and **Doug Harrison**, adjunct professor in the Philosophy and Religion department, wrote "The Ecclesial Practice of Reconciliation and the End of the 'Wesleyan,'" for the *Wesley Theological Journal* 37.

Nancy K. Murray, adjunct faculty in the department of Family and Consumer Sciences, is the new president of the San Diego District of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. "I don't want to miss an opportunity to educate on the value of our programs and focus in this world where the family often suffers in our over-scheduled lives," she said.

Sandy Foster, associate professor of Family and Consumer Sciences, is copresident elect of the group, and **Kay Wilder**, professor of Family and Consumer Sciences, is past president of the

California Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Jeff McKinstry, associate professor of Computer Science, presented research at the Neuroscience 2002 Conference, Orlando, Fla., in November. The presentation was entitled "Synchronous Activity Binds Visual Stimulus Properties Viewed by a Brain-Based Device."

Three nursing faculty have earned doctoral degrees from the University of San Diego: **Dottie Crummy**, department chair; **Sandra Solem**, assistant chair; and **Son Chae Kim**.

In addition, nursing professor emeritus **Ruth Grendell** was profiled in a USD magazine for a lifetime of international medical missionary work. ♦

PLNU Women's Auxiliary—San Diego Chapter

We will bake a cake for your student's birthday or other special occasion.



Minimum donation: \$15.00

Student name: _____

Birthday: _____

Campus Address: _____

From: _____

Message on card: _____

- Cake: white chocolate spice
- Frosting: white chocolate Caramel
- Cookie cake: chocolate chip peanut butter brownie

Send check payable to PLNUWA to: *Sharon Irwin, 3900 Lomaland Drive, San Diego, CA 92106*. Please allow at least two week's notice.

Briefly...

Colorado's poet laureate, Mary Crow, visited PLNU in October and gave a free reading as part of the 2002-2003 Cultural Events series. Crow is an acclaimed author of original poetry and translator of Latin American poetry. She teaches creative writing at Colorado State University.

Brennan Manning, former Franciscan priest who travels widely speaking on a closer relationship with God, was a guest in chapel in late October. Manning, author of many books including *The Ragamuffin Gospel* and *Lion and Lamb: The Relentless Tenderness of Jesus*, spoke in chapel twice and met with students.

Manning also participated in a day-long conference for area pastors hosted by the office of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education.

Former U.S. Senator Gary Hart was scheduled to address a dinner at Point Loma on Feb. 4. The event was co-sponsored by the Institute of Politics and Public Service, founded by Ron Kirkemo, professor of political science.

Hart represented Colorado in the Senate from 1975 to 1987. Since retiring from the Senate, he has been involved in international law and business, as a strategic advisor to major U.S. corporations and as an author and lecturer.

Last fall, the institute hosted a speaker series called "Liberty Defiant: Critical Issues in the New U.S. Foreign Policy." Speakers included Dwaine Darrah of the C.I.A. and Kamal Beyoghlow of the State Department. Others were Dan Caldwell of Pepperdine University, speaking on "The U.S., Europe and the War on Terrorism"; Steve Shaw, Northwest Nazarene University, who addressed "The Patriot Act: Brandeis Meets Bush"; and Mark Clark, California State University San Bernardino whose topic was "The Continuing Relevance of Nuclear Arms."

Kirkemo also published a chapter titled "At the Podium between Jerusalem and Sarajevo: A Christian Approach to Teaching Political Science," in *Teaching as an Act of Faith* (Fordham University Press, 2002). ♦

2003 Writer's Symposium by the Sea Features Novelist Amy Tan

Point Loma's annual Writer's Symposium by the Sea has grown since a handful of San Diego-based writers gathered in 1997 to talk with students about the life of a writer.

Now guest speakers include such literary luminaries as Ray Bradbury, Joseph Wambaugh, Anne Lamott, George Plimpton, and Kathleen Norris.

"The Writer's Symposium gives Point Loma an opportunity to serve our neighbors and the San Diego writing community as well as expand our students' exposure to successful artists of high caliber," said President Bob Brower. "I look forward to meeting and talking with each guest."

This year, the eighth annual Writer's Symposium will be March 3-5 and will feature the highly acclaimed writer Amy Tan.

Tan is author of *The Joy Luck Club*, an international best-selling novel that explores the relationships of Chinese women and their Chinese-American daughters. Her other titles include *The Kitchen God's Wife*, *The Hundred Secret Senses*, and two children's books, *The Moon Lady* and *The Chinese Siamese Cat*. Her latest novel, published in 2001, is *The Bonesetter's Daughter*.

The symposium's key event, "An Evening with Amy Tan," will be at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5, in Crill Performance

Hall in Cooper Music Center. This event will continue the symposium's tradition of presenting a keynote guest for an on-stage conversation with Dean Nelson, founder of the Writer's Symposium and director of PLNU's journalism program.

Other guest speakers this year are Jody Hassett, producer for ABC's *World News Tonight* with Peter Jennings, Chris Willman, a writer for *Entertainment Weekly* magazine and novelist Mark Salzman.

Hassett is a veteran journalist who worked for CNN before joining ABC.

Willman has been a senior writer with *Entertainment Weekly* since 1995, primarily on the music beat. Salzman is the author of *The Laughing Sutra*, *The Soloist*, and most recently, *Lying Awake*, a novel about a Carmelite nun in a spiritual crisis.

For tickets and information, call 619.849.2695, go to www.ptloma.edu/news&events or see the back cover of this issue of the *Viewpoint*. ♦



Amy Tan