

Situated between Commencement and New Student Orientation, summer reminds me of our continuing mission and our “teaching, shaping, and sending” commitments throughout the university.

Our graduates have again been sent out – some to missions work, some to teaching or nursing, business or graduate school, some to the local community, and some to the far corners of the world. Commencement was truly a joy for me to see our ‘Lost Boys of the Sudan’ cross the stage in caps and gowns, to shake the hands of our graduates, and to share in the excitement of proud parents as they applauded their children’s achievements as part of the Class of 2007. The day of Commencement brings a clear focus to the remarkable accomplishments of the class, and the great hope and potential that is within them, as they move forward from the university. It really is one of the best days of the year!

As those graduates celebrate, other students are preparing to enter PLNU. In just a few weeks, we will welcome hundreds of freshmen, who will be the Class of 2011, to New Student Orientation (NSO), and we will have the opportunity to begin again. Joining the new freshmen will be many new undergraduate transfer students and first-time graduate students. The graduate students will join hundreds of others at our regional centers in Mission Valley, Arcadia, Bakersfield, and Corona (Inland Empire), as well as on our Point Loma campus. Summer always yields the excitement of finishing and the promise of beginning the teaching, shaping, and sending process once again.

As we look toward the new academic year, I am particularly reminded of the gifted work of



several faculty members who are retiring this year (please see the acknowledgements in this issue). It is the people of Point Loma who make the difference, and we will miss those who are concluding their work here and moving into retirement. And with each goodbye, we will also welcome many new faculty members to PLNU. Additionally,

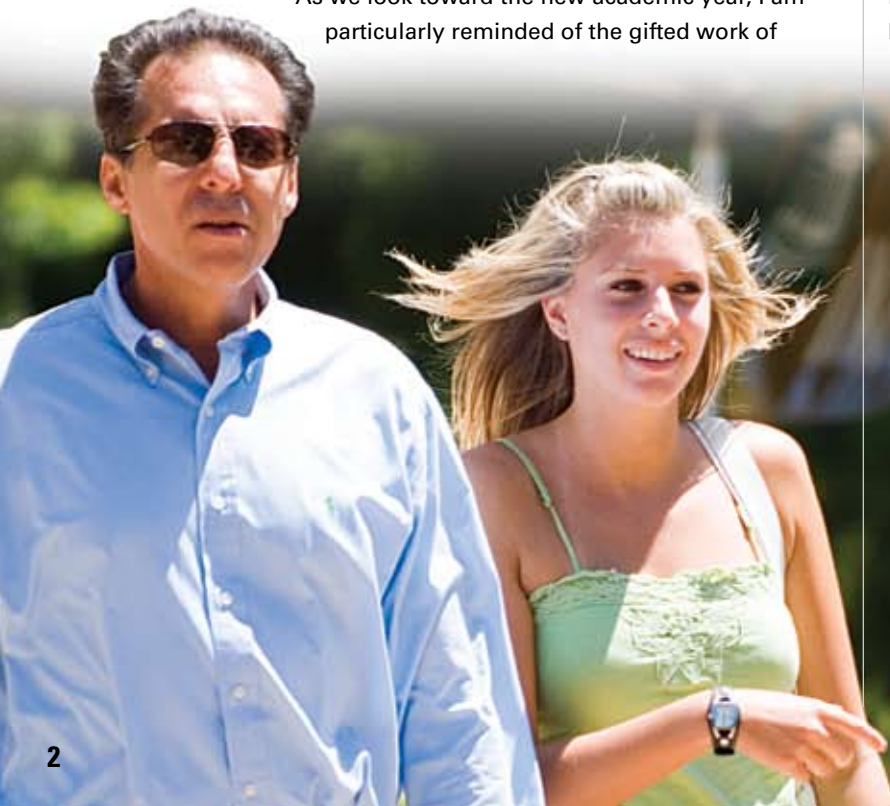
I’m pleased to welcome Dr. Mary Paul as the new vice president for Spiritual Development. She will begin her work in late July and give leadership to this very important effort across the university.

As we begin our 106th year, the motivating power of the university’s mission directs us. Our work in this learning community is to engage students’ minds in fresh and challenging ways, to affirm our commitment to be a vital Christian community that models faith and service, and to prepare students for a lifetime of learning, service, worship, and living.

This year is another gift of opportunity and promise for which I am grateful and for which I have great hope!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Brower".

Bob Brower, Ph.D.
President



A new student and her parents at last year’s New Student Orientation (NSO).