

U

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THE PLU EXPERIENCE

SPRING 14

THINGS THAT MATTER MOST
STUDENTS SHARE THEIR
FAVORITE THINGS
ABOUT PLU

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CHALLENGE

Find where you fit in—and how you can give back.

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SUPPORT

Figure out your finances in four simple steps—and choose *your* best value.

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SUCCESS

How far can a PLU education take you? Read about one student's amazing African adventure.

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Inside PLU

Upcoming Dates

for first-year students

SAT DATES

March 8, May 3, June 7

ACT DATES

April 12, June 14

LUTE LIFE DAYS

February 21, March 10, March 21, March 31

These personalized program days are a great opportunity for you to visit campus and experience what life is like as a PLU student.

PASSPORT WEEKENDS

March 14-15 Passport #1

April 11-12 Passport #2

Admitted students are invited to stay overnight on campus, explore academics and experience the PLU community.

NATIONAL CANDIDATE REPLY DATE

May 1

All admitted students should notify PLU of their intention to enroll for Fall 2014 by this date.

FALL 2014 FIRST-YEAR REGISTRATION

June 18, 19, 20, 23 & 24

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED FOR FALL 2015

July 1

Students who have completed their junior year in high school may submit PLU application materials.

SUMMER PREVIEW DAY

July/August

Date to be announced.

For more information on these and other events: visit choose.plu.edu.



choose.plu.edu

Get to know the PLU campus on a personal tour with Leslie Ducay and Anika Glass. See Page 32.

On the cover:

Dallas Gordon '14 shares her favorite things about PLU in the University Center's Old Main Market. Photo by John Froschauer/PLU.



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HELLO THERE

REAL STORIES

Greetings from Pacific Lutheran University



WELCOME TO THE SPRING EDITION OF U MAGAZINE. You've spent months writing essays, taking tests and filling out applications, and we are excited that PLU is one of your top choices. As you read through this magazine, we encourage you to imagine yourself as a PLU student. Students choose to invest in PLU for many reasons, and this issue has stories about how you can be part of the Lute Community. Whether through athletics, campus leadership, student/faculty research or studying away, you will find yourself immersed in a PLU community where you'll be both challenged and supported.

You are probably beginning to receive financial aid offers from many schools. The value and investment in your education are worth considering as you decide where you will attend college. We have included information and useful tools in this issue so you and your family can do the math together. Cost can be one of several important factors in making a choice for college, so please know that you do not need to approach financial aid questions alone—PLU is here to help. Whether you make use of our "Do the Math!" worksheet or call your individual Admission Counselor, we are here to answer your questions and help you figure out the numbers.

Finally, we encourage you to visit campus. When you visit, you can experience firsthand our friendly and welcoming PLU community. Take a tour of campus, meet with faculty and your Admission Counselor and, most importantly, connect with current Lutes.

We look forward in seeing you on campus this fall!

—Melannie Denise Cunningham, Director of Multicultural Recruitment
Brandon Bruan, Assistant Director of Admission

U

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ADVICE FROM THE EXPERTS

Your questions answered by real PLU students

ANSWERS

Why did you choose PLU?

When I visited PLU, I fell in love. The personal attention I received from the professors I got to meet with and the students I interacted with showed me that PLU is a place where others care about me as an individual. I was also given the opportunity to sing in Lagerquist Concert Hall, and I knew that, because of its emphasis on academic freedom, PLU was a place where I could develop as a musician while pursuing my ultimate goal of becoming a doctor.

What are PLU professors like?

There is a personal level of attention students receive at PLU that is unrivaled by any other school I visited. I have been mentored by Dr. Lytle, a Chemistry professor, in a personal and caring manner. He always makes time for students, is willing to talk about the future and encourages all of his students to excel.

What is there to do on weekends?

Late Night Programming has taken a huge step forward this year! There are events nearly every weekend on campus, ranging from bands playing in The Cave to laser tag in the Fieldhouse. I love to attend the events put on by PLU Recreation, such as dodgeball and badminton tournaments, and the Residence Hall Council in Hinderlie (my residence hall) puts on events like movie nights or finger-painting at least once a month.

Can I double-major and still graduate in four years?

You have to do a senior Capstone for each major, but double-majoring is made much easier by the fact that our curriculum requires interdisciplinary courses. As a Chemistry major with a Physics minor, many of the classes I take for Chemistry also apply to Physics. Many of my friends are graduating with double (even triple!) majors and took only four years. I was heavily involved with PLU's choral program for my first three years, and I am still going to graduate in four years!

FEATURED

PLU GUEST EXPERT

MARK WALSWORTH '14

MAJOR
Chemistry major
Physics minor

HOMETOWN
Homer, AK

INTERESTS

At PLU: I am the RAAD (Resident Assistant with Additional Responsibilities) in Hinderlie Hall, the Academic Assistance Center Physics tutor and an Admission Ambassador Leadership Board Member who participated in Choir of the West for two years, took part in the summer undergraduate research program at PLU and won "the shirt" multiple times for Intramural sports (volleyball, dodgeball and soccer).

Other interests: Most of my hobbies revolve around music or athletics, though I also teach Sunday School at the nearby Our Savior Lutheran Church.



What are classes like?

Classes here are different depending on the major, but all are open environments where questions are encouraged, and students receive personal attention. They are more difficult than an average high-school class, but whether it's Philosophy or Biology, professors encourage conversation around the topics being taught. My favorite class was an English class with an emphasis on short fiction. I had a great time dissecting the literature and loved my zany professor, Dr. Seal.

What is it like living on campus?

Living on campus is a ton of fun! I'm in my fourth year of living on campus. My first two years were spent in Tingelstad Hall, and I have been a Resident Assistant (RA) in Hinderlie Hall for two years. There are lots of different clubs and events that are extremely easy to get involved with, and being able to spend time with others around me who are going through similar struggles in their classes has really benefited me when I need support. The friends I made during my first year on campus are still some of my closest!

How does PLU choose my roommate?

The Residential Life office is extremely good about finding successful roommate pairs! The roommate questionnaire helps Residential Life find someone you are compatible with and who will help you to be successful. They ask about your likes, dislikes and personal habits and are very good about making sure that a night owl doesn't get paired with an early-morning riser. I have seen many roommate pairs room together for a second, even third, year! I had a fantastic time with my roommates when I lived in Tingelstad. We spent time together outside the hall as well.

GOT A QUESTION?

Have your questions about PLU answered by the experts – real students. Send your questions to askalute@plu.edu.

NEWS



Where the Arts Take Center Stage



PLU students perform "Kiss Me, Kate" at the newly renovated KHP.

A cut ribbon signaled the gala reopening of the former Eastvold Hall into the newly remodeled Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. The first performance in the KHP was the classic musical *Kiss Me, Kate*, a production that came together in only three and a half weeks. "Putting a show together in such a short amount of time was just kinda crazy," said the show's props master, Kraig Partridge '14. "But we did it."

Attendance was strong throughout the show's run. "It was a treat to be working in an entirely new facility," Partridge said. "It's a really beautiful space."

In addition to KHP's main theater, where *Kiss Me, Kate* was staged, an

adjunct Black Box studio hosts other performances, such as David Auburn's *Proof*. Other recent or upcoming shows on campus include Daniel J. Sullivan's *Inspecting Carol*, Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* in the spring, the APO's (Alpha Psi Omega Theater Honor Society) production of *In the Garden of Live Flowers* (spring) and the season's closer production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*.

JAMES OLSON '14



PLU NEWS Now Even More Useful

Since merging in 2012 as the Mast Media collective, the student-run KCNS TV and *The Mooring Mast* newspaper have pursued a united effort aimed at reliable, accessible on-campus news. Now, the two programs work together closely, says The Associated Students of Pacific Lutheran University (ASPLU) vice president Emily Bishop.

One of the goals for the new collective has been to ramp up PLU News' online and social-media presence. The collective has launched a sleek new website, providing students with access to the news from anywhere there is wi-fi. The website also includes ticker-tape formatting, allowing the news to be more reflective of the lively, active campus it hopes to inform.



Mast Media also has begun live-Tweeting a slew of PLU events, and Mast TV has started filming promotional trailers for clubs and organizations. ASPLU, for example, has been using Mast TV to film a series of "sidewalk talks" in order to canvass students on particular issues concerning ASPLU legislation.

JAMES OLSON '14

mastmedia.plu.edu/



Athletic Facilities Fit for Champs

As a member of the Northwest Conference, PLU has 20 NCAA Division III varsity sports teams—and new or newly renovated athletic facilities designed to improve the experiences of all students, whether you're a student-athlete looking to compete at a high level, one of more than 400 students who participate in intramural sports or someone simply looking to play a little pick-up game after class.

All told, several million dollars' worth of improvements have taken place in the last couple of years. Take a look at all these new ways to play!

- A new lighted synthetic-turf field, home to the men's and women's soccer teams, as well as PLU's club lacrosse team.
- A new natural-turf field for athletic practices and intramural games.
- A rebuilt all-weather track, which paved the way to PLU hosting the 2012 Northwest Conference Championships.
- A brand-new turf infield for the baseball field (next up: lighting for night games).
- A major overhaul for the swimming pool, including a new roof and locker rooms.
- Remodeled locker rooms in Olson Auditorium.
- A new playing surface for the basketball and volleyball teams.
- Plans for a rebuilt football field and football stadium complex, as well as a new field and lighting for the softball team, the reigning NCAA D-III national champions.



+ 816 GRADUATES WORK IN HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS

From left: Anna McCracken '14 (Global Studies/Anthropology major from Spanaway, WA), Mackenzie Carlson '14 (Studio Art/Global Studies major from Seattle), Jess Tveit '15 (Sociology major from Rancho Santa Margarita, CA) and Thomas Kim '15 (Economics/Psychology major from Portland, OR) skip through Red Square, the center of campus.
Photo by John Froschauer/PLU

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THINGS THAT MATTER MOST

STUDENTS SHARE THEIR FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT PLU

There's so much to consider when you're choosing a college—but what matters *most* to you? At PLU, the things that matter to you matter to us. The PLU Experience encompasses a ton of essential elements—excellence, value, community, making a difference—so we asked current students to share what matters most to them at PLU. They all had a hard time narrowing it down.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE = MATTERS =

"PLU was unlike any other school that I visited. The people here are so invested in each other and in making a positive difference in the community. I knew that at PLU my experience wouldn't be only about getting a degree but about the entire experience—about all the things I would get to do along the way and really finding what my purpose in life will be. It is a constant journey."

—Anna McCracken '14, Global Studies/Anthropology major from Spanaway, Wash.

- PLU has ranked in the top 25 on the Peace Corps' Top Colleges rankings for small schools.
- 1,521 PLU alumni work in education.
- 11 PLU clubs and organizations are committed to service.
- PLU was named to the 2013 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service—one of only two universities in Washington to receive this recognition.

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"PLU has a strong community that is so welcoming when you get here. I'm a commuter, and I was worried I'd have trouble meeting friends, but I spend a lot of my time in The Cave, where I've met a lot of people. Everyone's really helpful and friendly."

—Melvin Smith '15, History major from Lakewood, Wash., in The Cave.

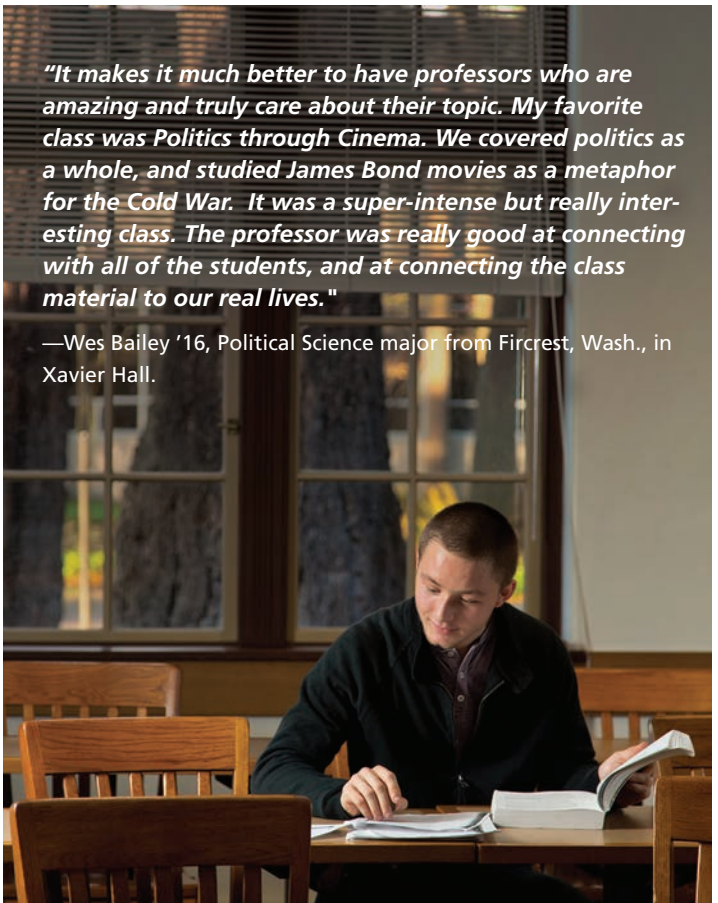
COMMUNITY
= MATTERS =

- PLU students are known for holding the door open for each other (yep; including strangers).
- PLU has 10 residence halls on campus: first-year wings in eight of them, and three living-learning communities.
- Roommates are selected by real humans—not an automated process.
- The Commuter Lounge in the University Center is a central place for commuter students to study, eat lunch and get to know each other.
- PLU's Diversity Center challenges and supports students to take ownership of our membership in multiple communities and develop meaningful relationship with others to work toward positive change.

ACADEMICS
= MATTERS =

- More than 80% of PLU professors have the highest degree possible in their fields.
- Last summer, 12 professors in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Geosciences/Environmental Studies worked with students on research projects, including studying the glaciers of Mount Rainier, developing polymeric materials for use in lithium-ion batteries and researching the birth of the universe itself.
- PLU is one of only 22 colleges in the U.S. called New American Colleges and Universities, recognized as models for successfully combining liberal arts education and professional studies, as well as a focus on service.
- Average incoming first year GPA: 3.6.

RANGE OF ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS:
\$9,000-\$21,000 PER YEAR



"It makes it much better to have professors who are amazing and truly care about their topic. My favorite class was Politics through Cinema. We covered politics as a whole, and studied James Bond movies as a metaphor for the Cold War. It was a super-intense but really interesting class. The professor was really good at connecting with all of the students, and at connecting the class material to our real lives."

—Wes Bailey '16, Political Science major from Fircrest, Wash., in Xavier Hall.



PLU has a network of 50,000 alumni to connect with.

CONNECTION
= MATTERS =

- The Lute Link career advisor network connects PLU graduates with current students to share advice and opportunities. Plus, find out which jobs PLU graduates with your same major have!
- 42% of recent graduates found their jobs through networking.

"PLU does a great job of emphasizing the connection between the people, friends, professors and alumni of PLU. I know I am connected to a big, caring, make-a-difference group of PLU people. Even beyond PLU, I have learned that I am connected to the global community of people and that what I do at PLU can affect others all over the world."

—Tyler Dobies '16, undeclared major from Steilacoom, Wash.

From left: Tyler Dobies '16 (undeclared major from Steilacoom, WA), Maylen Anthony '16 (Hispanic Studies/Women's and Gender Studies major from Fairmont, MN) and Sarah MacDonald '15 (Elementary Education/Music major from Santa Rosa, CA) outside the Anderson University Center. Photo by John Froeschauer/PLU

CLASS SIZE
= MATTERS =

"My smallest class was eight students, and my largest was 35. I really value the one-on-one relationships I have created with professors."

—Dallas Gordon '14, Communication major/Sociology minor from Edmonds, Wash., in the University Center's Old Main Market.

Average class size: 20
14:1 STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO

- Percentage of classes with fewer than 30 students: 80
- Total number of students at PLU: 3500

"I never expected to end up at a small school. But I chose PLU and have since come to recognize the great value in small class sizes, faculty availability and a small community. I wouldn't trade it for anything!"

—Sarah MacDonald '15, Elementary Education/Music major from Santa Rosa, Calif.



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THINGS THAT MATTER MOST



STUDY AWAY = MATTERS =

"PLU has incredible Study Away opportunities that truly do change your perspective on the world and transform your life. I studied abroad in India through a service learning program and volunteered for Mother Teresa's Home for the Destitute and Dying—one of the most challenging experiences of my life. And after that I was granted even more opportunities to travel!"

—Jess Tveit '15, Sociology major/Global Studies minor from Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif.

- PLU is the first U.S. college to have students and faculty studying on all seven continents at the same time (yes; that includes Antarctica!).
- Nearly 50% of PLU students study away.
- Almost 300 students study away each January during J-term.
- We want any student to have the opportunity to study away—students can use their financial aid, and PLU also offers a number of scholarships just for Study Away.

PLACE = MATTERS =



"I've always had this attraction to the Pacific Northwest—especially the culture and the milder winters. I don't mind the rain, and it always smells so nice! I've been to Mount Rainier snowshoeing with Outdoor Rec and to Pike Place in Seattle with my parents when they visit."

—Maylen Anthony '16, Hispanic Studies/Women's & Gender Studies major from Fairmont, Minn.

53°

The average yearly temperature in Tacoma—not too hot and not too cold (just right!).



During Fall semester alone, Outdoor Rec led 13 different outdoor trips, including kayaking on Puget Sound and spelunking.



DOUBLE TALL DECAF WITH EXTRA FOAM AND SOY MILK

Pacific Northwesterners love their coffee. There are at least six popular coffee shops within five minutes of campus, and we're not even counting the three coffee stands on campus!

VOCATION = MATTERS =

"PLU places a big emphasis on the importance of a vocation (your true calling), and the nursing program offers a very tangible way of putting those values into action."

—Brian Hundtofte '14, Nursing major from Billings, Mont.

- What exactly is vocation? At PLU, exploring vocation is about figuring out what you're meant to do in this world. Usually, this means things you're good at and have a passion for.
- Ten years ago, PLU received a \$2 million grant from the Lilly Endowment to start the Wild Hope Project, which focuses on creating a community where students become the thoughtful, aware, committed and creative leaders the world needs.



Brian Hundtofte '14 (below; Nursing major from Billings, MT) and Riley Swanson '15 (Geoscience/Environmental Studies major from Fort Collins, CO), outside the University Center. Photo by PLU student Mike Wells.



ATHLETICS = MATTERS =

"Playing at the collegiate level is a lot different from any sport you did in high school. There is a lot more effort and time you have to put into the sport, but there is also a strong emphasis on being a student-athlete at PLU. Our coaches and trainers expect a lot from us, but they want us to get our education because that's what we'll be using when we graduate."

—Samantha Boelter '15, History major from Carnation, Wash.

- Just this past fall season, PLU had three nationally ranked athletic teams – Men's Soccer, Women's Volleyball and Men's Football.
- PLU has won the Northwest Conference All-Sports trophy 17 times in the award's 28-year history.
- The women's softball team won the 2012 national championship.

"I like the smaller, tight-knit community feel. It starts in the residence halls—my roommate was a perfect fit. And professors recognize you and learn your names, and everywhere you go there are people you know. When we turned in our first test in General Chemistry, my professor said, 'Thank you, Linsey!'"

—Linsey Tomaro '14, Biology major from Juneau, Alaska



YOU = MATTER =

A Study Away Trip to Jane Goodall's 'Chimp Island'

Editor's note: Following is an edited version of an article by Nev Granum that first appeared in *The News Tribune* in October 2013.

"JUST LISTEN," I said to myself as the warm African wind flickered the candles. "You're sitting down to dinner with Jane Goodall—just *listen*."



We were on Ngamba Island, nicknamed "Chimp Island," for the isle is home to 48 orphaned chimpanzees.

We could hear their pant-hoots as the sun rolled beneath the lake. Their calls seemed to harmonize with Goodall's voice as she shared her wisdom, and together they began to lead me to a new understanding of our relationship with nonhuman animals.

As a student of Pacific Lutheran University, I was in Uganda with Professor Charles Bergman, carrying out a student-faculty research project. We were assisting Goodall in the release of 17 confiscated African Grey parrots—beautiful in their plumage of grey and crimson—back into the protected forests of the island.

These once-wild birds were smuggled illegally out of Africa for the pet trade three years ago. They would make history: The release would mark the first time birds smuggled out of Africa were brought back and freed into the wild.

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Goodall believes we shouldn't focus on comparisons—parrots to chimpanzees, parrots to humans—but instead appreciate all animals for their respective unique intelligence.

Goodall, best known for her work with chimpanzees, was involved to act on a personal belief: "Wild parrots don't belong in cages, and they don't do well in cages," she said to us.

She became an international icon in 1965 when she returned from the Tanzanian jungles with indisputable proof that chimpanzees make and use tools, a skill previously thought to be uniquely human. Her research highlighted the advanced intelligence of nonhuman animals, and by doing so allowed humanity to rediscover our close relationship with other animals.

Goodall believes we shouldn't focus on comparisons—parrots to chimpanzees, parrots to humans—but instead appreciate all animals for their respective unique intelligence. In other words, imagine what parrots understand about their world as well as ours.

After spending time with these birds, I stand alongside Goodall in the belief that parrots (or any birds) should not be caged. Her stories and radiant wisdom led me to an understanding that these birds have a voice of their own, filled with a unique intelligence of their world — voices we could hear as Goodall opened the cage and set them free.

"Just listen," I reminded myself. "Just listen."



FINANCIAL AID

Do the Math!

BE SURE TO COMPARE—COSTS AND FINANCIAL AID WILL VARY AT EACH SCHOOL

Congratulations! You've made it to the final stages of the college search, and by now most of the pieces are probably falling into place. Now it's time to work through the financial aid process. Sometimes the financial aid forms, acronyms and deadlines can be confusing. To help you through this process, we suggest the following steps.

Comparing financial aid offers

USE THIS WORKSHEET TO COMPARE PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS' FINANCIAL AID OFFERS.

1 ADD UP THE COSTS

Calculate your total tuition, fees, room and meal costs at each of the schools to which you have been admitted.

2 SUBTRACT ALL YOUR SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

These include any scholarships and grants you've received from each school, federal scholarships and grants and outside scholarships.

3 DECIDE ON YOUR LOANS

Student loans can be useful tools to help you go to the college that fits you best. Now subtract your loan amounts from the total bill.

4 MANAGE YOUR COSTS

Once you've subtracted your scholarships, grants and loans from your total cost, you'll know your out-of-pocket costs for the year. You can decide to pay the entire bill each semester, or you may choose to make monthly payments throughout the year.

	Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3
School name	<i>Pacific Lutheran University</i>		
Tuition and fees	<i>\$36,180</i>		
Room and meals	<i>\$10,230</i>		
TOTAL	<i>\$46,410</i>		
Minus your total scholarships	—	—	—
Minus your total loans	—	—	—
Total out-of-pocket expenses			

COMPARE YOUR COSTS AND DO THE MATH

Now that you've calculated your out-of-pocket expenses for each college, it's time to compare total costs. After working through this process, you may be surprised that a school you thought was out of your financial reach is, in fact, within reach. For example, while a larger scholarship from one school may seem more prestigious and attractive, after you do the math, you may find out that a lesser scholarship from another college with a lower tuition price may actually be more valuable.

This is exactly why you have to do the math.

Ready to reserve your spot at PLU? All you need to do is submit the \$200 enrollment deposit. The easiest way to pay your deposit is online at www.plu.edu/BeALute. You'll be able to submit your deposit and complete the Residential Life Housing Form. It can't get much easier than that!

Value Facts

The distinction of the PLU experience

Now that you know your costs at each school, remember to think about the big picture. Value is more than just a low price. Value is what you get for your money, and in the college setting, there are big differences among schools. At PLU you will:

- + Achieve a degree that helps you earn a living and, more importantly, build a meaningful life of purpose after graduation.
- + Engage in research and creative projects alongside a nationally recognized professor.
- + Experience PLU's nationally recognized global education, which helps you understand your place in the world.
- + Be a part of a community of students who care about their success and the well-being of others.
- + Grow your mind, body and your spiritual life—at the same time.

What's the value of PLU versus a big state school?

- + Graduating in four years versus five.
- + A freshman chemistry class of 25 versus 250.
- + Having a fast track into an internship in your field ... as a sophomore.
- + Studying with veteran professors versus graduate-student teaching assistants.
- + Having a personal academic advisor versus stumbling through a catalog and registering for classes online by yourself.

What's the average total in scholarships and grants at PLU for your family's combined income?

Combined family income for first-year students, Fall 2013	Average total scholarships and grants from all sources
<\$20,000	\$32,210
\$20,000 - \$39,999	\$31,872
\$40,000 - \$59,999	\$28,314
\$60,000 - \$79,999	\$25,289
\$80,000 - \$99,999	\$22,555
\$100,000 - \$119,999	\$18,751
\$120,000 - \$139,999	\$17,340
\$140,000 - \$159,999	\$17,966
\$160,000 - \$179,999	\$18,755
\$180,000+	\$17,724

ONE-ON-ONE

A teacher, an ally, an advisor and an inspiration—all in one professor!

BY ALISON HAYWOOD '14

I MET COMMUNICATION PROFESSOR Joanne Lisosky my sophomore year at PLU, when she was faculty advisor for the student newspaper, *The Mooring Mast*. She immediately inspired me with her passion and professionalism. She constantly spouted off story ideas and encouraged us to go after hard-hitting stories, and she advocated for student journalists when we requested permission to attend a faculty meeting. When that permission was ultimately denied and we couldn't get the information we were looking for, she didn't just say, "Oh, well"—she told us to write about *that*.

My friends and I like to joke that every time we walk into Joanne's office, we walk out with a new life plan. Joanne is full of ideas and has an incredible network of professional connections. She's always encouraging students to get involved in PLU organizations and outside internships and even suggesting career paths. She almost single-handedly organized an internship at Tacoma's daily newspaper, *The News Tribune*, for students to contribute freelance content and get experience covering hard news. (I did it in Fall 2013 and have had four articles in the paper so far.)

In addition to her professional connections, Joanne's experience with the Fulbright Scholar program makes her an invaluable resource as an advisor. She wrote her first Fulbright application, which took her to Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, while working as an academic consultant at the United Nations in Nairobi, and her second Fulbright was in Baku, Azerbaijan, during her second PLU sabbatical. She taught journalism both times.

"It's made me realize that I am really a risk-taker ... I'd be willing to go

“ My friends and I like to joke that every time we walk into Joanne's office, we walk out with a new life plan. Joanne is full of ideas and has an incredible network of professional connections. ”


anywhere at any time at the drop of a hat," Joanne said. "And I thought that that would sort of age out of me—it really hasn't. If it's something that you really value, you never really lose it."

Now Joanne is on the Fulbright faculty review committee. She and three other professors read nearly 100 applications each year from faculty around the country.

Reading those applications helps Joanne help students working on their own—she sees firsthand what works and what doesn't.

I recently applied for a scholarship for graduate school in Germany through the German Academic Exchange Service—basically the German equivalent of a Fulbright. I worked for weeks on my study proposal and sent it to a handful of professors for feedback. Joanne gave me a harsh critique: It just wasn't good enough.

But instead of telling me I should give up, she had an hourlong conversation with me, and I completely rewrote my proposal. It was frustrating, difficult and incredibly stressful, but I got it sent on time. I won't get a decision for a few more months, but I feel

much more confident in my application now, and I wouldn't have been able to complete it without her honest criticism and support. 

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: *Alison will graduate in spring 2014 with a double major in Communication and German, and a minor in Music. She has been involved in student media all four years at PLU and is the News Editor of the student newspaper, The Mooring Mast, and the German tutor at the Academic Assistance Center. She studied away for a semester in Berlin, Germany, in Fall 2012.*

JOANNE LISOSKY, COMMUNICATION PROFESSOR

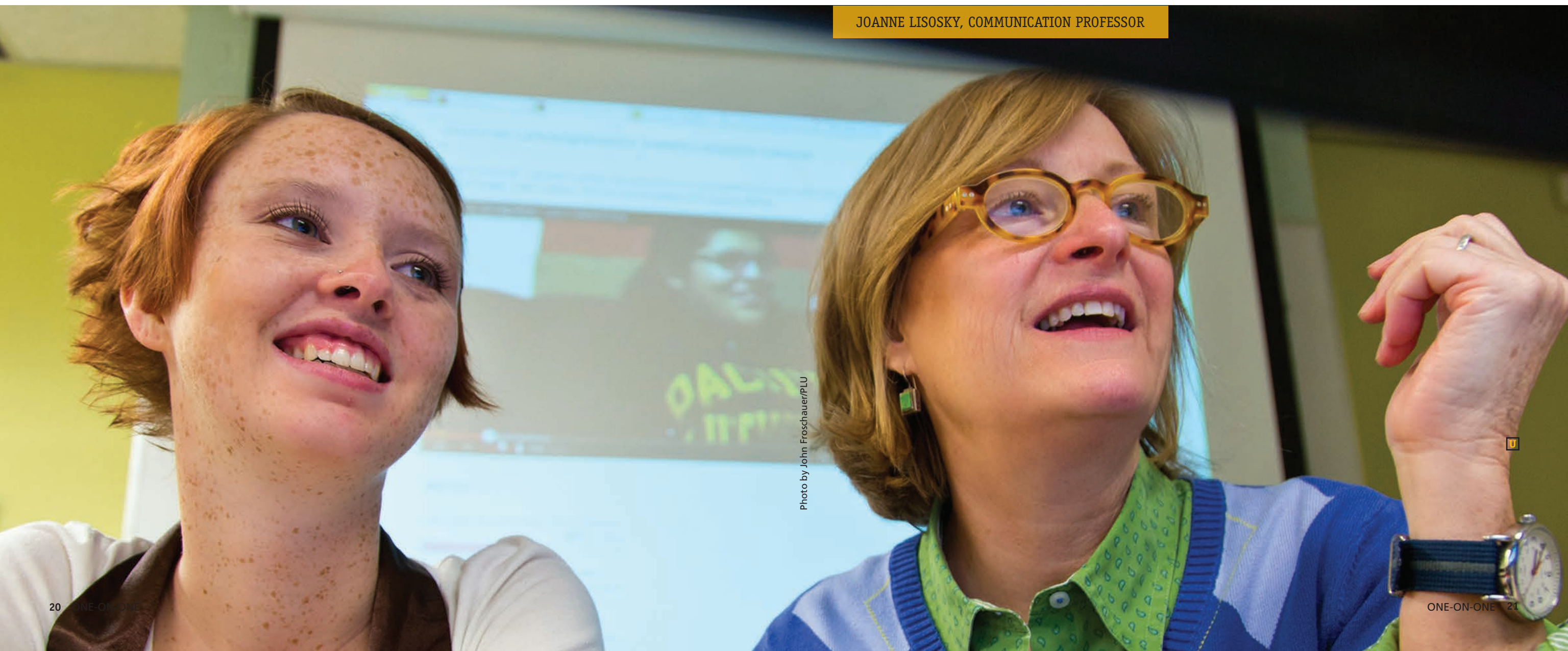
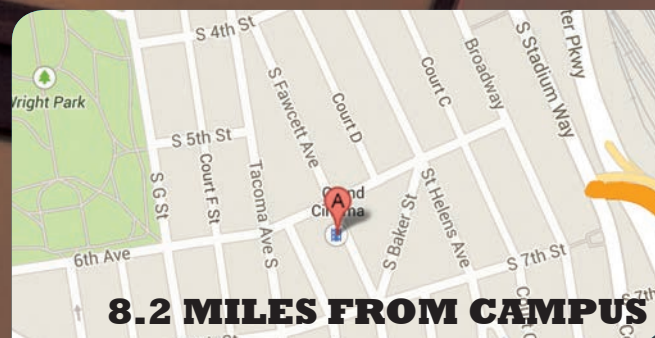


Photo by John Froschauer/PLU

A TOUR OF THE PLU Neighborhood

James Olson '14 Shares His Favorite Spots

THE GRAND CINEMA



This classic film house in downtown Tacoma spins mostly independent films: those less committed to serving a wider mainstream audience and more committed to creativity, narratives and craft. Or, in other words, much better films.

Beyond the movies, there's another big reason the film-watching experience at The Grand is more enjoyable

than at mainstream cinemas: Audiences at The Grand tend to be more respectful of the true experience of watching films. I'm going to assume that no one truly enjoys the commentary of the seventh-grade boys in the front row of *Transformers 2* (all trying to attract the attention of girls whose merit they've only recently discovered). It stands to reason, then, that the quiet attentiveness of The Grand's patrons makes for a better scene all together—the contingent of seventh-grade boys at The Grand tends to be rather nil.

NEXT PAGE

A TOUR OF THE PLU Neighborhood

POINT DEFIANCE PARK

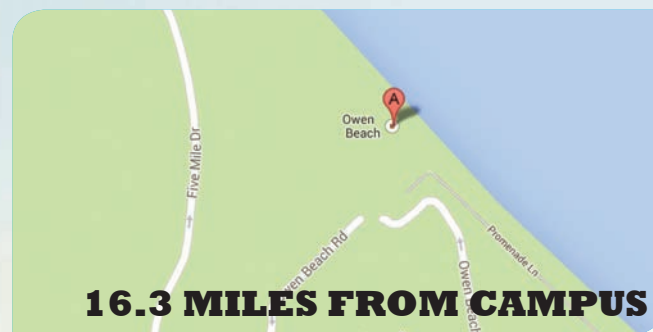


When I was a freshman, Point Defiance was my saltwater cathedral—my place to pause; stick-ball rocks into the water; and remember that something is bigger somewhere, always. At the park's Owen Beach—a long stretch of Puget Sound coastline that looks out toward Vashon Island—I've walked for hours before the saltwater lapped up the brush strokes of sandy, drift-strewn beach.

Stepping up from the beach you'll find a concessions stand and a trailer stacked with tropically colored kayaks. Last summer, my former roommate and I rented one, and afterward we ate soft pretzels (with neon-orange

cheese in a cup) and beef franks and sat in the grass.

Point Defiance also has its own zoo, aquarium, go-kart track, coastal bike path and forested network of squiggly hiking trails—all of which make for prime monotony-splicers. But it's the beach that is most worth the 15-minute drive any day of the week: It's like it takes the you out of you for a second and then hands you back, cleaner.



James Olson '14 looks out at Puget Sound from Owen Beach in Tacoma. Photo by PLU student John Struzenberg



PLU students Tevon Stephen-Brown '15 and Zack Phelps '15 hang out outside nearby NPCC. Photos on this page by PLU student Mike Wells

NORTHERN PACIFIC COFFEE COMPANY



Parkland resident Sam sips coffee at NPCC.

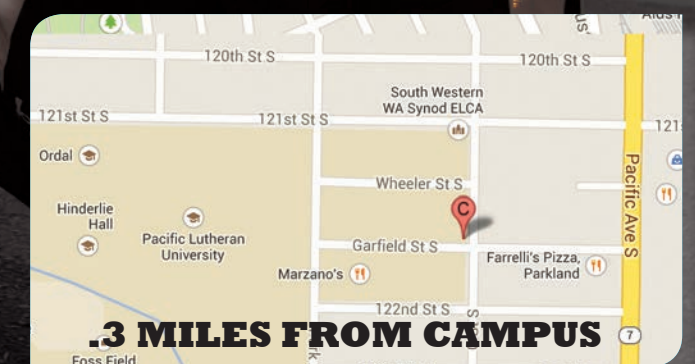
Ed took over the coffeeshop a few years back, completely revamping its style and vibe. Now you'll find jazz records, shelves of postmodern fiction, existentialist diatribes and craft beer on tap—along with a mostly wooden interior, nonfluorescent lighting and a menu of sandwiches named after things like historical labor strikes.

There's usually a complex two-toned sketch on the chalkboard behind the counter and fresh-grown herbs that recycle their own water hanging in the front window. And as many local regulars as PLU students.

In short, NPCC covers all the criteria for a college town without ever needing to step outside.

PLU takes deep and definite pride in its Parkland location. But to incoming students mourning the quaint college-y coffeeshop with *laissez-faire* service and a thoroughly tattooed, black-bearded, utili-kilt-wearing barista, I say: Cut the black arm band and mourn no more.

Northern Pacific Coffee Company is owned and run by the same barista, chef and kilt enthusiast described above—Ed.



MOUNT RAINIER



National Park Service Photo

Snowshoeing at Paradise—site of Mount Rainier National Park's visitors center and a few lanes of downhill sledding—is one of Outdoor Recreation's most popular PLU winter trips. I have led this trip a couple of times, and both times I've noticed something about snowshoeing—or, more so, the *why* of snowshoeing: It is a very quiet thing to do.

And it's good to slow down. Whether Lutes are talking, deconstructing their weeks or envisioning their plans for the evening's return, there is always a shell of silence

while snowshoeing at Paradise. As the red plastic and metal teeth of your MSR snowshoes flap, crunch or slush against the snow, you feel something you just don't get skiing, snowboarding or even backcountry sledding: *genius loci*, the spirit of the place.

And the spirit, or the genius, if you will, of snowshoeing at Paradise is that rare kind of quiet that can make walking on snow seem loud.



49 MILES FROM CAMPUS



A group on a PLU Outdoor Recreation outing finds fun in the snow at Paradise. Photo by PLU student James Olson



James Olson '14 tries some shades on for size at Tacoma's UrbanXChange. Photo by PLU student John Struzenberg

URBAN XCHANGE

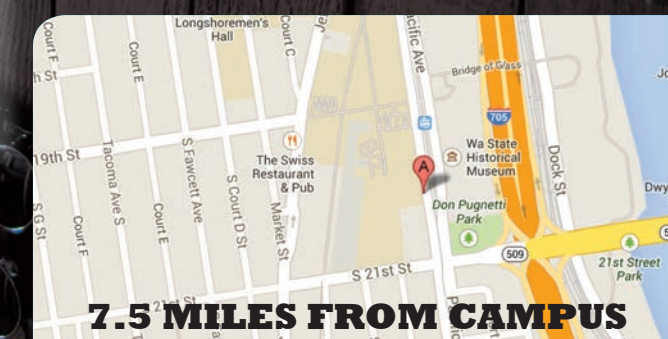


If you are like me, you wear clothes. And if you are also, like me, a student attending a private university, clothing lands pretty low on your monthly budget. Which is one reason—beyond a certain Seattle rapper's sensationalization of the trend—that consignment and thrift shopping are so popular among people our age.

Which is why, at the recommendation of a friend, I ended up at UrbanXChange in downtown Tacoma.

The consignment shop is on the main drag in Tacoma, across from the Washington State History Museum and Chihuly Museum of Glass, easily identifiable by its get-upped mannequins and hipster-chic decor. The nerd-couture staff is playful and honest and seems to genuinely enjoy retail jobs—true apparel enthusiasts.

One of the nice things about Urban is that it also buys back used clothing, as long as it is free of the usual glaring indecencies. You get more if you take store credit, but if you're out of dining dollars, you can always offload some sweaters for the price of a gyro down the street.



7.5 MILES FROM CAMPUS

Joel Zylstra is director of PLU's Center for Community Engagement and Service.
Photo by John Froschauer/PLU

FROM STUDY AWAY TO SERVICE AT HOME

BY JAMES OLSON '14

I. CONVERSING WITH ZYLSTRA

I spoke with Joel Zylstra, the director of PLU's Center for Community Engagement and Service (CCES). My general assignment was to write a profile about Zylstra and say a bit about the CCES' role here at PLU. After our conversation, however, it became clear that a profile of Zylstra would require an added element regarding his thoughts on studying abroad while at PLU, and how that experience ties into his views on service.

II. A BIT ABOUT THE CCES

The CCES is a resource for PLU students, staff and faculty who want to learn and serve in the community. It also offers information about opportunities for service through programs such as the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps and the Lutheran and Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

One of the Center's most successful and relatively new initiatives is an event called Working for Change, where alumni volunteers come to PLU and speak to students about their experiences as volunteers—often mentioning how well-received PLU graduates are.

"Our students have a sense of citizenship wherever they go," Zylstra said. "They bring that PLU ethos with them; they know they don't know everything, and they ask a lot of hard questions."

Citizenship and service are fundamental components of the CCES' mission—and of PLU's—but Zylstra has a unique way of looking at service, and how studying abroad ties into that.

III. LESSONS LEARNED ABROAD

It all started in 2007, when Zylstra and his wife worked with Carlisle College and the University of South Africa to develop a Masters of Arts program for Global Urban Leadership aimed at slum residents. Zylstra admits that before leaving for Kenya, he had a bit of a savior complex—a desire to drop in and "fix" things—but he would spend his time there deconstructing that complex.

"Africa is always referred to as a place of scarcity," Zylstra said. "You always hear these stories. But when you listen and be present, you realize there's so much abundance in the midst of that..."

"A big piece is just recognizing how the same fundamental challenges that are prevalent in Kenya are the same challenges that we struggle with in the U.S. ... It trained us to view and see power in our own community. I came back humbled by the amount of power that I have. I don't know if I ever would have truly felt that (otherwise). I could talk about it, but it took going to this other context for that to really sink in."

Zylstra said he returned to work at PLU with a commitment to real service after realizing, "We (tend to) use our education just for personal means, rather than figuring out how you steward an education to foster a greater good."


IV. STUDYING ABROAD & SERVICE AT HOME

It's easy to assume that studying abroad is about having a "foreign experience"—after all, that sense of distance sets in on a plane about as quickly as petrified-wood legs—but Zylstra disagrees with that assumption.

"It is more important for students to develop relationships than participate in programs," he said. "When real people encounter real people, it's like, *whoa*. But that's hard."

To make it easier, Zylstra has been working with PLU's Wang Center for Global Education to implement a "study abroad" program in Tacoma. The goal of the program would be to place students in the community and in touch with community "experts" who could share needed change—along with tips on how the students might act as partners rather than, say, aid workers, to enact those changes.

Service often stems from a commitment to do good in the world. But when we go into places with the intent to do a certain kind of work or provide a certain type of aid, Zylstra said (there's that savior complex mentioned earlier), "This implies that I have the answers; you don't—or, 'I want to solve the problem, and you don't.'"

Instead, Zylstra suggests the idea of mutual service: "There exists a problem, and we can both solve it together." And to do that, he said, we need to recognize that studying abroad is, at its core, about connection and not observation. 

Service at PLU

- 71% of Lutes volunteer while at PLU.
- \$100,000 of university funding each year goes toward grants to support community-based projects.
- PLU offers five service-oriented alternative Spring Break trips.
- More than 200 Lutes serve as tutors or mentors in local schools.

PFLUEGER HALL

There's Always Something Pfun Going on in Pflueger!



First-year students Tessa Alcorn and Erika Bakner get their work done on time—and in a clean room!



Rachel Reaves and Maddie Bernard play the piano after dinner.

PFLUEGER FACTS

A diverse community with a wide range of majors and interests, Pflueger Hall is highly sought-after because of its welcoming environment, upbeat population and accepting atmosphere.

It's also close to so many great things on campus, like basketball and tennis courts, sand volleyball, the fitness center—and Tahoma Bakery.



Kindra Galan

MY NAME IS KINDRA GALAN, and I'm a sophomore at PLU. This year I'm a resident in Pflueger Hall, and it has been such a great experience! I decided to live in Pflueger because it seemed to be such a tight community—and boy, was I right!

Pflueger received an award for being the best residence-hall community in the Northwest region—how cool is that? I feel like everyone here is so friendly, and everyone greets each other!

Pflueger hosts Pflueger Pfright Night, when everyone wears costumes and has a grand time. The coolest thing is that Pflueger has two big lounges filled with fun things to do: The second floor has a piano, ping-pong table, a foosball table and fireplace, and the first floor has a pool table and air-hockey table! Super awesome, right?

I'm so excited for the rest of the year living in Pflueger!



The Pflueger Residence Hall Council (RHC) and Resident Assistants (RA) host a ton of great programs that are "Pfun," engaging, entertaining and educational—like the classic Pflueger Pfright Night, around Halloween, when students from all over campus dress up in costumes and dance the night away in Pflueger.

Watch a video of two Pflueger Hall roommates who've discovered the fun of Pflueger!

Discover the fun of Pflueger: bit.ly/PLUPflueger



Max Totaro and Sam Stadter hang out in the second-floor lounge in Pflueger and play ping-pong.



Pflueger Hall RAAD (Resident Assistant with Additional Duties) Josh Olsen works in his office.

At PLU, we call our living facilities "residence halls" because they are SO much more than a "dorm." Our supportive on-campus living and learning environments encourage and enhance participation and enjoyment of your entire college experience. In this edition of U, Pflueger Hall resident Kindra Galan takes us on a tour of her home.



Laila Caspersen-Andresen and Rachel Reaves knit and have a grand time in a Pflueger room.



Andrew Cheney and Hanna Zielke get to work in one of Pflueger's study halls.

Photos and captions by Kindra Galan

VISIT US

MEET YOUR TOUR GUIDES
Leslie Ducay '14
and Anika Glass '14



ABOUT LESLIE

Hometown: Seattle, Wash.

Major: Communication/Concentration in Public Relations and Advertising.

Campus involvement: Student intern for Office of Admission, Resident Assistant and Community Assistant with Additional Duties for Residential Life, Social Media Marketing Intern for Career Connections, Volunteer for Women's Center, Student Orientation Coordinator and Late Night Program Coordinator for Student Involvement and Leadership.

ABOUT ANIKA

Hometown: Kent, Wash.

Major: Bachelor of Business Administration/Concentration in Human Resources Management and Services.

Campus involvement: Lute Vote Outreach Manager, Rieke Leadership Award for Diversity Center, mentor/tutor/lead judge for Math Engineering Science Achievement Peer Mentor Program.

Anika and Leslie met when Leslie was the softball manager for their middle school during their eighth-grade year. They didn't talk much during middle school but later reconnected during their first year in high school. They became good friends throughout high school because of their shared experiences, similar cultural and ethnic identities and academic interests (PLU!!!). Even though Anika and Leslie have taken different academic and extracurricular paths, they've always stuck together as each other's biggest fans and in the process have watched each other grow and thrive as first-generation students.



MORKEN CENTER FOR LEARNING AND TECHNOLOGY

ANIKA: As a business major, I spend a lot of my class time in the Morken Center, PLU's newest academic building.



RIEKE SCIENCE CENTER

ANIKA: As a program assistant for MESA (Math Engineering Science Achievement), I worked as a mentor to students in and around two local school districts, focusing on STEM education. I find it essential that college students play a role as community leaders, and I feel very fortunate that my university provides access to meaningful community-engagement opportunities.



ANDERSON UNIVERSITY CENTER

ANIKA: This Fall, I helped organize the Lute Vote Last Call Concert. It was Lute Vote's last outreach effort for voter-registration season to get all remaining students registered to vote through an engaging outlet—a concert! The talented members of Ukulele Club, Night of Musical Theatre, Lute Nation, PLUtonic and HERmoic volunteered to perform for this civic-engagement effort!



THE CAVE

LESLIE & ANIKA: One of the ways we sought comfort and relaxation on campus was through the different community spaces our university has to offer. The Cave is an awesome space to relax and get homework finished. It's a very welcoming space and is a great environment for events like Global Get Down, open mics, dances, etc.



RED SQUARE

LESLIE: My favorite place to be on a sunny day is Red Square, especially during events like Relay for Life, RHA Block Party during Orientation and jamming with my friends from the Ukulele Club! The new KHP and Black Box Studio Theater behind Red Square are the best places to see phenomenal student talent. Student performances occur every semester—go see one and be blown away!

COME TO PLU!

Set up a visit: Call us at 253-535-7151 or 800-274-6758 so we can make the necessary arrangements for your visit. (Even if you aren't able to plan ahead, you still are welcome to drop by anytime!)

For a list of preferred hotels, or directions to and from campus, please visit choose.plu.edu/visit.

VALUE

The value of a PLU college education

THE FALL '14 SEMESTER is coming right up, but no matter where you are in the PLU application process, it is not too late to become a Lute. PLU has rolling admission, so even if you haven't even applied yet, there is still time. (And, if you have been accepted to PLU but have not yet made your enrollment deposit, we encourage you to do so!)

Whether you have committed to—or are still undecided on—PLU, please

know that we are happy to help you with what comes next. Call 800-274-6758 to speak personally with an admission counselor about whether PLU is right for you. And, of course, visit choose.plu.edu.

As you consider your choice, remember that each year more than 3,500 students discover their own reasons that PLU is the right place for them—from financial aid offers to one-on-one attention in small classes. All told,

it's a question of value, and you, no doubt, will discover your own. Here, three real PLU students share their positive experiences with the financial value of PLU—and the kind that's harder to put a number on, but just as important.

The Value of Global Perspectives

"What's been most valuable about my PLU education is the emphasis on global perspectives. In my hometown,

I didn't always have the exposure to diversity that PLU offers. I studied away in Argentina last fall, and studying away and learning a new language really challenged me to think differently about the world." -JUSTIN

A Place of Friendly Discovery

"I love PLU's beautiful campus and collegiate feel, and that everyone is so friendly. I also really like the liberal arts education. The classes are not

only useful, but I've been able to discover passions I didn't even know I had!" -ISABELLAH

Small Class Sizes = Personal Attention

"The one thing I love about PLU is the class sizes. I hear about other universities having huge class sizes and how hard it is to contact the professors. I can email my instructors and sometimes receive a reply within

30 minutes! Also, the one-on-one experience with professors really helps me grasp the information in class, and I know how to apply it in the future." -BRIANNA



Justin Williams
Junior (transfer student)
Major
Computer science
Hometown
Lakewood, Wash.

THE BEST FINANCIAL AID—FAST
"Out of the three schools I applied to, PLU's financial aid packet was the best. Right off the bat I received a nice-sized scholarship. The Financial Aid Office worked with me through this process, and within a week everything was situated. I was nervous about the cost of PLU, but I pay less than I would have at a state school."

Isabellah von Trapp
Sophomore
Major
Geosciences, with minors in Math and Religion
Hometown
Salem, Ore.

THE MATH ADDS UP
"I applied a little later than most of my high-school classmates, but I still got a significant academic scholarship from PLU. I remember getting the 'Do the Math' worksheet, and working through the breakdown of costs from all the schools I applied to, and in the end PLU made the most sense financially."

Brianna Walling
Senior
Major
Political Science & Global Studies double major, with a minor in Hispanic Studies
Hometown
Kalispell, Mont.

A FINANCIAL-AID PACKAGE THAT FITS
"I received an academic merit scholarship from PLU. I also got federal grants and other scholarships. The Financial Aid Office worked with us to build the best package for us. My family and I made the decision to take out loans, but I wasn't too worried because I know the interest rates are low. The loan amount was actually about the same as loans at the state schools I was looking at."



PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

PLU OFFICE OF ADMISSION, Tacoma, Washington, 98447-0003

Address change: If you do not wish to receive U, or wish to change your mailing address, please notify the PLU Office of Admission. You can reach us by phone at 800-274-6758, by fax at 253-536-5136 or by e-mail at admission@plu.edu. PLU.UMG.0614

ON CAMPUS



Furry Friends for Finals

During finals week, The Associated Students of Pacific Lutheran University bring trained therapy pets to campus to help relieve test stress. It seems to have worked pretty well for Maylen Anthony '16, who got a sweet kiss from Addy the dog. (Photo by John Froschauer/PLU)