

Wild Hope Center for Vocation
Student Essay/Video Contest
Really Generous Prizes!



Calling All Lutes to Care

The Wild Hope Center invites currently enrolled students to write an essay or create a video on the *calling* to “care”: a core element of PLU’s mission. How can one demonstrate care for others, for their communities, and for the Earth, especially as global and societal contexts continue to shift?

The first-place submission will be awarded a prize of **\$500**.

The second-place submission will be awarded a prize of **\$250**.

The winners will also be featured on the Wild Hope Instagram page.

Faculty and staff who are members of the Center for Vocation Steering Committee will review the submissions and select winners.

The **essay** or **video** project should be a reflective piece framed in the context of the PLU mission and discuss the calling to care for other people, their communities, and the earth, especially during times of transition. You may choose to engage this project by uplifting a big question, such as: How does one’s capacity to care expand or contract during times of societal upheaval? We welcome your questions, thoughts and perspectives.

Essays and videos must demonstrate that students have read and interacted with:

1. The university’s mission statement at <https://www.plu.edu/about/>
2. The Wild Hope statement on vocation at the Center’s website: www.plu.edu/vocation
3. “Core Elements in Lutheran Higher Education,” and the core element entitled, “Service to the Advancement of Life, Health, and Wholeness,” at <https://www.plu.edu/lutheran-studies/core-elements/serving-wholeness-and-health/>
4. Interviewed a PLU alumnus about their commitment to care. Alumni can be contacted through [Lutelink](#), or, for assistance in finding an alumnus, contact Emma Christensen (christeg@plu.edu)

You may include additional sources of your own choosing.

Please submit your project, including cover sheet, via email to Laree Winer, Associate Director for the Center for Vocation, at winerll@plu.edu no later than **Monday, April 26th, at 5:00 pm.**

Formatting: The cover sheet is to include your name, your PLU I.D. #, a current mailing address, PLU email address and telephone number.

Essay format must follow these guidelines: A minimum word count of 1,000, and a maximum word count of 1,250 (the word count must be noted at the end of the essay); the pages should be numbered; double-spaced with 1" margins, 12 pt. Calibri or Times New Roman font, and submitted in .docx or .pdf format. The essay should include citations, and those citations should be in MLA, APA, or Chicago style.

Video format must follow these guidelines: Write a 200 word script (1-minute video) that is carefully crafted and well-organized where you clearly introduce your listeners to the topic, discuss the relevance/meaning/or complexities of the topic, and leave the audience with a take-away. Videos should maintain a respectful tone. Keep in mind that you are presenting to the PLU community and potentially also the outside world. You will want to (re)present yourself well. Use technology and resources creatively and rigorously to produce a high-quality video that is the result of careful reading and research as well as editing and execution. Clarity is key. You must craft your script with an audience in mind, making sure that your sentences are meant to be heard, not read. The degree and quality of editing of the script will make an impact on your audience! Additionally, the script should mark citations from included reading, though not it is not necessary to mention these directly in the video. Visuals are encouraged but not required.

Suggested Resources:

Audacity: free audio editing software(<http://www.audacityteam.org>)

iMovie: video editing software available for use in the Design Lab computers

All winners will be notified by their PLU email. The winning submissions will also be announced via the Center's social media accounts and featured on the Center for Vocation's web page.

For additional information or questions, contact Laree Winer at winerll@plu.edu or 253-535-7192

Good luck, we're excited to see your projects!