Exalting the Mission
The Robinson Years (1993-2010)
With Immense Thankfulness to God – and to You

These are my last Whitworth Today words. Good. I’m out of words. That’s why I had to quit my job. I ran out of words. Nah, that’s a lame excuse. Words are reusable. It’s a good thing. If they weren’t, I’d spend the balance of my life pointing at stuff. I can just see myself at dinner, pointing silently at the salad bowl, followed by Bonnie looking silently back at me, and then busting the salad bowl over my head. I used to teach non-verbal communication. That would be a fine example. So I’ll be reusing please and thank you, both with Bonnie and with you.

Under the please category, I have two requests. First, if you can make Beck Taylor feel as accepted as I have felt in this job, you will be doing a great service to Whitworth and to him. It shouldn’t be hard. He absolutely loves Whitworth’s mission, he is immensely talented, and, like his predecessor, he married over his head. Please love the Taylor family. We certainly do. We are just thrilled they have been called to Whitworth.

Please support Whitworth. Pray for this school every day. Love and support our students. Over the past 18 months, the challenges of the economic downturn have created several amazing opportunities for us to invest in resources that add great security to our future. These investments have, however, made budgets tight for the next two years. Sustaining our financial aid program during this tough period will depend significantly on your gifts.

For my two thank-you items, I’ll pick up where I left off. Thank you for the support you have provided for Whitworth during the last two decades. It has been thrilling to watch how you have contributed to the transformation of our campus.

Thank you for the warmth with which you have embraced my family and me. I will always think of Whitworth as my life’s work, and our whole family will forever picture Hawthorne House when we hear the word home. As Bonnie and I prepare to leave, I’ve been surprised at what little sense of loss I have felt so far. Though I certainly had a lump in my throat at commencement, this has been a very joyful year. When I try to understand why I’m not feeling more sentimental, I keep coming upon the difference between my job and my school. Stepping out of this job has both positives and negatives, and I find myself focusing on the positives. But leaving or replacing Whitworth would be excruciating. I’d be crying like Bonnie or Rick Hornor (my two favorite criers). We’ll never really leave Whitworth, though. No matter how behind-the-scenes or invisible I will be in supporting Whitworth and Beck in my role as president emeritus, this will still be our school. My biggest loss will be an amazing relationship I enjoy with our students. But I have a lifetime’s worth of great memories and durable friendships that will keep before me the students with whom I have walked this campus.

So I step out of this job with immense thankfulness to God. And I thank you for allowing me to do my best in lifting the Whitworth mission to honor God, follow Christ and serve humanity.
Features

6 Leading with Grace and Truth
Whitworth Trustee David G. Myers, ’64, sums up Bill Robinson’s presidency with a little help from his friends. In addition to his own thoughts about the Robinson years, Myers offers reflections from some of his colleagues on Whitworth’s board of trustees.

8 A Legacy of Stubbornness and Joy
As Bill Robinson wraps up his time as president of Whitworth, he answers, in his inimitable way, Whitworth Today’s questions about everything from his favorite meal in the dining hall to his hopes for the future of the university he has served and loved for the past 17 years.

16 Meet Beck Taylor
Please allow Whitworth Today to introduce you to Beck Taylor, the uniquely talented man whose résumé and personality impressed the socks off the presidential search committee and who will be inaugurated in October as Whitworth’s 18th president.

Departments

2 President’s Message
4 Editor’s Note
18 Whitworth News
25 Faculty Focus
26 Class Notes
34 AfterWord

www.whitworth.edu/whitworthtoday

On the cover: Outgoing Whitworth President Bill Robinson, in full academic regalia, enters the Spokane Veterans Arena for Whitworth’s Commencement Ceremony.
The Bill and Bonnie Robinson Celebration, at Spokane’s beautiful Davenport Hotel, included reminiscences by many of the Robinsons’ longtime friends and colleagues. One of those folks, Chuck Boppell, ’64, longtime chairman of Whitworth’s board of trustees and a close Robinson pal, provided three short anecdotes that chronicled Bill’s generosity and thoughtfulness. Though Chuck never spoke my name, one of those anecdotes was all about something Bill did for me – something I’ll never forget; something that causes people to ooh and aah whenever I tell the story.

In late winter 2003, I was cleaning up my office on a Friday afternoon, having just sent that spring’s issue of Whitworth Today off to the printer. The phone rang, and I picked it up. “Mitch?” Bill said. “Yes?” “What’re you doing?” “Just getting ready to go home,” I told him. “Well,” he said, “what are you doing Monday?” “Um, working,” I replied. “Want to go to a Lakers game?” he asked. “Sure!” I said, thinking that the Lakers were coming to Seattle, and that Bill was organizing a little Whitworth outing. “Okay,” he said. “Here’s the deal.” He went on to tell me that he had tickets on the floor – ON THE FLOOR – for the following Monday’s Lakers/Clippers game at the Staples Center, in L.A. He wanted to give me an extra ticket he had, because he knew that I was a lifetime Lakers fan (that has changed drastically, but at that moment I still loved some Lakers), and he thought I’d appreciate it more than anyone else he knew. “You can use my frequent flyer miles,” Bill said, “and Bonnie and I will pick you up at the airport. All you need to do is get your plane ticket and find a place to stay overnight.”

Walking into the Staples Center with Bill (with two Bills, actually – the incredibly generous donor who gave the prez the tickets is also a Bill) was pretty much the stuff of which sports fans’ dreams are made. We walked down, down, down the stairs, through the “cheap” seats, until we were standing right there on the hardwood, not 10 feet away from Shaquille O’Neal, who was resplendent in white, gold and purple. Shaq, my favorite Laker at that time, is just immense. He could have turned to the other giants on the court – none of whom really approached his intimidating size – and said, “Who’s your daddy?” with total impunity. I could sleep in one of his shoes. Big dude.

Bill yelled at Rick Fox, at that time a Laker forward, playfully disparaging Fox’s alma mater. Fox shouted out a funny reply, looking right at Bill. We were that close to the action. Bill called his buddies and told them to watch the game, and I could tell that he was really enjoying himself. I was wishing I’d brought my cell phone (my L.A. family could have seen me right there on the floor, across from Jack Nicholson’s seat!), but since I wasn’t phone-bound, I was able to witness the development of a Bill Robinson story. During warmups, an errant pass bounced slowly toward us. I caught it, bounced it gently back to a group of players, and Kobe Bryant picked it up and took it in for an easy layup. Bill began a second round of cell calls, telling his buds about the errant pass; the story grew. In his final call (a message to then-athletics director Scott McQuilkin, ’84, I believe), he said, “You should have seen what just happened. Terry Mitchell picked off a loose ball, fired it in to Kobe, and he took it to the hole for a slam!” Though I’d always been somewhat famous among my friends for the level of my Lakers fanaticism, this was my first brush with athletic glory.

Maybe the years following that game were so anticlimactic that I lost some of my interest in the Lakers. Certainly, the Shaq trade further deadened my ardor. And the de-evolution of the Lakers into “Kobe’s Team” extinguished the fire. But I have the best memory of that game – of seeing a team I’d loved forever, up close and in the flesh. Of laughing at and with Bill and chatting with him about the game. Of experiencing something that I would never have been able to do otherwise. And why did that happen? Because of Bill Robinson.

After 17 years of a great working relationship, it could never be easy to say goodbye to Bill. But to bid farewell to a guy who’d do something wonderful like that for one of his employees? That’s tough, indeed.

Of course, Bill won’t let any of us feel bad. Late last summer, he called about something I was editing, and after we transacted some business (or, as Professor Emeritus Ross Cutter would say, “After we’d discoursed at the operational level”), I told him that I’d heard he was planning to leave at the end of the 2010-11 academic year. “Yeah,” he said. “It’s time.” Since Bill is just a year older than I am, I’d hoped he’d stick around ‘til I was ready to retire. “I was hoping you could hold off a few more years,” I said; “I thought maybe we could go out together.” “Oh, Terry,” Bill replied, “Bonnie wouldn’t like that at all.”

I cracked up – who wouldn’t? – and I, along with everyone else at Whitworth, honored Bill’s spoken wish that we’d leave the goodbyes until the end of the school year and his unspoken wish that we wouldn’t get all gooey about his departure. Now that year is behind us, the students have gone home, the campus is quiet, we’ve met our new president and are excited about what he brings to Whitworth and who he is as a human being . . . and there’s still a little lump in my throat as I write this.

Thanks for the memories, Bill. Thanks for that amazing trip to the Staples Center. Thanks for everything.

Mitch out.
To view a calendar of all of Whitworth’s upcoming events, visit www.whitworth.edu/calendar.

July 12-16 The 35th Annual Whitworth Institute of Ministry. This year’s week-long conference features Princeton Theological Seminary Professor Luke Powery at Evening Worship and Fuller Theological Seminary (Houston) Professor and Associate Dean Andy Dearman at Bible Hour. For registration and information, visit www.whitworth.edu/WIM.

July 16-18 Central America Study Program 20-year reunion. For registration and information, visit www.whitworth.edu/reunions.

July 23-25 Central America Study Program 35-year reunion. For registration and information, visit www.whitworth.edu/reunions.

Sept. 4-10 Orientation Week. Incoming freshmen participate in Whitworth Traditions – attending student fairs, special dinners, residence-hall meetings, ice-cream socials, Mock Rock, the Yell-Off, and other annual events. Music auditions also take place during this week. If you are a member of the Class of ’14 or the parent of an incoming student, watch your mail for information and for the address of this year’s Orientation Week website.

Sept. 9 Opening Convocation. Whitworth’s new president, Beck A. Taylor, calls students, faculty and staff - the entire Whitworth community - together as the 2010-11 academic year begins.

Sept. 24-26 Homecoming Weekend. Alumni gather for five-year, 10-year and 20-year reunions, along with alumni of CoolWhip and The Whitworthian. For details, see www.whitworth.edu/homecoming.

Oct. 11-15 Inauguration Week. Join Beck Taylor and Whitworth’s faculty, staff and students in a series of events exploring what it means to be a “Community of Courage.” These events mark Taylor’s inauguration as Whitworth’s 18th president. For details, see www.whitworth.edu/inauguration.


Oct. 15-17 Parents’ Weekend. Parents are invited to visit their Whitworth students and join in the Whitworth experience: sitting in on classes, meeting with Whitworth’s new president, and chatting with residence-life staff. Students are welcome to attend all events with their parents. Additional details for Parents’ Weekend 2010 can be found at www.whitworth.edu/parentsweekend.

Nov. 6 Whitworth Jazz Ensemble fall concert featuring virtuoso jazz trumpet player and Grammy Award winner Arturo Sandoval as guest artist. Cowles Auditorium, 8 p.m. $15 general admission; $10 for students and senior adults (62+).

Please go to www.whitworth.edu/scienceinitiative and click on “web cam” to view up-to-the-minute progress on the new William P. and Bonnie V. Robinson Science Hall as well as a time-lapse video of the first six months of construction. When finished in summer 2011, the 63,000-square-foot structure will have three floors with state-of-the-art biology and chemistry laboratories, instrumentation and research facilities for students and faculty. It also will include much-needed community gathering space and classrooms convertible to labs that will meet Whitworth’s science and general classroom needs for the next 20 years.
Looking back on his 42 years as a Whitworth trustee, Arthur Symons notes that each of the university's last seven presidents has faced a challenge. One guided the school through the end of the Depression. One was challenged to build the campus. Others faced crises related to diversity, student unrest, faculty morale or financial stress. Though he has certainly encountered his share of challenges, Bill Robinson has also helped to bring about what Symons calls “the Golden Age of Whitworth.”

When Bill was called to Whitworth, Symons recalls being told by another academician that “if you get him, you’ll get the best small-college president in the U.S.” “After 17 years,” Symons says, “I think that gentleman was right.”

Many would agree. During Bill’s tenure, enrollment at Whitworth has increased by nearly 60 percent, and, with a five-fold increase in applications, more and more would-be students are clamoring for admission. The faculty has grown and strengthened. The campus has splendid new facilities. Morale is sky-high. (To give other schools a chance to showcase their strengths, Whitworth stopped contending for yet another repeat of Christianity Today’s employee-survey-based Best Christian Workplace award.)

Most important, Whitworth, under Bill Robinson, has embraced a winsome identity, an agreed-upon mission that navigates what Martin Buber called the “narrow ridge.”

In Bill’s own words, “Off to one side are many fine Christian institutions that have attempted to limit the influence of culture and secular scholarship on their campuses. On the other side are countless institutions, both secular and church-based, that deny any significant role for Christian faith in the pursuit of truth. American society needs the excellent institutions that flank Whitworth, but we believe passionately that our students,
the Christian church, and society at large need Whitworth to stay on the ridge.”

Trustee Gayle Parker celebrates Bill’s guidance of Whitworth along that narrow ridge, veering neither to the right, as have many Christian schools, with “a list of rules, regulations, and beliefs that students and faculty must sign on to,” nor in the opposite direction, by losing “anything that marks them as Christian. . . . Rather than shield students from the wide variety of issues, ideologies, methods, and ways of believing and behaving that they encounter in the world,” Parker says, “faculty and staff engage those things with them.”

Other trustees have mused on the leadership and relationships that brought about this golden era.

Mark Toone recalls “a leadership principle that I learned from Bill and have quoted again and again: ‘Move toward the problem.’” Instinctively, most of us shy away from problems. We let them fester until they demand attention. Not Bill. Toone says, “However nasty or unpleasant the problem is, he moves quickly and courageously toward it.” An example from my own experience: Many Christian colleges have preferred not to think about the cultural divide related to sexual orientation until it erupts on campus. On coming to Whitworth, Bill ran toward the issue, engaging an extended campus conversation that defined agreed-upon parameters for open dialogue within Whitworth’s free marketplace of ideas. Moving toward the problem exemplifies the familiar Robinson mantra: grace and truth.

Other trustees mention Bill’s astonishing capacity for knowing, loving and celebrating Whitworth’s people. Not only has he handed out diplomas to nearly half of Whitworth’s living alums – he knows most of them. And he loves spending time with students, hosting them with Bonnie and attending their events. Jan Skaggs recalls visiting the campus with her daughter, Cameron Gray, a prospective student. They arrived too late for a party, and so they were invited the next morning to drop by “somebody’s house” for coffee. They did so and had a delightful conversation, only later discovering that the charming and self-effacing person whose house they’d visited was the president. When Cameron was tragically killed in a car accident after enrolling at Whitworth, Bill, Jan recalls, was grace personified. And to this day, Skaggs perceives Whitworth as “a personal place, largely because Bill himself has remained personable and high-touch.”

Part of the touch is an affectionate humor. Bill Curry recalls introducing Bill to the parent of a current student at a choir concert. “[I just saw [your son] Greg at chapel last week,” said Bill, getting a happy chuckle out of Greg’s parents.

Whether in front of a microphone, writing Of Mind & Heart, or working on one of his leadership books, Bill is a spellbinding communicator. Words somehow spill fluently through his fingers and from his mouth. He’s a hard person not to like.

Whereupon he turned to Greg and said, “You owe me one.”

As another very popular and caring college president remarked to caring college president remarked to trustee Anne Storm, “Bill Robinson makes me look like I don’t even like students.” Storm adds that her mind boggles at how Bill has learned and remembered all those students’ names. His capacity for student relationships has become legendary, as was evident from our search committee’s interviews with presidential candidates who were contemplating succeeding Bill, yet mindful that his relational skill is unmatched and that their gifts will differ from his.

Four other traits mark Bill Robinson. One is his unpretentiousness. “I was a prospective trustee in 1993, in Bill’s first year as president,” recalls Scott Chandler. “He walks in a few minutes late, wearing a crooked baseball hat and looking like he hasn’t slept that well. After we introduce ourselves, I mention to him that he looks kind of tired. He then proceeds to tell me in his excited voice that he was at a basketball game and then had been up most of the night playing cards with some professors.”

Another Robinson attribute is his communication skills. Whether in front of a microphone, writing Of Mind & Heart, or working on one of his leadership books, Bill is a spellbinding communicator. Words somehow spill fluently through his fingers and from his mouth. He’s a hard person not to like.

One other trait makes Bill easy not only to like but to love. He is so consistently positive, kind, warm and supportive of others. Bill loves Whitworth students, Whitworth faculty and staff, and even us trustees. In his final trustee meeting he expressed profound gratitude for the immense love that the Whitworth community has shown to him and Bonnie, and he told incoming president Beck Taylor and his wife, Julie, to be prepared to be embraced by a loving and grace-filled community. But of course, the love and adoration that Bill and Bonnie receive is simply the echo of the love they project. It’s a law of life: What you send out is what you will receive back. Send hostility and expect to receive hostility in return. Love people and they will love you back.

Finally, Bill’s winsomeness is accentuated by his self-deprecating humor and humility. Alum and trustee Alan McGinnis, ’82, says, “Bill reminds me of my favorite memory from a Dale Bruner class. One day a student asked, ‘What exactly is the Holy Spirit?’ Dale went to the ever-present whiteboard, drew a stick figure and said ‘This is Jesus.’ He then stood behind the board so we couldn’t see him, and said ‘This is the Holy Spirit.’ And from behind the board he began pointing emphatically at the stick figure of Jesus. That’s how Bill works. He doesn’t call attention to himself; he instead points emphatically at Whitworth from beyond the whiteboard – when in fact he is enormously responsible for what is true, what is good, and what is God-filled at Whitworth University.”

David G. Myers is professor of psychology at Hope College, in Michigan, and serves the Whitworth University Board of Trustees as chair of its Academic Affairs Committee.
A LEGACY OF STUBBORNNESS AND JOY [the good kind]

Bill Robinson offers some final thoughts on his presidency

Edited by Terry Rayburn Mitchell, ’93, with substantial contributions from The Whitworthian (courtesy of 2009-10 editor-in-chief Morgan Feddes, ’11)
*Whitworth Today* interviewed Bill Robinson upon his arrival at Whitworth in 1993, at the 10-year point in his presidency (you can read those interviews in our web extras online), and this spring, as he prepared to turn over the reins to Beck Taylor. Herewith, Robinson shares some Bill-esque short answers (which made us laugh) and some thoughtful responses to our more serious questions about his presidency, his feelings about leaving, and his thoughts about his – and Whitworth’s – future.
WT: IF YOU COULD CHOOSE A QUESTION TO BE ASKED, WHAT WOULD IT BE, AND HOW WOULD YOU ANSWER IT?
WPR: I don’t know what the question would be, but if it has anything to do with good stuff, the answer would be my family. If it has anything to do with God, my answer would be grace. If it has anything to do with my feelings about being at Whitworth, my answer would be way blessed. If it has anything to do with leaders, my answer would be Chuck Boppell.

WT: NAME THREE OF YOUR FAVORITE MOMENTS OVER THE PAST 17 YEARS.
WPR: Let me see: Handing degrees to two of our children was pretty cool. And I remember receiving a phone call from a person I adore in which she informed me of her decision to give us a huge gift. It was the gift that made the Ernst F Lied Center for the Visual Arts possible. And I loved watching our son pass a runner at the finish line of the Northwest Conference cross-country meet, achieving his goal to be all-conference by about a yard. Those were great occasions, but there are thousands of others that were just as big at the time.

WT: WHAT’S YOUR PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT?
WPR: Our children, although I don’t think of them as accomplishments.

WT: CAN YOU THINK OF ONE THING YOU COULD HAVE DONE BETTER DURING YOUR PRESIDENCY?
WPR: I failed to bring an eight-figure gift to Whitworth. Over 17 years, I should have been able to make that happen. Initially, I was focused on our most urgent need, which was everything related to enrollment, so I may have missed some opportunities in resource development, especially early on. Our great donors have been incredibly generous, and we have accomplished a ton. But a school of Whitworth’s quality should have several huge gifts in its history. That shortcoming is on me. But who knows – maybe those gifts are simply delayed in arriving.

WE LIVE IN A TIME WHEN THE QUALITY OF LEADERSHIP, WHILE IT HAS NEVER BEEN MORE NEEDED, HAS NEVER BEEN SO DILUTED. WHEN WE HAVE AMONG US EXAMPLES OF TRUE LEADERSHIP – PROFILES IN COURAGE, PORTRAITS OF INTEGRITY, PERSONS OF VISION, AND CHARACTERS GUIDED BY PRINCIPLE AND A COMMITMENT TO SOMETHING LARGER THAN THEMSELVES – WE MARVEL, AND WE ARE MOST FORTUNATE WHEN WE RECOGNIZE THEM IN OUR MIDST. BILL ROBINSON IS THAT KIND OF PERSON.

Ron Thomas, president of the University of Puget Sound

I HAVE BEEN INSPIRED BY BILL’S GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT IN SHARING THE FAITH AND WISDOM THAT GUIDE HIS LIFE. HIS ABILITY TO LEAD WITH THE ATTITUDE OF A SERVANT IS A MODEL FOR MY PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LIFE. I VALUE WHAT I HAVE LEARNED FROM HIS PUBLIC LEADERSHIP AND HIS INTERPERSONAL MANNER.

Scott Hansen, ’97, M.D., Evergreen Hospital Medical Center
WT: WHAT ARE YOU FEELING AS YOU PREPARE TO STEP DOWN?

WPR: I don’t really feel a sense of loss. Everyone says, “You must be feeling grief and loss.” But I don’t. Maybe I’ve just been too busy to think about it, and maybe I will think about it eventually, but it’s not as if I’m leaving Whitworth and going to South Carolina or anything like that. Some things about leaving the job are sad, and some things about leaving the job are great. I seem to be fine with that balance.

Here’s when it could hit me. This year’s freshmen will have graduated, I’ll be back on campus – maybe I’ll be going for a run in the Back 40 and I’ll stop by the fieldhouse or the tennis courts – and there’ll be students there, and I’ll talk to them. The conversation will be totally different, completely different than it is now, and that’s when I’ll say, “Oh, man. These students don’t know and don’t care who I am.” That could be hard. I’ve been spoiled. Right now, they let me into their lives, even if we haven’t met.

WT: WHAT’S THE FIRST THING YOU’LL DO AFTER YOU PASS THE TORCH?

WPR: Get out of the Taylors’ house. After that, I’ll do anything I can to support Whitworth and Beck Taylor. We had a great search committee, and I think they found Whitworth just the person it needs – the person God has blessed with this call.

WT: WHAT THREE PIECES OF ADVICE WOULD YOU OFFER BECK TAYLOR?

WPR: Love the students, protect the mission, and don’t miss French Dip Fridays in Sodexo.
WT: CAN YOU PINPOINT AN ISSUE THAT HAS REFLECTED AND TESTED WHITWORTH’S DUAL COMMITMENTS TO CHRISTIAN CONVICTION AND INTELLECTUAL OPENNESS?

WPR: I think when we grapple with any stressful issue it reminds our community of who we should be. For example, this year we had many conversations about the nature and morality of homosexuality. As a Christian university, we should seek the mind of Christ as revealed in Scripture and in the witness of the Holy Spirit on this and on other issues. We should respect community members who differ from us in their understanding of the Bible. We should welcome all students with the unconditional love of Christ. And as a Christian university, we should foster an atmosphere of exploration and curiosity. We should be reluctant to take institutional stands on issues being studied and debated by faithful Christian scholars. We should protect community members’ rights to their points of view. There are few institutions in higher education where this kind of climate exists. On the morality of homosexuality, secular campuses agree with conservative Christian campuses in concluding there isn’t much to be discussed (although for totally opposite reasons). But painful conversations, conducted well, can provide healing and understanding. I know that our unwillingness to make an institutional declaration [on homosexuality] upsets many people. But I believe our students have benefited from hearing strong, articulate voices within our community debate this issue. Personally, I have felt a responsibility to protect Whitworth’s distinctiveness as a place where the fellowship of the Cross is a stronger basis for our unity than anything that threatens to divide us. And I say that holding some very deep convictions on these matters. I love and affirm our Reformed and Evangelical confessions, but as I have defended our refusal to construct a specific doctrinal statement to which all of us must ascribe, I have often thought of the following verse: “For while I was with you, I resolved to know nothing but Jesus Christ, and him crucified” (I Cor. 2:2). Admittedly, the Apostle Paul rather overstates our own resolve, but I hope we’re always a community of scholars that holds belief in Christ and the authority of Scripture as our only non-negotiable requirements for membership.
WT: WHO WAS YOUR FAVORITE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER? WHY?
WPR: Me. My speech was the shortest.

WT: WHAT’S THE BEST ADVICE YOU RECEIVED DURING YOUR PRESIDENCY?
WPR: I’ve tried to be charitable. I believe you get what you give. I don’t know who told me that. Let’s say Bonnie told me that.

WT: HAVE YOU SEEN ANY FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN WHITWORTH’S ETHOS DURING YOUR PRESIDENCY?
WPR: I wouldn’t say fundamental changes. I don’t think we’re much different in our essential identity. We’re stronger, more joyful and far more unified, but fundamentally, our mission is no different from what it was in 1993.

WT: YOU’VE SAID IT’S IRONIC THAT THE NEW BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY BUILDING WILL BE NAMED FOR YOU AND BONNIE, GIVEN YOUR SPOTTY ACADEMIC RECORD IN THE SCIENCES. YET YOU SAY IT MAY BE THE MOST IMPORTANT ACADEMIC FACILITY WHITWORTH HAS EVER BUILT. WHY?
WPR: I don’t know if it’s the most important building, but it will serve the most students, and it might be the most timely. We have a superb faculty, excellent students and remarkable momentum in our growing science division. So it isn’t surprising that our current facility becomes less adequate every semester. It’s hard to name a top liberal arts university that doesn’t have a vibrant, well-resourced science program. When this building opens, every aspect of science at Whitworth will be very strong.

WT: WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE DOING 10 YEARS FROM NOW?
WPR: Turning 70.

WT: IF ACADEMIA WERE THE WINTER OLYMPICS, WHAT EVENT WOULD WHITWORTH BE?
WPR: Curling. (Editor’s note: Don’t ask me.)

I SO APPRECIATE THE CLIMATE BILL SET FORTH FOR THE TRUSTEES TO HAVE THE FREEDOM TO EXPRESS A RANGE OF OPINIONS. HE DIDN’T NEED US TO NECESSARILY AGREE WITH ONE ANOTHER OR WITH HIM. THIS WAS ALWAYS ENCOURAGING, AS I KNEW THE SAME TYPE OF INTERACTIONS WERE BEING REPEATED IN WHITWORTH’S CLASSROOMS.

Anne Storm, ’74, Whitworth trustee and co-chair of the Presidential Search Committee

BILL HAS ENLARGED WHITWORTH’S ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE TO WELCOME OTHER VOICES AND PERSPECTIVES, AND HE HAS GIVEN US MORE CLARITY. IF YOU WORK AT WHITWORTH TODAY, YOU KNOW WHY YOU ARE HERE. AND TO KNOW WHY YOU COME TO WORK EACH DAY AND POUR YOUR HEART AND SOUL INTO A PLACE AND AN IDEA IS A SOURCE OF SUSTAINING JOY.

Randy Michaelis, ’74, professor of education and chair of the undergraduate teacher-education program
FEATURES

WT: PLEASE COMMENT ON YOUR EXPERIENCE WRITING OF MIND & HEART 10 TIMES PER YEAR FOR 17 YEARS. WHY DID YOU DO THE NEWSLETTER? WHAT WAS MOST CHALLENGING THING ABOUT WRITING IT? THE MOST REWARDING?

WPR: I wrote it so that people would know what was going on at the school they support. It was one of those duties that required discipline to start, but it wasn’t bad when I got going. Sometimes the words and ideas showed up to meet me. Most of the time, I had to go looking for them. I remember a few bad words that came to mind as I stared at the monitor, utterly clueless. On these occasions, I’d start writing the sections where people sent me information. Or when I got really stuck, I would just start writing and see what came out. There were a few times when the writing was simply exhilarating. I could feel the word fairy perched on my shoulder, feeding me lines. Hmmm, I like that image – Tinker Bell helping a Pirate. Arrrrhh!

WT: WHAT’S YOUR TEAM’S HOOPFEST RECORD SINCE 1993?

WPR: Not as good as I remember it being.

WT: WHAT’S YOUR FAVORITE FOOD IN THE DINING HALL?

WPR: Not counting French dips, bruschetta and the soups.

WT: IF YOU COULD OFFER WHITWORTH’S FRESHMEN SOME INSIDE ADVICE FOR THEIR FIRST SEMESTER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

WPR: Overachieve academically and underachieve socially.

WT: THIS IS A NEAR-IMPOSSIBLE REQUEST, BUT CAN YOU SUM UP YOUR WHITWORTH EXPERIENCE?

WPR: I’ve loved being a part of this community. I’m pretty sure I’ve loved being a part of it more than I’ve loved being its president. That’s to say, I think I would rather have had any number of jobs at Whitworth than the presidency somewhere else. I think maybe that feeling contributed to whatever effectiveness I’ve had in the presidency. Most of the time, I didn’t feel my position was any more important than anyone else’s, although sometimes I knew it absolutely was. I just felt blessed to be a part of the community. I knew my job, and I knew when I had to make decisions. It’s not that I was timid or that I didn’t know what to do in the role, or that I didn’t like the role; it just wasn’t the best part of being in the community. Being at Whitworth was the best part of being at Whitworth.

I ADMIRE BILL’S ABILITY TO GIVE PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW A SAFE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH TO DIALOGUE AND TO FEEL LOVED BY HIM. HIS ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE THE APPROPRIATE LEADERSHIP MESSAGE, IN BOTH TENSE AND RELAXED TIMES, IS ANOTHER ADMIRABLE QUALITY I ATTEMPT TO EMULATE AS A BUSINESS EXECUTIVE WHOSE JOB IS TO TEACH LEADERS IN LARGE CORPORATION.

Walt Oliver, ’67, chair of Whitworth’s board of trustees and senior vice president of human resources and administration for General Dynamics.

BILL ROBINSON HAS BEEN A DEAR FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE, AND A STRONG LEADER FOR PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE REGION AND FOR CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION NATIONALLY. BILL AND BONNIE ARE SUCH STRONG MODELS OF WHAT CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP OUGHT TO BE, AND WHITWORTH IS CERTAINLY A STRONGER INSTITUTION TODAY BECAUSE OF THEIR FAITHFUL, TIRELESS AND EXCEPTIONAL COMMITMENT TO THE PEOPLE AND PURPOSE OF THIS GREAT UNIVERSITY.

Philip Eaton, ’64, president of Seattle Pacific University.

WHITWORTH’S BUCKS ARE A DEAR FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE, AND A STRONG LEADER FOR PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE REGION AND FOR CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION NATIONALLY. BILL AND BONNIE ARE SUCH STRONG MODELS OF WHAT CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP OUGHT TO BE, AND WHITWORTH IS CERTAINLY A STRONGER INSTITUTION TODAY BECAUSE OF THEIR FAITHFUL, TIRELESS AND EXCEPTIONAL COMMITMENT TO THE PEOPLE AND PURPOSE OF THIS GREAT UNIVERSITY.

Philip Eaton, ’64, president of Seattle Pacific University.
Bill has been a legendary champion of students, but he’s also been a thorough champion of faculty. Anyone with a complaint likes to go to the top – “Your English department shouldn’t be assigning secular novels” – and Bill has taken unbelievable amounts of time to respond thoughtfully and persuasively about Whitworth’s educational mission and to express his faith in the integrity of the faculty.

Tammy Reid, ’60, former vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty

Thank you for your many years of dedication to a place we love – your commitment to authenticity is inspiring and has influenced every area of campus and beyond.

Josh Armstrong, ’95, director of the Comprehensive Leadership Program at Gonzaga University

Bill Robinson as a leader and a person – it doesn’t get any better than that.

Betsy Cowles, chairwoman of Cowles Publishing Company

Whitworth University in collaboration with North by Northwest Productions, has produced a short documentary celebrating Bill’s remarkable tenure as president. With Grace and Truth: The Robinson Presidency highlights some of Robinson’s most important contributions to Whitworth – proclaiming the mission, shaping the culture, engaging the community, sustaining excellence and building a foundation for the university’s bright future. A video stream of the movie is available on the Whitworth website at: www.whitworth.edu/administration/institutionaladvancement/videos/BillRobinson.htm. The movie also is available on YouTube; it is posted in four installments due to YouTube size limitations.

WT: What’s your fondest hope for Whitworth’s future?
WPR: I hope Whitworth will prosper beyond what anyone expects, and that its prosperity will be the product of faithfulness to its mission. I hope Beck Taylor is wildly successful.

WT: What would you like your Whitworth legacy to be?
WPR: A stubborn mission and a joyful campus.

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WPR: A stubborn mission and a joyful campus.
Meet the 18th president of Whitworth University

Beck A. Taylor

Selected Professional Appointments:
- Samford University, Brock School of Business, Birmingham, Ala.
  Dean and professor of economics (2005-10)
- Baylor University, Hankamer School of Business, Waco, Texas
  Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development (2004-05)
  Graduate Program Director, Department of Economics (2003-04)
  The W.H. Smith Professor of Economics, Department of Economics (2000-05)
  Assistant Professor of Economics, Department of Economics (1997-2000)
- Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
  Visiting Scholar, Graduate School of Education, Department of Human Development and Psychology (2002-03)

Education:
- Doctor of Philosophy, Economics; Master of Science, Economics, Purdue University, Krannert School of Management
- Bachelor of Business Administration, Economics and Finance, Baylor University, Hankamer School of Business

Selected Scholarship:
Taylor has published more than two dozen studies in economics journals including Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Labor Economics, and Journal of Human Resources. He has also published research articles on public health and child developmental psychology.

Taylor’s research has been cited in testimony given before the U.S. Congress and the California State Assembly and also has been referenced in publications such as The New York Times, The Boston Globe, The Christian Science Monitor, and Chief Executive Magazine.

Family:
Beck is married to Julie Anne (Dearing) Taylor (B.S.Ed., M.S.Ed., Baylor University).
Their children are Zachary, 14, Lauren, 11, and Chloe, 3.

Quote:
“In so many ways, Whitworth is a leader among universities that profess to honor Christ precisely because it is courageous in its quest to nurture the life of the mind and to engage society’s important issues. I am excited and humbled to lead Whitworth because the university’s values and identity align so closely with my own.”

Beck Taylor will assume his duties at Whitworth on July 1, 2010. To learn more about Taylor and his appointment as Whitworth’s 18th president, visit www.whitworth.edu. To read an editorial by The Whitworthian’s editors in response to Taylor’s appointment, visit www.whitworth.edu/whitworthtoday.
You’re hired!  
Bob Beatty appointed new business dean

When Bob Beatty takes the reins of the Whitworth School of Global Commerce & Management on this month, he will bring significant experience in academic, business and military leadership to aid him as he starts a new chapter for the school. Beatty has taught at the university level for more than 15 years, has managed systems and projects at billion-dollar corporations, and has served as a senior officer in the United States Air Force Reserve.

“Dr. Beatty has a strong commitment to creating bonds with businesses to place students in jobs and internships,” says Christie Anderson, director of Whitworth’s organizational management program and a member of the search committee. “He also is committed to seeking opportunities for the school’s research and consulting resources to support the local business community.”

Beatty currently serves as associate professor of information systems in the College of Business at Northern Illinois University. Previously, he was recruited to Texas Christian University to help launch the first undergraduate program in e-business accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business – the leading accreditation agency for business schools worldwide.

Beatty has served as project manager for the Amerada Hess Corp.’s Tulsa, Okla., operation and as corporate systems manager for Kellogg Co., in Battle Creek, Mich. In addition, he is a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserve, assigned to the Air Force Office of Special Investigations at Travis AFB, in California.

The new dean says his vision for the School of Global Commerce & Management includes building on its reputation for faculty expertise in international business by further increasing opportunities for students to gain international perspectives.

“The Whitworth School of Global Commerce & Management is generally ahead of its peers in understanding the need to give students a global education,” Beatty says. “I don’t think any student should graduate from any business school without a clear understanding of the global economy.”

New Bill-ding:  
Whitworth honors Robinsons with naming of science hall

The Whitworth University Board of Trustees announced in April that the landmark biology/chemistry building being constructed at the heart of campus will be named in honor of outgoing president Bill Robinson and his wife, Bonnie. Scheduled to open in fall 2011, the William P. and Bonnie V. Robinson Science Hall will be the largest, most expensive, and, perhaps, the most sorely needed academic facility built by Whitworth in its 120-year history.

“It would be difficult to overstate Bill’s positive impact on Whitworth,” says Walt Oliver, ’67, the chair of Whitworth’s board of trustees. “His leadership has contributed to tremendous growth and improvements on the campus as well as to a strengthened commitment to Whitworth’s distinctive mission.” Oliver continues, “The entire Whitworth community is deeply indebted to Bill and Bonnie for all the ways they have served the university. In light of their contributions, it is appropriate for a facility that will contribute so significantly to Whitworth’s mission to be named the William P. and Bonnie V. Robinson Science Hall.”

“It is an immense honor for Bonnie and me to have a building bear our names, particularly a building that is such an important reflection of Whitworth’s commitment to academic excellence,” Robinson says. “Knowing this facility will serve the students we love is deeply gratifying. We are very thankful to the board for recognizing us. But we know beyond any doubt that faculty, staff, donors, alumni and students have been the real heroes in Whitworth’s success. Understanding that our name symbolizes all of these contributions, we could not be more honored.”

Chickasaw Writer Visits as Simpson-Duvall Lecturer

Author Linda Hogan, a former professor of American Indian studies at the University of Minnesota and professor of English at the University of Colorado, was Whitworth’s 2010 Simpson-Duvall Lecturer. Hogan visited Whitworth during Heritage Month, speaking and reading from her work in the Robinson Teaching Theatre. Hogan is a Chickasaw poet, novelist, essayist, playwright and activist. She has published six poetry collections and seven books of prose. She is widely considered to be one of the most influential and provocative American figures in the contemporary literary landscape, and she is a nationally recognized public speaker. The Simpson-Duvall Lectureship honors the commitment and contributions of two of Whitworth’s most distinguished professors: Clarence Simpson, professor of English 1953-80, and R. Fenton Duvall, professor of history 1949-81.
Whitworthians Donate, Roller-Skate, Captivate for Haiti

Whitworth's students, staff and faculty left no stone unturned in their efforts to provide relief to victims of the tragic earthquake that struck Haiti in January.

Donations collected around campus and at a January basketball game as well as benefits tied to the Black Student Union's annual soul food dinner, a roller-skating party thrown by campus cultural diversity advocates, and a salsa dance workshop presented by the history department generated $7,450 for the Three Angels relief organization in Port au Prince. In addition, students in the Whitworth Leadership Studies Program organized a fast and a magic show that raised more than $3,000 to purchase goats for Haitian families through Christian Veterinary Mission.

“Giving money is one important part of the effort that will be needed for a long time,” says Rhosetta Rhodes, ’99, director of service-learning and community engagement. “We also want to invest time and effort for the long term; we are committed to working with partners in Haiti not only to rebuild physical structures, but to expand educational opportunities, increase literacy rates, and work on reforestation and other efforts that offer the Haitian people hope for a future brighter than they had even before the earthquake.”

Students in the leadership studies program also were motivated to make a sustained impact – both by providing long-term sustenance for Haitian families and by keeping the plight of the Haitian people in the minds and hearts of Whitworth community members. During the three-day fast in April, students organized worship events and information sessions focused on Haiti, and they built a village in The Loop (photo above) to illustrate living conditions in the Western Hemisphere's poorest country. Acclaimed magician David Kuraya, '10, invited 12 of his friends to present a magic extravaganza in the HUB, with all proceeds benefitting the project.

“We want people not only to donate money but to really understand what's happening in Haiti and [to realize] that the challenges are still going on,” said Trista Van Berkum, '10, one of the event's organizers.

During the 2009-10 academic year, 1,235 Whitworth students in 140 courses completed 28,039 hours of community service with an estimated economic impact of $567,789.

Effective Outreach: Conference explores how to make a lasting difference in Africa

More than 100 organizations in Spokane are involved in missions, development work, and relief aid in Africa; their efforts focus primarily on AIDS prevention, education, the environment, evangelism, and indigenous leadership. In response to Spokane's high-level engagement with Africa, Whitworth held a one-day conference that brought together Spokane-area churches, nonprofits and individuals, as well as distinguished speakers, professors and leaders of mission agencies to explore how best to respond to the continent's deepest needs.

The conference, hosted by the Whitworth Africa Initiative, addressed issues such as thinking strategically about making a difference in Africa, supplying the resources and other aid that Africa really needs, and directing efforts that will make a lasting difference on the continent rather than build dependence on the West.

“More than 200 people were able to network and learn from each others' successes and failures, and to benefit from the conference speakers and workshops, which stressed practical approaches to working in Africa,” says Professor of Political Science John Yoder. “One of the main points of emphasis throughout the day was the need to work with Africans as partners, not as powerless and dependent peoples.”

Conference presenters included Larry Probus, senior vice president and CFO of World Vision; Mike Stemm, co-founder of New Covenant Foundation, a nonprofit in Ethiopia; Dr. Mike and Robin Nash, missionaries to South Africa; and Bob Savage, director of Global Learning Exchange at Spokane-based Partners International.
Another Banner Year: Pirates grab conference’s all-sports trophy back-to-back-to-back

With its best overall showing in the Northwest Conference to date, Pirate Athletics won the NWC’s McIlroy-Lewis Trophy for the third consecutive year. The trophy, given for all-around excellence in athletics, is named for longtime NWC professor/coaches Jane McIlroy and John Lewis.

Whitworth brought home nine of the 18 NWC championships available in 2009-10, earning the highest point total in NWC scoring since 1999. The Bucs earned their first McIlroy-Lewis Trophy in 2005, and Whitworth has now won the trophy four of the last six years.

NWC and West District Div. III Men’s Basketball Coach of the Year Jim Hayford sums up more than just an excellent season in 2009-10 when he says, “It was a charmed season – to carry the nation’s longest winning streak at any level [25 games – tied with NCAA Div. I national runner-up Butler University] and to go through Northwest Conference play without a loss. We soaked up every minute and enjoyed each step. Nothing beats being a Pirate!” Men’s basketball at Whitworth has, since Hayford’s arrival on the scene in 2001, won four conference championships and competed in the DIII Big Dance five times, with two trips (including this year’s) to the Sweet 16. In fact, since 2001, Whitworth’s men have competed in every NWC championship game, winning five of those contests.

Men’s soccer won yet another conference championship, and the

Another Whitworth team that posts great records year after year is men’s soccer. This year the Bucs dominated the NWC and made it all the way to the Round of Eight in the NCAA DIII tournament. “Our team took on the challenge of being the first NWC-era men’s soccer team to win three straight conference championships, and their determination, teamwork and joy of playing saw it through,” says Head Men’s Soccer Coach Sean Bushey. “The leadership from our seniors was simply outstanding; the team was a team, and that’s what led us to the Elite Eight in the NCAA tournament.” After the Bucs’ latest stellar season, Elly Bulega was named to the All-Region First Team, while Bryan Olson and Justin Meyer earned second-team honors.

Men’s swimming won its second conference title in the last three years. Michael Woodward, ’11, and Kalen Darling, ’11, were the Bucs’ high scorers at the conference meet. The men’s team earned a Top-20 finish at the DIII championships, with Rory Buck, ’12, a national runner-up in the 200 breaststroke. And Natalie Turner, ’10, became the first woman in conference history to score in all 12 of her events over the course of four years at the NCAA championships. “Our teams had a terrific year,” says Steve Schadt, head coach of both the men’s and the women’s teams. “It was a lot of fun to have both teams do so well at both our conference championships and at nationals. We’re proud of what they achieved, and we’re glad we were able to contribute to the rest of the department in the overall effort to win another McIlroy-Lewis Trophy. We’re both fortunate and inspired to be a part of such a great and deep athletics department.”

When asked about his teams’ contributions to Whitworth’s McIlroy-Lewis win, Toby Schwarz, head coach of the men’s and women’s cross-country teams as well as men’s and women’s indoor
and outdoor track and field teams, says, “Winning an NWC title is always a huge honor and blessing. Being able to contribute to Whitworth earning the all-sports trophy makes it that much sweeter. The trophy not only highlights the talents of our student-athletes at Whitworth; it also emphasizes Whitworth’s support for its student-athletes and for each program in the department.” Schwarz, a perennial NWC Coach of the Year, has won several regional titles, as well. His teams shone in 2009-10, winning championships in women’s cross-country and men’s track and field. The women finished sixth at the national DIII championships after Dana Misterek, ’11, Joy Shufeldt, ’13, and Tonya Turner, ’11, led the way with a West Region title. Several men made All-America at nationals: Emanuel Bofa, ’10, finished second in the 800-M race; Cody Stelzer, ’10, came in 4th in the high jump; Mike Nahl, ’10, finished 6th in the high jump; and Alex Hymel, ’11, finished 8th in the javelin.

Has the tennis bubble in the Scotford Tennis Center made a difference in Whitworth’s tennis teams’ ability to compete in the NWC? Ask Women’s Tennis Head Coach Jo Wagstaff. “Now we’re never hampered by weather during the season, and team members love the opportunity to hit regularly during the off-season,” Wagstaff says. “We’re drawing more players who train year-round; they tend to be high-quality tennis players, and, fortunately for us, they are also high-quality people.” Of course, the bubble can’t do it all. “The team won the championship because of steady play and strength from top to bottom,” Wagstaff says. Led by Rachel Burns, ’11, and Alli Marshall, ’12, the team finished the regular season 19-4 overall and 15-1 in NWC play. Burns was also named NWC Sportswoman of the Year. Though the Pirates came up against a blazing University of Texas-Tyler team (as they did last year) and lost in the first round of the playoffs, the consistency and strength of Wagstaff’s team is setting up the Bucs for future success.

“It was exciting to see both teams waiting for the final results at the NWC championships,” says the head coach of men’s and women’s golf, Whitworth Athletics Director Warren Friedrichs. “Both men’s and women’s teams qualified for the DIII national tournament with their wins, and Ryan Young and Emily Guthrie were Players of the Year in the NWC.” In just the seventh year of NWC competition for the men and the sixth for the women, both teams finished their season atop the conference. The men made their second trip to the NCAA DIII championship tourney, while the women made their first tournament appearance, finishing 17th in DIII competition.

Wearing his A.D. hat, Friedrichs says, “After our great fall, winter and spring seasons – when interest in athletics usually wanes a bit – there was still excitement on campus, with some of our teams going into NCAA postseason (and post-academic-year) events. It was a fantastic year for Whitworth Athletics.”
Trailblazer: 16th-century missionary inspires China symposium

China’s interior was closed to foreigners when Matteo Ricci, an Italian Jesuit priest and visionary Christian leader, arrived in 1582. He established a successful mission field by respecting and working within Chinese culture and customs, learning the language, wearing traditional Chinese garb, and engaging intellectual interest through European novelties such as clocks, astronomy instruments and maps.

This spring, Whitworth and Gonzaga University hosted the Matteo Ricci Lecture Series, a symposium observing the 400-year anniversary of Ricci’s death, in 1610. The first westerner to bridge the intellectual and cultural gaps between China and the West, Ricci and his work are attracting international attention. This revival of interest takes place as China passes the U.S. economically and culturally on the global landscape, according to Assistant Professor of East Asian History Anthony Clark, who joined the Whitworth faculty last fall.

“The symposium exposed Whitworth students to high-caliber and energetic intellectual discourse between leading scholars in their fields,” Clark says. “Students also gained insights into how cultural, intellectual and religious interaction has [at different times] failed and succeeded between China and the West over the past several centuries.”

Participating scholars included Clark and professors from Gonzaga, Pepperdine, Santa Clara and Seattle University. The professors are now collaborating on a book about Ricci’s methods of cultural interaction during China’s late imperial era; Clark is the book’s editor.

In connection with the symposium, Whitworth’s Lied Center for the Visual Arts featured an ongoing slideshow of historic photographs of Christian missions in China and Japan, and the history department displayed an original, first-edition map of China (pictured), produced in 1640 by European cartographer Willem Jansoon Blaeu.

Whitworth Relaunches Rock & Sling

This spring, Whitworth became the home of the nationally distributed literary arts journal Rock & Sling. Founded in 2004 by Susan Cowger, R&S focuses on artistic work that engages with the Christian tradition. The journal had been on hiatus while its supporters searched for a new institutional home.

Rock & Sling will give Whitworth a unique voice in the Christian arts and literature world and will provide students with an excellent opportunity for hands-on, professional editorial experience. While the editorial board comprises English department faculty and editors from the communications office, many of the behind-the-scenes operations – including author solicitation, marketing plans, submission screening, and the design of the journal itself – will be handled by undergraduate interns.

Whitworth lecturer and Rock & Sling Editor-in-Chief Thom Caraway says, “Few undergraduate programs in the country are able to provide such opportunities for their students, and we editors are excited to see our students flourish in such a large-scale project.”

Rock & Sling will be published twice a year and will feature a website (www.rockandsling.org) dedicated to established and emerging writers and artists. The editorial board includes Caraway, Vic Bobb (fiction editor), Laurie Lamon, ’78 (poetry editor), Julie Riddle, ’92 (creative nonfiction editor), and Annie Stillar (managing editor). The project will be funded largely by subscriptions, available at a discount to Whitworth alums, faculty and staff, through the journal’s website.
Vroom Vroom:
Whitworth sophomore loves life in the fast lane

When he’s not studying engineering physics at Whitworth, Travis Motley, ’13, spends most of his time at the Toyota Speedway, in Irwindale, Calif. He races NASCAR-style late-model stock cars for High Point Racing, a high-profile driver-development racing team.

Motley grew up watching his dad race off-road cars. At age 13, after years of his begging his parents, Motley was allowed to race go-karts. A typical race weekend would begin Thursday afternoon with Travis and his father making the eight-hour drive from their hometown, Tucson, Ariz., to California. Motley would practice on Friday, race Saturday and Sunday, and head back to Tucson with his dad on Sunday night.

“Sometimes we wouldn’t get home until 3 a.m. on Monday, and I would go to school four hours later. But as crazy as it sounds, I loved every minute of it,” Motley says. “After three years of go-kart racing I moved up to late models, and it has been more fun than I ever could have hoped for.”

Those long weekends are paying off as Motley’s late-model stock-car career takes off. In the last six races of the 2009 season, he finished fifth or better in a field of 30 of the best racers on the West Coast.

Motley races roughly 20 times a year, from April to November. His late-model vehicle is a 400-horsepower, 2,900-lb. purpose-built racecar that resembles the cars seen in NASCAR. He hopes to race in the NASCAR Nationwide Series within five years.

To learn more about Motley’s racing career, visit www.travismotleyracing.com/ or www.highpointracing.com/.

Music for a Friend:
Gospel choir raises money for injured classmate

Gospel and church choirs from around Spokane, including Whitworth’s Exceptional Praise Gospel Choir, participated last February in the Black Student Union’s 12th annual Gospel Explosion.

The BSU donated all proceeds from the event to the recovery of Kelvin Garner, a Ghanaian student who sustained serious injuries in a near-drowning last June and who remains in a coma. The roughly 250 people in attendance at the event raised more than $3,300 for Garner’s recovery.

“Kelvin’s condition is progressing,” says Stephy Nobles-Beans, coordinator of ministry and multicultural affairs. “He has started some physical therapy, and we pray that his condition continues for the best.”

Garner is currently undergoing hyperbaric oxygen therapy. Each treatment costs $5,000, Nobles-Beans says.

The Kelvin Garner Recovery Account has been set up with Wells Fargo Bank to assist in paying for his medical expenses.

Playing Dead
Looking very much alive, Agamemnon “Chicago” Buckner (Danny Mathews, ’10) joins Claudette Riviere (Mollie McComb, ’10) in a scene from Mark Twain’s recently discovered comic melodrama, Is He Dead? The play, written by Twain in the late 1890s and never produced, was discovered in 2002 at U.C. Berkeley’s Bancroft Library by Shelley Fisher Fishkin, Ph.D., a Twain scholar from Stanford University. Fishkin calls the work a “delightfully ebullient play,” and says, “It deserved to be rescued from the obscurity in which it had languished for more than a century.” In the play, adapted for modern audiences by contemporary playwright David Ives, a painter fakes his own death in hopes of spurring sales of his work. His ruse succeeds, but he finds himself trapped in his postmortem identity as his own widowed sister. Director and Whitworth Theatre Professor/Chair Rick Hornor, ’70, says he chose the play because “I loved the fact that this was a ‘new’ comedy written for a large cast, that it had never been performed in the Northwest, and that it blended the words and distinctive styles of two brilliant comic writers: Mark Twain and David Ives.”
Love Conquers All
Three-year-old Jordan Shahbaz – who graced the cover of Whitworth Today a couple of years ago along with wombmates Jeremiah, Jonah and Cedar – enjoys a little one-on-one time with his dad, Phil Shahbaz, ‘96. Jordan was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia last November, and he’s now in the early stages of a 3.5-year chemotherapy regimen. He’s responding well, though he must deal with nausea, mouth sores and other classic chemo side effects. Jordan has also lost his hair, and his dad and lots of friends have shaved their heads in solidarity. Kevin Brady, ‘96, a longtime friend of the Shahbazes, has set up a fund to help the family pay for some of the expenses they’ve incurred as a result of Jordan’s illness. To help Jordan and his family, please go to bit.ly/helpjordan. And for updates on Jordan’s condition, visit www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=155018119158&ref=ts.

Summer School:
Seminar anchors mission in minds, hearts of new professors

The seismic impact on the U.S. workforce predicted as 78 million baby boomers begin to retire is creating relatively few shockwaves with the Whitworth faculty.

While 77 percent of Whitworth’s professors have been hired in the past 17 years, careful attention in the hiring and promotion of faculty and an intensive summer seminar are positioning the next generation of professors to sustain the university’s longstanding commitments to faith-learning integration and open intellectual inquiry.

The seminar, led by Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Mike Ingram and Professor of History Arlin Migliazzo, brings faculty members together for three weeks of presentations from senior professors, readings, reflections and follow-up discussions on ways to integrate faith and learning in the classroom. Support from the Servant’s Heart Foundation provides a stipend to help participants who might otherwise need to teach or work during the summer.

Most professors complete their graduate training at large, secular universities and have never observed or experienced how faith can animate their academic vocation, says Michael Le Roy, ‘89, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty.

“We don’t necessarily expect new faculty members to know how to integrate faith and learning,” Le Roy says. “What we do expect is that they have a personal commitment to Christ and a desire to integrate their faith into their teaching and their work with students.” Summing up the program, Le Roy adds, “It’s really about anchoring the mission of the institution in every faculty member’s mind and heart.”

Newly Updated Whitworth History Book On Sale Now

Much has happened in the 20 years since longtime history professor Dale Soden’s illustrated history of Whitworth was published for the university’s centennial celebration. Now, the events of the past two decades are captured in an updated and expanded edition of the book – An Enduring Venture of Mind & Heart – available in the Whitworth bookstore for $39.95 (www.whitworth.edu/bookstore, or 509.777.3277).

The new edition includes 80 additional pages and more than 150 new photographs covering 1990-2010. It focuses on students, faculty and staff, and on how Whitworth has intersected with larger historical and cultural forces. Soden brings to the project his expertise as a historian as well as insights from his own roles at Whitworth as a professor, vice president for planning, and director of the Weyerhaeuser Center for Christian Faith & Learning.

In his foreword to the book, Whitworth President Bill Robinson writes, “During the 20 years covered in this addition to his 100-year history book...Dale has been collecting, recording and making history at Whitworth. His on-the-ground experience adds meaning to his eyewitness accounts.”

Great Scotts!
Whitworth Professor of Spanish Lindy Scott is the first director of Whitworth’s Costa Rica Center; Scott’s wife, Assistant Professor of Spanish Dinorah Scott, will teach Spanish and coordinate service-learning and family home-stays for students. The Scotts bring to their new roles 20 years of experience living in and leading university study programs throughout Latin America. Lindy Scott says he’s excited about the combination of curricular and co-curricular programs to be offered at Whitworth’s Costa Rica Center. “Our courses in Latin American history and Costa Rican ecology will join together great classroom teaching by expert professors with on-site explorations,” Scott says. “I am especially excited about offering our Core 350 course, which will equip students to look at Christian values and public policy issues in a Latin context. All of this will be permeated with an emphasis on service-learning projects, internships, and family home-stays where students will experience cultural differences and similarities first-hand.”
I enjoy talking with students about computer science. It is an interesting and exciting field. Computer scientists are constantly learning as the field grows, and there are many career opportunities. I hear students say that they enjoy computer science, but they really aren’t excited about programming. They all know the stereotype – Dilbert banging on a keyboard all day long, alone in a cubical, deep into the evening. The stereotype doesn’t hold true, but it’s sometimes hard to get students to move beyond that image. Also, they aren’t generally aware that there are many careers other than programming that are available to a student with a degree in computer science. There are design and architect careers in software and hardware, management careers, and support careers. I’m particularly interested and experienced in quality assurance – specifically, software quality assurance. Good quality assurance engineers must be strong technically; they also must be creative and must have skills in working with and learning from customers and negotiating with managers.

In spring 2007, Cherie Ekholm, ’87, contacted Whitworth regarding a problem. She was a senior test lead for Microsoft Publisher. Her product team was looking to hire people to test the next versions of Publisher, but was having difficulty finding good people with strong technical skills. People with such skills are typically interested in careers in software development, not quality assurance. College graduates who have the required skills aren’t generally aware that quality assurance is a career path. Most universities offer courses to teach programming skills, but very few schools at any level teach techniques in quality assurance. Cherie believed that Whitworth might be the sort of school where a class exploring quality assurance could work, and she wanted to look into helping to put together such a course.

Our department was excited to work with Cherie. Since I spent five years in quality assurance at Microsoft before I came to Whitworth, I was especially excited about the opportunity. After some initial discussion, we announced to students the first course in software quality assurance at Whitworth for fall 2007. One challenge we faced right away was attracting enough students. Registration for the upcoming semester was almost complete and most students already had their schedules set. Cherie then offered to interview all students who successfully completed the course; students shuffled their schedules, and the class filled up quickly!

We have offered the course twice at Whitworth, with a third offering coming in spring 2011. It has proven to be a very successful class, and has moved from an occasional “Special Topics” offering to a regular offering in our course catalog. Students have really benefitted from it. A few have joined me in research in software quality assurance, exploring directions in automated test case generation, hardware testing, and software security testing. They have presented their work at recent Spokane Intercollegiate Research Conferences. In addition, many students have moved on to take positions in quality assurance at companies including Microsoft, Adobe, Nike and NextIT.

This spring, I am in the middle of my first sabbatical, with a goal of developing new course materials for our quality assurance course. I already use my Microsoft experience in quality assurance to develop material, and I also use results from some research we’ve done here over the past two years. I also work part time in quality assurance at a local software company. I’m looking at ways to help them automate their existing tests, and I’m writing tests of my own and considering ways to assist them in testing their products. Since I’m at a smaller company that develops software targeted to specific clients, I’ve learned new approaches to quality assurance. Much of the work I do will apply directly to Whitworth’s quality assurance class next spring. It will also apply toward a textbook I’m writing on quality assurance, designed for undergraduate students in their second year of computer science. Computer science students who understand the skills and methods in software quality assurance will benefit regardless of their chosen career path. We hope to continue to interest students in quality assurance and to open it up as a career option for more Whitworth students.
An “x” before a class year indicates that the person attended, but did not graduate from Whitworth.

**00s**

2001 Matthew Fechter is a counselor at King Elementary School, in Vancouver, Wash., and was awarded the Excellence Award for September 2009 by the Vancouver Public Schools. The award is given to an individual who has created a positive, caring and productive environment through exceptional effort, dedication and/or performance in his or her area of responsibility.

Scott Parr works in middle school ministry at Walnut Creek (Calif.) Presbyterian Church. Joshua and Rochell (Lamica) Salina opened Salina Family Chiropractic, in North Spokane, last September.

2002 Carrie (Johnson) Hall completed nursing school and earned her R.N. degree. She works on a cardiac/telemetry unit in Bellevue, Wash. Kimmie Read became a national board-certified teacher, middle childhood generalist.

2003 Colin Hesse received his Ph.D. in communication studies from Arizona State University. He is now assistant professor of communication studies at the University of Missouri.

Brooke Dolenc received her master’s degree in human development and family sciences from Oregon State University in July 2009 and married Jonathan Nott in August. Lisa (Sommer) Crane, Mya Theriault, and Sarah Larson, ’04, were among the members of the wedding party. Abbey Smeltzer married Ernest Reynolds II Dec. 19. Elaina Erickson and Christopher Stubb were married July 11, 2009.

2004 Kathleen Higgins married Keith Karch on Oct. 3, in Baker City, Ore. Julie Kurzt joined Tony Award-winning companies Berkeley Repertory Theatre and Theatre de la Jeune Lune, starring as Susanna in their nationally acclaimed production of Figaro, a blend of the Mozart opera and a trilogy of Beaumarchais Figaro plays.

2005 Caitlin Gregory earned a master’s degree in education with a specialization in integrating technology in the classroom. She continues to teach sixth grade in Snohomish, Wash., and leads teacher workshops in Snohomish and other school districts. Courtney Gower works for Spokane Valley Partners. Jayleen Hille lives in South Korea, where she teaches English in a public middle school just southwest of Seoul. She will soon perform in a production of Pirates of Penzance, to be sponsored by Seoul National University of Education’s multicultural affairs department.

Emily (Loeffler) Hoffstetter lives near Fort Lewis, Wash., where her husband, Brandt, a U.S. Army officer, is stationed. Emily is a stay-at-home mom with her newborn son, George. Christyn Lau married Branden Ibara July 10, 2009.

2006 Julie (Karber) Dresback has begun work on a master’s degree in communication and information studies at Rutgers University, in New Brunswick, N.J. Erica Vonk married Adam Van Duyn on Sept. 19 in Sacramento, Calif. Whitworthians in attendance were Tiara Horan, Meghen Chaffin, Elizabeth (Harrington) Biersgreen, Rachel Jones, Jennie Sandoval, Barbara (Graham) Sand, ’05, Abigail Drollinger, ’05, Rebekah Miner, ’07, and Kellie Helsel (resident director, ’03-’06). John Harper, x’06, married Kimberly Clark Oct. 3 in Oregon City, Ore. The couple met on the Whitworth cross-country team their freshman year. Kimberly Allard was a bridesmaid.

2007 Kyle Haverly and Sarah Nielsen, x’08, were married Aug. 15. The bridal party included Jared DeJong, Melissa Disston, x’08, and Erin Lundy, x’08. Noah Patterson graduated May 22, having earned his J.D. at the University of Denver’s Sturm College of Law. He received the faculty prize for graduating first in his class of 300. He expects to clerk for a judge on the Colorado Court of Appeals next year.

2008 Evan Cate is in a master’s-degree program in divinity at Duke Divinity School. He intends either to do Ph.D. work and teach or to become a pastor in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

2009 Michael Bailey and Lauren McDonald were married Aug. 14. Erin Cooley is serving for a year with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps., working as a clinic and referral coordinator in Gresham, Ore., and is preparing to apply to medical school. She notes that her work is “an incredibly rewarding experience and a great extension of my personal growth that was fostered at Whitworth.”


**Deaths**

Chad Sartell, ’03, died Feb. 12. He is survived by his parents, brothers Eric and Nathan Sartell, both ’94, and other family. Jason Weatherman, ’08, died on Nov. 24 at his home in Salem, Ore. He is survived by his parents and other family. Lee Stover, ’08, died Feb. 24. Lee served as the director of youth ministries at First Presbyterian Church, Cheyenne, Wyo., and hoped to attend seminary and seek ordination as a pastor. Lee is survived by his parents, two brothers, and other family.

**Homecoming 2010**

The classes of 1990, 2000 and 2005 will celebrate class year reunions, and alumni of Whitworth’s CoolWhip theatre troupe and The Whitworthian will gather for a reunion during Homecoming Weekend, Sept. 23-26. All alumni are invited to campus for a weekend of athletics contests, lectures and an opportunity to meet President Beck Taylor. More details are available at www.whitworth.edu/homecoming.
Reflecting a Culture: Alum soars with Sister Sky
by Rachel O’Kelley, ’12

Marina TurningRobe, ’09, has captured the essence of a family business with Sister Sky, a firm that she and her sister, Monica, founded in 1998. The Turningrobes pride their company on making all-natural bath and body products based on the traditional herbal remedies of their Native American ancestors. The company was recently featured in a “CNN Money” profile: money.cnn.com/2009/03/02/smallbusiness/sister_act_2.fsb/index.htm.

While looking for a remedy for their young nephew’s severe eczema, the sisters began to consider starting a company to find such remedies for others. In 1998, they put their dream into action. As the business grew, they became more conscious of the brand that they wanted to be, and the Turningrobes began creating the mission statement for their company and compiling traditional recipes that have been shared in their culture for many years.

The sisters realized that through a responsible, authentic display of leadership in their firm, they could be a bridge to the non-native community as well as to the community in which they grew up. Eventually, they distilled the foundation of their company to three primary goals: that their services and products reflect an authentic cultural foundation, that they maintain economic stability, and that they empower tribal communities through their actions.

To ensure that Sister Sky stayed true to its original intent, TurningRobe reached out to other companies, professionals and governments to ensure that the business would still reflect her cultural upbringing. “The three main foundations of Sister Sky truly keep us grounded,” she says, “and the linchpin for all three is authenticity.”

As with any business operation, with success comes challenge. TurningRobe says it is of vital importance that she and Monica, with whom she has always been close, move forward together. TurningRobe says that one of the most amazing things she has witnessed through working with her sister is that both their business and their relationship in Christ have grown.

As a small-business owner, TurningRobe has found Whitworth’s continuing studies programs to be empowering and encouraging. “I truly believe God had Whitworth in his plan for me,” she says. For more information, visit www.sistersky.com.

BIRTHS
2000 a boy, Conner Kennan, to Lora (Grissen) and Ken Froescher, Jr., May 11, 2009
2000 a boy, Ian Jacob, to Matthew and Joy (Hunzeker) Lockard, Feb. 11, 2009
2000 a boy, Treva Kelson, to Katie (Hagestad) and Kelson Ramey, ’01, Mar. 26, 2009
2000 a boy, Brody Evan, to Kendace (Brody) and Ryan West, Nov. 1
2001 a boy, Keaton Harrison, to Jennifer and Tracy Cohn, Nov. 10
2001 a girl, Lydia Joy, to Rachel (Knappe) and John Edmondson, ’02, Aug. 19
2001 a boy, Luke Jacob, to Valerie (Erickson) and Jesse Parbon, ’02, Nov. 19
2001 a girl, Matilda Grace, to Matthew, ’01, and Kate (Isenberg) Parker, Jan. 5
2001 a boy, Isaac Gregory, to Scott and Becki Parr, Dec. 18
2002 a girl, Natalie Ann, to Christie (Grummons) and Joshua Wilson, ’03, Aug. 27
2003 a boy, Elliott Peter, to Lisa (Sommier) and Ryan Crane, June 1, 2009
2004 a boy, Josiah, to David and Tracy (Rippee, ’06) Germer, March 31, 2009
2004 a girl, Camille Faith, to Dustin and Heidi (Sawatzky, ’05) Greenup, Jan. 20
2004 a girl, Sara Joanne, to Jonathan and Amy (Vaughn, ’05) Hook, May 3, 2009
2004 a girl, Ava, to Russell and Sarah Kimura, Nov. 29
2005 a girl, Lily Abigail, to Megan (Hanson) and Nathan Backman, ’06, Oct. 15
2005 a boy, George William, to Emily (Loeffler) and Brandt Hoffstetter, Sept. 15
2006 a boy, Emerson Davis, to Aaron and Andrea Boyle, April 10
2006 a boy, Dax Paul, to Rebecca Gregerson and Dustin Strickland, Oct. 25
2006 a boy, Gabe, to Nicholas and Alyssa Jonson, Oct. 1
2008 a boy, Nathanael Andrés, to Andrew and Megan (Carper) Peterson, Oct. 17
2008 a girl, Evan, to Lynette (VanDyke) and Paul Smith, July 19, 2009
2009 a girl, Adabelle Ann, to John and Katrina (Sanderson-Lourenco) Hauck, Aug. 27

90s
1995 Sara Revell works as a foreign service officer posted at the U.S. Secretary of State’s 24-hour crisis management and monitoring center at the State Department Operations Center, in Washington, D.C.
1996 Kari (Happ) Cornwell lives in Louisville, Ky., with her husband, Steve, daughter Allison (5), and son Brandon (1). She appeared in two films last year: In Mysterious Ways and Disney’s Secretariat.
1997 Carolyn (Crawford) Fisher graduated from Eastern Washington University with a master’s degree in business administration in
Visiting Team
The 2010 Whitworth baseball team was on hand May 1 to celebrate the 50-year milestone of the 1960 National Champion Baseball Team. Current coach Dan Ramsay, ‘08, headed up the event between games of a doubleheader. The two teams enjoyed a barbecue, after which the energized 2010 Bucs went out and finished off their twin bill, beating Whitman College in both games (15-2, 8-4). The 1960 teammates in attendance were (l-r) Ken Wittenberg, ‘59; Jerry McCracken, ‘63; Ray Washburn, ‘60; Don Cox, ‘63; Norm Harding, ‘62; Dennis Rieger, ‘62; Dean McGuire, ‘61; Bob Huber, ‘62; Abe Roberts, ‘62; Spike Grosvenor, ‘63; and Bill Trenbeath, ‘63.

March. Mark Jackson completed his master’s degree in nonprofit management through Regis University, Denver. He was recently named associate dean for administration at Trinity Lutheran College, in Everett, Wash., where he chairs the youth and family studies program.

Sharon Ortiz works for the state of Washington as executive director at the Human Rights Commission, which enforces the state’s laws against discrimination. She reports that the work is challenging, exciting and rewarding, and she calls her time at Whitworth the most transformational experience of her life.

DEATHS
Shannon (Juliano) Franz, ’92, died Oct. 30. She is survived by her husband, two children, mother, and other family. Kelu Ndunge Maundu, ’98, died in November. She was an accountant and an aspiring entrepreneur. She is survived by her parents, sister, Josephine Maundu, x’97, brother, and other family.

BIRTHS
1990 a boy, Braden Nathaniel, to Adam and Britt (Blom, ’94) Green, June 19, 2009
1993 a boy, Kai Boomer, to Matt and Heidi (Boomer) Van Sickle, March 25
1994 a boy, Joshua Michael, to Michelle (Ryker) and Erik Batsford, Sept. 9
1995 twins, a boy, Kehne, and a girl, Maryn, to Taudd and Mandolyn (Walm, ’97) Hume, Nov. 19
1996 a boy, Brandon, to Kari (Happ) and Steve Cormwell, March 2009
1997 a boy, Luke Anthony, to Teresa (Hochstatter) and Alan Nicholas, April 10, 2009
1998 a boy, Naoya, to Sumika Hashimoto, Sept. 8
1998 a girl, Tillie Jean, to Kirsten (Brandvold) and Douglas Sabata, Nov. 14, 2008
1998 a girl, Gemma Josephine Violet, to Hilary (Martin) and Timothy Williams, Dec. 3, 2008
1999 a boy, Gabriel Jack, to Nathan and Andrea (Leksen, ’00) Harrison, Nov. 6
1999 a girl, Eleanor Serenity Grace, adopted by Mary (Hubele) and Dennis Hodge, March 2
1999 a girl, Eliana Nafisa, to Angela (Reynolds) and Reuben Schug, Aug. 8
1999 a girl, Larkin Marie, to Adam and Joscelyn (Wilson) Stevens, April 15, 2009

80s
1982 Jim Nendel is the head coach of Finland’s Porvoo Butchers, who are competing this year for a European football championship title. Jim is in Finland not only to coach, but also to develop relationships and opportunities for the ministry A Champion’s Heart – He Po’ole;a Pu’uwai – which works through sport and play to bring hope to children, families.

Exploring China’s Past
A recent article in the *Atlantic Monthly* featured the Linden Centre, a carefully restored cultural retreat in China’s southeast Himalayas. Founded by Jeanee Quan-Linden, ’88, and her husband, Brian, the Linden Centre represents a new paradigm for Chinese tourism. Located in a pristine functioning village, the centre immerses guests in the traditions of China’s dynastic past through unstaged interaction with local people, as well as activities, volunteerism and lectures. The Lindens, who met through Jeanee’s involvement as a student in the Whitworth-Nanjing University exchange program, are among the first foreign couples to gain access to such a precious Chinese cultural treasure. The *Atlantic Monthly* article can be found at www.theatlantic.com/doc/200910/chinese-town; info on the Linden Centre is available at www.linden-centre.com.

1985 Susan Lindsay Brumett works at the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, in Las Vegas, overseeing the evaluation, funded by the USDA, of an in-house program for the prevention of childhood obesity. The program for pre-schoolers, “All 4 Kids,” can be found on YouTube at “UNR Cooperative Extension, All 4 Kids.” Timothy and Sofia Veldhuizen and their children, Teo, Thomas, Olivia and Juli, live in Mercedes, Argentina. Tim sold his restaurants and is on a three-year sabbatical. The family drove to Argentina on a four-month exploration, and the kids attend elementary school while Tim and Sofia relax.

1986 Yvette (Madsen) Nichols lives in Blaine, Wash., with her husband, Carl, and two sons, Joel (17), and Kyle (15). After a three-year sailing circumnavigation of Mexico, the South Pacific, and New Zealand, Yvette works as an R.N.

1989 Sean Barrett completed the U.S. Army’s Command and General Staff College. His wife Yuriko (Ejiri, ’95) and son Keith, ’13, moved to Fort Bragg, N.C., where Sean is director of personnel for the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division; he was recently deployed to Iraq as part of an advise-and-assist brigade in Al Anbar Province.

1989 Elaine (Perkins) Leiter, ’80, died Oct. 22. After graduating from Whitworth, Elaine worked for several television stations and enjoyed hot-air ballooning and riding motorcycles. She is survived by her husband, two children, and other family. Ann Hayes, ’81, died March 3. She is survived by her husband, daughter, son, and other family. Sharon Nunn, ’85, died Jan. 20. She became a career counselor after completing her master’s degree in applied behavioral science at Whitworth. Sharon is survived by her husband, two sons, mother, and other family. Christianne Sharman, ’86, died Jan. 20. Well-known in Spokane for her writing talent and her sense of humor, she was the owner of a public relations firm and a writer for The Spokesman-Review. Christianne is survived by her husband, father, brother, Graham Sharman, III, ’91, uncle, Bill Clothier, ’67, cousin, Trevor St. John, ’93, and other family.

1989 Annie Boulet, ’89, died Dec. 9. She was a dedicated teacher and school counselor. Annie is survived by her parents, brother, grandparents, and other family.

1989 a girl, Sombai Moriah Ceidlidh, adopted by Doug and Lorinda Funk Newton, Nov. 23

1989 a girl, Hazel Lynn Bellingham, adopted by Ted and Katie (Bellingham, ’93) Wisenor, Nov. 23

Restoring the Earth: Shriver chronicles resurgence in Central America

by Andrea Idso, ’11

While at Whitworth, Jefferson Shriver, ’92, participated in the Central America Study Program, which he says was his single most important experience in college. The program shaped Shriver to the extent that he has spent 13 of the past 15 years in Central America, first on assignment with the Mennonite Central Committee, and later, by choice, as a part of Catholic Relief Services’ flagship agricultural program. The program is creating 23,000 new jobs in Nicaragua and is increasing the incomes of thousands of farmers there.

In his role, Shriver seeks to discover economic development opportunities for rural families in a region where few such opportunities exist. Through these experiences, he has become aware of the lack of research on economic development initiatives that also protect the environment in places such as Nicaragua.

Shriver’s search for practical examples of such initiatives led him to write a book, Reaping Profits While Restoring the Environment: Lessons from Central America (VDM Verlag Dr. Müller, 2009). In it, Shriver discusses the initiative he believes will be most advantageous: Payment for Environmental Services (PES), a concept that commoditizes environmental services.

“The concept is simple: Pay the land user for the environmental services he or she provides, which will create a direct incentive for the land user to include these services in his or her land-use decisions,” Shriver says.

For example, Shriver says Central American farmers often provide environmental services to their community by preventing soil erosion, incorporating trees into their farming system, and using agricultural inputs that don’t contaminate the soil, water or air. He believes the farmers should be compensated for their efforts, especially since, in addition to helping local communities, such practices store carbon and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

“People are growing accustomed to hearing about the myriad ways we are destroying the planet,” Shriver says. “What readers may be surprised and hopeful to read about are examples in the book of how the environment is being restored and protected, while rural families prosper.”

He continues, “I have witnessed the creation of beautiful, diverse agro-forestry systems of hardwoods, fruit trees, and shade-grown cocoa plants that only five years ago were barren cow pastures. Rural families are playing the primary role in this restorative process, this healing of the creation.”

Reaping Profits While Restoring the Environment: Lessons from Central America is available at Amazon.com.
At Ease
Chief Master Sergeant Craig A. Weddle, ’74, was honored Feb. 7 at his retirement ceremony, at Spokane’s Fairchild AFB. More than 300 people were in attendance, including his wife, Sharon (Mason) ’76, daughter Megan, ’12, and son Christopher. He also received a letter of congratulations and thanks from President Barack Obama. Weddle had the second-oldest date of rank of any Chief Master Sergeant in the Active Duty or Reserve Air Force. He says that he feels fortunate to have served long enough to learn that it was a privilege and not a chore. “Like so many things, it turned out to be a blessing I never saw coming 40 years ago,” he says. Weddle was deployed multiple times during his years of service. Most recently, he was sent to Kirkuk Regional Air Base, in Iraq, for four months in 2007. Since May 2008, Weddle has served as special assistant to the commander of the Washington Air National Guard.

1971 Doug Curtis is the recipient of PEMCO’s 2010 Robert J. Handy Award as Washington’s most effective small-school administrator. Doug is the K-12 principal of the Lacrosse Public Schools.

1977 Lawrence Lynch, x’77, was named the 2009 Service Recovery of the Year winner for the chemicals division of Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., an independent product-safety-certification organization. Lawrence works as an engineering associate in the chemicals sector and lives in Vancouver, Wash. Nancy (Wendlandt) Matthews lives in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, with her husband, David, and their two sons, Lukas (23) and Josh (19). Her book, Sabbaticals 101: A Practical Guide for Academics and Their Families (New Forums Press), was published last fall. It includes advice and anecdotes gleaned from five overseas sabbaticals and exchanges Nancy spent with her husband, who is a professor of statistics at the University of Waterloo. Nancy is the coordinator of a program for the spouses of international students at the University of Waterloo, and is also a freelance writer.

1978 Dennis Docheff has been a professor in the department of kinesiology at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, Mo., since 2001 and was recently named president-elect of the National Association for Sport and Physical Education.

DEATHS

Mariedyth Emerson, ’70, died Jan. 1. After earning a master’s degree in music, she taught private piano lessons. She is survived by a nephew, niece, and other family. Robert Hill, ’70, died Dec. 23. Robert worked as a district manager for Best Foods for 35 years; he enjoyed golf, snow skiing, and spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife, two sons, and other family. Lynn (Menohers) Seidenberg, ’71, died Nov. 15. She is survived by her husband, Thomas Seidenberg, ’73, two children, and other family. Isabelle (Wycoff) Moe, ’72, died Jan. 26. She taught home economics for 30 years in Spokane, and is survived by two daughters, including Ellen (Moe) Picton, ’92, and other family. Linda (Smith) Burger, ’73, died March 23. She enjoyed playing the piano, cooking and traveling. Linda is survived by her husband, daughter, mother, and other family. Claire (Gartin) Havens, ’73, died Nov. 2. She was a teacher for most of her adult life. Claire is survived by her husband, two children, and other family. Betty (Cardwell) McLain, ’73, died April 6. She enjoyed a long career in education, first at Coeur D’Alene High School, in Idaho, and then at North Idaho College. Betty is survived by her husband, four children, and other family. Joseph Scarcelli, ’73, died Jan. 1. He was a U.S. Navy pilot during World War II, and he taught elementary school for many years. Joseph is survived by his wife, eight children, and other family. George Perry, ’74, died in a car accident alongside his wife, Clara, on March 28. George was the athletics director at Garey High School, in Pomona, Calif. After his years of coaching football in Las Vegas from 1991-99, he was named to the Southern Nevada Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Denise (Nelson) Brothers, x’76, died Oct. 24. Over the years, Denise worked as a

Inauguration of Whitworth’s 18th President

Plan now to join the Whitworth family Oct. 11-15 for a week-long celebration exploring the theme “Community of Courage.” The week will culminate with the inauguration of Whitworth’s 18th president, Beck Taylor, on Friday, Oct. 15, followed by a banquet in downtown Spokane.

Details will be available soon at www.whitworth.edu/inauguration.
An Unexpected Calling: Alum coaches Bangladeshi national squash team

by Morgan Feddes, ’11

When he graduated from Whitworth in 2000, Will Mather never imagined he’d be the head coach of Bangladesh's squash team. Mather says it was “jobs and Jesus” that led him to where he is today.

After marrying Rachal (Shim, ’00) in 2001, Mather held several jobs before ending up in a leadership position in Hawaii in 2003. While in Hawaii, Mather was introduced to squash and developed a passion for missions. The Mathers ministered to young adults in Hawaii, and later traveled to Bangladesh on a mission trip. The experience in Bangladesh transformed him and Rachal, Mather says. He spent a few more years working several jobs at once and started his own business before giving it all up to move to Dhaka, Bangladesh, in April 2008.

Mather says that he was called by God in a dream to be the first Bangladesh squash coach. “I thought my ministry was going to be with an orphanage in southern Bangladesh,” he says, “but I decided to follow up on the dream instead.”

Mather took a three-day train ride into India to offer his assistance at the 2009 World Junior Squash Championships. The tournament director, Major (Ret.) S. Maniam, delegated a great deal of responsibility to him. Mather did everything he could to serve, making connections with famous squash players along the way. Unbeknownst to Mather, Maniam recommended him to people in Bangladesh, who then offered Mather the coach’s position.

Mather rides his bike 70 kilometers a day and plays a sport he enjoys while reaching out to people at the same time. He has met Bangladesh’s Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina. But his job is not always fun and games. He and one of his players were attacked in separate incidents during his first month; Mather broke and dislocated his playing hand, while the player was stabbed 17 times and had to have more than 2,000 stitches. The young man was able to return to the team in time to represent Bangladesh in the South Asian Games last January.

Mather has had four excellent job offers since the South Asian Games, but he hasn’t felt God’s call in any of them. “My mission right now is in Bangladesh,” he says. “And while I know I’m a good coach, I want to gain all the experience I can here, when it is hardest and I am feeling stretched.”

Mather learned all about “feeling stretched” at Whitworth. “I loved my time there,” he says. “I had the best teachers, who challenged my assumptions and demanded thoughtful contribution, even though they knew they wouldn’t always get it from me!”

Mather with students at a junior training session

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W. Nadine (Yarwood) Costanzo, ’77, died March 8. She is survived by a daughter and other family. Amy (Burke) Burkesmith, ’79, died Dec. 13. She is survived by her husband, Michael Burkesmith, ’81, and two daughters, brother-in-law William Smith, ’82, and other family.

60s

1960 Janice (Lamott) and Samuel Adams, ’61, are serving as interim co-pastors at the Central Presbyterian Church, in Longmont, Colo., after completing a two-year assignment as interim co-pastors at University Presbyterian Church, in Fairbanks, Alaska.

1965 Randy Hearne and Carolyn Brandt were married on Nov. 24, in Modesto, Calif., by Rev. Ed Hart, ’68. Randy is a veteran of 237 F-4 combat missions over North and South Vietnam, and has a master’s degree in aeronautical science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

1967 Karen Byrne retired after nearly 40 years of service to school, academic, and public libraries in Washington and Pennsylvania. She looks forward to time for personal growth, travel, and restoring her 1910 Craftsman house in Spokane.


DEATHS

Frank Sjursen, x’60, died Nov. 26. Frank was a professor of psychology at Shoreline Community College, in Shoreline, Wash., for 38 years. He enjoyed running marathons. He is survived by two children, two stepchildren and other family. Marjorie (Harrison) Christensen, ’61, died Dec. 8. She was a teacher for 25 years. Marjorie is survived by two children and...
Faces, Souls and Painted Crows
Dr. Rudi Unterthiner, ’61, was featured in a recent edition of Plastic Surgery Practice, which highlighted his outstanding service in the field of plastic surgery and the success of his recently published book, Faces, Souls and Painted Crows. The novel is a fictionalization of the author’s experiences as a plastic surgeon caught between encounters with Southern California celebrities and his true calling, to help the Indians of Mexico’s Baja region. Unterthiner’s book is available on Amazon.com and at the Whitworth bookstore.

four stepchildren, including Ann (Christensen) Mulholland, ’55, John Christensen, ’60, and Bob Christensen, ’67, and other family. Walter Schofstoll, ’62, died Dec. 24. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was a math and history teacher for 25 years. Walter is survived by three children and other family, including granddaughter Rebecca Schofstoll, ’11. A. Elodie “Lou” (Dahlgren) Mix, ’64, died April 5. She was a retired teacher who had worked for Spokane’s East Valley School District. Lou is survived by her son and other family.

Koreyne (Knollman) Simpson, ’64, died Nov. 12. She is survived by her daughter, Linda (Simpson) Tucker, ’66, son-in-law Steven Tucker, ’66, and other family. Albert Huffine, ’65, died June 25, 2009. He is survived by his wife, three children, and other family. John Clemons, ’67, died Feb. 9. He had a 30-year career with the Washington Department of Labor and Industries, and he enjoyed fishing and hunting. John is survived by his wife, two daughters, including Danielle (Clemons) Lange, ’02, two stepsons, brothers Neil Clemons, ’63, William Clemons, ’72, and Randall Clemons, ’78, sisters-in-law Karen (Hayfield) Clemons, x’72, and Laura Lewis-Clemons, ’80, son-in-law Jeremiah Lange, ’02, niece Katie (Clemons) Handy, ’04, and other family.

Richard Liljenberg, ’67, died June 23, 2009. Richard was a disc jockey for various radio stations in Portland, Ore. He is survived by two sons, his parents, and other family. Arthur Rudolph, ’67, died Nov. 8. Arthur was a teacher for more than 25 years, and he enjoyed playing music. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Rudolph, ’68, two daughters, and other family. William Moldovan, ’69, died Oct. 26. William spent a total of 32 years in military and civil services; he enjoyed agriculture and dairying. He is survived by three sisters and other family. Susan (Vickery) Webb, ’69, died Feb. 27. She was an elementary school teacher and an avid Seattle Sounders soccer fan. Susan is survived by her husband, son, daughter, and other family.

Elaine (Ferry) Schaffer, x’50, died Sept. 24. Elaine was a nurse. She is survived by three children, sister-in-law Alyce Schaffer, ’52, and other family. Viola (Goodale) Deibert, ’50, died Nov. 13. She was known for her deep love for family, music and the church. She is survived by her husband, three children, niece Laree (Saunders) Gregory, ’57, and other family. Marie (Barnes) Grier, x’50, died April 4. She was a teacher for 28 years, and she enjoyed RVing with her family. Marie is survived by her husband, two children, and other family. William McCord, ’50, died Nov. 13, 2009. He was a science teacher for 35 years. He is survived by his wife, Gladys (Wessel) McCord, ’49, a daughter, son Matthew McCord, x’08, daughter-in-law Katie (Bond) McCord, x’08, and other family. Richard McCrea, ’50, died Nov. 6. Richard earned a master’s degree in education and was a teacher and principal for 35 years. He is survived by his wife, three children, and other family. Wesley Blair, ’51, died Feb. 7. Throughout his career he was a research psychologist for the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps, a supervisor at General Dynamics Corp., and a research scientist and manager at Lockheed Missiles and Space Corp. He is survived by his wife, Shirley (Swain) Blair, ’51, three sons, one daughter, and other family. Shirley (Day) Trimble, ’51, died Jan. 2. She was a teacher and school librarian in Spokane. Shirley is survived by her husband, three children, and other family. Jackie (Cosman) Ridenour, ’52, died Dec. 19. She is survived by her husband, Fritz Ridenour, ’56, and other family. Robert Goodale, ’54, died Dec. 25. He was a teacher for more than 30 years. Robert is survived by his wife, two children, and other family, including nephew Ronald Goodale, ’90. Faye Turner, x’54, died Dec. 5. Faye, an avid artist, is survived by her husband, two children, and other family. Frieda (Uttke) Charneski, ’57, died Nov. 3. Marlene spent her career as a medical technologist in Spokane; she loved hiking around the U.S. and Canada. She is survived by her husband, Lawrence Charneski, ’58, a son, brother Fred Uttke, ’74, and other family.

Free Lifetime E-mail Accounts for Whitworth Alumni

Whitworth Information Systems, in partnership with the Whitworth Office of Alumni & Parent Relations and Microsoft, is implementing e-mail-for-life accounts for all Whitworth alumni. Alums are now able to create a “Whitworth Live” (Windows Live™) Outlook web access account through Whitworth. For more information, and to register for your free e-mail account, go to www.whitworth.edu/whitworthlive.
family. Douglas Honeyford, x’57, died Nov. 18. Douglas’ love was chemistry, and he had a long career as a science teacher and wood-products researcher. He is survived by his wife, seven children, and other family. Jeanetta (Lystra) Jolley, ’58, died Dec. 8. She was a teacher, librarian, and school counselor for 42 years. Jeanetta is survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Marjorie (White) Hahn, ’58, died Feb. 24. She was a teacher, and she is survived by one niece and four nephews. Carroll McCormick, ’59, died Nov. 8. He served in the Armed Forces during the Korean conflict and was a missionary, a teacher, and a member of the Peace Corps. Carroll is survived by his wife, Betty Ann McCormick, ’58, sons John McCormick, ’84, and Robert McCormick, ’85, and other family. Frank Tremel, ’59, died March 18. He was a veteran of the Korean conflict, and he was involved in the United Way of Roseburg, Ore., as well as in other types of ministry. Frank is survived by his wife, Elizabeth (Williams) Tremel, ’58, two daughters, including Dorothy (Tremel) Hanes, ’81, and other family. 

Selma (Lystra) Jolley, ’58, died Dec. 8. He was a veteran of the Korean conflict and was a missionary, a teacher, librarian, and school counselor for 42 years. Jeanetta is survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Marjorie (White) Hahn, ’58, died Feb. 24. She was a teacher, and she is survived by one niece and four nephews. Carroll McCormick, ’59, died Nov. 8. He served in the Armed Forces during the Korean conflict and was a missionary, a teacher, and a member of the Peace Corps. Carroll is survived by his wife, Betty Ann McCormick, ’58, sons John McCormick, ’84, and Robert McCormick, ’85, and other family. Frank Tremel, ’59, died March 18. He was a veteran of the Korean conflict, and he was involved in the United Way of Roseburg, Ore., as well as in other types of ministry. Frank is survived by his wife, Elizabeth (Williams) Tremel, ’58, two daughters, including Dorothy (Tremel) Hanes, ’81, and other family.

“Sally” (Schmidt) McGrath, x’45, died Feb. 24. Selma was a teacher; she retired from Seattle Public Schools. She is survived by two daughters, including Kathie (McCgrath) Colwell, ’69, son-in-law Steve Colwell, ’69, and other family. Marjorie (Jessen) Rozell, ’46, died May 10, 2009. Marjorie was a nurse who held a master’s degree in public health. She is survived by four children and other family. Margery (Haas) Clewett, ’48, died March 3. She is survived by four children and other family, including brother Frank Haas, ’54, and sister-in-law Gloria (Berry) Haas, x’56. Miriam (Petrequin) Haglund, ’48, died Nov. 12 and is survived by her husband, and daughter Nancy (Haglund) Collins, ’79. Don Miller, ’49, died Oct. 10. He was always appreciative of Whitworth and the friends he made during his years there. Donald is survived by his wife, three children, and other family.

Clifford Bromling, ’31, Whitworth’s oldest known alumnus, died Oct. 19 at the age of 101. He dedicated his life to young people through teaching, coaching and mentoring. Cliff had fond memories of his years at Whitworth, where he played football, basketball and baseball. He is survived by two children and other family. Elsie (Ratsch) Fariss, ’34, died Nov. 12. She is survived by her daughter, Marjory Fariss, ’64, her son, and other family. Paul Hunsberger, ’38, died Dec. 2. Paul was a military chaplain who served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam during his 27-year career in the Army. He is survived by his wife, five children, and other family.

Howard Zehm
Howard Zehm, who retired after a long career in facilities services at Whitworth, died Jan. 12, 2009. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Carol, also a longtime Whitworth employee, and by his children, his grandchildren, and other family members.

In Memoriam

Marjorie Dixon
Marjorie Dixon, wife of longtime Whitworth business and economics professor Harry Dixon, died Jan. 2. She is survived by her husband, sons Dwight Dixon, x’69, and Mark Dixon, ’76, and daughter-in-law Virginia Dixon, x’76.

John Pouk
Former trustee John Pouk died in August. Pouk, who served on the board from 1991-2005, “always had an eye for good business deals and was a huge asset to the finance committee,” according to Whitworth President Bill Robinson. Pouk contributed his business expertise in the completion of the Hixson Union Building, the remodel of the Johnston Science Center, and the updating of a number of Whitworth’s residence halls.

Barbara Spencer
Barbara Spencer, who worked as Whitworth’s print shop manager for 20 years, died at home on Nov. 9. She is survived by her children, Bruce Spencer, ’74, Charlie Spencer, x’76, and Donna (Spencer) McComas, ’72, as well as by five grandchildren, including Erin (McComas) Nystrom, ’02.
Confessions of a Whitworth Phonathoner

by Jordan Karnes, ’06

I had ideal college jobs. I worked at the Whitworth Post Office, sliding parcels into an impressive honeycomb of boxes. I worked at the library, re-shelving each book to its final decimal. I reveled in these positions, in their prime campus locations and their reputations as coveted college jobs. So how did I end up working for the Whitworth Phonathon in the final stretch of my college career, wrestling strangers from their dinnertime conversations? The answer is predictable: I had just returned from a semester-long study program and was broke.

My first night on the job, I found myself in a swiveling office chair, scanning a computer screen full of scripts and stats, wearing a fancy hands-free telephone headset I had always wanted as a kid, and navigating the complexities of automatic dialing. Look at me now, folks, I thought; just look at me now.

That night I talked to Becky, ’78, elementary-ed major, teacher at Ridgeview Elementary School, in Yakima, former resident of Ballard, member of chamber singers, participant in intramural sports, wife to Todd and mother to Jake and Torrence.* Becky politely declined to donate. She and Todd were still making car payments.

I once had someone fake a disconnected line by rubbing tissue paper or bubble wrap against the receiver. On many occasions the intended callee told me I had the wrong number. One man hung up on me. Another said I should be ashamed to call on Sundays.

There was a time when I thought I couldn’t make it any longer. It was a two-week period in which we called non-donor parents of students who had attended at least 10 years ago, and friends of the college – those whose only connection to Whitworth was that they had given once in the past. Each night I left work feeling like a terrible person, that I had compromised my integrity. It was as if I was a solicitor not for scholarships, but shame. This is Whitworth we’re talking about: Presbyterians and pinecones and pranks on the green. These were supposed to be nice people. Nice people don’t hang up on you. Nice people say “please” and “thank you,” or at least “I’m sorry” and “maybe next time.”

The bigwigs gave us games – incentives to keep morale high. For every pledge received, we got a trivia question; for every correct answer, we earned a point. Whoever had the most points at the end of the night was the winner. These games might be the only reason I ever raised any money for Whitworth. I’m just too competitive. It didn’t matter what the prize was – it could have been a pile of dirt – I wanted it. I once won a $10 gift certificate to Chicken-N-More. That was a good night: I scored four credit-card donations.

Recent grads were my favorite alums to call, regardless of their shallow pockets. Warm memories of Whitworth were still at the forefront of their minds, and on these calls I liked to drive the message home with a hefty hammer. There were so many nails to hit! I knew their friends and professors; most important, I knew their language. I often “broke it down” for them, a technique that involved lowering my voice and using a lot of slang.

“I know what you’re thinking – I do. But this is so legit. Even five bucks makes a big difference, you know? Did Whitworth ever give you money for doing something, like being a leader? Where do you think that money came from?”

Last May as I walked home from the grocery store, a cluster of bags in tow, I got a call from a 509 area code. I rested the bags on the sidewalk and listened in half awe, half amusement as Stephanie,* an awkward sophomore, explained the exclusive benefits being offered to President’s Club Gold members. She stuck to the script but did well to incorporate my college stats (Class of 2006, English major, former resident of Stewart Hall, former DJ at KWRS, former manager of Script) a mere 15 seconds into our chat. As she spoke, I thought about the four years that connected the San Diego street corner where I stood and the phonathon swivel chair where I once sat. I thought of Whitworth, and of how glad I was to have been a part of such a good community, to have received such thorough instruction. Noting that I’d given in the past, Stephanie asked if I’d be willing to give again that afternoon. I smiled as I brought the phone closer to my chin and said, “Sure, but what’s in it for you?”

Jordan Karnes,’06, is a freelance writer and editor living in San Diego. This fall she plans to attend California College of the Arts, in San Francisco, to earn an MFA in creative writing. Read more of her work at jordankarnes.com.

To meet the 2010 Whitworth Phonathon student-callers and learn more about the Phonathon, visit www.whitworth.edu/phonathon.

*Names and specific information have been changed.
Feather, Spoken Softly, screen print, 13” x 17.5”

by Nathan Ellefson, winner of the 2010 senior art show award. One of Ellefson’s pieces will be selected for the Whitworth permanent art collection.
Bill Robinson’s tenure as Whitworth’s 17th president, from 1993 to 2010, is the second-longest and one of the most influential in the university’s history. Inspired by Bill’s leadership and service, Whitworth students, faculty and staff have joined with alumni, donors and friends to achieve record levels of freshman applications, enrollment and retention at the university, along with $83 million in campus improvements and national recognition in numerous areas.

Bill’s influence is also seen in other, less visible ways. The Whitworth Endowment Fund has almost quadrupled during his presidency, primarily through the generous donations of Whitworth’s alumni, parents, faculty, staff members and friends. “Endowment funds enable colleges and universities to achieve levels of excellence they couldn’t reach with tuition revenues alone,” Bill says. “They also relieve pressure on schools to keep growing their enrollments. Schools with the best resources per capita are those with the largest endowment per student, so investing in the Whitworth endowment protects our community – which is why Bonnie and I have included the endowment fund in our will.”

Naming the Whitworth Endowment Fund as a beneficiary in your will is an excellent way to show your support for an education of the mind and heart – and to make a difference for generations of Whitworthians to come. For more information, please contact The Whitworth Foundation at 800.532.4668 or foundation@whitworth.edu. Or visit our website at www.whitworth.edu/foundation.

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<thead>
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<th>Then &amp; Now</th>
<th>1993</th>
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<td>Nickname among students</td>
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<td>B-Rob</td>
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<td>Freshman applications</td>
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<td>Issues of Mind &amp; Heart written</td>
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<td>Size of the Whitworth Endowment</td>
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<td>$83 million</td>
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<td>Number of science majors</td>
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<td>Size of graduating class</td>
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