



WINTER 2012

Significance

CHANGING THE WORLD THROUGH CHARITABLE GIFT PLANNING

SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY



A BIOLOGY MAJOR EXTRAORDINAIRE

Michelle Suh

To say that junior Michelle Suh has a bubbly personality is akin to saying Niagara is a decent-sized waterfall. By her own admission, the biology major from Portland, Oregon, laughs a lot and has a personality that pops. Her favorite color is yellow and she serves a God who has “a bigger plan for me than I know.”

All the same, she knows what she wants and is a bit of a perfectionist. Her favorite course is Human Anatomy and Physiology, because it reveals the amazing intricacies of the human body — “every little thing made for a specific purpose.”

How, the budding speech therapist wants to know, could there not be a God?

Michelle is a recipient of the David E. and Patricia A. Mattingley Science and Engineering Scholarship, a financial boost that she says helps “lift the burden for me and my parents.” She nannies two little boys 15 hours a week and carries a tough academic load. The targeted scholarship means she didn’t have to join the difficult competition for national scholarships

or take on another job. "How could I be busier than I already am?" wonders Michelle, who is also a paid member of SPRINT (Seattle Pacific Reachout International) Core, which involves interviewing students for short-term mission trips. "I could give the Mattingleys a hug for being so generous!"

Michelle's SPRINT involvement is a natural outgrowth of the 19-year-old's own month-long SPRINT trip to Guatemala in the summer of 2010. While there, the student of Spanish since the sixth grade lived with the Alonzo family, where she was immersed in the language and became an important member of the household. "They took me in with open arms," she says, "and even drove two hours to introduce me to their extended family."

Part of her mission with eight other students from SPU was to demonstrate God's love with a medical focus. Several days were spent driving into rural villages to apply fluoride to children's teeth, give them toothbrushes, and teach them good oral hygiene.

"The kids were so excited," remembers Michelle, wearing her trademark smile. "They'd never seen foreigners before, and an Asian one at that!" That wasn't all some of them had never seen. Michelle said she was surprised by one frightened boy who cried because he'd never laid eyes on a toothbrush and didn't know what it would do. Her hopes once set on becoming a pediatrician, Michelle now believes that speech therapy will allow her to build a closer relationship with youngsters week-by-week. "I want to fix something for them that will affect their entire lives," she says. Being fluent in English, Korean, and Spanish will make her a trilingual asset.

Where's Michelle headed? Likely to graduate studies in linguistics. And her top travel pick is Machu Picchu. But ultimately, she says, there's no greater destination than to the center of God's will for her life.

Meet David and Patsy Mattingley

SCIENCE EDUCATION ONE OF MANY FAVORITE CAUSES

The thing about moving five times in a 25-year career is you never fully unpack. And December after December, your expanding Christmas card list eventually includes people in 20 states.

Such has been the experience of David '68 and Patricia Mattingley, avid supporters of higher education and an endowed science and engineering scholarship at Seattle Pacific University. David's career with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) took them from Seattle to El Paso to the San Francisco Bay Area to Washington, D.C., to Dallas-Fort Worth.

And now, in retirement, they hang their hats in Sequim, Washington, the "Lavender Capital of North America." Asked for their criteria for residency, they answer in unison: "Four seasons, saltwater accessibility, international exposure, and less rain than falls in Seattle."

Patricia, or Patsy as she prefers, plays flute and piccolo in monthly concerts and manages the Sequim City Band. She is

a member of the Sequim Centennial Committee in charge of planning an old-fashioned 4th of July. David is on the board of the local free health clinic and, despite a preference for sticking to himself, is president of the town's chapter of Rotary International.

As busy and involved as they like to be — "doing what we can to help" — the couple must have a sanctuary. Theirs is a three-acre hideaway with a waterfall they built, whitetail deer passing through, and a view of the Sequim-Dungeness Lighthouse, the first lighthouse completed in Washington Territory.

The background for their now 39-year marriage has not always been so idyllic. David spent 15 years working the street under cover, chasing and apprehending some very troubled individuals. Still, Patsy says she was "the good law enforcement wife" and ever ready to reassure someone's concern for her husband with a "Don't worry, Dave's fine."

She just never worried.

David moved up the ranks and began performing increasing technical services for the DEA. For the last 15 years of his career, his duties included law enforcement support and management. David and Patsy met in Sunnyside, Washington, where agriculture is king. He worked at his dad's service station between Army service in Vietnam and going to the DEA. Patsy Bates was one of only seven single teachers in the whole town. Similarly, David was one of the few eligible bachelors around. Patsy couldn't help notice that he was fun, had a good job, and did an especially thorough job on her car.

Their life together soon included a daughter, Jennifer, and horses named Nugget and Whiskey River. For years, Patsy was driver, groom, and "gofer" as Jennifer competed for six years in "eventing," a sport including dressage, cross-country riding, and show jumping. Though Patsy kept horses of her own for a time and continues to serve on two national-level equine boards, she is "now out of horses" for practical reasons. "It's tough to find a babysitter for a horse!" Jennifer is now a mother of the Mattingleys' only grandchild (another on the way) and a public affairs lobbyist in Washington, D.C.

In all their faith-strengthening adventures, David and Patsy have acquired a bedrock belief in the power of a liberal arts education. A 1970 graduate of Whitman College, Patsy grew up in a house where a college education was expected and it was important to give back to educational institutions and other organizations from which she would benefit over the years. The Bates Family Foundation was established to facilitate those gifts. She is one of the trustees who decides how the Foundation's money is to be distributed, including to the David E. and Patricia A. Mattingley Science and Engineering Scholarship Endowment.

For David, it is a natural outcome of a lifelong interest. My SPU education (B.S. Engineering Science) coupled with my Christian faith guided me throughout my career," says David. "You hear how the U.S. is suffering from a lack of engineers and scientists. This is a way for us to do something about it in a way that builds on the engaging the culture vision of SPU."

It's been a pretty good life, all in all, with just one exception: separation from little Lucas. The birth of their grandson brought again that old unsettled feeling. Another move is on the horizon. As David and Patsy quit from experience, the spring cherry blossoms in Washington, D.C., can be quite beautiful.

SPU's Endowment: Ranked among best managed in U.S.



Don Mortenson is president of the Seattle Pacific Foundation, where he is responsible for the Foundation's investment management and oversees the Seattle Pacific University endowment and charitable trust portfolio with more than \$95 million in assets. Don also serves as vice president for business and planning at Seattle Pacific University, providing executive leadership for the University's business, financial, and planning operations.

Needless to say, Don is someone who thinks a lot about endowment and why it matters, particularly in today's economic climate. Endowment funds are built through donor contributions that remain actively invested, allowing the University to draw support from the investments indefinitely. "I think the strength of the

University is in the quality of its programs, faculty, students, and facilities. All this is a high-cost enterprise, and this is where endowment comes into the picture," says Don.

"A strong endowment allows us to make an SPU education affordable by funding scholarships and grants. It also provides dependable funding to help us gain expertise and specialized quality in certain programs that are important to our mission."

The need for a significant endowment will continue to grow in the future because the number of college-aged students is predicted to decline over the next 15 years. Schools will be competing for a shrinking pool of students. "To the extent that we are able to keep our quality and affordability up, we are going to do well. The best way to do this is through endowment."

The SPU Endowment ranks amongst the best managed in the U.S., according to results of the 2010 NACUBO-Commonfund Endowment Study. "Since 'day one' our

approach to the SPU endowment has been to study and learn. We feel our best long-term sales credibility to donors is to build a track record of smart and reliable investment returns and choices," says Don. "I think the quality work of our staff, board, and advisors is key."

Many donors want to experience the lasting impact offered by endowments, which continue in perpetuity long after individual lifetimes. Donors also like to fund current, pressing needs. "My advice to donors is, if you want to support an SPU program or student scholarship, you should consider giving now for current needs, plus identify a portion of your gift we can invest for the long term. When you're gone, it will sustain itself at the current level."

Endowments may be built with a one-time gift of \$20,000 or may be pledged over a five year period. Many people find endowments through charitable bequests as well. For more information, request SPU's endowment brochure. Call 206-281-2702 or email giftplanning@spu.edu.

Leading and giving: Matt and Melanie Whitehead

The President's Circle is a community of donors who believe in the mission of Seattle Pacific University and contribute gifts of \$1,000 or more on an annual basis. Matt '79 and Melanie Buck Whitehead '79 are two members who give generously to the University every year. Their enduring ties to SPU are deep on both sides of their families. On Melanie's side, five generations have attended SPU. Her great grandfather was Wells Gwinn, a long-time board member, and the man for whom today's Gwinn Commons is named. Melanie's grandmother and mother were faculty members.

Matt's lineage is equally Falcon-rich. His grandfather attended Seattle Pacific, as did both his parents. Matt's father was on the Board of Trustees. Siblings of Matt's and Melanie's — as well as both their daughters — have graduated from SPU.

Matt is a longtime trustee and superintendent of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the Free Methodist Church. Last autumn the Board of Trustees began its search for a new president and selected Matt as chair of the search committee.

"President Eaton has done an outstanding job and the University is healthy and vibrant. It's an exciting time," says Matt. "One of the reasons we are members of the President's Circle is because I believe so strongly in the leadership that Phil has brought to this place. He's been a real mentor for me."

Melanie, who works in Campus Planning and Development, thinks SPU's vision of engaging the culture and changing the world is compelling and well worth a financial investment. She's seen SPU's effect on her two grown daughters' lives. "Our girls were really able to have an outstanding experience with the faculty. It continues to impact them. You're not going to find that in a big state school," she says.

President's Circle members enjoy special invitations on and off campus, an annual dinner event each autumn, and other benefits. For details please visit spu.edu/presidentscircle, email presidentscircle@spu.edu or call 206-281-2690.



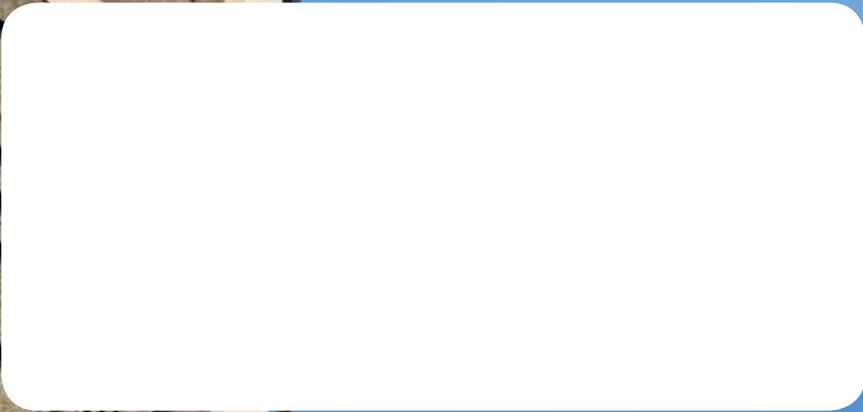


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Office of Development welcomes new gift officers

Seattle Pacific University is delighted to welcome Bryan Jones and Maribeth Martin to their new roles as gift officers in the Office of Development. Maribeth and Bryan look forward to the opportunity to become acquainted with you in the months ahead.



Bryan Jones
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Bryan '99 joined SPU's development team in November 2011, after serving the prior 10 years in undergraduate admissions. The experience of being both an SPU student and an admissions officer for his alma mater helped Bryan develop a unique perspective. He worked closely with both students and parents, guiding them through the college admissions process, and in doing so became very aware of how vital both scholarships and financial aid are for students' success.



Maribeth Martin
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Maribeth joined the SPU development team in August 2011. For more than 20 years she has worked for local organizations, connecting donors and volunteers with causes ranging from children's health care, to global relief and development, to affordable housing for seniors. "It is a joy and privilege to come alongside people who are passionate about SPU and who desire to maximize their charitable giving to expand opportunities for students to learn and serve," she says.

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Next issue

Coming in June

In the next issue of *Significance*, we will discuss gifts made through our wills. Bequests are an extremely easy and popular way of providing long-term support for the charitable organizations that are so important in our lives. As always, we will introduce you to some inspiring donors and students as we consider together how we can be good stewards of the blessings God has given us. Watch your mailbox in June for the next issue of *Significance*!

A time to honor Wellspring Society members

The Wellspring Society honors those who have included gifts to Seattle Pacific University in their estate plans. Members give in a variety of ways, such as through bequests in wills, charitable gift annuities, and charitable remainder trusts. Some members give through life insurance or by naming SPU to receive a future percentage of their retirement plan assets.

All members, and all gifts, no matter the size, are appreciated, and will be celebrated at this year's Wellspring Society Luncheon on May 22 in Upper Gwinn Commons. President Eaton will give his final address to members, and there will be special music performances by the SPU Women's Choir and acclaimed student soprano, Olivia Davis.

For more information on how to join the Wellspring Society, or to tell us if you have already planned a future gift to the University, please call us at 206-281-2702. We hope to see *you* at the Wellspring Society Luncheon in May!



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