



# The Western FRONT

September 2013

where the gospel meets the world



Patrick Lee (far right) with members of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

## The Ministry Huddle

By Christen Heaton,  
Western Seminary Alumna,  
Marital and Family Therapy,  
Class of 2010

Over three days in March, Western Seminary had seven Alumni speak at the Bay Area Sunday School Convention, or BASS as some of you know it. The BASS Church Workers Convention is held on the facilities of Redwood Chapel Community Church, Neighborhood Church and First Baptist Church of Castro Valley, and provides a great opportunity to hear a variety of speakers teach on subjects about which they are passionate. Topics can range from relationships, to educational opportunities, to small groups, or how to host a good retreat, all relating back to ministry.

*I had the opportunity to speak with Pat Lee and was able to hear how he is using his seminary training in his personal and professional life today. Read on to hear the story of Pat Lee.*

### **PATRICK LEE:**

*Patrick received an MA in Specialized Ministry in 2011. He is a husband, father, speaker, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes part-time director.*

**Christen Heaton:** Thank you for taking the time to share your story of how Western has impacted your life. I have a few questions for you, but feel free to elaborate or expand as much as you'd like. My first question is since you graduated

## IMPORTANT DATES

### SEPTEMBER 18

Free Discover Coaching event, 7:00pm-9:00pm  
RSVP by Sept. 16 at <http://westerncoaching.com>

### SEPTEMBER 28

20 year teaching celebration for MFT professor, Donelyn Miller. More details on page 2.

### OCTOBER 2

Discover Coaching Webinar, 10:30am-1:00pm

### OCTOBER 5

Campus Connection, 10:30am-1:00pm

Other Community Calendar dates

almost two years ago, have you been using your degree?

**Patrick Lee:** Not specifically

**CH:** Ok, can you tell me what you are doing professionally or in ministry?

**PL:** Currently, I am an itinerant speaker for Asian churches that have an English worship service, speaking also for Christian school chapels and various retreats. I am also the part-time director for Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) in the East Bay.

**CH:** So you are really involved in a variety

(continued on page 3)



*Donelyn Miller a couple of years after she began teaching at Western Seminary.*

## Celebrating 20 Years of Teaching

The Marital and Family Therapy program opened in the fall of 1993 at the San Jose campus. Donelyn Miller was among one of the professors that Dr. David Eckman hired for that first fall quarter to teach Interpersonal Communications (now called Clinical Foundations). Twenty years later, she is still going strong, teaching the Clinical Foundations and Child and Adolescent Therapy courses for the MFT department. Aside from Dr. Norm Thiesen, Donelyn is one of the original professors remaining since the MFT program was launched in San Jose. Donelyn has trained hundreds of students about the foundations of counseling and communication skills, child and adolescent therapy, and the art of empathy.

### **Western alumni, faculty and staff:**

We want to celebrate Donelyn's excellence in teaching, her faithfulness to the Western Seminary community, and the impact she's had on students' lives and their

professional careers. Please save the date for **Saturday, September 28** and plan to come be part of a special celebration. It will be from 1:00pm-3:30pm at Calvary Church in Los Gatos in rooms Parkside 1 and 2. This is a free event. We will have a time of worship, sharing, and fellowship. Hot appetizers and dessert will be served.

If you did not receive an Evite invitation about this event and if you are receiving this newsletter by mail, that means we do not have your current email address. If you want to receive Western news by email, please be sure to notify [Christen Heaton](#) in Alumni Relations.

### **Volunteers appreciated!**

We would appreciate volunteers for two to three hours to help with set up, greeting, serving food, and/or clean up. If you are available to help out at this event, please contact [Lisa Mueller](#) by September 20th.



## Congratulations to the Class of 2013!

On Saturday, July 20, 2013, Western Seminary San Jose held its annual commencement ceremony at Hillside Church in San Jose, CA, to celebrate the accomplishments of eleven graduates. Pastor Chip Ingram, father of one of our graduates, gave the commencement address. He compared the graduates to the eleven disciples at another commencement. Chip challenged our graduates not to stifle their vision to fit into what is possible by their own efforts, but to nurture a vision that boasts of a great and wonderful God. Three of our graduates, Annie

Iskandarian (MABTS), Sik-Lam Wong (MFT) and Sam Musgrave (MDiv), shared of how God has transformed their lives as a result of training at Western Seminary. They spoke emotionally about their deeper love for Jesus and appreciation of the Gospel. Dr. Ron Allen charged the graduates to become active participants in Psalm 117. It was a great day of celebration and praise to our great God!

*Written by Dr. Steve Korch  
Photos by Michelle Bengtson (Class of 2009), Poplar Photography*

**“THE MINISTRY HUDDLE” CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

of ministries all at once. Your schedule must constantly be different, given what each ministry needs from you each week. How do you balance all of those demands, along with being a husband and father?

**PL:** I enjoy a great amount of flexibility in my daily schedule. Since I consider myself pretty organized (developed from my formal education as an engineer), I have to keep my calendar straight with everything I have going on in my family and ministry life. I try to keep myself from being overloaded and/or triple-booked!!

**CH:** I've heard you describe yourself as Mr. Mom during the day, and then in the evenings is when your ministry takes shape. Can you walk us through what a typical day might look like for you?

**PL:** My typical day works out pretty well. While the boys are in school, I work on my FCA tasks which include ministering at local high school and college campuses. After school, I make my transportation rounds, lead baseball or basketball practices for my sons' teams and then help with homework. At night, I can prepare for Sunday messages and other ministry projects. In between all of this, I have the flexibility to also fulfill my role as husband and father. It is actually a pretty full day considering everything

involved. I also have a great wife who bails me out when I get out of whack!

**CH:** Wow! You weren't kidding when you said you have full days! With all that juggling, how would you say God is working in your life right now?

**PL:** After serving 15 years in full-time church staff pastoral positions, God is teaching me the parachurch side of ministry.

**CH:** And how has your graduate training at Western prepared you for your ministry?

**PL:** Honestly, I was serving/pastoring long before my seminary graduation. However, it has “prepared” me by giving me “street cred” for ministries who hold such degrees in high esteem.

**CH:** That makes sense. Is there anything else that you'd like other alums to know about what you are currently doing, or anything you are passionate about sharing?

**PL:** Specifically, I have had the opportunity to lead a workshop at the BASS Convention. It was entitled “Reaching a Growing Lost People Group - the Public School Student.” I believe the church is quickly losing ground/influence in the public schools. I support world missions, but I submit the

thought that we are losing sight of the “Jeruselems” (Acts 1:8 - public schools) over the “ends of the earth” targets. If we don't re-address this soon, the public school will be more of a “closed country” than Russia or China ever was.

Through FCA, we present the Gospel in the local schools by sharing stories of faith and sports during lunch time clubs called “Huddles.” We bring in a college or professional athlete/coach and offer free food to draw in the lunch crowd where he or she shares his or her testimony openly and appropriately. We garner local church support so as to give students who make a faith commitment somewhere to continue their faith. We target the student-athlete who might never get to attend a youth group or Sunday service because of their time commitment in sports.

If anyone would like to know more about this method of outreach and is interested in starting a Huddle in their local school, please contact me at [plee@fca.org](mailto:plee@fca.org) or check out our FCA website at [www.bayareafca.org](http://www.bayareafca.org).

**CH:** Patrick, thank you so much for taking the time to share not only your story, but how Western Seminary has played a small part in the journey you took to where you are working and serving right now.

## Opportunities and Resources for Western Alumni

### Welcome, Class of 2013!

We are proud to receive you as a newly minted member of our Western Seminary alumni family. Not to worry . . . there are no dues to join this fellowship!

### A Special Opportunity For the Class of 2013:

To aid new graduates in having a smoother transition after graduation, a group of Western-trained coaches have agreed to offer complimentary coaching sessions to help identify your next steps and reach your goals personally and or vocationally. Contact [Charmaine Williams](mailto:Charmaine.Williams@westernseminary.edu) for more information about this special service.

### Connect and benefit:

- Do you have concerns about fully establishing your ministry or vocation? Soon you will have access to alumni mentors and coaches who can provide guidance.
- Stay connected and network with Western alumni at various gatherings and events that meet on campus and around the Bay Area.
- Get special offers at seminars like the Global Leadership Summit occurring every August.
- Western faculty and staff want to pray for YOU. If you have any requests to add to our prayer list, email Dan Ruiz at [druiz@westernseminary.edu](mailto:druiz@westernseminary.edu).

- We receive regular contact from churches and para-church organizations for ministry and employment opportunities. Please see the Ministry and Counseling binders on campus on the front lobby table for more information.
- Audit one course per year for free. See page 4 for more details.
- Western provides alumni with opportunities to give back, volunteer, mentor or coach. Contact Western with your interests. To make a financial donation, go online to (<http://www.westernseminary.edu/Donors/PDX/makeagift.htm>) and select “San Jose Campus”) or contact [Charmaine Williams](mailto:Charmaine.Williams@westernseminary.edu).





Left to right: President Randy Roberts and Gary Thomas at the President's Dinner.

## A Celebration of Philanthropy at Western

Written by Charmaine Williams

This summer Western San Jose experienced something quite new - an inaugural Church Community event and the President's Dinner hosted on campus by Dr. Randal Roberts. Our keynote speaker was bestselling author Gary Thomas, D.D. '06. Although both events took place on the same day, the objectives for each gathering differed.

The Church Community event introduced ministry leaders to our Seminary. Staff, students, and friends of Western reached out to invite their ministry partners and church friends to experience our hospitality while pondering the theological design and purpose of marriage. Thomas challenged singles and marrieds by posing the question, "What if God designed marriage to make us holy more than to make us happy?" Later that evening, President Roberts

hosted a dinner to honor local alumni, students, and friends for their generous investment of financial resources and time. Many who attended the dinner were able to witness their impact firsthand as they saw the hustle and bustle of current and prospective students on campus that night.

The transformed library served as a nicely decorated café for dinner, dessert, and conversation. Dr. Louie opened with prayer and Dr. Roberts graciously thanked God and everyone who assisted in meeting Western's outreach, enrollment and financial goals.

Thomas then shared from the heart just how deep God's love is for His people. Our heavenly Father desires a "relationship" with His people in victories and defeats. He finished by sharing that attending a gospel-centered seminary helps solidify these essential truths.

Thanks to alumni and student volunteers, Western was able to glorify God through these and other key events such as graduation in July. We praise God for your involvement that assisted us in reaching needed goals and objectives. Your time and generosity are cherished now and welcomed in the future.

### Audit a Class for Free!

Alumni can take one eligible course per academic year free as an audit course, including Introduction to Coaching (MCS 510). You need only complete a [Non-Credit Application](#) form and the [Alumni Audit Opportunity](#) form and submit them to [Carrie Priest](#), Director of Student Services. Contact her at 408.356.6889 x405 or [carriepriest@westernseminary.edu](mailto:carriepriest@westernseminary.edu) to find out which courses are available to audit.

### Two Ways to Give Back to Western Seminary...

**...at no cost to you!**

**Purchase Western Seminary Apparel & More**  
and Western receives 15% of the proceeds  
**AND**

**Purchase Amazon Products**  
and Western receives 4-15% back! You must use the Amazon search engine on the Current Students Page.

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For alumni news, the Western Front, and additional community events -  
[www.westernseminary.edu/Alumni](http://www.westernseminary.edu/Alumni)  
(click on the "San Jose" button)

For Western Seminary San Jose campus news -  
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