



Significance

CHANGING THE WORLD THROUGH CHARITABLE GIFT PLANNING



The Watsons: Giving back to say *gracias*

If you've ever walked under the canopy of huge trees in SPU's Tiffany Loop, perhaps you've marveled at the many branches, imagined the deep roots.

The family trees of Carolyn Rosser Watson '68 and Larry Watson '68 and their clans' ties to SPU are similarly longstanding.

Larry traces his lineage to the 1920s, when his grandfather, C. Hoyt Watson, became the third president of Seattle Pacific College. His father, Lyle Watson '34, and mother, Elsie Parmenter Watson '35, met at SPU. Larry, his four siblings, and many other family members graduated from Seattle Pacific.

Carolyn's parents, Phoebe Peterson Rosser '42 and Paul Rosser '40, also met at SPC. Her father taught at Seattle Pacific for 30 years, and her mother taught and held administrative support roles. More recently, Larry and Carolyn's three sons attended SPU, as well as two of their daughters-in-law.

"I practically grew up on the campus," said Carolyn. She recalls climbing SPU's trees, collecting chestnuts, riding her bike around campus, playing in her parents' classrooms, and visiting her grandmother's home adjacent to campus.

TRANSITIONS



This calendar year has been marked by tremendous change. The novel coronavirus pandemic has altered all of our lives in unimaginable ways. From the mundane (Do I have enough toilet paper?) to the serious (How

do I file for unemployment insurance?), we have all had to transition our thinking and behaviors to adjust to our new realities. It has been no different at Seattle Pacific. Faculty have had to adjust to teaching online courses, literally overnight. Students have had to adjust to new learning and living structures that include new safety protocols. And staff have had to adjust to working remotely, using Zoom or other online resources to stay connected with one another. Transitioning to these new ways of living and doing the work God has called us to have had their challenges. But the Lord's faithfulness in the midst of these challenges gives us hope for the future of SPU.

On a personal note, I am also in transition. I will be retiring at the end of December. After 20 years at SPU and 21 years serving other Christian organizations, it is time to transition to this new season in my life. It has been my pleasure knowing and working with so many of you over the years. May the Lord bless you as you continue to pray for and support the mission of Seattle Pacific University.

Sincerely,

Marlon Sandlin
Director of Endowments and Gift Planning

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While Larry followed family tradition in choosing SPU, Carolyn set her sights farther afield.

"I didn't want to go to SPU because I'd grown up there," she said. So she spent her freshman year at Wheaton and dove into Spanish language studies.

"I returned to SPU as a sophomore with a less-than-positive attitude and missing Wheaton," she admits. "But the Spanish teacher hired that year — Dr. Louise Faye — was wonderful, just excellent. She taught us so well. Not just the literature, but techniques for teaching foreign language. She gave me and others a strong foundation. I know that was God's provision for me and just what I needed."

Despite growing up in the same church — First Free Methodist — and attending SPU together, Larry and Carolyn barely noticed each other.

They connected at First Free after graduation — Carolyn with a Spanish degree, Larry in mathematics — and their family trees finally merged in 1969.

After three years of teaching, they both earned master's degrees at Arizona State University. Larry returned to teach math and physics in Seattle Public Schools, retiring after 30 years. Carolyn stayed home with their children for 11 years, and returned to teaching in private Christian schools, spending most of her 28-year Spanish-teaching career at Seattle Christian School. Larry also taught part time at SCS for several years, and both fully retired from teaching in 2007.

In 1988, Carolyn went on her first mission trip to Mexico with SCS, and it changed her life.

"I was really not all that interested in missions until that first trip," she said, "but by the next year I was in charge of the mission program and led a student team to Mexico every June for 14 years. In 1992, we started taking adult teams doing medicine and dentistry. By then I was also taking advanced students on trips every spring break, so three trips a year. It was challenging, but I learned so much, and seeing what it did in the lives of students and others made it worth all the effort."

She developed and marketed Vacation Bible School and training materials in both Spanish and English for mission teams. In 2006, she and others started Vista Missions, a nonprofit



continuing the dental and vision ministry that began at SCS. Along with Larry, she still leads two to three adult teams per year, primarily in Mexico. She also interprets and has trained interpreters.

To date, Carolyn has participated in or led over 100 short-term mission teams. Such trips have brought Carolyn and Larry to 17 cities in Mexico, in addition to Mozambique, Panama, Paraguay, Spain, Peru, Nicaragua, Ukraine, Guatemala, and Cuba. Their children have all served internationally, as have two of their nine grandchildren.

"For me, Spanish went far beyond the classroom," Carolyn said. "It wasn't just a subject. It was, and still is, a life of challenges and blessings I never imagined, especially enabling others to experience ministry opportunities."

Service and generosity are woven into the Watsons' 51-year marriage. Even the large Queen Anne home in which Carolyn grew up provided a way to help others.

Her father tore down the structure in the 1960s to build a 48-unit apartment building. When he died in 1993, she and her brother inherited responsibility for the valuable property. They sold it last year.

With some of the proceeds, Carolyn and Larry funded an endowment to encourage Seattle Pacific students with an interest in Spanish-language studies. The funds are now being invested, and qualifying students will begin receiving scholarships in the fall of 2021.

"I'm so thankful for the teaching and example of Dr. Faye," Carolyn said. "SPU gave me a foundation in Spanish that led to amazing things. And it's not over yet!"

PHILANTHROPY SPOTLIGHT



Karl and Reita Krienke: **Loving God and science**

Karl Krienke '53, MA '55, and Reita Fletcher Krienke '55 were longtime members of the Seattle Pacific and Free Methodist communities. Karl first came to SPU as a student after having attended Simpson Bible College as a theology and mission major. He became a full-time professor at SPU and subsequently the dean of Natural and Mathematical Sciences, a career that spanned 44 years. Karl was an ordained minister in the Free Methodist church and had a doctorate in astronomy, bringing his love of God and



Chea-Mun Tan: Preparing for public service

Don't be surprised to see "Senator" or

"Ambassador" in front of Chea-Mun Tan's name someday. She's been honing her political and diplomatic skills since she was 11 years old.

The SPU senior, double-majoring in political science and economics, brings a well-informed worldview to her pursuits, thanks in part to her bicultural upbringing. Chea-Mun's parents are originally from Malaysia, and she and her two sisters grew up in Kuala Lumpur, where her father's side of the family lives. Chea-Mun's mother hails from Washington state, so Chea-Mun's childhood included annual visits to Seattle to see relatives.

Chea-Mun admits it's hard to study so far from her home in Malaysia, but her homesickness is tempered by living with her sister, Chea-Lene Tan '18, and taking advantage of life in the Pacific Northwest.

"I really love Seattle, and going to school here has been really great," she said. "Building relationships with my professors has been one of the most impactful parts of my school experience. Also, being at a faith-based institution has offered me a number of opportunities to strengthen my own faith."

When she was in sixth grade, Chea-Mun began participating in Model United Nations, an extracurricular activity in which students role play as UN delegates at conferences worldwide, learning to effectively lead, research, speak publicly, debate, and write. By the end of high school, Chea-Mun had attended nearly 30 conferences globally.

"I have always had a great interest and belief in government," she said. "I hope to apply my passion for policy-making to either the public or private sector."

Chea-Mun leaned into her calling this past summer as an intern with the U.S. House of Representatives. She worked remotely for the office of Rep. Kim Schrier. She assisted the local and Washington, D.C., offices by answering constituent correspondence, doing outreach, researching policy — specifically in the areas of international affairs, veteran affairs, education, health care, and COVID-19 small-business relief — and taking notes for hearings/briefings.

"I loved my time in her office and have learned so much about the work of a congressional office," Chea-Mun said.

Her life is the very definition of busy: She's a University Scholar (SPU's honors program), beginning work on her capstone project, and she hosts campuswide initiatives and events through her role on the American Enterprise Institute's Executive Council. Chea-Mun also helps lead her church's college ministry, running weekly Bible studies and hosting fellowship events throughout each quarter.

She works as a student loan assistant in SPU's Student Financial Services, and is grateful for the financial aid she receives, including support from the Rosser-Danielson Speech Scholarship Endowment.

"I am incredibly thankful for the scholarships that SPU has provided me, allowing me to fully focus on my academics and college experience," she said.

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science together in sermons and as a Sunday School teacher.

Reita was also a Seattle Pacific graduate and taught in elementary education until their children arrived. Reita then continued teaching preschool after their two children entered school.

Karl and Reita were involved in several campus activities, such as *The Light and Life Hour* radio broadcast ministry and Theta Beta (the home economics club), and were also active members of Seattle's First Free Methodist

Church. Karl was recognized for his teaching excellence and devotion to his students, being selected Professor of the Year in 1981. Together, Karl and Reita received an Alumni Medallion Award in 1993, and Reita was recognized for her work and support by the Family & Consumer Sciences Alumni Association in 1995.

After Karl's retirement, he and Reita wondered how they could support the University financially while at the same time provide for some of their own financial needs. The solu-

tion for them was to use a triplex they owned to establish a two-life Charitable Remainder Unitrust that would produce annual income to help meet their needs and provide a future gift to SPU. Over the years, this trust provided them with helpful income and tax benefits. Karl passed away in 2018. When Reita passed away earlier this year, the trust came to an end and is now invested in the SPU endowment to provide much-needed financial aid to students, just as the Krienkes wanted.

NATIONALLY RANKED — For the fifth year in a row, Seattle Pacific has been recognized as a “Best National University” by *U.S. News & World Report*.



Ashton Hall peer advisors were part of the welcoming crew at New Student Orientation in early September.

Support SPU students with an endowment gift

Gifts identified for endowment help current as well as future generations of SPU students. These funds are set aside for permanent investment in order to produce a dependable stream of annual financial aid. Here are answers to some frequently asked questions about giving to the SPU endowment.

Q How much is needed to make an endowment gift?

A. Any amount can be given to an existing endowment. If you would like to create your own legacy with a new endowment that includes personal information and a specific purpose, the minimum amount is \$30,000. It is also possible to establish a new endowment for an initial gift of \$5,000 and a pledge to fund the balance within five years.

Q Once my endowment is funded at the minimum level, how much is available for distribution?

A. The University distributes 5% each year in scholarship or program support based on the endowment’s average value over a 10-year period. This helps to reduce fluctuations in year-to-year distributions due to changing financial market conditions.

Q Who manages the endowment?

A. The Seattle Pacific Foundation is charged with managing endowment investments. For many years, they have done an exceptional job at growing these funds and protecting them from volatility in the financial marketplace.

Q How can an endowment be funded?

A. Gifts of cash or publicly traded securities can be used to fund an endowment. Matching gifts from your employer can also go toward funding an endowment. For those over age 70 ½, an IRA Charitable Rollover can fund an existing or new endowment, and you can also plan a future gift to an endowment through your will or living trust.

For more information on giving to an endowment, go to legacy.spu.edu/endowments or contact Marlon Sandlin, director of endowments and gift planning, at 206-281-2257 or msandlin@spu.edu.

Provide yourself with a secure retirement fund during these volatile times

A Charitable Gift Annuity from SPU can give you supplemental income for life that is not affected by a volatile market or interest rates.

Benefits include:

- A plan that works hand in hand with Social Security (like pensions have historically).
- Payments *guaranteed* by Seattle Pacific University.
- An immediate income-tax deduction.
- Partially tax-free income payments for life.
- One-Life or Two-Lives Gift Annuities available. Current payments for ages 65 and older; deferred payments for ages 55 to 64.

SAMPLE GIFT ANNUITY RATES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

| AGE | ONE-LIFE | AGES | TWO-LIVES |
|-----|----------|---------|-----------|
| 65 | 4.2% | 65/65 | 3.8% |
| 70 | 4.7% | 70/70 | 4.2% |
| 75 | 5.4% | 75/75 | 4.6% |
| 80 | 6.5% | 80/80 | 5.4% |
| 85 | 7.6% | 85/85 | 6.5% |
| 90+ | 8.6% | 90+/90+ | 8.2% |

For more information, please contact the Office of Endowments and Gift Planning at 206-281-2702 or giftplanning@spu.edu, or visit our website at legacy.spu.edu.