

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

# *Celebrating Alumni Achievement*

BY CORRIE MARTIN

The Pacific Alumni Association's 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony in November marked a half century of honoring Pacific's esteemed alumni and the inauguration of a new award recognizing the contributions of individuals who are Tigers in deed.



*"In Gratitude"*  
Artist Nina Hayashi, wife of alumnus Randy Hayashi '85 COP, '88 DENT, created this collage using the University seal, acrylic paints, handmade paper and pages from a vintage Japanese story book. The artist presented the work to Don and Karen DeRosa on behalf of the Board of Directors in gratitude for their support of the Alumni Association throughout their tenure.

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— Sydney Young '85





### Honorary Alumni Award — Don and Karen DeRosa

This is the highest honor that the Pacific Alumni Association can present to someone who did not attend University of the Pacific. The award recognizes individuals who, through their leadership, personal involvement and support, have contributed significantly to the advancement of the University. Under the DeRosas' leadership, the University has increased student enrollment and expanded campus facilities for teaching, housing and student life. President DeRosa has also been instrumental in the growth of the Pacific Alumni Association and in increasing alumni volunteer leadership across the University.

Said alumna Sydney Young '85, a past president of the Pacific Alumni Association: "Because of Don and Karen, we as alumni walk a little taller and more proudly, and hold our degree with greater value. They have laid the foundation for the next chapter of Pacific rising in the future."



### Medallion of Excellence — Dianne Philibosian '68

Dr. Dianne Philibosian '68 COP became the eighth person in Pacific's history to be awarded the Medallion of Excellence by the Pacific Alumni Association. The Medallion of Excellence Award honors alumni who are faculty, staff or regents who have exhibited outstanding and exceptional service to the University. Philibosian was recognized for elevating Pacific as an institution and for raising the bar of volunteer leadership through personal example. In addition to her service on the Board of Regents, including four years as its chair, Philibosian has served on the Campaign Committee for the College, as a member of the National Campaign Steering Committee, as Pacific Club chair, member and vice president of the Pacific Alumni Association Board of Directors, and as chair of the Alumni Panel for the National Commission.



### Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Service — Robert "Bob" D. Sweet Jr. '59

"Pacific  
opened a whole new  
world to me."

— *Bob Sweet Jr. '59*

Robert "Bob" D. Sweet Jr. '59 BUS joined the pantheon of alumni who have achieved notable success in their professional fields. Creative Pultrusions, Inc., which Sweet founded in 1972, is a world leader in the production of fiber-reinforced composites used in the defense, aerospace, transportation, construction, and electrical and consumer industries. Sweet, who was struck with polio when he was 15, initially chose Pacific because the campus was walkable and navigable, being only four square blocks at the time. He said, while Pacific may have been physically small, "it opened a whole new world to me, including teaching me lessons and forging friendships that have lasted for a lifetime."



Distinguished Alumni Award for  
Public Service —  
Edna DeVore '67

Edna DeVore '67 RAY had a childhood love for nature that led to the study of astronomy and an illustrious career dedicated to science education. DeVore is the deputy chief executive officer and director of education and outreach at the SETI Institute in Mountain View, Calif. An advocate of science education (read her monthly column for SETI at space.com), she champions programs that encourage girls to pursue the sciences. DeVore said, "My childhood on a cattle ranch nurtured my love of the natural world and curiosity about how things work, and my experiences at Raymond College laid the foundation for my career in science education. I'm pleased to be a member of the Pacific community."

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*— Edna DeVore '67*



Distinguished Alumni Award for  
Volunteer Service —  
Sharon Williams '65

*"Nothing makes me happier  
than when I see people...  
get back on their feet."*

*— Sharon Williams '65*

As the executive director of JobTrain, Sharon Williams '65 COP was instrumental in developing a small non-profit organization into an acclaimed vocational training and placement institution serving 5,000 clients annually. Williams is a leader in addressing the interrelated issues of poverty, homelessness and hopelessness. Williams' work with JobTrain is only one example of her dedication to improving the lives of others. "I believe in the potential and dignity of every person," she said. "Nothing makes me happier than when I see people who are down on their luck get back on their feet and feel hopeful again."



Outstanding Young Alumni —  
Elissa Lumley '97

Director of Business Communication for Vogue and Men's Vogue magazines, Elissa Lumley '97 COP started out as a pre-pharmacy major at Pacific. "I stumbled into the liberal arts arena when I signed up for an elective writing class," she said. Her professor encouraged her to pursue writing. Eventually, she would serve as news editor of the Pacifican and switch majors to communication. In the decade or so since graduating from Pacific, Elissa has worked in publicity at CNN and international communications at Fleishman-Hillard. Conde Nast publications, a company that publishes one of the most recognizable magazine portfolios in the industry, including Vogue, recognized her as Vogue Marketer of the Year for 2006.



### *A Half Century of Honor*

The first Distinguished Alumni Award was given in 1956 to Rockwell Hunt 1890, 1892 COP, historian and author of "The History of College of the Pacific." Since then, 164 alumni, 2 honorary alumni and 22 families, coming from all walks of life and with service and careers spanning the globe, have been recognized for their contributions and achievement.

The Distinguished University Service Award was added in 1962, and recognition of an Outstanding Pacific Family began in 1964. The designations for Distinguished Public Service and Distinguished Professional Service were added in 1976. In 1984, the Association began recognizing Outstanding Young Alumni who graduated from Pacific in the previous 15 years, and the award for Distinguished Volunteer Service was added in 1992.

Three special awards for exceptional service have been instituted. The Medallion of Excellence for exceptional service to the University, first conferred on the late Robert T. Monagan '42, has only been bestowed upon eight alumni since its inception. Created in 1996, the President's Award, honoring alumni who have made exceptional contributions to the Pacific Alumni Association, has only been given twice. The Distinguished Honorary Alumni Award conferred upon President Don and Karen DeRosa and instituted at the 2008 Awards Ceremony recognizes individuals who did not attend Pacific, but whose leadership, personal involvement and support have contributed significantly to the advancement of the University.

A Gallery of Distinguished Alumni can be accessed on the Alumni website at [www.PacificAlumni.org/Awards](http://www.PacificAlumni.org/Awards).



*First Row/Left to Right:  
Harry Sharp Jr. '59;  
Louis Sandine '38;  
Liz Hull, Terry Hull Sr.  
'62, '72, '74;  
Katie Heitman*

*Second Row/Left to Right:  
Terry Hull Jr.;  
Cori Hull; Kelle Hull '93;  
Judy (Hull) Tiktinsky '67;  
Mike Tiktinsky;  
Karen (Hull) Carlson*

*Third Row/Left to Right:  
Eric Hull; Janet Hull;  
Corky Hull; Ryan Carlson.*

### Outstanding Family Award — The Hull Family

The Hulls have made education, as well as connections to Pacific, a truly 'family affair.' The 75-year, three-generation legacy begins with Wesley Hull '37 and Ruth Barnes '38, who met as students in the Conservatory of Music. Wesley joined Omega Phi and Ruth was a celebrated pianist and cellist. The two fell in love at Pacific, married and raised five children who shared their passion for education. Three of their five children attended Pacific at some point, including eldest son, Terry Hull '62, '72 COP, '74 EDU, who married his college sweetheart, Sharon "Sheri" (Sharp) Hull '62 COP. Sheri's brother, Harry Sharp '59 COP, was a champion debater and a member of Archania at Pacific, and went on to earn his PhD and serve as a Dean at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Terry and Sheri's daughter Kelle Hull, a third-generation Pacific graduate, earned her special education credential from the Benerd School of Education in 1993. Ruth's second husband, Lou Sandine '38 COP, is Pacific's oldest living former student body president and served as procession leader at commencement ceremonies on May 16. Family members who have contributed so much to campus life in the areas of athletics, forensics and student government, have continued as alumni to be significant donors to the University.

