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# Mortar Board Brunch on April 6th!

It's back — more festive than ever — and you are cordially invited!

This year's Mortar Board Alumni Annual Meeting and Spring Brunch will be held...

Saturday, April 6, 2013 University of Washington Club (formerly the Faculty Club) 9:00 am Social Mixer 9:30 - 11:30 am. Brunch, Program

Chris Burkhart, legendary LPGA professional golfer and 2012 recipient of Mortar Board's National Alumni Achievement Award, will be the keynote speaker. Inspiring and revered, Chris is highly regarded as an exceptional teacher, coach, mentor, and Husky (see page 3). She will be sharing her experiences and

her perspectives on success and leading a meaningful life.

This not-to-miss morning also will salute the Golden Classes of 1962 and 1963, and graduating seniors of the Tolo Class of 2013.

It will be a celebratory time with outstanding company! We have "inside word" that brunch fare will be delectable!

Your RSVP (with check) is needed no later than Saturday, March 31 (see enclosed form). Early reservations are advised. Cost is \$35 per person. (Please respond to this Annual Report invitation. An additional mailing will not be sent this year.) Send your reservation to Barbara Schlag Peterson, 11556 23rd Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98125. Questions? Call Barbara at 206.364.8767.



#### A word from the Board...

The word? Conversation! We'd like to have a conversation with you, in which you share your opinions and suggestions. In positioning for the future, the Foundation needs to reach out in new ways... together with you.

A short survey is asked of you (it's enclosed with the Annual Report). It won't take long to complete. If you prefer, the Foundation's website (www.mortarboardtolo.org) will soon have SurveyMonkey link instructions, so that you can take the survey online. Your input and participation would be enormously appreciated.

There is another word, too: Connection! The Foundation has interesting opportunities for participation and service, and all are time-sensitive (meaning "while we may be fascinating people, we are also quite busy"). Could you help with a one-time, short project? Interested in reconnecting with your class (or others)? Would you like to have a resume-level experience? Would you consider being on a committee? Have you built a website or helped create publications? These ideas hint at the range of possibilities. Some participation can be accomplished out-of-state. Opportunities can be matched with your interests and time requirements.

And a closing word: Email! The Foundation definitely needs your email address for quicker, more efficient, and less expensive communications. Postal rates are very high, and we are carefully conserving funds for much-needed scholarships. Your email address will be kept highly secure, and only will be used for occasional Mortar Board communications. That's a promise. Let's connect.

Thanks for all you do for Mortar Board.

## Financial Report

The last two fiscal years (June 2010 to June 2012) show improved Foundation strength. In this period, the Foundation awarded \$65,334 in scholarships. Despite the scholarship disbursements, the Foundation's balance grew \$90,770, due to donations (over \$12,000), investment dividends, and asset appreciation. Our December 2012 asset balance of \$675,830 includes \$24,000 in scholarship disbursements (of the \$35,000 in scholarships to be awarded during this academic year).

As we prepare to set 2013-2014 scholarships, we hope your donations will continue to add vigor. Your past generosity has made a significant difference and has been greatly appreciated by the Foundation and by UW scholarship recipients!

— Barbara Schlag Peterson, Treasurer

#### What Is "Title IX"?

Last year, the 40th anniversary of Title IX was celebrated. For some recent graduates, however, the importance of legislation enacted decades ago may be unclear. Just what is Title IX? What has been its impact? In a word, huge.

As part of the Educational Amendments of 1972 to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX is the landmark legislation requiring educational institutions with federal assistance to maintain policies, practices and programs that do not discriminate on the basis of sex. Title IX targets parity across the entire education landscape, in every aspect of public schooling... such as educational programs and activities, athletics, recruitment, admissions, financial aid, employment assistance, housing.

For many, Title IX has become inextricably linked with its impact on school athletic programs, as it revolutionized sports opportunities for women. In the years before Title IX was passed, females were drastically underrepresented in athletics, and their opportunities to play sports (and the funding and facilities provided for those limited programs) were highly disproportional, compared to males' sports. Since Title IX, the focus in collegiate sports has been on parity in access and participation. The NCAA reports that since the law's inception, *both* male and female participation in college sports has increased.

Title IX also impacted academic programs and hiring practices. Before Title IX, many schools refused to admit women or enforced limits. For example:

- In 2011, women received 48% of medical degrees, compared with 9% in 1972.
- In 2009, women earned 46% of law degrees, compared with 7% in 1972.
- In 2010, 53% of all doctoral degrees went to women, up from 25% in 1977.

Mortar Board, too, was affected by Title IX. In 1975, at a Special National Conference convened to consider the ramifications of Title IX requirements, delegates voted to extend membership in Mortar Board's formerly all-women's organization to men. At that conference, the purpose of Mortar Board also was strengthened to include emphasis upon the advancement of the status of women, in respect of Mortar Board's heritage. Men's honor societies also chose to become coeducational.

## National Mortar Board Honors Two Northwest Alums

Two Mortar Board alums with significant University of Washington ties were celebrated in a big way at last summer's Mortar Board National Conference. UW Professor Dee Boersma and Tolo alumna Christine (Chris) Burkhart were two of three persons receiving Mortar Board's prestigious Alumni Achievement Awards for 2012.

Described by *The New York Times* as the "Jane Goodall of penguins," **Dee Boersma** has dedicated decades to extensive research on penguins and other sea birds. Focusing on seabirds as indicators of environmental variation, including

climate change, she remains indefatigably engaged in conservation biology research in the South Atlantic and Galapagos Islands.

She is founder and executive editor of award-winning *Conservation Magazine*. Her service on major national and international boards is vast, including the



Dee Doersma

Board of Directors of the Natural History Network, the Board of Trustees of Central Michigan University, among many others. In her exemplary career, she has received many local, national, and international laurels.

Dee was initiated into Mortar Board at Central Michigan University and earned her baccalaureate degree in 1969, followed by a Ph.D. in zoology from The Ohio State University. She holds the Wadsworth Endowed Chair in Conservation Science at the UW and serves as director of the Center for Penguins as Ocean Sentinels in the Department of Biology. A profoundly respected member of the faculty, Dee is the author of numerous books and articles.

Dee was keynote speaker at the 2011 Mortar Board Alumni/Tolo Foundation Annual Meeting

Athletics pioneer **Christine Burkhart** was presented five varsity letters in athletics by the University of Washington — 36 years after her graduation. Prior to implementation of Title IX in 1975, only male student athletes had received a "W".

The 2007 UW event honoring women athletes (who had competed in UW sports prior to 1975) held special meaning for Chris, who not only set numerous UW athletic records in multiple sports, but inspired women athletes and coached teams at the UW prior to Title IX. In motivating her students to achieve excellence, Chris emphasized both academics and athletics. Through the years, she has been a tireless advocate for women in sports and active in the historic struggle of women to approach a level playing field with men in athletics.

Chris is widely known as an inspiring golf professional.

She played on the Women's Professional Golf Tour (she was rookie of the year in 1979), has been named a LPGA Master Life Professional, and is a Class A member of the LPGA.

Chris is passionate about teaching and coaching, with a career



Christine Burkhart (right), with Susan Caples, Mortar Board National President

that spans four decades. She is former head coach of NCAA Division I programs including Pac-8 women's basketball at the UW (as the first women's Pac-8 basketball coach) and Pac-10 men's and women's golf at Washington State University. She additionally has coached high school swimming, golf, track and field, bowling and tennis, as well as has taught high school science.

Initiated into Mortar Board, Tolo Chapter, Chris received her baccalaureate degree in physical education and kinesiology in 1971. Currently, she teaches and coaches at Lincoln High School in Tacoma, and is the golf professional for military members and their families at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

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## Foundation Scholars Excel

The following distinguished students were selected as 2012-2013 Mortar Board Alumni/Tolo Foundation Scholars. All were selected from a highly achieving field of candidates. Four of the graduate students are in doctoral programs, three Scholars are members of Mortar Board, and one Scholar is from the UW-Tacoma campus.

The Foundation awarded a total of \$35,000 in scholarships for this academic year. Scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$3,000. (Scholarship names are in parentheses.)

Alex Vaschillo, sophomore, Biochemistry (Arnold and Carolyn Bryant Peterson)

Allison Parker, graduate student, Nutritional Sciences (Betty Benson Runstad)

Andrew Hobkirk-Frerichs, graduate student, Early Education Unit (Margaret Hadley)

Benjamin Overton, graduate student, Public Administration (Tolo)

Eunhyo Woo, graduate student, Music (Elizabeth Ayers)

Jared Sarkis, senior, International Studies (Eleanor Hadley)

Janet Dahl, senior, Biology (Heritage, honoring Carrie Cowgill Thompson, Cassie Bryant, Florence Wiltsie)

Josephine Bernice Garcia, graduate student, Medicine (Bernthine Anderson/Dorin Schuler; Margaret Shaw-Anderson; Dorothea Taylor)

Katherine Isbill, graduate student, Music (Music Performance)

Kerry Hillier, graduate student, Early Education Unit (Margaret Hadley)

Laura Tobias, graduate student, Nutritional Sciences (Betty Benson Runstad)

Lauren Archer, graduate student, Communications (Madeline Jones Campbell)

Lisa Taylor-Swanson, graduate student, Nursing (Tolo; Tolo Centennial)

Marissa Bower, graduate student, Information Technology; UW-Tacoma (Arnold and Carolyn Bryant Peterson)

Taro Kobayashi, junior, Music and Engineering (Elizabeth Ayers)

Named scholarships are the result of significant gifts honoring or memorializing esteemed Mortar Board alumni.

### A New "Forever Fund" for Tolo Chapter

Mortar Board Alumni/Tolo Foundation, in conjunction with the Mortar Board National Foundation, has established the first Mortar Board chapter endowment in the country.

The Tolo Chapter Operations Endowment, held in perpetuity by the Mortar Board National Foundation, was created to provide direct annual support to the chapter through annual distributions of the earnings on the fund. By receiving a perpetual source of income, Tolo Chapter could start new projects and help assure that continuing projects have financial support. Additionally, the fund assists Tolo in underwriting transportation costs for the chapter president to attend the annual Mortar Board National Conference, an important leadership preparation.

Tolo Chapter consistently has been identified by National Mortar Board as one of the outstanding Mortar Board chapters in the country. In 2009, the centennial of the founding of Tolo Club at the UW, Tolo was selected as the top chapter in the nation and was presented the Ruth Weimer Mount Award, representing that pinnacle. Being a top chapter, however, means the chapter is actively engaged in furthering scholarship, leadership, and service — and such outreach often involves costs.

In addition to project costs and normal chapter expenses, student chapters must now pay for delegate travel to the National Conference. Airfare can be a significant expense, as most National Conferences are held in the Midwest and East. Mortar Board Alumni/Tolo Foundation Board decided that the chapter endowment program, offered by the Mortar Board National Foundation, would be an appropriate avenue to assist the chapter with some expenses.

Mortar Board National Foundation plans to use the Tolo Chapter Operations Endowment as a model for other chapters and alumni in the country to help secure chapters' future success.

Alumni and actives are welcome to donate to this "forever fund." Additional gifts will grow the principal, making the annual distribution to Tolo Chapter greater each year. Gifts are made to the Mortar Board National Foundation.



Tolo Chapter members clear invasive species of plants at a Seattle park.

## An Active Year!



Mortar Board initiation, Tolo Class of 2013

Greetings from Tolo Chapter, Class of 2013! It is my pleasure to let you know what we have done, and will do, this year.

Our Mortar Board experiences have been very exciting and fulfilling. We are truly dedicated to scholarship, leadership, and service, which have driven all that we do as a chapter. These three pillars often overlap during our projects and events, such as assisting first-generation, college-bound high school seniors with their college entrance essays (as part of the UW Dream Project's Admissions Workshop Weekend), inviting UW Board of Regents' Student Regent, Chris Jordan, to discuss leadership and his objectives as regent, and selling holiday wreaths to support our Tolo Centennial Scholarship Endowment Fund.

Additional meaningful projects are ahead. At a chapter meeting soon, we will be joined by UW Provost Ana Mari Cauce, and in spring quarter, by UW President Michael Young. We look forward to hearing their experiences and

perspectives in academia. The new Tolo class will be tapped during Mortar Board Week on campus, March 1-5.

Our chapter is sponsoring a "Last Lecture" for the campus. A selected professor will present a lifetime of wisdom in a presentation given as though it were the last lecture he/she would ever give. This lecture is not limited to the professor's academic field.

We will uphold Mortar Board's "Reading Is Leading" national service project by raising funds and books for children's literacy, and we will select an outstanding professor for this year's Mortar Board "Excellence in Teaching" Award. Undergraduates from throughout the campus nominate exceptional faculty for this coveted honor. Additionally, we are participating in community service projects.

Our year is very rewarding. We have grown tremendously as an organization, as expressed by the dedication of our members.

— Katie Forsythe, Tolo Chapter President, 2012/2013



Tolo Class of 2013 members at a chapter meeting

# Honoring Golden Classes of 1962, 1963

Due to cancellation of the 2012 Mortar Board Alumni/ Tolo Foundation Annual Meeting and Brunch, both Golden Classes of 1962 and 1963 will be honored at this year's Annual Meeting. Following is a brief sampling of some of the remarkable members of 1962.

Gail Huey Vitek – U of Denver: After graduation, Gail began teaching first and second grades in Fitchbury, Mass. On her return to Seattle, she became coordinator of the Seattle Schools' Volunteer Program and recruited more than 5000 volunteers. She served as Vice President of the National School Volunteer Program and received an award from Barbara Bush honoring her volunteer accomplishments.

Karen Stout Gudiksen - UW: After completing her UW medical school degree in 1965, Karen did her internship at Virginia Mason Hospital in psychiatry. She has continued to practice her specialty, primarily as an employee of the community mental health program of Alameda County in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Marjorie Baylor – Montana State U: After graduation from Montana State University, Marjorie taught in Alaska, Texas and Spokane. After returning to Seattle, she remained in education as an academic advisor for the UW at both the Seattle and Bothell campuses. She currently is on the board of the UW Retirement Association.

Pamela Holsclaw Mitchell – UW: Improving people's health through nursing research and education while simultaneously raising a wonderful family are Pamela's favorite accomplishments. She is currently serving as Interim Dean of the University of Washington School of Nursing.

Sharon Zlatnik VanValin – Whitman College: Sharon's favorite accomplishments are raising her two children and teaching kids to write their own music. She teaches piano, theory, original composition, and runs her stock portfolio. She happily shares she survived brain tumor surgery, which successfully spared her from becoming blind and mute.

According to our membership database, the following are also Golden Grads of 1962. If you know of omitted names, please let us know on the included Membership Survey/Update Form. Thank you.

Barbara Greenfield Carlson – UPS
Betsy Bell Stewart – UW`
Brenda Schwartz Klein – UW
Jeanne Ingraham Judge Joyce Peterson McCallum – UW
Nancy Storjohann Hauge – UW
Nita Rinehart – Southern Methodist U
Pamela Campbell Vokolek – UW

#### Share *your* life experience!

As all Mortar Board members know, the "three verities" of this great honor society are scholarship, leadership, and service. These values form a bedrock of our contributions and efforts.

In the few pages of this Annual Report, there are inspiring glimpses of members doing quite wonderful things. Some are contributing on an international stage, others are making regional differences, while still others are impacting the campus, the classroom, and individual lives. Whatever the scale, these contributions all count.

Sharing our experiences is one way we celebrate Mortar Board — and the exciting personal characteristics that are at the heart of Mortar Board membership. But we need to expand the conversation!

Won't you drop a line (or an email) to the Foundation and share some of your life story? What are your favorite accomplishments? How are the "three verities" faring in your life? What has been important to you? (Feel free to share different thoughts, if you prefer. Humor is fine, too.)

Actives and alums inspire each other. Help us build a special collective expression among the generations... a written legacy... of what we are about. Be in touch! We'd really love to hear from YOU.

## Contacting Mortar Board

Creative ideas are under way to expand the Foundation's website, which now solely posts current announcements.

#### http://www.mortarboardtolo.org

You also can reach the Mortar Board Alumni/Tolo Foundation and receive a personalized reply through email and postal addresses:

mortarboardalumni.tolo@gmail.com

Mortar Board Alumni/Tolo Foundation P.O. Box 53162; Bellevue, WA 98015

A Facebook page will be announced soon.

Should you be interested in visiting other Mortar Board websites, the following may help you:

National Mortar Board's website and address: http://www.mortarboard.org 1200 Chambers Rd., Ste. 201; Columbus, OH 43212

UW Tolo Chapter's website:

https://sites.google.com/site/uwtolo

Over 60 colleges and universities are represented in the Foundation's membership. To link to other collegiate Mortar Board chapters, visit

http://www.mortarboard.org/chapter/list.html

#### In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of three outstanding Mortar Board alumnae. Not only were they involved members of Mortar Board, they and their families have been instrumental in contributing to the Mortar Board Alumni/Tolo Foundation Scholarships Program.

#### Carolyn Bryant Peterson (1920-2011)

Carolyn graduated from the University of Washington with a B.A. in Speech in 1942 and continued her graduate work at the University of Michigan and the University of Missouri. She and her husband Arnold lived in Massachusetts until they retired in 1979 and moved to Bainbridge Island. Carolyn served on the Mortar Board scholarship selection committee, and spearheaded a drive to update membership records for the 1940s classes. In 1987, the Petersons established the Arnold and Carolyn Bryant Peterson Mortar Board Scholarship. Each year, Carolyn met with the scholarship recipients.

#### Francella (Fran) Bryant Olson (1922-2011)

Fran earned a double major from the University of Washington with a B.A. in Communications and Sociology. She continued her education at Northwestern University, working on a master's degree in Communication. In 1945, Fran and her husband, Donald Olson, returned to Seattle where she was active in numerous non-profit organizations. In 1981, she and her family established the Cassie Bryant Mortar Board Scholarship in honor of their mother, Cassie Lawrence Bryant, who was one of the early tapped members of Tolo Club, 10 years before Tolo Club became part of Mortar Board.

#### Margaret Trzcinski Graham (1917 – 2011)

Margaret graduated in 1939 from the University of Washington, where she was treasurer of Tolo Chapter and an avid Husky supporter. Upon graduation, Margaret worked for the FBI before her marriage to Robert W. Graham. She was a docent for the Seattle Art Museum, involved in P.E.O. and the Seattle Opera Guild. She also was an avid snow skier and swimmer, and she continued to swim daily in Lake Washington until her late 80s. In 1982, Margaret and her family established the Trzcinski/Graham scholarship in honor of her mother, Priscilla Renwick Trzcinski, who graduated from the UW at the age of 65 and lived a life of public service.

We also honor the following Mortar Board members who have departed:

Iola Brown Groth Audrey Gruger Nina Harding Ann Hutchinson McKinstry Martha Poolton

#### Legacy of Learning

Warren Buffett said it well: Someone is enjoying shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.

In caring about the future, one needs to contribute to its success.

We are grateful to everyone who has given to the Foundation and its scholarships program. The need to support students through scholarship funds continues to be great. For many outstanding students, a college education is financially out of reach.

We are all well aware of dramatic tuition increases as state support for higher education has been slashed. These have been difficult economic times. While economic recovery is slowly building, many students struggle to remain in school.

Foundation scholarships are awarded through a considered process. The Scholarships Committee works closely with University departments and offices, carefully reviews all applications, personally interviews a large field of finalists to determine the recipients.

It's an outstanding program. We encourage every member of Mortar Board to consider contributing to the Foundation's scholarships program. Your gift (of any size) to Mortar Board Alumni/Tolo Foundation is so very important... and is so very appreciated.

It bears repeating: in caring about the future, one needs to contribute to its success.



## MORTAR BOARD ALUMNI/TOLO FOUNDATION Board of Directors, 2012-2013

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Treasurer Barbara Schlag Peterson
Secretary Stephanie Wilder
Director - Scholarships Kristi Helgeson
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Foundation Scholarships Committee: Joyce Kent Brown Kristi Helgeson Barbee Tucker Pigott, Ph.D.