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What Brings Them Back?

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What brings them back?

Each fall, students and professors return to campus with renewed energy for the year ahead. What brings them back? We asked faculty what excites them about the new academic year.

Jill Timmons, professor of music since 1981

Returning to Linfield this fall is particularly exciting since we are now well established in our new music building. I have some excellent pianists beginning their studies at Linfield, several senior thesis and recital projects await, and we are resuming our Linfield Lively Arts series in the Delkin Recital Hall. It's a stimulating and inspiring time to be at Linfield!



Chris Keaveney, associate professor of Japanese since 1997

What excites me each academic year is meeting old friends and welcoming new arrivals to Linfield. As a teacher, I find few things as exhilarating as the heady mix of nervousness and excitement that I feel every semester when I walk into my classes for the first time. I began teaching the year that I received my undergraduate degree and thus my years have been shaped by the academic calendar since I was five. It is difficult to imagine a better rhythm according to which to live one's life.

Bob McCann, associate professor of education since 1994

Over each summer I am always thinking of new things to do in my courses, things I have learned from my summer reading, new activities to add, and I am excited to try those out. But especially, I get very excited about seeing the return of the students. I find it very stimulating. They come back with such energy; it really gives me a shot of adrenalin. And, of course, there is also the football.



Jana Taylor, professor of nursing since 1991

As I begin my 17th year teaching nursing at Linfield College, what sparks my passion is knowing that each student with whom I teach and learn will impact the lives of many others who need quality nursing care. This brings me deep gladness and a sense of fulfillment in my work. Making a lasting, positive difference in people's lives is what brings me back each semester.

Kay Livesay, associate professor of psychology since 2003

What brings me back each year? The students. I look forward to teaching – it is my favorite part of my job. I like to do research, but teaching is my passion. I enjoy introducing cognitive psychology to a new group of students each year. I look forward to the challenge of making them as excited about cognitive psychology as I am.

