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Retirees Look Back

Linfield Magazine Staff

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Retirees look back

Mike Roberts

Professor of biology, at Linfield since 1981

Favorite campus hangout:

The Catalyst (student-run coffee shop) – I used to hold office hours there.

Favorite courses:

Genetics, and Human Biology and Evolution

Biggest surprise:

Even though Linfield is a small school, it is fortunate to have more than its share of fine scholars and committed educators on the faculty.

Best thing about Linfield:

The combination of good students and fine faculty produces a vibrant atmosphere.

Retirement plans:

Finish book with Professor Anne Kruchten, *Receptor Biology*; work on new *Principles of Biology* book with Chris Gaiser; complete papers with Steve Bricher '86, math; and Dave Sumner, English; Miranda Byse '04 and Christy Tanner '12.

Jean Caspers '71

Assistant professor, reference and instruction librarian

Memorable moments:

Attending my daughter's graduation from Linfield; dancing to the Ike and Tina Turner Review in the old Riley Gymnasium in the early 1970s.

Favorite campus hangout:

Pop's Shop (now the Bike Co-op), a cafe when I was a student.

Favorite course:

Information Ethics

Learned from students and colleagues:

The value of community.

What I will miss:

Mentoring a select team of student employees to provide effective research

assistance to their peers at the library's reference desk.

Retirement plans:

Being open to each new day.

Juan Gomez

Associate professor of Spanish, at Linfield since 1981

Favorite campus hangout:

Riley Hall. I can buy a cup of coffee, maybe encounter a colleague; but most certainly I will find students with whom I can chat.

Changes in students:

Our students are smarter, more academic oriented and more willing to serve their communities.

What I will miss:

I will definitely miss interacting with colleagues and students, in and outside the classroom.

Biggest surprise:

The advent of email and other gadgets has made us prisoners in our own turf.

Best thing about Linfield:

The tremendous dedication faculty and staff have to our students.

Retirement plans:

I will be devouring all the novels I have not been able to read. I hope to become proficient in Italian and French, and grow more vegetables now that I won't be earning as much.

Richard Bourassa

Professor of music, at Linfield since 1992

A memorable moment:

Sitting next to President Bull at a "not-so-great" music concert shortly after both of our arrivals at Linfield. Dr. Bull looked at me (then department chair) and said, "We have a lot of work to do." She saw the issue as a shared responsibility that would be achieved by working together.

Changes in students:

My goal has been to be a mentor, teacher, friend, expert in my field and listener. I hope that as students and times have changed, I have been mature enough and knowledgeable enough to adapt to the changes and still remain a meaningful mentor and "elder of the tribe" to all students with whom I have worked.

Best thing about Linfield:

The depth, skills and desire to make a difference on the part of all Linfield employees has to be number one. The joy, exuberance and willingness to help are an integral part of the makeup of Linfield.

Carol McCulley

Associate professor, reference and distance education, at Linfield since 1998

A memorable moment:

Launch of DigitalCommons@Linfield, our digital repository for collecting, sharing and preserving Linfield's scholarly and creative works.

Changes in students:

More serious

What I will miss:

Conversations

What I won't miss:

Turning off the dripping faucets in the women's room of the library every day.

Biggest surprise and best thing about Linfield:

How hard and how creatively we work for students.

Retirement plans:

Walk on the beach any day of the week.

Sue Butell

Professor of nursing, at Linfield since 1984

Favorite campus hangout:

My office! It is a wonderful cozy space where I have welcomed many students, advisees and colleagues over the years. Orchids love my window space and they keep blooming year after year.

Biggest surprise:

Being the winner of a raffle in 1986, the prize being one of the first faculty computers on the Portland Campus.

Best thing about Linfield:

Being a part of a community that cares about students and cares about the kind of nurses we are proud to graduate.

Retirement plans:

Too many to list here as I'm a person who loves projects. What I'm most excited about is taking vacations where my husband and I can cross country ski and snorkel.

Noreen Johansson

Professor of nursing, at Linfield since 1983

A memorable moment:

The staff at Portland Oregon State Psychiatric Hospital informed me that my clinical group of Linfield nursing students was exceptionally competent and compassionate in delivering nursing care to seriously ill patients.

Favorite campus hangout:

The Portland Campus photo gallery.

Changes in students:

Students informed me that their

experiences in the Southeast Asia health care travel course were life changing. Several joined the Peace Corps or Indian Health Service.

Learned from students and colleagues:

I have learned to value different points of view and ways of thinking.

Retirement plans:

My husband already refers to me as Mrs. Marco Polo. I intend to be a happy Rambler in my retirement!



Retiring faculty include, from left, Sue Butell, professor of nursing; Jean Caspers '71, assistant professor, reference and instruction librarian; Mike Roberts, professor of biology; Carol McCulley, associate professor, reference and distance education; Noreen Johansson, professor of nursing; Richard Bourassa, professor of music; and Juan Gomez, associate professor of Spanish. Read more at linfield.edu/linfield-news/retirees.