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Fagley Ginesi Claire- Callison College One Pager

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My Callison choice lay a lot with looking for an international experience, but one that wasn't the "typical" semester in Paris kind of thing that so many schools offered. I was also looking for a school in California due to the fact that my parents were going through a divorce at the time, and my younger brother was still at home. I felt better not to go out of state that first year of college--otherwise I think I might not have found out about Pacific.

My high school had the small, special interest classes for juniors and seniors, so I was also looking for that--I would never have survived a huge school like UC Davis, where so many of my friends were going. Callison's intercultural and India program were so interesting and exciting to me. I had spent most of my adolescence flying with Civil Air Patrol and trying to find as many "non traditional girl" things to do as possible, that I guess that part of it fit too.

I have to say I was bitterly disappointed to find out at the last moment that we weren't going to India. I even considered transferring to COP as a History major, but thought better of it. So, off I went to Japan. I will always be glad I didn't wimp out! The travel I was able to do, (all over Japan, Okinawa, Taiwan) my project in the Osaka slums (working in a daycare for the children of Korean day laborers run by the Methodist church), even almost cutting off my finger with one of our kitchen's giant sharp knives--and knowing that the Japanese doc had a hard time figuring out what antibiotic dosage to give a giant woman like me. (I'm 5 ft 7)--all contributed to a great learning experience.

I did return to UOP with a great thirst for Japanese History, East Asian History, especially the last 150 years. I became a Len Humphreys groupie, and I credit Dr. Humphreys with wanting to pursue my education further in this area. I am also grateful for the wide variety of History and political science classes I could take both in Callison and COP. Often, I felt that I was straddling 2 schools, as I was also heavily involved in Model UN at UOP.. After graduation, I was accepted to the East Asian studies MA program at USC. I also worked as the Program Manager for the United Nations Association in Los Angeles while in school, and was the Model UN graduate advisor.

I also married my UOP sweetheart during this time, and moved to San Francisco with him. I needed to work to save up for more years in grad school, and began working in Traffic Management for a British-Danish Food Export company. From there I moved on to Operations Management for Komatsu (Japanese heavy equipment co.) and finally as a regional Traffic Manager for Toyomenka America, an arm of one of the large Japanese trading companies (more travel, and only gaijin in the office) Grad school school began to recede into the distance, as job opportunities in the right now were better than in academia in those years.

I won't go into all the reasons I left this career to go to Nursing School. Suffice to say became an RN right into the AIDS pandemic in San Francisco. I have worked in various

positions in HIV/AIDS medicine, Home Infusion, Clinical Research, oncology, and held Hospital Management positions of all types from mom/baby to Clinical operations. I still work full time for Memorial Hospice in Santa Rosa, CA.

I have been married 45 years to my College of the Pacific English major husband, Larry. We have 2 adult sons (one living in London) and 2 adorable little granddaughters.

I sincerely believe that a multifaceted, multicultural education prepares young people to realize their dreams, wherever they may go. I am a better nurse, and a better manager (of a diverse Bay Area workforce) because I have lived and traveled in other cultures, studied and appreciated the history of other cultures, and learned languages very different than my own.

I still read deeply in Japanese and Chinese History, as well as World War 2 in the Pacific. I think Asian History will always be my avocation...

Claire Fagley Ginesi