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SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

Significance

CHANGING THE WORLD THROUGH CHARITABLE GIFT PLANNING

Living Life by Lifting Others: Bud and Patti Bylsma

It was an offer Bud Bylsma could not refuse.

In 1948, Truman was in the White House and Bud played basketball for Seattle's Simpson Bible Institute (now California's Simpson University). Bud started the team, and in its second season the Knights played the Seattle Pacific College Falcons and lost. Their third year, they again played the Falcons and won. That's when the offer was made. "Come be a Falcon," Bud was told by the Falcons coach, "and your last two years of college will be tuition-free."

The deal was struck. Bud spent his junior and senior years at Seattle Pacific and became a member of the Falcons' legendary "Big Guns of '51" basketball team. His ball-handling skills and no-look passes amazed even his fellow players.

Academically, he was less certain. He switched majors three times — from history to philosophy, and finally, in his senior year, to physiology. And after graduation? He thought of taking a job overseas; maybe in medical missions. CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



The Giaimo Family: Giving’s in Their DNA

Ever since Edward C. Giaimo Sr. emigrated from the island of Sicily to the United States at the age of 13, the Giaimo legacy has been one of hard work, ingenuity, and gratitude for his adopted land of opportunity.

And now the new engineering lab completed this fall at Seattle Pacific University is named for the enterprising tool and die maker, thanks to President’s Circle members Edward Giaimo III, a senior director of product development with Microsoft, and his wife, Sue, a certified educator and community relations manager retired from Puget Power. Together, these longtime champions of science and technology in the Pacific Northwest are the principle underwriters of the Edward C. Giaimo Mechanical Laboratory and Machine Shop.

Were he alive, the lab’s namesake would be equally proud to learn that his great-granddaughter, Whitney Giaimo, a 2013 SPU engineering graduate, has embraced the family legacy by donating to the John Parle Engineering Project Endowment. This SPU endowment funds the senior design project for all SPU electrical engineering students.

Sue and her husband watched Whitney thrive in the skilled and collaborative atmosphere created by her professors in the SPU Department of Engineering.

“It’s so competitive at some schools,” says Sue, a teacher and long-time champion of science and technology in the Pacific Northwest. “A caring parent doesn’t want to hand her child off to just anyone. At SPU, the professors want to hear from every voice in the room.”

Ed and Sue Giaimo confess to making science jokes around the house. But on their hearts is a genuine concern over a shortage of U.S.-trained engineers working in the U.S. It is one reason why they and their progeny stand by SPU in educating engineering leaders for the technology demands of the future.



Ed, Whitney, and Sue Giaimo on the Microsoft campus.

BYLSMAS CONTINUED

But someone else had attended one of his Falcon basketball games, a local Young Life staff member. He invited Bud to a meeting of the Queen Anne High School Young Life club. Bud saw a hundred kids crowded into someone’s living room, drawn there by the desire to socialize and explore the Christian faith. “I was blown away,” he says.

Once graduated from SPC, Bud was invited by that same Young Life staffer to join him in Pennsylvania at Young Life Philadelphia. It was the beginning of a 30-year career with the youth organization that included regional directorships in Southern California, the Great Lakes, and the Northwest.

A second influential person had attended Simpson when he was a student. Patti Barber became his wife and partner in ministry of 63 years. She says she liked Bud’s ability to take command of a situation. “His sense of humor could get him through anything. He saw the big picture and arranged for the people to get it done.”

“Patti was beautiful, charming, and a sharp thinker,” Bud counters. “She became an expert’s expert in English as a Second



Language and made five trips to China, and to three other countries as well, to teach university professors how to teach English.”

After Young Life, Bud told Patti, “We’ve got 10–20 good years left. Let’s get an education in the Third World.” World Concern contacted Bud and asked him to go to Bangladesh to head up HEED (Health, Education and Economic Development), a relief and development consortium of 10 agencies, with more than 200 Muslims on staff. Bud replaced all foreign staff with native Bengalis in what is thought to be one of the largest turnovers in the history of Christian

missions. Patti started an English school, one of the most highly regarded in the country, and has twice been asked to return and start others.

“A guiding question was always ‘How can we help the under-class own their own future?’” says Bud.

By 1989, following a number of other opportunities for service, they were back in the States. Bud founded Seattle’s Northwest Leadership Foundation to encourage, strengthen, and develop leadership for the spiritual and social renewal of the city. The size of the challenge sometimes had him asking, “What have I gotten myself into? Where do I start?” So he began by visiting more than 70 of Seattle’s urban pastors and ministries to see what was being done and what needed doing. That led to 15 years of cooperation with many of them – including Habitat for Humanity, World Vision, and Promise Keepers — forging a variety of successful hands-on, problem-solving inner-city initiatives. The initiatives included: tutoring, justice, affordable housing, urban evangelism, youth ministries, job training, economic renewal, and the establishment of minority student scholarships. SPU President Philip Eaton served on his board.

For seven years, Bud’s NLF office was on the SPU campus, where he collaborated in the early efforts at greater ethnic diversity among the University’s students, faculty, and staff.

The Bylsmas have been as thoughtful and spirited about their charitable giving. In his work with nonprofits, Bud raised millions of dollars for others, but never himself drew a pension. The couple lived frugally, their lives revolving around the work. “I never took a job where I knew the compensation going in,” Bud says. “It was for the fun of helping others succeed.”

That approach, and the fact that the Bylsma children have done well in their own careers and are financially self-sufficient, led to another big life question. How could Bud and Patti invest in the future of their favorite

charities such as SPU and provide themselves with a guaranteed income for life?

Bud says one answer is charitable gift annuities. “We don’t need the tax break, so we gave the funds to our children who do. They in turn established charitable gift annuities by giving the funds as a charitable donation in our name, received the tax deduction, and the principle after we’re gone will go to SPU and the other charities we support.”

A satisfying life deserves a satisfying finish, secure in the knowledge that their objectives will be carried on by the institutions and associations that have so fulfilled Bud’s and Patti’s busy lives. For more information on charitable gift annuities, please see page 4.



For the Love of Shalom

Sammy Wing

Sha•lom (shä-lōm)

**A complete peace, a
feeling of contentment
and wholeness; the
absence of discord**



College-bound Samantha “Sammy” Wing of Hampton, New Hampshire, found Seattle Pacific University online. It was the first she’d heard of it.

One of just 30 seniors in her graduating class at Portsmouth Christian Academy, Sammy saw student faces on the Seattle Pacific website and in the printed materials that looked genuinely happy. Seattle sounded like an ideal, not-too-huge cosmopolitan city for someone thinking that international studies might be her focus.

Though another school she investigated was less expensive, Sammy paid a visit to SPU and knew immediately that it was the right fit. She applied for financial aid and received The Trustees’ Scholar Award — an enormous blessing of \$17,000 per year all four years. It required that she be at the top of her game — a minimum GPA of 3.92 and an SAT score of 1331 or better to qualify.

“Seattle is a good fit,” says Sammy. “Besides lots of things to do, the city has helped me grow as a student and as a person.”

She has volunteered with the Union Gospel Mission all four years, which has sharpened her focus not only in studies for her self-designed urban community development major, but in grasping the broader community.

“I’ve learned a lot about the inequalities and the segregation of people, things I wasn’t exposed to in a small town,” says Sammy. As an intern for UGM, she works with at-risk middle school and high school youth in small group settings, helping them bring up their grades and deal with the emotional circumstances of their lives. “When I first started, the kids sang and one of them played the ukulele. They were very accepting and have pretty much been my church family. They know how to love well.”

At SPU, Sammy is part of Catalyst, the intercultural initiatives committee. She is education coordinator and facilitates a campus discussion series on race and ethnicity that digs deep for biblical context in discovering God’s plan for diversity.

Sammy loves her Middle Eastern Literature class, pho noodles in the winter, and the constant variety of Alki Beach, a stretch of Seattle sand enjoyed by as diverse a collection of people as the city affords. And she knows none of her life since finding SPU online would be possible without the financial benefactors who believe in SPU students.

“My scholarship enabled me to take jobs that don’t pay a lot but do help me learn about my talents and passions,” says Sammy, who also has some loans to repay. “The fact I don’t have to pay back that scholarship is a huge blessing in transitioning to adulthood. I know students who work 20–30 hours a week to pay the bills on top of their studies.”

She longs for the day when all things and people are reconciled, as God intended. “Why wait to make it a reality?” is the question that motivates Sammy daily. “Shalom, the peace and well-being of all, is easier to talk about, harder to achieve,” she says, but not so hard that she won’t do all she can to hasten its arrival.

Interesting Facts About Gift Annuities at SPU

If you are considering a gift annuity with Seattle Pacific, you may already be somewhat familiar with this agreement. But did you know:

- Gift Annuities have been around a very long time. While first offered in their current form by the American Bible Society in 1843, the basic structure of gift annuities goes back to the Middle Ages.
- An SPU gift annuity is safe. We have been offering them since the 1930s and have never missed a payment. In fact, the annuity payment you would receive is backed by the full assets of the University.
- It is not an investment that is bought or sold. There are no

commissions or fees involved. It is, simply put, a contract whereby we promise to pay a fixed annual payment in exchange for a gift of cash, securities, or other assets.

- When funded with cash, a large portion of the annuity payment is treated for tax purposes as tax-free income. An income tax deduction

Sample Single Life Gift Annuity Rates

Age	Rate
65.....	4.7%
70.....	5.1%
75.....	5.8%
80.....	6.8%
85.....	7.8%
90+.....	9.0%

is also available if you itemize your deductions on your tax filing.

- Your annuity payment is determined by the amount of your contribution multiplied by an annuity rate that corresponds with your age at the time the annuity is funded. This rate never changes as you get older.
- The rates SPU and most all charities around the country use are determined by the American Council on Gift Annuities, a rating agency that has been in existence since 1927. Offering the same rates avoids competition between charities and preserves the charitable nature of this agreement.

- While most gift annuities are established for one or two lives, there are several other creative ways of using gift annuities, including an adult child funding one for an elderly parent, a parent or grandparent funding one for a child as a “college tuition” annuity, or establishing a deferred gift annuity for future retirement income.

For more information or assistance, please contact the Office of Endowments and Gift Planning at 206-281-2702, or giftplanning@spu.edu. Also, please visit our website to learn more about charitable gift annuities at spu.edu/giftplanning.

The Wellspring
Society

What Will
YOUR
Legacy Be?

The Seattle Pacific Wellspring Society celebrates a dear group of alumni and friends whose legacy gifts will help SPU continue its mission far into the future.

It’s easy to become a member of the Wellspring Society. One way is to simply let us know that you have included SPU in your will or other estate plans. Another way is to establish a life-income gift, such as a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust, which will offer you lifetime income and tax savings while also providing a future gift that benefits students.

We welcome new members to the Wellspring Society, no matter the size of your gift. Membership benefits include a beautiful Wellspring Society pen, recognition in our Honor Roll of Donors (unless anonymity is preferred), and special invitations to University events, including the **annual Wellspring Society Luncheon, which will be held on May 20 at noon in Upper Gwinn Commons.**

If you have already planned a gift that would qualify you for Wellspring Society membership, please let us know. We want to thank you and welcome you to this wonderful circle of friends. To learn more about the Wellspring Society and ways to join, please visit our website at spu.edu/giftplanning or contact the Office of Endowments and Gift Planning at 206-281-2702, or via email at giftplanning@spu.edu.