Faculty and students study the thousands of crows who make the UW Bothell campus their home.
DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

At UW Bothell, we’re proud of our commitment to providing “high-impact practices” that are transformative in our students’ learning. These practices can vary from undergraduate research to community engagement to capstone projects, just to name a few.

But for all the many ways our faculty and staff across campus engage with students, there is one common denominator that can make a difference for students not just when they are in school but also long after graduation.

It is the powerful impact of mentors. When I’m on the road meeting our alumni, I always ask, “Who has made the greatest impact on your UW Bothell education?” Whether that mentor is faculty, staff, a community partner or another alumna or alumnus, it is clear hearing their answers to my question that the relationships our students form can have a lasting impact.

While I was being mentored, I also had the pleasure of mentoring others. I remember the students who worked in my lab when I was actively teaching as a professor. Many of these students have families of their own now, and seeing their grown-up children going off to college brings me great joy.

In the professional world, I am still in contact with American Council on Education fellows whom I mentored. The varied ways in which they have used our learning together to advance their careers to new heights feels like a part of my success, too.

As you look back into your time at UW Bothell as a student or even now as an alumnus or alumna, who has made that difference in your life? And in whose life have you made a difference?

Perhaps it’s time to renew contact with more of those who influenced us and those we influenced. I know I will.

Wolf Yeigh, Chancellor
HUSKY HEADLINES

MASTER PLAN TO GUIDE CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

The University of Washington Bothell and Cascadia College have a new Campus Master Plan to guide development of the shared campus for the next 20 years. After approval by the Bothell City Council in November 2017, the plan was approved in January 2018 by the UW Board of Regents and the Cascadia College Board of Trustees. The plan is the result of more than a year of work by the two institutions in collaboration with the city, neighbors and other community members. It addresses building, parking and housing needs along with environmental impacts.

UW Bothell Chancellor Wolf Yeigh said final approval of the master plan is a milestone in the history of the campus — and one that points toward its continued success. Long-term plans call for redeveloping the current Husky Village campus housing into “Beardsea Commons,” a new front door to the campus that could include transit-oriented retail, housing and academic functions along Beardsea Boulevard. The 58 acres of restored wetlands will be preserved, but density can be increased across the 74-acre developed area of the campus. The number of students also would grow to the 10,000 fulltime equivalent (FTE) as originally envisioned by the Legislature (6,000 at UW Bothell and 4,400 at Cascadia College). UW Bothell currently has almost 6,000 students and Cascadia College almost 3,000.

UW BOTHELL GRADS AMONG HIGHEST EARNERS IN STATE

For the first time, a Washington state agency that compiles data about students as they move through public colleges into the workforce has broken out information about the earnings of UW Bothell graduates. One year after graduation, the median salaries of UW Bothell graduates with bachelor’s degrees are above the state median in nearly all of their fields — and consistently among the top three schools for earnings, according to the Education Research & Data Center. The report was published in the fall of 2017 and charted yearly earnings of graduates from 2008 through 2014 one year out from their graduation (earnings from 2009 through 2013). Also this spring, the UW Bothell campus was designated “the best value” among colleges in Washington state, according to a report from Seattle-based Payscale. In-state UW Bothell alumni get “the best return on investment,” making $669,000 more in 20 years after graduation than a high school graduate. The national average is around $225,000.

TAYLOR HOANG NAMED ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

Taylor Hoang (BUS ’12) has been named the recipient of the 2018 UW Bothell Distinguished Alumna of the Year Award. “Hoang has taken the knowledge she gained at UW Bothell and has used it to not only start and operate several successful businesses but to also have a tremendous, positive impact on the community,” said Mary Howsey, a member of the UW Bothell Alumni Council.

At 21, Hoang started a mortgage brokerage that catered to ethnic immigrants. She then switched to the restaurant business and currently has five restaurants and a catering company. Hoang founded the nonprofit Ethnic Business Coalition in 2013 to promote and improve the long-term sustainability of immigrant and minority-owned businesses. She serves on the boards of the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, the Seattle Downtown Association and the Washington Hospitality Association. She also was appointed by Mayor Jenny Durkan to co-chair the Seattle Small Business Advisory Council.

Honored now to receive this award, Hoang says, “I will carry the banner.”

DEAN OF STUDENT AFFAIRS SELECTED

Tim Wilson has been chosen as UW Bothell’s new dean of students affairs, effective this July. Wilson moves from Seattle University where he served as assistant vice president for student development. Previously, he was coordinator for the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Black Culture Center at the University of Missouri in Columbia, where he got his doctorate in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis.

Wilson said he identified UW Bothell as an institution that actively embraces diversity, critically challenges its own assumptions and works toward positive change on and off campus. “I have been waiting my entire career to work at a campus like UW Bothell, a place where students, faculty and staff come together and strive for excellence each and every day,” Wilson said.

Wilson will take over from Emily Christian, who has held the position on an interim basis since the departure of George Theo last year.

Read more stories at www.uwb.edu/news.
Making sense of CAW-CAWPHONY

SINCE AT LEAST 2009, THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BOTHELL CAMPUS wetlands have been the nighttime home to thousands of crows, about 16,000 at last count. On their way to roost, they are rooftop research for Doug Wacker, assistant professor of animal behavior, and Shima Abadi, assistant professor of engineering and mathematics, colleagues in the School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics. Why are the crows so noisy when they gather before flying to their roost? One hypothesis is they’re sharing information. So what are the crows saying? With their students, Wacker and Abadi have collected months of video and audio recordings from crows on the roof of their own building, Discovery Hall, one of the places where the crows gather each night before heading into the wetlands. Now, the researchers are looking for patterns in the crow calls and the behavioral responses to those calls.

BY DOUGLAS ESSER
Photos by Bri McColiskey (STEM ’15), Mark Stone, Marc Studer and Dennis Wise
Illustrations by Bonnie Johnson (IAS ’16)

THE ‘INFORMATION CENTER’ HYPOTHESIS
"We’re curious if these birds are sharing information and what they could be sharing information about. It could be information about food sources," Wacker says. Noted crow expert John Marzluff, professor of wildlife science at the UW in Seattle, has also researched the information center hypothesis with ravens, a close relative of the American crow.

AN IMPORTANT LAYOVER
The crow gatherings on the UW Bothell campus are called pre-roosting aggregations, Wacker says. "This is where they’re making a lot of calls. Then they move from those pre-roosting aggregations onto the roost itself.

WHY CROWS GATHER TOGETHER
It is still research in progress, but Wacker has some possible reasons for the raucous pre-roost aggregations: 1) They’re advertising the roost to new birds flying in. This would also explain why crows circle above the roost. 2) They’re claiming a space. This really isn’t a reason to stop on campus, but it might explain why they’re vocalizing. 3) It just happens as crows move toward the roost. 4) They’re sharing information. 5) They’re dissuading predators. There’s safety, and an early warning system, in numbers. If an owl approaches, it would take only one crow to sound the alarm before they’d all know the owl was there.

REGIONAL COMMUTER FLIGHTS
Wacker estimates crows fly to the roost each day from 20 to 30 miles away. Some birds flying from Seattle are seen over the Northgate area, Lake City and Kenmore. Crows flying from the Mukilteo area may come from as far away as Whidbey island. "They’re coming in from a decent distance," he says. The crows also make a lot of calls in flight near the roost, which may be important to consider when trying to understand their function.

THE ROOST OF THE STORY
"This is part of the communal roost. The crows gather from all these pre-roosting aggregations and end up on the wetlands where they go into the trees and sleep."
FROM VOCAL TO VISUAL
At first wary of the video and audio recording equipment on the roof of Discovery Hall, the crows became acclimated to the gear. A number of them even tugged at the wires and pulled off the foam windscreens from some of the microphones. Student researchers are trying to match recorded vocalizations to other behavior. “We’re now trying to sort through all that data to find patterns,” says Wacker. “Not only did a crow make this kind of call — this many syllables, this much silence, it sounded like this — but it was right here. And then a crow right here made a call that sounded like this.”

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CROWS NOT RAVEN
Crows and ravens are corvid cousins in the same genus but different species. Ravens are bigger, more likely to soar and travel in pairs. Crows are more likely to be seen in groups, flapping their wings in flight. Crows have smaller, straighter beaks. They also make different vocalizations, says Wacker.

WILDLIFE RESEARCH RIGHT ON CAMPUS
“I’ve found out how smart and complex the crows are, and how hard they are to research because of their intelligence,” says Andrea Bilotta, a junior majoring in Community Psychology who is part of Wacker’s research group. “These are great birds, and they are right here, which is really cool. Not many people get the opportunity to study crows as closely as we do.”

WHY SELECT UW BOTHELL?
“It’s very difficult to answer,” Wacker says. “There are a lot of places that look like this that don’t have crow roosts. Why not the wetland area that’s over there? Why not North Creek Forest? They’re similar. We can only guess.”

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PARTNERS
“It’s about teaching undergraduates how to critically think, work in teams, manage their time and work in interdisciplinary groups to complete a project — which is exactly what they do when they get in a job,” Wacker says. “So when they either go into graduate school or go into the workforce they have some real hands-on experience. They’re going to blow away their peers because they’ve had these experiences.”

WHEN ART MEETS SCIENCE
Scientific illustration communicates the most important parts of an observation in visual form without the extraneous details of photos, says Bonnie Johnson, a professional artist with an interest in birds. Johnson (IAS ’16) focused on animal behavior as a UW Bothell student majoring in Community Psychology. She researched crow gestures with Wacker. Johnson shows her art in galleries around Seattle. She also uses animal behavior insights at work in training puppies with behavior problems.

THE CROW EXPERIENCE
Like it or not — and crows leave behind plenty not to like — the black birds known for their keen intelligence are part of UW Bothell. Students have even named one of their research publications (The CROW) after the ubiquitous birds. Seeing them circle overhead, hearing their wings in the twilight and feeling their eyes on you is a shared memory for students, faculty, staff and alumni alike. You can’t think of UW Bothell without hearing the call of the crow.

Want to learn and see more? Go to www.uwb.edu/visitors/crows.
In the best mentor relationships, the learning is shared: from faculty to student and student to faculty. Both are better for the connection — and so are many untold others who benefit when students then pay it forward.

LEARNING CAN TRANSPIRE IN A CLASSROOM, leap from the pages of books or spring from daily experience. Some of life’s most profound lessons, however, stem from the one-to-one sharing of ideas between people.

A cornerstone of a UW Bothell education is connecting people — particularly faculty and their students.

“There is an openness at UW Bothell that makes it fertile ground for mentorships,” says Victoria Brockwich Vasquez, assistant professor, School of Nursing & Health Studies. “There is an incredible sense of dedication and deep caring here.”

Mentorships can span departments and disciplines, age, cultural backgrounds, gender and geography. They take root organically, result in both professional and personal development for students, and sometimes become foundations for lifelong friendships.

And in every case, mentorships are two-way relationships with faculty benefitting as much as students.

“The diversity of UW Bothell students provides me the opportunity to also learn from them,” says Brent Lagesse, assistant professor, College of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM), “Some students have helped set the bar for my expectations as an educator. I’ve seen their abilities to explore beyond what I cover in class.”

Another testament to the importance of mentoring is how often students are inspired to pay it forward.

“The interaction between professors and students here is much stronger. I can remember all of my students’ names within a few weeks in addition to learning about their strengths and personalities as individuals,” Cao says.

“Hung has been an incredible source of support and guidance for me,” Sharma says. “I learned how research is done. Whenever I had questions, I could email late at night knowing he’d respond right away. There was a back-and-forth exchange that always pointed me in the right direction.”

“The way you treat students is so important,” Cao says. “I like to work with them as actual collaborators. I want them to have opportunities to lead because it helps build confidence. My job is to have opportunities to lead because it helps build confidence. My job is to provide support and never set any barriers to their creativity.”

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Cao cites UW Bothell as fertile ground for mentorships because of smaller class sizes and a close-knit community. Also, undergraduates have far more research opportunities than they would at universities with greater numbers of graduate and doctoral students who generally receive research priority.

“All the things that might discourage someone to foster their creativity.”

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“All the things that might discourage someone to foster their creativity.”

Food connects people. It brings them to a common table to share cultures, experiences, hopes and dreams. For Taylor Hoang and Maryel Duzan, the business of food not only brought them together; it forged a lifelong friendship.

“The first day of my entrepreneurship class, I asked my students what kind of company they would want to start. Taylor said a restaurant,” says Duzan, retired adjunct instructor from UW Bothell’s School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences. “I told her restaurants are difficult and go under all the time, but that didn’t faze her. I was so impressed with her resolve.”

Hoang was interested in the industry since her family owned and operated a Seattle-based Vietnamese restaurant. She knew the long hours and risks but also the rewards of making connections through meals. Hoang is a first-generation immigrant who came to the U.S. from Vietnam when she was 7 years old.

“My family has always been in the restaurant business, but I felt I could improve on how my parents ran theirs,” says Hoang, now owner and chef of Pho Cyclo Café restaurants and catering. “My dream was to expand the business model to cater to a larger community beyond a small Asian clientele.”

As a UW Bothell student, she began filling in the details to make her dream a reality. Duzan’s class left a particular impression since it facilitated Hoang learning from established entrepreneurs. Duzan describes the format as having been “interactive versus just a lecture” to encourage students to take more initiative for themselves.

“I think mentoring, at its heart, is being a sounding board,” says Duzan. “Taylor had already started one business, a mortgage company, by the time I met her. She was a brilliant, accomplished, confident woman in her own right. She didn’t need specific advice from me so much as reinforcement, someone to listen and make any introductions that might help her along the way.”

Hoang credits Duzan for “taking me under her wing” during those early years before founding Pho Cyclo Café in 2003. There are now five locations around the Seattle area. The two regularly met for coffee, a tradition that continued long after Hoang graduated in 2002 with a bachelor of arts degree in Business Finance and Marketing. Duzan’s example also continues to serve as an inspiration to Hoang as she now helps mentor the next generation of entrepreneurs. In 2013, Hoang founded the Ethnic Business Coalition to foster the growth of culturally diverse and immigrant-owned businesses. She also regularly returns to UW Bothell to speak to classes and meets one-to-one with students.
**In order to be a mentor, and an effective one, one must care. You must care…**

Denisse Lopez was encouraged to bring more than books and homework to her Latinx Health and Culture class. She was invited to bring her own stories, life experiences and culture. Assistant Professor Victoria Breckwich Vasquez, School of Nursing & Health Studies, also welcomes student participation and connection beyond classroom walls. "On the first day of class, I tell my students this is a co-learning process. I learn from them as much as I hope they learn from me," Breckwich Vasquez says. "An education doesn’t just mean downloading content. It’s about becoming a person of the world and learning to use your intelligence and talents in a compassionate, caring way."

It was a class assignment that encouraged Lopez to share more personally and laid the foundation for a rewarding mentorship.

"Vicky’s mentorship opened doors to me that I wasn’t sure I would have pursued on my own," Lopez says. "Her encouragement, support and always cheering from the sidelines made such a difference."

With her professor’s encouragement, Lopez applied for and was hired as a student assistant working in the School of Nursing & Health Studies administrative office. She is on track to graduate in 2019 with a degree in Health Studies.

"I’ve usually been a student who’s on the quiet side. Vicky’s mentorship opened doors to me that I wasn’t sure I would have pursued on my own," Lopez says. "Her encouragement, support and always cheering from the sidelines made such a difference."

Her professional goal is to employ her health education to benefit local and global communities with a particular focus on Latinx populations. UW Bothell and Breckwich Vasquez encouraged her to develop her own voice. She hopes to continue helping others find theirs.

"Denisse reminds me to be humble in listening to students rather than taking up too much space," Breckwich Vasquez says. "Wonderful things happen during the silences when students are thinking. The most precious moments are laying open the ground for students to have a voice owning their own education."

**… Know who you know and care about the person, care about what you know and care about the person you’re sharing with.**

— Maya Angelou

**THE PROCESS OF EXPLORATION**

At UW Bothell, education is a global experience. In 2015, Gautam Kumar enrolled on campus as an international student. He’d spent years working as a software developer in his native India and decided he wanted to expand his horizons by pursuing graduate studies abroad. Within a year, he found himself seated in Brent Lagesse’s cryptography class—"with his hand raised and his head filled with questions."

"Some classmates said I asked too many questions," laughs Kumar. "But the class caught my eye because I’d already worked professionally on some cybersecurity products, and learning from Brent increased my curiosity even more."

Lagesse, assistant professor of computing and software systems, appreciated the enthusiasm and perspectives Kumar brought to class discussions. "He went out of his way not only to learn the course material but to always look beyond lab exercises and homework to consider further applications in the professional world," Lagesse says.

As their discussions deepened, their classroom interactions expanded to bi-weekly meetings. Then, one of Lagesse’s final exams required students to develop an idea for a potential project to present at technology conferences, and Kumar’s concepts were "so new and novel" that Lagesse encouraged him to pursue it as a thesis paper to submit for conference consideration.

They collaborated for almost a year, meeting even throughout summer, to develop Kumar’s ideas. Lagesse provided mentorship on everything from how to structure the paper — “be concise, more isn’t always better” — to insight regarding the review process. "Brent always offered an open mind," Kumar says. "Great mentors don’t just hold your hand and tell you how to do everything. Instead, they offer support when you’re struggling and gentle guidance so there is still room to learn on your own." It was that spirit of generosity and collaboration that shaped his work and yielded such positive outcomes. In 2017, Kumar presented his final paper, "Limited Use Cryptographic Tokens in Securing Ephemeral Cloud Servers," at the International Conference on Information Systems Security and Privacy in Portugal.

It was an impressive accomplishment, says Lagesse, who reports that "far more papers are rejected than accepted at these conferences."

"It’s a great feeling to impart my experiences to students," says Hoang. "It gives me an entirely new appreciation for what I learned from professors in class at UW Bothell. "It was that spirit of generosity and collaboration that shaped his work and yielded such positive outcomes."


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RECOGNITION OF UW BOTHELL’S COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY includes a Sustainability Award in Facilities Management in 2017 from the national APPA organization and three Husky Green Awards in 2018 from UW Seattle Sustainability.

SOLAR POWER
- Both campus garages have a 10-kilowatt solar power system, providing around 20,000 kilowatt-hours annually.
- The latest solar array on campus, a 100-kilowatt system, was installed in 2015 on the library.
- The solar-paneled shade umbrellas installed on two picnic tables on campus have USB outlets for charging cell phones and other electronics.

NATIVE PLANTS
Native plants are preferred on the campus landscape, and gardeners constantly work to increase the diversity of these plants. Once established, they require limited, if any, watering, reducing both water consumption and labor.

BEING ORGANIC
UW Bothell facilities staff have been saying no to pesticides and synthetic fertilizers since 2006. The goal? Foster biodiversity, biological cycles and soil biological activity on our 58-acre wetlands and the rest of the campus landscape.

SAVING THE BEES
The campus is home to many species of bees, including bumble bees, honey bees, and mason bees. To help establish and support these native pollinators, the grounds team has planted “pollinator beds” throughout campus.

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58-acre wetlands

SAFE FOR SALMON
The UW Bothell campus has been Salmon-Safe certified since 2008. Currently, the campus has five oil-water separator tanks to help filter runoff from campus.

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To learn more, go to www.uwb.edu/sustainability.

CAMPAIGN FOR UW BOTHELL

WE ALL ♥ UW BOTHELL

STRIVING TO MANAGE TWO JOBS
on top of a full college course load, Ariana Navarro was so overwhelmed by the challenges of paying for her education that she considered dropping out of UW Bothell. Then, generous scholarship donors stepped up to ease her burden.

Creating more of those kinds of happy endings was the purpose behind the University’s first-ever UW Bothell Scholarship Luncheon held earlier this year. Donors at the fundraiser pledged more than $250,000 to help keep students on the path to graduation. Focusing only on offering access to a UW education is not enough; retention matters, too.

In her speech to the 300 people at the Feb. 14 luncheon, Navarro stood up for hundreds of other dedicated students — many of them the first in their families to pursue a college education — who face financial barriers that threaten their dreams. “I made it through the first year,” she said, “but I was looking at the same stress of juggling a full-time work schedule and a full-time college schedule the next year. And then, something amazing happened. Incredible people like you — people I didn’t even know — believed enough in me and my potential to fund two $5,000 scholarships that I was honored to receive.”

As part of the Campaign for UW Bothell and its visionary, multiyear fundraising goal, the luncheon was the first of what will be four annual events. The target is to raise more than $1 million by 2021 to fund additional scholarships and programs aimed at keeping students in school and on track to graduate.

To learn more, go to www.uwb.edu/give/2019.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS — AND SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN FOR UW BOTHELL

The second annual UW Bothell Scholarship Luncheon is set for February 5, 2019. But you don’t need to wait to make a difference in the Campaign for UW Bothell, which has raised $23.9 million to date. Learn more or donate now at www.uwb.edu/give/2019.

$23.9 MILLION AS OF MAY 31, 2018

GOAL: $35 MILLION
Cindy Sayre, Ph.D., RN (NHS '95) completed her first year as chief nursing officer at the University of Washington Medical Center.

Pattye Snyder (IAS '96) celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary last year.

Captain Neil Low (IAS '03) has retired from the Seattle Police Department after almost 50 years on the force.

Amy (Felch) Panther (IAS '96) is senior executive assistant in administration at Seattle Children’s Hospital.

jaKe Landsberg (BUS '14) received his CPA license.

Jared Mead (IAS '14) is a city councilmember in Mill Creek, Washington, and a current candidate for the State House of Representatives in Washington’s 44th Legislative District.

Wade Sugiyama (BUS '05, MBA '11) is director of strategy at HelloWorld, Inc.; he and his wife, Megan, this year welcomed their second child — a baby daughter named Kaya Louise born on Jan. 6.

Sara Papanikolaou (BUS '08) enrolled in the Masters of Science in Climate and Energy Policy Program at Johns Hopkins University and is a co-founder of 350 Eastside, a chapter of 350.org, which seeks to advance renewables and reduce fossil fuel consumption.

U.S. Army Captain Aaron Thacker (IAS '98) served two years as commander of the 856 Military Police Company and is now public affairs officer with the Arizona National Guard.

Michelle Gamboa (STEM '05) is now a quality engineer on the Adobe Stock Team.

Brice Hamack (BUS '09) has been admitted to practice law in Australia after practicing law in California for several years. He will work as a lawyer with Legal Aid in the Australia Capital Territory on issues such as employment, immigration, human rights and domestic violence.

Sandra (Brewer) Hengen (IAS '00) was chosen to represent Boeing at the 2018 Women in Aviation conference in Reno, Nevada.

New job, honor or award, or other milestone in your life? Send your big news to Class Notes at uwbalumn@uw.edu.

Welcome to Husky Highlights, where you’ll find news about fellow alumni. Share your own updates! Send them to uwbalumn@uw.edu.

FACES in PLACES

1. Justin Nygard (IAS '15) visits India during a global study trip with Johns Hopkins University.
2. Jacque Julien (IAS '15) tours the Port of San Diego and the USS Midway.
3. Allie Sko (IAS '16) enjoys dinner out in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.
4. George Lampe (BUS '10) travels in Manila, Philippines.
7. Marcus Mickelsen (IAS '14) visits Thailand.
9. Eric Shen (IAS '13) takes a ferry to Cijin Island during a visit to Kaohsiung, Taiwan.
10. Marian Palma (IAS '16) climbs to the top of the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Been somewhere awesome lately and want to see yourself in our Faces in Places section? Email your high-res photo to Faces in Places at uwbalumn@uw.edu.
The UW Bothell community includes many alumni who are building careers, developing networks and creating opportunities to make the world a better place. One of them is Laura Metz (BUS ’96, MBA ’02), senior product manager for Mac hardware at Apple Inc.

Q: Describe your UW Bothell experience in one word.
A: Indispensable.

Q: Did your family background influence your educational choices?
A: My mother earned her bachelor’s degree when I was in high school. Seeing her work extra hard and sacrifice to get it left an impression of how important education was. There was never a question I would get a college degree; it was just my parent’s expectation. The catch was that I’d have to figure out how to pay for it as they weren’t able to pay. [Laura’s sister Amy Janas (IAS ’09) also graduated from UW Bothell.]

Q: Why did you choose UW Bothell?
A: The evening classes and convenient location allowed me to keep working full time to support myself. A few years after undergrad, I was working at Microsoft and, during a review, set a goal to get an MBA. UW Bothell had recently expanded, offering an evening MBA program that made it all materialize in a way I could see it through.

Q: What experience at UW Bothell had the greatest impact on you?
A: Working in teams. Sometimes it was very challenging — working through the strengths and weaknesses of different teammates to deliver a paper, presentation or case study and knowing your grade depended on it. But that’s the reality of today’s work environments. It has proven to be a very useful skill over the past 15 years.

Q: Why do you give back to UW Bothell?
A: I wouldn’t be where I am without the opportunities it created for me.

Q: How do you give back as an alum?
A: I feel passionately about how UW Bothell supports such a wide variety of diversity — race, ethnicity and economic background — that brings a lot of different perspectives into teams and the student body. I wanted to do something that would help support that economic diversity. I have started an endowment fund that will help students who run into a tight spot. Say the first two quarters go well, then something happens, and they can’t afford books. The scholarship will bridge the gap so we don’t lose students who are facing a short-term shortfall.

I ran track in high school. I remember senior year when I couldn’t afford a new pair of shoes. The rule was, “If you can’t get a new pair of shoes, you can’t run track.” But the school [Marysville Pilchuck High School] had a fund, and they bought me shoes.

This scholarship feels like that to me: A student wants to participate, has the will to be there and do the work but just doesn’t have the resources.

Q: Which faculty member influenced you the most and in what ways?
A: Kevin Laverty. In his business strategy course, there was a pivotal moment when I realized that I was really passionate about business and that it would be a good fit for me. I loved the content of that class — the case studies! When I returned to get my MBA, I was thrilled to have him as a professor again.

Q: What advice do you have for the students who will begin classes this fall?
A: Take time to get to know your cohort. You get so much more out of your education when you can connect with the people you’re going through it with.

Laura Metz (BUS ’96, MBA ’02)
Senior Product Manager for Mac Hardware at Apple Inc.
www.uwb.edu

HERE ARE SOME EVENTS WE HAVE PLANNED for UW Bothell alumni this fall. Stay up to date on all alumni activities by visiting www.uwb.edu/alumni/events. You can also sign up for our alumni newsletter by emailing uwbalumn@uw.edu.

- UW vs. Auburn Viewing Party
  September 1

- School of Business Un-Gala Dinner
  September 20

- Alumni Road Trip to UW vs. Oregon Game
  October 13

- W Day
  October 19

- Homecoming Tailgate
  October 20

- UW Bothell in the Bay Area
  October 27

- Lend-A-Paw
  October 27

- UW Bothell Veterans Reception
  TBD

PUB NIGHT TALKS
at McMenamin’s Anderson School

- All talks start at 7 p.m., are free and are open to all ages. Learn more about the series and other upcoming talks at uwb.edu/advancement/speakers.

  “Massacred for Gold: The Chinese in Hells Canyon”
  Gregory Nokes, author
  July 31

  “The Boys in the Boat”
  Judy Rantz Willman, daughter of UW and Olympic rower Joe Rantz
  August 28

  Butterfly conservation
  Amy Lambert, lecturer, School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences
  September 25

  Plant ecology, including on Mount St. Helens
  Cynthia Chang, assistant professor, School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
  October 30

  The history and future of printed books
  Amaranth Borusk, assistant professor, School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences
  November 27

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