REACHING FOR NEW HEIGHTS

Alumni Nitasha Kumar and Luke Daanomah use their UW Bothell experiences to fuel their careers
DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

Among the 15,000 family and friends at the June 13 commencement celebrating our UW Bothell Class of 2017 was a group of 50 students from Voyager Middle School — a school in our own backyard — who are in the midst of becoming change-makers in their own right. Nearly all of those young students will be the first in their families to attend college. At our commencement, these middle schoolers saw firsthand that they, too, could be first generation Huskies walking across the stage at Safeco Field to receive their diplomas. There before them was hope.

Voyager, our community partner, has engaged more than 30 UW Bothell students, faculty and staff who encourage college dreams through mentoring and programs that introduce the students to higher education during campus visits. Each year when I’m asked to visit Voyager and inspire more than 100 participants in this program, I am inspired by their leadership qualities, their curiosity and intelligence, and their questions.

Some of their questions are difficult to answer. They’re the ones that focus on how to pay for college once that acceptance letter arrives in the mail. Wouldn’t it be great to tell them, “Not a problem!”

Over the past four years, about 150 Voyager students have written me to say UW Bothell may be the best fit for them, and they ask me to send them something to keep them inspired and give them hope. Come fall, the first cohort of these first gen students will complete their college applications. Some will apply to UW Bothell. If it’s a good fit, the inability to pay should not become a barrier to fulfilling their dreams.

In 1989, the state of Washington committed to providing access to an affordable higher education for our citizens, and chartered the UW Bothell campus. To this day, our commitment to access is stronger than ever. However, we can’t do it alone.

Today, scholarships help offset the cost for students to receive a UW Bothell education, and I am grateful to you for donating your time and your resources to support student education. I hope you will continue to join us in this quest to fulfill the dreams of our region’s future leaders.

Thank you for your support.

Wolf Yeigh, Chancellor
THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BOTHELL opens the door to an internationally and nationally ranked university experience that inspires innovation and creativity. UW Bothell’s reputation for providing access to an excellent and innovative educational experience draws students from across the region. About 90 percent of students are from Washington. UW Bothell builds regional partnerships, creates knowledge, shares discoveries and prepares students for leadership in the state of Washington and beyond.

CHANCELLOR
Wolf Yeigh

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The Alumni Council gives its time and talent to support the University because of the remarkable change members believe it inspires. Join the Alumni Council!
www.uwb.edu/alumni/council

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HUSKY HEADLINES

UW BOTHELL BUILDS EXPERTISE IN CYBERSECURITY

FAR TOO MANY HEADLINES recently have reported cybersecurity breaches across the world, at government agencies and private institutions and in personal computers. But even as the number and severity of these digital attacks increase, so do the investments being made in this area of research and education at the University of Washington Bothell.

The University of Washington is a leader in cybersecurity programs, says Lynne Clark, the director of the National Security Agency’s National Information Assurance Education and Training Program. She visited the UW Bothell campus earlier this year. “The interface you all have been developing with industry is a great example of where we need to go and the partnerships we need to have,” said Clark, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel with experience in federal operations security, education and training.

Cybersecurity vulnerabilities are one of today’s most pressing issues, adds Barbara Endicott-Popovsky, executive director of the University’s Center for Information Assurance & Cybersecurity (CIAC). “Couple this with a lack of qualified people who are prepared to defend, and you have a recipe for disaster.”

Through the center, the University has been designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education through 2022. The designation comes from the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security. UW Bothell degree options include a Bachelor of Science in computer science and software engineering with the information assurance and cybersecurity option, and the Master of Science in cybersecurity engineering. This spring, T-Mobile offered jobs to nine UW Bothell students who were part of the first cohort of cybersecurity interns. CIAC is also developing a program to train military veterans and reservists in cybersecurity.

FACULTY AWARDS FOR ALAN BOSS, JEANNE HEUVING, JODY EARLY

FACULTY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BOTHELL are known for their research, their teaching skills and their commitment to mentoring students. Within this accomplished field of teacher-scholars, several faculty have been selected for special recognition in the academic year 2016-17.

Alan Boss, assistant professor in the School of Business, received the UW Bothell Distinguished Teaching Award for demonstrated excellence in teaching. The choice of the recipient is based on recommendations from students and colleagues.

Jeanne Heuving, a founding faculty member in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences, received the Distinguished Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Award for exemplifying the University’s standards of excellence. Heuving led the effort to create the Master of Fine Arts in creative writing and poetics.

Jody Early, associate professor in the School of Nursing & Health Sciences, received the Distinguished Teaching Award for Innovation with Technology. The award from the UW provost recognizes a faculty member from the three campuses who improves student learning by leveraging technology.

All three were recognized at the June 13 commencement ceremony at Safeco Field.
ALUMNI WEEKEND DRAWS THOUSANDS

UW Bothell’s third annual Alumni Weekend was the biggest and most exciting alumni celebration to date. More than 1,300 people came together for the Husky 5K, which raised more than $17,000 for student scholarships. Later in the afternoon, about 2,500 people poured into downtown Bothell for the Bothell Block Party and BrewFest. Attendees experienced some of Seattle’s hottest bands and delicious local beer and food. SAVE THE DATE: Alumni Weekend 2018 is May 18-19.

CAREER SERVICES EXPANDS TO 2 YEARS FOR ALUMNI

AFTER RETURNING TO COLLEGE and earning an electrical engineering degree from the University of Washington Bothell, James Bassett sent 50 job applications throughout the United States. He garnered only two interviews in return. So Bassett was particularly pleased to discover help at UW Bothell career services, which recently expanded one-on-one services for alumni to two years beyond graduation. Previously, services had been limited to just one quarter post-graduation.

Bassett received personal guidance from Kim Wilson, assistant director of career services, and Bonnie Monteleone, career counselor. They targeted his resume for each employer, talked through several rounds of mock interviews and offered strategies for answering questions and negotiating the salary. The 49-year-old Everett man gained a new perspective on finding the right job. “Within a month, I had more interview requests than I could handle,” said Bassett, who started work at a Seattle-area company that matched his engineering qualifications in audio electronics and his passion as a musician. “What I truly hope in our commitment to student success,” Wilson says, “is that we are helping to create a very engaged workforce where students aren’t just coming out and finding the first job, but they’re finding something fulfilling that also matches their values and life goals. That’s where I think we make a difference.”
UW Bothell students maximize their skills, experiences and connections to fuel their career aspirations.
Luke Daanomah’s path began on a farm in his native Ghana cultivating crops. This year, he graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering and is beginning his professional career at Harris Corporation.

Nitasha Kumar’s trajectory took her from an undergraduate science degree to a lab job, then to earning an MBA at UW Bothell before parlaying a student project into a second career.

As both of these UW Bothell alumni attest, no matter where you start, embarking on an educational journey can take you to heights you never imagined. And it seems this is just the beginning for each of them.

LEARNING ALONG THE WAY

Not many people in Daanomah’s village in the West African country of Ghana get the chance to complete elementary school. But while he grew up in a large extended family where everyone had to help out on the farm, they also knew the importance of education. Daanomah’s boyhood dream was to go to college and become a pilot.

As a teenager, he went to live with an aunt where he could go to high school. Upon graduation he was accepted into the University of Ghana, where he studied geographic information systems in preparation for learning how to fly planes someday. He also was an athlete while in college, but a serious accident playing soccer derailed his plan to enter the military — the only affordable avenue in Ghana for becoming a pilot.

Daanomah instead decided to come to the United States in search of new educational opportunities. “My major goal was to develop myself academically. We’d always heard great things about democracy and how systems worked here,” Daanomah notes. “I wanted to be a part of a society where you can influence change positively.”

He enrolled at Edmonds Community College and soon realized he could transform his passion for flying into a career building better and safer airplanes. In 2012, Daanomah landed an internship at NASA, and it “solidified my love for aerospace.” To earn his bachelor’s degree, he transferred to UW Bothell, where in addition to his coursework, he continued interning with NASA.

As Daanomah recalls, his hands-on experiences doing research with faculty at UW Bothell — including Cassandra Wright and John Bridge — further fueled his desire to learn and do more. “The cool thing I like about research is that nobody knows the answers,” he says. “You don’t know what you’re going to find. The process is the most important part. Each step of the way you are learning something.”

Working nights while going to school, Daanomah still made time to go through the process to become an American citizen. He eventually brought his college sweetheart from Ghana to the United States as his wife, and they have a year-old son. His family has now embarked on yet another new journey together in Florida, where Daanomah will begin work as a mechanical engineer in Harris Corporation’s Space and Intelligence Systems Department.

UW Bothell may not have been in his sights as a boy, but it “has been the perfect place to develop my leadership skills so I can be a creative mind in society,” Daanomah says proudly. “It has been a great time in my life.”

MAKING CHANGE THAT MATTERS

With an engineer dad and a physician mom, Kumar naturally gravitated toward a career in science. She earned a bachelor’s degree in environmental and occupational science at the UW in Seattle and then went to work in Bayer’s pharmaceutical laboratory.

It was a good professional position, but lab work didn’t suit her.

“I’d worked in a lab as an undergrad and realized that even though I was interested in science, being in a lab setting on the bench wasn’t for me. I needed a
more strategic view rather than being in structured research where I had little room for creativity,” Kumar recalls, “but I persisted because I didn’t know what else to do. I was in limbo."

After five years, looking for a way to advance her career, she decided to earn an MBA degree. Attracted by the School of Business’s real-world approach to learning and encouraged by the admissions staff, she entered UW Bothell’s MBA program. “There was this warmth, this personal exchange, at UW Bothell. I went to an open house, and I met some of the MBA students and connected with them; they had the same mindset as I that UW Bothell is for everybody.”

Kumar says she thrived on being part of the same cohort of students over the two years of her course work — and being at a university that features small class sizes and collaborative learning.

Academic collaborations also included experts in the field, which made a real difference for Kumar. During her tenure, Dr. Michael Astion, the director of laboratories at Seattle Children’s hospital, presented students with a challenge designed to stretch their entrepreneurial skills while providing real value to the hospital. Kumar’s project, along with a group of fellow MBA students, was to develop ideas for selling hospital services to other health care organizations across the nation.

The team crafted a plan that would build on the hospital’s reputation to promote an annual subscription service through which other hospitals could assess and optimize their use of diagnostic tests. Kumar then expanded the business concept with a fundraising strategy.

Her work so impressed Astion that he created a full-time position for Kumar after she graduated in 2013 to manage — and grow — the new program. In this position, Kumar hosted a two-day summit in Seattle for subscribers and oversaw monthly webinars for as many as 300 laboratories across the nation. She also helped grow the program’s annual fundraiser, increasing attendance to nearly 250 and raising close to $300,000. Currently, she reports, the program is “a full-fledged, $1-million-a-year business line with 66 members.”

In spring of this year, Kumar moved yet another step forward in her career, taking on the role of program coordinator in Global Health - HIV at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. She is serving as relationship manager with nonprofits funded by Gates, ensuring they meet their impact goals.

The skills she learned earning her MBA degree, such as relationship management and business development, have been helpful in her career so far and should be just as important in her new work, Kumar says. “The classes I took at UW Bothell will give me a baseline understanding of the basics of [the nonprofits’] finances. There also was a marketing class we took that described cultures in different parts of the world and included cultural sensitivity.”

Kumar also cites the support she still receives from the UW Bothell alumni network. “It was a UW Bothell grad who connected me to the Gates program and recommended me for the new position,” Kumar says.

“UW Bothell has always taken this personal approach, and that has always resonated with my personality and my own approach,” she concludes. “Those kinds of customer service skills will be essential in my new job.”
EVERY STUDENT who chooses a University of Washington Bothell education quickly learns that the rigorous classroom curriculum is only part of the experience. It’s when they discover their passion and start getting involved in co-curricular activities that students become fully immersed in the “Husky experience.”

Seven 2017 seniors from UW Bothell are acclaimed among the Husky 100 — a group of students from all three UW campuses who are recognized each year for making the most of their college careers.

They are selected for their academic achievements and their ability to connect the dots — to integrate what happens inside the classroom with internships, study abroad and other activities. They also have demonstrated the ability to apply what they’ve learned to make a positive difference on campus or in the community. Husky 100 students are known for their innovation, commitment to inclusivity and capacity for leadership as well.

They embrace novel ways of thinking. They see challenges rather than problems and opportunities not just ambiguities. By engaging with diverse communities and different cultures, they hone skills that help them thrive in various settings.

Motivated to lead, the Husky 100 take on many roles, including researcher, entrepreneur, activist and mentor.

In the following pages, we share short profiles of the UW Bothell students who are among this year’s Husky 100. Honored for their commitment to making the most of their education, these accomplished students are true role models. Self-aware and compassionate, confident and resilient, they are also now ready to apply the Husky experience in pursuit of their dreams after graduation.
ARETHA BASU  
Making advocacy accessible  
As director of student advocacy for the Associated Students of the University of Washington Bothell, Aretha Basu took her leadership position seriously.  
"It has given me knowledge of how this institution runs, highlighting ways that the institution is accessible and is not accessible," Basu says. "I strive to make advocacy within the institution accessible to all students, those who have leadership roles and those who do not."  
Basu is particularly proud of helping to organize students to form the Student Diversity Council that helped create the new diversity center on campus.  
With a degree in society, ethics and human behavior, Basu plans to apply to law school.

MATTHEW DUNAWAY  
Engineering for his daughter  
Sometimes, Matthew Dunaway has been too busy for his 12-year-old daughter. "She hates the fact I don't have as much time to spend with her," he says. Still, he says his time at UW Bothell has been "a blessing."  
"She's very proud of me. She says she wishes she could do as well in school as I do," Dunaway says. "I'm trying to push hard work and goal-oriented ideas on her."  
Dunaway's Husky experience included 17 days on a study abroad trip in Japan.  
A mechanical engineering graduate, Dunaway is working for Clark Construction on the expansion of the state's Convention Center in Seattle.

HOLLY GUMMELT  
Taking any opportunity  
With her orange hair and tattoos, Holly Gummelt is changing the image of a physics nerd. The first physics major at the University of Washington Bothell, Gummelt started a physics club. She launched a Society of Physics Students chapter and brought Sigma Pi Sigma, the organization's honor society, to campus. As part of the Trickfire Robotics club, she helped build a robot for a NASA competition.  
"I just hit the ground running. Any opportunity that I saw, I took it. Each piece has been absolutely worth it," says Gummelt.  
Gummelt plans to earn a Master of Science in engineering degree. Her goal is to design and build rockets.

SUKHAMAN KAUR  
Getting involved made the difference  
"I started out just taking classes," says Sukhaman Kaur, "and then I later got involved, which I think was great for me. Without being involved and without the support of faculty and staff, I probably wouldn't have been able to make it."  
Getting involved for Kaur included a two-week medical mission trip to Guatemala in summer 2016 with 17 other University of Washington Bothell students. Getting involved also included an internship with Lutheran Community Services Northwest in Snohomish County and work as an Achieving Community Transformation (ACT) lead in UW Bothell's Student Success Center.  
A graduate in health studies, Kaur plans to earn a master's in public health.
CECILEE FERNANDEZ
Unwilling to settle

“I walked into UW Bothell as just a transfer student with a goal of wanting to get my degree and leave, but I walk out as an advocate, leader, someone who has studied abroad, a researcher, a future counselor and ultimately someone who doesn’t want to settle and who wants to continue growing and evolving,” says Cecilee Fernandez.

Fernandez was vice president of S.A.V.E. (Sexual Assault and Violence Education), the student organization that won a grant of up to $5,000 from T-Mobile.

With a degree in community psychology, Fernandez plans to earn a master’s in clinical mental health counseling for a career as a mental health counselor.

FERUZA GHIAS
Teaching and travel ahead

As a study abroad ambassador in the Student Success Center, Feruza Ghias took part in University of Washington Bothell-sponsored trips to Kyrgyzstan and Italy. She’s headed abroad again, this time with the Peace Corps to teach English in Macedonia.

“I also want to show a good image of America abroad because America is good. It has been good for me,” says Ghias, whose family is from Afghanistan.

With degrees in community psychology and in society, ethics and human behavior, Ghias also is thinking about graduate school and a challenging career.

“I have learned so much and have a passion for community service. I want to do something useful with my life.”

RANDA MUSTAFA
Changing her approach

Randa Mustafa changed her approach to mechanical engineering after taking the University of Washington Bothell Citizen Engineer course.

“It opened my mind — by taking a holistic approach in engineering problems and by understanding the environmental and societal impact of my work in local, national and global contexts,” Mustafa says.

Mustafa served as president of the Bothell Women in Science and Engineering (BWISE) student club, promoting women in technology fields at events such as the University’s STEM Festival for middle school students.

The past two years, Mustafa also interned with The Boeing Company where she will work as a structures design engineer.

HUSKY 100 FROM 2016

This year’s cohort of Husky 100 honorees joins five UW Bothell students who were selected for the inaugural Husky 100 in 2016:

► Kelsey Bolinger – society, ethics and human behavior; and media and communication studies
► Jessica Cole – society, ethics and human behavior
► Ruth Medina Godina – global studies; and society, ethics and human behavior
► Alejandra Perez Guzman – society, ethics and human behavior; and American and ethnic studies
► Michaella Rosner – society, ethics and human behavior

Congratulations to all!
IN ITS THIRD YEAR, the 2017 Equity and Inclusion Conference was the largest yet with more than 350 people networking, participating in workshops and accepting the challenge from keynote speaker Ron Sims. “The greatest threat to America will be how we handle the diversity that is going to occur whether anybody likes it or not. University communities should be the catalyst of change,” said Sims, civic leader and a former King County executive and deputy secretary of Housing and Urban Development in the Obama administration.

Conference sponsor T-Mobile led the Empowering Women in Tech workshop. The Bellevue-based wireless carrier advances women in technology as part of its diversity and inclusion vision. “We want people working at T-Mobile to represent the customers,” said Lauri Bingham, director of technology, project management office.

T-Mobile also chose to support two student projects, instead of one, in the Create the Change competition: S.A.V.E. – Sexual Assault & Violence Education, and Western Washington Indigenous Students Summit. Both teams will receive up to $5,000 and mentoring from T-Mobile teams to bring their projects to fruition.

Popular workshops included:
- Indigenous Resistance: From Wounded Knee to Standing Rock
- Student Programming for Social Justice: Creating Community and Resiliency through Art
- Combating Islamophobia
- Building Transformational Diversity

The day ended with a special session on the making of the “Shoulder to Shoulder” Islamophobia viral video. It was produced by all 43 students in Arts In Context: Contemporary Muslim Artists, taught by IAS faculty Anida Yoeu Ali.
Clockwise from top left: Chancellor Yeigh and participants at the Indigenous Resistance workshop discuss the link between a traditional Native American story and engaging in advocacy. Participants were welcomed to a beautifully decorated space thanks, in part to table creations by Doe Stahr of Deer Creek Studios. Students in Anida Yoeu Ali’s Arts in Context: Contemporary Muslim Artists present special session on their viral video about Islamophobia. Keynote speaker Ron Sims says university communities should be the catalyst of change; Laurel Williams (’15) far left, and Team T-Mobile, give a workshop on Empowering Women in Tech. Abigail EchoHawk (’09, ’07) presents Indigenous Resistance workshop.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ARE CORE VALUES AND PRIORITIES of the University of Washington Bothell. Our work begins with the acceptance and celebration of the differences that are represented through the many diverse and minoritized communities on our campus and in the surrounding community. We recognize that we are bound together in a collective experience and that our actions impact all in our community. When we focus on the lives of the most marginalized groups among us, we also create conditions of equity, justice and academic excellence for everyone. As embodied in our Diversity Action Plan, we are engaged in an ongoing process of identifying and confronting the ways in which institutional and interpersonal discrimination inhibits the lives and education of our students, staff and faculty. — UW Bothell Diversity Statement

OUR COMMITMENT TO INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY
Facts & Figures

1. One year after graduation, UW Bothell alumni with bachelor’s degrees report an average salary of $54,498 — more than any other public college or university in the state of Washington.*

2. UW Bothell alumni are now almost 20,000 strong this summer.

3. 75% of UW Bothell faculty who engage students in their research.

4. In the last five years, eight faculty and staff and four students from UW Bothell have received grants from the Fulbright program, the country’s most prestigious exchange program whose mission is to deepen global engagement.

5. In the last academic year alone, more than 200 companies have participated in campus events to meet, advise and recruit UW Bothell students.

6. In June of this year, almost 2,000 students in the Class of 2017 became proud graduates of UW Bothell.

*Source: 2015 Education Research & Data Center
THE SIMONDS/GREEN FAMILY’S ROOTS run deep in Bothell, growing a commitment to education and community causes that has earned them our most prestigious honor, the 2017 Legacy Award. It began with Henry Simonds’ decision in 1907 to forego life as “a gentleman chicken farmer.” Instead he became the founder and first principal of Bothell High School and later the district’s first superintendent. The family’s role in galvanizing the region’s strength and character has endured for more than a century. Today, Henry’s great-grandchildren — Ronald Green Jr., Janet Green Hunter and Darrell Green — continue their forebears’ legacy.

“It’s very humbling to receive an award of this magnitude,” Janet said. The siblings agree on many things and one of the most important is that their parents would be proud. The trio’s grandmother, Sarah Simonds Green, is forever memorialized with a namesake conservatory at UW Bothell — a beautiful 2,800 square foot complex that houses a greenhouse, classroom and support space for education, research and public engagement. The conservatory is the first building on campus to be fully funded by private contributions led by the late Gordon Green, Sarah’s son and the three siblings’ uncle. His conservatory gift remains the largest private donation in UW Bothell history.

Gordon also made the first early leadership gift to the Campaign for UW Bothell, while Janet serves on the Advisory Board. In addition to their dedication to the University, the family has generously supported many other charitable causes through the years. “This remarkable family has literally shaped the face of our community and our campus,” Chancellor Wolf Yeigh said in presenting the award. “Their ongoing generosity epitomizes the spirit of the Legacy Award and serves as an example to all of what it means to give from the heart and to live your values.” Watch the video about the Green family.

“I support UW Bothell because I believe in investing in the future.” JANET GREEN HUNTER
**CLASS NOTES**

**Crystal Sackman (IAS ’08)** is now Northwest Area marketing manager at Brown and Caldwell, where she works with technical teams to develop strategic marketing programs.

**Colton Lindelof (IAS ’09)** is now admissions counselor and international adviser at WSU Vancouver. Colton and his wife Jaime recently returned from Taiwan, where they lived and taught from 2011-2015.

**Jenny O’Hare (IAS ’10)** received her doctorate of nursing practice degree from the UW in Seattle. As a psychiatric nurse practitioner, Jenny specializes in psychiatric mental health throughout the lifespan and has the ability to practice and prescribe independently.

**Andrea Chin (IAS ’11)** is now a technical recruiter at Rylem Consulting. Andrea also does freelance writing for Outerhaven.

**Shahin Mortazavi (STEM ’13)** was admitted to UW Medical School where he’s considering family medicine, internal medicine or psychiatry.

**Heidi Schauble (IAS ’13 and MAPS ’15)** is now a quality and data manager at AtWork!, where she has worked since completing her master’s, supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to find, develop and retain job opportunities.

**Rachel Xie (BUS ’15)** is now HR generalist at Ecoservice Group where she is responsible for regional team development throughout the U.S.

**Ben Wiselogle (IAS ’12)** is now foreign affairs officer with the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons in the Department of State. Ben relocated to Washington, D.C., for his new position.

**Jeffrey Siegel, left (MBA ’08)** received the Gold Award for exemplary leadership in the operations of the Pacific NW Section of the American Society of Nondestructive Testing. Jeffrey is the only serving chairman of the PNWS Board of Directors to have achieved this highest honor for six consecutive years of operation.

**Evan Carnes, right (MAPS ’14)** and his wife Jessica welcomed their son Paxton Randall Carnes on April 7.

New job, honor or award, or other milestone in your life? Send your big news to Class Notes at uwbalumn@uw.edu.
Do you have travel plans? **Get a FREE UW Bothell flag**, send us a photo with it, and you just might see yourself in the next edition of Faces in Places! Email your flag request to uwbalumn@uw.edu, and we’ll mail one out to you.

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1. **Tom Goos, left (BUS ’97)**, passing the gavel as outgoing Promotional Products Association International board chair.

2. **Sebastian Blissett, right (CSS ’12)** representing Amazon at a youth start-up challenge, alongside (from left to right) George Mekhail and GREATER Foundation co-chairs Russel Okung and Andrew McGee.

3. **Nicole Watkins, right (IAS ’16)** getting engaged to her fiancé Ben in Disneyland.

4. **Ismaila Maidadi (IAS ’15)** representing his employer United Way at the opening of their newest SparkPoint Center in San Jose.

5. **Jerry Blackburn, left (MEd ’15)** hiking Iron Horse Trail with his daughter Ruby.

6. **Jessica Mariel Hernandez, left (IAS ’16)** and her fiancé Edwin on vacation in Baja California, Mexico.

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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.
26th COMMENCEMENT: A DAY OF FIRSTS

1. 15,000 family and friends share in the first UW Bothell commencement ceremony at Safeco Field. 2. New graduates show their Husky pride. 3. 2017 medalists (l-r) include President’s Medalist Lingling Yuan and Chancellor’s Medalists Kyra Laughlin and Erica Qiao. 4. UW Bothell Chancellor Wolf Yeigh speaks about a year of firsts, including three new degrees, a new diversity center, and more than 500 first-generation graduates. 5. Grads are happy to have their degrees in hand. 6. ASUWB President Tanya Kumar acknowledges graduating students’ contributions to the UW Bothell community. 7. Assistant Professor Janelle Silva congratulates a student. 8. Keynote speaker Leland Melvin urges graduates to use their networks to inspire the next generation and to be stewards of the planet. 9. Surprise streamers follow the tassel tradition. 10. Customized mortarboards add to the celebration. 11. UW President Ana Mari Cauce leads the Board of Regents in the procession. Watch the entire 2017 UW Bothell Commencement.
The UW Bothell community is filled with thousands of game-changers who are building careers, developing networks and creating opportunities to make the world around them a better place.

One of them is Priya Frank, associate director for community programs at the Seattle Art Museum.

**Q:** Who was your favorite professor at UW Bothell?
**A:** Susan Harewood changed my life. She encouraged me and set high expectations for what I could achieve in my research into how the marketing of world music artists contributes to stereotyping and how arts organizations can empower artists to speak up and explore what their art truly represents.

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

**Q:** Why did you choose UW Bothell?
**A:** The cultural studies program focused on exactly what I loved and allowed me to put theory into a community-based learning practice.

**Q:** Who did you meet during your graduate studies at UW Bothell — on or off campus — who became a career connection for you?
**A:** My mentor, Vivian Phillips. Shortly after we met, she and I cofounded a Women of Color in the Arts group, and she opened invaluable doors for me. As an international leader in the arts, she was often approached for opportunities and would put my name forward instead. She believed in me long before I recognized the contributions I could make in the arts community. I'm so grateful.

**Q:** How do you believe UW Bothell helped you find a career that fed your passion for the arts?
**A:** How didn't it! Being able to take classes like digital storytelling and performance theory pushed me out of my comfort zone and let me explore many different parts of myself, professionally and personally. That gave me confidence to curate a local lounge/art space called LUCID, serve on the Seattle Arts Commission and the board of On the Boards, and eventually to apply for my position at SAM.

**Q:** How do you like to stay involved with UW Bothell as an alum?
**A:** In my position at SAM, I can be an ambassador and advocate for UW Bothell in different ways. I get to talk to a lot of young folks about career paths intersecting arts administration, social justice and racial equity, and let them know what an impact my UW Bothell experience had on me.

**Q:** Why do you give back to UW Bothell?
**A:** UW Bothell allowed me to blossom in a safe space. I made friends, built community, owned my perspective and who I am in ways I hadn't considered before. UW Bothell is where I grew the most and realized my potential and owned it.

**Q:** Your community connections run deep. Why is that important to you?
**A:** My community raised me. It's what lifted me, what made me and what's gotten me to where I am. From my family to my mentors to my teachers to the organizations I've worked with, it was as if they could see me before I could see me. They pushed me forward because they had faith in me.

**Q:** Describe your personal style and how it reflects your personality.
**A:** I want to celebrate life and I feel like my personal style reflects that. I love to mix bright colors and thrift store glamour with glittery Doc Martens. I hope people see my style as they see me: unique, joyful, approachable and always true to myself.

**WHERE I WORK:**
Seattle Art Museum

**WHAT I DO:**
Associate Director for Community Programs

**HOW I DO IT:**
My job is to bring the community into the museum and bring the museum into the community, building partnerships and advancing ways for art and culture to contribute to a healthy and diverse community where all voices can be heard.
HERE ARE SOME OF THE UPCOMING 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.

PUB NIGHT TALKS

UW BOTHELL IS PARTNERING WITH MCMENAMINS to present Pub Night Talks, a monthly series of talks by experts from UW Bothell and the local community. Talks begin at 7 p.m. and are held the last Tuesday of each month at McMenamins Anderson School in downtown Bothell. All talks are free and all ages are welcome! Learn more at uwb.edu/advancement/speakers.

“To Travel Or Not To Travel: The Possibilities and Perils of Ecotourism” By Benjamin Gardner, Ph.D.
July 25

“Planes, Trains and Mountain Tops: Adventures Studying the Impacts of Humans on Planet Earth” By Dan Jaffe, Ph.D.
August 29

“Teamwork in Extreme Environments: From Surgical Units to NASA Missions” By Deanna M. Kennedy, Ph.D.
September 26

“The Vaccine Controversy: Uncovering the Human Stories to Foster Healthier Conversations” By Dan Bustillos, Ph.D.
October 31

“The Greenhouse Gas Mystery: Reducing the Global Carbon Footprint” By Surya D. Pathak, Ph.D.
November 28