

## the faculty

## On the flip side

*A surprising number of UPS profs—who are not on the music faculty—say performing music makes them better teachers and provides creative balance*

With all the effort Puget Sound faculty members put into teaching, and preparing for class, and advising students, and writing and researching, and serving on college committees, and on and on, it's a wonder they've got time for anything else, like mastering a musical instrument and playing in a band. But for many Puget Sound staff, performing music is a lifelong interest that yields peace of mind, an intellectual balance in their lives, and even a little extra cash. Here, a few of Puget Sound's non-music-faculty who are also part-time performing musicians tell why, for them, making music rocks.



**Kent Hooper**, professor of German  
*Irish whistle, accordion*

"I have a pretty good day job, but you can only get so creative with German, and music serves as my artistic outlet. I would say I'm more of a classical musician who branched off into ethnic music. I was trained on piano and clarinet, and I married an Irish woman so that may have been a factor. I play in a band called Mooncoyne. In that band and others I've recorded about six CDs. We play gigs on weekends at weddings, festivals, and

other events. Conveniently, St. Patrick's day is always during the college's spring break, so I can play as late as I want that night and not worry about how I am going to be the next day."



**Barry Goldstein**, professor of geology/  
*environmental studies*  
*Mandolin, guitar*

"I'm definitely no star, but good enough to be in a band. Actually, two bands these days. One is a bluegrass group called Badorato. And then I play mandolin in a band called T-Ville Swing, which plays music based on that of swing-era gypsy guitarist Django Reinhardt. We play mostly in pubs, restaurants, and at street fairs. Being a 'baby boomer,' I learned guitar during the folk era

of the early 1960s and was in bands starting in high school and through grad school. Nowadays it's an important part of my alone time. I try to practice about six to eight hours a week. It keeps me sane. You need different aspects of life to keep things interesting."



**Steven Neshyba**, professor of chemistry  
*Voice*

"I sing tenor in the Puget Sound Revels, which is the local branch of a group that started 25 years ago in Cambridge, Mass. Our core performances are in December around the winter solstice, but they aren't like something you'd see on Broadway. There is a different setting each year, like '13th-Century Devonshire,' and naturally the setting affects our costumes and the repertoire for that year. The program draws on a variety of musical traditions, including

folk, liturgical, and drinking songs. All of our performances are done in a block of time at the end of the year, so we have quite a lot of rehearsals in the fall. It's extremely fun and attracts a wide variety of people from the community, although I find myself explaining quite often what, exactly, the Revels do. We are a unique form of entertainment, to say the least."



**Don Share**, professor of politics and government  
*Guitar, voice*

"I have a two-thirds-time position at Puget Sound that allows me to dedicate a lot of time to my music. I've played guitar since I was a teenager and started performing regularly when I moved to the Puget Sound area about 25 years ago. Currently I play rhythm, lead guitar, and sing harmony and lead vocals in the Downtown Mountain Boys, one of the West Coast's premiere bluegrass bands. We play concerts and festivals around the Northwest

and Canada, and Feb. 25–28, 2010, we'll be at Wintergrass, which is moving from Tacoma up the road to Bellevue this year. Music has definitely influenced my teaching, as I am constantly learning and, in so doing, thinking a lot about what facilitates that process. It has made me more aware of how frustrating it can be to learn new material and how teachers, like musicians, need to connect with their audiences."



**Donn Marshall**, associate dean of students  
*Acoustic guitar, mandolin*

"I've played music since I was a kid and was heavily influenced early on by artists like Gordon Lightfoot and Cat Stevens. Amazingly this is my 23rd year on campus, and I'm still finding time to play music in various ensembles in the area—though there never seem to be enough hours in the day to practice, especially during the school year. When I get home on Friday night the gate needs fixing or the dog needs feeding. This is why I often play first

thing in the morning for an hour. It really helps my mental and physical well-being, although one would think that I would be better than I am! But I think we are often too-harsh judges of our own talents and compare ourselves to the masters. Though this does keep us humble."



**Hans Ostrom**, professor of English  
*Piano*

“I play a restored Chickering grand piano that was rescued long ago from a saloon in a small town in the High Sierra. I play mostly for my own amusement, concentrating on blues, jazz, and ballads from the 1930s and 1940s. I started when I was about 11 and was mostly self-taught, so I had a rotten teacher. Improvising with simple songs, using chords, can be enjoyable, as can working on songs you’ve always liked to just listen to. I play two or three times

a week, usually in the evening, and try to play with colleagues once a semester. I also teach a class on the Harlem Renaissance, and blues, jazz, and ragtime are important to that era. Even playing rudimentary versions of those old songs helps me understand better the forms and their evolution.”



**George Erving**, associate professor of humanities, honors, and English  
*Electric and acoustic guitar*

“Having grown up in the Bay Area musical renaissance of the late ’60s and early ’70s, I was heavily influenced by the Jefferson Airplane, the Grateful Dead, and the Sons of Champlin, though the band I’m in now, Freddie Mac and the Bad Assets (with colleagues Alison Tracy-Hale and Tim Lulofs) is more about alt-country and Americana roots-rock. Being a musician influences how I

teach poetry and Romantic Period aesthetics, as well as how I approach writing as an ongoing process that can become deeply satisfying if one is disciplined and patient. My job demands a lot from my ‘left brain,’ and my guitar helps me give it a rest—I often play before I go to bed as a way of ‘closing down the shop.’”



**Rand Worland**, associate professor of physics  
*Bass and drums*

“My bachelor’s degree from UCLA was actually in music and I used to play a lot of trumpet and guitar, but these days it’s mostly bass and drums. I play with a variety of groups, including the 17-piece Kings of Swing, the JD Dorland Trio (a jazz trio with vocals), and Near the Beat (a pop-jazz ensemble). I play at a jazz workshop at Alfred’s Café every other week, and every once in a while I sub with The Kareem Kandi Band. I have also played with

the UPS jazz ensemble. My playing fits in well with the ‘Physics of Music’ class that I teach and also with my own research, which is in the field of musical acoustics. As for its effect on my overall well-being, it’s hard to say. I guess it’s just ... fun.”

## At college

### A Greek update



*As many of you know, I am president of Alpha Phi and very involved in Greek life here at Puget Sound. Instead of my usual column, I turned my space in this edition of Arches over to the Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity Council for an update on what is happening*

*in the chapters. Here’s what they had to say:*

The Puget Sound Greek community has many proud accomplishments that we are excited to share with alumni and parents! Beta Theta Pi was reorganized in the winter and began spring recruitment with a chapter of 16 men. Through formal recruitment they were able to welcome 12 additional men to their house. They raised more than \$5,000 for SAMA (Science and Management of Addictions) in honor of their brother Justin Bowlby ’07. Phi Delta Theta received a Gold Star Award from its National Office for excellence in all areas of chapter operations. The chapter also received an exciting new face-lift to its house and is excited to welcome six new members. Sigma Chi received the prestigious Petersen Award from its National Office for overall excellence and finished informal recruitment with six new pledges for the informal class.

Alpha Phi raised \$10,000 at its Red Dress Gala last fall and welcomed 24 new members in the spring as well as six new members this fall. Gamma Phi Beta achieved a 3.39 sorority GPA for the spring semester, the highest among all Greek organizations, and also welcomed 24 new members in the spring and seven new members in the fall. Pi Beta Phi raised \$5,500 for its Relay for Life team and is excited to start the year with 24 newly initiated members from the spring and five new members this fall. Kappa Alpha Theta was awarded Sorority of the Year for 2008–2009 and welcomed seven new members during informal recruitment to add to its spring class of 24.



**1-2-3 HEAVE!** At this year’s Greek Week tug of war, Alpha Phi vs. Pi Beta Phi.