



Office of the President

August 28, 2019

Dear Alum,

I am delighted to send you my first greeting as Azusa Pacific University's new President. Since beginning this role on June 3, 2019, my wife, Grace, and I have experienced the warm and gracious welcome for which Azusa Pacific University is so well known. We are grateful to the entire APU community and deeply humbled that God has called us to serve this exceptional, Christ-centered University. As we eagerly plan for fall semester and the excitement of welcoming students to campus, I am energized by the opportunities ahead to extend our *God First* mission.

This fall, APU will serve nearly 11,000 students in more than 200 on-campus, online, and regional campus programs ranging from bachelor's and master's to doctoral degrees, certificates, and credentials. The 2019-20 academic year will also mark the beginning of a transformational, institution-wide strategic planning endeavor. I am honored to serve alongside students, faculty, and staff in this process as we focus on Christ-centered academic excellence and intentionally position APU as a premier Christian University.

To advance these efforts, a member of APU's Board of Trustees, inspired by the renewed sense of hope that permeates our campus, recently donated \$1 million to fund several important initiatives. We are thrilled and deeply grateful for this expression of generosity. I truly believe that with all of us working together, APU's best days are ahead.

I am pleased to share good news regarding APU's positive financial outlook. Our latest financial report indicates a remarkable turnaround this past fiscal year of managing costs, exercising discipline, and exhibiting strong financial stewardship. I thank God for His continued provision as we anticipate the next year. I am confident that these positive financial results will continue as we establish best practices of the highest quality.

There is a new wave of optimism on campus with a clear commitment to equipping our students to make a difference in the world. As a valued member of the APU family, I invite you to join us on campus at events throughout the year, including Homecoming Weekend, October 25-26. I also encourage you to connect with our vast network of APU alumni through our Office of Alumni Engagement and learn more about the many services and benefits available to you.

I pray for God's blessings as you live your life in His service.

With best personal regards,

Paul W. Ferguson, Ph.D., DABT
President

God First Since 1899
