September 25, 2013

Dear Campus Community,

I am honored to announce in this month’s President’s Pause the establishment of two new funded professorships at the University of La Verne: the Richard G. and Beth T. Landis Endowed Professorship in the College of Business and Public Management and the John R. Hultman Distinguished Professorship in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Richard G. and Beth T. Landis Endowed Professor in Business Leadership and Ethics is established to attract and recognize national and international scholars in Business Leadership and Ethics; to bring recognition and attention to the field of Business Leadership and Ethics at La Verne; to enable the endowed professor to engage in scholarly research, publications and presentations on the campus, nationally, and internationally; and to honor and perpetuate the influence and values of Richard and Beth Landis at La Verne.

The Landis family has a long history with the University of La Verne. Over the past seventy years, Richard (‘42) and Beth (‘44) have devoted a significant portion of their time, energy and resources to the University of La Verne. Richard served as the chancellor of our university from 1984 to 1985, and as a member of the Board of Trustees for 15 years. He was named alumnus of the year at La Verne in 1979, and received an honorary doctor of law degree in 1981. Both have been models of philanthropic spirit and have, over the years, created and built a major endowment at the university in honor of Richard’s parents, John and Venna Landis. The Landis Endowed Scholarship currently provides more than $100,000 in annual scholarships to students pursuing careers in business and leadership. Thousands of students have been able to pursue their education because of the assistance of the Landis scholarships.

Richard and Beth are pleased to endow this professorship, which will be held by nationally-recognized instructors who will share with our students the values and knowledge that embody the very best in business leadership and ethics. The Landis’s generosity is funding the first endowed professorship that resides in the College of Business and Public Management and the first endowed professor will be recruited to begin in fall 2014.
The John R. Hultman Distinguished Professorship in the College of Arts and Sciences is established to encourage university professors to excel in their academic disciplines; to support a deserving professor who will embody the best in teaching, connect with students, and help students to achieve their goals; and to honor and perpetuate the influence and values of John R. Hultman at the University of La Verne. Professor Hultman’s generosity is funding the first distinguished professorship in the College of Arts and Sciences. This professorship, in perpetuity, will rotate every three years among full professors within the College of Arts and Sciences, accompanied by a financial award for professional development.

John R. Hultman, J. D., professor of law at the University of La Verne College of Law, joined the College of Law faculty in 1981. He received his B.A. from La Verne in 1974 and his Juris Doctorate in 1978. He practiced law both full-time and part-time for 21 years. His areas of expertise include bankruptcy, business, and personal injury law. He currently teaches courses in bankruptcy, torts, remedies, and property. In 2003, he was named the university-wide Professor of the Year for Graduate Programs. He was the College of Law’s Professor of the Year in 1996, 2000 and 2004, and was named the College of Law’s Alumnus of the Year in 1996. Professor Hultman is also being honored with this year’s Distinguished Professor Award at the Alumni Awards Dinner on October 11, 2013.

John conveyed to me that his transformative years were experienced as an undergraduate student in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of La Verne. He wishes to have future students studying at La Verne experience the joy of “connecting” with professors who take the time, thought, and compassion to care about each student.

I am thrilled to announce the establishment of these professorships which will allow the University of La Verne to continue to promote the values of the institution, professional development, national visibility, and faculty role models for our students. This is a significant moment for our university; please join me in congratulating the College of Business and Public Management and the College of Arts and Sciences, as well as thanking Richard and Beth Landis, and Professor Hultman.

Sincerely,

Devorah Lieberman, Ph.D.
President