

# Cal Lutheran put Vicki Arndt on the path ...

## To excellence

To know Vicki Eagleson Arndt today is to be amazed at the word she used to describe herself when she entered Cal Lutheran as a freshman in 1975.

An entrepreneur, she founded Eagleson Arndt Financial Advisors, a fee-based financial and asset management firm that handles \$40 million in assets.

Through her Rotary club, she has become a veteran of international aid missions. Her record of service extends beyond her city, her profession and her alma mater, winning numerous awards for her volunteer efforts.

She is the wife of CLU theatre arts professor Michael Arndt and the mother of two.

The daughter of a revered California Supreme Court Justice and an always-volunteering mother, Eagleson Arndt followed her heart and her head through a series of careers.

She taught school in Missouri, returned to Cal Lutheran to work in Admissions and left CLU to direct Learning Tree University—a private adult-education institution. She served as Director of Alumni Relations at CLU and worked as a stockbroker for a big firm until she realized she was an entrepreneur by disposition.

So what was that word she called herself? Aimless.

“Cal Lutheran was exactly the right place for me. I was encouraged to explore another route, consider a different philosophy. At CLU, you are allowed to find your own way. It was challenging and for me, and at that time in my life, it was ideal.”

## To Leadership

Although not raised in the Lutheran faith, Eagleson Arndt threw herself into the Lord of Life ministry on campus during her undergraduate years. She worked on a team that succeeded in getting the campus chapel recognized as a fully sanctioned church.

She built on that success to become a leader in her community. She initiated a Rotary-sponsored immunization day in 2008 to vaccinate restaurant workers against Hepatitis A. That program grew into a \$31,000 grant to provide immunizations to the low-income residents of Thousand Oaks.

Eagleson Arndt has been an innovator in the financial services field and one of a minority of women advisers who have a Registered Investment Advisory firm, providing advice for a fee. She currently is developing a unique approach to advising her clients, based on helping them analyze their anxiety about investing and using these insights to allow them to make better choices for their financial futures. Working with an expert on anxiety, she plans to roll out the program in 2011.

“My objective is to help people feel better about their money decisions. And really it’s from the heart. I am going to be a heretic in the business,” she says, smiling.

## To Service

Eagleson Arndt traveled alone to Kolkata, India, in early 2011 to check on the progress of a \$330,000 grant from Rotary International in the village of Piyali Junction and to work with women in the Adult Learning Program, sponsored by Thousand Oaks Rotary. There she witnessed violence and extreme poverty. At times, she feared for her own safety, but she drew courage from the women she met.

“I took a photograph of a woman of about 30. She has tuberculosis, and now both of her little girls are infected. Her husband is a drunk and beats her. Yet she was there to apply for a microloan to improve her condition. Her resilience is an inspiration.”

Eagleson Arndt’s service work has taken her to Mexico, Chile and Honduras, where she oversaw the implementation of a grant from Thousand Oaks Rotary to provide a medical clinic, adult literacy and vocational training, and microloans.

For her efforts, she received the 2010 Service Above Self – Mary Claire Slais Award from Thousand Oaks Rotary.

Despite the poverty she has witnessed, Eagleson Arndt believes we all can and must be prepared to change the world.

“We can’t give up. If we do, then there is no hope. It is daunting, but change never comes easily, and change is what is required.”

*Go to [www.callutheran.edu](http://www.callutheran.edu) to learn how the University fosters an environment where excellence, leadership and service are nurtured and thrive.*



### Vicki Eagleson Arndt

California Lutheran University  
B.A., Psychology, 1979

#### Postgraduate education:

Secondary Credential in English, Truman State University, 1983; MBA, CLU, 1992; Chartered Financial Consultant

**Hometown:** Thousand Oaks, Calif.

**Occupation:** Financial adviser and asset manager

#### Current affiliations:

Thousand Oaks Rotary, CLU Community Leaders Association

#### Guiding principle:

“If one advances confidently in the direction of one’s dreams, and endeavors to live the life one has imagined, one will meet with success unexpected in common hours.”

– Henry David Thoreau



# About the University

## About the University

California Lutheran University has seen remarkable growth since its founding 50 years ago. One of the University's strongest attributes, and one of the reasons it has gained support over the years, is that it has kept pace with the changing needs of students while remaining true to its mission - to educate leaders for a global society who are strong in character and judgment, confident in their identity and vocation, and committed to service and justice.

The 225-acre campus, at one time the ranch of Richard Pederson, the son of Norwegian immigrants, is now home to a dynamic liberal arts and science university with more than 2,500 undergraduate students and 1,300 graduate students from 39 states and 56 countries.

Under the direction of President Chris Kimball, the University is reaffirming its commitment to excellence and making great strides in accomplishing the ambitious goals of its Strategic Plan.

## Academic Excellence

Central to the University's academic excellence is a dedicated teaching faculty, who come to CLU from some of the finest universities in the world. Of the 154 full-time faculty members, 85 percent have earned their doctorate or terminal degree.

Through its College of Arts and Sciences, School of Business and School of Education, CLU offers 36 undergraduate majors, 31 minors and professional preparation programs in specified fields of study. An accelerated Adult Degree Evening Program (ADEP) is designed to meet the needs of part-time returning adult students.

CLU's highly regarded graduate programs include doctorates in educational leadership, higher education leadership, and clinical psychology, and master's degrees in education, psychology, computer science, business administration, information systems and technology, public policy and administration, and economics. A number of post-graduate credential and certification programs are also offered. MBA and certificate programs in financial planning are available online. Off-campus centers are conveniently located in Woodland Hills and Oxnard.

## Partnering with the Community

Strengthening partnerships with the business community to develop a better-educated workforce and to provide current data to assist with economic decision-making is an ongoing objective of the School of Business. The establishment of the CLU Center for Economic Research and Forecasting (CERF) and the addition of a master's program in economics expand the University's impact and contribution to the business community. The School of Education continues to partner with area schools and businesses to enhance teacher preparation and pupil education. A unique collaboration between CLU, the Conejo Recreation and Park District, and the City of Thousand Oaks resulted in the construction of a community swimming pool located next to the Samuelson Aquatics Center.

## Dynamic Growth

CLU's growth and achievements are reflected in its dynamic physical environment. The growing athletics complex on the north side of campus includes the Gilbert Sports and Fitness Center, the George "Sparky" Anderson Baseball Field and Ullman Stadium, Hutton Softball Field, Poulson Tennis Center, Samuelson Aquatics Center, and venues for soccer and track and field. William Rolland Stadium is under construction and scheduled for completion this fall. Also on the north campus, the new KCLU Broadcast Center and Fredrickson Family Early Childhood Center were completed this spring.

On the south side of campus, the Swenson Center for Social and Behavioral Sciences, CLU's first LEED-certified structure, opened in fall 2010. Completion of this center leads the way for a new science facility and a performing arts center.

For more information about California Lutheran University, please visit [www.callutheran.edu](http://www.callutheran.edu)

