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THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
AUTUMN 2014 • VOLUME 94 NUMBER 1

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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

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What's New?

The magazine you're holding represents a nearly yearlong process of questioning and examining everything about *Oregon Quarterly*—from the paper, size, and color palette to the editorial vision that guides our approach to storytelling—and asking ourselves how we could make it better. We surveyed readers, talked to alumni, and asked some of the best university magazine editors and art directors out there to give us ruthless, no-holds-barred critiques. We talked about what makes great magazines great, and we thought about what connects Ducks to the UO.

Then we found Matthew Bates '96. A graduate of the School of Journalism and Communication, Bates is the group creative director at Active Interest Media, where he oversees the design of 16 magazine titles (see our profile on page 28). He jumped at the chance to bring his expertise to his alma mater's magazine. His partner in the redesign was *OQ*'s new art director, JoDee Stringham, who brings a wealth of experience in magazine design to her role at the UO, including stints at the *New York Times Magazine* and *Washington Flyer*. Working closely together with our editorial team, they conceived and executed the design you see here.

We had a few goals when we set out: Let the visual elements of the magazine tell the stories, as well as the words. Create more flexibility in the ways we approach stories, and give readers more variety. Uphold our tradition of strong writing. Remind readers of the places and people that made their time on campus special, and bring them news of how the UO's alumni, students, and faculty are changing the world.

We're also excited to welcome a new managing editor on board with this issue. Jonathan Graham joined our staff this summer, heading west from Richmond, Indiana, where he was creative director for Earlham College and editor of that institution's magazine, the *Earlhamite*.

As we send the magazine off to the printer, we're quickly turning our attention to the new *Oregon Quarterly* website, set to launch right about the time this hits your mailbox. There, you'll find additional stories between issues, content from other UO sites and publications, ways to connect with other Ducks via social media, and opportunities to submit your own content: class notes, letters, comments, and photos. So, what do you think? We hope you'll let us know.

A few days before we went to press, Michael Gottfredson, the University of Oregon's 17th president, resigned (we have a brief report on page 11). I first got to know the president and his wife, Karol Gottfredson, when I interviewed them for *Oregon Quarterly* shortly after their arrival in Eugene two years ago. I titled that story "In the Fullness of Time," for this president struck me as someone who considered each action and decision in a broad context, who was deeply interested in the long-term strength of the institution, and the lasting impact of research and education.

Although his tenure was short, he accomplished much—most significantly, a long-sought change in governance structure that provides the flexibility and focus necessary to secure the UO's standing among the nation's top research universities, attract outstanding students and faculty, and provide Oregonians ongoing access to a world-class research university. These are aspirations we all share for the University of Oregon, and they will continue to be realized, in the fullness of time.

Ann Wiens, Editor

awiens@uoregon.edu



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Matthew Bates '96



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“52 We’ve got a set of rules that need to be fixed. And what’s key is that the public plays a role. It’s for them that safety standards exist.”

— RODGER VOELKER, PHD '96
LAB DIRECTOR,
OREGON GROWERS ANALYTICAL



ON THE COVER

The cover photo for this issue of *OQ* is one of hundreds of pictures of clouds taken by the late John D. Day, PhD, a professor at Linfield College known as “The Cloudman.”

A leading expert on cloud physics and their relation to weather and atmosphere, he published many books, including *Peterson's Field Guide to the Atmosphere* (Houghton Mifflin, 1981). Find out more at cloudman.com.



OQ ONLINE

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CLICK AWAY As we unveil our redesigned print magazine, we're also launching a new website designed to share content and engage dialogue with readers all year long — not just quarterly.

TALK TO US Comment on stories and share your favorites with others via e-mail and social media.

MORE TO LOVE From photo galleries, videos, and other material related to stories from each print issue to additional stories about the UO, the site extends OQ beyond the boundaries of a printed magazine.

LEARN MORE Read a little about the people who create *Oregon Quarterly* and learn about our approach to covering the UO and its alumni.

JOIN IN Submit letters to the editor, class notes, and photos for our "Ducks Afield" section.

FEATURES

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NATURAL LAW

UO law professor Mary Wood's atmospheric trust litigation provides a new way for citizens to fight for the earth's protection: by arguing that climate is part of the public trust. Some Eugene teenagers have joined the fight in a case that is headed to the US Supreme Court.

BY MARY DEMOCKER '92

38

PIPE DREAMS

What have recent economic struggles taught us about finding a balance between work and family? A driven journalism student reflects on her father's backbreaking work in the oil fields of Alaska following the recession of the late 2000s.

BY JESSICA HOLLOWELL THURMAN '10

42

A MORE PERFECT UNION

From toga parties, and rock concerts to political protests, we look back at the history and culture of the Erb Memorial Union before its renovation, and anticipate new possibilities when the building reopens next year.

BY ALICE TALLMADGE, MA '87

Fun Run

I forgot how much I enjoy reading the *Oregon Quarterly* until I sat down and read the latest issue [Summer 2014].

All the articles were excellent, but “Pre’s People” by Ben DeJarnette was over the top for me. I started run-



ning for a PE class I took while at Oregon and vividly remember many jaunts up through Hendricks Park during good and not-so-good weather. I am like the high school runners who watch the movies about Pre’s life. My wife and I have

them recorded and watch them regularly, but neither of us can watch the ending when he crashed.

I will always remember a quote attributed to Pre, which went, “I don’t run to see how much guts I have, but to see how much the other guy has.” That says it all about Pre in my mind.

Before I read the author credit, I knew it had to be a runner. Only someone who has been there could capture the spirit.

Evan H. Mandigo '67
Bismark, North Dakota

More Pre People

We thought *Oregon Quarterly* readers might be interested in seeing the reunion photo we put together for our new documentary on Pre called *Pre’s People*. These are all (but one) of Pre’s high school district championship teammates 40-plus years later. This picture was taken of them at Marshfield High School, where they surprised Pre’s assistant track and cross-country coach Phil Pursian as part of filming the new documentary, which focuses on Pre’s childhood in Coos Bay and his running foundation at Marshfield High.

We concluded filming our documentary at the 2014 Prefontaine Classic and in Coos Bay. We captured untold stories, acquired never-before published photos of Pre, and interviewed more than 50 people—coaches, teammates, competitors, and fans—all in high definition over the past three years. Now the editing process begins.

Travis Johnson
Phoenix, Arizona
Brad Jenkins
Portland, Oregon
Pirate Films, LLC
www.prespeople.com



Top: Pre runs his final race on May 29, 1975.

Bottom, from left: *Pre’s People: The Documentary* producers Brad Jenkins and Travis Johnson; Pre’s high school teammates Tom Huggins, Kirk Gamble, assistant coach Phil Pursian, Larry Denton, Ron Apling, and Reed Kinney. (Not pictured, Steve Scheel).

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Those were heady days for me and my family, with the likes of Dan Fouts, Bobby Moore (now Ahmad Rashad), Ronny Lee, and others who would put the Ducks on the map.

As a graduate student living in student family housing on Villard Street, I frequently would see Pre and his training buddies run by our house at what seemed to me to be four-minute-mile speed and carrying on conversations like they were sitting around a coffee table. An hour later they would return, still running and talking as if it were nothing. Those were heady days for me and my family, with the likes of Dan Fouts, Bobby Moore (now Ahmad Rashad), Ronny Lee, and others

who would put the Ducks on the map. The favorite of all was Hayward Field on a sunny afternoon in spring, with Pre doing his thing.
Darrel Duncan, PhD '73
 Venice, Florida

What a fantastic story about Prefontaine! I had no idea he started the prison running program. Thank you for printing this.
Celia Leber
 Bend, Oregon

A special thanks for the article on Pre. I was in the dorm next to him and saw him regularly. The [magazine] brings back many memories, both about Pre and Kesey.
Matt Motchkavitz '71
 Greenwood Village, Colorado

Special Thanks

We always enjoy the magazine. Thanks for your hard work. We especially enjoyed the article by Bev Smith. Well written, for sure. Thanks also for the variety of what you

include. The Kesey article ["Kesey, Collected," Summer 2014] was a great follow-up to the exhibit that the Springfield Museum had about him. Thanks again.
John, MEd '68, and Joanne Halgren
 Springfield, Oregon

An Oregon Original

Glenn Jackson is my favorite Oregon citizen of all time. The gas tax he promoted funded state parks and natural resources along with 3 percent of the General Fund. His parents operated the Albany newspaper for many years, and his sister Olga was married to a newspaper reporter (Gene Burns) who gained fame when he reported on the Pearl Harbor bombing that started WWII. Thanks.
Bill Sanderson '63
 Mill City, Oregon

Golf Court?

Regarding "Law on the Golf Course" [Summer 2014]: Don't we have better places



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than in a courtroom to play this “ball”? The only ones shooting par in this game will be the lawyers. Ping-Pong or tennis, anyone?

John Hawkes '68
Siletz, Oregon

A New Low

You have reached a new low as to the material you have chosen for the *Quarterly*

magazine. The essay “A Demolition” [Summer 2014] belongs in a porn magazine, not in a college quarterly publication. Really, how could this essay possibly be considered, let alone take first place and be featured in your magazine? I guess this shows the direction that our colleges (at least the University of Oregon) are headed. Congratulations.

Larry Clack '75
Salem, Oregon



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Memories of Mac Court

As a personal friend of Bev and Tara Smith, and a somewhat older Ducks fan, I have to say that I had tears in my eyes reading Bev's account of her return journey through old Mac Court ["School of Hard Blocks," Summer 2014]. Personal, spiritual, and blessed—a reminder of older days and ways. My wife, Monica, was also personally touched by the piece, as I'm sure were many other denizens of old Mac Court.

Thanks for that story.

Tony Brunello, MS '78, PhD '83
Saint Petersburg, Florida

Thanks, Duck Store

I couldn't believe the amount of exposure from being on the back cover of the last *Quarterly*!

When I was a student, I served on the Duck Store board during difficult economic times. I think an organization's true colors show in times of uncertainty, and I really respected the grace and dignity that moved the Duck Store forward. So when I started Campus Sculptures, I let the Duck Store's people-centered approach shape my decision-making.

Finding strength in doing right by others has made me tenacious, and connecting with people has given me confidence and joy. I owe my growth to the Duck Store, both personally and in business. I'd like to say “thank you.”

Alison Brown '11
Gresham, Oregon

Editor's note: Alison Brown and her sculpture were featured in the Duck Store ad on the back cover of our Summer 2014 issue.



Alison Brown

We want to hear from you.

Please send your letters to quarterly@uoregon.edu or by mail to Editor, Oregon Quarterly, 5228 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-5228. Published letters are edited for brevity, clarity, and style.

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intro



NORMA BASSETT HALL,
MT. HOOD—OREGON, 1929.
BLOCK PRINT ON JAPAN PAPER.
COURTESY OF THE JORDAN
SCHNITZER MUSEUM OF ART
AND THE LOCKHART FAMILY.

Printmaking Pioneer

Artist Norma Bassett Hall, born in Oregon in 1888, roamed the country and the world in the early 20th century, bringing the visual vocabulary and techniques of the Arts and Crafts movement to images inspired by her travels—and the beauty of her home state. Through October 12, more than 60 of her prints are on view at the UO's Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art in the first solo exhibition of her work since her death in 1957.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

Rest Assured

UO researchers study sleep patterns and long-term health

The first data to emerge from a six-nation study of health and well-being in adults over age 50 concludes, perhaps to no one's surprise, that sleep is important: Get six to nine high-quality hours, and you think more clearly. Any more or any less dilutes your cognitive tenacity.

The study was led by University of Oregon doctoral student **Theresa Gildner**, who mined data drawn from more than 30,000 people as part of the World Health Organization's Study on Global Ageing and Adult Health (SAGE). Study participants live in China, Ghana, India, Mexico, the Russian Federation, and South Africa.

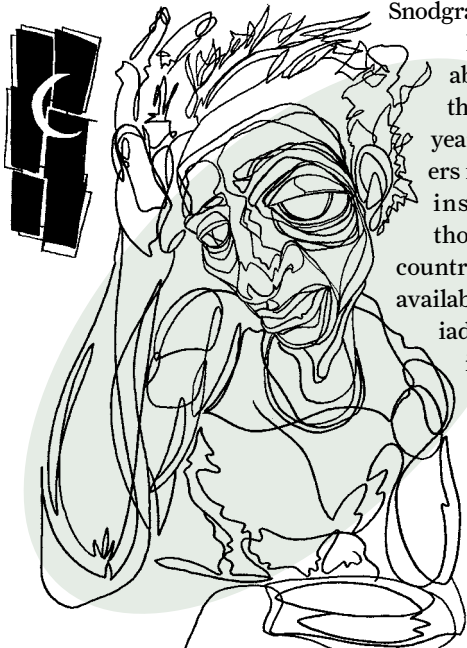
Duration and quality of sleep were key factors in how subjects handled a series of cognitive tests, Gildner reported in the *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine*. The study's findings may have important implications for future intervention strategies for dementia, Gildner says, and also point to gender differences in sleep and cognition variables.

Gildner's mentor, UO biological anthropologist **J. Josh Snodgrass**, has been one of the key investigators on the SAGE team since it began in 2005. (Snodgrass was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2013 and named a "Scientist to Watch" by the *Scientist* magazine.)

"Every single piece of evidence that people look at now as they are investigating sleep and different health associations is all showing that sleep really, really, really matters,"

Snodgrass says.

But SAGE isn't just about sleep. It will follow the participants for many years, and allow researchers from the UO and other institutions, including those in the participating countries, to tap the publicly available data to explore myriad health issues. "SAGE is designed to look at a number of aging patterns in a number of different countries with different levels of economic development and different population sizes," says Snodgrass.



UNWELCOME BY DESIGN

Ocean Howell, an assistant professor of architectural history, was quoted in the *Guardian* on the subject of "defensive urban architecture"—such as benches designed to be difficult to sleep on or surfaces crafted to discourage skateboarding. Howell suggests these "architectural deterrents" to skaters or homeless people are evidence that public spaces are designed, consciously or not, for specific segments of the population. "When we talk about the 'public,' we're never actually talking about everyone," he says.

VALUABLE INSIGHT

Leilani Sabzalian of the Center for Multicultural Academic Excellence earned a prestigious Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship to study educational programs for urban Native American students in Oregon. As the mother of native sons, her research is personal as well as professional. "I hope this project can help reframe how we think of native students and families—as sources of knowledge, insight, and experience that can add value to their school, community, and the field of teacher education," she says.



A New Science Library

Philanthropist **Lorry I. Lokey** has provided a lead gift of \$8 million to support the construction of the Allan Price Science Commons and Research Library. The \$16.75 million facility, supported by additional gifts and government bonds, will replace the aging science library and is designed to bring together students and faculty members from all disciplines and inspire new avenues of learning and research. The number of UO students choosing science majors has increased 72 percent since 2001, making this an opportune time for the new facility. The building's namesake, **Allan Price**, served as vice president for advancement at the UO from 2001 to 2008. "Allan had a huge impact at the University of Oregon, and I want his memory to continue," says Lokey, whose \$139.9 million in investments in the university, all for academics, has launched major capital projects for the sciences, education, music, and journalism. Ground will be broken for the facility in 2015.

The Allan Price Science Commons and Research Library (above) will include group study areas, classrooms, demonstration labs, and a "maker" space where everyone on campus can use such tools as 3-D printers.

Softball Success

After winning a second straight Pac-12 softball championship, the Ducks used their record-setting offense, dominant pitching, and improved defense to sweep through the NCAA Regionals and Super Regionals to advance to the 2014 Women's College World Series. Oregon finished the season with a number three national ranking and a school record 56 wins, including an unprecedented



Gift Funds New Bach Fest Initiative

With a \$7.25 million gift from alumni **Phyllis '56** and **Andrew Berwick '55**, the Oregon Bach Festival will create an orchestral training and touring program dedicated to historically informed performance practice of music from the 17th to the 19th centuries. Scheduled to launch in the summer of 2015, the Berwick Academy will be open by audition to young professional musicians and will offer immersive training, a stellar faculty, and a concert tour—all at virtually no cost to participants. The Berwicks' gift is by far the largest single contribution in the festival's 45-year history, and will enable the academy to be tuition-free, removing barriers for talented young artists to pursue their passion. The university and festival foresee the Berwick Academy becoming the nation's premier destination for aspiring musicians serious about historically informed performance.

National Champs

For the first time since 1984, the men of Oregon won the NCAA Outdoor Track-and-Field Championships this year. Hosting the event at historic Hayward Field, the Ducks amassed a meet record 88 points. With individual national title wins by **Devon Allen** (110-meter hurdles), **Edward Cheserek** (10,000 meters), **Sam Crouser** (javelin), and **Mac Fleet** (1,500 meters). The Ducks were named "Program of the Year" by the United States Track-and-Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association, their first such award since 2010.



two wins in the WCWS. And the program's ambitions got a substantial boost on June 10, when the university announced a \$10 million gift from **Robert Sanders '51** to lead the drive to construct a new softball stadium. The facility will be named in honor of Sanders's wife, **O. Jane Sanders '50**, who died late last year. The couple met at Oregon while Bob was a fullback on the football team and Jane was a cheerleader.

HONORING GREAT TEACHERS

Louise Bishop, associate professor of literature at Clark Honors College, and **David Blackwell**, senior instructor in the Department of Geological Sciences, were honored with this year's Thomas F. Herman Faculty Achievement Award for Distinguished Teaching. The award is given annually to senior faculty members who have demonstrated longstanding excellence in teaching. Bishop was praised for her ability to tailor her teaching to individual student needs, while Blackwell was described as a "force of nature, with a smile."



Bishop

President Gottfredson Resigns

Michael Gottfredson announced his resignation as president of the University of Oregon in an August 6 message to campus.

During his two years as president, Gottfredson compiled a substantial list of accomplishments. He worked with other university presidents and members of the legislature to establish independent boards of trustees for the UO and other public universities in the state, and negotiated the first-ever collective bargaining contract with faculty. He also conducted a top-to-bottom review of university operations, established a panel to review the university's handling of sexual misconduct, led a comprehensive space-needs review, and helped to resolve an NCAA investigation that predated his administration.

Chuck Lillis, chair of the UO's newly established Board of Trustees, expressed gratitude for all that the president accomplished during his relatively short tenure.

"President Gottfredson entered into the role as president of the University of Oregon at a critical time in our university's history and led the institution from a state of uncertainty to a path of stability," Lillis wrote. "Despite the competing challenges, President Gottfredson never lost sight of the mission of the University of Oregon and continued to push to move the UO toward even greater academic excellence."

The board has appointed Provost Scott Coltrane as interim president while it conducts a comprehensive search for Gottfredson's replacement. In announcing this interim appointment, Lillis noted Coltrane's leadership in developing the university's strategic plan, his dedication to the UO's mission, his positive relationship with faculty, and the continuity of leadership that he will provide.

Panel to Review Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Practices

The University of Oregon’s president, athletic director, and vice president for student life have called for a panel of experts to review the university’s practices for preventing and responding to sexual assault on campus, following a high-profile incident that raised awareness of the problem and sparked increased concern about the campus climate at the UO. The eight-member panel is made up of local and national experts in the fields of law, higher education, student conduct, and athletics.

The panel will assess the university’s overall prevention and response tactics, rather than focusing on any particular case. The widely publicized incident last spring involved three basketball players who were accused of sexually assaulting another student. Although the players were not criminally charged, they were dismissed from the team and suspended for four years for violating the university’s code of conduct.

The case made headlines at a time when the problem of sexual assault on college campuses has taken on national urgency. A White House task force, the US Senate, the Department of Education, national advocates, and institutions across the country have made addressing sexual violence a national priority.

UO Board of Trustees Assumes Governance

The University of Oregon marked its own independence day of sorts this summer as the new Board of Trustees assumed governance on July 1, the first time the UO has been independently governed since the Oregon State Board of Higher Education was established in 1929.

The Oregon legislature passed Senate Bill 270 in July 2013, enabling the state’s universities to form their own institutional governing boards. The new structure offers the UO increased flexibility as it looks for new resources and effective financing models, seeks increased support from donors, and creates efficiencies in operations.

“This is a recognition that the universities in the state are unique, and if we expect them to excel—which we do—we need the benefits of unique, focused, disciplined supervision of each of those universities,” said **Chuck Lillis**, chairman of the UO’s new board and a long-time supporter of the university. Lillis cited gaining a sophisticated understanding of the UO’s academic strategy and determining how to fund it, as well as ensuring the university remain accessible to Oregon students, as the board’s top priorities in its first year.

GIVING TOPS \$100 MILLION

Donations to the UO surpassed the \$100 million mark in fiscal year 2014 for the seventh straight year, with many gifts coming from first-time donors. Some highlights of the year’s philanthropy include the following:

48,905
gifts received

\$115,150,868
total donations

20%
first-time donors

7
consecutive years
> \$100 million

77%
donors giving to academics



Volcanology, volcanic hazards and geothermal energy are among the subject areas UO hope to strengthen through the “Clusters of Excellence” model.

ACADEMIC STRENGTH

Clusters of Excellence

Savings gleaned from merging two administrative units has enabled the UO to redirect \$1.5 million in recurring funds to launch a new “clusters of excellence” faculty-hiring initiative aimed at helping already-strong academic programs achieve national prominence. Teams of current faculty members submitted 34 proposals to the provost’s office for consideration, and after independent review by three groups, 10 were given the highest priority for faculty hiring over the next three years. The \$1.5 million will be used to fund from one to three of the clusters, with funding for the others expected to come from the UO’s upcoming capital campaign.

A comprehensive list of the top 10 proposals is as follows:

- **A Faculty Cluster in Chemistry and Physics to Amplify Excellence in Energy and Sustainable Materials**
- **Center for Genome Function Health Promotion, Obesity Prevention, and Human Development**
- **Integrated Analysis of Biological Networks**
- **Life at the Nanoscale**
- **Neurons to Minds**
- **Prevention and Intervention Sciences in Special Education**
- **Sports Product Initiative**
- **Sustainable Cities Initiative Research Hub**
- **Securing National Prominence in Volcanology, Volcanic Hazards, and Geothermal Energy**

Welcome
HOME



Welcome home
ALUMNI

When you flock back to Eugene,
— let us be your —
home away from home.

*Inn at the
5th*

Marché

ROUTE 5
NW WINE BAR





DUCK TREATS

Entrepreneurial Buffet

Many products developed by Ducks have achieved success far greater than what their creators originally imagined.

Cashing in on growing markets for boutique edibles and specialty drinks, these entrepreneurs have found plenty of happy customers for businesses that grew out of a desire to share a favorite food or drink on a small scale.

Wild Friends Nut Butter is the brainchild of current students Keely Tollitson and Erika Welsh, who began selling flavored peanut butters in 2011 at a campus street fair. Popular from the start, their nut butters found even more success following an appearance on the reality show *Shark Tank* and plugs in *O*, the Oprah magazine. Now made in a factory rather than by hand, the nut butters are available in stores from coast to coast.

Kurt Barajas, Karen Bonner '13, Shannon Oliver '13, and Jessica Zutz Hilbert met as MBA students at the Lundquist College of Business and are cofounders of **Red Duck Ketchup**. Offering three flavors, the ketchup is available at many stores in Oregon and Washington, via their website, and on restaurant tables in Eugene and beyond.

Matt Choi '11 started selling his homemade kimchi at Portland Farmers Market in 2011. Now his labor of love has grown into a burgeoning business, with four varieties of **Choi's Kimchi** available at grocery stores in several Pacific Northwest cities. Kimchi, a traditional Korean fermented nosh made of vegetables and seasonings, is considered among the world's healthiest foods.

Townshend's Tea Company grew out of a UO class project in 2002. The company now offers high-quality, loose-leaf tea in a "campus-style coffeehouse" environment in five locations in Oregon, Montana, and Washington. The chain is owned by Matt Thomas '02, who also created Brew Dr. Kombucha, a fermented tea imbued for medicinal purposes. His products are widely available in the region.

Daniel McTavish '12 and Addison Stern '12 also met at the business school and are co-owners of **Viking Braggot Company**. Braggot is a beverage invented by Vikings that borrows elements of beer and mead (fermented honey). To date, Viking is the only braggot brewer in Eugene.

JONATHAN GRAHAM

Townshend's Tea Company (above)

Named after the Townshend Acts, which imposed a tea tax in Colonial America, the tea comes in countless varieties.



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Nesting Instincts

In an excerpt from her new book, *Wild Within*, Melissa Hart weaves a story of rehabilitating injured raptors, starting a family, and falling in love with helpless creatures.



Melissa. Will you be all right here for a few hours?” Jonathan appeared, merriment wiped from his face.

“What’s wrong?”

“Contusion on Maya’s wing. We removed the scab, and she won’t stop bleeding.”

He strode toward the parking lot, calling over one shoulder. “Louise’s driving her to the vet. She needs me to hold the bird. There’s no one else on shift . . .”

“I’ll be alone here?”

I regretted finally watching Hitchcock’s *The Birds* a month before. Would Jonathan return to find me lying among rat tails in some mew with my eyes pecked out?

“I’ll be fine.” I feigned a shrug of proficiency. “I hope Maya’s okay.”

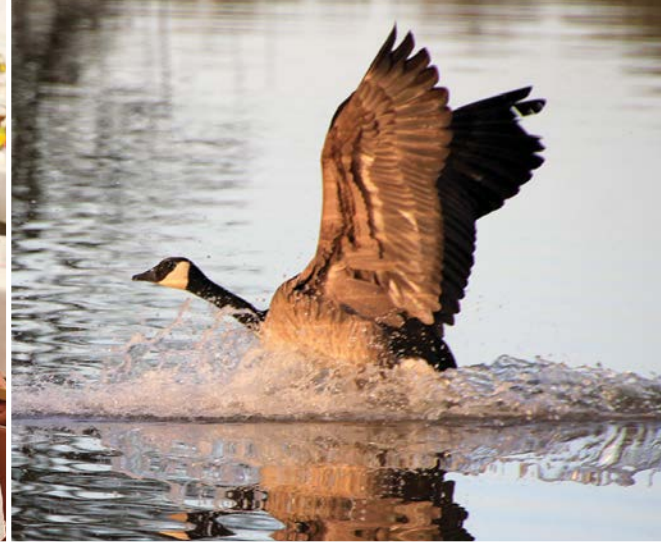
Jonathan thrust the center’s phone toward me. “We’ll be in touch.”

He hurried off and emerged from the clinic a moment later with the limp, bleeding eagle in his arms like a child. Drops fell to the asphalt as he slid into the back seat of the director’s station wagon. She leaped in and raced downhill; I heard the screech of tires as they disappeared down the road.

Solitary, I expected to be scared. But after the first five minutes, in which I stood in front of Lorax’s clinic mew and watched her triangulate adorably on a moth, I found myself unafraid. There was too much to do.

In the treatment room, I cleaned up the bloody towels and gauze pads on the table and picked up a feather Maya had shed—the length of my forearm—and wedged it into the glove rack for Jonathan. I set out thawed rats on pie plates in the clinic and shook vitamin powder on their white bodies, then trotted around the center delivering them to hawks and falcons—a combination postal carrier and grim reaper.

The phone rang and I jumped for it, hoping for Jonathan, and recovered swiftly to tell the local farmer who’d called that yes, I’d leave a message for the director about putting him on the waitlist for two rehabilitated barn owls to hunt mice on his farm. Louise had left a sticky note on the computer monitor imploring someone to clean leaves off the fiberglass tops of the resident screech owls’ mew. I found a ladder and got to work. I talked to them as I troweled caked maple leaves and fir twigs off the roof.



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“Don’t worry, sweetie. I know it’s loud, but it’ll be over soon . . . then you can see the trees and the sky and the stars . . .”

I kept up a stream of steady, sing-song chatter in time with my scraping. The owls clacked their beaks and let loose their burbling call. My cell phone buzzed, and I read a text from my sister.

Can you believe it? We’re thinking of getting pregnant.

“Yikes.”

At the sound of a thud, I looked up, expecting to see Jonathan with Maya, but it was Juno flying from perch to feeding platform in anticipation of her nightly rat. The center’s owls ate in the evening to mimic their nocturnal feeding habits in the wild.

“It’s still hours ’til your dinner, Juno.”

She stood level with me on the ladder. We looked at each other a long moment. Though

I’d never get her on the glove—her wildness made her off limits as an ed bird—I felt a kinship with her, in part because she reminded me of one of my cats. But there was something else, as well. She was another maiden aunt, a comrade in my childlessness. Our organization had no breeding permit, and so the birds had no offspring.

Did Juno feel a need to have babies? Or, like me, did the idea of motherhood frighten her?

“What’s my sister thinking?” I wondered out loud. Katie and her husband had sworn off kids as adamantly as we had. Had they heard the toll of a biological clock indiscernible to Jonathan and me?

I knew why he recoiled from the idea of parenting. He’d grown up with five siblings and a mom and dad in a little house next to a park. But at 15, he learned that his father—with whom he’d spent weekends fishing in Canada—had a fast-spreading melanoma and only a few months to live.

“We all took care of him,” he told me one night as we sat on the couch sharing family photo albums, cats on our laps and dogs at our feet. “When he got the diagnosis, he bought us a big house in the country. He died in the downstairs bedroom with all of us there.”

“And your mom?” Tears had slipped down my face, and—amazingly—his.

“Raised the three of us still in high school by herself. Took us to Europe, too, but I never went fishing again.”

“Please . . .” I’d whispered. “Please stop smoking. I love you.”

He nodded, wiped his eyes. “I’ll try.”

Jonathan had told me that losing his father when he was still a boy killed the desire to lock himself into a paternal position and expose his own mortality to someone more vulnerable than himself.

Myself, I felt terrified of taking responsibility for any young person. My own childhood had been happily humming along when my parents began to awaken my brother and sister and me each night with screaming matches embarrassingly incongruous with our chic suburban neighborhood. At eight years old, I sensed it coming; even so, the afternoon my mother seat-belted my siblings and me into her car and sped away, a few suitcases and book boxes tossed in the back, I found myself devastated by the divorce.

We moved into an apartment at the beach with a hard-faced, rough-voiced woman I



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How could I have a child knowing the anguish that separation might bring?

learned to be my mother's girlfriend. A few weeks later, my father showed up with a posse of police cars and spirited us away to the safe, ugly house he'd purchased with his new girlfriend. With legal strongmen at his side, plus a homophobic social worker who insisted that living with lesbians would damage us for life, he persuaded the judge to award him full custody of my younger siblings and me.

For years, I stood on my father's doorstep and watched my mother's VW bus pull away, her hand stuck out the window in a limp salute—the last I'd see of her for 10 days until she was allowed to pick us up for the weekend again. An image like that doesn't vanish; it burns itself into the skin like a sorrowful tattoo, marking the observer for life.

How could I have a child knowing the anguish that separation might bring? It seemed to me the most wild and risk-taking thing that a person could do.

* * *

By the time Jonathan and Louise returned from the hospital, I'd cleaned most of the mews, dusted the visitors' center, and watered the plants. I stood pouring seed into the bird feeders that dangled from the cherry tree when the station wagon crept up the driveway.

Slow was a good sign, slow so as not to frighten Maya.

Louise parked, got out, and headed for her apartment. She shut the door behind her without a word to me. Then Jonathan climbed out of the passenger's seat. Blood streaked his T-shirt and shorts. For an instant, I thought they'd been in a car wreck. I ran over.

"What happened? Where's the eagle?"

He wrapped his arms around his body, lips

a rigid line. "Hemorrhaged in the car . . . kept applying pressure. No way to stop it."

He walked to the picnic table and sank to the bench, dropped his head into folded arms. "She's gone."

"Maya died?"

The back of his neck, newly shaved by a careless 10-dollar barber, shone naked and pink, badly in need of sunscreen. I could think of nothing to say, nothing to do but stand behind him, hands gripping his shoulders as the one-eyed kestrel chirped at us from his mew.

I'd gloated over not wanting kids, believing we'd spare ourselves the agony of falling in love with helpless creatures who might or might not be taken from us. How little I realized that, for the next several years, on behalf of both birds and children, we'd gamble our emotions again and again.

Melissa Hart is an adjunct instructor in the University of Oregon's School of Journalism and Communication. Excerpted from her new memoir *Wild Within: How Rescuing Owls Inspired a Family* (Lyons, August 2014).



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Facts-5, Myths-0

In their 2013 book *15 Sports Myths and Why They're Wrong*, economists Rodney Fort and Jason Winfree invoke “cool rationality” and “economic analysis” to dismantle some of the most pervasive myths in American sports culture, both collegiate and professional. It got us thinking about a few commonly held perceptions about athletics here at the University of Oregon, and whether we might have some myths of our own worth busting.

1 Athletics departments are “a drag on the university budget”

Fort and Winfree devote an entire chapter of their book to chipping away at this statement from a variety of angles. Poring through data in various NCAA reports, they conclude that this perception stems largely from an oversimplification of what constitutes “cost” and “revenue,” and a discounting of the benefits athletics bring to their institutions, such as increased giving by alumni, a larger pool of student applicants, quality of campus life, and favorable budget treatment by legislators. And it stands to reason that few university presidents and boards of regents would retain athletics programs if they were indeed draining resources from their institutions’ core missions of research, teaching, and service.

The UO counters this myth better than most—its athletics department receives no direct institutional support. In 2013, just 2.03 percent of the athletic department’s budget for all sports came from indirect support, such as student ticket purchases, the lowest among reporting institutions in the Pac-12. For comparison, institutional support provided 3.13 percent of UCLA’s budget (the next lowest in the conference) and 18.74 percent of Oregon State’s.

2 Most student athletes get a free ride to attend the UO

About 350 of the UO’s 485 student-athletes receive some form of athletic scholarship annually, which may be applied toward tuition and fees, room and board, and required course-related books. However, the NCAA limits the number of scholarships each sport receives, so not every student-athlete gets a full scholarship. For example, the 19 softball players who represented the UO at the Women’s College World Series this year shared 12 scholarships, while just 12.6 scholarships were split among

the 63 members of the 2014 NCAA indoor and outdoor championship-winning UO men’s track-and-field team. At the UO, only one in four student-athletes receives a full scholarship, and there are more walk-ons who are not on athletic scholarships than there are student-athletes receiving full scholarships.

3 Student athletes are not held to the same academic standards as other students

Persistent stereotypes about “brains versus brawn” can create unfortunate misperceptions about the academic aptitude of student-athletes, beginning with the admissions process. Of last fall’s entering class, only five student-athletes were “special admits”—those granted conditional admission based on exceptional talent or promise in a particular area. And once admitted, all students must meet the same requirements for graduation. Last year’s incoming group of student-athletes entered the UO with an average GPA of 3.31 (the average for the university overall was 3.60).

4 Donors to athletics don’t give to academics

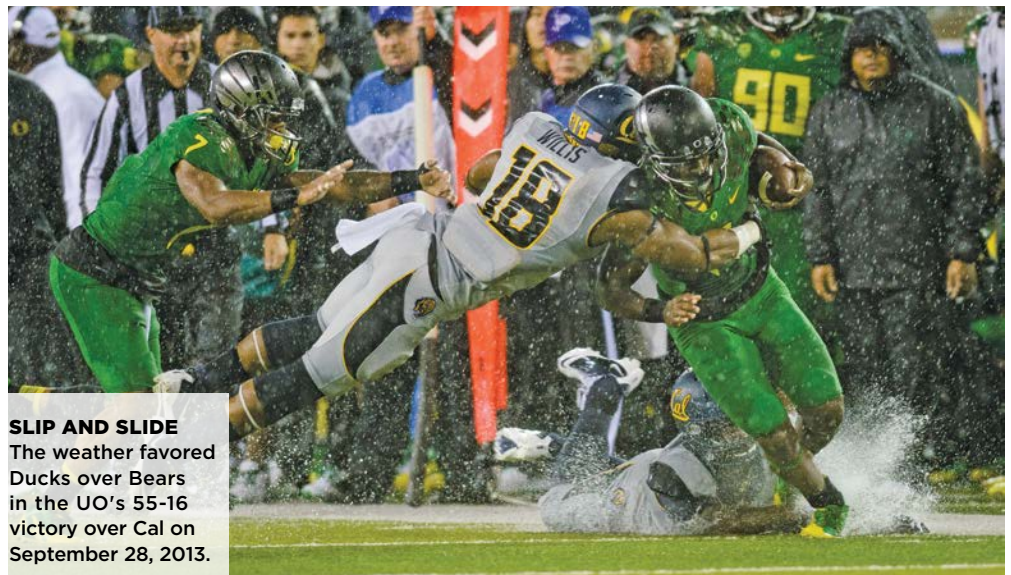
We love our Ducks, and many of the UO’s top donors have shown their love with some truly generous gifts that have clearly helped raise the profile—and performance—of our sports teams. But donors love science, art, and scholarship, too. Of the university’s top 100 donors, 53 percent have supported academics only, 5 percent have supported athletics only, and 42 percent shared the love with both.



■ ACADEMICS ONLY
■ ATHLETICS ONLY
■ BOTH

5 It never rains in Autzen Stadium

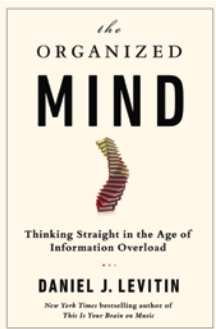
According to meteorological records, it has sprinkled, misted, showered, drizzled, stormed, poured, or otherwise precipitated on about 35 percent of home game days over the past decade. (Remember last year’s 55-16 slogging of Cal?) But what’s a little wet stuff to a Duck, right?



SLIP AND SLIDE
The weather favored Ducks over Bears in the UO’s 55-16 victory over Cal on September 28, 2013.

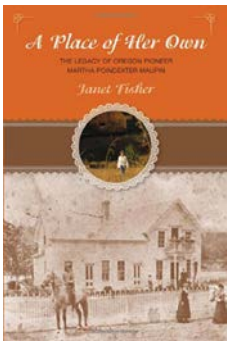
BOOKMARKS

Here are a few recent books written by alumni that captured our imaginations. Find additional new titles by alumni authors at OregonQuarterly.com.



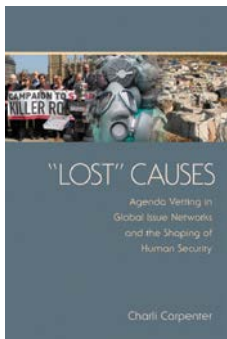
THE ORGANIZED MIND: THINKING STRAIGHT IN THE AGE OF INFORMATION OVERLOAD (DUTTON, 2014)
BY DANIEL J. LEVITIN, MS '93, PHD '96

For those drowning in too much information, help has arrived. Drawing on the cognitive neuroscience of attention and memory, Levitin suggests ways we can be more efficient, creative, happy, and less stressed in an increasingly wired world.



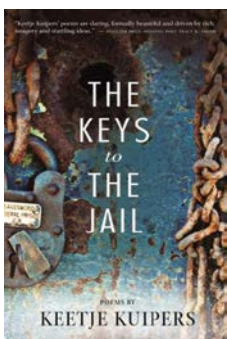
A PLACE OF HER OWN: THE LEGACY OF OREGON PIONEER MARTHA POINDEXTER MAUPIN (TWODOT, 2014)
BY JANET FISHER, MS '70

A classic pioneer woman's story, as told by her great-great-granddaughter. Fisher, who earned her master's degree in journalism at the UO, now owns the century farm her ancestor purchased—as a single mother in 1866.



"LOST" CAUSES: AGENDA VETTING IN GLOBAL ISSUE NETWORKS AND THE SHAPING OF HUMAN SECURITY (CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2014)
BY CHARLI CARPENTER, PHD '03

Why do some issues and not others become the focus of transnational activism? Carpenter explores how the agendas of global activists are formed and how politics determines how certain issues become priorities for the "advocacy elites."



THE KEYS TO THE JAIL (BOA EDITIONS, LTD., 2014)
BY KEETJE KUIPERS, MFA '06

Described by Pulitzer Prize-winner Tracy K. Smith as "formally beautiful and driven by rich imagery and startling ideas," this collection has drawn comparisons to such poets as Elizabeth Bishop and Mark Doty.

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Sex, Art, and Archives

As curator of the Kinsey Institute's unique art collection, Catherine Johnson-Roehr is continuing a provocative conversation started by the world's most famous sex researcher.

Catherine Johnson-Roehr '80, MA '89, leads the way between narrow rows of metal bookcases. The lighting is a bit dim, the ceiling rather low, the industrial cases dull and worn from decades of use, their shelves laden with books, boxes, and files. The key to navigating the shelves' contents is carefully typed out on a sheet of yellowed paper:

- 500 Science
- 520 Sex Behavior
- 527 Sex Behavior, Aggressive
- 528 Sex Behavior, Disorders, Diseases, Disabilities
- 532 Homosexuality
- 535 Paraphilias
- 540 Sadomasochism

It's a decimal system that might make Melvil Dewey do a double take.

But we are, after all, in a library. The library and archives of the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction, to be specific. And Johnson-Roehr—who earned a BA in sociology, certificate in women's studies, and MA in art history at the UO—is describing the institute's unique collection of art, artifacts, and photography, which she has curated since July 2000.

"The mission of the institute is to pursue research that produces reliable information about human sexuality, gender, and human reproductive issues," says Johnson-Roehr. "The mission is also very much about education. Our exhibitions allow people to see our collections and learn about the history of sexual expression in art from cultures around the world."

Research and collecting were clear passions of institute founder Alfred C. Kinsey, who became a household name following the publication of his books *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male* (1948) and *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female* (1953). The books were unprecedented in their frank



Roman oil lamp (winged phallus), 0-200 CE, terra cotta.

presentation of the breadth of sexual behavior, the result of thousands of personal interviews conducted by Kinsey and his staff. Kinsey began his career as a zoologist, and had amassed the world's most extensive study collection of gall wasp specimens before his interest in biology led him to his groundbreaking research in human sexuality. The collection Johnson-Roehr now oversees originated in the service of that research.

"Kinsey's intent initially was to collect imagery as a way of understanding sexual behavior in a way that you couldn't necessarily gain from an interview," she says, noting that the collection includes about 50,000 documentary photographs spanning about 100 years. "With the influence of his colleague Paul Gebhard, an anthropologist, Kinsey started thinking very broadly about collecting material from other countries, other time periods, other cultures, to help understand what sex was outside of the mid-20th-century United States."

Leaving the library and continuing through a series of winding hallways toward the institute's gallery, Johnson-Roehr

Facing page: Catherine Johnson-Roehr '80, MA '89, among the stacks in the library of the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction. Photographed by Niki Grangruth.

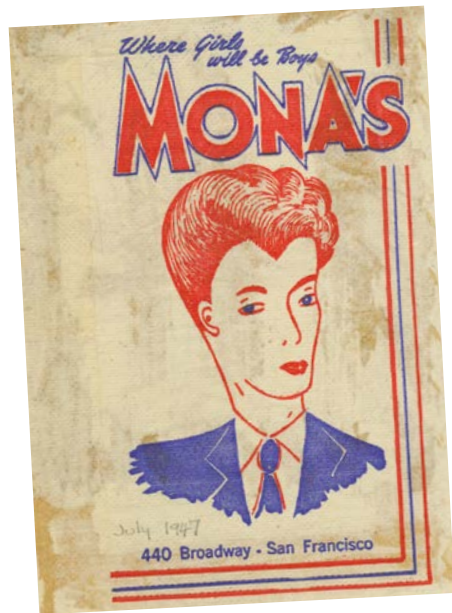
This page, clockwise from left: Niki Grangruth and James Kinser, "Girl with a Pearl Earring (After Vermeer)," 2009, photograph.

Unknown artist, China. "Lovers in Bed with Chaperone," c. 1750, gouache on paper.

Judy Dater, "Imogen and Twinka in Yosemite," 1974, photograph. © Judy Dater.



points out the prints and paintings hanging on the walls, some of them centuries old. “We have artwork from China, from Japan, we have a Persian collection (erotic artwork from Iran), we have Roman pieces. Kinsey wanted to write a



book about erotic art, but unfortunately he died too soon.”

Kinsey died in 1956 at the age of 62, just nine years after founding the institute at Indiana University, where he was a professor. The collection, controversial by nature, was available to researchers but not widely publicized until the mid-1990s, when then director John Bancroft “got the ball rolling in opening up the collections,” says Johnson-Roehr. “He thought the library and collections should be used much more freely,” and supported the organization of the institute’s first large-scale exhibition of its collections as part of its 50th anniversary celebration in 1997.

Johnson-Roehr became curator of the collection a few years later. She and her partner (now her wife), Susan Johnson-Roehr, MA '94, MA '97, had moved from Eugene to Bloomington so Susan could study art history at IU. Having worked almost six years as a slide librarian in the UO’s School of Architecture and Allied Arts, Catherine found a job in the Lilly Library, which houses IU’s rare books, manuscripts, and special collections. When the curatorial position at the Kinsey Institute



Left: Cocktail napkin from Mona’s, San Francisco, 1947.

Above: Moche pottery, Peru, 100–800 CE.

became available, she was a natural fit—with her library experience and degrees in sociology and art history, as well as a certificate in women’s studies from the UO (the program did not offer a major at the time), her background was

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ideal for understanding and appreciating the institute's unusual assets.

"It's an endlessly interesting collection," she says, pointing out a few items that demonstrate the diversity of the institute's archives, which have expanded well beyond what Kinsey acquired in his lifetime. "This is an 18th-century condom, probably made out of sheep intestine. It was given to us by a physician in England."

She picks up a tiny comic book featuring Olive Oyl, Popeye, and J. Wellington Wimpy in ways never seen on Saturday morning cartoons. "These were popular forms of pornography in the '30s and '40s, known as 'eight-pagers' or 'Tijuana Bibles,'" she says. "As you can see, they're quite graphic! They're just

"Kinsey's intent was to collect imagery as a way of understanding sexual behavior."

cheaply printed little comic books, the size of a wallet or pocket so they're easily hidden away."

There are also much more serious works in the collection. "This is one of our treasures, a hand-written letter from Sigmund Freud. It is a response to a letter from an American woman who had written to him because she was worried about her son, who was a homosexual. It was 1935, she probably didn't know who else to talk to. Freud wrote this amazing two-page response saying that homosexuality was not a disease and that it was nothing to be ashamed of. It must have been such a reassuring letter for her to receive. It's also Freud giving his opinion about homosexuality in his own words, so it's a very significant letter."

Johnson-Roehr has put her own mark on the collection with a focus on fine art and the inclusion of more works by women artists, such as Judy Dater's well-known photograph "Imogen and Twinka in Yosemite," which appeared in a 1976 issue of *Life* magazine. This fall, the institute will exhibit photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe, a gift from the Mapplethorpe Foundation. "We were a bit nervous when we announced the gift," she says, "but nothing happened." Bloomington is very close to Cincinnati, where the director of



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Above: Shoes for woman with bound feet, China, c. 1900.

Below: Unknown artist, United States. "Toby Jug," c. 1830, ceramic.

the Contemporary Arts Center was arrested in 1990 for exhibiting the artist's sexually explicit works. Johnson-Roehr doesn't find that too worrisome, though, saying, "We expect visitors to be pleased to have the opportunity to see so many examples of Mapplethorpe's work."

Perhaps Johnson-Roehr's most successful effort to raise the collection's profile within the art world is the establishment of an annual juried art show, now in its ninth year. "It's been fun to see the way that show has evolved, and it has certainly benefitted us in terms of getting the word out about our contemporary collection and helping build that collection," she says.

Chicago-based artists James Kinser and Niki Grangruth have shown their collaborative work in the juried show for the past five years. "Our work makes direct reference to art history," says Kinser, referring to the duo's "Muse" series, in which Kinser performs and Grangruth photographs representations of iconic art-historical works. "It's a great experience to walk down the hall and seeing the collection's historical pieces in proximity to our own work. Some of these contemporary pieces are talking about gender in a way that has not been done extensively before. It's expanding the conversation that is taking place within the collection."

In the mid-20th century, Alfred Kinsey rocked the world when he convinced thousands of ordinary people to talk candidly about sex. In her own way, Catherine Johnson-Roehr is continuing that work, expanding the conversation through the objects and images in this singular collection. —ANN WIENS



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RE: DESIGN

In his nearly two decades working in magazine art departments, Matthew Bates '96—now the group creative director for 16 titles at Active Interest Media in Boulder, Colorado—has helped a dozen publications reimagine themselves. “Magazines are never done,” he explains. “They’re living, breathing, and constantly evolving. Every issue is a new challenge.” His most recent project? You’re holding it. Starting nearly a year ago, Bates—who majored in magazine journalism in the School of Journalism and Communication—spent nights, weekends, and even vacation time collaborating with OQ art director JoDee Stringham and the magazine’s staff to reconceive this publication. “We tried to capture the unique culture of the university,” he explains. One of the biggest challenges: deciding on the color palette. “We wanted it to be more sophisticated than just a zillion shades of green and yellow, but pretty much every major color already has some Pac-12 team associated with it. We had to tread carefully.” What do you think of the new look? Let us know at quarterly@uoregon.edu.

BY RACHEL ZURER

Matthew Bates '96

GROUP CREATIVE DIRECTOR, ACTIVE INTEREST MEDIA

Though Bates started college thinking he'd be a newspaper journalist, he's never published a story. But he's designed more than 100 covers for *Backpacker* magazine, where he was the art director from 2002 to 2013.

"As far as my career goes, the UO means everything to me. I didn't even know you could be an art director at magazines until I learned about it in my classes in the journalism school." We found an issue of *Flux* Bates designed as a student in 1996. Check it out at OregonQuarterly.com.

"When people find out I work at *Backpacker*, their first question is always, 'Do you get free gear?'" Answer: Sometimes, but he'd get more if he were sample size.

The second question: Do you get to travel a lot? "Not really, unless you count the Salt Lake City convention center, where the outdoor industry trade show happens twice a year. The art team doesn't tend to go on trips as much. I did get to hike in the Central Andes in Chile a few years ago. That was pretty amazing."

Bates grew up in Bend and Eugene, where he developed passions for hiking, canoeing, cross-country skiing, baseball, and Ducks football. Now he's indoctrinating his sons, ages nine, seven, and four. "Watching them experience things for the first time is one of my favorite things in life," he says.



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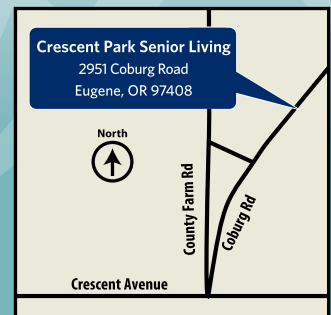
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Natural



Kelsey Juliana (left) and Julia Olson are among dozens of teenagers and their attorneys across the country who are putting UO law professor Mary Christina Wood's theory of atmospheric trust litigation into practice, demanding a judicial remedy to a climate in crisis.

Law

Does the
public trust doctrine
that underlies the protection
of our air, water, and
endangered species
apply to climate?
We're going to find out.



“Since the beginning of this nation, courts have declared that government is a trustee of the natural resources we all depend on. No politician stands above the public trust.”

BY MARY DEMOCKER '92 | PORTRAITS BY STEVE SMITH



I

IT'S JANUARY 16, 2014, and the Duncan Campbell Auditorium at the University of Oregon law school isn't just a classroom—it's a battleground. On one side is the Oregon state government, on the other are two teenagers whose suit demanding the state protect the climate was dismissed by a lower court.

Three Oregon Court of Appeals judges have journeyed from Salem to hear the teenagers' appeal in UO classrooms, giving law students the opportunity to witness an appeals court hearing right on campus. TV cameras in the rear of the packed, makeshift court pan from the young plaintiffs and their mothers—coplaintiffs in the suit—to the teenagers' dozens of friends who are skipping history class today in favor of partaking in the real thing, and finally to Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy, in attendance to support the teens. But the UO law professor sitting quietly next to the mayor is the reason anyone is gathered here at all. It is, after all, Mary Christina Wood's pioneering atmospheric trust litigation that enabled these kids to sue their government.

The teenagers' argument springs straight from the pages of Wood's book *Nature's Trust*, released just three

months earlier in October 2013. *Nature's Trust* spells out a simple enough concept: Citizens have a right to live and flourish. Therefore, a government elected by the people has a duty to protect the natural systems required for their survival; namely forests, wildlife, soil, water, and air (or atmosphere). If the executive and legislative branches both fail in that duty of protection, the resulting violation of citizens' constitutional rights requires the third branch, the judicial, to intervene.

In nine lawsuits or petitions currently making their way through state and federal courts as well as courts overseas, Wood's innovative legal theory is shaping new precedent in environmental law. What's groundbreaking in her framework is threefold: It calls upon the public trust doctrine—which holds that certain resources are owned by and available to all citizens equally—to enforce our constitutional right to a livable environment. It also adds atmosphere as an asset in that trust, citing its importance in the stability of every natural system. And it calls government, as trustee, to restorative duty, which means not just preventing future damage, but repairing past harms scientists now identify as threatening to current and future generations. Hence the relief demanded by the children: an order requiring the governor and the legislature to use the best available

UO law professor Mary Christina Wood outlined her concept of atmospheric trust litigation in her 2013 book *Nature's Trust*. She walks the talk, riding her bike almost everywhere and growing much of her family's food.



scientific methods to create and implement a plan to reduce carbon emissions by 6 percent per year until at least 2050. The goal of the remedy? A stable, sustainable climate, both for the teenagers and their descendants, which top climate scientists say they only have a shot at if carbon in the atmosphere is lowered immediately from its current 398 parts per million (ppm) to 350 ppm.

Though Wood's litigation framework is new, the public trust concept is not. The idea that nature as a whole belongs to everyone and can't be bought or destroyed was committed to paper, or probably parchment, by the Roman emperor in 535 CE in the *Institutes of Justinian*.

Once it hit US shores centuries later, the trust concept developed more formally.

"Since the beginning of this nation," Wood explains, "courts have declared that government is a trustee of the natural resources we all depend on. In a trust, certain assets are managed by one party for the benefit of another. The beneficiaries of this public trust are the present and future generations of citizens. No politician stands above the public trust. As a constitutional premise embodying the inalienable rights of the people, government quite literally cannot rid itself of the trust obligation."

In other words, in applying the public trust concept to the climate crisis, Wood has devised nothing less than a brilliant end run around any US president, governor, senator, agency, committee, or politically deadlocked Congress.

IT BEGAN WITH a natural disaster. Hurricane Katrina's fury had finally spent itself when Wood opened an e-mail from a New Orleans colleague who described a dead body floating by his house. The image haunted Wood. She imagined how it might feel to watch a corpse drift slowly by the home she shares with her husband and three sons.

"I saw that my children's future was full of intense storms and, ultimately, chaos. I started reading climate science." She focused in on the work of James Hansen, then director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, who has been warning policymakers about the urgency of global warming since 1988. "It didn't take long for me to realize that climate holds the potential to be more destructive than anything we have ever imagined, short of nuclear holocaust."

Wood abruptly dropped other research to turn her attention to the climate crisis. As the great-granddaughter

ATL IN ACTION

Campaigns and lawsuits based in the concept of atmospheric trust litigation are being heard across the country and internationally.

State appellate courts have allowed youth ATL lawsuits to progress in New Mexico, Texas, Alaska, and Oregon, while administrative petitions are pending in Colorado and Pennsylvania.

Internationally, ATL petitions are pending in Ukraine, the Philippines, and Uganda; an ATL lawsuit with 886 citizen plaintiffs is pending in the Netherlands.

of the famous Northwest cultural figure and conservationist C. E. S. Wood, she had been imbued since childhood with a sense of responsibility for the future. Already the founding director of the UO School of Law's Environmental and Natural Resources Law Program and a leading scholar on Indian law, Wood decided to bring her expertise to bear on the crisis of "mind-blowing urgency." She appraised the state of global environmental protection: There were more environmental lawyers than

ever, more laws to protect the environment, and countless regulatory agencies tasked with enforcement. So how had we arrived at a hinge point in history, when scientists warned of the imminent collapse of every natural system on Earth? Why weren't the laws working?

Wood was forced to a disturbing conclusion about the discipline she has taught for two decades: "The core of environmental law is rotting out. The system is becoming a wholesale failure to address the most crucial problems of our society."

The "rot," she says, stems from the very laws designed to protect nature.

Environmental statutes were the trophies of a burgeoning movement that launched the first Earth Day in 1970 with a clear message: the planet is finite, under assault by humanity, and needs protection now. Alarmed by wildlife extinctions, smog-laden cities, and oily rivers that caught fire, advocates convinced legislators on both sides of the aisle to pass a slew of statutes, including the Clean Air Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, and Endangered Species Act. Taken together, these new, sweeping statutes promised protection for water, soil, air, forests, and wildlife—pretty much everything, it seemed. But, Wood says, "the real onslaught to Earth has taken place in the 30 years since these statutes were passed. Environmental law has not prevented damage; it has hastened it."

Much of the problem, she says, is "agency capture," a term coined in 1971 by Nobel laureate economist George J. Stigler. When Congress charged the newly created Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and many other agencies with enforcement of the new laws in the early 1970s, it handed them tremendous dominion over nature. But the statutes often contain provisions allowing agencies to permit harm to resources they protect—they decide who can harm what, and how much.

"Agency discretion," Wood says, "is a magnet for industry influence, and industry groups exert relentless pressure on agencies to ease regulation. Discretion is the legal conduit used to deliver public resources into corporate

“The public trust applies to air, it applies to atmosphere, it should apply to climate. The courts need to come forth and deliver a remedy.”

hands. Captured agencies treat industry as a client they must serve.”

The ink was hardly dry on the new statutes when Stigler warned of the phenomenon of governmental gamekeepers being coopted to serve poachers: Whether aimed at banks, airlines, or drinking water, “regulation,” he wrote, “is acquired by the industry and is designed and operated primarily for its benefits.”

Many agencies established to protect natural resources followed suit, Wood says, and now use provisions embedded in statutes to issue permits for, among other things, clear-cutting, mountaintop removal, strip-mining, fracking, and deep-sea drilling. “At every level,” she says, “agencies have turned environmental law inside out and substituted an entirely new focus: ‘How much pollution and resource scarcity can we impose on communities, citizens, and children?’”

Wood examined agency capture against the backdrop of, on one side, increasingly dire climate reports, with their unanimous calls for aggressive carbon-reduction plans and, on the other, President Obama’s “all-of-the-above” energy strategy, with its massive new fossil-fuel extraction projects. She concluded, “Almost unbelievably, the fossil-fuel industries now possess the capability of destroying the planet’s climate balance, which is necessary for life on Earth, and they have made governments worldwide their partners in a dangerous chase of profit. It’s as if government is leading us down the plank to our destruction—and taking our children with us.”

Bolstered by her family’s legacy—C. E. S. Wood and other progressive ancestors had advocated bold solutions to

the issues of their day—Wood decided to propose something no one else had: application of the public trust doctrine to the climate crisis. Few lawyers were aware of the doctrine and its quiet assertion that systems for citizen survival belong to the people as a basic attribute of sovereignty. “Once the environmental statutes were issued in the 1970s,” Wood explains, “all attention turned to them and law schools began to teach almost exclusively statutory law.” But the public trust doctrine was always there underlying the statutes. If the trust traditionally applied to waterways and wildlife, Wood thought, it could also include atmosphere. Gerald Torres, the Bryant Smith Chair in Law at the University of Texas, at Austin, had already written about including atmosphere in the public trust. Such inclusion would open the door for Wood to mastermind the groundbreaking legal framework she called atmospheric trust litigation (ATL). “I took the concepts from the leading public trust cases and wove them together so they could be useful as a full paradigm shift.”

Her litigation roadmap conceives of government officials as public trustees, rather than as arbitrary political actors, and nature as a priceless endowment, rather than a vague “environment.” She wrote a chapter titled “Atmospheric Trust Litigation” for the book *Adjudicating Climate Change*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2009. Then she hit the road, giving about 60 speeches a year. She told audiences, “The international treaty process will probably fail, the legislature will not act, and the president will do too little too late.” As her predictions proved accurate, fellow law professors began to take notice.



B

BUT WOOD FACED another challenge: What would potential lawsuits specifically demand as a remedy? What could stabilize the atmosphere? Wood called Hansen, the NASA director, and asked him to write a prescription for the planet. After an hour of conversation with the lawyer he'd never met, the world-renowned climate expert agreed, and 11 months later, handed Wood her prescription. Written by 18 of the world's top climate scientists, "Scientific Case for Avoiding Dangerous Climate Change to Protect Young People and Nature" warns that our situation is dire, but it still may be possible to prevent runaway greenhouse gases—if action is taken immediately. The document then prescribes measures necessary to avoid the worst effects of climate disruption: emissions cuts of at least 6 percent a year, starting in 2013, along with massive global reforestation and soil sequestration.

Wood had her planetary diagnosis. She had her prescription. She had created a new legal roadmap. Everything was lined up for a plaintiff to file a suit compelling government, as trustee, to protect the atmosphere. But because she's a scholar, not a litigator, another lawyer would have to take it forward. That's when Julia Olson knocked on Wood's door.

A public interest environmental attorney and adjunct instructor teaching wildlife law at the UO, Olson had a mission of her own. She envisioned a broad, coordinated legal effort across the country—or the world—to target fossil fuel emissions. "So much of the litigation addressing climate change was still trying to stop more pollution coming online," she says, "rather than dealing with the pollution that's already happening." Wood had been delivering speeches about atmospheric trust litigation to lawyers nationwide for three years when Olson heard her speak at the UO's Pacific International Environmental Law Conference (PIELC). After one meeting with Wood, Olson announced, "I want to bring an ATL legal action in every state."

Alec Looz, the 15-year-old founder of the national group Kids vs. Global Warming, got wind of the suits. "He told me, 'I want to do more than march. I want to take legal action,'" says Olson. "And I know lots of other kids who would, too." The children-as-plaintiffs idea was born, and youths nationwide stepped

forward, including Eugene students Olivia Chernaik, 11, and Kelsey Juliana, 15.

"The power of this lawsuit is that we're not of the same generation as the decision-makers," says Juliana, now 18. "We're of the younger generation, telling them, 'Hey, listen, we know our future is already going to be more drastic and more unstable than yours is currently, so it's really your responsibility to fix it, because you made this mess and we're kids and we can't.'"

EUGENE TAKES THE LEAD

On July 28, 2014, the Eugene City Council adopted the nation's first Climate Recovery Ordinance, which is backed by a scientific "prescription" written by leading climate scientists and informed by Wood's public trust scholarship.

Promoted by local youths with the help of Our Children's Trust, the ordinance legally commits Eugene to:

- preexisting climate goals of carbon-neutral internal operations by 2020 and reduction of citywide fossil fuel use by 50 percent by 2030
- development of a citywide, science-based target and carbon budget for emission reductions consistent with achieving 350 ppm of CO₂ in the atmosphere by 2100
- regular reports on the city's progress toward meeting its climate obligations
- creation of mechanisms for correcting course if the city isn't meeting its obligations

"This decision could provide the leadership example to break a pattern of foot-dragging," said Wood, noting that "a few good examples of bold leadership" are often what is needed to inspire other municipalities to follow.

The Eugene youths attended City Council meetings for months to testify before councilors and advocate for their right to a stable climate system. Hundreds of community members testified or stood in support of the children's efforts.

"It was awesome!" exclaimed 10-year-old Zealand Bell, one of the young people who testified. "I'm glad that the City of Eugene is helping us stop climate change."

"My hope is that other cities across the nation will follow Eugene's example [to combat climate change]," said Mayor Kitty Piercy.

Olson created the nonprofit organization Our Children's Trust to support the plaintiffs and, armed with the new prescription giving them a remedy to demand, 340 youths filed 50 lawsuits or petitions in all 50 states on Mother's Day 2011. It was the first such "hatch" of suits filed in both state and federal courts on the same day, alleging the same harm and demanding the same remedy. Olson emphasizes it doesn't ask courts to prepare the carbon reduction plan, but to "simply enforce a legal right and order compliance with the law."

Hansen and 32 law professors, including leading constitutional law scholars, submitted an amicus brief (a letter from experts) on behalf of the young plaintiffs, warning the courts, "Failure to act [now] becomes a decision to eliminate the option of preserving a habitable climate system."

The Oregon plaintiffs waited months for a decision, both in their state suit and in the case against the federal government. The children and their lawyers looked to one case in particular for hope: *Robinson v. Pennsylvania*, in which that state's 2011 Supreme Court plurality opinion overturned the state's pro-fracking regulatory statute based on public trust. By affirming trust as an inalienable right, the judges delivered the most comprehensive affirmation of the public trust doctrine to date. "[*Robinson*] in itself represents a major victory," says Wood, "because it gives courts case law to build on."

During the waiting period, environmental lawyers from

“Atmospheric trust litigation is the only thing teed up on the legal front to meaningfully tackle climate change.”

all over the globe gathered at the UO’s 2014 PIELC, focused on “Running into Running Out.” Hansen, in his co-keynote with Wood, told listeners that climate stabilization requires leaving oil, coal, and gas reserves in the ground. When Wood took the stage, she issued a challenge that earned her a standing ovation, but would have been unthinkable even a few years ago in a land that enshrines private property rights: “Don’t we have to rethink whether corporations actually have property rights to exploit these remaining reserves? We should not assume that they have vested property rights to resources that, if fully exploited, would cook the planet. Maybe the law has more logic than that.”

JUNE 2014 FINALLY brought decisions on the dismissals of both the federal and the state suits. First, a thumbs-down from the US Court of Appeals, which “clearly wanted to punt this difficult question,” says Wood. But on June 11, the Oregon Court of Appeals handed a victory to the children—and the public trust doctrine: The lower court dismissal of the case was reversed.

Within minutes of the announcement, things were abuzz at Wood’s house. The phone kept ringing as e-mails flew in. “We had 33 law professors just jumping on this, seeing what it amounts to,” she said. “This decision makes it quite obvious that the court is taking trust arguments seriously and wants the lower court to as well. The state wanted to disregard public trust rights that are embedded in the Constitution. The court is basically saying, ‘You can’t do that. It’s the judiciary’s job to determine what those rights are.’ It’s indicating that the legislature is not the last word on the rights of citizens.”

After three years, Oregon plaintiffs will finally get their day in Lane County’s Circuit Court. On September 3, the group will petition the U.S. Supreme Court requesting a clear ruling on the government’s trust obligation. One of their attorneys, Liam Sherlock, JD ’90, hopes the judiciary will provide what he calls a “backstop for the failures of the executive and legislative branches” in the climate crisis.

That vision may become a reality. The legal team says there is Supreme Court case law that helps position the right to a stable climate system as a fundamental “preservative right” of all other rights. “We start losing our liberties as the climate system deteriorates,” Olson explains. “You can only protect a right today, even though the full violation of liberties happens decades from now.”

She adds, “It’s exciting to work on this incredible legal effort that, to me, is on par with the great civil rights efforts, from desegregation to affirming LGBT rights. It’s the side of history I want to be on when future generations look back at our time.” And though she is confident that recognition of citizens’ fundamental constitutional rights by the highest courts is inevitable, “time,” she says, “is of the essence.”

Wood concurs, noting that “ATL is the only thing teed up on the legal front to meaningfully tackle climate change by addressing the full scope of carbon emissions.”

Not one to wait around and see how things turn out, she is currently researching other litigation models, such as government suits against oil companies for natural resource damages to the atmosphere, reminiscent of suits against tobacco companies for knowingly harming human health. Her ATL theory, meanwhile, is spreading. “More and more law professors worldwide are coming out and saying, ‘The public trust applies to air, it applies to atmosphere, it should apply to climate. The courts need to come forth and deliver a remedy. The trust obligation is an attribute of sovereignty.’”

No matter what happens in these particular lawsuits, she says, “ATL is not going away for two reasons. First, climate crisis is intensifying; courts are going to change their view of their role as more heat waves strike and the legislature sits idle. And second, public trust isn’t going away. It’s been around since Roman times. And it is really too deep for any one opinion—even a Supreme Court opinion—to wipe out.”

Mary DeMocker ’92 teaches the harp and writes about climates of all sorts and is cofounder of the climate recovery group 350 Eugene. For more of her work, visit marydemocker.com.



PIPE FIRE

DRY ICE MAN S

BY JESSICA HOLLOWELL THURMAN '10 | ILLUSTRATION BY GIANPAOLO PAGNI

In the northernmost region of the United States, 250 miles above the Arctic Circle, a man stands alone in a makeshift laundry room, folding his clothes into tired lumps. Good enough. No one here will notice if his clothes are wrinkled, anyway. Ken Thurman, approaching 60 years old, worked 12 hours building arctic drilling rigs today, and the day before that, and he will again tomorrow. Up in the Prudhoe Bay oil field, most everyone works 12 hours a day, seven days a week. “You work, you eat, you sleep. That’s all you have time for,” Ken says. He misses his wife. And his kids. And his bed.



very few months, he takes about three weeks off to rest up and see his family. If the rig contractors are pushing a deadline, it's less, and minus the three or four days it takes to travel home to Oregon and back. Just as he starts adjusting to normal life again, settling into "husband" and "dad," he gets called back to work. "Sometimes I think it'd be easier if he didn't come home on short breaks. We're always having to say good-bye," says his wife, Mona . . . my mother.

This lifestyle is habitual for the several thousand men and few women who work on Alaska's North Slope. Between 2011 and 2013, my dad left my family many times for the frigid, silvery landscape of Prudhoe Bay, Alaska. Tours combined, he spent about a year and a half living out of a suitcase, 2,000 miles out of our reach, in order to pay the bills, whittle down some debt, and try to save a little money for an uncertain retirement. When he goes up to the Slope it's because there are few other options.

The construction industry was one of those worst affected by the recent recession. Approximately two million American construction workers lost their jobs in the aftermath. In our home state of Oregon, construction workers were the first to be hit and the slowest to recover, losing more than 38,000 jobs by 2010. That's a 36 percent unemployment rate—higher than any other industry in the state. For comparison, the national rate peaked at 27 percent. Though unemployment has recently eased down closer to prerecession levels, many workers are now trying to make up for the losses suffered and debt accrued over the past few years. To make ends meet, tradesmen like my dad have to go where the work is. Their health and personal lives come second.

Since he was in his 20s, my dad has worked as a journeyman pipefitter. No one knows what the hell that means. I didn't know what it meant until one day, in my own early 20s, I made it a point to ask him about it until I understood. You know all of those giant, twisting, Windows-95-screensaver-esque pipes that run through the walls and ceilings and floors of hospitals, or arenas, or other large structures? My dad installs and puts those together. It's a lot of geometry and technical planning and other things you and I are poor at. On the North Slope, Big Oil

commissions specialized drilling rigs from Parker Drilling, and Parker Drilling hires tradesmen like my dad to build them. Then, once completed, the drilling rigs are used to make a small number of men—not my dad—very, very rich.

When dad first got a job working for Parker up in Alaska, my mom, my brother, and I all bought winter coats and planned for a family trip to visit him in mysterious, exciting Prudhoe Bay. I mean, Alaska, right? Trees, mountains, wildlife . . . nature, in all her glory! That trip never happened. We soon learned that Prudhoe Bay is not an idyllic frontier wilderness, but flat and pocked with watery holes, with no trees or mountains to speak of, and an annual average high temperature of 18 degrees Fahrenheit. Look up "Prudhoe Bay, Alaska," on Google Maps. It's not a place for humans.

My family falls into a routine when my dad goes to work on the Slope. We all convince ourselves that it's not that bad, that a few months isn't very long. We try to get used to dad not being home to help with homework, or fix a leaky faucet, or eat at the dinner table. It's rough to get him back just to watch him leave again a few weeks later. It makes us miss him harder, and we have to emotionally detach ourselves all over again. My mom cries each time he flies out. Seeing him go never gets easier.

It didn't used to be like this. When I was a teenager, before the housing market plummeted and took the rest of us with it, my dad's farthest commute was two hours and he was home every night. The economy went belly-up, and the calls from construction companies looking for industrial pipefitters vanished. When my dad gets wind of work now, it's almost always an out-of-state job.

It's a job that involves travel and fat paychecks, but working on the North Slope isn't glamorous. In return for good pay, it takes a weighty toll. Living in heavily regulated man camps and working 80-hour weeks, laborers there are surrounded by empty tundra too far north for trees to grow. Many force emotional disengagement for weeks or months to survive the loneliness and the monotony of a work-eat-sleep routine. With a hoarse and tired voice, my dad reveals to me that the isolation up there is stifling. When I ask why he goes, he replies candidly with one word: money. "The only reason anyone goes up there is for the money. It's a unique place," he says. "But it gets old fast."

My dad's long work hours are what allowed me to go to college. I dreamed of applying to Stanford, UC Berkeley, and Oxford. I chose the University of Oregon because I knew it would give me an excellent education for in-state tuition prices. My first degree was in history and, a nerd at heart, I went back for another. This time, I'm getting a bachelor's in journalism from the UO's School of Journalism and Communication (SOJC), which turned out to be one of the best J schools in the country. Learning is my favorite pastime, and I collect education like some people collect art or rare coins. I've never felt so inspired and excited about the world as I did at the SOJC.

Of all the things worth learning about, people are the most fascinating. With a budding career resting on history and journalism degrees, I've dedicated my life to trying to figure out and describe who we are and why we do the things we do. For years now, I've watched the small struggles my parents, my brother, and I experience while my dad is

“The only reason anyone goes up there is for the money. It’s a unique place. But it gets old fast.”

working far away, and realized that thousands of other families are going through the same worry and heartache and disillusionment.

During one of my dad’s tours on the Slope, my mom had a breast cancer scare. She went in for a routine mammogram and the doctors came out ordering a second mammogram, then an ultrasound, and finally an MRI. She didn’t tell anyone until after the results came back negative for cancer. She didn’t want to put that burden on her kids, and dad was working in Alaska, where he’d have to sit and worry, unable to do anything about it. It takes days to get clearance for flights off the Slope. He can’t just hop on a plane and come home whenever he’s needed. However, my mom says the toughest part of my dad working far from home isn’t having to do things on her own, but the lack of intimacy. “There’s no one there every day to just talk to or touch. I didn’t realize how important touch is until he was gone. I can’t just give him a hug or feel his hand in mine when I need to.”

I knew my parents couldn’t afford to help me pay to go to the UO a second time, so I put myself through school to get my journalism degree. My little brother, Kenny, is 10 years my junior and getting ready to enter college. My folks have his tuition payments to worry about now. While I was studying history, during my first round of college, I worked part-time and took out the maximum allowed me in student loans each year. My parents shouldered the rest of my expenses. They never once let on that it was a burden—they were always proud and happy to do it—but deep inside, I felt a constant anxiety. I had to make college count. I was acutely aware that my dad was working, far away from home, to pay for it. I weighed each dollar I spent against dad’s time.

I watched myself turn into a workaholic. I saw my father in me. The idea that putting in my time and working hard will lead to an adventurous career intoxicates me and can be all-consuming. I try to quell the inner addict, reverse the metamorphosis, but I still find myself pulling 15-hour days and neglecting those I love because I “have to get work done.” I don’t want to be that person. My father hates being away, and has warned me not to make the same mistake. Yet, despite different methods, my dad and I keep getting the same result: too much work and little time left over for the important stuff in life. I am so dedicated to the pursuit of a happy work life that I’ll get two degrees from the UO, both aimed at jobs I love and neither of which promises a stable income. More than anyone else, Dad gave me the conviction to follow my heart and not the money.

Our family’s struggle is not unique. We are just one of thousands of American working-class families facing a rocky financial reality and

insecure future, with a long-distance parent on indefinite hold, relying on the next faraway job to show up and pull us through. We’re navigating a stormy economic sea and trying to keep our heads above the surface.

This summer, I’m heading to Alaska for work myself. But my experience there will be a far cry from my dad’s. I’m going for the love of journalism, to gather and tell important stories—to practice the craft I learned and refined in college. I’ll be on the southern Alaska coast, a place bathed in wildlife and natural beauty and no sign of the dreariness and detachment that outlines the North Slope. Dad’s sacrifices in Alaska have allowed for my own journey there to do the work I love.

Jessica Hollowell Thurman is a filmmaker and writer based in the Pacific Northwest. Currently, she is completing the final term of her journalism degree, working on three films, and reporting on the intersection of climate change, salmon, and life in Cordova, Alaska.



A More Perfect

A long-awaited renovation will link the best of the “old” EMU with a new design that reflects current and future students’ values and priorities.

BY ALICE TALLMADGE, MA '87

ON



niversity of Oregon junior Miles Sisk considers the Erb Memorial Union his second home. A member of the facilities staff since the summer before his freshman year, he knows every tucked-away corner and stairwell in the 64-year-old structure. He rattles off facts about the building and its history as if he had lived them—the leaks in 2006 that caused the wood floors to buckle three feet high; the inefficiency of the 1970s addition (70 percent of the EMU's heating costs, he says, went to heating that part of the building); the barbershop that used to be on the ground floor. He takes visitors on a trek through narrow corridors and back stairways to the building's rooftop. He's familiar with the underground warren of tunnels that were once used for electrical wiring and steam piping. It gets hot in the tunnels, he says. Very hot. "It's a little place we call Hell."

From its earliest conception in the 1920s, the EMU was envisioned as a place for students to congregate; to study, relax, recreate, and participate in student-run organizations. Despite a two-and-a-half-decade gestation before a brick was ever laid, at least one misguided renovation, and an ever-evolving student culture, the vision has succeeded. Not only have the building's larger spaces served as central meeting areas, but its smaller

spaces—tucked away lounges, secluded meeting spots, and upper-level balconies—have served to comfort, nourish, and support thousands of students, and many employees, over the years.

Today the EMU is undergoing an ambitious \$95 million expansion and renovation, with student fees providing \$90 million and the rest coming from alumni and friends of the university. Scheduled to be completed in 2016, the project includes the demolition of the 1970s addition, the renovation of much of the original 1950 building, and the addition of 80,000 square feet of new space. Architecturally compelling and well-loved spaces that serve as touchstones for current and former students, such as the Fishbowl, the Taylor Lounge, and the Adell McMillan Gallery, will remain, but a few favorite spaces, such as the pedestrian breezeway that ran under the building, were sacrificed to the new design.

Byron Caloz '81 says his most resonant memory of the EMU is riding his bike along that very corridor. "Clickety-clack, clickety-clack, as I let the bike tires roll down to the basement-level bricks and then up to the street corner," he posted on a UO Facebook page. "The EMU was really the heart of the University of Oregon. It told me the university was a great place . . . and continued to reinforce that opinion throughout my time at the UO, not only because of its grand staircase, the bike route underneath, and the Fishbowl, but also because of its many programs which opened up possibilities for students to live and grow beyond what could be taught in classrooms."



during the war years. When the conflict wound down, however, the UO's enrollment more than doubled as a flood of vets returned to campus, and the need for a student union became undeniable.

Students caught the wave of renewed interest, forming a Student Union Committee in 1944. The following year, the university approved a plan for the construction of a student union to be financed by student fees and outside donations. The State Board of Higher Education gave the plan the go-ahead, preliminary plans were drawn up by 1947, and the UO's largest fundraising campaign to date—led by alumni Ernest Haycox '23 and John MacGregor '23—was soon underway. Ground

The early days

The EMU that opened in September 1950 was the product of a combination of vision, planning, delayed hopes, and patience. Eagerly supported by the university's fourth president Prince Lucien Campbell and the classes of 1923-25 the likelihood of a student union at the UO faded after Campbell died in 1925 and subsequent administrations chose different priorities.

Donald Erb, the university's seventh president, took office in 1938, and according to the 2013 video *Meet You at the S.U.*, Erb revived the dream of a student union, seeing it as a place that would accommodate veterans as well as "a place to practice democracy." Erb's advocacy was steadfast, but after the 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor, plans for a student union were once again put on the back burner. No new buildings were constructed

was broken in 1948 for the new building at the corner of 13th Avenue and University Street—formerly the site of a two-story farmhouse built by pioneer Fielding McMurry, whose brick-making business had supplied bricks used in the construction of the UO's first two buildings, Dady and Villard Halls. The student union building was completed two years later, at a cost of \$2.1 million. It was named for Erb, who had died in 1943, and dedicated to all students who had served in the armed forces.

The structure was unique for the times, says Gregg Lobisser, assistant vice president for capital projects in the Division of Student Life. "It was pushing the envelope of design. The broad expanse of glass in the Fishbowl, that arc of glass, was really out there. It represented a leap forward in modernism."

In addition to its modern aesthetics, the union offered students a host of amenities. The ground floor included a four-chair barbershop, a post office, an eight-lane, state-of-the-art bowling alley (25 cents per person per lane before 6:00 p.m., 30 cents after); 10 billiard tables (60 cents per hour before 6:00 p.m., 75 cents after); and seven Ping-Pong tables (15 cents per hour). In the bag-lunch room, students could rent a locker for 10 cents a term to store lunches they brought from home. Two listening rooms allowed students to listen to classical or jazz recordings. Budding pianists could hone their skills in the piano practice room. The building quickly became the center of student activity for the burgeoning campus community.



Most of the photos that accompany this article come from our archives, but lack details about the events pictured. If you would like to provide information about these photos or share your own memories of the EMU, post a comment at oregonquarterly.com.

“There were plenty of spaces for people to meet and congregate,” says Pat Dignan, 1952–53 ASUO president. What he remembers most is the office—and the secretary—that were reserved for the ASUO president. “I was pretty impressed with that. It was the first office I ever had,” he says. His salary was \$73 per month; the secretary was paid half that.

In the ensuing years, a room was made available for the ASUO president to live in on the building’s third floor. Even though his digs were small, Henry Drummonds, 1966–67 ASUO president, was delighted with them. “I got to live in the student union over the summer. I thought that was pretty cool,” he says. He could come and go as he pleased, but at the time, the university imposed strict curfews on residents of the women’s dormitories. One of Drummonds’s goals as president was getting

rid of the curfews. “As a politician, I wanted [the university] to come out of *in loco parentis*,” he says. “And I was successful.”

The student government offices were eventually moved to the ground floor of the EMU. Emma Kallaway, 2009–10 ASUO president (with Getachew Kassa), says a small closet outfitted with a table and a couple of chairs in the student government office was hugely important to her tenure as president, and to her growth as an individual.

“We called it the ‘situation room,’” she says. “It’s where we would go to have private disagreements with each other. It’s silly, but it was important to have a place where you could disagree in private, and find a resolution without

The ballroom

In the building’s original conception, the ballroom was intended to be the heart of the EMU. From the lobby, students walked up a grand staircase made of green terrazzo to a room that could accommodate a thousand people. The sprung dance floor made dancing easier on the feet, and students took advantage. Throughout the 1950s, the ballroom was a focal point for social activities—from big bands to student-hosted parties.

Suzanne (Brouillard) VanOrman ’61 had her first volunteer job at the EMU playing jazz records in the listening room. Her second was selecting movies for Sunday afternoon screenings in the ballroom. She remembers a toga

“It was there I learned how to be wrong, how to be persuaded, how to speak my mind, how to fight respectfully. I learned how to strategize there.”

—EMMA KALLAWAY

fighting it out in public. It was there I learned how to be wrong, how to be persuaded, how to speak my mind, how to fight respectfully. I learned how to strategize there.”

Another spot that sticks in Kallaway’s mind is the balcony area outside the ballroom. In March 2010, vandals broke into the university’s Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Alliance office, destroyed its computers, and spray-painted a swastika on the carpet. That night students organized a vigil, and Kallaway went to the balcony to get a bird’s-eye view of the crowd. “People and candles filled the amphitheater and spilled out onto 13th Avenue,” she says. “I saw faculty, administrators, students, and people from the community. I realized I got to live in a place that was kind, that was going to show up when a portion of our community was down.”

party EMU staff members held in the ballroom to thank volunteers. “We all dressed in sheets. Si [Ellington, the EMU director] had a wreath ’round his head. It was crowded and there was a lot of good food.” The party raised eyebrows and created a bit of a buzz. “I’m not sure if they ever had another one,” she says.

The ballroom was used for more serious matters as well. When John F. Kennedy and his brother Ted Kennedy came to the UO, they spoke at the ballroom. “Whenever JFK came to Eugene, we were with him,” VanOrman says. “We were the young people handing out the pamphlets. And when he was on stage, we got to sit with him.” Ted was younger and more personable than his brother, she remembers. “He was the one that connected better with the kids because we were more his age. John was more serious. He was running for president, after all.”



It's delightful seeing the whole population of the university pass by me—in protest, in prayer, in pursuit of knowledge, or providing entertainment.

—LAURA FINE MORO

Mike Kraiman began working in the EMU in 1978 and never left. Today he's the technology administrator and scheduler for the building, but the ballroom is the area closest to his heart. "I've spent a lot of my life there. The ballroom is my space," he says. In the late '70s, the ballroom was one of the few venues in Eugene where music groups could perform for large audiences, and his job was to manage lights and sound during the shows.

He didn't have a stellar start. The first show he ran lights for was Leon Redbone (with Tom Waits opening). Kraiman was still learning how to use the equipment, and Redbone

became impatient. "He stopped the show to make a comment. He asked me to redo the spotlight." Kraiman remembers. "I still cringe every time I hear a Redbone song."

Kraiman eventually mastered the lights, and the sound. He began keeping files on the various groups who performed in the ballroom—Los Lobos, R.E.M., Talking Heads, the Ramones, Dennis Quaid and the Mystics, even a surprise performance by Bob Dylan. Kraiman still remembers Iggy Pop's gig in 1983, when the rocker threw the microphone stand into the crowd, along with pieces of raw chicken.

For the past several years, the office of Laura Fine Moro, a contract attorney for the ASUO Legal Services, has been located in a former storage closet near the ballroom. Because her office has no heat or air conditioning, she keeps the door open. She's watched a jazz dancer work for hours to perfect a performance piece, observed dressed-to-the-nines high school students giddy with excitement at participating in a mock UN meeting, and students napping on a bench outside her door. "There's never a dull moment," Moro says. "Mostly it's delightful seeing the whole population of the university pass by me—in protest, in prayer, in pursuit of knowledge, or providing entertainment." Her office was moved in June to accommodate the renovation, and she wasn't looking forward to the change.

Another beloved space close to the ballroom is the area now known as the Adell McMillan Art Gallery. The west wall is a bank of 14-foot-high windows, each fronted with a window seat. Students have been seeking out the comfort of those seats for years, says Lobisser. "I've been on campus 35 years, and I never go by when there aren't students sitting in those window seats. That's their place between classes. It's kind of special when a building creates such beloved spaces used by generation after generation and helps give students a sense of identity and belonging. I don't think architects imagined those window seats being so important to the experience of so many students."



Prior to the demolition of the 1970s era addition to the EMU, students and other denizens of the OU wrote graffiti and swung sledgehammers as a way of saying goodbye to the old EMU. Later, construction workers arrived to do the real work of bringing the building down, a process that some in the university community watched with glee.

As progress continues on the new-and-improved EMU, many passersby on 13th Avenue pause to observe the building process.

Free speech for all

The free speech platform outside the EMU has been one of the most energetic spaces connected with the building. In 1961, a speaker named Homer Tomlinson, who proclaimed himself “King of the World,” was heckled by students while orating from the Fishbowl terrace. According to *A Common Ground*, a history of the EMU written by former EMU director (and gallery namesake) Adell McMillan, the audience’s intolerance prompted an angry response from UO president Arthur Flemming. The Student Union Board decided to erect a free speech platform on the terrace, with a quote reading, “Every new opinion, at its starting, is precisely in a minority of one.” The wooden platform was later replaced with a permanent brick podium. Few could have imagined the role the platform would play in just a few years’ time, when politics, social change, and student unrest hit the university like a lightning strike.

Political turmoil percolated through the campus in the coming years, and by the time Kip Morgan ’75, ’77 took the ASUO helm in 1969, the campus was in a churn over issues including student autonomy, racism, the draft, and the Vietnam War. The free speech platform “was where people spoke their dreams,” says Morgan, an antiwar and antidraft activist. “All different factions. Religion, politics, and economics were up for debate.”

The draft was compulsory, and it had become a very real issue for male students. “It was not an empty discussion. People were forced to make a hard decision, forced to act. The discussion on the free speech platform was that some people were going to die, and some were going to prison,” says Morgan, who was himself sentenced to six years in prison for disrupting the Selective Services offices in Eugene and Roseburg. He served six months before being released. Since then, Morgan has worked in logging, ranching, and general contracting.

During those tumultuous years, the EMU was the focus of protest rallies and demonstrations, including a 24-hour sit-in. In January 1969, protesters harassed naval recruiters and burned their recruiting materials. A few months later, students erected shacks on the EMU lawn and invited homeless people to live in them. In a controversial decision that raised hackles around the state, UO acting president Charles Johnson allowed the shacks to remain for two weeks.

Nothing occurred on campus, says Morgan, that wasn’t first discussed at the free speech platform. “It was very open. There was no fear.”

Ron Eachus ’70 became ASUO president in 1970. He says the free speech platform continued to be a nexus of debate, mobilization, and political activity. “It was a place to argue, to pontificate. A place to organize,” he says. “You could stay or walk by, but you couldn’t avoid it.”

Even during volatile exchanges of ideas, students remained vigilant about fairness at the platform, he says. “It was a symbolic place that carried a lot of meaning and was used in a way that reflected that purpose and symbolism. There, you could talk about things you were not able to talk about in class. When you were there, you could talk about the real world.”

The Fishbowl

Despite the spacious charm of the ballroom, and the political intensity of the free speech platform, the EMU space remembered most frequently and fondly is the iconic Fishbowl. Years before it was featured in the 1978 film *Animal House*, the curved glass Fishbowl had become the center of student interaction on campus.

“That first year, I was over there all the time, hanging out, playing cards between classes,” says Dignan, the 1952–53 ASUO president. “It was new and exciting, a place to go and meet people.” Drummonds recalls that rather than put up with his aggravating roommate, he would park himself in the Fishbowl. “I could block everything out—the noise and the music—and study. I loved the Fishbowl space.” Joe Leahy ’65 remembers spending Friday afternoons during his senior year at the Fishbowl, reading the *Register-Guard* and sipping coffee. “It was a quiet moment at the end of the week,” he says.

Scott Farleigh ’68, JD ’74, 1967–68 ASUO president, remembers study-break dates at the Fishbowl, and lots of community. “It honestly was my favorite spot,” he says. “It’s where everybody met. I’d go there and meet political allies, campaign people, friends. It was a sort of special place—there was social intercourse for discussion, for open-minded fairness, for meeting people. Ideas were generated there that would never have occurred but for the opportunity presented by the Fishbowl.”

Over the years the Fishbowl has been the site of impromptu revival meetings, Bible study groups, and music performances. It has also provided a sense of belonging in difficult times. In *Meet You at the S.U.*, late UO professor George Wasson recalls that the day President Kennedy was shot in 1963, the campus community gravitated to the Fishbowl. “The EMU was packed. Loaded with people,” he says. The only sounds came from radio broadcasters and the music they played, which included Samuel Barber’s *Adagio for Strings*. “Nobody talked. People were crying.



Scheduled for completion in 2016, the renovated EMU will provide considerable new space for student activities and organizations.

The whole Fishbowl—just quiet except for the music and the broadcasts. A stunning moment. I'll always remember it."

Fifty years later, Mandy Chong, a long-time EMU employee, echoes the sentiment of the Fishbowl being a safe, welcoming space. "When you are on campus and it's dark everywhere, the Fishbowl's lights are kind of a beacon that says, 'I'm open. Come here.'"

Renovation plans call for the Fishbowl to retain its original character—including the distinctive bank of windows that inspired its name—even as it receives updates including new floor and ceiling tiles, modernized food service setup and lights, and renovated restrooms.

Chong and other EMU employees are excited about the "new" EMU. She's excited about the small changes—such as having updated circuit breakers that won't blow during nighttime study hours and the reinforced south lawn that won't turn into a muddy bog after heavy use. Kraiman says he never had much affection for the '70s side of the building, which he felt lacked the structural integrity and class of the original building and its materials. "Every time I see [demolition crews] taking more swings at the building, I go, 'Yeah!'" he says.

"We knew the 1950s building was worth saving. It had good bones," says Dan Geiger, EMU

renovation manager. "We wanted the new addition to have much more of a feeling that it was modern but it spoke well with the design of the 1950s building. We wanted [the new EMU] to have a sense of timelessness. We didn't want it to feel dated to a particular time period."

As a member of the EMU board, Miles Sisk, the junior who considers the EMU his second home, has for the last two years participated in planning the building's renovation. He's psyched about the changes—replacing the '70s building with a more energy-efficient structure, technology upgrades, and new food venues, and the large screens that will hang in the lobby to show student-produced videos. But what really excites him is the effect the remodel will have on students.

"The renovation itself is a catalyst for what goes on in the building. It will give students more opportunities to get engaged with the campus," he says. "That's what the renovation is about—not having fancier things, but bringing students back to the center of campus, to a place where they feel more comfortable getting involved, and more willing to do so."

Alice Tallmadge, MA '87, is a local freelance writer. Her lingering memory of the EMU is eating taco salads while reading the *Daily Emerald* in the Fishbowl.

WHAT'S NEW FOR THE EMU

Approximately 80,000 square feet of new space

134,000 square feet of renovated space

A new bike and pedestrian plaza, and storefront student spaces along 13th Avenue

Outdoor green space

Expanded spaces for ASUO Multicultural Center and student unions

Substantial increase in student organization office space

Bike center with do-it-yourself repair shop, bike loans, and classes

250-seat movie and multipurpose performance theater

Student Program Resource Center

Smart building technology wired for modern performance and access

Campus pub and expanded food service venues

New and updated EMU program spaces for the Craft Center, Outdoor Program, Cultural Forum, KWVA Radio, and Club Sports

Expanded public spaces where students can gather, study, use meeting spaces, and attend conferences

SOURCE: [HTTP://NEWEMU.UOREGON.EDU/FAQS/](http://newemu.uoregon.edu/faqs/)

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OLD Oregon



On the Ball

A student shows fine follow-through in this undated photograph taken at the EMU's bowling alley, a popular feature in the original 1950 building's basement. More lanes were added in the 1960s, but with bowling's popularity fading and computers on the rise, the second set was converted to a computer lab in 1986. The original eight lanes were disassembled and sent to Japan in 1997.



Good Call

An unexpected phone call brought Native American teenager Mel Sandholm to the UO—and a career spent encouraging critical perspectives in the classroom.

If retired educator Mel Sandholm '75 were to pinpoint the moment that changed the trajectory of his life, it would be the phone call he got from a University of Oregon recruiter during the summer of 1970. Sandholm, then 18, had graduated from high school and was living in Brookings, Oregon, with his girlfriend. He was washing dishes in a local restaurant and had no career prospects; certainly no college plans.

And then came the call. Dennis DeGross '71, counselor and program coordinator for the UO Native American Program, told Sandholm about a federal initiative aimed at helping members of underrepresented groups attend college. DeGross had found Sandholm's name through a registry of tribal members kept by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. He invited Sandholm to visit the campus and assured the young man he would receive the financial support and academic

assistance he needed to remain in the program.

"It was totally out of the blue," says Sandholm. "I was absolutely surprised and shocked and exhilarated. I got to go to college—it was not something I thought was going to happen."

Sandholm, whose ancestry is Yurok and Irish, had never been looked at as college material. His home life had been textbook dysfunctional—he didn't know his biological father, and his stepfather, a logger who never learned to read or write, was a nice guy who worked, and drank, hard. His mom was smart, but also abused alcohol. As a kid, Sandholm lived in nine foster homes. He was a reader, but his grades were mediocre.

"People were always coming and going," he says. "I went to so many schools, I couldn't tell you what school I was at in what year. Academic excellence is the last thing on the

Mel Sandholm, a member of the Yurok tribe, spent his career educating and empowering kids from many cultures.

mind of a kid who is trying to survive. And I was trying to survive."

But after that fateful call, education, not survival, is what played the major role in Sandholm's life. For the next five years, he

learned about himself and the world around him, including the often-skewed perceptions of history when it came to Native Americans and other minority groups. His freshman-year roommate, journalism major Pete McConnell '74, was well prepared for college. An African American, McConnell not only served as a model for what Sandholm needed to do to succeed academically, but also taught him another perspective on American life.

"I learned so much about what it was like to be a black man on a white campus. So much about black culture, how African American history wasn't taught properly," Sandholm

says. He credits the friendships he made that first year with keeping him on track. "I was surrounded by people who were more accomplished than I was," he says. "I knew I needed to catch up, and it was a daunting task. Without my friends, I'm not sure I would have stayed in school."

But he kept on track and graduated. Listening to a good friend tell stories about his work as a high school teacher and coach gave Sandholm an idea. "I always thought teaching US history would be great—an Indian who would be teaching US history properly. I've always been aware of how the native side of things was presented, and it irritated the hell out of me."

Sandholm returned to the UO in 1978 to earn his teaching credential, launching a 30-year career using his life experience and education to reach and teach middle and high school students, many from underrepresented communities. The Santa Rosa, California, schools where he taught were plagued by gang activity and low academic scores. At the beginning of each school year, Sandholm told students his story—about his troubled family life as a kid, his so-so school performance, and the opportunity that changed his life.

"I let them know that it is possible to achieve even if you don't have the support you deserve—that you do what you have to do to be who you are and to be a success."

Sandholm knew from his own experience that support was crucial to a student's confidence and achievement. He didn't tolerate excuses, but he let his students know he was always there for them.

"I always felt if I could do it, they could," he says. "If you've been down, you'll know up when you see it. If you become an educated person, people have to look you in the eye. They can't discount you."

Sandholm also knew the importance of making education relevant. He used music, role-playing, film, and quotes from famous people to make history come alive for his students. In his lessons on the US Constitution, he had his students dress up in the garb of the day and debate the slavery issue between Southerners and Northerners. When he taught about the Mexican War, he presented the Mexican perspective, "of a stronger country taking advantage of a weaker country." He encouraged his students to question what they read, not just accept it, especially when it came to history that involved underrepresented groups.

"If you become an educated person, people have to look you in the eye. They can't discount you."

The students paid attention. "There's nothing better than seeing a student feel better about who they are once they have learned the truth about a historical event," he says. "When you empower kids to understand history, you teach them how to think critically. You see a light bulb go on, and they begin to enjoy learning."

Sandholm also spoke with his students about the common fear that education might dilute a person's cultural heritage. While in the UO program, he was directed to professors such as former folklore professor Barre Toelken, who encouraged Native students to maintain their cultural roots but also wanted them to take advantage of an education. When he became a teacher, he drove home the point that education enhances, not erases, a person's identity. "You walk a line where you take advantage of both opportunities," he says. "You maintain your cultural roots, but becoming an educated individual is in your best interests."

Deborah Chiene, principal of Lincoln Technical Academy and Lodi Adult School in California, is a longtime friend of Sandholm. He was tough in the classroom, she says, "but his students adored him. He was passionate about education and empowering young people, and helping them move forward in their lives."

Sandholm's background enabled him to relate to the challenges many of his students faced, she says. And his interactive teaching style made his lessons come alive. "He was thoroughly invested in his students, inside and outside the classroom. He was an outstanding educator, for so many reasons."

Sandholm is now retired, spending his time gardening, cooking, walking his dogs, and traveling to Ducks games. But his passion for education hasn't diminished. He has committed to a \$500,000 gift in his estate, which will provide scholarships and support training programs for Native Americans at the UO.

"I am trying to repay the university, which is dear to my heart," he says. "I have no doubt in my mind that it is responsible for my success in life." **ALICE TALLMADGE, MA '87**

Get Your Duck On!

Here's a sampling of fall events sponsored by the UO Alumni Association.

For detailed information, visit uoalumni.com/events
E-mail: alumni@uoregon.edu
Telephone: **800-245-ALUM**

FRESHMEN SEND-OFFS
Various locations nationwide
August 23–September 13

PORTLAND SCIENCE NIGHT
Widmer Brothers Brewery,
Portland, Oregon
August 28

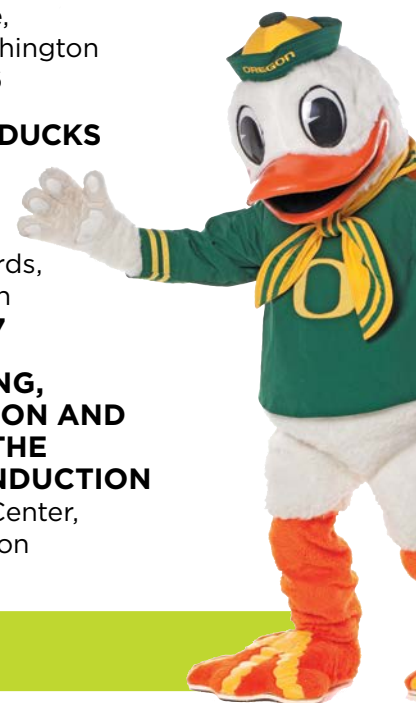
MEMBER APPRECIATION NIGHT
Ford Alumni Center,
Eugene, Oregon
September 5

LET 'ER DUCK BREAKFAST
Hamley Steakhouse,
Pendleton, Oregon
September 11

BELLEVUE DUCK BIZ LUNCH
Bellevue Grille,
Bellevue, Washington
September 16

PORTLAND DUCKS SUMMER WINE EVENT
Trinity Vineyards,
Salem, Oregon
September 27

HOMECOMING, 50TH REUNION AND ORDER OF THE EMERALD INDUCTION
Ford Alumni Center,
Eugene, Oregon
October 17





A lab technician prepares cannabis samples to be tested for mold, pesticides, and potency.

Lab director Rodger Voelker (below) aims to improve consumer safety through rigorous testing of medical marijuana.

High Standards

Through rigorous product testing, Rodger Voelker, PhD '96, hopes to improve safety for medical marijuana users.



Behind a nondescript door in a West Eugene industrial park, Rodger Voelker, PhD '96, pours a fresh cup of coffee. The pungent smell of cannabis gives way to the aroma of the roasted beans. He takes a sip. "I've been interested in the issue of food safety for years now," he says. Sporting a white lab coat, a pocket protector with pens, and salt-and-pepper hair, Voelker looks the part of the archetypal scientist. "I've always been a nerd," he says. A nerd who was never interested in marijuana, he makes sure to add. In fact, he voted *against* legalizing medical marijuana in Oregon. An analytical chemist, Voelker earned his doctorate in molecular biology, with his research focused on computational biology and genomics. Later, he worked as the supervising chemist at the Oregon Department of Agriculture's pesticide

residue laboratory. As lab director of Oregon Growers Analytical, Voelker is entering the once-underground world of marijuana, taking on the challenges of Oregon's negligible marijuana safety regulations and the particular difficulties of cannabis chemistry.

OG Analytical provides marijuana growers and dispensaries mold, pesticide, and potency-testing services for their cannabis products. Once tested, they can then be labeled with essential consumer information (such as active-ingredient levels), and samples that test positive for molds or pesticides can be kept out of patients' hands. Oregon House Bill 3460, which took effect in March, mandates that medical marijuana in Oregon must be tested for harmful substances, but provides for little state oversight, regulation, or enforcement. Voelker is trying to address that.

Voelker's lab offers the 59,000 or so registered

Most agricultural products test positive for pesticides about 0.1 percent of the time. For marijuana, it's closer to 18 percent.

patients of the Oregon Medical Marijuana Program (OMMP) a way to know what's in their medicine. Voelker suspends the marijuana in solution and uses chromatography and mass spectrometry to measure its molecular pieces. Through statistical methods, he can identify the quantities of ingredients in the sample. Voelker considers cannabis the most difficult product he's ever worked with. Marijuana contains high enough levels of active ingredients to make results off-the-chart unreadable by the extremely sensitive lab instruments. "But that's what humans have bred it for. They're THC factories," Voelker says.

US Food and Drug Administration protocols govern nearly every other ingestible product on the market, but the state does not apply FDA standards to the OMMP. "It's really bizarre to me," says Voelker, who believes the Oregon administrative rules governing OMMP testing for certain categories of pesticides to be sub-standard. He aims to match the more rigorous FDA standard.

He believes that applying FDA-approved methods and state oversight to the OMMP is critical for both patient safety and industry legitimacy. Most agricultural products, according to Voelker, test positive for pesticides about 0.1 percent of the time. For marijuana, it's closer to 18 percent. "We're talking about a pretty significant number," he says. His lab has had positive hits for dichlorvos and malathion, two toxic pesticides not safe for human consumption. "It's stuff that [marijuana growers] are not supposed to be using. But it's clearly there."

Unless Oregonians demand better safety standards, he says, nothing will change. "We've got a set of rules that need to be fixed. And what's key to that is that the public plays a role. It's for them that safety standards exist." For now, the unlikely marijuana scientist, who entered the industry as an analytical chemistry expert and cannabis neophyte, is getting used to donning the gloves and testing samples in his aromatic lab. "I can't even smell it anymore," he says. **GORDON FRIEDMAN**

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Class Notes

Do you ever wish we printed more notes from your class? Your classmates feel that way, too. E-mail your news to quarterly@uoregon.edu or mail it to Editor, Oregon Quarterly, 5228 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-5228.



Members of the marching band (above) show their school spirit. You can show yours during the UO's 100th Homecoming Celebration.

Homecoming at 100

While the University of Oregon officially opened its doors 138 years ago, 2014 marks only the 100th Homecoming celebration in UO history.

An event that used to include a bonfire, tug-of-war competition, the painting of the "O" on Skinner Butte, and canoe races on the Millrace began to wane in popularity in the 1960s. The 1964 Homecoming was dubbed "the Homecoming that wasn't," as students did not feel like celebrating so soon after the assassination of JFK. In 1969, Homecoming was canceled altogether, and was then only celebrated sporadically until it was permanently reestablished in 2007.

On October 17–18, alumni from around the world will return to the UO for the 100th Homecoming celebration, where they will take campus tours, drop in on classes, and enjoy a pep rally and parade. The members of the Class of '64—whose senior year was "the Homecoming that wasn't"—will at long last get to celebrate, as they are inducted into the Order of the Emerald for alumni 50 years out from their graduation.

INDICATES UOAA MEMBER

1950s

Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon, has renamed its center for physical fitness for **TOM KEEL '58**. Keel is the longest-serving community college trustee in Oregon state history, having served as a trustee at Umpqua from 1975 to 2011.

1960s

SPENCER BRUSH '67 has worked in the investment business for 45 years. He writes that he enjoyed spending a weekend in March with friends and fellow UO Alumni Association members **NED CHURCH '67**, **JIM HIBBARD '67**, **DAVE PECCIE '67**, and **CRAIG IVERSON '67** while on campus for a College of Arts and Sciences board meeting.

JOE M. FISCHER '60, MFA '63, had his painting of *The Ingrid Princess* selected for the June 2014 cover of *48° North*, a sailing magazine based in Seattle. Dave and **DIANNE RANKIN '60**, of Westlake, Oregon, sailed *The Ingrid Princess* around the world. Fischer's painting is part of their extensive art collection.

KENNETH O'CONNELL '66, MFA '72, is working on completing a book on popular UO art professor **DAVID FOSTER**, MFA '57, in time for the 100th anniversary of the School of Architecture and Applied

FLASHBACK

1954 L. S. Cressman, PhD, head of the anthropology department, discovers a variety of Native American artifacts at a site five miles east of The Dalles. The dig documents some the earliest signs of human life in the area, including artifacts from tribes living along the Columbia River, as well as those who came to the region as traders.

Arts in October. Ken welcomes you to contact him for more information at occonnell@uoregon.edu.

BUZZ THIELEMANN '70 has self-published a novel, *The Hunt for Owl Eyes*, which is available for Kindle and in other e-book formats.

1970s

After 31 years in education, **CAROL (WACHSMUTH) DARE**, MS '71, has published a historical novel, *When the World Wept*, set in Oregon and Europe during the Great Depression and World War II.

GARY H. BRUEBAKER, MBA '97, has been named to the Financial Accounting Foundation Board of Trustees. Bruebaker is chief investment officer for the Washington State Investment Board in Olympia.

JAMES ELLICKSON-BROWN '72, MA '80, completed his 27-year career as a Foreign Service officer with an assignment as

diplomat in residence at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

JOHN HANCOCK '71, a partner with the accounting firm of Moss Adams LLP, has been inducted into the Oregon Bankers Hall of Fame. At Moss Adams, he leads a banking practice that serves more than 300 institutional clients.

MARY ANN L. JAYNE '72 has published *The Quirky Landlord* under the pen name Clancy Rohring. The book is a socioeconomic study that focuses on east Portland and is available from Amazon.

WILLIAM L. SULLIVAN, MA '79, received the Outstanding Service to Oregon award from the UO Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management. Best known for his guidebooks on hiking, Sullivan is a writer, historian, civic leader, and environmental advocate.

After receiving her handy philosophy degree from

the UO, **ELIZABETH CORCORAN MURRAY** '79 writes and publishes a newsletter and website, *The Writers Connection*. Her current book, a small collection of uplifting ideas, is *Life Kind of Sucks*. Elizabeth was reunited with **FREDERICK GRABER** '79 in Austin, Texas, last spring. She and her husband, Paul, live on Fox Island in Washington.

1980s

ROBERT D. ATKINSON, MA '85, received a Distinguished Alumnus

label. He recently performed a concert of electronic-acoustic improvised music at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music.

JAMES M. FORD '80 is president of Central Valley Community Bank in Fresno, California.

SUSAN POLLARD, JD '85, has been appointed to the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws by Alaska governor Sean Parnell.

SCOTT HENRIKSON '87 has been hired as senior vice president of

FLASHBACK

1974 The UO's Division of Broadcast Services and Televised Instruction moves into the age of full color. The move comes with the gift of a color camera, valued at \$75,000, from Portland station KGW-TV.

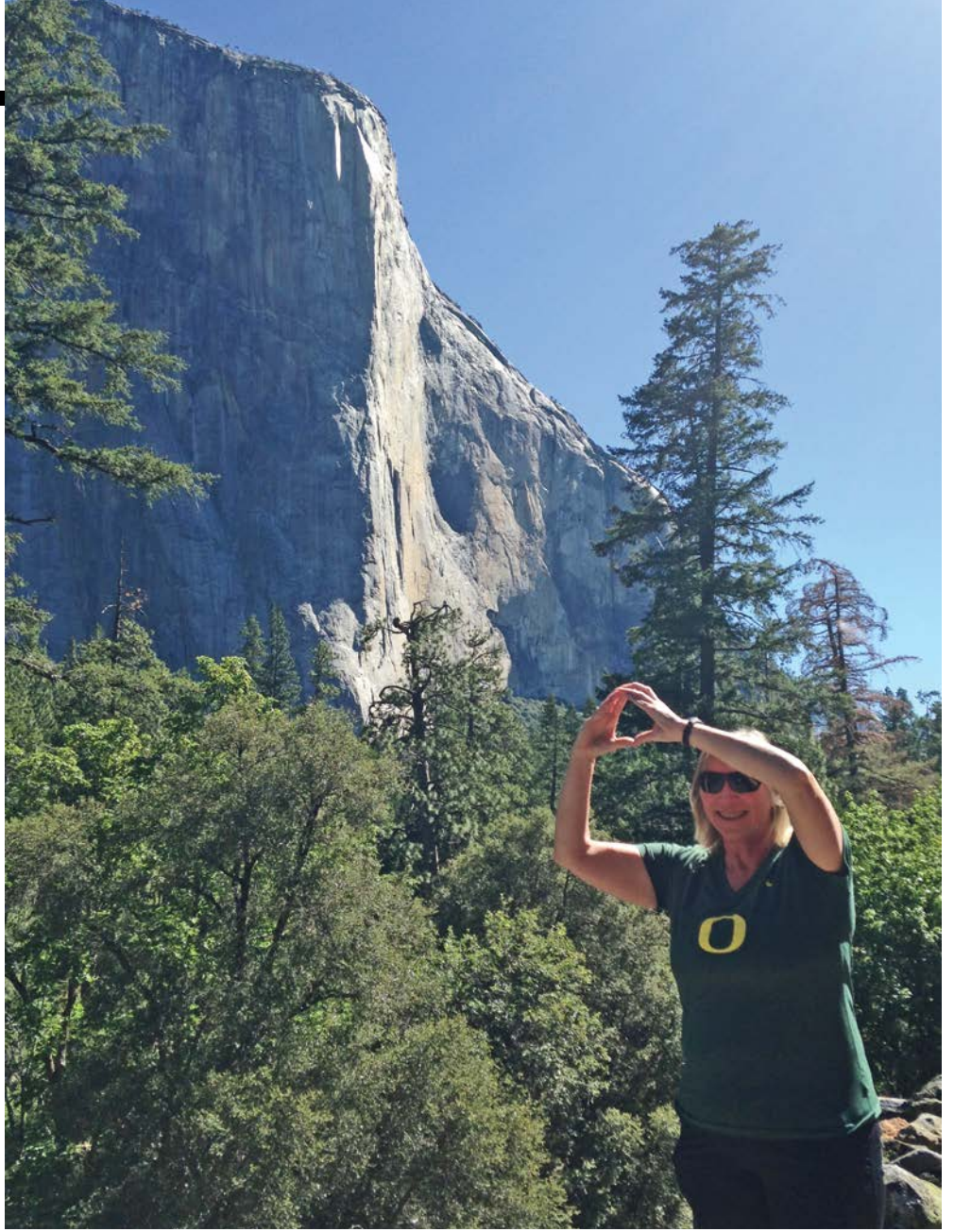
Award from the UO Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management. Atkinson, who earned a PhD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, is president and founder of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, a nonpartisan research and educational institute in Washington, D.C.

MALCOLM LYNN BAKER, MMus '81, released *Lectrocoustic*, his second CD on the OA2

sales and marketing by Bowtech, an archery equipment manufacturer based in Eugene.

NANCY ROTTLE '85, MLA '87, has been named to the Council of Fellows of the American Society of Landscape Architects, among the highest honors the group bestows on its members.

VERNELL WEST '83 has published a book entitled *Reflections: Getting a Glimpse of Life's Lyrics* (Outskirts Books, 2014).



DUCKS AFIELD

El Capitan, my Capitan RITA RADOSTITZ '81, MS '04, throws the "O" to El Capitan on a "bucket list" trip to Yosemite in June. Many hikers responded to her shirt with "Go, Ducks!" (and one offered a hearty "Go, Beavers!")

We love to track Duck migrations! Send us your favorite photos of yourself, classmates, family, and friends showing your Duck pride around the world. Attach high resolution JPEG or TIFF files to an email and send to quarterly@uoregon.edu.

1990s

KEN CARPENTER, PhD '94, has retired as director of study abroad at the University of New Mexico.

JOHN MACDONALD '98 is an associate producer

with *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon* and *Saturday Night Live*. He created the popular "Brian Williams Raps" videos.

TISHA OEHMEN '07, MBA '07, cofounder of Paradux Media Group, has been listed on the Top 30

Brand Global Guru list as one of the world's leading marketing experts.

BRANDON SUYEOKA '99 has been hired as marketing brand manager for Simplicity HR by Altres, a payroll and human resources firm in Hawaii.

MATTHEW SVOBODA '99, MMus '03, is director of choral studies at Lane Community College, where he has taught since 2006.

JEFF SWICKARD '94 leads the private equity

continued on page 56

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EUGENE AIRPORT




CLASS NOTABLE

ROBERT GAMBLIN '70, founder of one of the world's premier artist paint companies, was recently honored with the School of Architecture and Allied Arts' 2014 Ellis F. Lawrence Medal. After developing his signature style of landscape painting based on color relationships, Gamblin started making his own oil paint, using recipes from history books. Today, his Portland-based company, Gamblin Artists Colors, offers more than 200 nontoxic oil colors. The paints are used by many renowned painters, as well as by conservators restoring works by artists such as Van Eyck, Da Vinci, and Van Gogh.

FLASHBACK

1984 David Cohen, an assistant professor of physics, is conducting research on amorphous silicone and imagining commercial possibilities for its use in consumer electronics. "For me it is more exciting to work where maybe nature is going to give up one of its little secrets," he says.

firm Swickard Corp., based in Austin, Texas.

RIKA UCHIDA, MA '90, DMA '04, is an associate professor of piano and theory at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

2000s

MARIAN BLANKENSHIP, MPA '06, received a Distinguished Recent Alumnus Award from the UO Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management. Blankenship is the director of government relations for Pacific Source, an independent nonprofit health plan, as well as the executive director of the Pacific Source Foundation for Health Improvement.

Oregon lawyers **JEFF EAGER**, JD '04, **ALEXANDER FRIX**, JD '06, and **ADELE RIDENOUR**, JD '04, are the inaugural recipients of the University of Oregon School of Law's newest award celebrating graduates early in their careers. The Outstanding Young Alumnus Award was created to recognize graduates who have made significant career, leadership, or service contributions to their communities, the School of Law, or the legal profession within the first 10 years following graduation.

THEODORE HADLEY '09 was elected president of the Financial Planning Association of Oregon and

continued on page 58

Southwestern Washington. He is the youngest president in the chapter's history, and won an award for volunteer service in 2013.

EMILY ISAACSON, MMus '09, new conductor of the Oratorio Choral of Maine, programmed and conducted a concert in November 2013 featuring the work *Kyrie* by fellow UO School of Music and Dance alumnus **SCOTT ORDWAY**, MMus '08.

BRIAN MALLOY '01 has been selected as a 2014 Northern California Rising Star by Super Lawyers, an organization that recognizes top young attorneys. Malloy works at the Brandi Law Firm in

San Francisco, where he lives with his wife, Aimee. He previously received the distinction in 2010.

In 2013, **ESTHER L. MEGARGEL** '08 received her master's degree in composition from Brigham Young University.

MARISSA NEITLING '07 is one of the stars of the new TNT television series *The Last Ship*.

SHARLEEN NELSON '06 has launched Glad Eye Press, a publishing company that produces books, calendars, and other products.

SARA PARKER '09 presented her chore-



FLASHBACK

1994 Donald Duck celebrates his 60th birthday at the Oregon–Washington State football game on October 22. The Oregon Duck presents Donald with a birthday plaque while UO president David Frohnmayer gives a visiting Disney ambassador a plaque thanking Disney for the use of its beloved character as the Oregon mascot.

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FLASHBACK

1964 Tau Kappa Epsilon becomes the first fraternity at the UO to pledge an African American student. Lenald Edward Brown '68, a mathematics major from Portland, tells *Old Oregon*, "I'm just another pledge as far as the fraternity is concerned."

ography at the (a)merg-
ing festival in Portland in
January 2014.

AARON ROSENBERG,
PhD '09, adjunct profes-
sor in musicianship and
theory at the University of
Massachusetts at Lowell,
is wrapping up a stint as
musician-in-residence at
the Banff Centre.

**JENNY (ROGERS)
RUDEN**, MFA '01, has
published *Camp Utopia*
and *the Forgiveness Diet*
(Koehler Books, 2014), a
young adult novel.

ELIZABETH SEDLAK '09
earned a degree from the
National College of Natural
Medicine in Portland
and operates Willamette
Integrated Health, a clinic
in Wilsonville, Oregon.

WILLIAM TISON PUGH,
PhD '00, has published two
books: *Truman Capote: A
Literary Life at the Movies*
(University of Georgia Press,
2014) and *Queer Chivalry:
Medievalism and the Myth of
White Masculinity in Southern
Literature* (Louisiana State
University Press, 2013).

TIM WILLIAMS, MS '00,
has been named chief oper-
ating officer at Sesame
Communications, an
Internet company based in
Seattle.

2010s

OLIVER ALEXANDER
'14 and **ORION FALVEY**
'13 put their entrepreneur-
ial skills into practice by
opening a medical clinic in
Oakridge, Oregon.

KAWIKE ASAM '12 is the
owner of Everyday Kine
Grindz, a Hawaiian food
cart in Eugene.

KHRYSTIAN T. CLARK '14
has been commissioned as
a second lieutenant in the
US Army.

Flutist **RIANNA COHEN**,
MMus '13, was a participant
in the prestigious Banff
Musicians in Residence
Program in the fall of 2013.
In the summer of 2013,
Cohen advanced in the
National Flute Association
Young Artist Competition.

GREG FABER '13 played
the eponymous role in
Richard II this summer for
the Arden Shakespeare
Gild in Arden, Delaware.

MILO FULTZ '14 has been
appointed principal bass
of the Boise Philharmonic
Orchestra.

In April 2013, soprano
VICTORIA HELPPIE '13
placed first in the Classical-
Young Adult Female

Division of the National
Association of Teachers of
Singing—Cascade Chapter.

In April 2013, mezzo-con-
tralto **ALYSE JAMIESON**,
MMus '14 in voice per-
formance, placed first in
the Classical-Advanced
Adult Female Division of
the National Association
of Teachers of Singing—
Cascade Chapter.

ANDREA JOHNSON,
MMus '14, won sec-
ond place in the Young
Artist Competition
of the Oregon Music
Teachers Association-
Music Teachers National
Association.

The short film *Hail Dance*
by **MOLLY JOHNSTON**,
MFA '14, was accepted
into the International
Screendance Festival, and
was screened as part of the
opening night festivities
in June 2013. UO journal-
ism alumnus **ROBERT
UEHLIN**, MS '13, was
Johnston's collaborator on
the film.

MATTHEW KEOWN '13
was invited to participate in
the prestigious 21st-Century
American Contemporary
Ensemble workshop pro-
gram, culminating in two
concert programs in Zankel
Hall at Carnegie Hall in
April 2013.

ELISABETH KRAMER

'12 was awarded a silver medal in the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education's 2014 Circle of Excellence awards for her feature story, "The Stand She Took," in the Autumn 2013 issue of *Oregon Quarterly*. Kramer's story chronicles the 1966 contempt of court trial of *Oregon Daily Emerald* editor Annette Buchanan, who refused to name her sources in an *Emerald* story about marijuana use on campus.

MELANIE MEENAN, MFA

'13, received a clinical assistant professor position at the University of Idaho in the Department of Movement Science. She collaborated with UO professor Steven Chatfield on a presentation entitled "Dance in the 21st Century: The Neuroscience of Mindfulness and Its Presence in Dance," delivered at the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science in October 2013.

Three alumni earned the top CPA exam scores in the state of Oregon: **TIFFANY PHILLIPS '13**, **ERIC SEIFERT '12**, MActg '13, and **WILLIAM GELLER '12**.

SARAH PYLE, MMus '14, was a semifinalist in the 2014 Piccolo Competition of the National Flute Association.

In March 2013, **JOSEPH READY '13** was named winner in the Solo Tuba-Artist Division of the Northwest Tuba Euphonium Conference.



DUCKS AFIELD

MELODY ANN (ROSS) HAASE '08 and husband Blake Haase hiked two kilometers through the snow to snap this photo in front of Dettifoss, the most powerful waterfall in Europe. This one of many adventures during their recent honeymoon in Iceland.

LANTZ R. RUDOLPH '14 has been commissioned as a second lieutenant in the US Army.

TARA SCHWAB, DMA '12, is currently completing her first year as an assistant professor of flute at the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point.

JESSIKA SMITH, MMus '14, won the Seattle

Women's Jazz Orchestra's First Annual Composition Contest for her original composition *Lights*.

ANNA WALLER '11 authored two articles appearing in the February 2014 issue of the influential publication *Dance Magazine*.

DEVIN WRIGHT '14 was named Outstanding

College Saxophonist at the Reno Jazz Festival in April 2013. In 2014, he won a *Downbeat* magazine Jazz Arrangement Award.

What's new with you? Submit class notes online at oregonquarterly.com by email to quarterly@uoregon.edu, or by mail to Editor, Oregon Quarterly, 5228 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-5228.

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Ryo Toyonaga: Awakening
October 11 – January 4

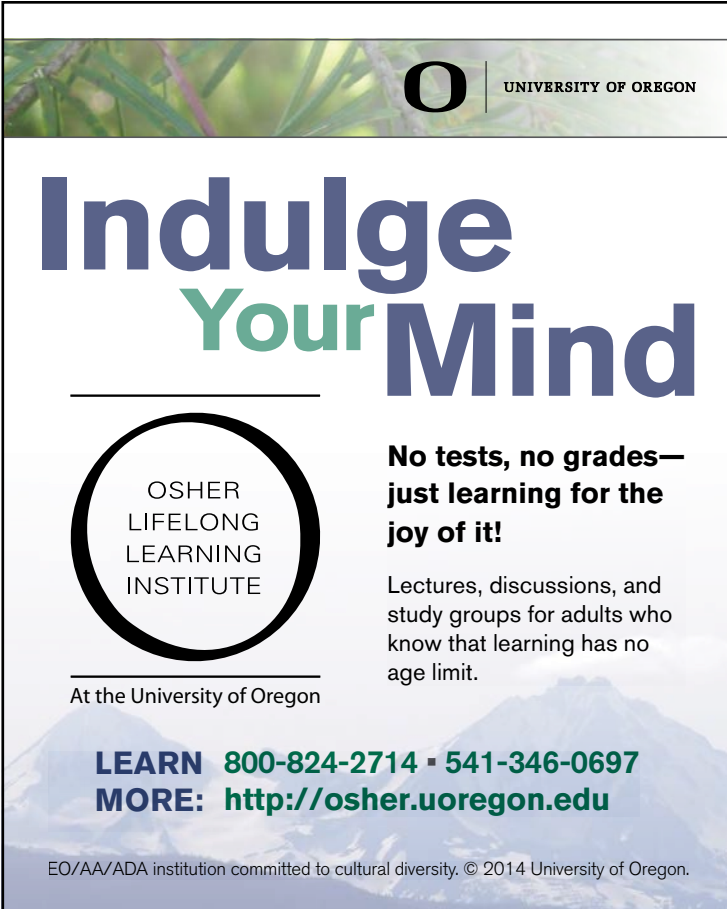
Ryo Toyonaga: Awakening is made possible by the Coeta and Donald Barker Changing Exhibitions Endowment, The Harold and Arlene Schnitzer CARE Foundation, a grant from the Oregon Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, and JSMA members.

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CLASS NOTABLE

JOHNPAUL JONES '67 became the first architect to receive a National Humanities Medal in a ceremony at the White House on July 28, 2014. Following a distinguished 40-year career, Jones was recognized for his veneration of the natural world and indigenous traditions through architecture. Jones has been inspired and motivated by his Cherokee-Choctaw roots and involved in the design of numerous cultural centers and museums with tribes throughout North America. In 2005, Jones won the UO's Distinguished Service Award.

Conservation, culminating with a role as on-scene cleanup coordinator for the Exxon Valdez oil spill and later with BP Alaska, managing hazardous materials necessary for oil development on the North Slope.

LAVERNE WATTS

EDWARDS '52 died on January 11, 2014, in Columbus, Ohio. Born in 1928 and raised in Oregon, she was a member of Mu Phi Epsilon and the athletic band. She went on to earn a master's degree in music performance from the University of Southern California. She lived in many locations, including England, during her marriage to Ernest Jackson Edwards, and returned to Eugene when her husband retired from the US Air Force in 1974, then moved to Columbus in 2004. She was a pianist and organist as well as a real estate broker.


BARBARA HANSEN

EPPLETT '62, MMus '65, piano teacher at the UO, died May 18, 2013, at the age of 81. She was born in 1931 in Takoma Park, Maryland, and was raised in Indiana. She married Francis Keith Possman after one year of nurse's training, and eventually completed bachelor's and master's degrees at the UO. Barbara was active as a church organist.

VIRGINIA (ENDICOTT)

HENDRICKSON '37 died May 12, 2014, in Eugene at age 98. While earning

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IN MEMORIAM

MARILYN DANIELS

BAUER '51 died on May 1, 2014, at age 85. She was a member of the Alpha Delta sorority. She taught elementary school in La Canada, California. She married **DR. RICHARD G. BAUER '51** in 1951 and retired to Flagstaff, Arizona, 20 years ago.

MAXINE GLAD STEWART

BROWN '40, died peacefully on February 17, 2014, at age 95 at the Carriage Hill Nursing home in Bethesda, Maryland. Born in Bonners Ferry, Idaho, on December 13, 1918, she grew up in Eugene and settled in Washington, D.C., after graduation. There she began a long career in government

service, which started at the US Department of the Treasury and finished with her retirement as special assistant to the commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1986. Her marriage to Ward Stewart ended in divorce in 1975; her second husband, Weir M. Brown, died in 2004.

COLLEEN D. BURGH

'79 died in February 2014 at age 57 in Anchorage, Alaska, where she was born and lived after graduation. While her passions were horses and international travel, she truly loved her home state, hiking in the Brooks Range and working hard to keep its air and water clean—first with the State of Alaska's Department of Environmental

DUCKS AFIELD

Newlyweds DAVID HURFORD '05 and ALLISON (WARNER) HURFORD '05 tied the knot at a small hotel in Aix-en-Provence, France, then pulled Duck gear over their wedding togs for this picture. Photo by Eric Fabrer.



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FLASHBACK

1944 A little slice of heaven on the Millrace, from September 1944. To quote *Old Oregon*, “It retains all of its time-hallowed popularity as a playtime haunt.” Yeah, we’ll go along with that.

her degree in journalism and working on the *Oregon Daily Emerald*, she also participated in the UO Eugene Symphony for four years, Mortar Board, and Chi Omega sorority. She worked at the *Eugene Daily News* for several years following graduation. She was later a reporter at the *Register-Guard*, retiring in 1975. She and her husband, Ray Hendrickson '35, had been married 63 years at the time of his death in 2001.

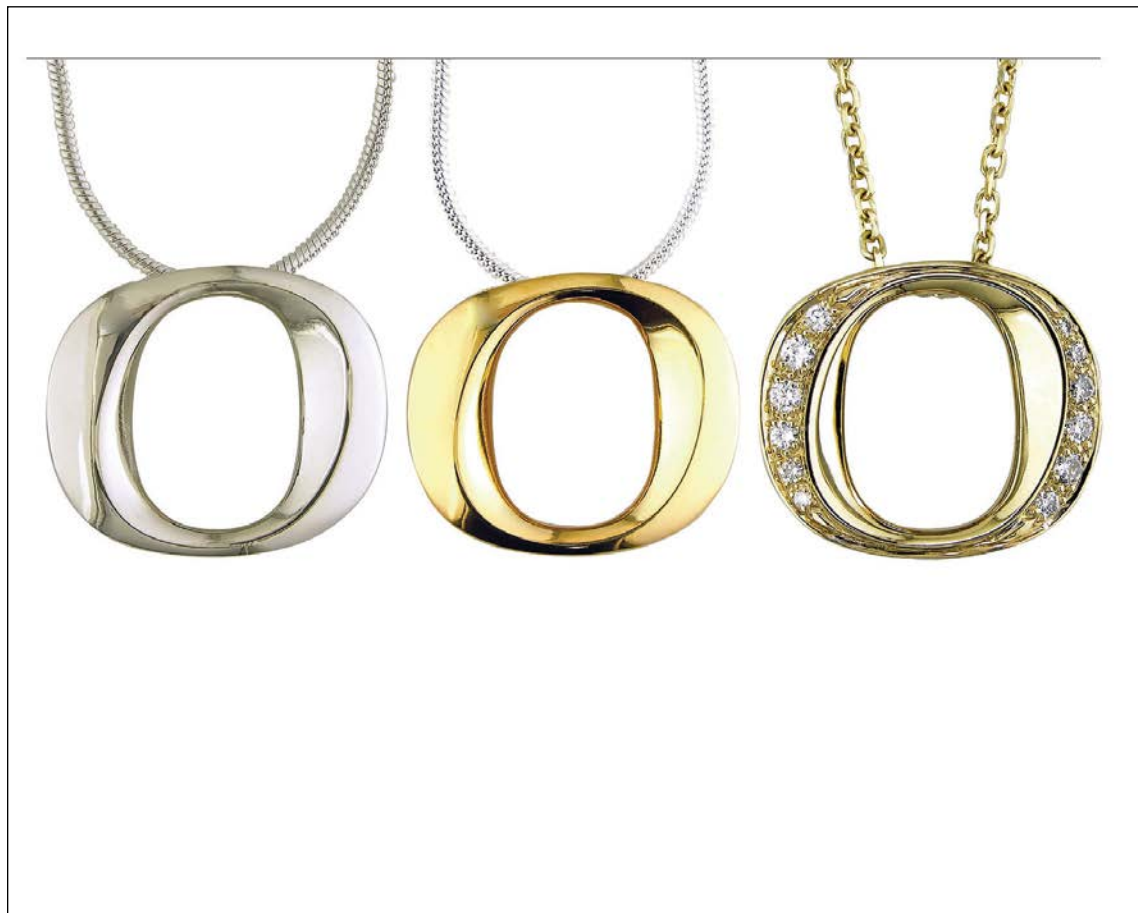
JANIE JOHNSON '60, of Roseburg died following a battle with leukemia. A teacher and school counselor as well as a dedicated volunteer, she was named Female First Citizen of the Year in 2010. Johnson was

particularly interested in organizations that assist children, among them the Family Development Center, Court-Appointed Special Advocates of Douglas County, Child Abuse Response and Evaluation Services, and the March of Dimes. She was known as an avid UO sports fan, and more than 300 people attended her funeral wearing Ducks apparel.

TODD DONALD JOHNSON '95 died unexpectedly on February 8, 2013. Born in 1969 in Stayton, Oregon, Todd spent most of his childhood in Salem. While at the UO, he studied tuba and bass trombone, and

participated in ensembles including the Green Garter Band and Wind Ensemble. He taught himself to play the didgeridoo, and participated in environmental causes and peace groups. Upon graduating, he worked for City Lights and Pacific Winds music stores as well as teaching private lessons and performing in numerous groups including the Starlighters, Jazz Kings, Brass Band, and the Western Oregon and Newport Symphony Orchestras.

GERALD HARVEY LUNDY '50, MS '58, died earlier this year at age 87. During his varied career, he taught in the




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UO English department, worked as a cook, and was a baker with the Uprisings Baking Collective.

SALLY MAXWELL '57, UO instructor of harp, died on July 27, 2013. Sally was born in 1935. Besides her studies at the UO, Sally originally studied harp with her mother before continuing her education in Paris and Los Angeles. Her three decades of teaching made the UO harp performance curriculum one of the leading programs in the country, and her students now occupy teaching and performance positions around the nation. Performing for many years for the Eugene Symphony, Maxwell also served as president of the American Harp Society. She founded the American Harp Society Foundation, a non-profit organization with the mission of furthering harp education through specific endowment-based scholarships.

DONNA J. PROPST '64, '65 died on February 4, 2014. She was born in 1939 in Huntington Park, California, and grew up in Grants Pass, Oregon. She taught in the Oregon towns of Riddle and Albany, retiring after a 30-year career. She participated in the UO symphony while she was a student, and was a member of the UO Alumni Association. At age 50, while studying for a doctorate in organ, she survived an aneurism; upon recovering, she began art and painting lessons. In 1990, she married her second

FLASHBACK

2004 A Swiss research center ranks the UO in the top 50 universities in the world based on the scope and citation of published research articles by its faculty.

husband, Colonel Louis "Bud" Epplett.

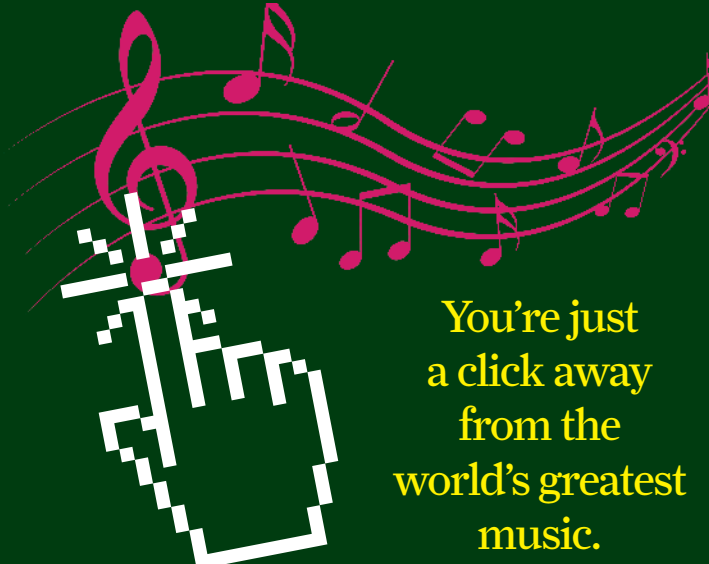
ERVIN ASHLEY ROYER '58 died on October 31, 2013. He was born in 1936 and resided on farms near Myrtle Point, Oregon, in his boyhood. At Oregon, he performed in the University Symphony Orchestra and athletic bands. He married his wife, Audrey, and taught music in Brookings, McMinnville, and Coos Bay, Oregon, and in Bethel, Alaska. Royer was active in the Oregon Music Education Association, and served many years as choir director of First Christian Church.

ELLEN TURNER '40, secretary to Morrette Rider, former dean of the UO School of Music, died at age 94 on November 18, 2013. She was born in 1919 in Pendleton, where she married Thomas T. Turner in 1949. While a student at the UO, Ellen was a member of Alpha Xi Delta and participated in the choral program. During World War II, she served as a member of the Women's Air Raid Defense of the US Army Air Forces, stationed in Hawaii. She later joined the Foreign Service of the U.S., serving in Tunisia. After

her marriage, she accompanied her husband on assignments to Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, New Zealand, France, Mali, and Washington, D.C. Following her husband's retirement in 1967, the couple returned to live in Eugene, where she was employed by the School of Music.

JOHN HOWARD WALSTED '56 of New Brighton, New York, the rector emeritus of Christ Episcopal Church, New Brighton, and an accomplished iconographer, died at age 82 on June 18, 2014. He earned a bachelor's degree in history with an emphasis in fine arts at Oregon and his MDiv from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Berkeley, California. He held positions in Santa Barbara, California; Portland and Salem, Oregon; and West Park, New York.

"In Memoriam" submissions should be accompanied by a newspaper obituary or funeral home notice of the deceased UO alumnus. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity, and style. Submit to quarterly@uoregon.edu or Editor, Oregon Quarterly, 5228 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-5228.



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The Worldly Wilkinson House

Almost 60 years ago my mother, **BY MERILEE ARMSTRONG BENGTTSSON '70** Loella Armstrong, moved from Empire, Oregon, to the University of Oregon with three young daughters and a dog. It was August of 1955, and as a 28-year-old single parent, she rented a university-owned house at 1385 Franklin Boulevard and opened it as a rooming house for university students. Women were allowed to live there with mom serving as their chaperone. Most were from Asia and the Pacific Rim. Experiences there led to our family's awareness of many cultures. That's what a university experience can do when it brings together people from all over the globe.

At home in the big white house, mom taught the international students to cook, filling the house with fragrant smells of Asian ingredients not found in Eugene at the time. The students adopted the three of us as little sisters. Two young women from Nepal, for instance, dressed us in saris and bright jewelry. During vacations, when the dorms were closed, more students brought blankets to sleep on the living room floor. Some brought guitars and everyone brought a little bit of their homes into ours.

Our family particularly enjoyed sharing American traditions during the holidays. Mom always decorated a big Christmas tree and baked holiday cookies, and my sisters and I loved sitting on the stairs while we listened to the grown-ups sing in many languages. We were supposed to be in bed, of course, but it was all so exciting and different.

Mom entered the university as an art education student and later earned advanced degrees in special education and counseling. While she was studying, my sisters Sandra, Linda, and I attended Condon Elementary, where we learned French and Spanish. We romped around campus as we took swimming and art classes and attended international programs and concerts.

When we were little, mom always told us that we'd travel one day. That was hard to believe at a time when traveling by jet was only for the wealthy. After all, she was just a student with three children and no job. We finally

began a life of traveling after she received her degree and got a job as a teacher on Guam.

From there, we flew around Asia, and in 1966, around the world.

Mom lived on Guam for most of her career. Prior to her death in 2001, she was inducted into the Guam Education Hall of Fame for her work launching the first special education program there.

My sisters and I all pursued international interests as adults. I graduated from the UO in international development in 1970, and also received a master's degree in teaching English as a second language from Seattle University in 2000. My older sister Sandra (Kickbusch) attended the University of Guam and became a Certified Travel Counselor. My younger sister Linda (Larsen) attended the UO and later earned an education degree and taught Danish as a second language in Copenhagen.

Our experiences at the UO, living in what is now called the Wilkinson House, really shaped our lives. After leaving Guam the first time, Mom was the first single parent to be hired full time in Europe by the United States Army Air Forces. She taught in Baumholder, Germany, while Linda was still in high school and I attended the UO.

Linda has been living in Denmark for more than 40 years, while Sandra continues to advise travelers. I am presently coordinating art exhibits for my late husband's artwork in Bastad, Sweden, as well as Soap Lake, Washington, and Palm Desert, California. I will also travel to Copenhagen, Paris, Spain, and Tristan da Cunha within the next year.

The Wilkinson House became part of the art department when we moved out. The house was named after art instructor Jack Wilkinson, who died in 1974. Studios replaced the lawns and many of the trees have been removed, but the old house still looks like a homey place where creativity is nurtured for both American and international students.

Merilee Armstrong Bengtsson '70 studied international development at the UO. She lives in Mukilteo, Washington.

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