

# ALUMNI & DEVELOPMENT

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON  
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

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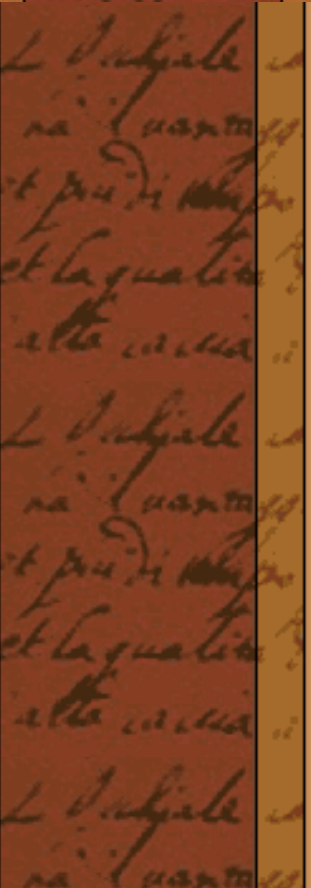
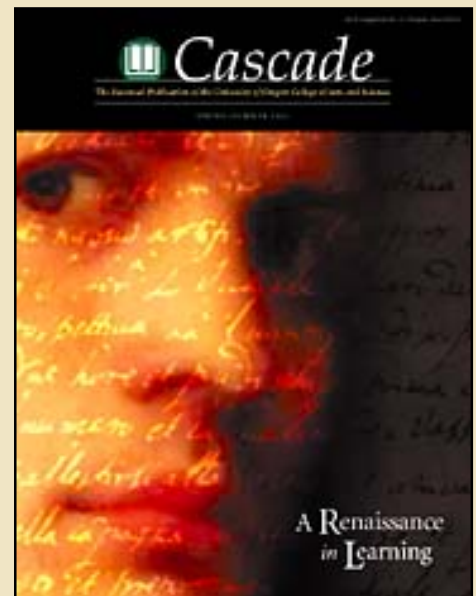
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## CAS NEWS

## Letter from the Dean

[home page](#)[college at a glance](#)[giving to CAS](#)[alumni](#)[CAS news](#)[CAS home page](#)**By Joe Stone***Dean of Arts and Sciences*

Extraordinary contributions throughout the ages have helped form the world we know today. One period that stands out for its particularly vigorous artistic and intellectual activity is the Renaissance, which helped mark the movement between medieval and modern times in the Western world.

The Renaissance, which literally means rebirth, prepared the ground for the thinkers and scholars of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries through a series of earth-shaking achievements and discoveries. For example, the invention of the printing press in the fifteenth century began to revolutionize the dissemination of knowledge throughout Europe (though this innovation first began thousands of miles away in China). Medieval translation and study of Greek treatises on mathematics led to the innovative astronomy of Copernicus and Kepler. By the end of the sixteenth century, Galileo had taken the crucial step of applying mathematical models to the subject matter of physics. New empirical knowledge derived from explorations beyond Europe helped transform human understanding of geography.

We chose "A Renaissance in Learning" as the theme of this issue because in the College of Arts & Sciences, we, too, seek to nurture a climate of discovery, knowledge and understanding. The University of Oregon has long fostered an environment in which ideas count, one where our faculty and students can

pursue the higher ideal associated with advanced learning. This environment is grounded in a profound commitment to inquiry and research and to the development of curriculum that reflects new knowledge and understanding.

As you read this issue of Cascade, you will learn about some of the ways in which our liberal arts faculty and students are continuing to expand upon the universe of knowledge that shapes our world. In the humanities, students of medieval studies, for example, piece together the literature, history and art of the Middle Ages. Through the recent creation of an International Programs Council, students and faculty in the social sciences have increased opportunities to explore cross-cultural communication and a wide range of international and global issues. In the natural sciences, research conducted in the physics department ranges from very fundamental questions to work that spawns new high-technology companies. And, you will see in our alumni profiles that the renaissance in learning does not stop at graduation, but extends to the ways in which graduates continue to learn and apply their skills to new and complex problems. It is precisely this "renaissance in learning" that contributes to the richness of life and professional success characteristic of liberal arts graduates.

According to Leonardo Da Vinci, "The desire to know is natural to good men." At the UO, we have taken these words to heart as we help today's women and men prepare to be citizens of the world. By recognizing the diverse origins from which knowledge and progress spring and by striving to expand knowledge and wisdom, we hope to shape a better future for all.

Photo by Jack Liu



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Updated June 18, 2001

## CAS NEWS

## Medieval Studies

Exploring What It Means to be Human

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Professor Martha Bayless and students examine a collection of medieval manuscripts.

JoAnn Durfee loves to solve puzzles. That's one thing that drew her to the University of Oregon Medieval Studies Program. Piecing together the literature, history and art of the medieval period, she says, is one path to solving the mystery of what it means to be human.

"I have always loved connecting the dots, finding patterns, finding the hidden picture no matter how complex, and revealing the essence of the design," says

Durfee, who returned to school at age fifty to complete her undergraduate degree. "I like to connect the dots of being human -- thoughts, artifacts, dreams, history -- their connections may explain why people know that they are human, feel human, care that they are human."

Durfee was also impressed with the program's director, Martha Bayless. "She represents a whole department that seems excited by what it's doing, enjoys working together, and is very accessible to a student who has questions."

Bayless, a graduate of Cambridge who specializes in medieval literature and humor, brims over with enthusiasm for the program she took over in the fall of 1999. "It offers a different perspective on life -- it's us but not us," she says. "At the same time, it's like going to a foreign country, only this is traveling in time."

Indeed, medieval studies offers a wider view of culture than most liberal arts majors do. Instead of focusing on one subject, it combines history, philosophy, religion, languages, anthropology, art history, political science and geography. As the program's web page boasts, "Your studies could include Icelandic sagas, troubadours, castles and cathedrals, and the Crusades."

"It is, in a sense, the ultimate liberal arts education here, founded on the Classics and foundational for the modern world," says Jim Earl, professor of English and a former director of the program.

Twenty-three faculty members from eleven departments participate in the Medieval Studies Program. The program currently enrolls twenty-one students (fourteen majors and seven minors), who are required to take twelve related courses from at least three departments. There is no official graduate program, but the English department offers a structured emphasis in medieval studies for Ph.D. candidates, and students can pursue an interdisciplinary master's degree with an emphasis on the medieval period.

The program features special events throughout the year, such as poetry readings, Medieval Day, a recital of Chaucer's "Miller's Tale," and the Medieval Film Series. It also offers study-abroad opportunities at the University of East Anglia in England and the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. Next year, Bayless hopes to offer a summer course on the preserved medieval city of York, England. Students would study the history and literature of the fourteenth-century city, then travel there to see its streets, castles and cathedrals.

Bayless does not hesitate to compare the UO's program with leading departments at Harvard, the University of Toronto or Notre Dame. The UO's intimate learning environment sets it apart, she says. Undergraduate classes typically have fewer than ten students, compared with forty-plus at Harvard and elsewhere. That has fostered a close-knit community where faculty members feel comfortable hosting students at their houses.

Steven Shurtleff '95, an alumnus of the program, went on to earn a master's degree from Cornell University. "The quality and number of professors at the UO, for such a small school, is amazing," he says. "The program here is definitely on a par with Cornell in terms of quality of professors." Shurtleff, a freelance sculptor, still frequents the UO campus, occasionally teaching a course on the literature of King Arthur.

Graduates of the Medieval Studies Program go on to a variety

of careers. As with other liberal arts degrees, the program teaches students how to think and make sense of the world -- valuable skills in almost any profession.

For Bayless, one of the rewards of leading the program is unraveling the mysteries of the medieval period and making it accessible to new generations of students. "A lot of students come in with Arthurian interests, but they're intimidated by the literature at first," she says. "But in the end, 95 percent of them say they love Chaucer."

For more information about the Medieval Studies Program, visit: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~midages>.



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## ALUMNI &amp; DEVELOPMENT

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International and Area Studies  
Joining Forces to Broaden Minds[home page](#)[college at a glance](#)[giving to CAS](#)[alumni](#)[CAS news](#)[CAS home page](#)[International and Area Studies](#)

Dana Ponte first visited Russia when she was sixteen years old. Her exposure to the country's culture and history while it grappled with introducing democracy made a lasting impact. Ponte, who received the 2000 Dorothy Jane and William Green Foreign Languages Scholarship, now majors in Russian and Eastern European Studies at the University of Oregon. "A thorough understanding of other cultures and nations, particularly areas like Russia with which the U.S has had a complicated past history, is integral to maintaining peaceful foreign relations. Area studies programs help foster this understanding," she says.

The UO's area and international studies programs strive to help students widen their world views and experiences. "So much of what students learn is U.S. based. We're hoping to really put the rest of the world on the map," says Linda Fuller, professor of sociology and director of the International Studies Program

(ISP). Students interested in expanding their world knowledge now can start at just one place, thanks to the recently formed International Programs Council (IPC).

The IPC began in the spring of 1998 when program representatives for Asian Studies, Latin American Studies, European Studies, International Studies, and the Russian and East European Studies Center (REESC) met to discuss departmental cross-campus moves. They proposed to consolidate the programs by creating one central office and entity -- the IPC. Last fall, the IPC moved into 175 Prince Lucien Campbell, where information about all five programs is housed. Pending the approval of the State Board of Higher Education, the IPC hopes to become known as the University of Oregon Center for International and Area Studies.

"We want to protect what is unique and distinct about each program, but we want to explore every opportunity for constructive interrelationships," says professor Alan Kimball, who is the IPC chair and director of REESC. He says the new arrangement offers the programs the opportunity to share resources such as office staff, web site maintenance, and advertising materials, whereas previously, programs may have struggled to maintain such resources independently. Working together also provides funding advantages. "When we're talking about scheduling a big event, such as some kind of symposium, we can work cooperatively. When we're applying for grant support for aspects of the life of any one of the units, we can cooperate in strength and reinforce one another," he says.

Linda Fuller agrees that the IPC offers opportunities for inter-program cooperative efforts. "There's more communication between area programs. We knew very little about one another before. We hope now to act more jointly," says Fuller.

The IPC also offers advantages for the nearly 280 undergraduates and 80 graduate students -- including about one-third who are international students -- who work for degrees and certificates within the IPC. The new location will "provide students interested in international studies with a single place to find all the different academic units with international degrees," notes Leonardo García-Pabón, director of Latin American Studies and a recent recipient of the Reinhold Foundation Faculty Support Fund in the Arts and Sciences. Course overlap commonly occurs among international and area studies programs; for example, an international studies student who wants to focus on a Latin American issue can address questions about both programs in one place.

Kelly Baumgartner '97, M.A. '99, would have enjoyed that



convenience. A graduate of the International Studies Program, he also earned a certificate in the European Studies Program (ESP). Now working as an intern in a security and defense non-governmental organization (NGO) in Brussels, Belgium, he anticipates returning to the U.S. in July 2001 to work for the General Accounting Office in Washington, D.C., as an international affairs analyst. "The ESP served as a ladder for my further educational and career development," says Baumgartner. "An international or area studies degree, especially one that requires study abroad, opens a student's intellectual, cultural and personal horizons."



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Physics Department  
Leaders of Cutting-Edge Research[home page](#)[college at a glance](#)[giving to CAS](#)[alumni](#)[CAS news](#)[CAS home page](#)

Even before Archimedes shouted Eureka after discovering the principle of buoyancy while taking a bath over 2000 years ago, physicists have been discovering and describing the natural and physical environment.

The University of Oregon's place in physics history began to emerge with the UO's founding in 1876 when "natural philosophy" comprised both physics and chemistry. In 1879, physics came into its own with the purchase of equipment for a designated laboratory. Today, over 120 years later, the Department of Physics thrives on its expanding role in forefront research.



[Dr. Russell Donnelly](#)

"We're a fundamental forum for knowledge; we make knowledge where it never existed before," says Dr. Russell Donnelly. Although recently retired from thirty-plus years of professorial duties, Donnelly continues as the director for the Cryogenic Helium Turbulence Lab, which focuses on one of the "last unsolved problems of classical physics" -- turbulence. Donnelly, whose specialization is fluid dynamics, is specifically interested in studying turbulence using supercold helium. In 1996, Donnelly and his research team received a \$5 million National Science Foundation grant to develop a low-temperature apparatus known as a cryostat that has enabled them to produce and investigate turbulent flow at

unprecedented levels. "For instance, we have an experiment running downstairs now where the intensity of the turbulence is equivalent to a storm over the Pacific Ocean," says Donnelly.

Aviation and watercraft engineers pay attention to this. "There's very, very little doubt that in the long run for surface ships, submarines, and aircraft, that these methods will be one of the ways of testing models of future vehicles," says Donnelly.

Upstairs from Donnelly, Associate Professor Richard Taylor researches fractal patterns. Until the discovery in 1977 of fractal patterns by a mathematician, patterns in nature, such as rock striations and coastlines, were assumed to be without order. "The essence of the fractal is that as you zoom in at different magnifications, patterns keep on repeating themselves," Taylor says.

Taylor's research is unique in that he has applied his interest in fractal patterns to art using the work of abstract expressionist Jackson Pollock. While some theorists believe that Pollock's patterns were random, Taylor's research shows differently. "If I were to analyze a natural pattern and analyze Pollock's patterns, his are as fractal as nature's," says Taylor, who also holds a master's degree in art theory and paints abstract works. By using a computerized analysis of fractal patterns, Taylor's research could help prove whether or not a Pollock painting might be a fake -- a determination that could change the value of a painting from \$40 to \$40 million.

Taylor's studies also extend into semiconductor research, where electricity is conducted through super-cooled, microscopic devices many times smaller than a human eyelash. "Fractals in nature are not in controlled environments, so it's a very passive observation. With semiconductors, we induce fractals and then can change aspects because it is in a controlled environment and we can study the response," he says. Taylor's research on fractals also has implications for other fields, such as medicine where analyzing fractal patterns can help with tumor analysis, or psychology, where such patterns can provide insight into human behavior.

CAS Associate Dean of Natural Sciences Nilendra Deshpande believes some of the physics department's strongest areas, in addition to those of Donnelly and Taylor, are high-energy physics, biophysics, astrophysics, and optics. "It is not a large department, so it has focused its attention on certain areas. And in those areas, it tries to be the best in the world, and optics is one of those areas," he says.

According to the UO Center for Optics, the field of optics is defined not by a specific set of physical phenomena, as are

many fields in science, but rather by certain "enabling technologies," the most important one being the laser. By studying lasers and related technologies, UO physicists are making significant advances in technology. For example, professor Thomas Mossberg's research has helped pave the way for vastly improved products for the data storage and telecommunications industry. A \$1.5 million federal grant is currently enabling UO physicists to lead a three-university effort aimed at developing an advanced micro-processing device called a "quantum logic gate," which could allow for a number of cutting edge technological advances such as unbreakable encryption.

The physics department's strength lies in its forward-thinking faculty and research and the students who join the momentum. Alex Stange is a senior math and physics major who has worked in Donnelly's lab since June 2000. "The greatest asset of the physics department is its people; the professors who research and teach and the undergraduates and graduates who experiment," he says. "Over the years, Willamette Hall has become sort of a giant home for me, and I'm glad for it."



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## CAS NEWS

## Career Tracks

Jobs for the Future and the Alumni Who Are Doing Them  
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For today's graduates, as well as people contemplating a career change, the job market is brimming with opportunities. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that between 1998 and 2008, employment will rise from 140.5 million to 160.8 million and the economy will grow by nearly \$2 trillion. Just what kind of employment opportunities will this create?

According to Larry Smith, director of the UO Career Center, two important influences regarding career area growth are technology and the population demographics of the U.S. and the world. "Technology advances in the biological area and computers will continue at a fast pace. In the U.S. in the next ten years, the proportion of retired persons will grow dramatically. The seniors will need additional health services, travel and recreational pursuits," says Smith.

A recent U.S. Department of Labor report echoes Smith's opinion. The department says the occupations that are expected to grow the fastest include those in the computer industry, such as engineers, analysts and database administrators; and jobs in the services-producing sector, especially healthcare.

Smith says the expanded array of job possibilities will require the application of fundamental skills in new settings with new exciting problems. A solid liberal arts education will be important. He says key preparation includes developing good analytical and communication skills; learning a second language; acquiring computer competence in word processing, spread sheet, data management and the web; and gaining skills in working as part of a team in a group setting.

While the job opportunities are seen as greater, for some the number of choices is almost overwhelming, Smith says. "To take advantage of the choices the need increases to better understand one's strengths, values and goals."

The five alumni profiled below couldn't agree more. According to these CAS graduates, self-insight is important. Their advice to today's graduates: make sure you find something you enjoy and can feel passionate about.

[Ed Colligan '83](#)

Senior Vice President, Sales and Marketing Handspring, Inc.

[Janel Dalin '91](#)

CAD Engineer Intel

[Chris Kantrowitz '97](#)

Chief Executive Officer The Groove Alliance

[F. Robert Miller '64](#)

Chief Executive Officer Entrepreneurs' Foundation

[Kathleen Weaver '65](#)

Medical Director Office for Oregon Health Plan Policy and Research

**Ed Colligan '83**

Senior Vice President, Sales and Marketing Handspring, Inc.



For nearly ten years, Ed Colligan has been a major presence in building the handheld computing business, helping launch well-known products such as the original PalmPilot. Now, working for his fifth start-up company since college -- Handspring -- Colligan continues to hold the future of technology in

the palm of his hand.

Colligan, who is the senior vice president of sales and marketing, co-founded Handspring with former 3Com Palm Computing colleagues Jeff Hawkins and Donna Dubinsky. At Palm Computing, the trio formed the core team that helped make the PalmPilot one of the fastest selling products in history. With the creation of Handspring, they are ready to achieve this same kind of success again.

"We have an incredible business to build here," Colligan says. "We think the future of personal computing is mobile and

wireless, and we are at the center of the next major revolution in computing."

Handspring's first product, the innovative Visor, reflects Handspring's mantra to keep it small, simple, affordable and connected. The Visor, a personal digital assistant (PDA), is one of the industry's first true plug-and-play consumer products. Its unique Spring-board expansion slot allows users to put in a special card that can extend the Visor's functionality to wireless communications, MP3 players, paging, digital photography, and global positioning.

Colligan, who has been marketing technology products since moving to the Silicon Valley in the mid-80s, says it seems that the people who have the most success in the technology business are those who have a strong combination of technical and business training. But this isn't the only track to success, he says. "I have a political science degree and I know a lot of people who have been very successful in technology without having any technology experience. My advice is pursue this career path if you love it. If you are really interested in doing something, then you will do it well. Make sure the passion is there!"

**Janel Dalin '91**  
CAD Engineer Intel



The evolution of technology is continually changing how we navigate through today's world, both professionally and personally. So, it's no wonder that a recent U.S. Labor Department Report predicts that between 1998 and 2008, the occupations that will grow the fastest are computer-related:

computer engineers, computer support specialists, computer systems analysts, database administrators and desktop publishing specialists.

As a CAD engineer at Intel, Janel Dalin is already on a promising career track. Dalin, who started working at Intel a few years after graduating from the UO with a physics degree, says her job not only affords her good growth opportunities, but it also has allowed her to have a balance between lab work/experimentation and engineering. "I also like the large variety of people I get to work with," she says.

Dalin's work as an engineer in Technology Computer Aided Design involves collecting data through experiments and monitoring of the manufacturing process about photoresist. Photoresist is the material that Intel uses to pattern its chips so

that the circuits can be made. "With the data I collect, I set up models that predict how the process will work under different situations," says Dalin. "This helps manufacturing to better target their process for optimal manufacturing situations."

Dalin says the biggest challenge she faces on the job is continual change. "The materials that we work with are always changing," she says. "Our customer needs are always changing and the quality of models needed is ever increasing. It keeps you on your toes."

### **Chris Kantrowitz '97**

Chief Executive Officer The Groove Alliance



For Chris Kantrowitz, working in the computer games industry is a natural way to combine long-time interests with a career. "I have been in the video games business since the age of fourteen," says Kantrowitz, CEO and co-founder of the Groove Alliance, a company that develops software and games that allow users to play 3D games on the Internet. "There was never any other option. I love this industry and can't imagine doing anything else."

Newsweek, U.S. News and Business 2.0 are among those lauding the successes of this new company. David Bloom, staff writer for the Los Angeles Daily News, described the company's Web site, [www.3dgroove.com](http://www.3dgroove.com), as "the home of one of the niftier pieces of Web programming around, a site that uses a tiny bit of code to create remarkably realistic three-dimensional games."

As CEO, Kantrowitz says he focuses on setting the company's direction and evangelizing its business to the outside world. His record speaks for itself. The Groove Alliance's top two smash games, Real Play and Tank Wars, are on Shockwave.com getting played approximately five million times a month. In addition, the company has shown innovation with its development of 3D Groove, the gaming platform that powers many of its games, as well as a 3D Groove plug-in that more than five million users have downloaded in order to play 3D Groove games.

According to the Occupational Outlook Quarterly (Summer 2000), the demand for video games is growing, as are the opportunities for the people who create them. While jobs change rapidly as new technologies emerge, current occupations include game designers, artists, sound designers, programmers, and game testers. Jobs also exist for producers, intellectual property lawyers and foreign language translators.



For people interested in a career like his, Kantrowitz advises, "Study hard and put systems in place for yourself so that you are constantly educating yourself after school. This business changes so fast and your knowledge can become obsolete very quickly."

### **F. Robert Miller '64**

Chief Executive Officer Entrepreneurs' Foundation



After a twenty-five year career working as president and CEO of a number of successful high technology Silicon Valley firms, Bob Miller has found a new way to direct his leadership energies. Miller is the CEO of the Entrepreneurs' Foundation (EF), a group dedicated to channeling the energy, wealth and innovation of the entrepreneurial sector to continuously enhance the San Francisco Bay community.

Established in 1998, EF is one of a growing number of organizations interested in building a bridge between the for-profit and nonprofit sectors by using venture capital philanthropy strategies. EF accomplishes its objectives by engaging early-stage, start-up companies to develop a culture of community volunteerism and outreach. As participants, companies establish a corporate community involvement program and make a small equity contribution to EF. Half of the contribution funds EF and its long-term philanthropic investments in education and youth development; the company may designate the other half to its own philanthropic programs.

"Our vision is to have thousands of companies engaged in strengthening their local communities, with tens of thousands of employees volunteering their time to nonprofit organizations," says Miller.

By the end of 2000, 73 companies had joined EF and last year, over 6,200 employees had volunteered at 85 nonprofit organizations, Miller says. EF is already in the process of replicating its successful model in other high technology areas throughout the U.S.

According to Experience Magazine, the field of venture philanthropy represents a radical merger between the nonprofit and for-profit worlds -- one that is creating opportunities for young professionals to "do good" while developing first-rate business skills. For seasoned professionals like Miller, venture philanthropy provides a way to give back to the community. "Through EF, I can substantially leverage my organizational

development and leadership skills to have a real impact and to make a difference," he says.

### **Kathleen Weaver '65**

Medical Director Office for Oregon Health Plan Policy and Research



Since the age of five, Kathy Weaver knew she wanted to be a doctor. Today, after nearly thirty years as an internist and now as medical director for the Office for Oregon Health Plan Policy and Research, Weaver has no regrets. "I've never thought of my career as working -- still don't -- because I enjoy it so much," she

says.

For people who want to work in healthcare, the outlook is good. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the healthcare industry is one of the largest job sectors in the country. With an aging population and increased use of new medical technology to diagnose and treat illnesses, health care occupations are expected to grow even more.

Weaver, who also served as an Oregon Health Services Commissioner, agrees. She thinks the healthcare jobs that will grow the fastest are those for mid-level practitioners, such as nurse practitioners, physician's assistants and physical therapists; careers in telemedicine; and careers where specific technical skills may be applied such as radiology imaging.

Weaver also sees an increased interest in a more team-based approach to healthcare with doctors, nurse practitioners and physical therapists working closely together. In addition, there is also a more team-oriented spirit between doctor and patient, she says.

"The healthcare field is very rewarding," says Weaver, "plus you can go and live where you want and have control over your life." She also points out that healthcare professionals are often able to combine multiple interests. For example, you may combine a love of computers with medicine to write electronic journals or combine horseback riding with physical therapy, she says.

For Weaver, moving from private practice to the public sector has offered her a way to expand upon her interest in the socio-economic part of medicine. "While I miss not being one-on-one, I'm able to practice 'population' medicine," she says.

**In 1996, Weaver received the CAS Alumni Fellows Award for her career achievements.**

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### The College of Arts and Sciences Look Where It Can Take You

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**Frederick  
Fraunfelder '58**

Ophthalmologist  
and Professor,  
Oregon Health  
Sciences University

UO Degree:  
General Science



**Penny Martin '61**

Account Manager,  
Microsoft

UO Degree: History



**Santiago Lorenzo  
'02**

Career Aspirations:  
Doctor

UO Major: Exercise  
and Movement  
Science



**Alice Yi Lee '01**

Career Aspirations:  
Pediatrics and  
Family Medicine

UO Degree: Biology

**Karen Scheeland  
'81, M.S. '85**

UO Governmental  
Affairs Coordinator,  
Local Theater  
Director, Actor

UO Degree:  
Theatre Arts

**Jack Liu '74, M.F.  
A. '82**

Photographer

UO Degree: Clark  
Honors College,  
Visual Design



**Della Roy '47**

Professor Emerita  
of Material  
Science, Penn  
State University

UO Degree:  
Chemistry



**Philip Ojo '02 Ph.  
D. Candidate**

Career Aspirations:  
Teacher

Ph.D. Candidate in  
Francophone  
Literature



**Chris Kantrowitz  
'97**

CEO, The Groove  
Alliance

UO Degree:  
Political Science



**George  
Fugelsang '62**

President and  
CEO, Dresdner  
Kleinwort Benson  
North America Inc.

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Political Science