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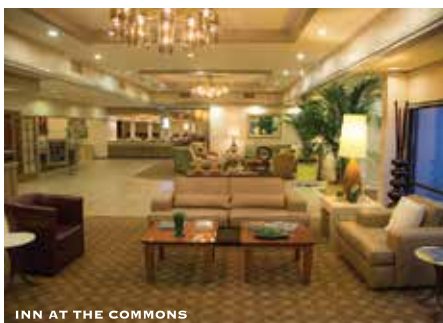
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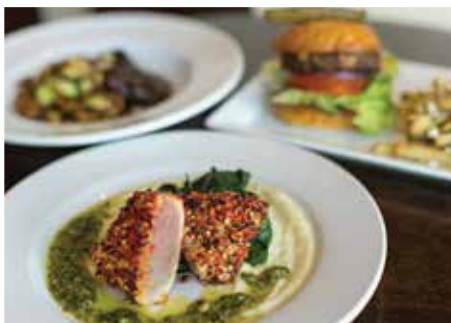
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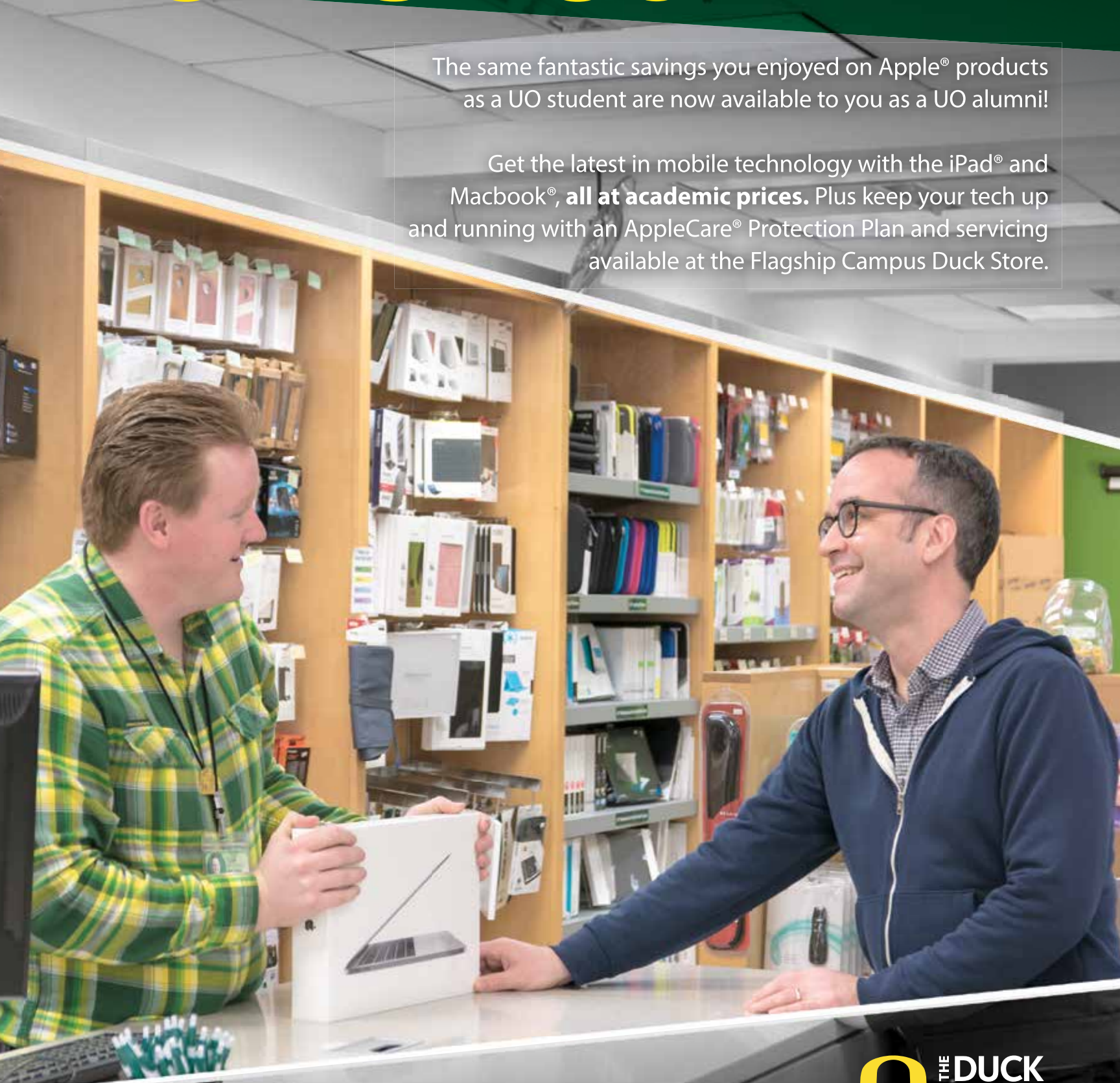


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## The Women of the Moment

Colleagues, friends, and fellow Ducks, Our nation is experiencing an awakening thanks to movements like #TimesUp and #MeToo. For the 53 percent of UO students who are women, I hope this means more empowerment and fewer barriers to using their UO degrees to succeed, lead, and thrive. Of course, we cannot advance society on hope alone. As with anything important, we must focus and prioritize efforts to ensure gender equity and inclusion are woven into the fabric of our university culture. Part of that is celebrating the achievements of the women of Oregon. In classrooms and laboratories, in studios and on basketball courts, in courtrooms, schools, and businesses—the impact of UO women students, faculty, staff, and alumni cannot be denied.

The spring issue of *Oregon Quarterly* also celebrates opportunities on campus—and beyond—for women to thrive. Just look for stories carrying the #uowomen stamp.

Members of the Women in Graduate Science, for example, are driven by opportunity. This organization supports the professional development of women in all disciplines of science, helping them become contributors to their fields. Behind the workshops, outreach programs, and financial support is an eclectic—and electric—team of dedicated young scholars who will make you

as excited about this important work as they are. I can personally attest to how thrilling it was to sit with several of our undergraduate and graduate science students at a recent WGS dinner. They have made—and will continue to make—a mark on our world.

Women at the UO have always played an important role. Please take a look at the article on the forensics program, which has roots reaching back to the founding of the university in 1876; women were essential to the program then—and today they drive the 70-member-strong program.

Our College of Education is one of the best in the nation. In “Food for Thought,” you’ll learn about women faculty members from the college who are researching the important connections among food, nourishment, and child development. Meanwhile, in fascinating research out of the social sciences, Associate Professor Eileen Otis examines Walmart in China and how workers there confront one of the world’s largest companies.

Creating career opportunities and impact undergirds all that we do at the University of Oregon. In this issue I am proud to share a wonderful success story from the School of Journalism and Communication: Molly Bedford and Ryan Knutson, both students there in 2006, met and later married, and today work for the *New York Times* and Dow Jones, the parent company of the *Wall Street Journal*, respectively.

From the classroom to the laboratory and on to careers, we must continue to ask ourselves what more can be done to remove barriers and ensure women in the UO community are able to reach their full potential to learn, discover, innovate, lead, and succeed. Thank you for supporting this critical work.

Michael H. Schill  
President and Professor of Law

# Oregon

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# 22

**DEPARTMENTS**

**DIALOGUE 6**

- 6 From the President
- 10 On the Homepage
- 12 Letters

**INTRO 15**

- 16 Campus News
- 20 Food for Thought
- 22 Triple Crown
- 26 Unrest in the Aisles
- 28 Profile: Leif Karlstrom
- 29 Bookmarks
- 30 The Best...Life Lesson
- 32 Lynda Lanker's Portraiture

**OLD OREGON 47**

- 48 Stephen Gillett, Tech Wizard
- 52 Love and Journalism
- 54 Class Notes
- 54 Class Notable: Robert Garratt
- 59 Class Notable: George Glass
- 66 Duck Tale: A Mountain of a Man

**FEATURES**

34

**THE ART OF ARGUMENT**

UO forensics is as old as the UO—and as new as a fresh crop of dazzling debaters. Through mock trial and more, students cement our lofty national standing, case closed.

**BY BONNIE HENDERSON**

40

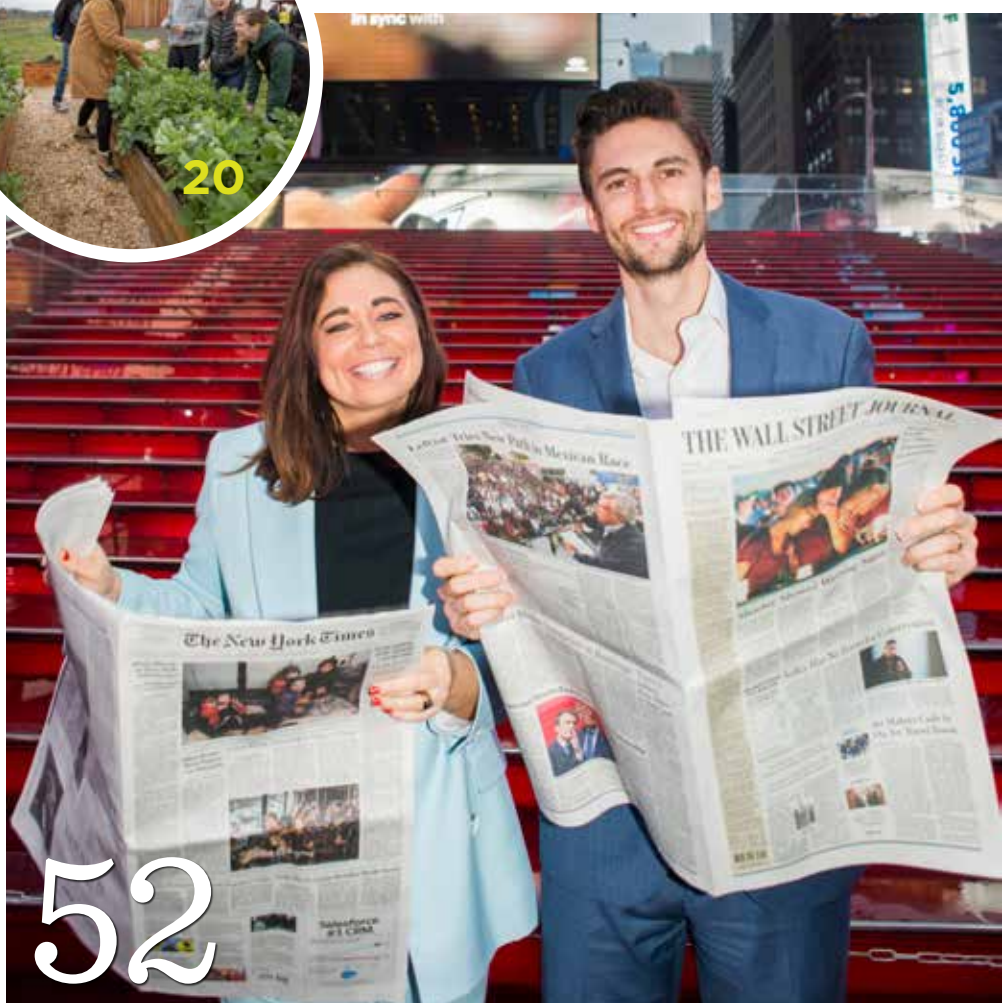
**WOMEN IN GRADUATE SCIENCE**

From the classroom to the community, a colorful cadre of women scientists is breaking down barriers to female achievement in labs and careers.

**BY LAURIE NOTARO**

**ON THE COVER**

Women in Graduate Science leaders (left to right) Lisa Eytel, Andrea Steiger, and Michelle Massaquoi are among those changing the game in an overwhelmingly male profession. Photo by Charlie Litchfield, University Communications.



PHOTOGRAPHS: CHARLIE LITCHFIELD (TOP) AND CHRIS LARSEN (MIDDLE), UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS; ANDREW SENG, BA '15 (JOURNALISM), BOTTOM



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# AroundtheO



Spring is in the air, and our verdant campus is abuzz with opportunity. In this issue of *Oregon Quarterly*, we explore the opportunity to tap enriching academics, get a foothold in a promising research career, or investigate social issues on the other side of the planet. The common thread to many of these stories is that they're being told by and about women—students, faculty members, and alumni who seize opportunities at the UO to excel in school and life.

As the reader, you also have an opportunity—namely, to see more sides of the university's story than can be squeezed into these pages. Visit the UO homepage for a number of gems, including a few mentioned here.

—GEORGE EVANO



## WELCOME TO THE ROUNDTABLE

Students—past and present—share insights about the needs and experiences of our Black community in a candid and wide-ranging discussion that was part of Black History Month observances in February. Says one: "You're here for a different purpose, not here to explain your blackness."

[around.uoregon.edu/BHMRoundtable](http://around.uoregon.edu/BHMRoundtable)



## RESEARCH IN THE FAST LANE

Ground has been broken on the Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact, which will fast-track the process of turning discoveries into innovations when it opens in 2020. The revolutionary project also just received a \$20 million funding boost from the state.

[around.uoregon.edu/knightcampusgroundbreaking](http://around.uoregon.edu/knightcampusgroundbreaking)



## UO 360 OFFERS VIRTUAL REALITY

Not all prospective students can visit the UO campus, so this year the UO is visiting them. Through the medium of virtual reality, students can download an app, load their smartphone into custom "Duck's-eye-view goggles," and explore the UO in an immersive, 360-degree visual experience—without leaving home. All students admitted for fall receive the high-tech headgear, so they can view everything from research labs to campus life to riding behind the Duck on a Harley as he roars into Autzen Stadium. Download the app and see the videos:

[360.uoregon.edu](http://360.uoregon.edu)



## MAMMOTH TRACKS

In south-central Oregon, earth sciences professor Greg Retallack found what appear to be the 43,000-year-old "trackways" of adult, juvenile, and infant woolly mammoths. It could be a window into family dynamics—one of the ancient animals appears to have been limping, and signs suggest younger ones returned repeatedly to its side, perhaps out of concern.

[around.uoregon.edu/mammoth](http://around.uoregon.edu/mammoth)



## ONE-TWO PUNCH

What killed the dinosaurs? Scientists have long debated whether a massive meteor or volcanic eruptions were responsible for the global die-off. According to earth sciences researchers Leif Karlstrom and Joseph Byrnes, the answer appears to be both.

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Alex Harding BS '13  
Lori Ferraro BA '94



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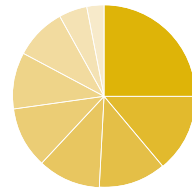


Don Rainer BS '89  
Mary Faulkner BA '91  
Brad Houle MBA '95



George Hosfield BS '79, MBA '82  
Ralph Cole BS '89

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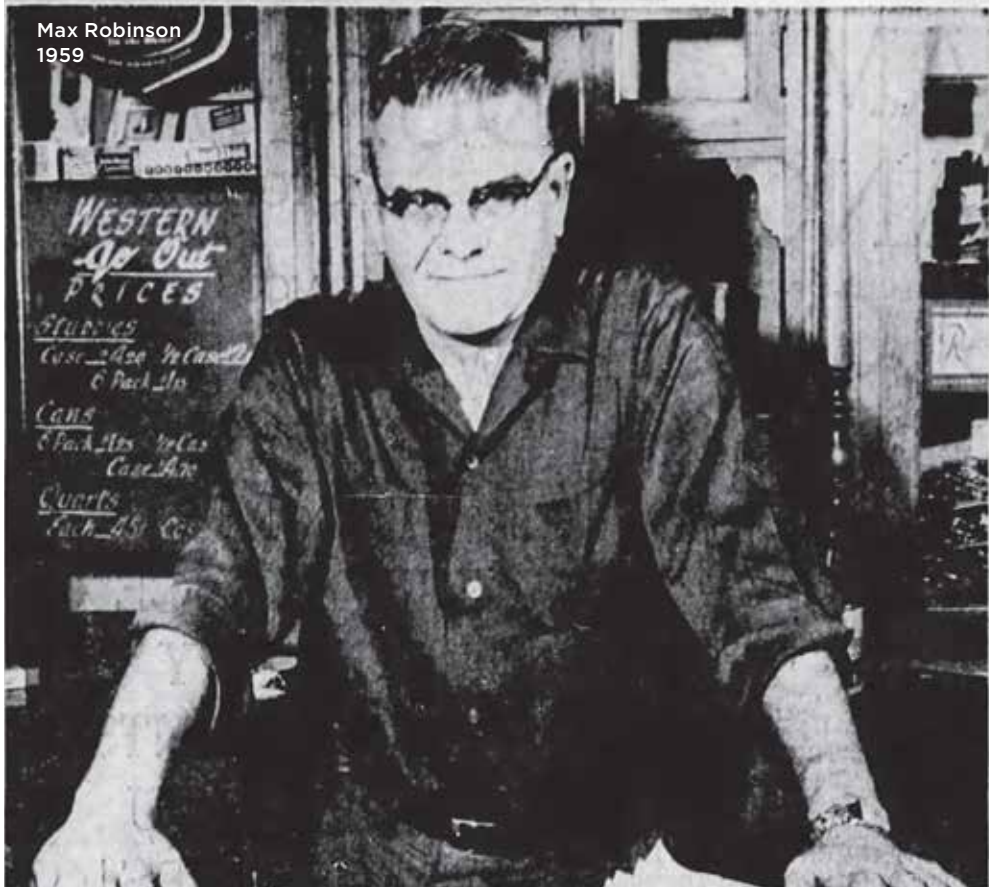
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zone started at Kincaid, went west and south to 13th Avenue, then went back up 13th to the block past Max's. It turned south to 14th avenue, then west, leaving Max's notched in a safe haven just a couple blocks from the university.

When Max Robinson died, his memorial service brought an overflow of hundreds that included ex-students and a fair percentage of Oregon's lawyers and judges.

I feel fortunate to have been a part of those good times on 13th Avenue. And yes, I sometimes wonder, where have all the dimers gone?

**Bill Landers, BS '54 (history)**  
Milwaukie, Oregon

### Remembering Professor Paul Dull

*Many readers responded to John Gustafson's Duck Tale about history professor Paul Dull, "A Forceful Lecturer, a Dedicated Teacher," in the Winter 2018 issue. Here's a sampling; the full letters appear at oregonquarterly.com.*

I was in Paul Dull's Far East in Modern Times class in the academic year 1959. Professor Dull inspired me and sent me on my way to be a teacher, hoping to inspire students as he inspired me. I was a Korean War veteran who had spent time stationed at Pearl Harbor. We had long conversations about this event and the status of the territory of Hawaii and its progress toward statehood. A great man, teacher, and a person I called a friend.

**Walt Hull, BS '59 (secondary education)**  
Clackamas, Oregon

I was a member of Paul Dull's Far East in Modern Times class in 1960 and 1961. I remember his annual December 7 Pearl Harbor lecture and how he had encouraged his wife to come to Honolulu, the safest place in the world. I also remember him telling us once the Japanese attacked, he was ordered to go to a certain place and bring his weapons. He did not have a weapon per se; he had a card table, a dictionary, and, I believe, a golf club. He was also a friend of James Michener, and guess who once came to lecture? Truly a young life experience to have been in his class.

**Carolyn Blume, BA '61 (foreign language)**  
Portland, Oregon

## Max's Back in the Day

Those of us who graduated way, way back in that other century spend an inordinate amount of time visiting the archives of our minds. For me, that journey is sometimes to that great institution associated with the University of Oregon in the pre-World War II era and on through the '40s, '50s, and early '60s: Max Robinson's Tavern, or Max's (never Maxie's). For many of us it was a welcoming and comforting retreat from long, grueling hours in the library seeking enlightenment and truth. You would enter through that glass-paned front door into the long, narrow room filled with large, high-backed, wooden booths jammed with scholars drinking dimers—the 10 cent beers in a glass that looked like they came from early Coca-Cola ads. It was a room designed for serious drinking and loud conversations. No pinball machines. No shuffleboards. No pool tables.

Max Robinson graduated from Oregon's School of Law during the Great Depression. After passing the bar and not finding work as a lawyer, he opened his tavern and became the city's best bartender from whom to seek advice.

He was always stationed behind the bar to your immediate right as you entered, and would ask to see your ID. Unless, of course, he had checked you anytime in the past 20 years. Max had a phenomenal memory. One day I walked in, years after leaving school, and he greeted me with, "Hi, Bill."

At 6:00 p.m. every day, Max would close the taps. On his public address device, he would announce, "OK, everybody . . . home for dinner."

It was a testament to Max's scrupulous attention to ID checking and his connection to the law-and-order establishment of the community (his law degree didn't hurt) that when the scandal of out-of-control drinking one warm spring Mother's Weekend (cases of beer passing out of the windows at Taylor's and students drinking in the street at the College Side Inn) brought on the establishment of a dry zone around the campus, Max's dodged the bullet.

The dry zone was primarily aimed at the College Side Inn and Taylor's at East 13th and Kincaid, the western edge of the campus. The



John Gustafson's memories of Professor Paul Dull rekindle my own about a superb teacher and man. For me, two classes in Chinese and Japanese history with Professor Dull led to a master's in Asian studies, a five-year Air Force assignment in Japan, and 27 months in Korea. He was intimately familiar with Japan, based upon his travels in Asia before World War II and the insights he gained as a Marine Corps second lieutenant who had been stationed at Pearl Harbor for only three days before the attack. When the smoke cleared, he and a US Navy bosun's mate explored one of the miniature submarines to learn everything possible about the boat. After the war, as part of the occupation staff, one of his major accomplishments was to develop an index for the proceedings of the war crimes trials. His famous third question on exams caused great concern for some students and gave others great advantage: "Based upon your outside reading since the last exam, present and answer a substantive question." After Professor Dull died, I wrote a letter to his wife, telling her how influential he was in my life. Her response was interesting. She said that her husband actually was concerned that his teaching would influence students. In my case, he certainly did that.

**Cal Taylor, BA '63 (history)**  
Olympia, Washington

I, too, studied with Professor Dull and was his teaching assistant-grader in Far East in Modern Times as a graduate student. Professor Dull directed my master's essay on late 19th century China, and was a major factor in my decision to pursue a doctorate in East Asian studies at Columbia University. I arrived at the University of Virginia to teach East Asian history in the fall of 1968, retiring in the spring of 2012. I agree with John Gustafson when he writes that "Professor Dull was an inspiration to us and many other Oregon students, and that continues to this day."

**Ronald G. Dimberg, BA '60 (Asian studies),  
MA '62 (interdisciplinary studies), MA '62 (history)**  
Charlottesville, Virginia

Paul Dull and The Far East in Modern Times was by far my favorite professor and class. I remember he insisted that we properly pronounce the Chinese letters, especially Gs and Ks. Learned so much from him, which inspired my love for history and political science.

**Pat Leonard Davis, BS '55 (speech)**  
Portland, Oregon

**We want to hear from you.** Submit your letters at OregonQuarterly.com, by email to quarterly@uoregon.edu, or by mail to Editor, *Oregon Quarterly*, 5228 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-5228. You may also post comments online at OregonQuarterly.com. Published letters may be edited for brevity, clarity, and style.



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# intro

## HAIR APPARENT

*Don't Touch My Hair: Expressions of Identity and Community* explores the politics of hair and racialized beauty standards. Students such as Jaria Martin (left), a family and human services major, agreed to portraits for a show continuing through May 13 at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art. Contributing photographer Jasmine Jackson, a journalism major, called the show “a public service announcement for those who never understood why touching someone’s hair without consent might be taken offensively.”



PHOTOGRAPH BY UGOCHUKWU AKABIKE (ART)

## An Ivory Oscar

**I**t was a long time coming, but alumnus James Ivory finally has an Academy Award of his very own.

The 1951 graduate (BA, architecture and fine arts) won the Oscar for best adapted screenplay for the film *Call Me by Your Name*, during the 90th Academy Awards in March.



Over the years, Ivory coauthored, produced, and directed numerous critically lauded films that garnered more than 30 Academy Award nominations and

six statuettes. He received Best Director nominations for *A Room with a View* (1985), *Howards End* (1992) and *The Remains of the Day* (1993). But the screenplay award was Ivory's first Oscar in an individual category, making him—at 89—the oldest winner ever.

“When it comes time to write an adapted screenplay, there are advantages to having been a director,” Ivory said, during a recent visit to campus to screen *Name*. “You have the book in hand. There is the dialogue, there is the setup, there is the emotion for the scene. Basically, it’s all there in front of you, but you have to reorganize it somehow.”

Ivory, who grew up in Klamath Falls, earned a master’s degree in filmmaking from the University of Southern California.

Other Duck alumni among the academy’s honorees included Richard Hoover, BA ’80 (fine and applied arts), who shared an Oscar for Best Visual Effects on *Blade Runner 2049*; Bergen Swanson, BArch ’96 (architecture), who served as an executive producer for *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*, which collected awards for Best Actress in a Leading Role (Frances McDormand) and Best Supporting Actor (Sam Rockwell); Jake Swantko, BA ’11 (journalism: electronic media), who served as director of photography and associate producer on *Icarus*, winner for Best Documentary Feature; and Dennis Gassner, BS ’71 (fine and applied arts), who was nominated in the category of Best Production Design for *Blade Runner 2049*.

## Stars of the Sea

**I**t looks like it came from outer space, but the basket star (*Gorgonocephalus eucnemis*) is a relative of sea stars and lives on rocky reefs off the Oregon coast. This adult measures 13 inches across and includes a juvenile (visible on the adult’s central disc); biology graduate student MacKenna Hainey collected it last year while on the *Pluteus*, the university’s research ship. Hainey studies basket star feeding and respiration and houses one of her study animals at the Charleston Marine Life Center. This public museum and aquarium is run by the university’s Oregon Institute of Marine Biology and serves as a resource for the institute and UO students. The center, which turns two in May, has introduced 27,000 visitors to the state’s rich diversity of marine life and UO research.



### DAY FOR DUCK DONATIONS

What do Ducks do? For one, they mark their calendar for May 17, the UO’s third annual #DucksGive celebration. For another, they take part in this 36-hour grassroots philanthropy event, flocking together to meet fundraising challenges and unlock matching gifts. Last year, Duck donors exceeded the goal of 1,876 gifts (a nod to the year the UO was founded) and the Black Alumni Network raised nearly \$19,000 for the UO’s new Black Cultural Center, through more than 90 gifts and a surprise stretch challenge. Construction on the center begins this summer. For more, visit [ducksgive.uoregon.edu](http://ducksgive.uoregon.edu).





PHOTOGRAPHS CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: OSHU AKASHI, JACKENSON MAINY, DAVIDA BACH, AND ARIAN WHITTAKER, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

It's the Year of the Dog in the Chinese zodiac—if a canine shows up on your doorstep, it's good luck. This particular pooch isn't going anywhere, though; the 10-foot-tall bronze casting is on exhibit through June 24 outside the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art. It's one of a dozen sculptures on display by Ai Weiwei, the dissident Chinese artist whose series—*Circle of Animals/Zodiac Heads: Bronze and Gold*—also includes a snake, horse, dragon, and more. Millions have seen the series since its launch in New York City in 2011, making it one of the most viewed sculpture projects in the history of contemporary art.

## OREGON'S NEWEST PIONEERS

The UO on May 17 will recognize three exceptional alumni with the Pioneer Award. Each year since 1979, the university has celebrated select Ducks as pioneers who display leadership in business, philanthropy, and community service.

Honored this year:

Joseph Robertson, MD, MBA '97 (general business), who has been president of Oregon Health & Science University since 2006.

Under his leadership, OHSU experienced unprecedented growth in facilities, personnel, and an expansion of service to every part of the state.

Amy Kari, BA '82 (art history), has been deeply involved with the UO as a volunteer, mentor, and member of the UO Foundation Board of Trustees. Her husband, Ross Kari, BS '80 (mathematics), MBA '83 (finance), has also been a generous donor and volunteer, and serves as a UO trustee. Proceeds from the event at the Portland Art Museum will support Pioneer Award Presidential Scholarships—highly selective, merit-based awards for UO undergraduates from Oregon. Visit [giving.uo-oregon.edu/pioneer](http://giving.uo-oregon.edu/pioneer) to learn more or contribute to the scholarship endowment.



## Tuning In to Adolescent Brains

Puberty is tough—raging hormones, sexual awakening, emerging independence, exposure to alcohol and drugs—but interventions during this pivotal period can set teens up for long, happy lives.

So says Nick Allen, an Ann Swindells Professor in the Department of Psychology, in research published recently in the journal *Nature*, with colleagues from the University of California, Berkeley.

The scientists say the teen years warrant more attention. Incorporating the latest research on the changing adolescent brain with investments in health, education, and well-being could pay off over a lifetime, Allen says. Two goals would be the early recognition and treatment of mental health issues and the promotion of gender equality.

These investments could go to tools and services provided by schools, law enforcement, welfare agencies, family-support networks, and sports and recreation. In lower-income countries, secondary education, especially for girls, should be made available, along with commitments to reduce exposure to HIV, famine, and child-age marriages.

The researchers see a triple dividend. Adolescents would get direct support in navigating their teen years. They would be in better shape as adults. And those successes would benefit the next generation as today's teens become parents.

## Bach Fest's New Glass

Composer Philip Glass changed modern music with expansive minimalist soundscapes and compositions that power forth in hypnotic cascades. He performs at the UO and the Oregon Bach Festival July 11, and stays for the Northwest premiere of his Piano Concerto No. 3, performed by chart-topping pianist Simone Dinnerstein and the OBF Orchestra. Also featured: The Rodney Marsalis Big Brass July 7, and of course, bountiful Bach. The festival launches June 29 with his beloved Brandenburg Concertos. See [oregonbachfestival.com](http://oregonbachfestival.com).



## Gifts for Faculty, Students Boost Campaign

**D**riven in part by gifts to attract and retain the very best academic minds, the UO's fundraising campaign has now reached nearly 90 percent of its \$2 billion goal.

In March, UO benefactor and irrepressible philanthropist Lorry I. Lokey (above) said he'll infuse the upcoming Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact with \$10 million to fund up to five faculty chairs, and he's urging others to join him.

"The future is science," Lokey says, "and it's imperative that the UO builds for it. Phil Knight has put his generous gift of \$500 million on the line to get it going. It's mandatory that the rest of us chip in and make the UO a West Coast center for science education, research, and development."

Previously, UO president Michael Schill allocated a portion of a \$50 million anonymous gift to match \$1 million investments in Faculty Excellence chairs, one for each school and college (and three within the College of Arts and Sciences). These recent gifts have created the first three:

- **CHARLES H. LUNDQUIST COLLEGE OF BUSINESS** Suanne, BS '64 (psychology) and Grant Inman, BS '64 (economics), to secure professors who can best inspire innovation, entrepreneurship, and leadership.
- **SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE** Virginia and Tim Foo, MM '68, DMA '73 (music education), a faculty chair named in honor of Edmund Cykler, a longtime, revered music professor known as a bridge builder.
- **CAS/BIOLOGY** Carol Ezeir and Ned Robert, BA '69 (biology), MD '73, in gratitude for providing Robert with a solid foundation for his success as a cardiologist and to help CAS build an even more outstanding faculty.

Gifts have also been pledged to assist students. In thanks for the knowledge imparted by his mentor, chemistry professor John Keana, Dennis Beetham, MS '67 (chemistry), and his wife, Janet, gave \$1 million in Keana's name to support graduate students in chemistry.

"Janet and I had to work to pay for our education," Beetham says. "We strongly believe in helping deserving and committed students along their educational career paths."



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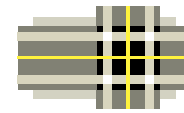
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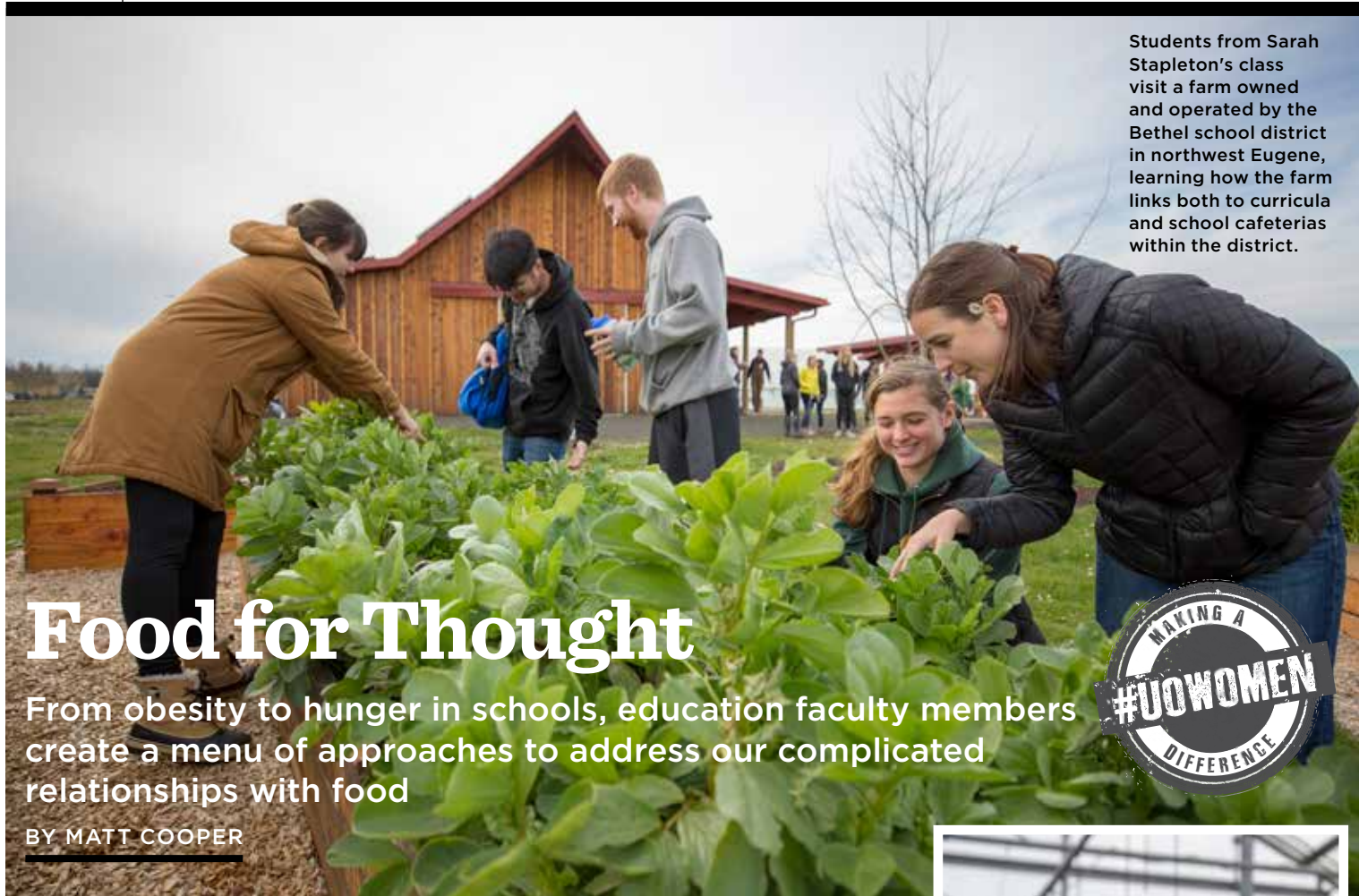


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Students from Sarah Stapleton's class visit a farm owned and operated by the Bethel school district in northwest Eugene, learning how the farm links both to curricula and school cafeterias within the district.

# Food for Thought

From obesity to hunger in schools, education faculty members create a menu of approaches to address our complicated relationships with food

BY MATT COOPER



A free school lunch might be the one reliable meal each day for the kids of 3 million low-income US households. But is it even edible? Not always.

So says Sarah Stapleton, an assistant professor in the College of Education who studies food issues in schools.

Stapleton began her foray into food in schools through her dissertation work, in which she teamed up with teachers in a low-income Midwestern school district to explore the many ways food intersects with schools. Since joining the UO faculty, Stapleton has worked with local school-garden educators and school-food activists to continue researching food in schools.

A nutritious school lunch is essential to the health and performance of our most vulnerable students, Stapleton says—in a new course, she teaches future educators to critically assess what's being served in the school cafeteria. "We must not be blind to our students' most basic and important need: food," she says.

Stapleton, of education studies, is one of several researchers in the college exploring our complicated relationship with food in contexts ranging from brain activity and exercise to preparing

tomorrow's teachers to help kids navigate food issues in schools.

Four recent hires in the college are zeroing in on obesity, which affects more than one-third of US adults and kids.

This team—Elizabeth Budd, Nicole Giuliani, Nichole Kelly, and Tasia Smith, all assistant professors—recently asked parents of children in Oregon grade schools to suggest ways the schools could encourage kids to eat better and exercise more. Most parents gave their schools high marks but said more should be done, according to Budd, who led the project. Improving nutrition standards for school meals and providing short physical activity breaks throughout the school day were the top recommendations.

Smith, who studies food in the community, has also worked with Kelly and Budd in the neighborhoods around these schools. Last year, she received a grant through the UO Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation to examine how well a food access program is working in rural Oregon. The program is a partnership between Whole Foods Market and Oregon's Oakridge community to improve access to healthy fruits and vegetables in rural areas.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHRIS LARSEN, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS



**“We must not be blind to our students’ most basic and important need: food.”**

Obesity is an extremely complex problem without a one-size-fits-all solution, Smith says. For some, healthier diets and more active lifestyles may be the answer; limited access to healthy food hinders the ability of some people to make healthy choices, while others aren’t motivated to exercise or don’t have the opportunity to do it regularly.

Another hurdle to healthy eating: food cravings. Giuliani, who studies the brain’s role in how we control those cravings, recently teamed up with Elliot Berkman, associate professor of psychology, to explore how the brain and emotions interact to regulate temptation. They concluded that cravings can be managed by turning our attentions elsewhere or focusing on the benefits of restraint, such as weight loss. The two also encouraged scholars and health experts to revisit the current thinking on cravings, with hopes of uncovering new strategies for managing them.

Giuliani is currently investigating how parents help cultivate these regulatory skills in their young children, through direct instruction and supportive parenting.

Kelly, a specialist in obesity and eating behavior, also studies the role of the brain in food issues. Specifically, she’s trying to determine whether overeating is associated with the ways we make decisions and manage our behaviors—our so-called “executive functioning.”

She’s found that kids who perform poorly on tasks measuring executive functioning sometimes eat more when given access to a large lunch buffet. Now she’s working with Oregon elementary schools to improve kids’ daily eating habits; reorganizing the timing and structure of recess, for example, might enable kids to make better decisions at lunchtime.

Kelly also studies loss-of-control or binge eating, which is associated with obesity, depression, and eating disorders.

Working with Smith, Budd, Giuliani, and others, Kelly recently delved into a little-researched area, examining loss-of-control eating

in young men who identify as African American, Hispanic-Latino and Asian-Asian American. The results suggest loss-of-control eating could help explain known associations between perceived discrimination and heightened risk for obesity and chronic diseases in some racial-ethnic groups.

Also, Kelly says, “finding ways of helping young men strengthen and explore their ethnic identity may help their health and well-being, including their eating behaviors.”

Budd, meanwhile, dissects the problems of obesity and poor health through one of the remedies—physical activity. She has examined community factors that influence adolescent girls’ enjoyment for physical activity and she teaches a course on public health problems facing both the United States and the world.

For Stapleton, who prepares future teachers to be successful, school food isn’t just a question of health, it’s also a social justice issue.

Her new course, “Food and Schools,” which covers topics such as agriculture, school gardens, and school food waste, also delves into student hunger and the importance of ethnically sensitive meals.

Says Stapleton: “The course broadly focuses on food issues within schools and helps future educators see how their roles can and should connect to food in a myriad of ways.”

In underscoring the importance of community partners to healthy school food, Stapleton coordinates guest speakers and field trips through local

organizations that oversee school gardens, emergency food relief, and farm-to-school programs.

She places her students with schools and community groups for fieldwork, enabling them to see the application of topics presented in the classroom. Students help teach school-garden classes, volunteer in school kitchens, and monitor school meals.

In March, the class visited a farm owned and operated by the Bethel school district in north-west Eugene. Students toured farm fields, gardens, a barn, and a greenhouse, while learning how the farm links both to curricula and school cafeterias within the district.

Stapleton wants more from her teachers-in-training than just an understanding of school food issues. She also wants them to make change—students must develop actual projects to address the problems about which they are learning.

The importance of the work being done in the food and schools class isn’t lost on student Tessa Karbum, of UOTeach, the master’s program for teacher licensure preparation.

School food “is a hugely political issue and deeply affects both the students we teach and their ability to learn,” she says. “The food we choose to serve and how we serve it not only effects our children but our local community and the health of our planet.”

Matt Cooper is managing editor for *Oregon Quarterly*.

Elizabeth Budd, Nichole Kelly, Nicole Giuliani, and Tasia Smith





# Triple Crown

Whether it's speed on the track, fluency in Spanish, or artistry on canvas, Raevyn Rogers is true to her talents

BY DAMIAN FOLEY

When Raevyn Rogers rounds the Bowerman Curve and heads down Hayward Field's home straight, her eyes lock on the finish line in a steely glare, her toned arms swing harder, and she increases her already rapid pace.

Off the track, however, things are a little different.

When she walks past the Erb Memorial Union and heads toward one of her classes, her *ojos* lock on the red brick buildings, her *musculosos* arms swing casually by her side, and her walk is more leisurely than *rápido*.

But the focus is still the same—a Spanish professor is just as demanding as a track coach.

“Raevyn Rogers” is a name well known to track-and-field fans. As a middle distance

runner for the University of Oregon women's track-and-field team, Rogers won six individual national titles, 10 All-America honors, and the 2017 Bowerman Award as the nation's top collegiate female track-and-field athlete. She turned professional following her junior season in 2017. In March of this year, the week before her former teammates competed at the NCAA indoor championships in Texas, she headed to England for the IAAF World Indoor Championships, where she finished fifth in the 800 meters and helped Team USA take home the 4x400 relay title.

But “track star” doesn't do justice to the many sides of Raevyn Rogers. Since the day she first set foot on the UO campus, when she wasn't busy sharpening her track skills at Hayward Field, she was in the classroom,

working on her two degrees.

Yes, two degrees.

When Rogers graduates in June, she will be an emerging track superstar and a double Duck with degrees in Spanish and art.

Rogers grew up speaking Spanish in Texas, a state where almost one-third of the residents are at least conversant *en español*. Her Spanish dates back to first grade at the small bilingual magnet school she attended in Houston, though a second language was far from the main attraction when she selected the school.

“I remember my mom telling me that I chose the school I chose because of the slide at the playground,” Rogers laughs. “Like, this slide was way more colorful and pretty, curvy, compared to the other slides.”



PHOTOGRAPH BY CHARLIE LITCHFIELD, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS (TOP), NIC WALCOTT, BS '16, (JOURNALISM), UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS (BOTTOM)





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Rogers embraced her second language, and it wasn't long before she was being confused for Cuban or Haitian, such was her fluency. When asked about Raevyn's heritage, her mother would simply respond, "No, she's from here, from Texas."

When Rogers accepted a track-and-field scholarship offer from the UO in 2014, Spanish was an easy choice for a major, and the diversity of the UO Spanish department's faculty opened her eyes to many of the language's international nuances.

"It's always interesting, because they're from different places and some of them speak different Spanish," Rogers says. "You may have a teacher that's more familiar with *Spain* Spanish and one that is more familiar with *Colombian* Spanish. I grew up on more of a *Colombian-Mexican* Spanish, and it's always interesting having teachers who teach *Spain* Spanish with different terms and pronouns. The program here portrays Spanish as an art in itself—not just in the language, but in embracing the culture."

Art. That word again. It comes up frequently when talking to the Duck who once chose a school based on the color and design of its slide. Rogers dabbled in fashion design when she was younger, and after starting school in Eugene, found her passion—at least, away from the track—lay less in sketchbooks and more on canvases.

"When I came to Oregon I went through all these career 'wants,'" she says. "I wanted to be a dentist. I wanted to be an orthopedic surgeon. All of this stuff. But then I actually found I'm really good at painting."

Rogers' preferred medium is watercolor, and she has painted more than 10 pieces, including three large canvases. While she is currently known for her blazing fast speed around a track, she hopes her ultimate legacy is something that lasts a little longer than her 800-meter personal best time (a collegiate record of 1:59.10, if you're wondering).

"I want to get my work in art galleries," Rogers says. "I want to expand my name on the art scene. I joke around, but a goal of mine is definitely to get a piece into MoMA. It's a huge goal, and we'll see how realistic it becomes, but that's something I want to push for."

The last time Rogers crossed the finish line at Hayward Field was June 2017, when she anchored the victorious 4x400 relay team at the NCAA outdoor championships. That win sealed not only the national title for the Ducks, but also the first Triple Crown—cross country, indoor, and outdoor championships in the same season—in NCAA history.

Rogers is used to operating in a world of noise—the Triple Crown was sealed to the soundtrack of thunderous applause from the packed Hayward grandstands and powerful claps of thunder that shook those stands as a massive storm rolled in—but art is her peaceful escape, the quiet studios of Lawrence Hall a world away from the chaos of the track, despite being only on the other side of campus.



“When I got to Oregon I discovered more of myself in art, and that’s when it emerged and grew,” Rogers says. “There’s a peace that I’ve found in painting.”

The appeal of art isn’t just in the creativity and peace it offers, either. Art critics and track fans have a lot in common, Rogers observes, and she draws strength from learning how to deal with both.

“You can’t care what people think when you’re presenting your art work to a group,” says Rogers. “Just like you can’t let it get too personal if someone’s rooting for you or not rooting for you. At the end of the day, you’re the only one that’s involved and invested in your own craft. I’m over here putting hard work into my paintings and believing my paintings are going to be great, no matter what anyone thinks. It’s the same with track—if I have a bad race it doesn’t mean I’m not putting in hard work. I’ve definitely become a little bit more relaxed and carefree in some areas. Life’s too short to be thinking about and caring about what people have to say about you.”

Damian Foley is a staff writer for University Communications.

## TRACK SEASON PREVIEW

The University of Oregon women’s track-and-field team won the Triple Crown in 2017, with the indoor and outdoor titles spearheaded by the powerhouse trio of juniors Raevyn Rogers, Deajah Stevens, and Hannah Cunliffe . . . all of whom then turned pro.

So, a drop in form was to be expected in 2018—though “drop” is a relative term when you’re talking about the Ducks.

Although the fifth-place finish at the NCAA indoor championships in March was the team’s worst showing since 2009, they still won the 800-meter title for the third year in a row, and the distance medley relay title, with the fourth-fastest time in collegiate history.

While Rogers, Stevens, and Cunliffe are not around to lead the team through the outdoor season, the Ducks boast a roster that includes eight-time All-American and 2016 Olympian Ariana Washington, six-time All-American Lilli Burdon, five-time All-American Katie Rainsberger, five-time All-American Brooke Feldmeier, five-time All-American Makenzie Dunmore, four-time All-American Alli Cash, and two-time All-American ChaQuinn Cook.

The Men of Oregon, who finished tied for 13th in the NCAA indoor championships, are led this spring by middle distance runners Sam Prakel, Reed Brown, Mick Stanovsek, and James West, and newcomers Joseph Anderson (2017 Pan American Championships 110-meter hurdles bronze medalist), Jared Briere (the nation’s No. 1-ranked hammer thrower out of high school), and Cooper Teare (California 3,200-meter state champion and Pac-12 Cross-Country Freshman of the Year).

—Damian Foley

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# Unrest in the Aisles

A UO sociologist examines labor conditions for Walmart workers in China—and a resistance movement

BY EMILY HALNON

The first time UO sociologist Eileen Otis walked into a Walmart, she was far from home—Kunming, China, to be exact. She was immediately struck by how greatly the Chinese version of the massive retailer differed from its American counterpart.

For starters, she was surrounded by a vast array of fresh local foods, including aquamarine tanks full of turtles and other sea life, open vats of fresh whole fish, and large barrels brimming with great varieties of rice—inventory she wouldn't expect to find on the shelves in America.

Then there was the store's location in Kunming, the modern capital city and transportation hub of China's southern Yunnan province.

The Walmart was integrated into a shopping mall, instead of a stand-alone “box” store like Walmarts on US soil. The marketing appeared to target middle-class shoppers rather than lower-income ones, because Walmart is unable to compete with prices set by locally owned discount stores in China, says Otis.

But most interesting to Otis was the composition of the store's workforce. Dozens of energetic vendors, all hawking different products, crowded the main floor. She describes the scene as reminiscent of the sample carts scattered through the aisles at Costco, except with dozens more vendors. She discovered that, unlike Costco, the sales agents were employed by different companies—none of them Walmart—to drive sales of everything from shampoo to cosmetics to holiday decorations.

The firms that sell products in Walmart hire and dispatch sales workers to the store's aisles and the sales floors of other big retailers. The firms pay Walmart a nominal sum to accept their promoters. Their supervision is the responsibility of department managers—many of whom are overworked, with little time to oversee the sales agents.

When Otis came across the situation with Walmart workers in Kunming, she was intrigued by the unusual arrangement and wanted to know more, especially given Walmart is the largest employer in the US and one of the largest in the world. In 1991, after reaching what Otis calls its “saturation point” in the US, Walmart expanded to China, where it has become a massive force. It is now that country's second largest retailer, with over 400 stores and hundreds of thousands of

workers, directly and indirectly employed.

As Otis dug deeper into the issue, she grew increasingly interested in the interplay between Walmart and the independent sales agents. The issue became her current research project. Otis is writing a full-length book examining how Chinese workers are interacting with one of the world's largest companies.

“I started this research project because I am interested in understanding the labor conditions at one of the world's largest employers and wanted to learn more about how these workers have challenged, accommodated, or reshaped Walmart's labor practices in China,” says Otis, who studies work economy and organizations, among other subjects.

One of Otis' first observations was that the vendors are primarily rural migrants and women. She noticed a contrast between these sales agents and Walmart's official cashiers, greeters, stockers, and managers, who tended to be slightly younger and from more urban locations. “This unusual workforce creates a really interesting dynamic,” says Otis. “You have lots of workers under the same roof who all have different job expectations, wage arrangements, hours—and most of them have no supervisor overseeing their daily work.”

This is a problem for the sales agents, Otis explains, as they are primarily disempowered workers from the countryside who desperately rely on the meager income they earn through their sales.

Working long hours for low pay is a reality for many Chinese workers, regardless of whether they work in manufacturing or service industries such as restaurants, hotels, and retail, the *Atlantic* reported, in a 2013 story. In 1994, China instituted a national minimum wage designed to cover workers' basic living expenses; over the past two decades, however, minimum wages have been dramatically outpaced by inflation. In cities like Kunming, minimum wages can be exceptionally meager, the magazine reported.

Although the independent vendors want higher wages and better working conditions, they don't know how to negotiate or advocate for themselves. Walmart managers capitalize on this, increasingly turning to these migrant workers and women to fulfill store duties without offering them fair compensation or benefits.





“Workers have the most power when they organize collectively, but these Chinese workers don’t have the structural capacity to do that,” Otis says. “They don’t have enough contact with each other to do much in the form of organized resistance or consciousness-raising about the unfair labor arrangements or pitiful wages that they’re encountering in these jobs.”

The problem is exacerbated by the fact that workers do not have the legal right to organize a free trade union in China. “Most of these workers are not even aware that unions exist,” she says.

In some corners of the country, however, workers are organizing. Wildcat strikes and other protests rippled through Walmart’s more than 400 Chinese stores in 2016, catching the attention of global media outlets like Reuters, *Financial Times*, the Associated Press and the *New York Times*.

Otis plans a follow-up visit to stores in the southeast where workers are starting to protest and push back against unjust conditions. She will integrate her observations from this fieldwork into her book, and plans to share her findings about the factors that have

empowered this group of workers to organize and resist.

In an attempt to advertise itself as a company that prioritizes workers, Walmart displays an image of an inverted pyramid of its workforce in stores throughout China.

The image features a store manager smiling beneath a line of “associates.” Yet missing from the pyramid is the sales force, which is formally employed by the firm’s vendors. Otis hopes her research helps people better understand the relationship between Walmart and workers, and consider the company’s influence across the globe.

“Walmart is an enormous company that affects all of us, whether we shop there or not,” she says. “Everybody should be interested in how such a big and powerful company is affecting large populations and should be concerned about the fact that it doesn’t offer fair benefits or wages to so many workers.”

Emily Halnon is a staff writer for UO Communications.



“Workers have the most power when they organize collectively, but these Chinese workers don’t have the structural capacity to do that.”  
**—Eileen Otis**



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## VOLCANO GUY'S GOT CHOPS

Leif Karlstrom's dad is an earth sciences professor who studies the American Southwest. His mom is a violinist with the Santa Fe Symphony.

Exposed to both professions growing up, Karlstrom had no intention of following the career path of either parent.

Turns out, he followed both.

By day, Karlstrom is a member of UO's earth sciences faculty, a specialist in volcanology. He researches the source of eruptions and the way fluids flow, such as why magma either oozes or blasts from a volcano, what governs the recurrence of eruptions through time, and how noise made by volcanoes can be used to probe their unseen inner structure.

By night, he's a violinist. Classically trained, he's played in everything from punk bands to orchestras. While attending graduate school in the Bay Area, Karlstrom helped form a bluegrass group that won the RockyGrass and Telluride music festival competitions, and he has toured Europe and Asia. He still gigs often, including a show last New Year's Eve at the historic Jefferson Theater in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Where most people would see little overlap between science and music, he likens the mental agility needed to connect clues about the Earth's history to that of interpreting a complex musical composition.

"It's as creative an endeavor as the arts," he says. "That's why I'm drawn to science as a profession."

# Leif Karlstrom

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF EARTH SCIENCES

BY JIM MUREZ



## NOT ONE, NOT TWO, BUT THREE

Karlstrom was an undergraduate in the Clark Honors College, attracted by the university's strong music and science programs and the nearby wilderness. He earned a degree in physics—his thesis drew analogies between how flocks of birds interact and how groups of musicians match pitch with each other. He also majored in violin performance, studying under the UO's virtuoso Fritz Gearhart, who taught him techniques that he continues to use. He was only a few credits shy of a math major, so he earned that one, too. But three degrees—all earned in 2006—was as difficult as it sounds. "I think if it came easy to me, I would have quit," he says.

## DEATH BLOW FOR DINOSAURS

A recent paper from Karlstrom and former UO doctoral student Joseph Byrnes has been impactful—perhaps because it's about a six-mile-wide meteorite smashing into the Earth 66 million years ago.

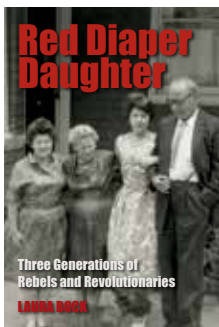
Scientists have long debated whether a meteorite or cataclysmic eruptions wiped out most life on the planet, including non-avian dinosaurs. Byrnes and Karlstrom theorize that the meteorite's violent blow near Mexico triggered volcanic activity at ridges that underlie all of the Earth's oceans. This hypothesis is a new wrinkle in a decades-old debate.

## HIGH ACHIEVER

An avid rock climber, Karlstrom has twice scaled the 3,000-foot monolith El Capitan in Yosemite National Park. For the four- and six-day-long ascents, he slept high above the ground, suspended in a mummy sleeping bag strapped against the sheer granite face. "People think it's crazy and dangerous, but it's not dangerous in the context of everyday life," he says. "There is specialized stuff that you have to know to do long climbs. If you don't know that stuff, then it is dangerous."

## BOOKMARKS

Recent books by alumni and faculty members include an English alumna's reflections on her socialist family, literature in colonial Egypt, a personal account of a social panic, and the roadside geology of Oregon.

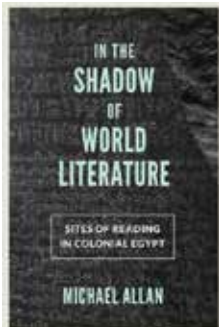


### RED DIAPER DAUGHTER: THREE GENERATIONS OF REBELS AND REVOLUTIONARIES

(SECOND WAVE PRESS, 2017)

BY LAURA BOCK, BA '67 (ENGLISH)

Bock grew up in the late 1940s and '50s, the daughter of socialists in the labor movement and the granddaughter of Russian-Jewish social revolutionaries. She tells stories of her family legacy, the impact of McCarthyism on her childhood, coming of age in the civil rights and antiwar movements of the 1960s, and finding her voice in the second wave of the women's liberation movement of the mid-1970s.



### IN THE SHADOW OF WORLD LITERATURE: SITES OF READING IN COLONIAL EGYPT

(PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2016)

BY MICHAEL ALLAN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

Allan, winner of the Modern Languages Association Prize for a First Book, in *Sites of Reading in Colonial Egypt* makes a momentous intervention into discussions about the global status of literary culture by way of modern Arabic writing, and poses big questions about the nature and operation of literature. He asks how certain forms of writing come to be designated as world literature.

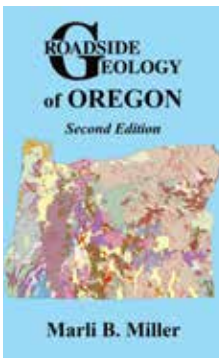


### NOW I CAN SEE THE MOON: A STORY OF A SOCIAL PANIC, FALSE MEMORIES, AND A LIFE CUT SHORT

(SHE WRITES PRESS, 2018)

BY ALICE TALLMADGE, MA '87 (JOURNALISM)

In the 1980s and '90s, a social panic over child sex abuse swept through the country, landing innocent childcare workers in prison and leading hundreds of women to begin recalling episodes of satanic ritual abuse and childhood abuse by family members. In trying to understand the suicide of her 23-year-old niece, a victim of the panic, Tallmadge discovers that what she thought was an isolated tragedy was, in fact, part of a much larger social phenomenon.



### ROADSIDE GEOLOGY

(MOUNTAIN PRESS, 2014)

BY MARLI MILLER, SENIOR INSTRUCTOR OF EARTH SCIENCES

When the first edition of *Roadside Geology of Oregon* was published in 1978, the implications of plate tectonic theory were only beginning to shape geologic research and discussion. Miller has written a second edition based on an up-to-date understanding of Oregon's geology. Photographs showcase the state's splendor while helping readers understand geologic processes at work.



Her exploration of philosophy led Chandler to the conclusion that we shouldn't be consumed by questions we can't answer.



THE BEST...

## Life Lesson

A parent's death prompts a philosophical exploration

**W**hat happens to us when we die? In February 2016, my father died unexpectedly from a heart attack. He was 53 years old. Suddenly, my entire life changed; I had lost my biggest supporter, my most avid teacher, my greatest advocate, and my best friend. Even worse, 2016 was a year marked by many milestones in my young adult life—I graduated high school, turned 18, and began my college adventure. My dad would miss them all.

I went through these events without him, all the while having just one question on my mind: *What happens to us when we die?*

During my first year at the University of Oregon, I took PHIL 211, a philosophy class called “Existentialism”, with Associate Professor Peter Warnek. I had no clue what field of study I wanted to pursue, the class simply sounded interesting. Little did I know it would not only determine the direction of my academic career, but also change my entire perspective on life.

The loss of my dad left me constantly and painfully wondering where he was and what he was doing. Or perhaps, I thought, he was gone altogether. Questioning whether or not my father still remained, in any sense, led me to a dark and disturbed time in my life. But then I discovered existentialism—the philosophical tradition that inquires into our very being as humans. More specifically, the class introduced me to—and encouraged me to answer—questions about freedom, responsibility, anxiety, nothingness, despair, and hope.

BY ELLEN CHANDLER

The greatest thing I learned from the existentialism class was that the question is not necessarily what happens to us when we die. On the contrary, the most important question we must ask ourselves is, *what happens to us when we live?* Rather than focusing on questions we will never have answers to, existentialism teaches us to pursue a meaningful life.

After taking that course, I was certain that philosophy was the track I was meant to take in both school and life.

Since then, philosophy has given me countless valuable gifts. In addition to teaching me skills such as thorough reflection, effective communication, analytic interpretation, social and political awareness, and critical reasoning, philosophy has taught me to appreciate academic rigor and boundless inquiry. What is most important, philosophy has provided me with a profound liberation that offers me a space in which I can challenge the limits of thought. It has allowed me to develop my understanding of the world, and helped me affirm my purpose in life.

My experience in the existentialism class ultimately freed me from myself, and from my past. It opened up an entirely new perspective to me that is utterly invaluable. I am left asking—and forever reasking—*what does it mean to truly live?*

Ellen Chandler of Sisters, Oregon, is a philosophy major and member of the class of 2020.





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# facial recognition



By Alice Tallmadge

**P**ortraiture is not for the hasty of hand or the impatient of temperament. Lynda Lanker knows this to her bones. Her portrait of UO president Michael Schill is the sixth commissioned UO presidential portrait she has painted, and one of dozens of portraits she has created over the years. Most take months. Schill's took more than a year and a half.

"I work slow. I want to make sure I'm right, so when I look at it years later, I can go, Yes. That's it. That's OK," says Lanker.

She takes her time because what she wants to do—has to do, according to her standards—is capture her subject's essence, to express the kernel of selfness that makes the portrait come alive. She works from photographs—her subjects don't have time to sit four to six hours a day, for months on end. Plus, she doesn't like to chat while painting.

Lanker spent weeks deciding on the right color palette for the Schill portrait. She experimented with different perspectives and different moods—no less than 11 studies of Schill are tacked up on the walls of her high-ceilinged, well-lit studio in east Eugene. For Schill's portrait she painted in oil, which Lanker hadn't done for more than a decade. She read books, relearned techniques, and experimented, endlessly.

Her biggest challenge wasn't Schill's face—he has the most wonderful smile, she says—but his black suit. When it comes to oil painting, creating a true black is its own art form. She'd apply what looked to be black paint, but when it dried, it lightened up. She'd wipe it off—she doesn't like thick paint on canvas—and try again. "I kept battling with it," she says. Finally, she discovered the secret of a *black black*.

Lanker made other creative decisions. She wanted to include the line of trees visible from Schill's window, but she straightened the trunks so they would align with the woodwork in his office. She wanted to work from a real tie, so she borrowed a couple of his trademark green ties, draped one on her life-sized mannequin and consulted YouTube to learn how to tie it. She ended up creating her own shade.

Lanker isn't inspired by imagination, but by individuals. "I need a person. I need to respond to the subject," she says. "And if there's character there, it makes my job a lot easier."

Schill's portrait was recently unveiled for a brief, private viewing, but it is now in storage and will remain there until he leaves office.

Alice Tallmadge, MA '87 (journalism), is a contributing editor for Oregon Quarterly.

**Top left: Elladeen Bittner**

Bittner appeared in Lynda's photo book, *Tough by Nature: Portraits of Cowgirls and Ranch Women of the American West*, which features portraits of 49 women ranchers from 13 Western states. Some subjects take a while to relax their formal, social persona and let their personality emerge, but not the women ranchers, Lanker says. "They don't have all those layers of what they're supposed to look like. They live life pretty close to the bone."

**Top right: Michael Schill**

For the Schill portrait, Lanker wanted to capture both the gravitas of his position and his personality. Painting him in a dark suit seated in his formal office conveyed the dignity of his position. His smile hints at another part of him. "He has a playful streak—there's a kid in him that sits very close to the surface," she says.

**Bottom left: Bill Bowerman**

Lanker had planned on using the trademark waffle iron in her 1991 portrait of the legendary track coach, then in his 80s. But when he showed it to her, "nothing was there," she says. It was a different story when Bowerman introduced her to the herd of cows he kept at his rural home outside of Springfield. "I could see him light up—he was smitten with those cattle," she says. Bowerman lived in the central Oregon town of Fossil when he was young. "I realized track had been a part of his life, but now he was returning to his roots. Now he was this old cowpoke."

**Bottom right: Maya Angelou**

When Lanker posed Angelou for a photo to work from in painting the iconic poet's portrait, she had her subject perch on a stool near a window. Angelou, holding a book of her favorite poems, was tired, and closed her eyes. Lanker knew instantly that was the posture she was looking for. "I thought, this is it. It's contemplative, like she's watching over the world, watching over humanity. It's the only portrait I've ever done of a person with their eyes closed." Angelou wrote the forward for *I Dream a World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America*, by Lanker's late husband, the noted photojournalist Brian Lanker.



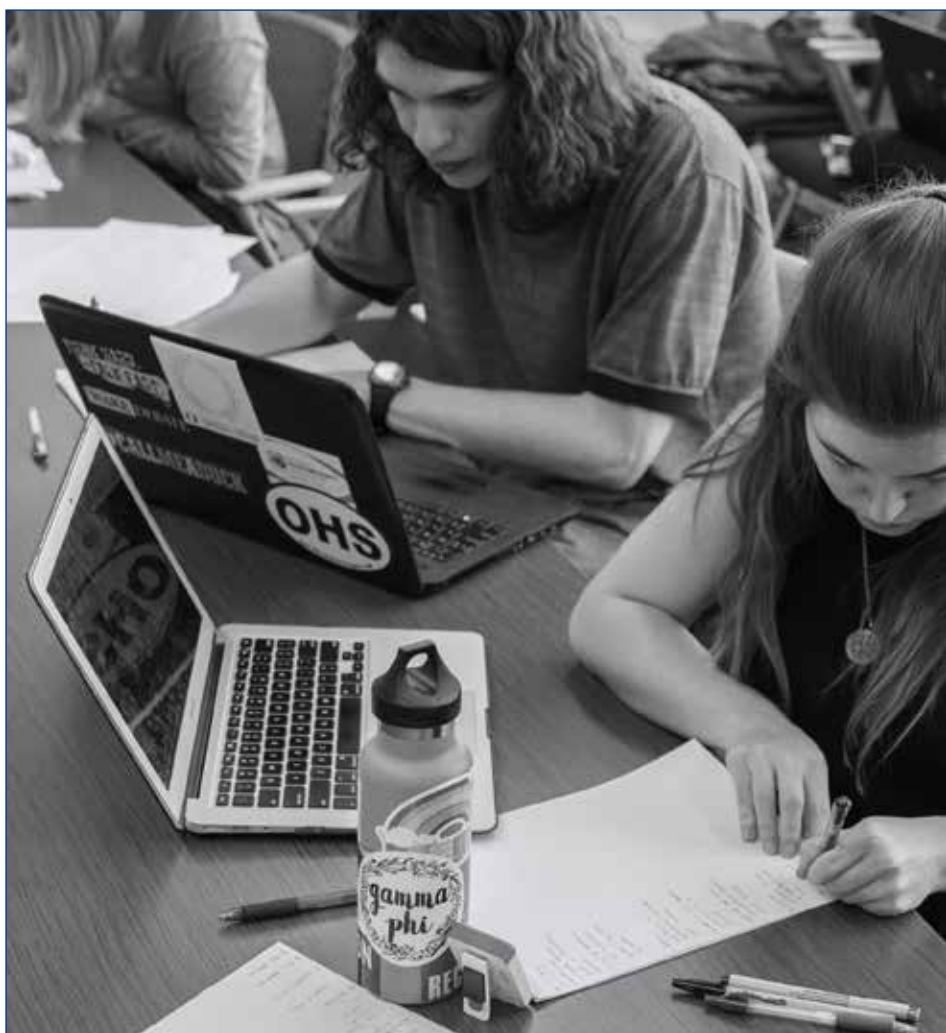
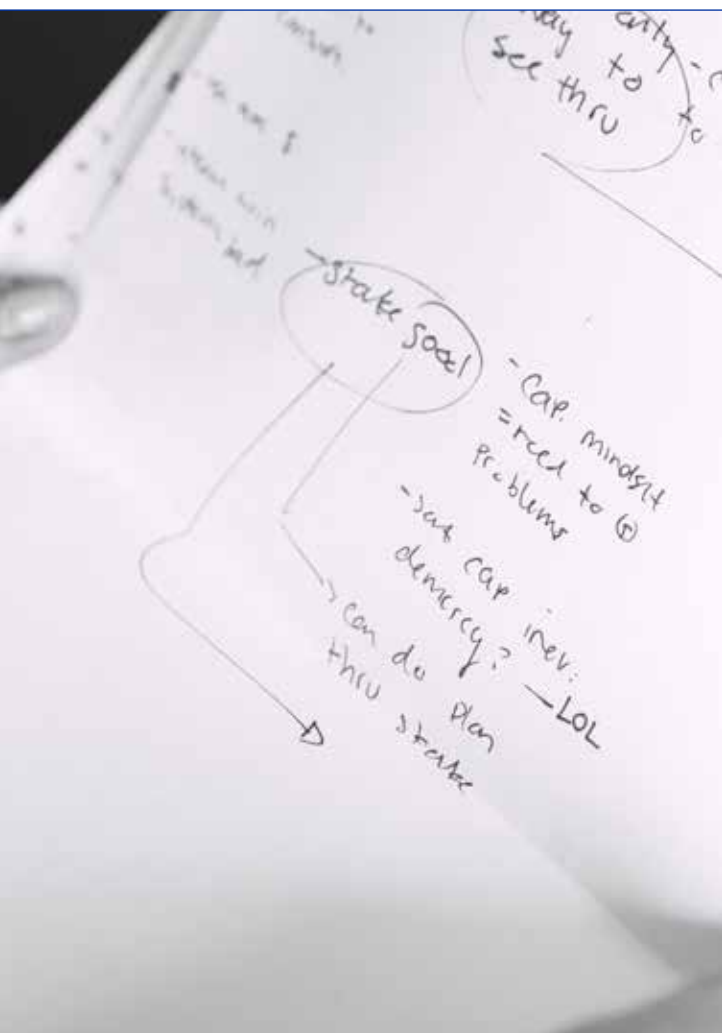
# The Art of argument

Forensics was vital in the early days of the  
UO—and remains so today

*By Bonnie Henderson*







Conrad Sproul looks up from the long table where he and his debate partner, Gracia Dodds, are hunched, side by side, reviewing their notes. It's the first round of the 2018 David Frank Tournament of Scholars in February, a three-day collegiate debating contest hosted by the University of Oregon and drawing 20 teams from six schools across the Northwest. Sproul touches a finger to his phone, starting the timer, and his mouth explodes. "We propose that the US federal government should significantly increase its deployment of next generation military technology in the US military . . ."

Sproul is speaking roughly three times conversational speed—he has just seven minutes to frame and comprehensively support the proposal. He's literally gasping for breath as he gallops through his staccato delivery. Dodds, at his elbow, is a portrait of calm: scanning her notes, jotting new ones, nodding when Sproul makes a particularly salient point. Sproul reaches the end of his argument at the very moment his timer goes off.

There's a short break before one member of the opposing pair—students from Lewis and Clark College—launches into his take-down of Sproul's case. This student speaks almost conversationally, gesticulating for emphasis, his voice rising and falling, much like a lawyer making a closing argument. His reasoning is easy to follow. Fact is, though, he just doesn't seem to have as much to say. And in competitive collegiate parliamentary debate, it matters whether you hit all the pertinent points. At the other end of the table, Dodds and Sproul quietly confer, taking more notes, exchanging glances. By the time the beep-beep-beep sounds and their opponent wraps up, Dodds is smiling broadly, gathering herself for her allotted eight-minute response. Her expression is unambiguous: *We got this.*

Dodds and Sproul are phenoms: freshman debate partners who, only four months into their college careers, trampled nationally ranked juniors and seniors from dozens of colleges to go undefeated at Pacific University's Scheller Forensics Invitational, one of the biggest and most competitive tournaments in the Northwest.

But the freshmen dynamos are not anomalies. They're part of a forensics program ranked among the best in the country, one that is nearly as old as the UO itself, and with as storied a history as any program at the university. In its earliest days, forensics was so popular that it helped fund the football team. It may be the most successful UO program you've never heard of. But there's an argument to be made that, as a Duck, you should sit up and take note.

## FIND YOUR VOICE

Competitive forensics is like public speaking on steroids: individuals or teams from one school pitting their skills of persuasion, argumentation, or advocacy against opponents from another. The Latin root of forensics, *forensis*, means "in open court" or "public."

Participants in collegiate forensics specialize in one of three areas. Dodds, an environmental studies major, and Sproul, of political science, compete in parliamentary-style debate, with pairs of students squaring off on topics of contemporary concern. "Debate has given me the confidence to have a voice wherever I am and whoever I'm talking to," Dodds says. "There are huge critical-thinking skills I've gained that have helped me get significantly better at writing essays and making presentations and even just talking with my professors. It's given me the confidence to be who I am and to be unapologetically present in argumentation and conversation."

Speech, a second area, encompasses a slew of subcategories—extemporaneous, theatrical, broadcast, and many more.

The third area, mock trial, is exactly what it sounds like: teams of undergraduates going head-to-head in a simulated criminal or civil trial. It requires 10-person squads and contests stretch across three hours, unlike debate's series of four- to eight-minute bursts. And unlike the sneakers and hoodies (and occasional profanity) favored by contemporary college debaters, for mock trial think dark suits and "Yes, your honor."

Freshmen debaters Gracia Dodds and Conrad Sproul



“Among large college forensics programs around the country, UO is the only one with more female participants than male.”



Developing skills in mock trial or debate provides an obvious boost to students bound for law school—but they're not the only ones. UO forensics, housed in the Clark Honors College, is a draw for students across campus, regardless of their area of study.

"We have students pretty much across every major," says Director of Forensics Trond Jacobsen, BS '02 (sociology)—"music, biology, computer science, theater, history, anthropology, everything."

## "PART OF THE UO'S DNA"

The UO was not even two weeks old when, in October 1876, student-run "literary societies"—one for men, one for women—held their first meetings in what is today 301 Deady Hall. They sound like book groups, but the societies were debate clubs—among the first in the country. Members met weekly to formally debate the issues of the day, men and women occasionally facing off against each other. Those debates quickly became the biggest cultural events on campus; the societies began selling tickets, spending the proceeds to support the fledgling football team and to buy a stack of books that became the genesis of the UO library's collection.

Forensics is "part of the UO's DNA," says Jacobsen. He cites a long string of firsts: participants in one of the country's first intercollegiate debates (against Willamette University in 1896), participants in the first

# DAZZLING debaters

Generations of UO forensics members have used their skills to impact the world. A handful of standouts:

**Carlton Savage**, BS '21 (history), had a long career with the US Department of State and was part of the delegation that established the United Nations. Among his accomplishments: articulating the legal foundation for civilian control of nuclear weapons early in the Cold War era.

**William Knight**, BL '32 (law), served as a state representative from Douglas County and as district attorney for that county; he later spent 18 years as publisher of Portland's afternoon daily newspaper, the *Oregon Journal*. His children include Nike founder Phil Knight.

**Edith Green**, BS '40 (education), became the second woman elected to the US House of Representatives from Oregon. She helped pass Title IX legislation in 1972, which provides gender equity in higher education funding.

**Wallace Campbell**, BS '32 (sociology), MS '34 (economics), cofounded CARE, a major international relief agency, immediately after World War II, to provide emergency rations to starving people in Europe. He served as CARE's president from 1978 to 1986.

**Donald Tykeson**, BS '51 (business administration), a captain of the debate team, was a communications industry pioneer. He launched what became one of the largest cable television companies in the country, Liberty Communications, and helped found C-SPAN. He was a generous philanthropist, with gifts touching every corner of the UO.



Trond Jacobsen



Niharika Sachdeva



debate broadcast on radio (against University of California, Berkeley, in 1922), first collegiate debate team to make a world tour (1927, a six-month undertaking). The program has had ups and downs—it's 140 years old, after all—but it's on a roll now, with 70 active members. In 2016, UO ranked 19th for mock trial among 650 teams from 350 US colleges and universities; individual debaters Liz Fetherston, BA '14 (Spanish), and Alyson Escalante, BS '16 (philosophy), took top honors nationally in 2014 and 2016, respectively. UO forensics also notched national championships in debate in 2001 and 2009, and a double national championship in 2011, when the UO won two national tournaments.

Jacobsen has directed forensics since 2013, but his involvement stretches back to 1989, when, as a student, he debated for UO all four years. After graduating, he worked in politics and as a law librarian, then headed to the University of Michigan to pursue a PhD in information science. He accidentally stumbled across the job posting at Oregon while, mid-dissertation, he was on a search for professorships in his field.

He inherited a small program whose previous 10-year run had been as strong as any in UO forensics history. Under David Frank—who had been Jacobsen's own director of forensics—UO had won four national championships.

But Jacobsen felt there was room for growth. He was particularly intrigued by mock trial, which at most colleges is only a club activity. Jacobsen made it a formal part of UO forensics; the UO is one of the few universities that materially supports both debate and mock trial, uniting them in forensics. Today, both are strong: five debate teams are travelling to nationals and outstanding recruits are enrolling next fall, while mock trial has grown substantially, with five 10-person teams active in competition.

## LEGALLY SPEAKING

Niharika Sachdeva, a member of the class of 2018, personifies both the value of mock trial and the academic rigor of UO forensics.

Like Dodds and Sproul, the journalism major is a member of the honors college, which also houses the forensics program. That intertwining of the honors college, forensics and top students such as Sachdeva, Dodds, and Sproul underscores the demanding, scholarly nature of the program. Jacobsen notes, for example, that Robert D. Clark, the university's eleventh president and the man for whom the college is named, had been director of forensics.

"Forensics attracts many bright students to the college every year," Jacobsen says, "and many team members are in the honors college."

Sachdeva, who started with mock trial as a freshman and now serves as president, says this area of forensics is a great place to develop confidence in public speaking while learning how to function effectively in a team. "In practice and in competition, you have to learn how to work with the nine people you're on a team with, to know what your strengths and your weaknesses are, to know when to ask for help," she adds. "I think that translates pretty realistically into the real world, as well." For students who, like Sachdeva, intend to pursue a legal career, it's also an opportunity to dabble in the rules of evidence and courtroom procedures—to, as she puts it, "kind of get your toes wet."

Jacobsen says Sachdeva's abilities and attitude have made her a "phenomenal" leader in building the forensics program, in general, and mock trial, in particular. "It's not easy being a leader," Jacobsen says, "and yet she does it with a high level of competence, in a way that makes everyone want to help her and the program succeed."





# tips FOR WINNING TIFFS

Are you going about arguing all wrong? Gracia Dodds and Trond Jacobsen, of UO forensics, offer advice on how to approach—and win—an argument:

## FIND THE VALUE IN YOUR OPPONENT'S ARGUMENT

Asserting “nothing you have said has any merit whatsoever” gets you nowhere, Jacobsen says; it kills the possibility of constructive dialogue and it doesn't tend to win arguments. Instead: identify, absorb, assimilate, and redirect: “You're making some strong points; here's why I think, overall, my argument is stronger.”

## FACTS ARE OVERRATED

“The mistake a lot of people make is to think, ‘I just have to say the one damning fact, and there's no way I can lose.’ That's not true most of the time,” Jacobsen says. You have to be able to back up what you're saying with facts, Dodds adds, but don't lead with them: “If you're just a robot spitting out facts, you're not going to reel people in.”

## APPEAL TO EMOTION

“Let people know that what you're asserting is important, that it affects people,” Dodds says. Appealing to folks' feelings often goes further than dazzling them with displays of logic.

## BUILD CREDIBILITY

Citing authority—one that the other side knows and respects—bolsters your claim.

## READ THE AUDIENCE

Adapt your speed, style, delivery, and even the vocabulary you use to your audience. Assess the opposition, Dodds says: “The way that I might talk to a professor is going to differ from the way I might talk with my parents.”

Since taking over forensics in 2013, Jacobsen has overseen a five-fold growth in participation. He came into the program with a personal commitment to transforming what had traditionally been a male-dominated activity into one equally welcoming to females.

“Having personally experienced the value of forensics, how it furthers the intellectual and professional development of the person, their confidence, their ability to find their voice, I knew I wanted to build a program that would be open, encouraging, and welcoming to women,” he says. Among large college forensics programs around the country, UO is the only one with more female participants than male.

Jacobsen also revived an annual invitational college debate tournament at UO—the aforementioned David Frank Tournament of Scholars—and launched an annual mock trial tournament, the David Frohnmayer Invitational, named for the university's 15th president. (UO forensics also hosts one of the longest-running high school speech and debate tournaments in the country, the Robert D. Clark Invitational.)

That's not all. Jacobsen began the Oregon Forensics Alumni Network, whose fourth annual dinner this year attracted more than 70 attendees and whose donations now enable UO to offer modest scholarships to promising debaters.

A recent gift from former debaters Greg Mowe, BA '68 (mathematics), MA '69 (speech), and his wife Becky, BA '69 (speech)—whose dad Scott Nobles was a professor of rhetoric and UO forensics director in the 1950s and '60s—will support both an existing scholarship in Professor Nobles' memory and establish an endowment for a director's fund.

“That we have people returning to UO 50 years later for this dinner speaks to the team-building you find in forensics, and the depth of those friendships,” Jacobsen says. “It's deeply personal and a big part

of a lot of people's undergraduate experience. It was for me.”

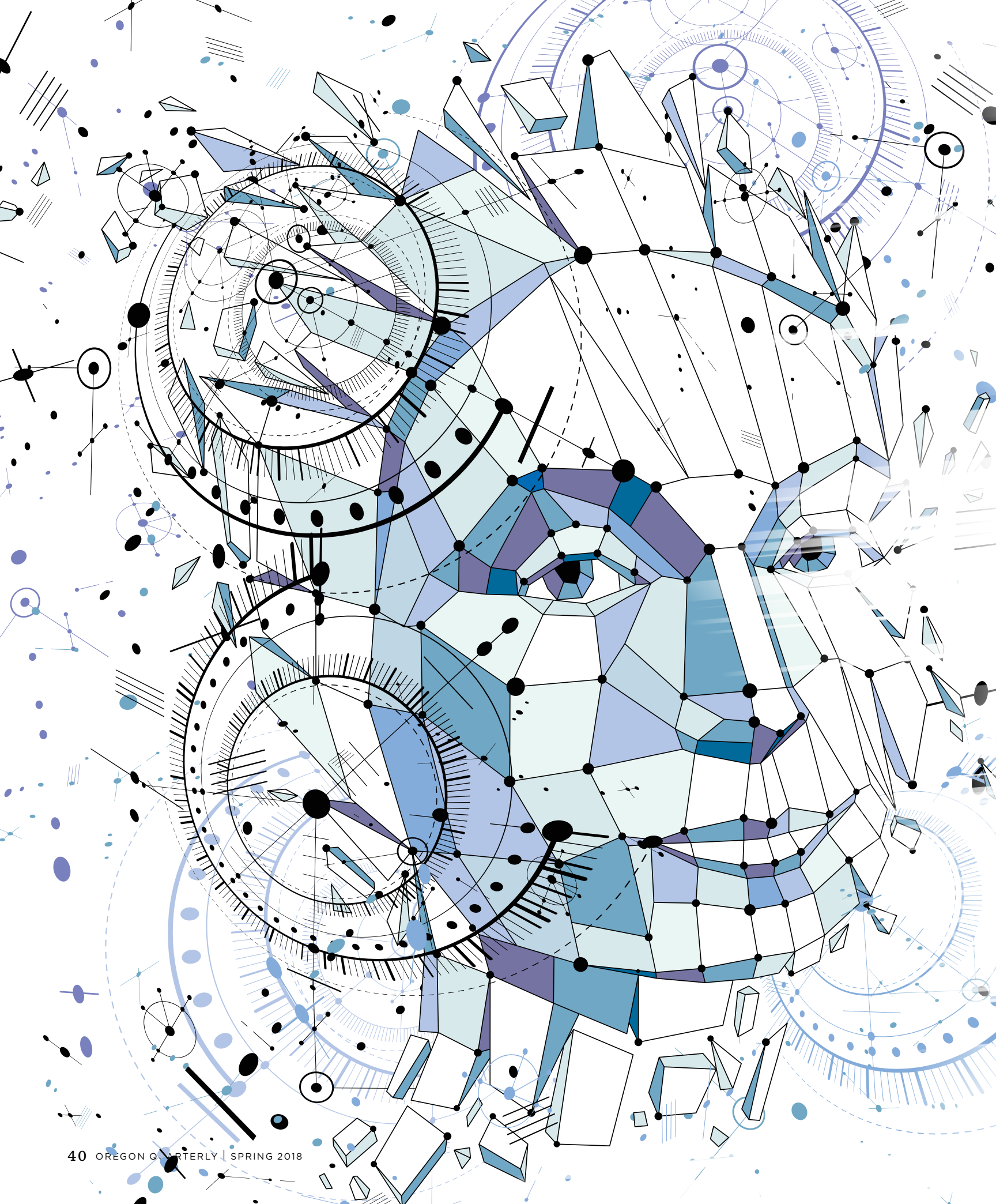
Just as forensics has proven to be for Dodds and Sproul—win or lose. The pair went undefeated on day one of the David Frank tournament but failed to make the finals.

“It's had a really positive impact on my freshman year, because I've had a small group of people that I can always talk with, which I don't think a lot of other students have,” Dodds says. “Debate creates immediate friendships, because you're spending so much time preparing together and half of your weekends together. You're a little bit forced to be friends, but you also have very similar interests; you want to talk about the world and about philosophy. You're learning together.”

“It's never been super-easy for me to make friends; it's just not my personality type,” Sproul adds. “So I really appreciate the sort of automatic social group that debate provides.”

“You never run out of things to talk about.”

Bonnie Henderson, BA '79 (English), MA '83 (journalism), is the author of four books, including *The Next Tsunami: Living on a Restless Coast*.





# PERFECT

## Chemistry

Through outreach, professional development, and more, Women in Graduate Science is changing the game for female researchers today—and those of tomorrow

By **Laurie Notaro**

**Give a child, any age, a piece of paper and a pencil or crayon.** Ask them to draw a scientist.

Chances are very likely that what returns on that paper is a rendering of a white male in a lab coat, wearing glasses.

Lisa Eytel, a graduate student in organic chemistry, has conducted that experiment over and over as the outreach coordinator of Women in Graduate Science (WGS) at UO. Countless times, she's seen the same results. The stereotype has persisted for generations, decades, as far back as history cares to go.

It's not just an image, but a message.

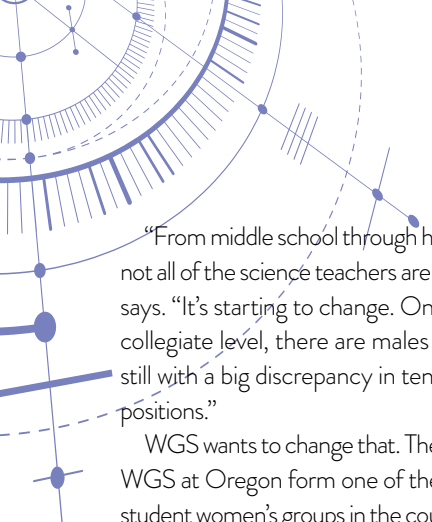
A scientist is a man. A Caucasian man with glasses.

"Sometimes, he might be wearing Birkenstocks, but it's still a guy," Eytel laughs, sitting at a table in the science library café, where the walls reflect written equations and formulas in a bright, attention-grabbing yellow. "Even we catch ourselves—I was at a conference and we were talking about scientists and kept using the male pronoun, 'he.' 'He did this,' and 'he did that.' Why does it have to be a he?"

"Our society has trained us to think that scientists are automatically male, even though"—she stops and looks to the companions on her right and left and says, "—we aren't."

This is not surprising to the two women with Eytel at the table. On Eytel's right is Andrea Steiger, also a chemistry grad student and the president of WGS, and across the table is Michelle Massaquoi, a biology grad student, and the social coordinator for the organization.





“From middle school through high school, most if not all of the science teachers are male,” Massaquoi says. “It’s starting to change. Once you get to the collegiate level, there are males and females, but still with a big discrepancy in tenure-track faculty positions.”

WGS wants to change that. The 150 members of WGS at Oregon form one of the largest graduate student women’s groups in the country. The success of WGS is so uncommon, other university student groups nationwide are seeking directions about how to start and maintain a student women’s science organization of their own.

For Geri Richmond, UO Presidential Chair in Science and winner of the 2018 Priestley Medal, the highest honor of the American Chemical Society, one of the most important things for women who pursue a career in the sciences is “developing a good support system of women and/or men that you trust,” she says. “Use your support group and provide equal support for them.”

When Richmond was in graduate school at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1976, women in the sciences were on their own. Nothing like WGS existed.

“I sort of created my own support group of other women,” she says. “However, most of my female peers didn’t really understand the issues as I did at that time. They certainly understand them now.”

Richmond, a former president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the recipient of a National Medal of Science, cofounded the Committee on the Advancement of Women Chemists in 1998. This grassroots organization encourages women to pursue science careers and supports women scientists across the US and in developing countries. Richmond’s advice for grad students like Eytel, Steiger, and Massaquoi is straightforward.

“Get over wanting to be ‘liked,’” she says. “More important attributes are being respected, trusted, and honest. Be willing to take risks in your science and career. Success in a venture that has uncertainty builds confidence more than one where the outcome is predictable.”

On the first morning of their chemistry recruitment trip to UO five years ago, Eytel and Steiger were sitting together at breakfast when female

graduate students appeared, handing out WGS pens and granola bars with business cards taped to them. They were the only group on campus that came to welcome prospective students, especially women.

“I vividly remember the pen, for one,” Eytel says, in the office she shares with eight grad students and her Jack Russell mix, Rusty. “I loved the fact that there was a group for women in science.”

On a trip to another school, Eytel recognized a clear lack of female grad students in the organic chemistry department, her field of study.

“It was really disheartening to see,” she recalls, rubbing Rusty’s ears, who has just emerged from his den under one of the desks. “And when I

**“And when I asked why there weren’t more women, I was told, ‘Women don’t do organic chemistry.’ I immediately knew I wasn’t going to go to school there.”**

asked why there weren’t more women, I was told, ‘Women don’t do organic chemistry.’ I immediately knew I wasn’t going to go to school there.”

UO became her top choice, and as she defended her undergraduate thesis at Russell Sage College in New York, she kept that WGS pen for the duration.

“It was like my security blanket,” she says, laughing.

Steiger, whose first childhood foray into the sciences involved mixing body lotion into her sister’s shampoo bottle to see the results, kept in contact with those WGS members. They advised her about academic conferences and finding a place to live in Eugene. The WGS approach impressed her so much that, now as president, she and other WGS members did the same thing at this year’s recruitment breakfast. Granola bars and pens are strategic offerings.

In 2005, WGS was established by graduate student Sarah Staggs Wisser, who worked in the

lab of Darren Johnson, a professor of chemistry and NSF CAREER Award recipient. He was writing a National Science Foundation grant proposal and included funding for the group, and has been the faculty advisor since that time.

“The growth of WGS into every science department at UO is remarkable,” he says. “WGS has also grown their organization and maintained many programs without a single paid position. Their activities are all motivated by graduate students who want to make a difference, enhance inclusion efforts at UO, and serve as role models for younger scientists.”

Johnson says WGS has exceeded every expectation he had when he wrote the proposal, noting that the group has attracted the support of donors directly, and had one of their board members invited to serve on a UO president-level committee on strategic planning.

“Their impact on our campus is simply astounding. In the last five years alone, WGS has easily impacted the lives of thousands of graduate students, undergraduate science researchers, and younger future scientists through their outreach and mentoring activities alone,” Johnson says. “I am certain that past WGS members would tell you that if it weren’t for WGS, they would have left science and/or graduate school. WGS makes UO science better, and I am eternally grateful to them for that.”

WGS has three main facets: outreach, professional development, and a social component. Combined, they serve to create a support network for women in the sciences and to institute a curriculum and awareness for future women in science.

Girls start to veer off from the sciences between fourth and sixth grades, Eytel says, “and by seventh grade, they’ve made their decision that they don’t belong in the sciences. They don’t see role models.”

WGS wants to correct that. They coordinate field trips for elementary school classrooms, produce science slams in the spring, and work with local organizations like Ophelia’s Place in afterschool programs for older female students. With their extensive outreach efforts, WGS offers Science Adventure Days—a six-week program on Saturday mornings that covers the gamut from forensics to geology to astronomy—for girls at the exact age when they start to abandon science. Female graduate students staff the program.





The 150-strong Women in Graduate Science, one of the largest graduate student women's groups in the country, is a model for other such groups nationwide.



**“WGS welcomes anyone who supports the advancement of gender equality in the sciences. Faculty members, staff, undergrads, grad students—anyone is welcome.”**

During a recent forensics class, eight fourth- to sixth-graders entered a classroom in Klamath Hall to discover that someone had “stolen” their cookies. They lifted fingerprints, learned about whorls and signatures in the prints, ran experiments on the ink in the ransom note, and by noon, had correctly identified which of the adults standing by was the culprit. On another Saturday, the subject was geology, and the young girl scientists used crayons to represent rocks and explore ideas such as compression. They laughed and shrieked as they jumped on heavy books to increase the pressure on their crayon “rocks,” replicating how sedimentary rocks are formed.

“We are passionate about outreach,” says Eytel, who wants someday to teach at the collegiate level. “A lot of the time, science is long-term gratification. And for me, seeing a community being built and watching young kids get excited about science is an immediate gratification.”

Professional development is also key for WGS, through seminars and workshops on résumé building, identifying personal and professional strengths, and networking. WGS also covers nonconventional approaches, such as how to explain your science in a one-minute elevator pitch or use art to demonstrate what an application of inorganic cluster compounds looks like.

WGS also sponsors a mentorship program with undergrad students, offers scholarships, and funds travel awards to conferences—regardless of gender.

“All of the graduate mentors are female but the undergrads are male and female,” Steiger says. “WGS welcomes anyone who supports the advancement of gender equality in the sciences. Faculty members, staff, undergrads, grad students—anyone is welcome.”

These efforts cost money; fundraising is always on the minds of WGS leaders. They are fortunate to have private donors and grant funding, but grants sometimes aren’t renewed. “We are always looking for more ways to join with faculty in mutually

beneficial partnerships,” Steiger says.

The WGS annual fundraising banquet is one of the group’s main sources of income. This year, the keynote speaker was astronaut Wendy Lawrence, a veteran of four space missions, including trips to the International Space Station. Lawrence, in a measure of solidarity, waived her speaker’s fee. The day prior to the banquet, she arrived on the UO campus to deliver a lecture about working for NASA, and afterwards, led a more intimate Q&A session with WGS.

Collected around Lawrence in a half-circle, the members asked her what it was like during take-off, what Earth looks like from that far away, if dreams are different in space, and how the sciences can become more appealing to women.

“It’s still something that requires a lot of effort,” Lawrence said. “But I think what you all are doing is critically important, because I really think kids need to see somebody who looks like themselves doing it. To plant that seed. Sally Ride used to say, ‘You can’t be what you can’t see.’ Even now, you are role models. You are showing young kids what is possible for them by what you are doing now. Reach that hand behind you and say, ‘Come along, let me help you. Because I’ve been able to navigate this path, I’ve been able to persist, I’ve been able to stick it out. You can do it, too.’”

Steiger couldn’t agree more. She sees a positive future not just for WGS or female science students at UO, but across academia and industry. Within 10 years, she hopes the organization will have expanded to have equal involvement from all UO science departments and the number of women faculty, undergraduates and graduate students in UO sciences will reach 50 percent.

“At WGS, we’re about empowerment,” Steiger says. “We are at a school in which the faculty and departments are invested in gender equality. No, it’s not perfect, but you would not be able to have a group like this be so successful if no one cared. The fight for gender equality is not only a women’s fight.”

Someday soon, she hopes, when a child draws a scientist, it won’t always be a “he.”

*Laurie Notaro is a New York Times bestselling author. Her most recent book is Crossing the Horizon.*





I became a UOAA member because I wanted to keep my Webfoot connection and ‘pay it forward’ for future Ducks!

## JOHN DAHLEM

John isn't shy about displaying his love of the University of Oregon, no matter where he is. Only, in John's case, "where he is" could be almost anywhere in the world, as the retired school principal has climbed the highest peak on each of the seven continents and has reached the North and South Poles, taking his trusty UO pennant with him every frozen step of the way. As a UOAA member, his dues support student scholarships, helping other students launch their own journeys.

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- *Bronze Star recipient for his service in Vietnam*



John Dahlem, BS '65  
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**Dr. Joseph E. Robertson, Jr. '97 MBA Lundquist College of Business**

Dr. Joe Robertson has been president of Oregon Health & Science University since September 2006, the culmination of a nearly 40-year career at OHSU, and will retire from the presidency at the end of the current academic year. During his tenure, he has overseen collaborative educational partnerships and brought the important work of OHSU to every part of the state.



**Amy Kari '82 BA Art History**

**Ross Kari '80 BS Math, '83 MBA**

Amy Kari is a retired educator who has dedicated her life to giving back. She is deeply involved with the UO, serving on the College of Education Advisory Council, the Clark Honors College Advisory Council and the Student Athlete Mentor Board. Kari is a former member of the UO Foundation Board of Trustees. Ross Kari had a long and successful career in the banking industry. He serves on the UO Board of Trustees. The Karis' generous philanthropy and leadership has made a transformational difference to many UO students.

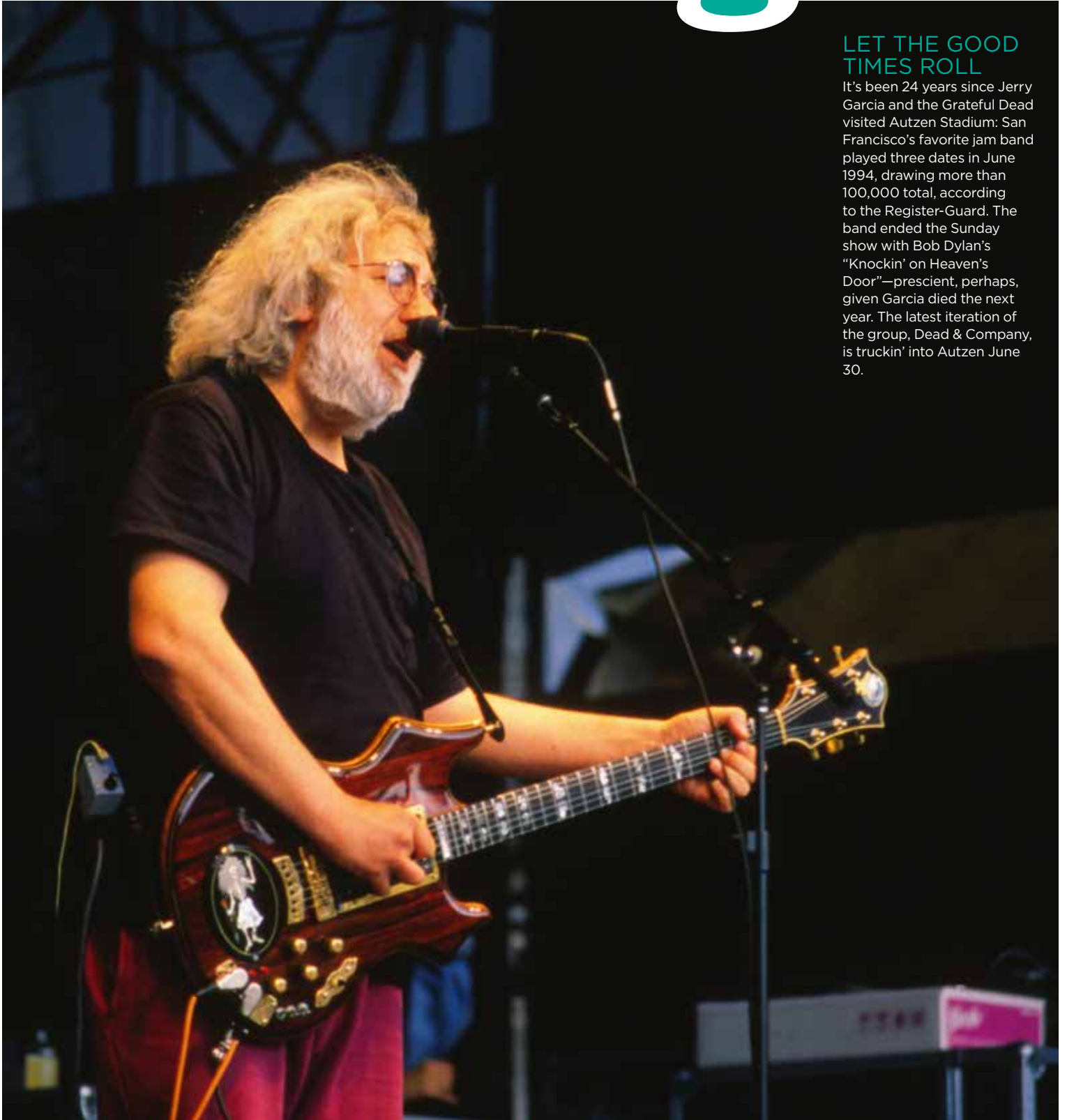


- 48 Stephen Gillett
- 52 Love and Journalism
- 54 Class Notes
- 66 A Mountain of a Man

# OLD Oregon

## LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL

It's been 24 years since Jerry Garcia and the Grateful Dead visited Autzen Stadium: San Francisco's favorite jam band played three dates in June 1994, drawing more than 100,000 total, according to the Register-Guard. The band ended the Sunday show with Bob Dylan's "Knockin' on Heaven's Door"—prescient, perhaps, given Garcia died the next year. The latest iteration of the group, Dead & Company, is truckin' into Autzen June 30.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF THE REGISTER-GUARD



## Leveling Up with the Liberal Arts

Tech exec Stephen Gillett '98 on playing well with others

BY CODY PINKSTON

**T**here's a land called Azeroth that isn't real, yet it has millions of real visitors every day. Its currency isn't real either, but as recently as August each digital token used to purchase Azerethian gold was worth more than the Venezuelan bolívar.

In this land, you can make more errors than the '63 Mets and still come out on top. Why? Because it's part of an online video game called *World of Warcraft*, and the cost of failure is far outweighed by its value: experiential learning.

Alumnus Stephen Gillett undoubtedly made thousands of mistakes in his ascension to the elite of *Warcraft*—mistakes, if made in the “real” world, that might have slowed his dramatic career progression.

*World of Warcraft*—or WoW—is a role-playing game that revolves

around exploring exotic landscapes, fighting monsters, completing quests, and interacting with characters or some of the game's millions of other players.

A 2006 *Wired* article credited Gillett's WoW experience for giving him an edge when he applied for a senior leadership position at Yahoo! By then, Gillett had distinguished himself in this fantasy world filled with orcs, dwarves, and the undead. He had become a “guild master”—that is, a leader of a group of players, with administrative control over operations and the authority to give ranks or privileges and to add or remove members.

As such, Gillett had learned many of the same leadership skills he'd need in the new role with Yahoo!—like recruiting, communicating across language barriers, and dispute resolution. He now advises high-achieving gamers to list online achievements on their résumé—the geek equivalent of street cred.

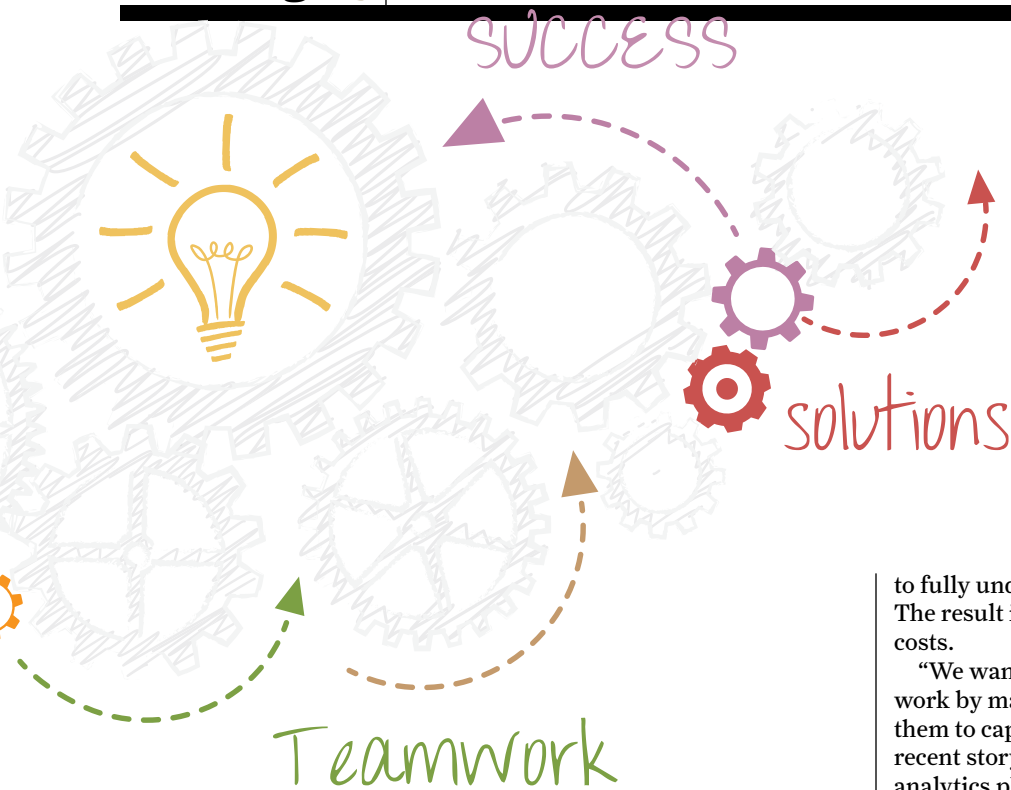
“Gaming created a platform that allowed me to experience and refine skills in the online gaming world, long before I encountered them as a business leader,” he says.

Gillett served in a variety of leadership roles throughout the early 2000s, including stints at Best Buy, the security software company Symantec, and Starbucks (where he was selected by *Fortune* for its “40 under 40” list of young movers and shakers, partly for helping bring free WiFi to the coffee giant).

Since 2016, he's worked for X, the “moonshot” division of Google's parent company, Alphabet. X exists to transform innovative ideas



**An ignition  
switch for  
your engine  
of ideas.**



**“You realize quickly that the problems these teams are working on are very hard ones to solve and require a fortitude and sense of invention that is humbling to witness.”**

into viable businesses—in other words, to create the next Google.

The process goes something like this: find a seemingly intractable problem, propose a solution just this side of ludicrous, and see if current or emerging technology could make it feasible. Then, ask some of the tech world’s most agile minds—what X calls “the rapid eval team”—to tell you why it won’t work. Bringing the internet to remote areas, for example. The proposed solution: create an aerial wireless network with technology in balloons hovering at 70,000 feet, an idea that survived the vetting process and is being tested in New Zealand.

Getting shot down early and often is exactly the point. The road to an ironclad idea isn’t paved with flawed ones—it’s the understanding of *why* they were flawed. In fact, employees are rewarded for filling ideas full of holes because it’s cheaper than sinking money into something that won’t pan out. It encourages the kind of innovative but pragmatic thinking that distinguishes world-changing companies like Google from all the rest.

Gillett’s been part of the process and says it’s as awe-inspiring as you’d expect.

“You realize quickly that the problems these teams are working on are very hard ones to solve and require a fortitude and sense of invention that is humbling to witness,” he says.

Ideas that survive the rapid-eval process may graduate into businesses under the Alphabet umbrella. The problem of cybersecurity, for example, led to the realization that underresourced IT teams have the tools to identify security issues—but not to prioritize them. Chase the wrong rabbits and potentially major problems slip through the cracks.

That idea became Chronicle, a cybersecurity company that launched earlier this year with Gillett as the CEO. The company will sell antihacking software to Fortune 500 companies, using “machine learning”—a type of artificial intelligence—to detect cyberthreats more quickly and precisely than is possible with traditional methods, *Reuters* reported.

According to Gillett, it’s not uncommon for hackers to go undetected for months, or for a company’s security team to take months

to fully understand what’s going on once they’ve detected an issue. The result is more data breaches, more damage, and higher security costs.

“We want to [accelerate] the speed and impact of security teams’ work by making it much easier, faster, and more cost-effective for them to capture and analyze security [threats],” says Gillett, in a recent story for Medium.com. “We are building our intelligence and analytics platform to solve this problem.”

Alphabet’s backing aside, Chronicle is still a startup. Mistakes will be made, and employees will need to roll with the punches. Success will hinge on adapting to unforeseen challenges, thinking creatively about solutions, and communicating everything to the team in a way that builds not just understanding, but confidence.

Gillett, who graduated in 1998, says that’s where his liberal arts education comes in. Although he has fond memories of his gridiron days as an offensive guard for the Ducks, Gillett says choosing political science for his major was the smartest play of all.

For one, that discipline grounded Gillett in a plethora of topics that would quickly become important for the ambitious young climber in the tech world. “As I started to get up in the ranks of corporate America, I started to deal with public policy, NAFTA trade agreements, the western European financial crisis,” Gillett says. “All of a sudden, all of the studies I did as an undergraduate really became relevant.”

Even more importantly, political science captures the idea that politics—at least in theory—involves compromise and the appreciation of different views, cultures, and priorities.

“[My] liberal arts education provided a multifaceted view of the different perspectives in the world,” Gillett says. “It teaches an individual to use reason and logic versus pure emotion, which leads to productive conversations and creative problem-solving.”

Reason and logic vs. pure emotion may seem like an unfair fight in these times of rancor and absolutism. But undergrads should be heartened to know that, in the business world, rationality still has the edge. You can’t build a business case with opinions.

For students hoping to follow in Gillett’s footsteps, he has some advice: be deliberate. Make the most of your time. Learn a second language. Explore the far reaches of what the UO has to offer.

“My advice centers around students both making a living and making a life,” he says. “Their education and degree focus should enable both of these to be realized.”

Cody Pinkston is an author and videographer who lives in Bend with his wife, Amy. His genetic-engineering novel, *The Perfect Generation*, is now available on Amazon.



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PEAR BLOSSOM FESTIVAL  
Medford, Oregon

April 17  
UO PRESIDENT'S  
RECEPTION  
Washington, DC

April 19  
WOMEN'S ROUNDTABLE  
Lundquist College of  
Business  
Eugene, Oregon

FLASH MENTORING  
Duck Career Network  
(Online)

PAC-12 TAKEOVER  
Bay Area Ducks  
San Francisco, California

April 20  
FROHNMAYER AWARD FOR  
PUBLIC SERVICE  
Portland, Oregon

April 28  
SAN DIEGO DUCKS RAISING  
BUCKS  
San Diego, California

DENVER DUCKS WINE  
PARTY  
Denver, Colorado

April 29  
TOPGOLF OUTING  
Sacramento Ducks  
Sacramento, California

May 6  
PATOS ALUMNI NETWORK  
FLAWK  
Portland, Oregon

May 8  
PORTLAND SCIENCE NIGHT  
Portland, Oregon

May 17  
C-SUITE BREAKFAST  
Duck Career Network  
Portland, Oregon

PIONEER AWARDS  
Portland, Oregon

May 24  
ROCKS ALONG OUR ROADS  
Inland NW Ducks  
Spokane, Washington

June 3  
PHOENIX DUCKS GOLF  
SCRAMBLE  
Phoenix, Arizona

June 21  
CENTRAL OREGON DUCKS  
HAPPY HOUR  
Bend, Oregon

October 5-7  
UOAA 60TH CLASS  
REUNION  
Eugene, Oregon

October 11-14  
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BY BECKY HOAG

# Love and Journalism: from the *Daily Emerald* to the Big Apple

Molly Bedford, BA '08, and Ryan Knutson,  
BS '09, are a media power couple

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW SENG, BA '15 (JOURNALISM)



If not for their mutual love of newspapers, Molly Bedford, BA '08, and Ryan Knutson, BS '09, might never have met. Both were students in the School of Journalism and Communication (SOJC). But it was the *Oregon Daily Emerald* that brought Bedford and Knutson together: early in 2006, she became design editor and he was hired as a reporter. "We started chatting one Sunday afternoon while waiting for the office to open," Knutson says.

More than a decade later, their relationship and careers could scarcely be better. Now husband and wife and living in the Big Apple, Knutson is senior vice president of media partnerships for Dow Jones, the parent company of the *Wall Street Journal*, and Bedford is an editor for the *New York Times*.

Call it a love story about two lovers of the Fourth Estate.

During their years at UO, Bedford worked for the SOJC's *Flux* magazine and interned for *Willamette Week*, *Pacific Magazine*, and *Portland Monthly*. Knutson held internships at the *Oregonian* and Oregon Public Broadcasting. Both traveled to Africa for summer internships through the SOJC's Media in Ghana program.

Those experiences set the two up for professional success, but their fateful meeting outside the *Emerald* launched their success as a couple.

Eventually, Knutson became editor in chief and Bedford became managing editor. Their connection sparked while they were spending 12 hours a day together, six days a week. Knowing a relationship might be complicated by the fact that they worked together, they took it slowly at first.

"We kept it professional at the office and avoided telling our colleagues," Bedford says. "I think a lot of people were surprised when they found out we were together."

When the two graduated at the start of the Great Recession, jobs—particularly in journalism—were difficult to come by. For three years, Bedford and Knutson lived on opposite sides of the country while building their careers.

"We always assumed we would be long distance," Bedford says. "We were both so ambitious and hungry for journalism jobs. We didn't want either of us to pass up good opportunities just so we could live in the same place. Developing our careers and our own identities was the most important thing."

When Bedford graduated with a journalism degree and an emphasis in advertising, she already had an impressive design portfolio that landed her



a position at the *Naples Daily News* in Florida. A few months later, she was on her way back to the West Coast for a highly sought-after internship at the *Los Angeles Times*.

Meanwhile, Knutson—whose journalism degree focused on news and editorial aspects of the field—connected with UO alumnus Jim Pensiero, BA '75 (history), then managing editor at the *Wall Street Journal*, who encouraged the recent graduate to apply for an internship. After a summer interning at the newspaper's San Francisco office, Knutson got his chance to break into the New York market.

"In early 2010, I moved to New York to intern at ProPublica," Knutson says. "When that internship was about to wrap up, the Deepwater Horizon exploded in the Gulf of Mexico, and I had the opportunity to sink my teeth into a major story."

Knutson parlayed that project into a job at the PBS show *Frontline*, which had partnered with ProPublica to document the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. For the next three years, he worked on several documentaries for the show, including the Emmy Award-winning "The Retirement Gamble" and three pieces that were nominated for Emmys.

But he never lost touch with his contacts at the *Journal*, which eventually hired him as a reporter on the telecom beat.

During the years they lived on opposite coasts, Knutson and Bedford took turns visiting each other every six weeks. At one point, Bedford bought an "All You Can Jet" pass that allowed her to fly to New York once a week for five weeks.

Despite all the frequent flyer miles she was racking up, Bedford was itching to join Knutson in the Big Apple. Her constant networking while at the UO proved its worth when an Emerald Media staffer connected her with the editor of print production at the *New York Times*.

"I was offered a freelance position at first and

**“It was incredible to be able to start our lives together as a normal couple.”**

made a leap of faith to move to New York," Bedford says. "From there it was all about doing great work, making a good impression, and seizing internal opportunities as they arose."

Her plan worked. Bedford landed a full-time position as an editorial designer and the two were finally together in the same state again.

Today, Bedford balances her day job with work for Fordham University, where she has been an advisor to the school newspaper and has taught courses in publication design, in an effort to ensure that promising journalists keep entering the workforce. Knutson, meanwhile, sees his new job working with media partners as another way to improve the changing journalism industry.

Both say the years they were apart have been worth it. In summer 2014, the couple got married in Oregon, in a ceremony that could have made headlines—*Portland Bride and Groom* magazine covered the wedding and even the Duck attended.

"It was incredible to be able to start our lives together as a normal couple," Bedford says. "To work at the *New York Times* and live with Ryan in the same city—it felt like all of our hard work and sacrifice paid off."

Becky Hoag, class of 2019, is majoring in journalism and in environmental science, working as the web designer for the Clark Honors College research program Glacier Lab, and serving as editor in chief of the *Envision*, a UO student-run environmental publication.

# Class Notes

Do you ever wish we printed more notes from *your* class? Your classmates feel that way, too. Submit a note online at [OregonQuarterly.com](http://OregonQuarterly.com) or mail it to Editor, *Oregon Quarterly*, 5228 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-5228.



CLASS NOTABLE

## Rookie baseball writer leads off with a hit

He is a published scholar of Irish literature and professor emeritus of the English and humanities program at the University of

Puget Sound, so forgive Robert Garratt if it seems his latest book comes out of left field.

*Home Team: The Turbulent History of the San Francisco Giants* follows the franchise as it moves from New York to the Bay Area, and struggles to win over new fans. Garratt, PhD '72 (English), a lifelong Giants fan who grew up in San Francisco, has always felt the team's compelling story was overshadowed by the rival Los Angeles Dodgers—who moved from Brooklyn, also for the 1958 season.

In researching his first book on baseball, Garratt dug deep into team archives and interviewed Giants greats such as Willie Mays and Willie McCovey. It's clear he hit a home run, as *Home Team* was named a 2018 finalist for best book on baseball history by the Society for American Baseball Research.

"It took six years," Garratt says, "and was almost like becoming a graduate student again."

—Jim Murez, University Communications

INDICATES UOAA MEMBER

## 1950s

**WALT HULL**, BS '59 (education), has been promoted to executive officer for the Disabled Parking Enforcement unit of the Portland Bureau of Police. He has worked with the bureau for 13 years.

## 1960s

**JANE (BODENWEISER) MCELLOWNEY**, BS '63 (nursing; medical technology), was named Camp Nurse of the Year by the Association of Camp Nursing at their national symposium. Jane is in her 14th year as a nurse with the Multnomah Education Service District Outdoor School Program.

**DOUGLAS "DOUG" VAKOC**, BS '68 (accounting), retired in 2002 from Freightliner/Daimler Trucks and lives in Sunriver, Oregon.

## 1970s

**A. LYNN ASH**, BS '71 (psychology), published her book *Eugeneana: Memoir of an Oregon Hometown*, a collection of stories about her post-World War II years growing up in Eugene. Two of her stories describe her experiences as a loyal Duck at the UO in the 1960s.

**FRANK ADEN**, BS '77 (telecommunication and film), wrote *Boise: A Postcard History*, published by Arcadia. Retired from CenturyLink, Aden is a member of the Idaho Historical Society and is the vice president of the History of Idaho Broadcasting Foundation. He has been collecting postcards, photographs, booklets, and maps of the Boise area since his high school days in the 1970s.

## 1980s

**MYRNA HALL**, BS '80 (sociology), was named vice president of advancement at Regis

University in Denver, Colorado.

**ROY CATALANI**, BA '82 (political science), JD '86, has been appointed to serve as deputy director of the administration division with the Hawaii Department of Transportation.

For his impact in the reagent sector, **MICHAEL COMB**, PhD '84 (chemistry), will receive the CiteAb Lifetime Achievement Award during the American Association for Cancer Research annual meeting, April 14–18 in Chicago.

**DENISE DIRKS**, BA '85 (community health), has started a career in radio, cohosting the show *Radio Law Talk*. Dirks is also the managing partner of the Law Offices of Denise L. Dirks, with offices throughout northern California.

**VANCE NAEGLER**, BFA '88 (visual design), cofounded Glimmer Technology LLC in summer 2017. The company specializes in "augmented

## FLASHBACK

**1928** The April Frolic, the annual girls' spring festival, consists of dancing and eating ice cream bars between skits. The sophomores' performance of "The Ballad of the Oysterman" wins the April Frolic Cup, while the freshmen receive honorable mention.





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## DUCKS AFIELD

RUDY TORRES, BS '97 (business administration), visited the San Blas islands while in his native Panama to see family. The Guna, an indigenous people, manage the islands in order to preserve their natural beauty.

reality,” creating interactive experiences that enhance user satisfaction.

## 1990s

**BRIAN GU**, BA '93 (chemistry), has been appointed vice chairman and president of Xpeng Motors, a Chinese electric-vehicle company.

**DIANE RIOS**, BA '93 (French), is a finalist for this year's Oregon Book Awards for children's literature for her first novel, *Bridge of the Gods*.

**JEANNE SAVAGE**, BS '93 (biology), was named chief medical officer at Willamette Valley Community Health.

The National Park Service has selected

**PATRICK GAMMAN**, BS '96 (geological sciences), to serve as superintendent of the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument in Oregon.

**SANDRA LEIBOWITZ**, March '96 (architecture), received *Green Building & Design* magazine's 2017 Women in Sustainability Leadership Award. Sandra is founder,



### FLASHBACK

**1938** The Webfoots win the northern division title for basketball in March, their first title in 11 years. They will play Stanford, the southern conference winner, for the coast championship.

owner, and managing principal of Sustainable Design Consulting, LLC in Richmond, Virginia, and Washington, DC.

Silicon Valley-based SiFive, a semiconductor company, has named **SUNIL SHENOY**, MBA '96 (general business), vice president of hardware engineering.

**GEOFF WULLSCHLAGER**, BS '99 (environmental studies), is the new assistant city administrator and finance director for Garibaldi, Oregon.



## DUCKS AFIELD

CHRIS BOCCHICCHIO, BA '12 (business administration), and Lauren Bruhn, BS '13 (psychology), celebrated their two-week honeymoon in December by snowboarding, dogsledding, and cross-country skiing in Whistler, British Columbia. The pair met in high school and shared involvement in Greek life, ASUO, and Friars while at UO.

### FLASHBACK

**1948** In January, the University of Oregon is one of six universities chosen to undertake research studies concerning the relation of atomic energy to biology and medicine.

## 2000s

Architects Alaska has promoted **STEVE HENRI**, MArch '00 (architecture), to principal architect. He has more than 18 years of architectural design experience and joined Architects Alaska in 2011.

**DIANE TEEMAN**, BS '01 (anthropology), MS '03 (anthropology), has been appointed by Governor Kate Brown to serve a four-year term on the governing board of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.



## DUCKS AFIELD

In October, **JULIE STOTT**, BS '77 (interior architecture), summited Mount Kilimanjaro in South Africa and proudly held up her banner for the College of Design. At 19,340 feet, Mount Kilimanjaro is the tallest peak in Africa and the highest nontechnical climb in the world. After just a few oxygen-deprived minutes on top, they descended, running down 3,500 feet of scree with thighs burning and toes jamming into boots.



**AMANDA GOW**, BA '03 (international studies), is the new executive director for the Boys and Girls Club of Bend.

**JASON GUINASSO**, JD '03, will serve as the managing partner for Hutchison & Steffen law firm's northern

Nevada offices in Reno and Incline Village.

**JOEL WEBER**, BA '03 (journalism: magazine), was named the new editor for *Bloomberg Businessweek*.



#### FLASHBACK

**1958** H. P. Barnhart, director of dormitories, announces the approval of plans for the next phase of the university's dormitory building project. The \$1.5 million Walton Hall dorm will house 329 students.

#### DUCKS AFIELD

**DON CHALMERS**, BS '71 (political science and psychology), JD '75, went catamaran-sailing in the Bay of Islands in New Zealand. While on the water, he and his sister, Anne, were delighted to view a large pod of 18 dolphins swimming nearby.

## Will Power



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## DUCKS AFIELD

MERILEE BENGTTSSON, BS '70 (community service and public affairs), and her friends visited Tristan Da Cunha, the most remote inhabited archipelago on Earth, in the south Atlantic Ocean. She had been planning this trip since 1989, and during their three-week adventure they were the only tourists among the main island's resident population of 254.

## FLASHBACK

**1968** Andy Warhol appears at the UO on February 21 to show his new film after students demanded he make a "repeat" performance for sending an impersonator to fulfill a previous speaking engagement.

**SCOTT PARKER**, BS '04 (general science), edited *Conversations with Joan Didion*, a book that features 17 interviews with Didion that span decades, continents, and genres.

**DANA LYONS**, JD '06, has founded Lyons Law in Honolulu, Hawaii, focusing on business, real estate, collections, and estate planning, and cofounded Lyons Estate in Hilo, a zero-emissions vacation rental and forest preservation project located within a native forest of *Obi'a Lehua*, a species of flowering evergreen tree.

**SHARLEEN NELSON**, BS '06 (journalism), an editor and writer at the UO, has published her first novel, *The Time Tourists*.

**TREVOR LAMOUREUX**, BS '07 (human physiology), has joined Columbia Bank as a commercial banking officer for the Wall Street Branch, in central Oregon.

PDX Partners Inc., a telecom company, has added **RASHAD BAUMAN**, BS '09 (sociology), as vice president of corporate development.

**EMILY TAYLOR**, PhD '09 (comparative literature), has been granted tenure and promoted to associate professor of English and world literatures at the College of Arts and Sciences at Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina.

## 2010s

**CAMILLE WALSH**, MA '06 (history), PhD '10 (history), published her book *Racial Taxation: Schools, Segregation, and Taxpayer Citizenship, 1869–1973*.

**TINA BRAZIEL**, MFA '13 (creative writing), was awarded the 2017 Philip Levin Prize for Poetry. Braziel won out of 867 submissions to the book contest, and her prize will include



## IN MEMORIAM

TOM WHEELER, 1947-2018

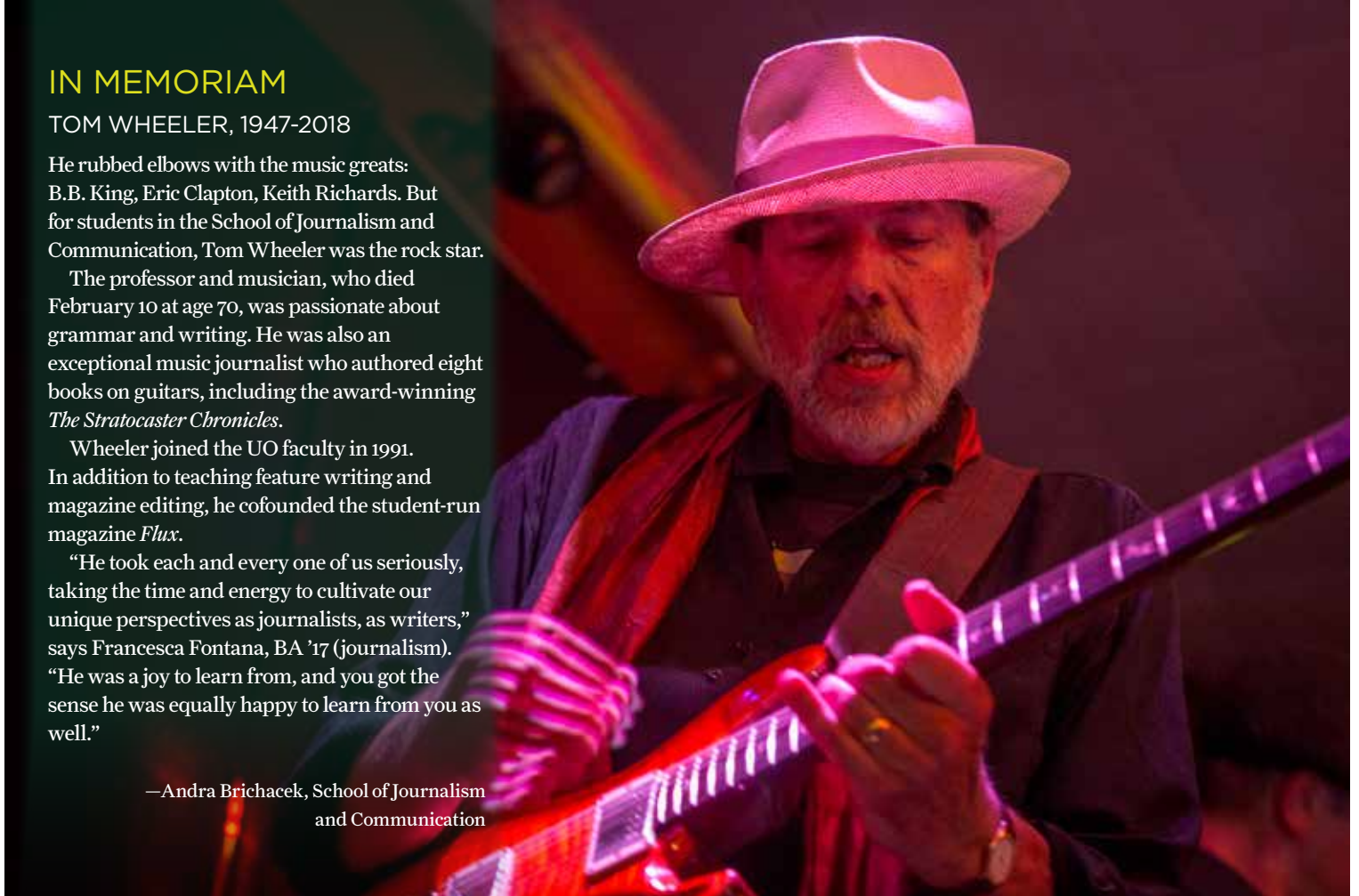
He rubbed elbows with the music greats: B.B. King, Eric Clapton, Keith Richards. But for students in the School of Journalism and Communication, Tom Wheeler was the rock star.

The professor and musician, who died February 10 at age 70, was passionate about grammar and writing. He was also an exceptional music journalist who authored eight books on guitars, including the award-winning *The Stratocaster Chronicles*.

Wheeler joined the UO faculty in 1991. In addition to teaching feature writing and magazine editing, he cofounded the student-run magazine *Flux*.

“He took each and every one of us seriously, taking the time and energy to cultivate our unique perspectives as journalists, as writers,” says Francesca Fontana, BA '17 (journalism). “He was a joy to learn from, and you got the sense he was equally happy to learn from you as well.”

—Andra Brichacek, School of Journalism and Communication



### CLASS NOTABLE

## Duck Diplomacy

**G**eorge Glass has answered the call of his country as US ambassador to Portugal, where he'll put his business acumen to use building new partnerships.

The 1982 alumnus (BS, general science), who founded an investment bank, settled in Lisbon in August with his wife, Mary BS '93 (marketing).

Glass plans to forge new opportunities for American and Portuguese businesses, among other duties.

He spends his days bringing together trade partners, representing the US in diplomatic, security and economic matters, and lending aid. Glass arrived amid massive wildfires that were tearing through Portugal's forests; he linked Oregon wildfire experts with their Portuguese counterparts to share expertise and resources.

And while the pace of being an ambassador can be frenetic, Glass has found the post to be extraordinarily gratifying.

“It's one of the most interesting jobs you can ever possibly be part of, and do really good things on a big level,” Glass says.

—Jim Murez, University Communications



Glass and wife, Mary, settled in Portugal in August.





## DUCKS AFIELD

JOHN STAYNER, BS '71 (business administration), and his wife, Dee, hiked along the Great Wall of China as part of their retirement celebration. They stayed in Beijing for four days before catching a cruise ship that stopped in Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Vietnam, and Bali, before ending in Sydney.

### FLASHBACK

**1988** Construction has started on the UO's new \$2.85 million computer science building. Computer and information science is the fastest growing discipline at the university, and the building will help accommodate the growing size of the department.

the publication of her debut full-length book *Known by Salt*.

**MATT HANLON**, BA '13 (journalism), debuted his documentary *Saving Green: The Story of a City's Parks* on February 24 at the

three-day Huntington Beach Film Festival.

**SARAH WYER**, BA '14 (anthropology; folklore), MA '17 (arts management), has joined Maryland Humanities' new advancement department,

which directs the organization's communications, marketing, and fundraising efforts.

**BEN FEICHT**, MArch '17 (architecture), won the 2017 Unbelievable Challenge architectural design competition



FLASHBACK

**1978** The new Oregon Writing Project is aimed at improving students' writing by increasing teachers' knowledge and instructional skills in composition. It offers a five-week summer institute for 25 teachers.

in Wrocław, Poland, out of proposals from 22 countries. Feicht's winning design for a mirrored shopping mall, titled "Unwrapped", earned him a fully paid 10-week internship at Snohetta, a design company in Norway.

**SARAH POZZI, JD '17**, has joined Portland law firm Bodyfelt Mount as an associate.

**CARL SEGERSTROM, MS '17** (journalism), has joined the *High Country News* staff in Colorado as an editorial intern.



DUCKS AFIELD

BRUCE CONNER, class of 1979, took a photo of his wife, Suzie, showing Oregon pride while on top of Mendenhall Glacier in Alaska. They took a helicopter ride and enjoyed a two-mile dog-mushing experience while in Juneau during an Alaskan cruise.

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FLASHBACK

**1998** *UO Today*, the cable-access show that presents humanities faculty members and research to Eugene and Portland, now airs in Ashland, Bend, Medford, Pendleton, Salem, and Sunriver.

IN MEMORIAM

**LOTTE STREISINGER** died December 6, 2017. She and her husband, George, moved in 1960 to Eugene, where George became one of the founding members of the UO Institute of Molecular Biology. She took up work with clay, and with a group of friends founded the Eugene Saturday Market. She also administered art

in the Hult Center for the Performing Arts, science buildings at the UO, the Eugene Airport, and Knight Library.

**GARY GRIMM** died January 22 at the age of 78. Grimm, who came to the UO in the mid-1960s to pursue a doctorate, founded the Outdoor Program. He based the program on a revolutionary leaderless approach to structure and trips.

**DOROTHY CLARK**, BA '36 (education), died January 9. She was beloved by her schoolchildren in Pendleton, Pilot Rock, Burns, Butternut, and the Aloha schools. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, reading, writing, and spending time with her family.

**DAVID HUNTER**, BBA '39 (accounting), died January 16. He worked for the CIA for 30 years, with assignments

leading to overseas travels in West Germany and later in Okinawa, where he was CIA station chief. He became a centenarian in July 2017, an occasion he celebrated with family and friends.

**ETHEL LAWRENCE**, BS '46 (mathematics), died January 19. Her teaching career included three years for the US Army in Germany and 32 years as a professor of mathematics at Portland State University.

**DARLENE LOWRY**, BA '55 (geology), died February 6. After graduating from the

UO, she worked for the United States Atomic Energy Commission in South Dakota. She loved gardening, hiking, rock hounding, camping, and vacationing at the coast. She was a Sunday school teacher for many years and also did volunteer work.

**JOHN H. "JACK" SOCOLOFSKY**, BS '56 (political science), JD '60, died December 9, 2017. At Oregon, he served as president of Beta Theta Pi and board chairman of the Erb Memorial Union, and was a member of the Honor Society of Friars. He became an assistant attorney general for Oregon,

and during his 35-year career presented cases before state and federal courts and the US Supreme Court.

**NORMAN STAUFFER**, MS '56 (physics), died December 19, 2017. His career at Honeywell in Denver included development of the patents used in the first automatic-focus slide projector and the first production of an autofocus camera, the Konica C35 AF. His work at Honeywell and his home workshop resulted in more than 100 patents.

**VINCIL "VINCE" DALE JACOBS**, BA '63 (history), MA '65 (history), died January



DUCKS AFIELD

**ANITRA TYKESON**, BA '86 (leisure studies and services), and her husband, Eric, traveled on the *National Geographic Orion* to Neko Harbor, Antarctica, which is home to one of the largest Gentoo penguin colonies.





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FLASHBACK

**2008** The latest design for the new 12,500-seat basketball arena has been unveiled. The building will be on Franklin Boulevard, adjacent to dormitories and campus, with a completion date in autumn 2010.

8. He taught at Linfield College in McMinnville for 40 years, traveling to countries in Europe and Asia with Linfield's study-abroad program. He also taught at Regents College in London and Wenzou Teachers College in China.

**JOHN BROWNSTONE**, MS '70 (psychology), died January 22. He worked as a school psychologist and as a psychologist for Exceptional Persons Inc. He later obtained a degree in electronic engineering technology and started his own business, Brownstone Systems Inc. He served as the information systems manager at Waterloo Warehousing in Iowa, where he developed database systems. He retired in 2003.

**IRENE ANNA POELZER**, PhD '72 (education foundations), died January 12. She was an assistant professor at the University of Saskatchewan, a founding member of the Women's Studies Research Unit, and she developed a course on women and education

that ushered in feminist scholarship at the university.

**RUSSELL BECKER**, MA '75 (linguistics), PhD '79 (English), died November 6, 2017. He taught writing and linguistics courses at Oregon, worked for Talkware Inc. creating audiotape lessons on learning to use the PC, served on the board of directors of Silverfish Review Press, and was the main editor for TrineDay, an Oregon publishing house that specializes in suppressed topics.

**ELIZABETH "LIZ" CHAMBERS**, BS '83 (finance), died February 1. She was the owner of Silvan Ridge Winery, located in a valley between Crow and Lorane, southwest of Eugene. In 2014, she launched her own boutique winery, Elizabeth Chambers Cellar.

**KAVOUS SEYED-EMAMI**, MA '88 (sociology), PhD '91 (sociology), died February 10. He was one of the founders of the Persian Wildlife Heritage Foundation, a nongovernmental

organization in Iran focused on the environment. He was also a professor of sociology at Imam Sadiq University in Tehran, where he taught students to embrace a variety of viewpoints.

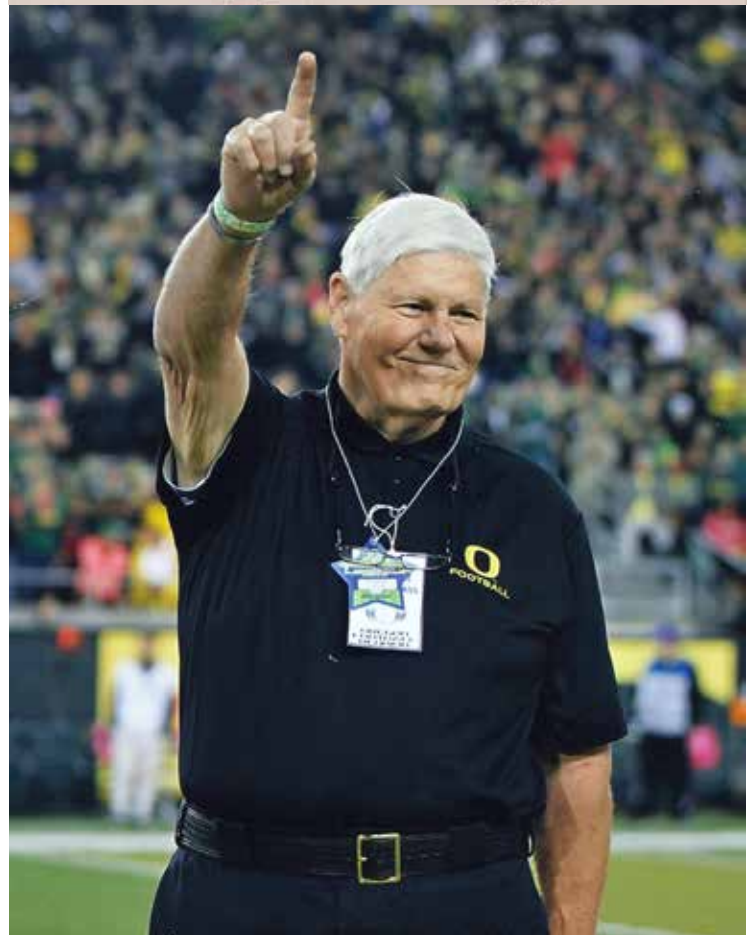
FACULTY IN MEMORIAM

**ROBERT CAMPBELL**, professor emeritus of economics, died December 1, 2017. Aside from teaching, he was active in many organizations including Oregon Community Credit Union, the Oregon State Tax Commission, the Eugene Symphony, and the Eugene Opera, and loved to explore the Oregon outdoors.

**ROBERT JAMES**, professor emeritus of ceramics and design, died January 5. He taught at the UO for more than 40 years and encouraged his students "not to limit learning just to the classroom," but to strive for understanding, and question everything. He exhibited his ceramic artwork in New York, California, Washington, and Oregon.



**STEVE BARNETT**  
tackle



IN MEMORIAM

**JERRY STEPHEN "STEVE" BARNETT**, 1941 - 2018, BS '63 (physical education), died January 2. At the UO, he was both a first-team Academic All-America and first-team Football All-America selection. He was voted All-Conference three times, was the recipient of the Emerald Athletic Trophy, and was elected to the University Senate. Barnett was inducted into Oregon's Sports Hall of Fame in 1980 and into the UO's Sports Hall of Fame in 2000. The Chicago Bears selected Barnett in the second round of the NFL draft in 1963, the same year they won the NFL Championship Game.





## DUCKS AFIELD

LEAH LA FAVER, BA '04 (Spanish and political science), attended the NCAA 2017 March Madness tournament in Kansas City, Missouri, during the UO's Elite Eight matchup against the Kansas Jayhawks. She and her daughter, Miette, cheered on the Ducks as they won and moved on to the Final Four.




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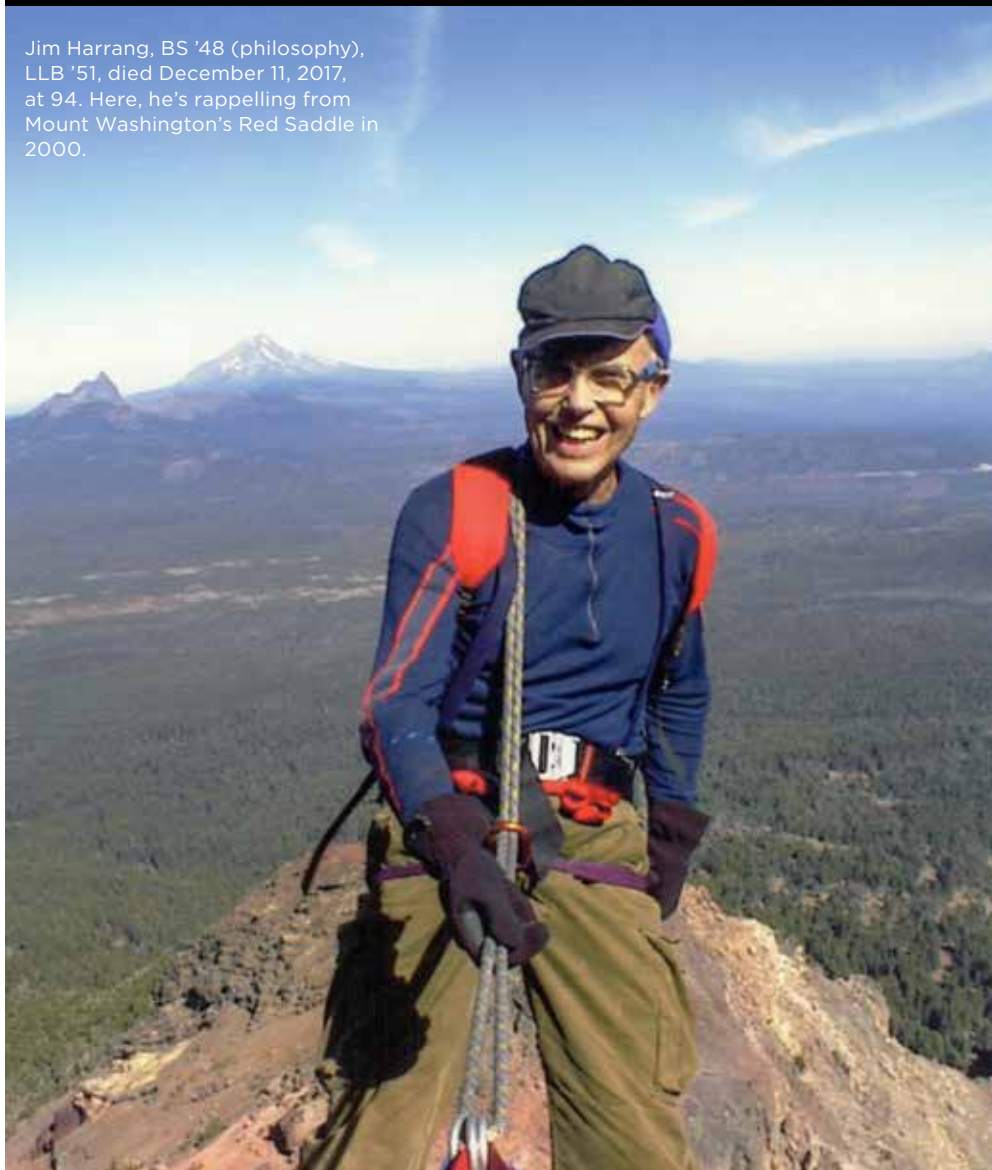


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Jim Harrang, BS '48 (philosophy), LLB '51, died December 11, 2017, at 94. Here, he's rappelling from Mount Washington's Red Saddle in 2000.



## A Mountain of a Man

BY JOHN POSTLETHWAIT AND PAUL SLOVIC

**W**hat would a Duck from Foster, Oregon—who years later would join the first group to summit 10,497-foot Mount Jefferson in winter—do when hearing that a militant political dictator was intent on expanding his control to encompass all of Europe? That Duck would join the 10th Mountain Division, a group of US soldiers trained for mountain warfare. He would dress in white and, near the end of World War II, scale a vertical precipice in the Italian Alps to defeat enemies who had left their “inaccessible” flank unprotected.

About 50 years later, that Duck returned to his

old training grounds in the mountains of Colorado, his right shoulder recently torn by a vicious oar that had hooked into a rogue wave on an eastern Oregon river. The Duck, undeterred, wrapped a belt around his waist, chained his useless arm to the belt for protection, and skied the 10th Mountain Division trail in the steep and stormy Rockies. He skied hut to hut for miles and miles, four days at 11,000 feet, food and sleeping gear on his back, wearing wool pants retained from the war.

Who was this 75-year-old who skied the steep slopes on fish-scale skis with no metal edges and one arm disabled? It was Jim Harrang, lover of the

outdoors, benefactor to his university, friend to his community. Tackling that four-day trail was just one manifestation of his tireless commitment to a bold, active life.

In 1961, Jim Harrang, a lawyer in Eugene, and UO psychology professor Ray Hyman began to jog with others every day at noon from the old Esslinger gym at East 15th Avenue and University Street—now the university Student Recreation Center. The “noon group” ran for fun and even trained for marathons. They ran in baggy, gray-cotton sweatshirts and sweatpants that the UO bestowed on faculty members with gym membership. These bulky garments became heavy and cold when soaked on drizzly January days, but that didn't slow Jim down.

In 1988, in his 60s, Jim and the authors of this story set out one July day to run a 21-mile loop around Three Fingered Jack, the 7,844-foot volcano northwest of Sisters.

We loped through fir forests, traversed scree-covered slopes, and circled back to the Pacific Crest trailhead. When we finished our run, we rested a few minutes, our spirits high from the elevation, exertion, and sense of completion. But on the way back to what we thought would be Eugene, Jim took a right-hand turn toward Sweet Home, soon pulled to the side of the road, and parked. We scampered down the steep slope to a rock ledge high above the South Santiam River. Jim stripped off his trail-running clothes and stood there—a skinny, naked runner poised above a river forced between two rock walls. John followed suit... well, without suit.

“Jim,” he said, “you are 64 years old and have just run 21 miles. The river, no doubt, is freezing cold. Is this a good idea?” Jim answered: “I've been jumping from this spot for almost 60 years, and I'm not going to stop now!” In he plunged. And disappeared, swept downstream by the rapid current. There was nothing to do but join him. John jumped in and floated down to a half-cave, light dancing off the roof, reflected by the late-afternoon summer sun. He hung on to the hope that Jim would know how to get out of this crevasse in the rocks.

Of course, Jim did. He could do anything.

*John Postlethwait, a professor of biology, studies genetic regulation of animal development, including development of the nervous system. Paul Slovic, a professor of psychology, studies judgment and decision processes, including decision-making under conditions of risk.*



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