

THE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ISSUE

Oregon

QUARTERLY

AUTUMN 2019

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FOR THE ULTIMATE ANNIVERSARY

Oregon

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Striving for Student Discovery

As the University of Oregon campus springs alive with new and returning students and faculty, we also welcome Patrick Phillips as provost and senior vice president. Although he is new to the role, Patrick is entering his 20th year at the university as an acclaimed researcher, teacher, and leader.

Patrick is an expert in ecology and evolution, the biology of aging and molecular biology, and the genetics of complex traits. I like to think his research lab is on the hunt for the fountain of youth. You may also know Patrick from his role as acting director of the Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact. Patrick launched the project, led the team that designed the extraordinary building going up on Franklin Boulevard, and led the search that brought executive director Bob Guldberg from the Georgia Institute of Technology to the UO.

As the UO's chief academic officer, Patrick will work with our deans, faculty members, and me to set academic priorities and manage the human and capital resources to support those priorities. He is passionate about our mission to provide outstanding educational and research opportunities

for students in ways that propel them and our state forward. It is fitting to introduce him in this issue of *Oregon Quarterly*, which features stories about student discovery and innovation.

In keeping with a focus inaugurated last year in the fall OQ, this issue showcases undergraduate research—that is, the myriad ways that students push their studies beyond classrooms and textbooks and into the realm of creating original knowledge.

Many of the stories on these pages are rooted in the natural and social sciences or the humanities. Common to all of them are themes of investigation, perseverance, and experience. While there is simply no substitute for the knowledge an expert faculty member imparts to an eager student through direct instruction, there is also great value in enabling that student to chart their own course and pursue their own questions—to strive, struggle, and, yes, sometimes fail while learning how to succeed. It is an experience that will pay off not just in education but in life.

Given the fast-changing nature of today's global economy, employers want applicants equipped not only with technical training but also a suite of “soft skills”—problem-solving, working in a team, adjusting on the fly, and persistence in the face of adversity—exactly the types of skills exercised by the students profiled in the pages ahead.

I think when you read their stories you will be pleasantly surprised at the range of opportunities that the University of Oregon provides for these students, and also proud of how well they represent our school and our state.

Michael Schill

Michael H. Schill
President and Professor of Law

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BY ROSEMARY CAMOZZI

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OUR MOTHERS, OUR SISTERS, AND OUR DAUGHTERS

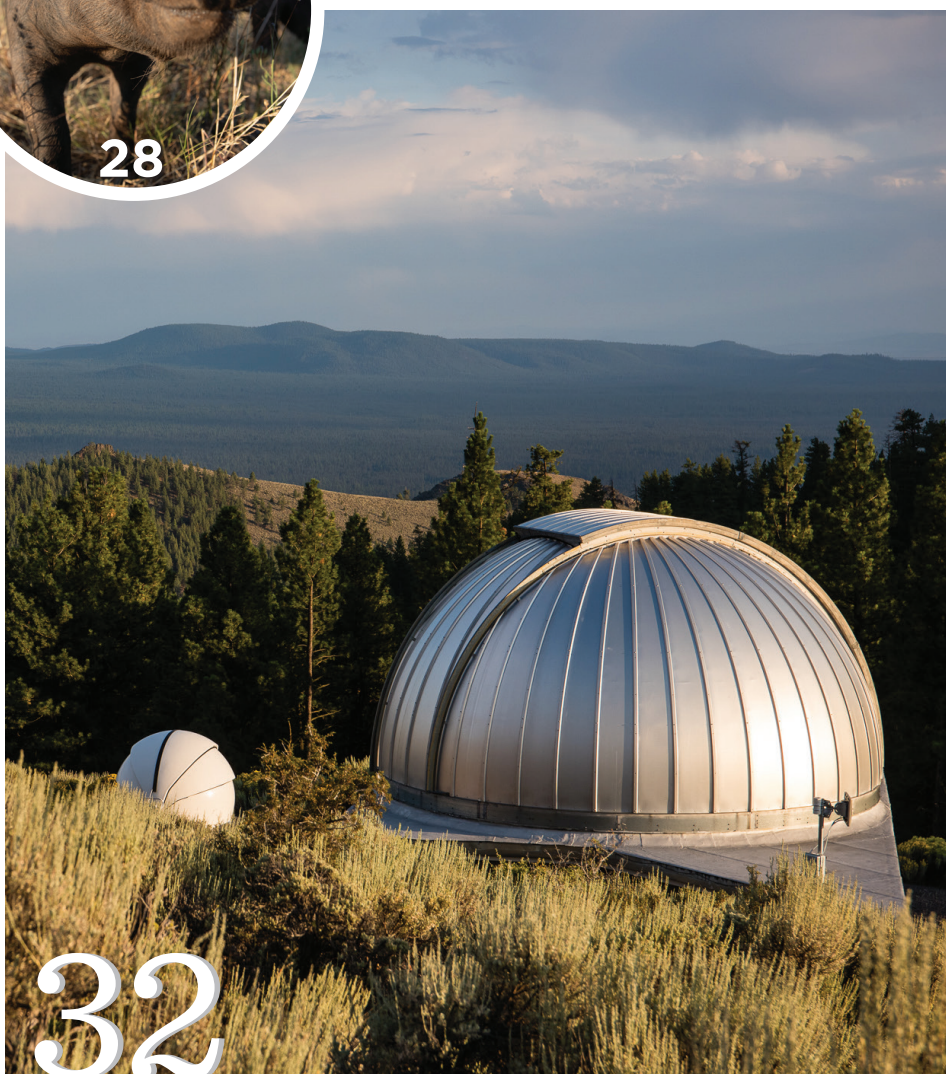
A student's interviews with homeless women put a human face on a national dilemma

BY MICHELE TAYLOR

ON THE COVER

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AT PINE MOUNTAIN MEANS ALL-NIGHT-STAR-FINDING SESSIONS.

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100 Ducks

The summer issue's 100th-anniversary feature on UO heroes prompted plenty of feedback.

100 Ducks ... And Counting

As an alumnus, I was proud to read the profile of each honoree in "100 Ducks Who Made a Difference" (Summer 2019). But I cannot understand the omissions of UO presidents Dave Frohnmayer, Richard Lariviere, Robert Clark, and Arthur Fleming. Such a list has to include UO visionary donors Phil and Penny Knight, Robert and Beverly Lewis, and Lorry Lokey. Another glaring omission is Geraldine Richmond, long-time professor of chemistry, winner of the National Medal of Science.

David Jensen, JD '69
Vida, Oregon

Enjoyed reading about people on this list—learned about so many interesting Ducks! Was glad one of my favorite educators, Hill Walker, was recognized for his amazing contributions to education and children. But ... no Phil Knight?!? Not just for what he has done for the UO but, more importantly, how he has changed the state of Oregon. Nike has impacted our economy with their massive job creation and money in local and state economy for decades.

Cathy Schneider, BS '76 (curriculum and instruction)
Eugene, Oregon

Your smug bragging of leaving Phil Knight off your list of "100 Ducks" who made a difference is an insult to not only Phil Knight but to the thousands of alumni who have admired this remarkable man. In the early days of Nike, he and his partner, Bill Bowerman, got American couch potatoes onto their feet and into the streets, jogging. It was a massive, worldwide, culture-changing phenomenon. His generous contributions of millions of dollars to cancer research will contribute to the ultimate cure that will someday come and change the lives of untold millions.

Bill Landers, BS '54 (history)
Portland, Oregon

I read with interest your feature story on "100 Ducks Who Made a Difference," after which I pondered why Steve Prefontaine was not—apparently—enough of an innovator, game-changer, or inspiration to be included.

David Haugen, PhD '69 (speech)
Spokane, Washington

How could Victor Atiyeh, two-term Oregon governor (1979–1987) and the first Arab American elected governor, not be included?

Dan Lavey, BA '88 (history)
Portland, Oregon

How'd you leave out Steve Cannell, BS '64 (journalism), who was a giant among screenwriters with such hits as *The Rockford Files*, *The A-Team*, *Magnum, P.I.*; John Dahlem, BS '65 (history), who, with his son, was the oldest father-son combo to climb Mount Everest; and Les Palm, BS '66 (anthropology), a major general in the US Marine Corps and publisher of the *Marine Corps Gazette*?

Lewis Abramson, BS '67 (journalism)
Maryville, Tennessee

Thank you for including Ray Hawk in "100 Ducks Who Made a Difference." In 1977, I was hired to manage half of what was then called UO Family Housing. My position and that of a fellow manager were created after there was a very public rent strike. The first couple of months on the job were challenging. One of the things I did was create a newsletter with the help of residents. At that time Ray was the vice president for administration and finance. That fall, Ray had his hands full with major funding issues, along with the regular demands of his position. Yet he took the time to send me a note telling me how much he enjoyed the newsletter. He wrote that it was just the kind of thing that was needed to rebuild the residents' trust and confidence in the housing department. That was Ray—taking the time to write an encouraging note to an entry-level administrator. I never forgot that, and throughout my higher education administrative career at the UO and Stanford I made a habit of writing many notes just like his. He was a great role model and a genuinely good man.

Suzanne Tamiesie, BS '74 (psychology), MS '87 (educational policy and management)
Lake Oswego, Oregon

I just finished reading about the "100 Ducks Who Made a Difference." I read with poignant personal interest about Dr. Albert Starr, who performed a number of medical firsts in Oregon. One that really hit home with me was that he performed the first successful open-heart pediatric surgery in 1958. Alas, that pioneering event came too late for my brother, who was born with a heart defect and passed away as a baby in 1952. One of the saddest days of my adult life was when I was tidying up my deceased mother's papers and came across a letter she wrote to a surgeon in Portland, asking if there was anything that could be done to help her son. The doctor had to tell her there was nothing that could help my brother. It was great to learn about a fellow Duck whose pioneering work made life infinitely better for children needing open heart surgery, even though my brother was not able to benefit.

Evan Mandigo, BS '67 (general social science)
Bismarck, North Dakota

Editor's Note: In response to a reader's concern, Oregon Quarterly reviewed its inclusion, in the 100 Ducks feature, of a quote from K. K. Kubli, alumni association president in 1919. Kubli was a member of, and advocate for, the Oregon Ku Klux Klan, according to historians. Some historians describe the Klan of this period as mainly anti-Catholic and anti-immigrant, rather than a group prone to violence against African Americans. OQ removed the quote from the website version of this story. We regret failing to thoroughly review Kubli's history and appreciate having the matter brought to our attention.

Counting Conservative Faculty Members

Dave Bowman is unreasonable if he expects a university fundraiser to be able to rattle off the names of 10 “conservative” teachers any more than 10 “liberal” ones (Letters, Summer 2019). If Mr. Bowman believes that teachers should reflect modern conservative dogma, I hope he would find none of it at the UO. Many modern conservatives believe that climate change is a plot foisted on them by evil scientists, that deficit spending can continue unchecked, and that corporations have the same rights as humans. Advocacy of these has no place at the UO or other publicly funded institutions of higher learning.

James Clark

La Cañada Flintridge, California

Bowman's assertion that a liberal arts institution such as UO is somehow obliged to provide for what he considers an adequate percentage of “conservative” professors before he'll contribute a donation is unfortunately an echo of many such laments by conservatives who conflate a predominance of liberal opinion with an unfair, unbalanced, or even seditious education. I challenge him and others of his opinion to provide the rest of us with the proof of this assertion.

Joe Hlebica, BA '77 (English)

San Diego, California

I too get calls and letters for funds to support various programs at the UO. I never thought about the political views (conservatives or not) of my professors during my two stints at the university. I wanted to learn and be treated well, and I got that. I don't think one political view makes a better professor over the other.

Jagdish Grewal, MS '66 (education), MA '70 (counseling)

Damascus, Oregon

What an important letter from Dave Bowman in your summer 2019 issue. I consider myself an old-fashioned liberal. Like Mr. Bowman, I am incredulous at the lack of political diversity on campus. The intolerance of the left is breathtaking. Of course, very few professors will admit conservative leanings. They will lose tenure and employment, and possibly [face] harassment outside their homes. Liberals should realize their enemy is not conservatives, but the far left.

John Huson, BA '76 (history)

Long Beach, California

In reference to Dave Bowman's letter in the summer 2019 issue, I usually only need to ask the caller to name one conservative faculty member.

Bill Vandling, BS '64 (general science)

Vista, California

CORRECTION: THE DEGREE OF AUTHOR MILES WILSON, MFA '68 (CREATIVE WRITING), WAS MISSTATED IN THE BOOKMARKS SECTION OF THE SUMMER ISSUE.

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. Published letters may be edited for brevity, clarity, and style.



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intro

NOW OPEN: WILLIE AND DONALD TYKESON HALL

The first of its kind in the nation, this campus advising hub integrates academic and career advising so students may navigate their academic program with intention and purpose.

Opened for the start of fall term, the four-story structure sits between Johnson and Chapman Halls in the center of campus.

The UO has increased its number of advisors, with 29 advisors and coordinators now housed in Tykeson Hall to help students determine the academic path most suited to their career interests. The new building is also home to the UO Career Center.

More than 150 alumni and friends have contributed to the building, including a lead gift from Willie and Don Tykeson, BS '51 (business administration), with support from Renée James, BA '86 (political science), MBA '92; Stephen Cooney, BA '85 (political science); Shirley Rippey, BA '53 (psychology); and Conni and George Slape, BS '76 (economics).



SIX PICKS

FROM UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

STAGE TO STANZA

Malyssa Robles, majoring in comparative literature and minoring in dance, wondered if a dance performance could be translated into poetry. So she tried it. This past spring, Robles choreographed an eight-minute performance she titled *Invoked*, in which four dancers presented aspects of the sensation of fear—the urge to run or a fluttering in the chest, for example. From this piece, she painstakingly developed “Sighs of the Aurai,” a poem that describes a crossroads between the real and unreal and the strange but benevolent energy residing there.

And in between these two modes of expression? Months and months of research.

With guidance from Tze-Yin Teo, an assistant professor in comparative literature, Robles set about translating a form of nonverbal communication to a verbal one.

She zeroed in on what she calls “the human experience” within dance and poetry. Robles researched descriptions of dance performances by choreographers, articles from authors, and reviews of dance performances and poetry. She interviewed enthusiasts of both mediums and had numerous discussions with her dancers, examining their experiences in practicing the piece.

From all this, a poem emerged that exemplified an idea Robles encountered often in her reading: transmutation. The poem wasn’t simply a translation of the dance, she says—it was entirely new, a *transformation* of the dance.

During this year’s Undergraduate Research Symposium, Robles’ dancers performed *Invoked* while she read “Sighs of the Aurai.” This unification of dance and poetry has inspired Robles to pursue a master’s degree in public administration so that she can continue research into communication.

“Whether it’s dance or poetry or body language or daily habits, we communicate in so many types of ways that aren’t traditional,” Robles says. “What was really eye-opening is that communication is everywhere, and there’s so much more to learn about it as a nonverbal language.”



Robles



BONOBOS AND BEHAVIOR

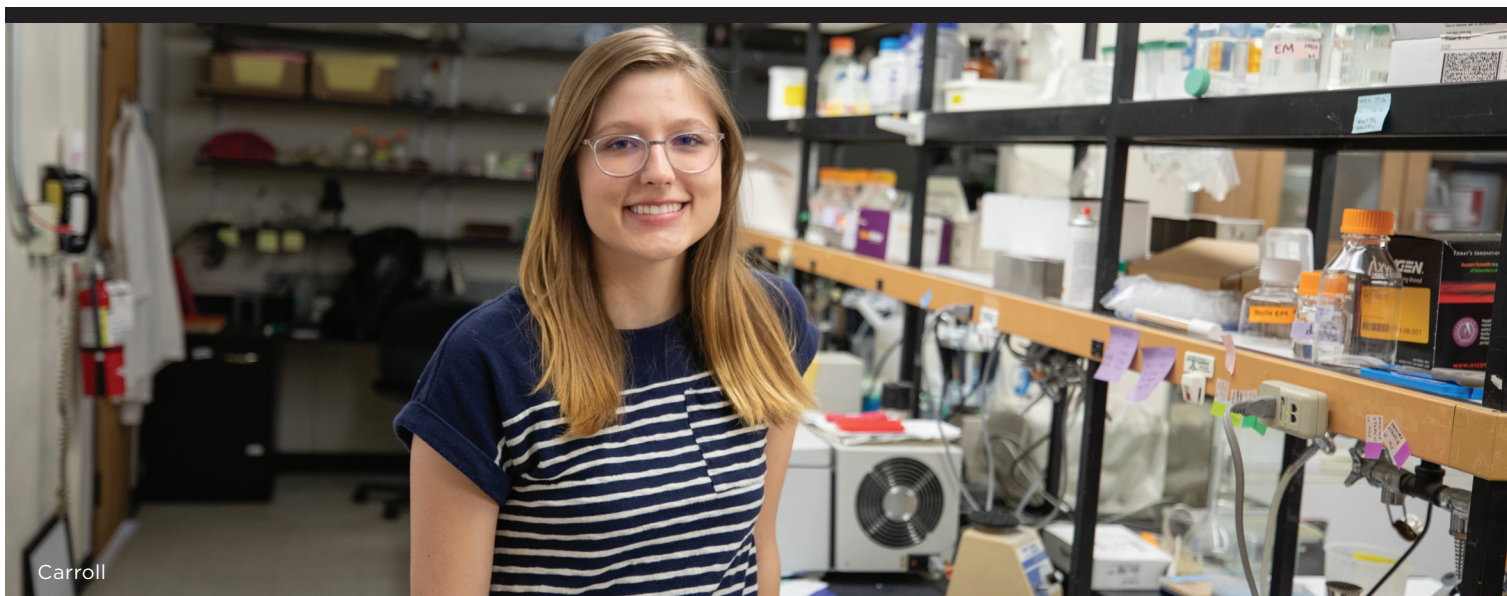
It seems realistic that presenting a delicious termite mound to a bunch of hungry apes could create—if not an all-out food fight—at least a lot of aggression.

But that might not be the case with endangered great apes known as bonobos.

So says anthropology major Mat Wilson, a scholar with the federal McNair program, which supports underrepresented students in pursuing graduate studies. His research suggests these primates might keep the peace by resorting to sociosexual behavior within the group, such as mounting.

Wilson is developing this premise after spending hours observing footage of 15 bonobos interacting by an artificial termite mound at Ohio’s Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. The mound hasn’t proven pivotal in changing the apes’ behavior yet, but feedings by members of the zoo staff prompted competition and tension that the bonobos resolved with sociosexual behaviors.

The behaviors “are thought to strengthen social bonds and diffuse group tension—our data supports that,” says Wilson, who graduated earlier this year.



LEARNING MACHINE LEARNING

Cosmic rays constantly bombard the Earth, causing what scientists call “air showers.” Some of those air showers are from gamma rays and some are from subatomic particles called hadrons.

But which showers are from which source?

Asking computers to answer that is a way to test “machine learning.” That refers to the various algorithms and statistical models that enable “smart” computers to spot patterns in data and get faster at solving problems without our help.

In a project that earned him an Undergraduate Research Award this year, Jacob Bieker, a major in both physics and computer science, tested the effectiveness of two machine-learning techniques in answering the cosmic ray conundrum: a method called “random forests” and one described as “neural networks.” He compared the methods by quickly chewing through data taken from millions of telescopic images of these celestial events.

The Clark Honors College student and Stamps Scholar generated mixed results—neither machine-learning method was clearly better in spitting out the type, energy, and source of the cosmic ray.

If the results were inconclusive, the project itself was a stellar success. Bieker, who graduated in 2018, mastered machine-learning concepts that led to a presentation before the American Astronomical Society and an internship this past summer with NASA.

GO WITH YOUR GUT

An examination of disease-causing genes led Lilly Carroll to a world of career options.

Working with zebrafish, the Robert Donald Clark Honors College biology major studied genes behind Hirschsprung disease, in which the intestine lacks normal nerve cells, sometimes resulting in severe intestinal inflammation.

Carroll studied the role of two genes—one called “sox10” and the other, “ret”—and their role in intestinal nerve cell development. The results didn’t confirm Carroll’s hypothesis about the relationship of the two genes—but they did influence her future. The 2019 graduate is evaluating medical research careers in areas such as immunology and cancer biology.

“Research has changed my aspirations,” Carroll says. “It has opened my eyes to the possibilities that are in the fields of medicine and science.”

PROBLEMATIC PLASTIC

If we learn more about where plastic collects in water bodies near oceans, we’ll be better able to manage and reduce this toxic pollution, says biology major Ellie Jones.

That idea led her to measure the concentration of “microplastics”—pieces less than an inch in diameter—in marine sediment on the East and West Coasts.

Working earlier this year with samples collected previously by other scientists and those she gathered herself from the Oregon coastline, Jones carefully separated out plastic particles through filtration and tallied them, calculating concentration levels.

Jones, a Clark Honors College student who graduated in June, tested hypotheses about the role of forces such as current in determining where microplastics collect. In the Coos Bay estuary, for example, the high levels of microplastics near sewage outfalls prompted Jones to rethink whether the pollution sources might be land-based rather than ocean-based. Her project won a 2018 Undergraduate Research Award.





Nouboussi

ETHICAL TESTING AND EBOLA

Her deep dive into the most devastating Ebola outbreak in history left Nelly Nouboussi with a sobering conclusion: the approach used to test experimental treatments may have been the wrong one.

The 2014 epidemic in West Africa claimed more than 11,000 lives. After the outbreak, officials tested the effectiveness of experimental drugs through “randomized controlled trials,” or RCTs. Considered the gold standard of testing, the trials are accomplished by randomly allocating subjects to two or more groups, one of which receives the treatment while the others—the control—receive nothing or a placebo.

Nouboussi, a senior biology major and Clark Honors College student, pored over reports about the crisis and examined the literature on RCTs, finding a fairly even split between proponents and critics of their use during a widespread and fast-moving epidemic. She sided with the critics, arguing that the speed and severity of the outbreak warranted a faster response in approving treatments than that provided by RCTs, which can take months.

“The epidemic was rapidly killing patients,” writes Nouboussi, in a paper that won a 2018 Undergraduate Research Award. “Because of the risk associated with conventional care and the proven safety of the treatments, the principle of equipoise”—equality in distribution—“would dictate that the drugs be made available to all patients.”

Meet the students who presented at the
2019 Undergraduate Research Symposium:
around.uoregon.edu/2019-symposium



Reynolds-Parker

Center Honors Civil Rights Activist

When the UO Black Cultural Center opens this month, it will bear the name of alumna and civil rights activist Lyllye Reynolds-Parker, BA '91 (sociology).

The \$3 million facility south of Matthew Knight Arena, funded largely by gifts from UO supporters Nancy and Dave Petrone, alumni, and community members, will showcase cultural pieces and artwork celebrating Black heritage and will provide the campus with space for studying, meetings, small classes, and more.

A campus committee forwarded Reynolds-Parker's name—and that of Derrick Bell, former law school dean—to President Michael H. Schill. He chose Reynolds-Parker, a Eugene resident and member of one of the city's first Black families, who worked as a UO academic advisor for 17 years.

“Reynolds-Parker has been an inspiration to countless students,” Schill wrote in his recommendation to the UO board. “She overcame oppression, achieved her own success, and went on to champion Black student empowerment, community, and justice. She embodies our aspirations for what the BCC will be for our campus and community.”



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Hernandez (left), learns testing techniques at the elbow of experts such as mentor Hyland



Fast Track to Discovery

Knight Campus immerses undergraduates in yearlong research experience

BY RACHAEL NELSON

Standing at a laboratory bench and clad in a white coat and mirrored safety goggles, University of Oregon biology major Michelle Hernandez begins to test blood samples for signs of inflammatory biomarkers.

Next to her is scientist and mentor Kelly Hyland, who keeps a watchful eye and offers tips as Hernandez spins the samples in a centrifuge, then prepares to use micropipettes to extract portions of the fluids for analysis.

Before beginning, Hernandez looks to Hyland for guidance on how to hold a blood sample tube at the correct angle.

"I haven't performed this part yet," she says to a bystander. "I am always doing something different in the lab. There is never a 'typical' day here, so there is never a dull moment."

Hernandez, a member of the class of 2021 from Aliso Viejo, California, is one of

six students immersed in a rare research opportunity through the new Knight Campus Undergraduate Scholars Program. This yearlong experience pairs promising young scientists with mentors in prestigious UO labs.

Hernandez is studying regenerative therapies for osteoarthritis. Since January, she has worked in a campus lab with Hyland, a research engineer in the lab of Robert Guldberg, Robert and Leona DeArmond Executive Director of the Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact. The first phase of the UO's \$1 billion research complex opens in 2020, uniting students, faculty members, scientists, and industry representatives to fast-track discoveries into solutions that improve lives.

On Franklin Boulevard across from campus, construction crews are working day and night on a \$225 million, 160,000-square-foot facility that will strengthen ties between research and industry players such as Thermo Fisher Scientific. The leading biotechnology company is underwriting the cost of two of the six undergraduates in the program, including Hernandez.

But in its commitment to developing societal benefits, the UO isn't waiting for the first Knight Campus building to open—it's accelerating the pace of progress. Scientists

who will move to the Knight Campus have already begun work in upgraded labs in Pacific Hall, providing invaluable role models and guidance for Hernandez and other aspiring young researchers.

The fresh approach to partnerships that underpins the Knight Campus and the scholars program is exemplified by the access that Hernandez enjoys to someone with Hyland's experience. The research engineer earned her master's degree at the Georgia Institute of Technology where she met Guldberg, a leader in regenerative medicine who studies muscle and bone growth; he joined the UO in 2018 as Knight Campus vice president and executive director.

"It's my job to make sure Michelle is building transferable skills," Hyland says of her mentorship experience with Hernandez. "Those are the things that can really jump-start the next step in her research career." By the end of the program, Hernandez will have a suite of research and medical skills that include microscopy and sterile surgical training.

For now, Hernandez is focused on sampling and evaluating synovial fluid and blood, which involves intricate measurements of growth factors and identifying reliable biomarkers that provide

information on the status and progression of degenerative joint disease.

She was apprehensive when she first set foot into the lab because she didn't have research experience. But Hyland's invaluable mentorship has given her confidence.

"It was a little overwhelming at first while taking rigorous course work, but Kelly has guided me through every step," says Hernandez. "It's been so eye-opening and amazing."

Says Guldberg: "This fast and formative real-world experience for high-performing students is exactly what we had in mind when we designed the Knight Campus Undergraduate Scholars Program."

Before he became a highly regarded bioengineer, Guldberg was an undergraduate at the University of Michigan, eager to gain practical research experience. "I went knocking on the doors of different laboratories to see if someone would take me in and give me some research experience," he says. "I ended up landing in the orthopedic bioengineering lab in the surgery department. That shaped my future in an amazing way."

"We plan to significantly expand the undergraduate scholars program in the coming years to provide more students with opportunities to develop professional knowledge and skills, and see firsthand what graduate school or a research career in industry would be like," Guldberg says.

In the meantime, Hernandez says the knowledge she has already gained has encouraged her to dream big.

"When I started this program, I wasn't sure if I wanted to go into the medical field or apply for a doctoral program," Hernandez says. "Throughout this experience, I have developed a passion for research, and I want to continue that research to hopefully make a difference in people's lives, whether that is through teaching or scientific discovery. I know that the knowledge and skills I've gained here will help me during the next chapter of my career."

Rachael Nelson is a staff writer for University Communications.

Knight Campus Undergraduate Scholars

Michelle Hernandez is one of six mentored for a year of research through the Knight Campus. The cohort includes these Oregonians:



Russell Nickels

Brookings, Oregon; class of 2020 (human physiology)

Mentor: Hazel Fargher, PhD candidate

Faculty Laboratory: Darren Johnson and Michael Haley

Creation of water-soluble, fluorescent molecular probes that bind to anions to aid in the understanding of biological mechanisms

Emily Niebergall

Hillsboro, Oregon; class of 2020 (biology)

Mentor: Emily Beck, postdoctoral research associate

Faculty Laboratory: Bill Cresko

Disease modeling of threespine stickleback fish, adaptive immune systems, and cell-mediated immunodeficiencies



Robin Black

Lookingglass, Oregon; class of 2020 (biology)

Mentor: Michelle Massaquoi, graduate student

Faculty Laboratory: Karen Guillemin

Analysis of host-microbe interactions and gut bacteria in zebrafish

Ian Torrence

Eugene, Oregon; class of 2021 (biochemistry)

Mentor: Sean Fontenot, research associate

Faculty Laboratory: Darren Johnson

Development of chemical sensors for measurement of environmental nitrate, ammonium, and ions which affect the health of soil and freshwater ecosystems



Dan Tudorica

Portland, Oregon; class of 2020 (biochemistry)

Mentor: Arden Perkins, postdoctoral fellow

Faculty Laboratory: Karen Guillemin

Biochemical experiments on proteins and the study of cell biology and how bacteria respond to their environments, important in understanding human disease

Finding Poetry for “Her”

Translating the work of Forugh Farrokhzad and other female poets leads to a career path

The late Forugh Farrokhzad is one of Iran’s most important poets. She wrote from a female point of view in the 1950s and ’60s, about strong, rebellious, unapologetic women. She was ostracized for it, and her own fierce independence ended with repudiation by her father and family.

Undaunted, Farrokhzad went on to reshape the poetry field as the country’s first modern feminist poet, inspiring countless admirers. Among them is Elmira Louie, who graduated in June with degrees in comparative literature and English; indeed, it’s fair to say Farrokhzad’s work—and that by other international feminist poets of her era—has instilled in Louie a direction for her life.

As a Robert Donald Clark Honors College student, Louie was required to complete a research thesis. Iranian-born and fluent in Farsi and Spanish, she examined the work of Farrokhzad, Spaniard Rosalía de Castro, and Turk Gülten Akin.

She chose to explore the trio’s poetry through a lens with which she had no prior experience: feminist translation theory. This method for translating literature relies on the use of specific language to emphasize ideas of gender and the female within the text. Louie immersed herself in the study of this approach, gradually gaining the expertise to make fascinating contributions to existing translations.

For example, in translating Farrokhzad’s 1964 poem “Forgive” into English, Louie created an intriguing alternative to a popular translation in the literature.

In the popular translation, the female gender is assigned to the subject from the outset, with the use of pronouns such as “she” and “her.”

But Farsi is without gendered pronouns. Honoring that in her translation, Louie withheld identification of the gender until it becomes obvious deep in the poem. The effect is to create ambiguity about the subject’s gender until that point, enabling readers to draw their own conclusions, which Louie believed important based on the late poet’s word choices in the poem.

BY MATT COOPER

For example, a comparison of the two translations of the opening line:

- *Forgive her. Sometimes she forgets*, “from a popular translation in the academic literature”
- *Forgive the one who sometimes forgets*, “Louie’s version”

Louie is no stranger to demanding academic projects. She’s a McNair and Stamps scholar—the former program supports underrepresented students for doctoral studies and the latter is a merit-based award that is the university’s most prestigious and generous undergraduate scholarship.

Nevertheless, this undertaking stretched her. It was the culmination of a two-year effort in which Louie pored over the poets’ works and identified a thesis only after countless discussions with faculty members in comparative literature, English, and Romance languages. She ratcheted up the complexity of the project, too, by examining three authors of different languages and endeavoring not just to add new translations to the literature but to create a new way of thinking about gender in Persian, Spanish, and Turkish literary and cultural contexts.

“It was like five theses in one,” Louie says, laughing. “Translation is both an extremely fun and an excruciatingly frustrating process. But the hours spent agonizing over a single word are well worth the feeling of satisfaction that comes when you finally get that perfect translation.”

Louie’s immersion into feminist translation theory so energized her that she has embarked on a doctoral program at the University of California at Davis, with plans of becoming a professor of that literary technique and others like it.

“I’d never heard of feminist translation theory but the more I started reading about it, the more interested I got,” Louie says. “It felt like I was discovering something. This whole new world just opens up for you.”

Matt Cooper is managing editor for *Oregon Quarterly*.



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Haakenstad's family was on hand in June to watch her receive her degree in ethnic studies and journalism

Forever Foreign

A Chinese adoptee explores otherness within a family that is loving but different

I was two-and-a-half when I realized I wasn't like my adoptive family. My mother and I were in a Hallmark store when I noticed a young Asian girl. "She looks like me!" I exclaimed. This moment defined the fact that I would never feel the sense of pride of saying those words to my own family since they are white and I am not.

I was eight months old when, in 1998, I was adopted from Nanjing, China, and brought to the suburbs of Boise, Idaho. I had a good upbringing: a wonderful sister with whom I became close friends, a supportive family who honored my decisions, and a friendly neighborhood. But issues of belonging still sat inside me, like an itch. They weren't always noticeable, but they were there.

There seemed to be no one with whom I could talk about this feeling because I was in an extremely white community, with a lack of Asian people in general and adopted Asians in particular. Moreover, I had a good life with a good family. I didn't think there was anything to complain about, so I stifled that feeling.

I enrolled in the University of Oregon in 2016 and by the time I was a senior, I was a straight-A student preparing to graduate a year early. But most important to me was the community I had forged with other nonwhite groups, specifically those in the ethnic studies department. For my senior thesis in this major, and with the help of Professor Laura Pulido and Associate Professor Brian Klopotek, I launched a research project that changed the way I thought about my adopted identity in a white world. I asked: *How does the experience of being raised in a primarily white environment affect an Asian American adoptee's understanding of their Asian identity?*

I studied the history of international adoption from Asia and the deep imperialist roots inextricably tied to the practice. I examined

BY ZOË HAAKENSTAD

research that laid the groundwork for issues of belonging within adopted communities. However, the most important part of my research became my interviews. I released a survey for Asian adoptees in several Facebook groups and received more than 80 responses. I chose 15 subjects, ranging broadly in age, gender identity, and other demographics. For a month I conducted interviews over Skype, asking what it was like to be raised in a white family and how racial-ethnic identity was discussed within the household.

I found that feeling different within one's family was not unique to me alone. Almost every adoptee had experienced some sense of not belonging, even within healthy families. These adoptees felt isolation from the Asian community and the sense of being "whitewashed"—that is, being assimilated into white society and lacking connection to one's ethnic identity—and an inability to explore all this within the white family. These adoptees confirmed my research on issues of Asian identity, particularly scholar Mia Tuan's notions of being "forever foreign."

Most of all, I discovered that I had every right to have feelings of not belonging. As one interviewee said, "No matter how good your life is, you know that it started out with somebody not choosing you." This was a piece of my origin story that was inseparable from my feelings of not belonging, and it was something that, through this research, I became comfortable sharing with my family. I was able to reframe the conversation from issues of blame to the unintended consequences of raising a child of color in a white family. I had the ability to say, "You've done nothing to hurt me, but sometimes I still feel hurt."

Zoë Haakenstad graduated in June with degrees in ethnic studies and journalism (advertising).



Hicks (center) has followed academic and research interests to far-flung locales and communities

Studying Mental Health, Globally

Tracking the stigmatization of mental illness across Africa BY ALICE TALLMADGE

Just a few months ago, senior psychology major Joan Hicks had only a foggy concept of statistical analysis. Today, she is preparing to submit findings on the underreporting of depression in Ghana to an academic journal and she hopes to participate in an upcoming global conference on human biology.

“She really hit the ground running,” says mentor Josh Snodgrass, an anthropology professor who heads the UO’s Global Health Biomarker Laboratory, where Hicks is an intern. “In the course of two weeks she went from a basic understanding to being able to work with data. She’s getting engaged in the research process in an amazing way.”

As a requirement of being a McNair Scholar, a UO program that helps underrepresented students into graduate school, Hicks needed to present a research project at an undergraduate research symposium this past spring. She applied for an internship at the biomarker lab, where Snodgrass participates in a World Health Organization study on global aging and adult health. His involvement in the study gives Snodgrass access to reams of data. Hicks, who is minoring in global health and spent eight weeks in Zanzibar following her freshman year, knew she wanted her research to involve a non-Western country.

Hicks teamed up with Alicia DeLouize, a graduate student and lab worker who introduced her to the intricacies of running data through statistical analysis software. It was a strange, new world for Hicks, and it captivated her.

“The first time we ran a statistical analysis, her eyes widened,” says DeLouize. “She said, ‘That’s it? The data is saying that?’ We got results

nobody had seen before, from her analysis. Realizing she had the power to do that was really exciting for her.”

The data came from six countries, but Hicks focused on Ghana. She examined the relationship between stigma—negative attitudes toward mental health—and underreporting of depression. Before running her analysis, she hypothesized that participants more likely to stigmatize mental illness would have higher levels of depression, because they would avoid expressing their feelings.

But data analysis showed just the opposite. “Our results showed that higher levels of stigma were associated with lower levels of depression,” Hicks says.

“We got results nobody had seen before. Realizing she had the power to do that was really exciting for her.”

Instead of feeling thwarted, Hicks was motivated to look further, and deeper. Broadening her frame of reference to the five other countries that participated in the study, she is coming up with varied results. She hopes to write a second paper on her findings this fall.

DeLouize attributes Hicks’ momentum to her willingness to immerse herself in her work. “The impact of what she has been able to do is very large because of her excitement and investment,” says DeLouize. “This level of focus and commitment is unusual for undergrads. It’s a lot of work, but she’s been very dedicated to putting a lot of effort in.”

Says Snodgrass, “Right now, she is like a kid in a candy store. All of a sudden there are all these options.”

Hicks, who grew up in Carson, California, says she is gratified to bring to her research much of what she has learned in life.

The youngest of eight siblings, this member of the class of 2020

will be the first in her family to graduate from a four-year university. In addition to her McNair scholarship, Hicks is supported by a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship and a Global Education Oregon Ambassador Scholarship. She grew up immersed in family, and it wasn't until she came to the university that she met peers who had little, if any, family support. "It was interesting to see that my normal isn't what somebody else's normal is," she says.

Travel has also helped her glimpse other people's "normal." During her time in Zanzibar, Hicks met people from all over the world—Somalia, Denmark, Amsterdam, the Congo, and Rwanda. The experience, she

says, "showed me how diverse other places can be."

Hicks is bringing that experience to bear in her academic work. Though new to psychology research, Hicks already understands the relationship between cultural attitudes, findings, and even mental health diagnoses. Most psychology research today reflects Western approaches to the field, she says. "They're not looking at how different and how diverse symptoms of mental health can be, globally. It's important to look at different cultural influences in the manifestation and expression of different symptoms."

Hicks spent July and August in Accra,

Ghana, for an internship she arranged before joining the biomarker lab. Although this internship was unrelated to her ongoing psychology research, one of her goals during the trip was to immerse herself in the culture and find out as much as she could, informally, about attitudes toward mental illness and depression.

"What I really wanted to do is talk to people who live there, and bring that back to the study I'm doing now," she says. "I want to get their perspective on stigma and depression. It helps me contextualize, instead of just looking at numbers on a screen."

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



JOAN HICKS
PSYCHOLOGY, CLASS OF 2020

Hicks has been a leader with Black Women of Achievement, which provides social development and more for women of color. She participated in the 2018 photo exhibit, *Don't Touch My Hair*, investigating the politics of hair. Wrote Hicks, "I resist racialized beauty standards because there shouldn't be a set default for what beautiful looks like, because beauty comes from within."

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Joyful. Unconventional. Principled. Kind. A teacher who opens doors not previously known to exist, with no sign of slowing down after 52 years on the University of Oregon faculty.

That's how economics professor Ed Whitelaw's students describe him, whether they graduated in 1979 or 2019. Many say they do not know where they would be today if they hadn't taken Whitelaw's urban economics class, which they refer to as EC 432.

He is a national authority on the economics of cities and regions, labor and poverty, the environment and natural resources, and the economic consequences of policy decisions. He delights in making a difference in the real world through EcoNorthwest, which he founded in 1974. Now based in Portland, it is the largest and most respected economic consulting firm in the Pacific Northwest. In 2016, he started FION, a smaller firm in Eugene that occasionally works with EcoNorthwest.

His legions of "cub economists," an Ed-ism for econ majors, hold high-level positions the world over, but the "Ed-xperience" (a term coined by students) also leaves an indelible mark on nonmajors in entry-level courses.

"Socrates himself could scarcely have prepared me better for law school," says Joel Willard, BS '00 (political science), an attorney in California.

"PLAIN EDDIE, NOT PROUD"

Raised a bib overalls-clad Quaker, Whitelaw grew up in western Kansas. His mother, determined to save him from a swelled head, would whisper: "Plain Eddie, not proud," as he rose from his seat to collect academic honors and prizes at school events—which happened often enough that, to this day, his habit of deflecting praise is as noticeable as his lanky frame and wide-eyed enthusiasm.

Ed Whitelaw

PROFESSOR EMERITUS, ECONOMICS

BY MELODY WARD LESLIE, BA '79 (HUMANITIES)

PHOTO BY CHRIS LARSEN, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS



THE PROFESSOR

Early on, Whitelaw developed the habit of draping intentionally odd ties over his shoulders like a shawl. They always slip to the floor at some point during class, but he is so intent on leading students through mazes of economic theory that he never notices. Lucy Hackett, BA '15 (economics), says Whitelaw pushes his students to be useful—to apply what they learn in the real world. “He was my first introduction to theoretical rigor,” says Hackett, now an economist with the National Laboratory for Public Policy in Mexico City. “In my master’s program it was his voice in my head helping me separate necessary from sufficient conditions in my proofs.”

ONCE, A SUIT

Whitelaw’s expertise has helped decide matters before the North American Free Trade Agreement tribunal, as well as state and federal courts. But even for high-stakes cases, his wardrobe stays solidly in the business casual lane—although research assistants have revealed he sometimes wears a Superman belt. However, for the case where he testified on behalf of the United States before a powdered wig-wearing barrister from London and justices from Canada and the US, Whitelaw’s staff insisted that he put on a suit.

THE LEGACY

Last June, a roast celebrating Whitelaw’s half-century of teaching brought dozens of his protégés to campus, where they were first to learn (along with Whitelaw) of an anonymous gift creating the Ed Whitelaw Chair in Urban Economics. Whitelaw reacted with characteristic modesty. “This gift honors teaching,” he said. “In teaching, I finally learned some economics—and more importantly—saw students learn far more than economics.” His mother would be pleased, if not proud.

≡ A longer version of this story
≡ appears at oregonquarterly.com

BOOKMARKS

SHORT TAKES: Latest titles of interest from alumni and faculty authors. See more: oregonquarterly.com/bookmarks



1 *An Environmental History of the Willamette Valley* by Elizabeth Orr, collections manager of the Condon Collection of Fossils at the Museum of Natural and Cultural History, and William Orr, professor emeritus of earth sciences

2 *Edge of Awe: Experiences of the Malheur-Steens Country* by Alan Contreras, BS '82 (political science), JD '85

3 *Reviving the Social Compact: Inclusive Citizenship in an Age of Extreme Politics* by Naomi Zack, professor of philosophy

4 *Ten Drugs: How Plants, Powders, and Pills Have Shaped the History of Medicine* by Thomas Hager, MS '81 (journalism)

5 *The Apocalypse of Empire: Imperial Eschatology in Late Antiquity and Early Islam* by Stephen Shoemaker, professor of religious studies

6 *The European Seaborne Empires: From the Thirty Years' War to the Age of Revolutions* by Gabe Paquette, dean of the Clark Honors College and professor of history



A group of pigs is a “sounder”—an appropriate moniker, because happy hogs let loose on hazelnuts make sounds the researchers won’t soon forget

Hogs and Hazelnuts

HOW DOES A FARMER VANQUISH THE FILBERTWORM PEST? BY PIGGING OUT

BY EMILY E. SMITH

For Calvin Penkauskas, pigs are the secret weapon in a battle against a farmer’s enemy: filbertworms. The porkers’ chorus of delighted grunts cancel out their stealth. But they work fast—and they’re nothing if not dedicated to the cause.

Penkauskas is witnessing just how persistent hogs can be when unleashed on a foe hiding inside delicious hazelnuts.

The University of Oregon junior is conducting research in a collaboration between assistant biology professor Lauren Hallett’s lab and Taylor Larson of My Brothers’ Farm in Creswell, Oregon. Larson teamed with the UO research group to test his idea to use pigs to control filbertworms in the hazelnut orchards of his 320-acre organic farm.

Hazelnuts, also called filberts, are important for Oregon farmers, who produce more than 99 percent of the nation’s supply, landing on tables and in salads and chocolate spreads.

But Larson’s farm is also home to about 1,000 white oaks. The trees are critical to the ecosystem but colonization drastically reduced their numbers and in the Willamette Valley they now occupy just 5 percent

of their historical range.

White oaks and hazelnut trees are worrisome neighbors because the filbertworm can infest acorns in the former and then spread to the latter.

“Their little eggs will hatch out, and the worm will crawl into a soft nut before the shell hardens,” Larson says. “When you process the nut, you crack it open and there’s a bunch of worm poop.”

But Larson wouldn’t dream of removing the white oaks—his environmental and social values drive him to find sustainable solutions.

Larson thought up the pig project and a multipronged question: can you reduce filbertworms that threaten hazelnuts while conserving endangered white oaks?

Penkauskas, a major in biology and environmental science, is testing whether the farm’s pigs can interrupt the cycle during which filbertworms spread from the white oak groves to the hazelnut orchards.

Mentored by graduate student Alejandro Brambila, Penkauskas hypothesized that giving the pigs the run of the oak forest floor would enable them to eat acorns infested with filbertworm larvae,

DUSTIN WHITAKER, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS (PIG AND SUBJECTS); CALVIN PENKAUSKAS (ACORN)

preempting the pest's maturation into winged adults that attack hazelnut trees. Releasing the pigs into the hazelnut orchard would allow them to eat infested hazelnuts, too, further reducing the filbertworm population, he reasoned.

The idea hasn't been applied to the oak-hazelnut-filbertworm conundrum, according to Penkauskas, but it has a basis in history.

"It's a common permaculture practice to have chickens or pigs glean fallen infested fruits," he says. "For hundreds of years, especially on the East Coast and back in Europe, livestock used to eat the rotten fruits from the orchard floor. And Spain has been using pigs to eat acorns specifically (to produce) the most expensive ham in the world."

First, Penkauskas, Brambila, and their teammates painstakingly measured the filbertworm population, setting traps so they could track and collect data.

Next, they determined the best time to turn the pigs loose on the forest floor: October, when the first acorns fall—infested acorns fall a bit earlier than healthy ones—and the filbertworms are most vulnerable. Using electric fencing, the researchers cordoned off two-acre swaths of the oak grove last fall. Working one patch at a time, the research team and farmers released the pigs into the designated area, where they stayed for a few days before moving to another patch.

Each time the hogs set hooves on a new section of the forest, Penkauskas says, they went wild with excited squealing. A group of pigs is called a "sounder," and the name fits, he says, because once the pigs were let loose, researchers heard the hogs rooting for treasure more than they saw them.

"It's like the world's most competitive Easter egg hunt," Larson says. "The first four to five hours that they're in an oak grove, I don't think they stop moving. They go crazy—it's a race to get all the nuts."

A trailer parked in the area provided the pigs with shelter, and water was set out for them. At night, the pigs slept near the trailer, Penkauskas says, but in the daytime they meandered and foraged, getting bolder with each passing day. "The last two days, they definitely venture out farther," he says. "They know where they want to go—they have a nose for it."

After the pigs covered the ground beneath the oaks, they took a turn through the hazelnut orchards, after harvesting.

The initial results of the project showed significant reduction in infested acorns, a preliminary success. There's more work to be done to determine whether fewer infested acorns will lead to fewer filbertworms in the hazelnut orchard.

Penkauskas plans to continue and expand the project, mentoring incoming undergraduate researchers in the process. But he's pleased with the direction of the endeavor, to date.

"It's looking promising," he says. "It's pointing toward 'the pigs did their thing,' and in the hazelnuts it looks like less pest pressure at the moment."

Emily E. Smith, BA '10 (women's and gender studies, journalism: news-editorial), is a freelance writer and editor in Bozeman, Montana.



Filbertworm larvae in white oak acorn, fall 2018



Penkauskas (left) and Taylor Larson of My Brothers' Farm in Creswell



Medieval Faster

A PASSION FOR THE MIDDLE AGES
MANIFESTS AS AN EXAMINATION OF
THE ALL-PURPOSE VIKING FEAST

BY MELODY WARD LESLIE



James Andersen has been jousting with his dad—actual jousting, as in days of yore—since high school. They don coats of mail and charge toward one another on horseback whilst wielding nine-foot lances with metal tips—under an expert trainer's watchful eye, of course.

Jousting is among many expressions of Andersen's fascination with the medieval era, the thousand-year stretch of Western European history that storybook tales associate with chivalrous knights and fair damsels. It extends from the fall of the Western Roman Empire in the fifth century to the arrival of the Renaissance.

"I feel nostalgia for it even though I wasn't there," says Andersen, who earned a bachelor's degree in medieval studies in June. "Some people are born with the

medieval bug, and I have it."

Few universities offer degrees in medieval studies. Andersen discovered the UO's program through Google searches.

"I knew what I wanted to study, but I wasn't sure what it was called," he says. "What made me choose Oregon was how a professor took me under his wing to help me understand the process before I had even applied."

That professor—Gantt Gurley—is a Scandinavian specialist who now directs the UO's Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies.

"His work is quite unique and illustrates perfectly the potential of undergraduate research at the highest level," Gurley says. "He has lit up my office many a morning with his wit and propensity for

Scandinavian esoterica. The program will miss him greatly!"

Once on campus, Andersen reported to the rugby club (he played all four years), settled into a steady diet of classics, literature, history, and anthropology (he holds a minor), and developed his facility with languages (he speaks Danish and can read Latin, Old Norse, and German).

"The opportunity to focus on medieval studies is fantastic, and the understanding of human nature that you can acquire is what I love about it," Andersen says. "Powerful ideas from that period affect our culture in ways that we do not realize, even today. Every time I thought I had a new idea about the Bible, I found out some guy had already written a book about it back in the sixth century."

The Andersen family's Danish heritage contributes to his special interest in the seafaring Vikings of the early medieval era. Their superior naval technology—swift, sail-powered longboats—gave them dominion over much of Europe. His pursuit of knowledge about the era seems endless. "I'm that person you never want to go to a museum with because I will read every single little card by every last item on display," he says with a laugh.

A humanities-oriented major such as medieval studies is ideal for someone like James, who relishes every aspect of the research, thinking, and writing process. When he came up with an uncharted topic—Viking feasts—he was excited to learn that the Office of the Vice President



Andersen and his father take a pass at one another on the jousting field

for Research and Innovation offers support to help undergraduates pursue fresh insights into the human experience.

The idea came to him during junior year while he was studying in Denmark. “I steeped myself in everything Viking and did things I’d always dreamed about,” his says, “but one day I realized that I hadn’t read much about feasts.”

Andersen’s professors agreed little was available on the topic and encouraged him to write a thesis, which he titled “A Toast from the High Seat: The Feast in the Viking Age.” An academic journal is considering it for publication.

Through his examination of primary source materials, Andersen developed the theory that feasting was not merely a supplementary cultural event for Vikings. Rather, he says, it was the most important ritual in religious and secular life.

“Feasts show up in many cultures, but for the Scandinavians it was the axle from which all the spokes of Viking Age culture radiated,” he says. “The feast was the event that enforced hierarchies, ratified laws, and added weight to oaths and vows. It was integral to the proper functioning of Viking society.”

Although the UO’s collection of medieval and Renaissance works is the largest in the Pacific Northwest, Andersen needed to buy several rare books that are unavailable through the interlibrary loan program.

“It was a huge relief to learn I could apply for a minigrant through the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program,” he says. When he discovered he needed more books than the grant covered, the Department of German and Scandinavian made up the difference. Now that his project is completed, the books belong to the UO’s permanent collections.

“I am so grateful for the help,” he says. “The internet is wonderful and libraries are amazing, but you need the actual books to get at the theories and perspectives.”

While spending time on his ancestral turf in Denmark, Andersen joined a club to learn *glima*, a Scandinavian martial arts system used by Viking men and women for sport and combat. The word is Old Norse for glimpse or flash,

which describes techniques for unarmed fighting and for using weapons ranging from knives to axes.

He is concerned about the pressure fellow students felt to choose majors based on a direct connection to careers, a perspective that he shares with his father, a lawyer who majored in history, and his mother, an entrepreneur and consultant.

“I think college is a place you go to with the goal of learning how to learn,” he says. “It’s better to develop skills through the pursuit of knowledge about a topic that fascinates you.”

Now Andersen is preparing to live out a childhood dream that seems like another manifestation of his Viking heritage. Next fall, when he reports to Officer Candidate School at the US naval base in Newport, Rhode Island, he hopes to go into intelligence.

“I have a bit of the Scandinavian spirit for exploration,” he says. “I feel like everything is falling into place.”

Melody Ward Leslie, BA ’79 (humanities), is a staff writer for University Communications.



Andersen with his father, John, circa 2014, in the same surcoat he wore as a child (right)



Circa 2006, with his first metal sword

MINERVA REVEALED

FROM STAR-GAZING TO ASTEROID-CHASING, THE UO ASTRONOMICAL FACILITY OFFERS A CONSTELLATION OF ADVENTURES

BY ROSEMARY CAMOZZI | PHOTOS BY JOE KLINE

As dusk creeps over the high desert of central Oregon on a cool September evening, a small but fiercely enthusiastic group of University of Oregon students can hardly contain their glee. Obsessed by stars, gaga over galaxies, drawn to the infinite mysteries of the universe, they are planning to stay up all night at the UO Pine Mountain Observatory. “It’s such a cool juxtaposition between the calm of the day and the hustle and bustle of nighttime, because everyone is so excited about seeing this giant dome of stars,” says Maggie Thompson, a member of the class of 2021.

Thompson, Odelia Hartl, and Nicole

Ringsdorf are members of an undergraduate research group named FisherGroup, under astronomy lecturer Scott Fisher. Thompson and Ringsdorf both decided to become physics majors after they took Fisher’s wildly popular 100-level astronomy class. They also signed up for summer volunteer work at the UO Pine Mountain Observatory, which sits on a remote mountaintop about 30 miles southeast of Bend. On weekends when moonlight doesn’t overpower the light from distant stars, the students share their astronomical knowledge with the public, offering views through a variety of instruments—including a fully restored, antique 15-inch telescope—and explaining the night sky. “Pine Mountain is a wonderful place for the public to get excited about science,” Thompson says.

Interacting with the public is as important as learning to do research, Fisher says. “I am a huge proponent of science communication,” he adds. “We want our physics majors and hardcore scientists to be able to explain science and speak about what they’re doing. Speaking to the public is both terrifying and fulfilling at the same time. It’s an excellent exercise for the

students, especially so early in their career.”

Typically, after satisfying the visitors’ curiosity, the students spend the rest of the night making astronomical observations. This includes taking images through a remote-controlled research telescope that they helped build—nicknamed “the Robbins” after donor Kenneth Robbins—and writing software code that processes the images.

“There have been plenty of times when we have stayed up until the sun starts to come up at four or five in the morning,” says Jonah Rose, BS ’19 (physics, mathematics and computer science), now in his first year of a PhD program in astrophysics at the University of Florida.

Last September, during one of those late-night observing runs, Rose, Thompson, and Hartl took roughly 250 images of an asteroid named Minerva over a three-hour period. Asteroids, rocky objects that orbit the sun in the so-named Asteroid Belt between Mars and Jupiter, are not very big, and they are very distant from Earth. (Minerva, for example, is only 60 miles across and is roughly 250 million miles away.)

Because of their size and distance, it’s not possible to directly ascertain asteroids’ shapes from images. However, as they move along their orbit they also tumble and rotate, reflecting different amounts of light as they turn various sides toward the sun. This allows astronomers to create a “light curve” by measuring how the brightness of an asteroid changes as it moves along its orbit. In the case of Minerva, the team knew that it rotates once every six hours, so



they knew that approximately three hours of data would give them the information needed. The trio wrote code that calibrated the data by removing irrelevant light from the images; then they created a light curve by measuring the brightness of the target in each image. The final light-curve data was compiled and sent to colleagues in Kobe, Japan, for further analysis, including the creation of a 3D model of Minerva.

“This was our first completely student-run project,” Fisher says with evident pride. “Minerva was dead-easy to see, whopping bright, and you could actually see it changing its position. You have this moment when you realize, ‘That’s a rock maybe 60 miles across, and we’re mapping it!’” The students presented their research at the university’s Undergraduate Research Symposium in May. “Being at Pine Mountain brought to life what scientists actually have to do to gather data,” Hartl says. “It gave me a new perspective on the astronomy world.”

A few months later, Ringsdorf joined the Minerva project. Under the tutelage of Fisher and physics professor Jim Imamura, she learned basic astronomy and then mastered a complicated computer program that measures the brightness of astronomical images. With that under her belt, she analyzed all of the Minerva photos, using other stars with known magnitude or brightness for comparison. “The learning curve of the software was the hardest part,” says Ringsdorf, who graduated earlier this year. “I spent about 160 hours total on the project. It was all up to me to figure out any problems that I came across. I feel this really set me up for the future.”

The Minerva project gave the students the experience and confidence to take part in the Gemini/Hubble Space Telescope Galaxy Cluster Project, which involves working with international astronomers on data from the telescope and from large observatories in Hawaii and Chile. “Odelia [Hartl] is our computer programming guru in this generation of Fishergroup,” Fisher says. “She is very precisely simulating the data we have obtained from these large telescopes, so that we can compare the two sets of data by changing the parameters of the simulation. It’s an important way to deeply understand the data we get from the telescopes.”

Hartl, a member of the class of 2020, spent

the summer at Texas A&M, taking part in a National Science Foundation-funded research program in which she worked on calculating the mass of the Milky Way galaxy; our neighboring galaxy, Andromeda; and the satellite galaxies orbiting the earth. “Doing the work at Pine Mountain and being part of the Gemini project made me successful at the Texas research program,” she says. “My life goal is to learn to understand the universe in a different way. And the more I learn, the more obsessed I become. I plan to go into a PhD program, and I want to do research.”

Thompson, on the other hand, has discovered that she prefers public outreach. At Pine Mountain Observatory, she is in her element. “I feel like a lot of people don’t realize how special PMO is,” she says. “It is a hub of opportunity. I really love it up there—being able to interact with telescopes and also leading the public nights. Science is such a beautiful thing, and I would like to be a bridge between science and the rest of the world.”

Rosemary Camozzi, BA ’96 (journalism: magazine), is a magazine editor and writer in Eugene.



TOP: The newest telescope at the observatory—nicknamed “the Robbins”—can be operated remotely from campus

MIDDLE: Physics major Maggie Thompson is a member of Fishergroup, a research team led by astronomy lecturer Scott Fisher (pointing)

ABOVE: Nicole Ringsdorf

OPPOSITE: Sunset at Pine Mountain Observatory

They Are Our Mothers, Our Sisters, and Our Daughters

A student's interviews with homeless women put a human face on a national dilemma

BY MICHELE TAYLOR

When hoots and hollers emanate from the chapel at the Eugene Mission, it must be Thursday night. Anthropology major Violet Fox and a handful of women who live in the homeless shelter are creating collages and ribbing each other about their “bad art.” Wearing pajamas or street clothes with color-coordinated makeup and hair ties, the women craft their mosaics while sharing stories and telling jokes. The language gets colorful. Soon everyone is laughing and the hoopla prompts passersby to poke their heads in. “Art nights are always a raucous good time,” Fox says. “We are loud and expressive and use the time to bond and create something in the process.”

Homelessness has been on the rise nationally and in Eugene-Springfield. Oregon had the second-highest rate of homelessness in the country last year and, according to the Lane County Human Services Division, 130 local people become homeless every month.

But Fox says there is relatively little research on what life looks like for homeless women in Eugene-Springfield, including how society enables their homelessness or inhibits their escape from it.

Driven by her interest in the topic and a desire to graduate with honors earlier this year, Fox volunteered at the mission for eight months beginning in September 2018. With funding support from a UO Humanities Undergraduate Research Fellowship, she



Violet Fox

collected intimate details from women residents and wrote a thesis that allowed her to accomplish her graduation goal. The profiles she assembled lend insight into an often misunderstood population.

Women are particularly vulnerable to homelessness, Fox says. Domestic abuse or financial struggles after a spouse's death may drive them out of their homes. While they're not to blame for the lack of affordable housing and health care for mental or physical issues, they often feel responsible for their predicament and don't seek welfare services. "They are definitely experts on their situations," Fox says. "Most are absolutely trying their hardest to get out of homelessness."

Fox conducted formal interviews with women in a mission office but "it was nerve-racking for them," she says. "The office was too formal, so it was hard for them to relax. There was not a lot of opening up." She supplemented these recorded histories with casual "friends checking in" conversations.

Having a background in art, she devised a creative way to connect with the women, who ranged in age from 20 to 70. She needed to gain their trust and avoid making them feel ashamed of their lives. One had lived under a bridge and then on an island in the middle of the Willamette River for several months. Another lost her children to welfare agencies while using methamphetamine. Several were victims of domestic and sexual abuse. Few people would willingly discuss these issues with a college student they had never met.

Fox started art night to establish a safe, supportive environment in which the women could open up about their lives.

They told stories about drug-dealing parents and the death threats handed out by drug-dealing ex-boyfriends. Fox heard tales of growing up in abusive foster care homes, battles with drug addictions, losing homes after medical bankruptcy, losing everything to wildfires in California. "Many of the women were my mom's age," Fox says. "They were trying to support me and wanted me to succeed."

Fox didn't record these informal chats when they occurred but wrote copious notes later. They formed the backbone of her thesis.

One resident born in California was removed from her parents by welfare services and raised by a family in Oregon. She moved into the homeless shelter to flee an abusive partner. In haste, she left behind all identification papers; she is now trying to replace her birth certificate so she can renew her driver's license, get a divorce, and apply for disability benefits. Having been born out of state, put into foster care, then adopted by another family, the certificate has been difficult to track down.

"Loss of paperwork and other documentation—or perhaps never even having any—is not uncommon for people experiencing homelessness," Fox says. "The bureaucracy around things like social security numbers, birth certificates, licenses, and passports can take months to years to replace, and at least one form of identification is required for almost any rental application or government benefit."

Fox also heard many "catfishing" stories. Vulnerable women meet



Fox (right) held "art nights" to give women a comfortable environment in which to talk and connect

self-proclaimed dashing, debonair men in internet chat rooms. These men promise to whisk away their newfound loves to a better, brighter life. But first, they require money for car repairs. Or a loved one is desperately sick and money is needed for hospital bills. The women wire their disability checks and the men disappear.

She also discovered that the area's homeless women often have much in common with broader society. They chat on Facebook with friends and family. They worry about parents who suffer from dementia. Some are college-educated. The older women look out for the younger ones. Many have a source of income, either a part-time job or a disability check, but the amount is not enough to pay for rent.

One woman Fox interviewed has a part-time job that pays less than minimum wage. Medical appointments, counseling sessions, and time spent with her daughter take up the rest of her day; she's been unable to pick up evening shifts but is still saving some of her \$800-a-month salary to move out of the mission.

Although the factors that force women into homelessness are varied, there is often a common thread—a snowballing of unfortunate events.

Fox learned of a woman who ended up in the shelter after a series of medical crises pushed her into unemployment and her house into foreclosure. While applying for disability benefits she worked as a caregiver, but her client died soon after she started. She found a job at a golf course but was eventually fired because her manager complained that she had bad breath. A trip to the dentist revealed that her wisdom teeth needed to be removed. She was in the hospital recovering from bowel surgery when the medical records she had been collecting for a disability claim turned to ash when the house burned to the ground during the California wildfires of 2013. At the same time, she found out she was not eligible for federal insurance and disaster mitigation assistance.

Before ill health besieged her, she had held a university job and owned a home, complete with two dogs. Now, the woman's siblings call her a hypochondriac and have little to do with her. Her plan is to replace lost medical records to qualify for full disability benefits. She currently receives \$910 per month.

“What the housed population often does not understand is how many homeless folks are hard-working people actively engaged in changing their situation,” Fox says. “But increasing their ‘effort’ is not the cure to what may be a lifetime of trauma. You can’t always avoid bad things happening by ‘trying harder’—a common misconception from the public toward homeless folks.”

In addition to personal obstacles, people who are homeless face the absence of affordable housing. The average rent for a single-bedroom apartment in Eugene is \$1,300 per month. Due to a lack of available housing, Homes for Good, Lane County’s hub for low-income housing, has closed all subsidized public housing waitlists in Eugene-Springfield, Veneta, Junction City, and Florence. It is currently processing applications for Section 8 housing that are two years old.

Last year, Eugene built 64 affordable housing units but reserved only 13 for the homeless. “This makes shelters into a purgatory space for the situationally homeless—women who have held jobs their whole lives, and then suffered through traumatic events—and cannot afford to leave but feel that they do not belong in a shelter,” Fox says. “They would be able to seek out services, engage in healthy relationships, and manage themselves if they were just able to secure housing again.”

To keep women out of shelters, Fox supports interest-free loans for those facing medical emergencies or the sudden death of a partner. She recommends pairing homeless women with peers and mentors in creative and social environments. Allowing homeless women to take on leadership roles in these situations would give them a sense of purpose and boost self-confidence. Homelessness is dehumanizing

enough, Fox says, and not being able to regularly engage in life creatively, spiritually, and socially makes it worse. She sees a need not only for affordable housing but also for “low-barrier” shelters that serve people with drug and alcohol addictions.

Lamia Karim, an associate professor of anthropology and Fox’s advisor, applauded her work. “When Violet came to me she was a newbie to ethnographic research,” Karim says. “Within a year she read more than 50 articles, learned ethnographic interview skills, and received approval from the UO Institutional Review Board for her research on a vulnerable community. She also developed empathy with the women that enabled her to write an outstanding honors thesis. She has all the makings of a great scholar, researcher, and advocate for homeless people.”

Although Fox has set her sights on graduate school to continue her work with the homeless, her motivation goes beyond academics—she has become compassionate for the women she met. “They are our friends, our neighbors, our mothers, our sisters, and our daughters,” she says. “They have talents and interests. They are desperate to find common ground with the larger community and contribute to it.” Whatever circumstances lead women into homelessness, Fox adds, “they are not invisible. They are part of our society. They are human. Their tenacity, vibrancy, humor, and resilience inspired me in the first place.”

Michele Taylor, MS ’03 (journalism: magazine), BA ’10 (French), is a freelance writer in Eugene.

The Oregon Duck mascot is shown from the chest up, wearing a green jersey with yellow and green stripes on the sleeves and a yellow and green striped scarf. He is holding a green and yellow "ALUMNI" card in his right hand. The background is a green and yellow diagonal striped pattern. Large green numbers "11.29.19" are displayed in the upper left. To the right of the duck, the text "Rivalry Weekend just got a little more intense (and a lot more fun). Help us beat the Beavers at uoalumni.com/join" is written in white.

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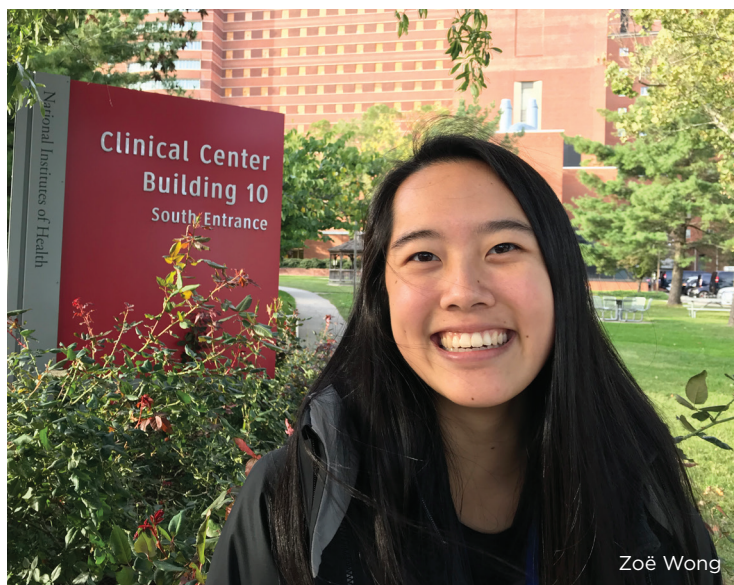
UO'S LYNCH PAPERS

Alan Bunce and Peg Lynch played the starring roles in *Ethel and Albert*, a hit sitcom from the early days of television in the 1950s. Lynch created the characters, wrote all the scripts, and retained full ownership of her program—a nearly unprecedented degree of creative control for a woman working in broadcast media during the Cold War era. Her papers are held in the UO Libraries' Special Collections and University Archives.

Cell Mates

Anisha Adke and Zoë Wong bonded over biology. Now the friends are research fellows at the National Institutes of Health.

BY ISABELLA GARCIA



Zoë Wong

Senior year can be a time of stress, anticipation, and a litany of other emotions.

For Anisha Adke and Zoë Wong, the excitement of the 2017–18 year was amplified by plans to move across the country after graduation for research internships with a top institute.

Both in the Robert Donald Clark Honors College, the biology majors became fast friends. As seniors, they swapped links for postgrad opportunities, and they landed two-year fellowships at the National Institutes of Health.

Adke joined a neuroscience lab at the Bethesda, Maryland, campus in August 2018. Wong accepted a position in a vascular matrix and genetics lab.

Both say undergraduate research gave them an edge in their applications and interviews.

Adke worked in assistant biology professor Adam Miller's lab, studying the genetic basis of neurodevelopment. "That was my education," she says. "[The UO research] taught me to ask hypothesis-driven questions based on my data."

Wong worked in biology professor Karen Guillemin's lab. She investigated host-microbe interactions in the midgut of a fly called *Drosophila*, a research project she turned into her thesis for the honors college.

"That's where I learned who I want to be as a scientist and critical thinker," Wong says.

University efforts are ramping up to enhance student success and place more emphasis on helping them connect their studies to career paths. When students such as Adke and Wong share their academic research experiences, it resonates with UO academic leadership.



Anisha Adke

"One of the chief virtues of being at a leading research university is the opportunity it provides for students to experience the transformative power of research and deep scholarship, both for personal intellectual growth and for an opportunity to make a difference in the world," says Patrick Phillips, provost and senior vice president. "These students are great examples of how hands-on research experiences for undergraduates can spark a passion that can turn into a career. We have renewed focus to provide these kind of experiences to our students from all across the university, from the sciences to the humanities to the professional schools and colleges."

Wong is studying Williams syndrome, a genetic disorder associated with neurocognitive and cardiovascular abnormalities. She splits her time between research and an NIH clinic where she meets with patients who have the disorder.

"Patients are coming to you at different stages of vulnerability, and you have to feel that as you interact with them," Wong says. "You can't just see them as a study ID number."

Working in the clinic and seeing the people whose lives are affected by the research she conducts has confirmed for Wong that she wants to pursue an MD-PhD program—a dual doctoral degree for physician-scientists.

Adke is also interested in an MD-PhD degree. She was inspired by her undergraduate experience with the Inside Out Prison Exchange Program, which brings college students together with incarcerated individuals to study as peers behind prison walls.

While working with the Inside Out program, she met individuals affected by addiction and the opioid crisis. Adke read up on the issue, intrigued by how much is still unknown about pain, addiction, and the interplay between the two.

At the NIH, she investigates the neurobiology underlying neuropathic pain, with the goal of finding nonaddictive alternatives for pain treatment. She found her passion for the nitty-gritty aspects of research through her university lab experience.

"It was such a good experience," Adke says, "I wanted to do it for the rest of my life."

Isabella Garcia, BS '19 (journalism), is a writer and web developer for the Clark Honors College.



Room to Move

Hard-bopping UO music grads and touring professionals have made alumnus Paul Bodin's home a jazz destination

The Broadway House jazz series turns 10

BY BRETT CAMPBELL

In 2005, Paul Bodin decided he “wanted to see what it was like to be a student again.” The UO adjunct instructor of philosophy longed to explore the music that had enchanted him since childhood: jazz.

Enrolling in the jazz studies program, he took composition courses from well-known teacher-performers Mike Denny and Steve Owen. Bodin—also an adjunct instructor in the College of Education from 2006 to 2015—and his wife, Peggy Leeds, started meeting young undergrads and grads in the program, and occasionally invited the hungry students over to dinner at their bungalow on West Broadway Avenue. Some brought instruments and jammed.

Those gatherings became a recurring series of intimate living room concerts open to the public. The Broadway House series began in 2010 with Ben Darwish, BMus '07 (music: jazz studies), and his quartet—the keyboardist-singer-songwriter was Bodin's classmate. Through its 10th anniversary show in June, the series has presented 56 concerts, most of them jazz.

Bodin, MMus '82 (music education), now 71, grew up in the Los Angeles area listening to his father's jazz records and playing saxophone in middle school. As a community education student in jazz studies, he learned to write big band and combo charts for middle school, high

school, and university ensembles and played soprano and alto sax in a UO student ensemble. With few intimate jazz venues in the wake of club closures, Bodin says, “we wanted to give students from the UO a place to perform outside the UO itself.”

Though their living room stayed the same size—Leeds estimates 20-by-20 square feet, in an L shape—the series grew, eventually featuring musicians touring the Interstate 5 corridor. Performers have included some of Portland's finest jazz musicians—pianists Randy Porter and Greg Goebel, singer Rebecca Kilgore, and drummer Chris Brown. The UO Flute Studio held a student concert as a fundraiser for Food for Lane County. The series has also hosted local koto master Mitsuki Dazai, contemporary classical ensembles featuring alumni and students, and Caballito Negro, a flute and percussion duo from southern Oregon.

“Players like playing here,” Bodin says. “Not for the money—they might make \$100 per person. They love the intimacy, the energy that comes from that.”

The series relies on coverage from radio and print publications. For each performance, the Bodins host a potluck, with attendees—ranging from about 20 to a tightly squeezed 55—bringing food and drinks and chatting in the kitchen or

hallway. A large glass jar is passed around, with the money going to the musicians. “I like the simplicity and honesty of that,” Bodin says.

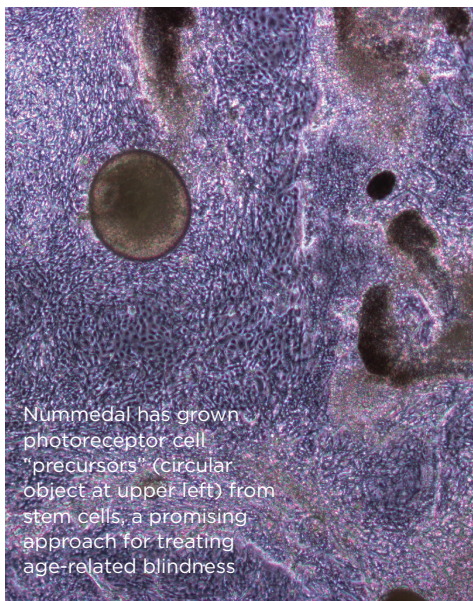
The couple also hosts a sit-down dinner with traveling musicians. “As I'm finishing the dishes, people start walking in the door,” Bodin says. “Very much like jazz, a house concert is an improvisational experience. You don't really know who's coming. You're opening your house to a group of strangers. It's better than it sounds!”

UO students often attend to earn extra class credit. Bodin regularly meets with jazz instructor Paul Krueger's classes to talk about the series—part of Broadway House's continuing connection to its origins. Student musicians have held senior recitals at Broadway House.

As the couple celebrates 10 years of the concerts, Bodin says, “I've started to see the value more over the years as it's mushroomed outward. We had no idea what we were getting into! Now when I look back on it, I see how it's become a big part of our lives and the community.”

Brett Campbell, MS '96 (journalism), lives in Portland and writes about the arts for *Oregon ArtsWatch*, the *Oregonian*, *Eugene Weekly* and other publications.

An avid mountaineer, Nummedal summited Peru's Mount Pisco in 2017



Nummedal has grown photoreceptor cell "precursors" (circular object at upper left) from stem cells, a promising approach for treating age-related blindness



Nummedal's research involved storage of stem cell samples in liquid nitrogen

The Researcher's Researcher

A command of the scientific method serves cancer therapies, stem-cell treatments, and agriculture

BY MATT COOPER undergraduate in the lab to get at the truth of something: the

It was 2015 and Eric Nummedal was ready to celebrate the fruit of his yearlong experiment on neurons and vision. The junior and his lab mates had reviewed every step, double-checked every calculation, eliminated every assumption. All that remained were the results—numbers sure to confirm the team's theories.

But the numbers didn't say what Nummedal expected them to say about receptive fields in the brain. In fact, the numbers didn't make much sense.

Was there gnashing of teeth? Issuing of expletives? Launching of lab equipment?

Not Nummedal. He simply chuckled, shrugged his shoulders, and began developing a new line of inquiry based on what the team had just learned.

"What we were hoping would be the final piece of a puzzle was ultimately the first piece of a new puzzle," says Nummedal, BS '16 (biochemistry, biology). "That's extremely satisfying—when things don't make sense and it makes questions, you're pushing the boundaries of knowledge, and that's what science is all about."

It takes a special kind of scientist to draw inspiration from failure. Nummedal is that scientist.

As an undergraduate, he cut a wide swath of excellence, earning honors and scholarships and winning awards in the hard sciences and business. That track record set Nummedal up for immediate success upon graduation: his first job was research lead for a life sciences company, and he's moved to new employers twice since to take on ever more responsibility for R & D.

Nummedal has dabbled in business leadership and helped develop cancer immunotherapies and stem-cell treatments to restore vision. His employers have tasked him with exhaustive investigations ranging from data analytics and cellular mechanisms to sensory systems, education outcomes, and business strategy.

Tying them all together, Nummedal says, is the approach ingrained in him as an

scientific method, those unbending rules of hypothesis, experiment, and deduction established centuries ago to investigate phenomena, obtain knowledge, and test theories.

"The scientific method is one of our greatest achievements," says Nummedal. "You wouldn't think there would be any relationship between cancer immunotherapies or brain research and what I'm doing now, but it's all about applying the scientific method and showing whether something is true or not."

Nummedal recently joined Advanced BioCatalytics, an industrial biotech company in California, where he guides research and development. The company's trademarked product—based on "protein synergists"—improves the performance of cleaners, industrial and agricultural wetting agents, and wastewater treatment applications, among other uses.

"They are challenging me in ways I haven't been challenged before," says Nummedal, who manages the research that guides decision-making about new products to develop. "But to understand a new field, you just tie that into research. There is a specific way that ideas are presented and answers are found, and with the background I have I know how to get them."

Nummedal has championed the value of scientific inquiry to students in multiple returns to campus. As a graduate of the McNair Scholars Program, a federally funded initiative that supports undergraduate research, he delights in helping young scientists network into promising jobs and urges them to connect with him on LinkedIn.

"The process of research is very intimately connected not only with expanding knowledge but expanding yourself," Nummedal says. "When you're struggling with something, when you feel challenged, when you think you're the stupidest person in the room—that should excite you. You have the opportunity to grow. Taking advantage of that opportunity is up to you."

Matt Cooper is managing editor for *Oregon Quarterly*.

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NEW TO THE TEAM

The UOAA welcomes new executive director Raphe Beck

The University of Oregon Alumni Association's new executive director, Raphe Beck, started August 5 after eight years as director of alumni relations at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. The son of a sociology professor at Northwestern University, he's spent most of his life on or near college campuses.

Married to an educator, with a 12-year old daughter, Beck was attracted to the UO in part because of its dedicated and enthusiastic alumni. "I jumped at the chance to help keep such a spirited community connected to the school and to one another," he says.

Beck's plans include creating awareness for some of the UOAA's newest programs, including career networking and mentorship.

"We're here to support alumni in their careers and help them pay it forward to future generations. And we want to keep alumni informed about where the university is headed and how they can help advocate for its continued success," Beck says. "Alumni are enthusiastic about rooting for Oregon; we're just as enthusiastic about rooting for alumni." For more on Beck, visit uoalumni.com

—Damian Foley, University Communications

FLASHBACK

1919 The School of Architecture is admitted to the Association of American Schools of Architecture in the spring, joining Harvard, Columbia, and Cornell.

Indicates UOAA Member

1960s

RAMON GUIMARY, BS '60 (business administration), received a 2019 Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement award from publisher Marquis *Who's Who*.

HAROLD BARRETT, PhD '62 (speech), has written a book about the US involvement in Iraq, *Cobesion and Collusion: Promoting the 2003 Invasion of Iraq*.

The painting, *A Thousand Indecisions*, by **LESLIE ANN BUTLER**, BA '69 (speech), was chosen for a three-year exhibition at the US Embassy in Brunei.

1970s

After nearly 40 years in education, **MARIAN YOUNG**, BS '73 (mathematics), retired from her position as human resources director for the Washougal School District in Washington.

BRUCE WONG, BS '75 (political science), was named the *Idaho Business Review's* 2019 CEO of Influence. He is director of the Ada County Highway District.

Karnopp Petersen attorney **Howard Arnett**, JD '77, received the Twanat Award from the Museum at Warm

Springs for nearly four decades of service to the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, and for representing other tribes on treaty rights, tribal sovereignty, and more.

TINKER HATFIELD, BArch '77 (architecture), received a 2019 National Design Award for product design from Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum in New York City.

MICHAEL OSBORNE, MLS '77 (librarianship), professor of the history of science at Oregon State University, received the 2019 Joseph H. Hazen Education Prize for excellence in education from the History of Science Society.

JON LINDSTROM, a member of the class of 1979 (theater arts), reprised the role of Ryan Chamberlain on ABC's *General Hospital*.

1980s

JESSE BARTON, BA '80 (community service and public affairs), authored the sixth "silver anniversary" edition of *Felony Sentencing in Oregon: Guidelines, Statutes, Cases*, a publication of the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

DENNIS MOHATT, BS '81 (psychology), received the 2019 Distinguished

Contributions to Practice in Community Psychology Award from the Society for Community Research and Action.

MICHAEL OTHS, JD '82, began serving as president of the Idaho State Bar in July.

KEVIN WILCOCK, BArch '82 (architecture), was named associate principal for the Honolulu office of architecture firm WRNS Studio.

RICHARD ADAMS, BS '83 (biology), retired after 25 years as a pediatric dentist in Nevada.

CHARLES KANZIG, BA '83 (English), a counselor at Sisters High School in Sisters, retired after nearly 35 years in education.

ROB GEROWE, BS '84 (political science), was hired as major gifts officer for the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut.

BARTON HILL, BS '84 (biology), vice president and chief quality officer at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in Idaho, joined the board of the American Red Cross of Greater Idaho.

JAN HOOD, BA '84 (marketing), joined Southern California's Extensia Financial as a business development officer.



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DUCKS AFIELD

ELAINE SUMINSKI, BS '77 (physical education), stopped for a picture in Santorini while traveling throughout Greece with her husband, Bill.

W. PAUL JONES, MBA '85 (marketing), became a member of the board of directors for J. C. Penney.

JOHN WELLSCHLAGER, BS '85 (sociology), received Bonneville Power Administration's 2019 Workplace or Technology Innovation Award.

PAULA LEE HOBSON, BA '86 (English), was named vice president for college advancement at Hartwick College in New Hampshire.

GERRY SNYDER, BFA '86 (painting), was hired as the first executive director of the University of Arkansas School of Art.

For his work in municipal law, **JEFF SLUGGETT**, JD '86, was named one of the "Best Lawyers in America 2020" by Best Lawyers, a peer-review group.

Former Ducks quarterback **CHRIS MILLER**, a member of the class of 1987 (leisure studies and services), was hired as

offensive coordinator for the Houston team in the XFL.

EUNICE LOVI, BS '88 (speech: rhetoric and communication), MS '92 (public affairs), was appointed transit planning manager for Asheville, North Carolina.

Judge **JOSEPHINE MOONEY**, JD '88, was appointed to the Oregon Court of Appeals.

STEVEN REDDY, BFA '88 (visual design), published

Everyday Sketching and Drawing: Five Steps to a Unique and Personal Sketchbook Habit.

RODNEY UNDERHILL, JD '88, announced he will retire in 2020 after serving more than six years as Multnomah County District Attorney.

1990s

After a long stint with Nike, **JOHN SCHWEITZER**, BS '90 (economics), was named chief executive officer and chief financial officer of Hurley, a surfing apparel company in Costa Mesa, California.

EUGENE GLORIA, MFA '92 (creative writing), published his fourth collection of poems, *Sightseer in the Killing City*, and was appointed the John Rabb Emison Professor of Creative and Performing Art at DePauw University in Indiana, through 2024.

FLASHBACK

1929 The completion of the new Modoc Northern railway line in the fall means national access to the University of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.



DUCKS AFIELD

JODI SNOW WEEBER, BS '73 (sociology), explored 24 centuries of history while within the medieval walls of Rhodes, Greece—one of the best-preserved medieval towns in Europe.

FLASHBACK

1939 A religion department opens in October and emphasizes the need to focus on smaller religions less familiar to the United States in order to “acquaint the students with the far-reaching influences of religion in the cultural history of the world.”

MATT KAUFFMAN, BS '92 (biology), received the 2018 Conservationist of the Year Award from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation for his research on elk migration.

The youngest son of **RICH LAWRENCE**, BA '92 (leisure studies and services), joined his older brother at the UO as fourth-generation Ducks—their great-grandfather was a track-and-field All-American in 1934 and their grandmother attended in the 1960s.

JEFF SMITH, BS '92 (finance), a captain with the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, completed training at the FBI National Academy in Virginia.

TODD HAMILTON, BS '93 (psychology), was named superintendent of the Springfield School District.

KAMALA SHUGAR, BA '93 (political science, journalism: public relations), JD '96, was appointed a judge with the Lane County Circuit Court.

MATT BINKERD, BS '95 (sociology),

was hired as athletics director for Warsaw Community High School in Indiana.

J. BRIAN DAVIS, BS '95 (biology), JD '99, was hired to lead the international tax team in the Washington, DC, office of law firm Baker Hostetler.

MICHELLE LIGHT, BA '95 (history), was appointed director of special collections at the Library of Congress.

MATTHEW KRAUSE, MS '96 (independent study: industrial relations), was appointed senior vice president of human resources with Maze Therapeutics of San Francisco.

MATTHEW THOMAS, PhD '97 (biology), was promoted to professor at the State College of Florida in Bradenton, where he also serves as biotechnology program manager for the associate in science degree in biotech.

Sacramento Magazine named **NICOLE GRANQUIST**, JD '98, a 2019 Top Lawyer in environmental practice.

DEREK STOOPS, BA '98 (Spanish), was chosen to run Clovis Entertainment, a production company that focuses on one-hour drama series under Asylum Entertainment Group.

GREGG WALKER, BS '99 (political science), was hired as senior managing director and head of business development for Divco West, a San Francisco-based real estate company.

2000s

The Alaska-based Rasmuson Foundation awarded **JOHN INGMAN**, BS '00 (music), an Individual Artist project award to advance his work with Irish bagpipes.

Former UO women's basketball player **TASH O'BRIEN**, BS '00 (business administration), MEd '05 (educational leadership), was hired as girls' basketball head coach at South Eugene High School.

CHAE SONNEN, BS '01 (sociology), announced his retirement from mixed martial arts, with a 30-17-1 record over 22 years.

FLASHBACK

1949 Carson Hall opens in November, becoming home to almost 250 female residents. It features an elevator and built-in wash basins in every room.

MELANIE MARCONI, BS '02 (journalism: public relations), founded Vida, a coworking space in Portland designed by women to offer access to onsite, drop-in child care.

FAHAD AL-TURKI, MS '03, PhD '07 (economics), was named vice president of research at King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center in Saudi Arabia.

SARAH BERRY, BA '03 (sociology), has joined McGee Wealth

Management in Tigard as vice president and wealth manager.

KEN COLWELL, PhD '03 (management), was chosen as dean of the School of Business Administration at the University of Houston at Victoria, Texas.

Emmy Award-winning filmmaker **ADAM MARKLE**, BA '03 (sociology), is working on a documentary titled *34 Seconds*, about the struggle for survival and immigrants' experiences on the

US-Mexico border.

CASEY HUNT, BS '04 (sociology), was named to the Pendleton Linebacker's Club Hall of Fame for accomplishments in high school and college wrestling.

KATE SALYERS, BS '04 (economics, business administration), was hired as executive vice president and chief credit officer for Citizens Bank in Corvallis.



DUCKS AFIELD

While on a trip to Antarctica in February, KIP KNIGHT, Med '66 (education), DEd '68 (curriculum and instruction), and his wife, Eileen, stopped for two-dollar homemade vodka and gin shots at Faraday Bar—"the world's southernmost bar"—at Vernadsky Research Station on Galindez Island in Antarctica.

FLASHBACK

1959 The baby boom of the late 1940s triggers a surge in student population in universities nationwide. With the arrival of the Class of '63, *Old Oregon* declares, "The war babies are here!"



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DUCKS AFIELD

NANCY DELANO JEWELL, BS '76 (leisure studies and services), explored the northern wilderness of Juneau, Alaska, this year.

FLASHBACK

1969 Geology scientists Gordon Goles and Daniel Weill are chosen to represent the UO at a national consortium that works with NASA to analyze lunar materials and samples brought back by Apollo astronauts.

ELIZABETH LOCKWOOD, BArch '05 (interior architecture), joined Portland-based architecture firm Mayer/Reed as a space planner and interior designer.

The American Epilepsy Society granted **MELISSA BARKER-HALISKI**, BA '06 (biology), a Junior Investigator Award for research on the impact of aging and aging-related neurological disorders on seizure susceptibility, long-term

disease outcomes, and the testing and therapy of cystic fibrosis.

Former Ducks wrestler **BEAU MALIA**, BEd '09 (family and human services), was hired as wrestling coach at Lockwood High School in Montana.

JAMISON McCUNE, BS '09 (political science), JD '13, an associate with Portland law firm Bodyfelt Mount, was selected for the Rising Stars list in the 2019 issue of *Oregon Super Lawyers*.

2010s

ANYA DOBROWOLSKI, MLA '10, **Bonnie Dominguez**, BS '13 (journalism: public relations), MArch '17, and **Nick Meltzer**, MCRP '14, were named finalists by *Spin* and the Better Block for their part in an international urban design competition—a project idea called ParkLIT, described as a cozy, visually delighting urban lounge.



DUCKS AFIELD

ANITRA TYKESON, BA '86 (leisure studies and services), flew her Ducks flag in front of the Acropolis of Athens, the ancient Greek citadel.

Will Power



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Haley Case-Scott
BA '18 (political science)

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FLASHBACK

1979 Richard Steers and Rosalie Tung become the first US business professors personally invited to China to spend a year studying the country’s emerging role in the international economy.

MARK OSTERMAN, MBA '11 (general business), was promoted to senior sales director for Gates, an automotive parts company headquartered in Denver.

AMELIA MATIER, BS '12 (journalism: news-editorial), was hired as deputy state director in New Hampshire for Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg.

JASON TASHEA, JD '12, a legal affairs writer for the *ABA Journal*, was named

to the 2019 Fastcase 50, which highlights young innovators and forward-thinking legal industry leaders.

CASSIE DONISH, MA '13 (geography), published *The Year of the Femme*, which won the 2018 Iowa Poetry Prize.

Former Ducks footballer **WILL MURPHY**, BS '13 (sociology), was inducted into the West Albany Sports Hall of Fame in Oregon.

WHITNEY BRADSHAW, BA '16 (journalism), was the

producer for *American Beat: Cops and Refugees Join Forces in Boise*, a documentary by Blue Chalk Media, which won an award for public, current, and community affairs at the Northwest Regional Emmy Awards.

CRAIG WIROLL, MPA '16, was named executive director of the Milwaukee Preservation Alliance Board of Directors for an award-winning portfolio of historic preservation research, inclusive public participation, outreach

efforts, and social impact investment.

FRANCISCA BENITEZ, BA '18 (journalism), joined the *Herald and News* in Klamath Falls as the reporter for city government, health, and business.

CHRIS BOUCHER, a member of the class of 2018 (sociology), won his second NBA championship in June with the Toronto Raptors, after taking a 2018 title with the Golden State Warriors.

ANDREW MILNER, MArch '18, joined

Hennebery Eddy Architects of Portland as a design staff member.

BENJAMIN LONERGAN, a member of the class of 2019 (journalism), joined the *East Oregonian* as a multimedia journalist.

IN MEMORIAM

RICHARD PEARSON, BS '50 (business administration), died July 27. He and his wife, Mary, served the Mission One Challenge in Colorado Springs for more than 35 years.

ROBERT DYSART-TOLLEFSON, BS '55 (sociology), died December 28, 2017. He served 30 years with the US Army, including three tours in Vietnam, and retired as a colonel in 1986, receiving the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. He was known for his big heart, storytelling ability, and “punny” sense of humor.

JIM LYNCH, BS '58 (business administration), LLB '61, died July 16. The former trustee with the UO Foundation served as student body president and in the

FLASHBACK

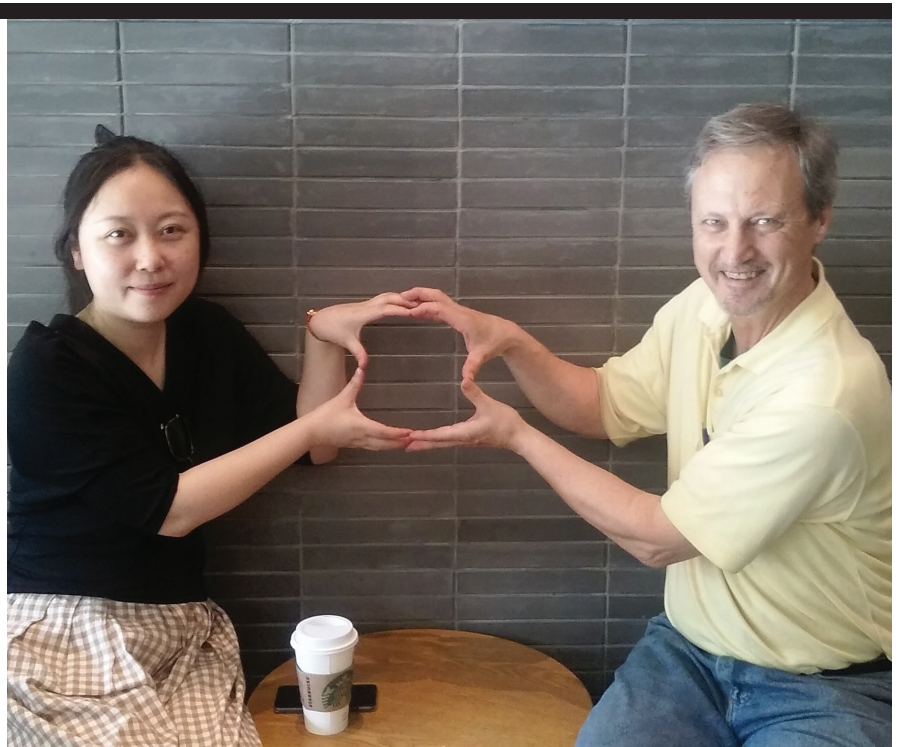
1989 KWAX, the UO’s 24-hour classical music station, expands coverage to include Coos Bay, North Bend, and parts of the southern coast.



IN MEMORIAM

PHILIP ROMERO, 1957–2019
Philip Romero was hired as dean of the Charles H. Lundquist College of Business in 1999 and served until 2004, overseeing record-setting fundraising efforts and construction of the Lillis Business Complex, the iconic building with the big O that overlooks the Memorial Quadrangle.
“He was always concerned about conveying complicated ideas and disentangling them into pieces his students could digest,” says John Chalmers, head of the Department of Finance and the Abbott Keller Professor in Finance. “He was a pleasure to be around.”
After his deanship, Romero taught finance, macro- and microeconomics, and competitive strategy. His strength, according to widow Lita Flores-Romero, MActg '08 (accounting), was understanding “a wide variety of different topic areas and synthesizing them to explain and come up with original ideas.”
Romero worked at Rand Corporation and United Technologies Corporation. In 1991, he became California governor Pete Wilson’s chief economist and later served as chief deputy cabinet secretary.
“If it’s big and complicated,” Wilson once said, “we give it to Romero and he fixes it.”

JACK LIU PHOTOGRAPHY



DUCKS AFIELD

ANDY HOWARD, MA '11 (linguistics), and JIAYI JIANG, MA '11 (linguistics), graduated as classmates from the applied linguistics program. Howard and Jang were photographed in 2012 in Chengdu, China (left), when he was visiting her while teaching at Guizhou Normal University; they were pictured again (right) in June.

A photograph of four people (two men and two women) standing in a row outdoors, smiling. They are dressed in professional business attire.

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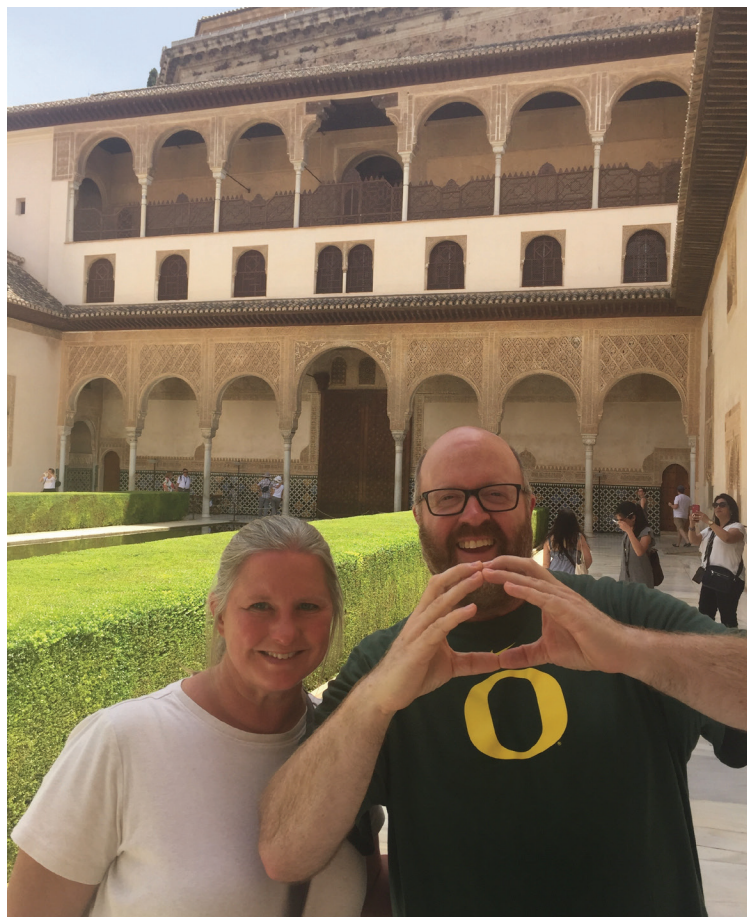
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DUCKS AFIELD

JOHN BREEDEN, BS '78 (marketing), checked off the last box on his travel bucket list this year when he visited Antarctica, the final destination of his seven-continent excursion. As it turns out, Ducks don't freeze!



US Army, as a member of the Judge Advocate General's Corps, receiving an honorable discharge with the rank of captain. He worked in private practice, serving as an attorney for Lake District Hospital in Lakeview, Oregon, and was a member or trustee with numerous organizations, including the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and the Arlington Club of Portland.

LEWIS TYCER, BA '59 (journalism), died May 3. A former officer in the US Air Force, he founded an advertising agency with his wife, Gail, served on boards for Little League baseball and the Oregon Symphonic Band and as president of the Business/Professional Advertising Association.

ERIC LINDNER, BBA '64 (business environment), died June 5. He cofounded the UO rugby club and served as a second lieutenant in the US Air Force. He was successful in business, cofounding the Hanford Healy Companies and founding Situs Holdings.

MERIJAYNE CONKEY, BS '68 (elementary education), died June 5. She taught at

Washington Elementary in Eugene and held multiple positions with international schools. She worked in textbook publishing and then retired in Florida, where she volunteered with schools and community theaters.

MARK JENSEN, BS '76 (sociology), died August 2. He worked for more than 30 years in printing and advertising sales. He loved to sail on the Columbia River and was passionate about history and world travel.

CURTIS MAYHOOD, BS '76 (leisure studies and services), died March 20. He was a restaurant owner in Texas and later a pool table mechanic.

KEVIN LEWIS, BA '85 (finance), MS '86 (educational policy and management), died July 2. He worked in investment banking and was an ardent employer of UO students transitioning to banking in New York City. The avid Ducks football fan was a member of Chi Psi fraternity, the Robert Donald Clark Honors College, Society of Friars, Order of Omega, and the debate and crew teams.

EMILIO BANDIERO, JD '90, died May 8. He arrived at the UO at the age of 50 and founded the Oregon Law Students Public Interest Fund. His legal career spanned 28 years, during which he served on the law school alumni board and took pride in representing defendants of all ages.

TUI TALIA, a member of the class of 2017 (general social science), died May 26. He joined Oregon as ESPN's number-one junior college defensive end and played for the 2014 and 2015 seasons.

FACULTY IN MEMORIAM

FABER DECHAIENE, BS '52 (speech: theater arts), professor emeritus of theater, died April 19. He taught at the UO for almost 30 years, challenging students to ask better questions and never settling for easy answers.

RICHARD RANKIN, professor emeritus of educational psychology, died June 10. He taught at the UO from 1967 until 1993, earning respect from colleagues and students for his work in learning and human intelligence.

FLASHBACK

2009 The US Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association chooses legendary UO coach and Nike pioneer Bill Bowerman as the namesake for an award honoring the nation's top male and female athletes in track and field.

DUCKS AFIELD

BRIAN JARDINE, BA '93 (speech: telecommunication and film), and his wife, Dawn, admired the courtyards at the Nasrid Palaces in the heart of the Alhambra, the Moorish citadel in Granada, Spain.

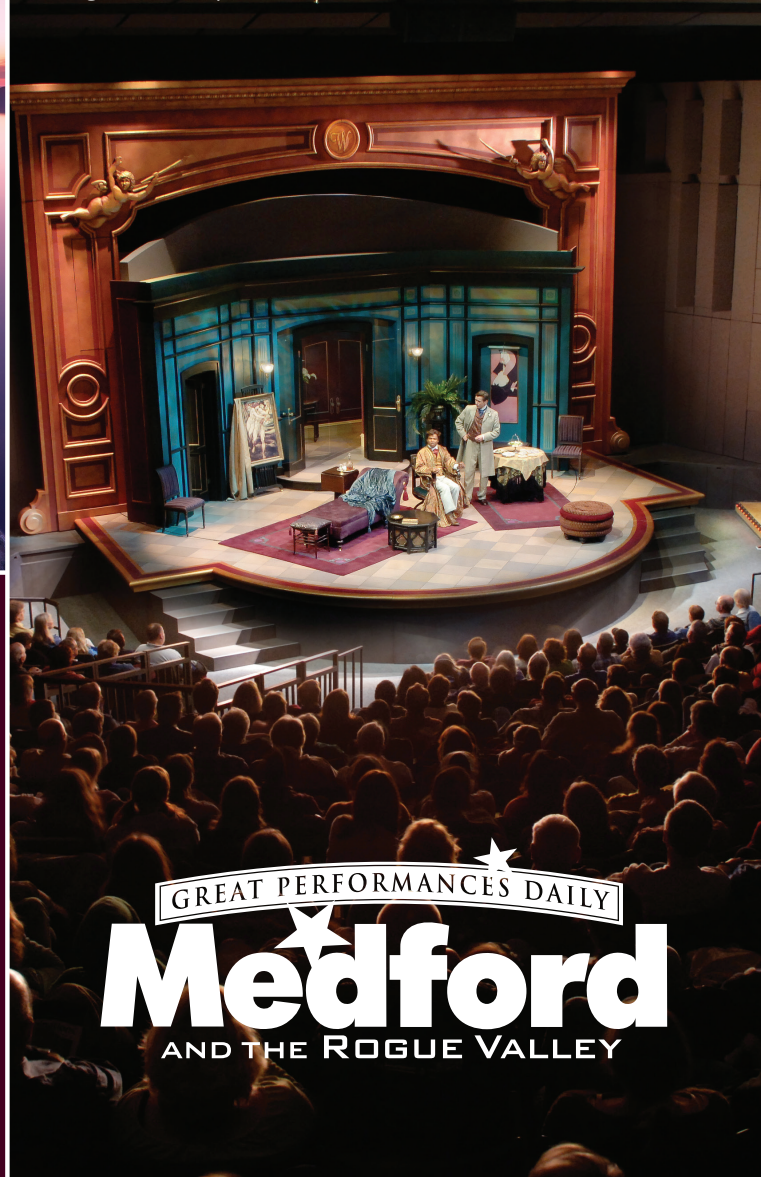
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CLASS NOTABLE

From Music to Medicine

A classical musician is expected to maintain technical perfection and attention to detail; rarely is there room for the slightest mistake. Medicine is no different.

Bronwyn Baz was named one of the Top Doctors of 2019 by *Portland Monthly*. She has been the lead physician for the Northwest Permanente pediatric hospital medicine group at Doernbecher Children's Hospital at Oregon Health and Science University for six years, and marked 10 years of medical practice in August 2018. In her UO days, however, she was a top-flight vocalist.

Baz, BMus '96 (music performance), BS '00 (biology), made the sudden shift to biology and premed after she began to yearn for a more fulfilling career.

"In music and medicine, the UO was essential to my ability to grow and change. The mentoring was so supportive and the classes were so engaging, I wouldn't have gotten where I am today without them pushing me to go further," she says.

Today, Baz loves seeing how her work changes lives every day. That same attention to detail that once allowed her to excel on stage now helps her aid and reassure young families in their time of need.

—Griffin Reilly, *Oregon Quarterly*



DUCKS AFIELD

HUNT NORRIS, BS '73 (economics), traveled with his girlfriend to Hohensalzburg Fortress, Salzburg, Austria.



DUCKS AFIELD

TERRY CRAWFORD, BA '67 (biology), visited the Hungarian Parliament Building in Budapest this summer.



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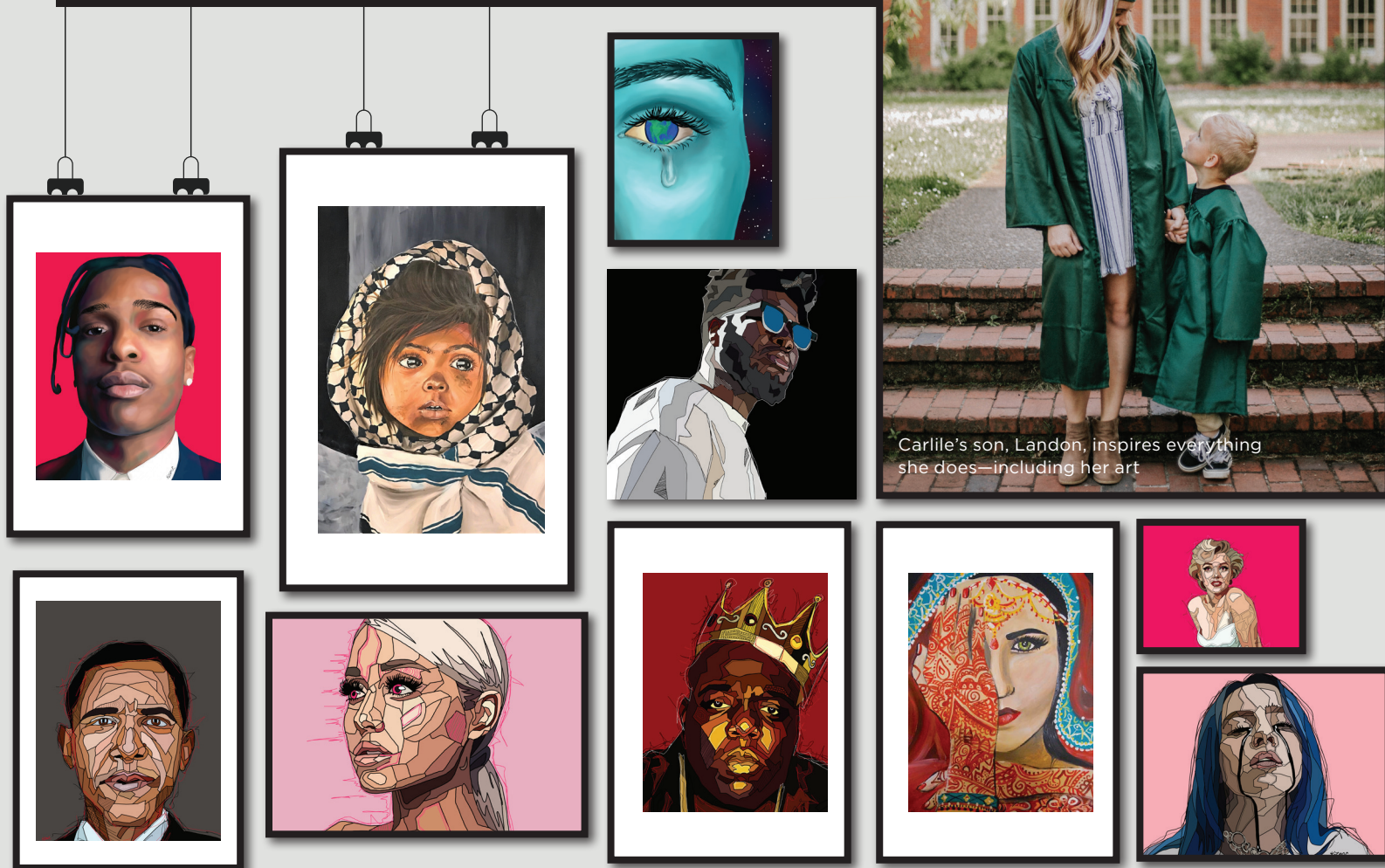
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Carlile's son, Landon, inspires everything she does—including her art

Set Apart, and Soaring

A mother's nontraditional path through college ends with self-acceptance

BY KAYLA CARLILE

When I started my freshman year of high school in 2012, I was determined to prove my academic potential—but I found myself pregnant at the age of 15. It felt like my life was over.

With the support of my parents, I finished high school while working 30 hours a week at a fast-food restaurant. Somehow, I graduated with honors, and to my disbelief I received a

scholarship from the Ford Family Foundation to attend the University of Oregon.

I began at the UO in 2015 and continued to work in the evenings. In a typical day, I would wake up around 6:00 a.m., get myself ready, wake up my son, Landon, get him ready for daycare, and drop him off at 7:00 a.m. Then I would drive to campus, find parking, and get to my 8:00 a.m. class. I would have classes, with breaks, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; during breaks I would eat and do homework. After a day of classes, I would pick up my son and head home, spend some time with him, and then head off at 5:00 p.m. to work my closing shift at a coffee shop. I relied on my parents or my son's father for childcare while I worked, and would return home and go to bed around 11:00 p.m.

I soon realized that I would never be a traditional college student. I would never live in a dorm, I would never join a sorority, I would never have the freedom that my peers did. I dreaded hearing the words “introduce yourself to the class” because I didn't want anyone to know I was a mom.

But in connecting with other Ford scholars, I met individuals who were talented, brave, persevering, multifaceted, and, like myself, didn't fit in. I began to realize that none of us fit in, and that is what made us so special.

As I finished my senior year, I found myself beginning to accept who I was. I realized that embracing what makes you unique shouldn't be embarrassing—it should be empowering and liberating. Now I am pursuing my dreams as a freelance artist; I'm a vendor at Eugene Saturday Market and I sell my artwork online as posters, canvas prints, phone cases, T-shirts, stickers, and more.

I hope my pursuit of higher education, despite difficult circumstances, will inspire Landon to do the same. I teach him the value of education and I hope he will feel motivated to always do his best. Mostly, though, I hope he'll feel comfortable doing what I did: being, unapologetically, yourself.

Kayla Carlile, BA '19 (Spanish), is a freelance artist and Ford Family Foundation scholar who lives in Springfield, Oregon.

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Wine & Spirits

90 points, Year's Best Pinot Noirs

Wine Enthusiast

91 points, Editors' Choice

Wine Spectator

90 points, Daily Wine Picks, \$15-\$30

James Suckling

92 points

Critics Challenge 2018

Gold, 91 points

Great Northwest Invitational

Gold

Great Northwest Wine

Outstanding

Oregon Wine Press

Cellar Selects, 14 Stellar Pinot Noirs

SF Chronicle Wine Competition

Gold

King Estate
Family Owned & Farmed