

PPPM Circle

Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management
School of Architecture and Allied Arts

Spring 2010
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Three new faculty members will join PPPM in fall 2010

Their research adds new areas of expertise that offer excellent partnership opportunities with state and federal agencies in the Northwest.—Rich Margerum

The Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management has successfully filled three positions that were vacant due to faculty retirements. The search areas included (1) health and social policy, (2) environmental policy, and (3) sustainable community development. Richard Margerum, PPPM department head noted, "We received a large and outstanding pool of applications for all three positions and we are very excited to have Colleen, Grant, and Gerardo joining us this fall." The new faculty members will fill some key teaching areas in the public administration and community and regional planning programs.



Gerardo Sandoval holds a Ph.D. and M.C.P. from the University of California, Berkeley, in city and regional planning. His work focuses on economic and community development in both rural small towns and inner-city neighborhoods in metropolitan areas, particularly the revitalization of low-income marginal communities. He has conducted research in California, the Midwest, Latin America, and Japan, focusing on community impacts of urban infrastructure projects, immigrants' revitalization of urban and rural communities, and coadaptation of immigrant and host communities.



Colleen Chrisinger's research measures the effects of labor market policies on workforce training, job creation, and issues such as wage regulation on family economic conditions. Her current projects include an analysis of earnings growth among workforce training participants and a comparison of occupational and industry-based economic clusters. Chrisinger is completing her Ph.D. in public policy and management at the University of Washington. She has a master's degree in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a master's degree in social research methods from the London School of Economics, and a B.S. in mathematics from Willamette University.



Grant Jacobsen's research and teaching interests lie at the intersection of environmental economics and environmental policy, particularly within the context of climate change and energy. His research has focused on various issues related to renewable energy, energy efficiency, climate change awareness, and voluntary carbon offsets. Grant comes to PPPM via the University of California at Santa Barbara, where he is completing his Ph.D. in economics and participated as a fellow in the National Science Foundation-funded Economics and Environmental Science program.



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

From the Department Head

Headlines



ways. So I thought I would offer some PPPM headlines you won't see on ESPN.

PPPM Faculty Spanning the Globe: Marc Schlossberg was awarded a Fulbright to conduct research on alternative transportation and sustainable cities for a year in Sheffield, England. Renee Irvin was awarded a Fulbright to research the nonprofit sector in China. Jessica Greene recently received a year-long Commonwealth Fund Fellowship to study health care policy in Australia.

PPPM Students Recognized: Ben Eckstein is a finalist for the prestigious Truman Scholarship. Colin Lamb is a Presidential Management Fellows finalist. Mark Nystrom and Justin Overdeest were selected as finalists for The Oregon Fellowships Program. Price Armstrong was awarded a scholarship to attend the Transportation Research Board's conference in New Orleans.

Sustainable City Year Wows Gresham, Oregon: Faculty members and students from over twenty classes, ranging from architecture to PPPM to business and law, are focusing on sustainability issues in this diverse Portland-area suburb. All three fall term graduate planning classes focused their group project on a redevelopment site in the Rockwood area, producing four different concept plans for the city of Gresham.

Actually, some of these stories really have generated headlines. There have been more than ten articles on the Gresham, Oregon, Sustainable City Year alone. Even the lighthearted activities of our students have made the local paper, such as the brave efforts of our graduate students to take a Polar Bear challenge and raise money for a worthy charity.

In these times of economic downturn and unsettling news, it's exciting for me to come in to work each day and hear about all of these accomplishments. I hope these headlines give you hope as well.

Rich Margerum
Department Head
rdm@uoregon.edu

Department News

Sustainable Cities Year: Gresham, Oregon

The Sustainable Cities Initiative (SCI) has experienced significant development and reach over the past few months. The Sustainable City Year program, at the center of SCI's goals, has gained local, national, and international attention.

What initially started with a handful of planning and architecture courses has expanded to reach over twenty-two university courses, six disciplines, fifteen faculty members, and over 350 students. SCI faculty members and students have logged in over 50,000 hours to date, creating awe-inspiring and meaningful projects, all furthering the sustainability efforts of the city of Gresham, Oregon.

Apart from Sustainable City Year, SCI submitted a white paper, by request, to the USDOT on livability performance metrics, and the Oregon Department of Transportation will be supporting SCI to test out those metrics within Oregon. Internationally, SCI gave two presentations in the United Kingdom about the organization and work of SCI, with attendees committing to try to emulate the basic goals of SCI. In May, SCI will bring Professor Jonathan Levine, chair of the University of Michigan's City and Regional Planning program to spend a week engaging in-depth with students, faculty members, and community residents in Eugene and Portland. This year, the SCI has engaged in the creation of a robust and energetic state of practice and has become a knowledge catalyst for helping cities transition to more sustainable practice. For more information visit, sci.uoregon.edu.



Graduate students in planning and architecture meet with staff from City of Gresham, Rockwood Redevelopment Commission, and local residents.

Student News

PPPM Students Win Honors

Ben Eckstein, a PPPM and Clark Honors College undergraduate student, has been selected as a finalist for the nationally prestigious Harry S. Truman Scholarship, which is awarded to sixty individuals nationwide.

Colin Lamb, a graduate student in public administration, has been named a finalist for the Presidential Management Fellow Program, a highly competitive program established to attract outstanding graduate students to federal service. Colin was one of two UO graduate students to be selected this year. Nationally, 6,800 students were nominated and 869 were selected as finalists.

Mark Nystrom, a graduate student in public administration, and **Justin Overdeest**, a UO graduate student in the nonprofit management certificate program, were selected as finalists for The Oregon Fellowships Program, a highly competitive and nationally recognized summer fellowship program. This year 218 students applied and twenty-two finalists were chosen based on their academic achievement, experience, and commitment to public service.

Price Armstrong, a graduate student in public administration, is one of six graduate students nationwide to be awarded a \$1,500 scholarship to attend the Transportation Research Board's conference in New Orleans.

Heidi Blaine has been selected as a finalist for the 2010 Local Government Management Fellowship sponsored by the



Students Jeremy Sande, Kate MacFarland, and Kevin Belanger organized the seventh Annual Region X Student Transportation Conference in November. The event brought together over eighty people to talk about sustainability in transportation.

International City-County Management Association. This career development opportunity for recent master's program graduates includes management experience under the guidance of senior government leaders and rotational assignments.

Korin Bishop, a PPPM and Clark Honors College undergraduate student, was selected for a highly competitive summer internship at The Carter Center in Atlanta. She will join interns from around the world who are committed to human rights and the alleviation of human suffering.

Faculty Spotlight

Marc Schlossberg has been awarded the "Best Use of Technology to Improve a Plan or Planning Process" by the Technology Division of the American Planning Association. The award is in recognition for the innovative tool development that merges the sophistication of GIS, the convenience of handheld computers, and the participation of the public in spatial assessments of their communities. The Mobile GIS tools mostly focus on Safe Routes to School and Complete Streets, two new directions of federal transportation priorities that seek to increase the livability of communities. Marc was assisted in this ongoing project by graduate students **Christo Brehm**, **Cody Evers**, and **Dana Maher** and alumnus **Jake Callister**, MCRP '07.

Robert Young is working on a research project examining Oregon's "boom-bust" economic cycles and exploring whether current "green" economic development initiatives within the state can provide a remedy for these cycles. He recently presented some preliminary findings on this study as part of his keynote address in the Transformational Lecture Series to the Cascadia chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council.

Richard Margerum and **Robert Parker** completed a study in 2009 assessing the roles and activities of Oregon's Area Commissions on Transportation. The ODOT-funded study was co-led by Susan Brody of the National Policy Consensus Center

at Portland State University. The study involved stakeholder interviews, an online survey of over 300 transportation officials, case studies of three Oregon acts and an analysis of regional structures in Washington, California, and Iowa. The final report is available on the ODOT website, www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP_RES/docs/Reports/2009/ACT_Report.pdf.

Mike Hibbard of the UO and **Sue Lurie**, '95, MCRP '97, of the OSU Institute for Natural Resources continue their collaborative work on the community socioeconomic benefits of ecosystem restoration. One of their current projects is to monitor the economic impact of restoration work on the upper Middle Fork John Day River (MFJD) in eastern Oregon. NOAA Fisheries and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board have designated the MFJD to be an intensively monitored watershed and are supporting the work.

As a coprincipal investigator, **Yizhao Yang** received a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to evaluate the effectiveness of Safe Route to School Program strategies implemented in several schools in Eugene. This is a collaborative work between Yang and professor Noreen McDonald from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Yang also received an award from UO Global Scholar Program to study sustainability-related efforts in China's urban planning practice and education.



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School of Architecture and Allied Arts
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
1209 University of Oregon
Eugene OR 97403-1209

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Want to connect with former classmates? Looking for other PPPM alumni in your area? Want to improve your professional networks? The PPPM department has launched a new PPPM group through the commercial website LinkedIn.

1. Visit www.linkedin.com.
2. Create an account by filling out your profile information.
3. Join the PPPM group by clicking on "groups" and search for PPPM.

You will be notified of your acceptance.

119 Hendricks Hall
1209 University of Oregon
Eugene OR 97403-1209
541-346-3635
pppm@uoregon.edu

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UO class chooses Eugene youth agency for \$5,000 Wells Fargo grant



One thousand hot meals, twenty-five warm beds, and fifteen temporary jobs will be among the benefits provided to homeless youths in Eugene through a collaborative effort of the University of Oregon, Wells Fargo, and Hosea Youth Services.

As part of their studies, the twenty-three students in PPPM's American Philanthropy freshman seminar solicited grant applications and conducted research about local nonprofit groups. After reviewing thirty possibilities, the students made site visits to five agencies and then voted to allocate a \$5,000 grant from Wells Fargo to Hosea Youth Services (HYS) in Eugene.

"We're just delighted that this program has been such a success again. It's been a great partnership," said Paul Elstone, class instructor and senior director for corporate and foundation relations in the UO Development Office. He said he receives calls from other universities around the country that have heard about the class.

"For nine years Wells Fargo has been collaborating with the university on this class, resulting in \$45,000 in donations to local community groups," Dave Frosaker, Wells Fargo senior trust officer, told the students. "It's been gratifying to me to see young students come in, hit the ground running, and learn about philanthropy. The thorough job you do in researching worthy community groups is really impressive."

HYS and its 300 volunteers serve about 1,000 youths between the ages of twelve and twenty-three annually. The twelve-year-old agency operates a shelter with food, laundry facilities, showers, job coaching, training, and placement services.

"Thanks for seeing the value and potential of kids with no addresses," said Ken Harvey, HYS executive director. "Thank you for having the vision to collaborate with Wells Fargo to help the community."