

Inside Oregon

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- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

June 26, 2006

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New facility will strengthen connection between university and its graduates

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Announcements and Events

[Neuroscientist receives grant to study autism](#)

[Workshop to highlight international research, study](#)

[Inventive business ideas win first place at Venture Quest](#)

[Thelen to handle purchase of advertising](#)

[Full story »](#)

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[Full story »](#)

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[Full story »](#)

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[Full story »](#)

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Inside Oregon

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

July 10, 2006

University receives new graduate-training grant ***The \$3.2 million grant expands workforce training in materials science and nanoscience***

The University of Oregon has received a five-year, \$3.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) that will further unite Oregon universities with international technology companies.

[Full story »](#)

Stangeland Foundation gives

Announcements and Events

[Workshop to highlight international research, study](#)

[UTNE Magazine's website features](#)

[Flux](#)

[Classified staff scholarship winners announced](#)

[Contact Us](#)

\$700,000 for Bach Festival's Youth Choral Academy ***Gift brings festival halfway to \$10 million endowment goal***

Keeping classical music alive and transforming the lives of young people are the goals that inspired The Roger and Lilah Stangeland Foundation to donate \$700,000 for the Oregon Bach Festival's Youth Choral Academy, festival director Royce Saltzman announced earlier this month.

[Full story »](#)

Chemistry professor named to federal hydrogen fuel committee



Geri Richmond, the University Of Oregon's Richard M. and Patricia H. Noyes Professor of Chemistry, has been named to the U.S.

Department of Energy's new Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technical Advisory Committee.

[Full story »](#)

Researchers begin to unearth John Day's old Chinatown

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A research team from the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural

History is piecing together what life was like for the hundreds of Chinese who lived in John Day during the late 19th century.

[Full story »](#)

University to study effect of behavior program on middle-school students' alcohol, drug use ***National Institute on Drug Abuse funds grant to study College of Education behavior program***

Researchers at the University of Oregon Institute on Violence and Destructive Behavior have received a \$3.3 million, federal grant to study the impact on drug and alcohol abuse of Positive Behavioral Support—a model program for school-wide behavior designed at the university and now used around the world.

[Full story »](#)

Hubert H. Humphrey fellows to study at university

The American English Institute at the University of Oregon will host 23 Hubert H. Humphrey fellows from 20 countries, including Afghanistan, Syria and Niger.

[Full story »](#)

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FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

June 26, 2006

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Headlines

[Roseburg couple gives \\$5 million for alumni center](#)

[University receives grant to fund study of Asian languages](#)

[Researchers show how resident bacteria shape gut development](#)

[Lichtenstein exhibition opens at Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art](#)

"Welcome home" is the message university officials plan to send alumni, students, faculty and visitors with the planned construction of the university's first [alumni center](#).

University President Dave Frohnmayer recently announced that Cheryl Ramberg Ford '66 and her husband, Allyn Ford, president of Roseburg Forest Products, have made a \$5 million lead gift for the new center. The gift launches a drive to raise a total of \$15 million to \$20 million in private donations to fund the project. Cheryl Ramberg Ford is the incoming president of the [University of Oregon Alumni Association \(UOAA\)](#).

"Because of the generosity of the Fords and future donors, alumni and other visitors will now have a home base on campus," Frohnmayer said. "The new center will serve as a bridge to bring all parts of the University of Oregon family together and to strengthen the bonds that tie all of us to the university's rich heritage and bright future. The alumni center will also form part of a more inviting new east entryway to the campus."

In addition, the center will bring the university up to par with the rest of the Pacific-10 Conference universities, all of which have alumni centers.

The proposed location for the new center is a site along Franklin Boulevard between Agate Street and 13th Avenue. The site is now occupied by an employee parking lot.

"It's important for alumni to have a place to

[Office of Public and Media Relations welcomes science communications professional](#)

Announcements and Events

[Neuroscientist receives grant to study autism](#)

[Workshop to highlight international research, study](#)

[Inventive business ideas win first place at Venture Quest](#)

[Thelen to handle purchase of advertising](#)

[Register for Craft Center classes now](#)

gather and call their own," said Cheryl Ford. "We want more alumni to get involved with the university and the new center will encourage that involvement."

"The future of the university is very much tied to its alumni because increasingly, they are the ones providing the leadership and resources for the university to move forward," said Allyn Ford. "The new alumni center will provide a focus point for this very important group of people."

"An alumni center on the University of Oregon campus has been a dream of many for several years," said Jeff Nudelman '83 of Lake Oswego, outgoing president of the UOAA. "The construction of a first-class alumni center is critical to enable the UOAA to continue to serve as the premier constituency organization for the University. This incredibly generous gift from the Fords will allow the university to maintain and strengthen connections with its students, faculty, alumni and the community for generations to come."

At their recently concluded meetings, both the UOAA and the University of Oregon Foundation boards voted to support fundraising and construction of the alumni center. "Our aspiration is to be among the top 25 public research universities in the United States," said Bob Kraus '63, chair of the University of Oregon Foundation Board. "To achieve, that, we need the tools to generate the resources to fuel that vision. The Alumni Center is essential to achieving that vision."

The new center, which has not yet been

designed, will contain an assembly hall/ ballroom with catering facilities, conference and meeting room space, display areas to recognize university history and alumni accomplishments, and offices for the Alumni Association, University of Oregon Foundation and the university's Office of Development. These organizations are currently housed in Agate Hall, a building originally constructed as an elementary school in 1924 that is not equipped to meet the long-range needs of the university's outreach operations.

The timeline for construction of the new center has not yet been determined.

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Public and Media Relations is the University of Oregon's primary office for news, as well as internal and marketing communications.

Fact Sheet: University of Oregon Alumni Center

:: FAQs

[For Journalists](#)
[For Campus Audiences](#)

:: Facts & Figures

[Catalog](#)
[Points of Pride](#)
[University Facts and History \(in progress\)](#)
[University Profile](#)
[Virtual Tour](#)

:: News Services

[Archives](#)
[Audio Files](#)
[Images](#)
[Maps and Directions](#)
[Media Responses](#)
[News Releases](#)

:: Select Publications

[Inquiry](#)
[Inside Oregon](#)

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A [Public and Government Affairs](#) website.

PROPOSED LOCATION:

On Franklin Blvd. between Agate St. and 13th Ave. The Alumni Center site is now occupied by an employee parking lot.

COST:

Estimated \$15-\$20 million, all from private gifts.

PURPOSES:

- Provide a new campus gateway and welcoming home base for alumni and other visitors.
- Strengthen UO connections with alumni and prospective donors.
- Expand programs and activities to reach a broader alumni audience.
- Supply more meeting and event space for activities of alumni, students, faculty, and the public.
- Recognize and celebrate the values, traditions, and history of the university.
- Encourage lifelong relationships between alumni and the university by boosting visibility of the UO Alumni Association among students.
- Maximize the effectiveness of the Alumni Association, the UO Foundation, and Office of Development by providing a better public image and a better working environment for their employees.
- Provide a better bridge for alumni between athletic and academic activities.
- Bring the UO up to par with the rest of the PAC-10 universities, which all have alumni centers.

FEATURES:

- A reception and lobby area to welcome university visitors and to serve as an engaging, easy place to meet and gather.
- An innovative, interactive, multimedia space to present the university story in ways that will allow visitors to understand and experience Oregon from the moment they arrive on campus.
- Space to house and display university history, showcase alumni accomplishments, recognize donors, and illustrate the impact our graduates have had on the university, on Oregon, and on society.
- An assembly hall/ballroom with catering facilities to accommodate seating for the numerous dining and conference events currently held on the campus and throughout the community by schools, colleges, and departments of the university.
- Conference- and meeting-room space to accommodate various small campus meetings and events.
- Administrative offices to house the Alumni Association, Foundation, and Office of Development.

Inside Oregon

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

June 26, 2006

Neuroscientist receives grant to study autism



Phil Washbourne, an assistant professor at

Headlines

[Roseburg couple gives \\$5 million for alumni center](#)

[University receives grant to fund study of Asian languages](#)

[Researchers show how resident bacteria shape gut development](#)

[Lichtenstein exhibition opens at Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art](#)

the university's [Institute of Neuroscience](#) has received a grant to study the regions of the brain affected by autism.

Autism Speaks – formerly the National Alliance for Autism Research – has awarded Washbourne nearly \$120,000 for two years of research. Washbourne will attempt to pinpoint a cellular and molecular basis for autism. He will be investigating the role played by a protein called neuroligin in cell adhesion, a process which not only stabilizes cellular connections in the brain, but also creates new ones. This experiment will build on other projects in the lab in which researchers are studying exactly how synapses – connections between neurons – are formed with the help of neuroligin. Washbourne plans to generate a strain of mouse with a mutation of neuroligin which can be "turned on" and "turned off" in specific regions of the brain, thus allowing scientists to observe the impact of the protein on brain function and behavior.

Washbourne received his doctorate in molecular cellular neurobiology in 1999 from the University of Padova, Italy. He worked at the University of New Mexico and the University of California, Davis before coming to the University of Oregon in 2004.

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Announcements and Events

[Neuroscientist receives grant to study autism](#)

[Workshop to highlight international research, study](#)

[Inventive business ideas win first place at Venture Quest](#)

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Inside Oregon

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

June 26, 2006

Workshop to highlight international research, study

The [Office of International Programs](#) will host a workshop on July 12 to highlight international research, study and internship opportunities.

Topics will include tips on how to be a competitive candidate for international programs, including the Fulbright, Rotary and Gilman scholarships.

The workshop will run from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the Fir Room of the Erb Memorial Union. For more information, call 346-3207 or e-

Headlines

[Roseburg couple gives \\$5 million for alumni center](#)

[University receives grant to fund study of Asian languages](#)

[Researchers show how resident bacteria shape gut development](#)

[Lichtenstein exhibition opens at Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art](#)

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[Office of Public and Media Relations
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Announcements and Events

[Neuroscientist receives grant to
study autism](#)

[Workshop to highlight international
research, study](#)

[Inventive business ideas win first
place at Venture Quest](#)

[Thelen to handle purchase of
advertising](#)

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FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

June 26, 2006

Inventive business ideas win first place at Venture Quest

An innovative way to hang cable and a plan for an online newspaper earned teams of students top honors at the [Lundquist Center for Entrepreneurship's Venture Quest](#) business competition earlier this month at the university's Lillis Business Complex.

In the undergraduate business major competition, the Guide Tek team won for its plan for an easy-to-use cable hanging solution for low-voltage communication cable. In the undergraduate business minor competition, the PeerPress team won for a

Headlines

[Roseburg couple gives \\$5 million for alumni center](#)

[University receives grant to fund study of Asian languages](#)

[Researchers show how resident bacteria shape gut development](#)

[Lichtenstein exhibition opens at Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art](#)

concept plan that builds an online newspaper showcasing the work of student journalists.

Venture Quest is an annual competition of students from the [Charles H. Lundquist College of Business](#). Each first-place team received a cash award of \$500, with additional cash awards earned by the runner-up teams in each competition category. Three teams of three-to-four business minors competed against each other, while in a separate classification three teams of three-to-four business majors also vied against one another. Team presentations are judged on the viability of concept, the quality of presentations, and each team's ability to handle inquiries. Cash prizes are awarded with support from Umpqua Bank.

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Announcements and Events

[Neuroscientist receives grant to study autism](#)

[Workshop to highlight international research, study](#)

[Inventive business ideas win first place at Venture Quest](#)

[Thelen to handle purchase of advertising](#)

[Register for Craft Center classes now](#)

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Inside Oregon

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

June 26, 2006

Thelen to handle purchase of advertising

Susan Thelen, advertising and marketing director in Creative Publishing, has taken on an additional role as liaison within Public and Government Affairs for the design, purchase and placement of paid university advertising in print and electronic media.

Thelen will oversee advertising collateral, such as signage, video and audio. She also will be the point of contact for media vendors soliciting advertising from the university.

Thelen can be reached at sthelen@uoregon.

Headlines

[Roseburg couple gives \\$5 million for alumni center](#)

[University receives grant to fund study of Asian languages](#)

[Researchers show how resident bacteria shape gut development](#)

[Lichtenstein exhibition opens at Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art](#)

edu.

Office of Public and Media Relations
welcomes science communications
professional

Announcements and Events

Neuroscientist receives grant to
study autism

Workshop to highlight international
research, study

Inventive business ideas win first
place at Venture Quest

Thelen to handle purchase of
advertising

Register for Craft Center classes
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Inside Oregon

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

June 26, 2006

University receives grant to fund study of Asian languages

The university's [Center for Asian and Pacific Studies](#) has been awarded a \$778,000 federal grant for graduate students to study Asian languages as part of the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships Program.

The grant will fund six academic-year and five summer FLAS fellowships each year from 2006 through 2010. FLAS funding is administered by the U.S. Department of Education under Title VI of the Higher Education Act.

Headlines

[Roseburg couple gives \\$5 million for alumni center](#)

[University receives grant to fund study of Asian languages](#)

[Researchers show how resident bacteria shape gut development](#)

[Lichtenstein exhibition opens at Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art](#)

The FLAS program provides tuition and a stipend for university graduate students who are doing advanced language training in Chinese, Japanese or Korean in combination with area studies, international studies or international aspects of professional studies. To be eligible for funds, students must be U. S. citizens or permanent residents.

[Office of Public and Media Relations welcomes science communications professional](#)

Announcements and Events

[Neuroscientist receives grant to study autism](#)

[Workshop to highlight international research, study](#)

[Inventive business ideas win first place at Venture Quest](#)

[Thelen to handle purchase of advertising](#)

[Register for Craft Center classes now](#)

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[Programs](#) [Events](#) [Affiliated Faculty](#) [Funding Opportunities](#) [About CAPS](#) [CAPS Home](#)

Center for Asian and Pacific Studies

The Center for Asian and Pacific Studies brings together the University of Oregon's diverse programs and expertise related to the study of Asia and the Pacific. The center's affiliated faculty members are engaged in teaching and research on the peoples, histories, languages, cultural traditions, and economies of East, South, and Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands.

Upcoming Events Presented or Cosponsored by CAPS

Monday, July 31, 2006

Jeremiah Lecture Series

" Deep Listening, Deep Hearing: Buddhism and Psychotherapy East & West"

Dr. Jan Chozen Bays, M.D., Abbot, Great Vow Zen Monastery

Gerlinger Lounge

7:00 pm

Announcement:

CAPS is pleased to announce that our application to the US Department of Education for Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships in East Asian Studies has been funded. For more information, please visit our [funding](#) page.

For a complete listing our of events, please visit our [Events](#) page.

[Programs](#) | [Events](#) | [Affiliated Faculty](#) | [Funding Opportunities](#) | [About CAPS](#) | [CAPS Home](#)

**To learn more about the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, please contact
Center for Asian and Pacific Studies**

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Inside Oregon

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

June 26, 2006

Researchers show how resident bacteria shape gut development

Understanding this development could prove useful in finding treatments for some diseases

University researchers have shown that bacteria residing in the intestine shape gut development by means of several distinct signaling mechanisms.

This research is now available in the online version of the journal *Developmental Biology* and will be published in the journal's August print edition.

Headlines

[Roseburg couple gives \\$5 million for alumni center](#)

[University receives grant to fund study of Asian languages](#)

[Researchers show how resident bacteria shape gut development](#)

[Lichtenstein exhibition opens at Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art](#)

The researchers, led by Karen Guillemin, assistant professor of biology at the [Institute of Molecular Biology](#), used "germ-free" zebrafish grown in sterile bubbles to examine how gut development differs in the absence of bacteria. They then added back individual bacterial strains or bacterial molecules to identify what signals were able to reverse different germ-free traits back to those of fish reared with normal gut bacteria. In one case, they found that a common component of the bacterial cell wall could restore normal levels of an intestinal enzyme whereas another trait, expression of a sugar on the intestinal cells, was regulated by specific members of the gut bacterial community.

"These findings demonstrate how germ-free zebrafish can be used to dissect the molecular dialogue between gut bacteria and their hosts," said Guillemin. "This is a dialogue which is important for the maturation of the gut during normal development and is likely to turn hostile in human conditions such as inflammatory bowel disease. A complete understanding of this dialogue could direct us toward better treatments for these diseases."

[Office of Public and Media Relations welcomes science communications professional](#)

Announcements and Events

[Neuroscientist receives grant to study autism](#)

[Workshop to highlight international research, study](#)

[Inventive business ideas win first place at Venture Quest](#)

[Thelen to handle purchase of advertising](#)

[Register for Craft Center classes now](#)

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Inside Oregon

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

June 26, 2006

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"Roy Lichtenstein Prints: 1956-97," an

Headlines

[Roseburg couple gives \\$5 million for alumni center](#)

[University receives grant to fund study of Asian languages](#)

[Researchers show how resident bacteria shape gut development](#)

[Lichtenstein exhibition opens at Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art](#)

exhibition featuring nearly 80 works from the collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and his family foundation, opened earlier this month at the university's [Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art](#).

This is this exhibition's only showing in Oregon>. The exhibition will run through Aug. 27. Organized by the Washington State University Museum of Art, in consultation with the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation, the exhibit spans more than 40 years Lichtenstein's career, ranging from his first proto-pop image made in 1956 to the print he was working on at the time of his death in 1997. Although best known for his comic book images, Lichtenstein took on a wide range of subjects and genres, including still life, portraiture, landscape, abstraction and modern art history. The distinctive look of his work is defined by primary colors, Benday dot patterns, stripes and strong outlines.

Museum hours are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for senior citizens, high school students and non-University of Oregon college students with identification. Admission is free to children 13 and under, museum members and University of Oregon faculty, staff and students. For information, contact the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, (541) 346-3027.

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Announcements and Events

[Neuroscientist receives grant to study autism](#)

[Workshop to highlight international research, study](#)

[Inventive business ideas win first place at Venture Quest](#)

[Thelen to handle purchase of advertising](#)

[Register for Craft Center classes now](#)

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Inside Oregon

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

June 26, 2006

Register for Craft Center classes now

Register now for Craft Center classes in ceramics, painting and drawing, glassblowing, metals, woodworking, photography, bicycle repair, cooking, and much more, Registration will continue until classes are filled or have started. For more information, or to register online, visit <http://craftcenter.uoregon.edu>, or call 346-4361.

Headlines

[Roseburg couple gives \\$5 million for alumni center](#)

[University receives grant to fund study of Asian languages](#)

[Researchers show how resident bacteria shape gut development](#)

[Lichtenstein exhibition opens at Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art](#)

[Office of Public and Media Relations
welcomes science communications
professional](#)

Announcements and Events

[Neuroscientist receives grant to
study autism](#)

[Workshop to highlight international
research, study](#)

[Inventive business ideas win first
place at Venture Quest](#)

[Thelen to handle purchase of
advertising](#)

[Register for Craft Center classes
now](#)

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Inside Oregon

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

- [Home](#)
- [Publishing Schedule](#)
- [Submit News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

June 26, 2006

Office of Public and Media Relations welcomes science communications professional

The Office of Public and Media Relations has hired an experienced specialist to manage the science and research communications portfolio.

Jim Barlow starts work July 10. His office will be in Public and Media Relations in Johnson Hall.

For more than decade, Barlow worked for University of Illinois as research editor of life sciences. There, he acted as a liaison with

Headlines

[Roseburg couple gives \\$5 million for alumni center](#)

[University receives grant to fund study of Asian languages](#)

[Researchers show how resident bacteria shape gut development](#)

[Lichtenstein exhibition opens at Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art](#)

national and regional media, translated research into news stories and advised faculty on media relations and strategies.

Barlow has a strong record of working with faculty to promote research. He is a member of the National Association of Science Writers. Prior to working in communications for research universities, Barlow worked for a number of years as a daily reporter in print and broadcast journalism.

Barlow's experience promoting university research and his background as a daily journalist makes Jim a great addition to the Office of Public and Media Relations.

[Office of Public and Media Relations welcomes science communications professional](#)

Announcements and Events

[Neuroscientist receives grant to study autism](#)

[Workshop to highlight international research, study](#)

[Inventive business ideas win first place at Venture Quest](#)

[Thelen to handle purchase of advertising](#)

[Register for Craft Center classes now](#)

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