

the uo's newsletter for faculty, staff, and graduate teaching fellows

december 20, 2004

▶ featured stories

**Major Openings, Events Will Help Usher in the New Year**

< Marilyn Monroe, a screen print from the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art's inaugural special exhibition. The print is from the collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation, © 2004 Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts/ARS.

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▶ potpourri

points
of
pride**New Kiosk Showcases UO Excellence**

A rich, cutting-edge, multimedia kiosk showcasing university excellence made its debut at Autzen Stadium in late November and soon will be popping up around the university and on the road.

▶ [Full Story...](#)

Featured Author

**Historian Chronicles Burning of Honolulu's Chinatown**

A new book by University of Oregon History Professor James Mohr is the first in-depth account of the epic story behind the burning of Honolulu's Chinatown during the bubonic plague epidemic of 1900.

▶ [Full Story...](#)**UO Chemists Create Molecular 'Claws' To Trap Arsenic Atoms**

< Graduate student Jake Vickaryous (left) and Darren Johnson, assistant professor of chemistry, use a new X-ray diffractometer (behind them) to confirm the structure of molecular crystals at the sub-nanometer scale.

Chemists at the University of Oregon have hit upon a way to build a molecular "claw" that grabs arsenic and sequesters it. The discovery, published in the Nov. 5 international edition of *Angewandte Chemie*, a premier journal in the field of chemistry, could eventually lead to improved treatments for arsenic poisoning.

▶ [Full Story...](#)

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Living-Learning Center Groundbreaking is Jan. 31

< Artist's rendition of the Living-Learning Center

University Housing will host a groundbreaking ceremony for the Living-Learning Center (LLC) at 9 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 31, on the northwest corner of the construction site on East 15th Avenue between the Earl and Walton Hall complexes. Festivities will include remarks from UO President Dave Frohnmayer and prize drawings for residence hall students.

[Full Story...](#)



Weather Policy Updated

< In front of Oregon Hall during last year's snow storm

Last winter's snow and ice storms prompted a review of the UO's response to inclement weather, especially decisions regarding campus closure. A new policy has been adopted that includes a wider array of closure options.

[Full Story...](#)

Lotte Streisinger Provides Insider's Look at UO Research Excellence

An insider's illuminating and very personal account of the origins of the University of Oregon Institute of Molecular Biology and its place as a world-leading research center was published recently by the UO Press.

[Full Story...](#)



Imaginary Friend Research Draws Worldwide Media Interest

< Marjorie Taylor (left), Caitlin Goodman, and a graphic artist's representation of Caitlin's "imaginary" friend. Photo illustration © 1999 David Goodman, Jack Liu Photography

The latest research findings about imaginary playmates reported by Marjorie Taylor, professor of psychology and department chair, have created a global sensation in news media during the past several weeks.

[Full Story...](#)

Honors and Distinctions

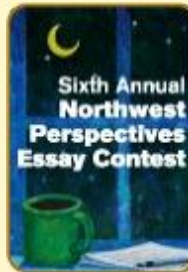


Strickland Joins Law School Accreditation Body

Rennard Strickland, a UO law professor, former dean and one of the foremost experts on federal Indian law, will serve as one of 21 decision makers on a powerful council responsible for accreditation of all U.S. law schools.

[Full Story...](#)

Campus Briefs



Oregon Quarterly Invites Entries for Essay Contest

Oregon Quarterly, the magazine of the University of Oregon, invites submissions to its sixth-annual Northwest Perspectives Essay Contest. Lauren Kessler, professor of journalism who directs the UO's graduate program in literary nonfiction, will judge this year's contest.

[More Campus Briefs...](#)

Bargains



Bookstore Offers Camera for Film Shooters

The UO Bookstore offers a special price to staff, faculty and graduate teaching fellows on a Pentax ZX-60 camera.

[Full Story...](#)

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Major Openings, Events Will Help Usher in the New Year

< *Marilyn Monroe, a screen print from the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art's inaugural special exhibition. The print is from the collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation, © 2004 Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts/ARS.*

A number of major events will take place across the UO campus in early 2005, adding sparkle and energy to the start of the new year.

The schedule kicks off with the Jan. 11 opening of the Many Nations Longhouse ([previewed](#) in the Dec. 6 issue of *Inside Oregon*), followed on Jan. 23 by the public re-opening of the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, with a special Jan. 26 open house for the campus community.

On Jan. 29, the public phase of the university's \$600-million comprehensive campaign officially kicks off with a black-tie gala, "Lights, Camera, Oregon!" hosted by actor/comedian Fred Willard at the UO Moshofsky Center. The event will be announced to the media on Jan. 24. And on Feb. 11, the Museum of Natural and Cultural History opens its major new exhibit, "Oregon-Where Past is Present."

In this issue, we showcase the **Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art**.

Closed for more than four years, the UO's 72-year-old art museum has been renamed in honor of the Portland philanthropist and cultural leader who made a multimillion-dollar commitment on its behalf, creating an endowment and supporting its \$14.2-million renovation and expansion.

The grand reopening is 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 23, with a ribbon cutting and program to be followed by "Andy Warhol Family Day" activities to highlight the inaugural show – a special exhibition of Warhol screen prints drawn entirely from the Collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation.

The new facility is nearly twice the size of the original museum, built in 1932, and houses galleries featuring American, European, Korean, Chinese and Japanese art. New features include a changing exhibitions gallery totaling nearly 4,000 square ft., and an educational suite with an interactive discovery gallery, art studio and lecture hall.

The expanded facility will enable the museum to offer an expanded complement of programs and opportunities. These include:

- A focus gallery where university faculty can request the display of objects to support curriculum needs;
- Studio classes for all ages;

- Lectures and gallery talks led by artists, faculty, and curators;
- Artist demonstrations;
- Family Days;
- Wednesday's MusEvenings! featuring music and films;
- Student opportunities including internships, practicum experiences, and multiple volunteer positions.

There will be a special university open house, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 26, for faculty, staff members, graduate teaching fellows and students.

Two museum operations will open to the campus community in advance of the various mid and late January events. Beginning Jan. 3, visitors can enjoy the new Marché Museum Café, which will be open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Managed by the team behind the acclaimed Marché Restaurant at Eugene's Fifth Street Public Market, the cafe's creative menu will feature fresh, seasonal and regional foods. The museum store will also be open Jan. 3, offering a stylish array of books, gifts, art, toys, and home décor.

General Information

Museum Hours:

11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday,
11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday through Sunday.

Marché Museum Café/Museum Store Hours:

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday,
9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., extended hours for Wednesday,
11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

Admission:


Adults, \$5; seniors (62 and older) and students (high school and non-UO college with ID), \$3. Free to UO students, faculty and staff, museum members, and children 13 and under. Free general admission to everyone the first Friday of each month.

2005 Changing Exhibitions Schedule:

- Andy Warhol's Dream America: Screenprints from the Collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation, Jan. 23 to May 1, 2005
- University of Oregon Master of Fine Arts Exhibition, May 13 to June 26, 2005
- American Photographers: Advocates for the Land, July 8 to Sept. 18, 2005
- Inside the Floating World: Japanese Prints from the Lenoir C. Wright Collection, Organized by the Weatherspoon Art Museum at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Oct. 7, 2005 to Jan. 8, 2006.

Note: *The image shown with this story is Marilyn Monroe (Marilyn) (II.31), 1967, screen print on paper, from the collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation, © 2004 Andy Warhol*

Foundation for the Visual Arts/ARS.

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Senate to Discuss Athletics, Community College Transfers

< *University Senate President W. Andrew Marcus*

The governor's efforts to make higher education more accessible to Oregon students and enhanced communications between athletics and the UO faculty are two key agenda items for the [University Senate's](#) first meeting of 2005. The session takes place from 3 p.m. to 5p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 12, in 182 Lillis. Staff members, faculty, graduate teaching fellows and students are welcome to attend.

Senate President W. Andrew Marcus, professor of geography, explains that the Oregon Transfer Module, to be discussed at the meeting "is a centerpiece of Gov. Ted Kulongoski's plan to make higher education obtainable for more students."


The proposal was designed by the Joint Boards Articulation Commission, made up of community college and Oregon University System (OUS) representatives. It outlines a set of criteria designed to fulfill general education coursework to be completed in a year. That coursework is wholly transferable from state community colleges and would apply towards students' OUS baccalaureate degrees. The UO, as well as all other OUS institutions, is now in the process of reviewing the proposal, which already has been approved by the UO Undergraduate Council. If approved by the Senate, the proposal goes to the Joint Boards of Education for final approval to be implemented in fall 2005.

Another key issue for the meeting will be ways to increase the interaction between the faculty and athletics activities on campus. Marcus explains that the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee has crafted two motions, based on recommendations from the recently-completed [final report](#) of the President's Taskforce on Athletics that has been examining the issue for about three years.

The first motion would enhance communication between the Senate and athletics through three annual reports: a fall summary from the Faculty Athletic Representative, a winter state-of-the-athletic-department address from the Athletics Director (note: Athletics Director Bill Moos plans to give this address in February 2005) and a spring report from the chair of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee.

The second motion relates to expanding roles of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee. "It increases members' existing charge and includes having a faculty member be part of searches for head coaching positions," says Marcus.

Marcus emphasizes that the two athletic proposals "are not an 'us and them' kind of thing. All parties are interested in allowing the Senate and entire university community to have a better understanding of what is happening in athletics."

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Groups Begin Work on Five-Year Diversity Plan

Two key groups have been created by [Gregory J. Vincent](#), vice provost for institutional equity and diversity, to create a [comprehensive five-year plan](#) that will serve at the UO's "blueprint" for enhancing diversity.

The Diversity Advisory Council, made up of about 70 individuals across campus, will meet monthly to consult and provide advice in the creation of the plan. The Diversity Work Group, a smaller subset of the council, is charged with designing the plan and will meet weekly.

Vincent will chair both groups and continues to solicit input for the plan, both from the campus community and the general public. Toward that end, Vincent recently hosted two "[campus conversations](#)," and a third town hall-style meeting specifically for student input is planned for the beginning of the winter term (date and time, TBA).

His goal is to have a draft plan in place by spring, with implementation beginning in fall 2006.

The Diversity Work Group held its first meeting Dec. 7 and will have its next session from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 12, in the EMU Fir Room. The Diversity Advisory Council will convene for its first meeting, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 18, in the Knight Library Browsing Room.



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Heart of Campus

The first phase of a larger initiative to improve the campus landscape along University Street was completed in time for the beginning of fall term 2004. It replaced the old bus shelter and created a pedestrian-friendly plaza at the intersection of East 13th Avenue and University Street. Traffic turnarounds were constructed on both East 13th Avenue and University Street to minimize vehicular traffic through the plaza.

The project was funded by the sale of engraved bricks to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the university and by the Department of Public Safety. The School of Architecture and Allied Arts and UO Facilities Services made significant in-kind contributions.

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art Additions and Alterations

After holding an open house in May, the museum staff moved into its newly expanded and remodeled facility over the summer. The official reopening is Jan. 23 (see story in this issue).

Many Nations Longhouse

The project began in late spring with completion earlier this month. Grand opening is Jan. 11. See story in the Dec. 6 [Inside Oregon](#).

Moss Street Children's Center

The \$2.8 million building was completed in spring, 2004. The 15,248-square-foot facility includes nine activity rooms, covered play areas, a full kitchen, conference rooms, faculty lounges, administrative offices, and a fireplace lounge. Sunscreens, interior light shelves, and abundant automated windows maximize the use of natural lighting, provide natural ventilation, and reduce sun glare. Radiant floors deliver efficient heating and cooling through the use of ground-source heat pumps.

Museum of Natural and Cultural History Exhibit Design

Following the creation of a new interpretive master plan for the museum's exhibits and the creation of a conceptual design, the museum is now in the process of constructing a completely new permanent exhibit space that is set to open Feb. 11, 2005.

East 15th Avenue Improvements

The East 15th Avenue improvements of the summer of 2004 increased parking significantly in the

area of the Living-Learning Center and also enhanced that part of campus with new trees, shrubs, irrigation, raised pedestrian crossings, and other features.

Completed Planning Studies, Plans, Reports

Biennial Implementation Plan (BIP)

The BIP is an implementation strategy to the Long Range Campus Development Plan (LRCDP), and its findings are to be consistent with the LRCDP. The 2003–5 BIP, completed in spring 2003, found that there is a net surplus of site area available for future projects. However, several proposed capital construction projects exceed allowable density limits if built as currently proposed.

The 2005–7 BIP will not be completed because of the current project to update the LRCDP, adopted in 1991. The updated plan may make findings based on the 1991 document obsolete. The 2007–9 BIP will incorporate all of the updates to the LRCDP.

Campus Outdoor Lighting Plan

The plan was completed to address key lighting issues and concerns that have persisted for many years. It provides general lighting guidelines and establishes a prioritized plan for “outdoor-lighting walkways,” criteria for selecting a light-fixture design, and a description of the new campus-standard fixture.

Capital Construction Budget Request 2005–7

Planning Office staff finalized the Capital Construction Budget Request 2005–7 and forwarded it to the Oregon University System in April 2004. The process was different from previous cycles. The “Campaign Oregon: Transforming Lives” initiative guided the prioritization process rather than criteria previously used by the university’s administration.

The UO’s 2005–7 high-priority requests are all listed under the Campaign Oregon project initiative. Each project directly supports the university’s core mission in teaching, research, and service to the state and meets all criteria. This first-priority project initiative includes an expansion of and alterations to Condon Hall for the College of Arts and Sciences; a new education building and alterations to the existing education complex facilities; a third and final phase of development for the Lillis Business Complex/Gilbert Hall project; a second phase of development for the Integrative Science Complex project for the College of Arts and Sciences and Office of Research and Graduate Studies; and a major expansion to and alterations of the Theater Complex for the College of Arts and Sciences.

In addition, the Planning Office conducted a parallel process with the Student Building Fee Allocation Committee, which was appointed by the ASUO to prioritize projects seeking funding from the Student Building Fee Debt Service Reserve. The EMU’s International Center Renovation project ranked as first priority for 2005–7.

Finally, project requests submitted for the 2005–7 biennium by University Housing include the Outside Tennis Court Replacement, Earl Residence Hall Complex Accessibility Upgrade, and Food Service Upgrade.

Classroom Utilization Reports

The Fall 2003 and Winter 2004 utilization reports were forwarded to the chair of the classroom committee.

East Campus Development Policy Update

Updating the East Campus policy consisted of two stages. Stage one, updating the university’s policy document, was completed in April 2003. Stage two consisted of amending the City of Eugene’s Metro Plan and Fairmount/University of Oregon Special Area Study (neighborhood refinement plan) to ensure consistency between the city and the university land-use policies. In addition, the university was required to submit related zone change and subdivision applications. As of November

2004, the city had approved all but the final subdivision application, which generally is a procedural issue, thus allowing the university to move forward with East Campus development as proposed in the East Campus Development Policy.

The success of the planning process has received a great deal of attention, resulting in a number of conference and meeting presentations made by planning staff.

East Campus Framework Study

The Campus Planning Committee recommended approval of the East Campus Development Policy with the understanding that a framework study be developed to further clarify the desired character of the East Campus development areas prior to policy implementation. Work on the study began in summer 2004 and is now complete.

Hayward Field Telecommunications Facility

Staff worked with the Telecommunications Office on the proposal to construct the West Hayward Field Grandstand monopole and related ancillary facility. In particular, staff resolved historic preservation issues as noted below in the Historic Preservation section. Sprint received city approval for the required land-use application and has submitted a request for building permits from the city. Once city approval is granted, construction will begin.

Student Recreation and Fitness Center Concept Study

PARS worked with the Planning Office and YGH Architects of Portland to analyze the facility's needs and develop a conceptual plan for future additions and alterations. The study was completed in spring 2004. It describes two phases of expansion with a total of 111,000 square feet of new construction and 31,700 square feet of renovation. It includes conceptual floor plans, models, and rendered elevations, integrating the existing facility with the new.

Current Capital Projects Status

Living-Learning Center

The site work for this \$27 million project began in August 2004. The project includes about 400 beds of student residence hall housing, instructional space, associated lounges and support space, and a dining facility. Excavation and site utility work is complete on the site of the former tennis courts (being relocated) just north of East 15th Avenue between the Earl Hall and Walton Hall Complex. The main construction contract is being solicited; a request for proposals is due in mid-December, and construction is expected to re-start in January or early February. The project will be ready for occupancy in fall 2006.

Gilbert and Peterson Halls Renovation

The planning for this next phase of the additions and alterations project is underway, with an intent to start construction in late 2005.

Hayward Field Plaza

This project brings together two long-standing needs at the Hayward Field facility: creating a welcoming "front door" to the facility and providing an opportunity to recognize the great heritage of the field and the UO track and field programs. The project will create a welcoming arrival point for Hayward Field as well as enhancing a significant campus entrance. It will include displays telling the story of Hayward Field and the highlights of the track and field programs. The design provides for access to these display areas for casual weekday visitors as well as for those attending events at the facility. Construction is expected to begin in January 2005.

Tennis Courts Relocation/Upgrades to PARS Field and 400-meter Track

Relocation of the tennis courts displaced by the Living-Learning Center project has been the catalyst of a more ambitious project to improve the area of the Intramural Field along East 18th Avenue and the adjacent Hayward Field practice track. The improvements will include six tennis courts; two sand-

based grass playing fields for soccer, football, and other sports; and a 400-meter warm up and jogging track. Construction will occur during the summer of 2005. The grass fields will be available for use in the spring of 2006.

University Health and Counseling Center Expansion and Alterations

The University Health and Counseling Center Expansion and Alterations project consists of a major remodel and expansion of the existing facility. The construction budget is \$5,981,019. BOORA Architects, Inc., of Portland was hired to design the project. The project will unify the building into a coherently and appropriately designed student-focused facility to provide primary care outpatient services, health education, and counseling and testing services.

The design solution proposes creating a two-story addition on the northeast corner of the site (along East 13th Avenue) and a one-story extension of the existing southeast wing. New internal courtyards will be created by linking each of the three eastern building wings with two corridors on the east side of the building. The lower level will house building services, a reference library, the building hearth, meeting rooms, and a lactation room. The main floor will house medical clinics and associated functions, and the second floor will house the Counseling and Testing Center, physical therapy, and administrative functions.

The design development phase will be complete at the end of December.

ONAMI

In 2003, a statewide nanoscience initiative resulted in creating a new entity called the Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute (ONAMI). Nanoscience and nanotechnology, the science of manipulating the tiniest units of matter, promise to revolutionize many areas within science and technology ranging from electronics to medicine, and Oregon's public and private sectors are well-positioned to be on the leading edge of inventing entirely new products and processes. The university received legislative funding that included \$4.75 million of general bonds, \$4.75 million of lottery bonds, and authorization to raise up to \$9.5 million in donations, grants, and contracts for its on-campus component of ONAMI. Programming and site selection are under way.

Current Project Planning and Studies

Lab Planning

Technical assistance, programming, and lab planning for new hires in the sciences continue to be provided as needed. The main effort in 2003–4 was the Ultra Fast Laser Facility in Klamath Hall. An earlier preliminary study for this advanced controlled-temperature laser lab resulted in a \$512,000 Murdock grant. The project site is being moved to the basement of Klamath into space with world-class vibration characteristics. The current occupant of that basement space, the Physical Chemistry Teaching Lab, is eager to move into better space on the first floor of Klamath with easier access for students, closer proximity to windows, and opportunities for interaction with faculty members. These moves will result in far-reaching facilities improvements for research and teaching in the chemistry department.

Long-Range Campus Development Plan (LRCDP) Update

Staff began the process of updating the 1991 LRCDP in summer 2004. The goal is to update the plan while maintaining its fundamental precepts, so that it will serve effectively as a guide for the next 10 years of campus development.

To date, planners have held initial meetings with key campus and community members to define the project scope and the public input process. In addition, the advisory group has completed its initial review of proposed changes to the plan. Once a draft version of the updated plan is prepared, wider campus input will be solicited. The Campus Planning Committee will hold a public hearing during spring term 2005 to provide an additional opportunity for public input before it prepares a recommendation to the university president.

The Shire Retreat and Study Center Feasibility Study

The Shire is 75 acres along the northern bank of the Columbia River Gorge directly across from Multnomah Falls. The Shire was a gift to the School of Architecture and Allied Arts in 1995 by the John Yeon Trust. It is a designed landscape in a natural context created by John Yeon over a 30-year period. The university has hired Walker Macy Landscape Architects to do a feasibility study of the site. A major component of the study will be an analysis of the site for potential building locations. The program for the center includes teaching and meeting spaces, overnight accommodations, and dining facilities. The study, to be completed this month, will be the precursor to a design phase.

Transportation

The UO continues to work with the Lane Transit District on implementation of Bus Rapid Transit, with major construction expected in the spring of 2005.

A fall 2004 survey found that bicycle use continues to increase. Instead of analyzing City of Eugene bike-parking requirements project-by-project, the UO is successfully using its new Bicycle Management Plan to focus resources where the need is greatest rather than simply complying with the base requirements of the city land-use code.

Studies of peak-demand motor vehicle parking vacancies showed a steady decrease in demand during 2001–3 (the 2004 numbers will be available within a month). The Planning Office will work cooperatively with other departments to update data on percentage use of various transportation modes (modal split).



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Excavation and site utility work began for this \$27 million, 400-bed project in August. Construction is expected to re-start in February with the LLC ready for occupancy in fall 2006.

The LLC will be the first residence hall built on campus since 1963. It will feature larger rooms, spaces for classes and study groups, faculty advising rooms, informal musical and theatrical performance areas, and an attractive dining area. The mission of the LLC is to integrate residential settings and academic life, provide opportunity for more programmed events with academic connections, and promote frequent interaction between students and faculty members.

In addition to being designed to meet student needs and preferences, the LLC plans are ecologically friendly, incorporating green elements to reduce power consumption and environmental impact.

Tours will be available later in the construction process. Those interested in more information can visit the [housing construction website](#) for the latest updates and images.



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Weather Policy Updated

< *In front of Oregon Hall during last year's snow storm*

Last winter's snow and ice storms prompted a review of the UO's response to inclement weather, especially decisions regarding campus closure. A new policy has been adopted that includes a wider array of closure options.

These options include:

- Remaining open with the understanding that many faculty and staff members and students may not be able to travel safely to campus and decide to remain home;
- Opening late or closing early, based on weather conditions; and
- Closing the institution completely except for essential services.

According to Dan Williams, vice president of administration, regardless of the closure decision, employees who perform essential duties will be expected to come to work. Examples include those working in residence hall kitchens when students are in residence; research staff members working with animals or time- or temperature-sensitive research; public safety employees; those responsible for snow removal or storm clean-up; and power plant staff members. Supervisors of employees who perform essential service work are responsible for communicating attendance expectations in advance and for discussing anticipated transportation difficulties.

For all other faculty and staff members and students, it is understood that everyone will not be able to travel to campus during inclement weather if the university remains open or operates on a curtailed schedule.

"I expect all members of the campus community to use their best judgment in assessing the risk of coming to campus and returning home, based on individual circumstances," says Williams. "Those who believe that the road conditions from home are dangerous are urged and even expected to stay there."

In addition to policy changes, the UO has updated its communications procedures when bad weather occurs. Following are ways the campus community will be alerted:

- Local news media will be notified of the UO's decision to close, remain open, or operate on a revised schedule;
- Faculty members will be asked to set up a process, using Blackboard, e-mail and voicemail

greetings, to let students know if class will be cancelled;

- Managers and supervisors will be asked to prepare by collecting up-to-date home phone lists and reviewing the notification process with staff members; and
- The university home web page (link – <http://www.uoregon.edu>) will carry information about closure decisions when inclement weather occurs.

[Click to view the updated policy.](#)



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Lotte Streisinger Provides Insider's Look at UO Research Excellence

An insider's illuminating and very personal account of the origins of the University of Oregon Institute of Molecular Biology and its place as a world-leading research center was published recently by the UO Press.

From the Sidelines (University of Oregon Press, 2004) is by noted artist Lotte Streisinger, wife of the late pioneering molecular biologist and institute co-founder George Streisinger. He developed zebrafish cloning, a technique now used worldwide. **She will give a free public reading at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12, in the Knight Library's Browsing Room, followed by a reception and book signing.**

Her human and sometimes humorous behind-the-scenes account of the making of a scientific revolution reveals the deeply felt bonds among the institute's four co-founders—Aaron Novick, Sidney Bernhard, Frank Stahl and George Streisinger—and the leading minds they helped attract to the university. Her memories are complimented by epilogues written by institute members Brian Matthews and Peter von Hippel, whose first-hand accounts provide an overview that extends to the present.

The slender, elegantly understated volume contains many photographs and original linocuts by the author. It is capped with a reprint of a 1985 article by Streisinger's editor, Tom Hager, that originally appeared in the university's magazine, *Oregon Quarterly* (known at the time as *Old Oregon*).

From the Sidelines tells of the greats—from Max Delbrück and Salvador Luria, the two “enemy aliens” who started the Phage Course at Cold Spring Harbor on Long island; to James Watson and Francis Crick, co-discoverers of the structure of DNA; to the founders of the University of Oregon Institute of Molecular Biology—as well as the people behind the scenes—the workers, friends, and family members.

The book is available at the UO Bookstore and other area booksellers and online at the [UO Press website](#). The cover price is \$10.

In addition, the Institute of Molecular Biology (IMB) has reserved complimentary copies for current and former members. The following special e-mail address has been created to capture the names of all former IMB faculty members, post-doctoral fellows, graduate students, and staff members: mb-alum@molbio.uoregon.edu.

About the author

Lotte Streisinger is a Eugene-based artist known for her work in clay and her dedication to the arts community. She has helped to administer the placement of art in a number of public buildings. Locally, she chaired the juries which selected the major artworks for the Eugene Airport, Eugene's Hult Center for the Performing Arts, the Knight Library expansion, and the university's science buildings (which were intentionally designed to facilitate interdisciplinary connections both among scientists and neighboring artists in Lawrence Hall). Her sure, imaginative touch is visible throughout the science complex, from the starry ceiling of Willamette Hall's Paul Olum Atrium to the colorful quilt-like patterns inset on sidewalks connecting the buildings and a series of fanciful

gargoyles of famous scientists placed around the rooflines. Streisinger Hall is named for her late husband.

—*Melody Ward Leslie, Media Relations assistant director and science writer*



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New Kiosk Showcases UO Excellence

A rich, cutting-edge, multimedia kiosk showcasing university excellence made its debut at Autzen Stadium in late November and soon will be popping up around the university and on the road.

Communications Officer Melanie Harmon led a team of student designers and programmers that created the computer-based project and oversaw creation of the kiosk cabinetry itself.

She and student team members Woody Adams, Andrew MacKenzie, and Julian Pscheid completed the project in less than three months—no small feat, considering the technical complexity and depth of the presentation. The entire program is rendered in Macromedia's Flash application and includes everything from streaming video and audio to animated sections on the UO's community connections, created with the assistance of advanced mathematical calculations.

The program is run on a powerful Macintosh G5 computer and displayed on an oversized flat-screen monitor in a distinctly modern cabinet. The project was made possible through the generosity of UO alumnus Don Tykeson ('51), a pioneer in the Oregon cable TV industry.

The kiosk has been on display in the Johnson Hall lobby for the past three weeks and will be available beginning in February for use elsewhere. Contact Harmon at (541) 346-3481 for information. [See kiosk samples.](#)

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Featured Author



Historian Chronicles Burning of Honolulu's Chinatown

A new book by University of Oregon History Professor James Mohr is the first in-depth account of the epic story behind the burning of Honolulu's Chinatown during the bubonic plague epidemic of 1900.

Plague and Fire: Battling Black Death and the 1900 Burning of Honolulu's Chinatown (Oxford University Press, 2004) represents completion of a 20-year project that was sparked when Mohr spotted a simple sign while walking in Honolulu's modern Chinatown. It said the original buildings in the area had all been burned "on order of the Board of Health," Mohr recalled, "and I wondered how such a thing could have happened."

As the story opens, the United States had just annexed Hawaii, but had not yet set up a territorial government. A worldwide epidemic of the legendary Black Death had already swept through India and China, where it had killed millions, and arrived in Honolulu in December 1899. The white minority government quickly ceded absolute emergency powers to the local Board of Health, which was charged with saving the islands from decimation.

"I've always been interested in cases where doctors are prominently involved in the making of public policy," said Mohr, an authority on medical jurisprudence. "Here was a case in which three physicians were essentially the absolute dictators of America's newest territorial possession. The fact that the U.S. didn't know quite what to do with its new possession was one of the complicating factors in the medical politics of the whole thing."

The crisis unfolded as the public health community debated the virtues of bacteriology. Unfortunately, the vector of the epidemic – fleas – had not yet been demonstrated.

"They could identify the enemy but they weren't sure how to kill the enemy," Mohr explained. "That's why they resorted to the use of fire for site burning where plague victims had died – fire was the only thing they knew for certain that would destroy any lingering bacteria. One of those fires became an inferno and in a matter of hours destroyed about a fifth of the city."

Amazingly, no lives were lost in the fire. But some 6,000 who fled were incarcerated in quarantine camps and held under armed guard because their probable exposure to the plague risked spreading it across the city.

"James Mohr gives a riveting account of why, how and with what consequences physician leaders in Hawaii a century ago assumed emergency health powers," said Daniel M. Fox, president of the Milbank Memorial Fund, an endowed national foundation that supports nonpartisan analysis, study, and research on significant issues in health policy.

Mohr specializes in 19th century social and medical policy. He currently teaches courses on American identity, 19th century U.S. history, the Civil War and Reconstruction. He has been a Guggenheim Fellow, a Rockefeller-Ford Fellow, an National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow, a Norman Brown Fellow, and winner of the Throne-Aldrich Prize.

[Purchase Mohr's book online at the UO Bookstore.](#)

Submit Your Book

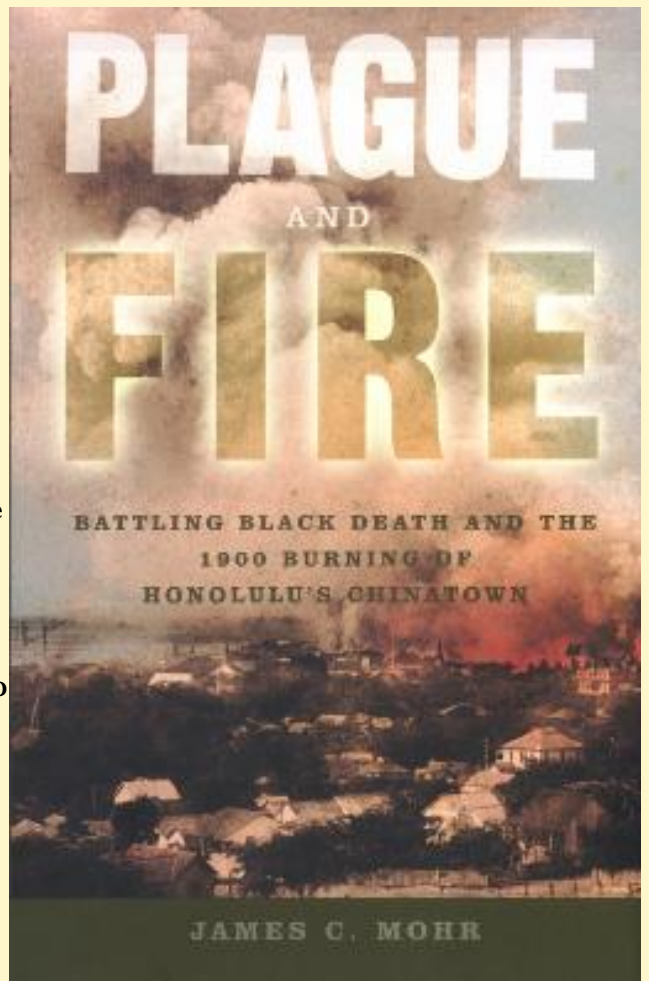
If you have published a book and would like it stocked on The UO Bookstore shelves and on its website, fill out this [online form](#) and the information will be sent directly to the books buyer.

Author events

If you would like to schedule a reading and signing for your book, fill out [this form](#). Usually author events need to be booked three to six months in advance.



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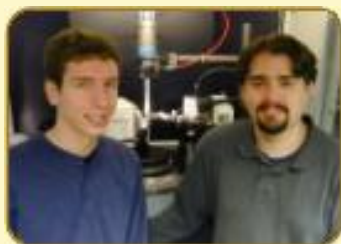
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in the
news

UO Chemists Create Molecular 'Claws' To Trap Arsenic Atoms

< Graduate student Jake Vickaryous (left) and Darren Johnson, assistant professor of chemistry, use a new X-ray diffractometer (behind them) to confirm the structure of molecular crystals at the sub-nanometer scale.



Chemists at the University of Oregon have hit upon a way to build a molecular “claw” that grabs arsenic and sequesters it. The discovery, published in the Nov. 5 international edition of *Angewandte Chemie*, a premier journal in the field of chemistry, could eventually lead to improved treatments for arsenic poisoning.

Since the article was written, the UO team has received a grant from the Oregon Health & Science University Foundation and developed additional ways of capturing arsenic so that it cannot bond with other substances in a laboratory setting, according to Darren Johnson, assistant professor of chemistry specializing in supramolecular and materials chemistry.

Johnson, who joined the UO faculty in 2003, is also affiliated with the [Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute](#) (ONAMI).

The molecules developed by [Johnson](#) and one of his graduate Ph.D. students Jake Vickaryous, are known as chelators (pronounced “kee-lay-tor”, from the Greek chele, meaning “crab claw”). The chelators’ molecular configuration and binding sites enable them to trap and immobilize a heavy metal atom. In this case, a sulfur-based molecule was synthesized. In the presence of a toxic form of arsenic, three of these molecules bond with two arsenic atoms to create a triangular, pyramid-like molecular structure.

“By improving our understanding of these chemical interactions, we hope to develop more effective remediation agents—molecules that can do the work of rendering arsenic harmless,” Johnson says.

—Melody Ward Leslie, Media Relations assistant director and science writer



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in the
news



Imaginary Friend Research Draws Worldwide Media Interest

< Marjorie Taylor (left), Caitlin Goodman, and a graphic artist's representation of Caitlin's "imaginary" friend. Photo illustration © 1999 David Goodman, Jack Liu Photography

The latest research findings about imaginary playmates reported by Marjorie Taylor, professor of psychology and department chair, have created a global sensation in news media during the past several weeks.

An article published in this month's issue of *Developmental Psychology* sparked a wave of coverage, including National Public Radio's live call-in show, "The Connection."

The study was done by Taylor and her primary research collaborator for the past 10 years, Stephanie Carlson, a UO alumna and assistant professor at the University of Washington, along with three other former UO students—Bayta Maring, Lynn Gerow, and Carolyn Charley.

In contrast to the belief that interest in imaginary companions peaks at about age 4 and declines thereafter, Taylor's team found that imaginary companions were as common for school-aged children as preschoolers. The study reports the characteristics of the imaginary companions created by older children and of the children themselves.

These results captured the imaginations of reporters worldwide, both near (front page of *The Register-Guard* and cover of the *Oregonian's* Science section) and far (the *BBC*, *USA Today*, *Reuters*, *Harpers*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *Forbes* and more).

Taylor's latest book on the subject is *Imaginary Companions and the Children Who Create Them* (Oxford University Press, 1999). She is regarded as the top world authority on the topic but says she didn't anticipate such a frenzy of interest in her current work.

"It's unexpected, but gratifying, to learn that people around the world, including seasoned journalists, find this topic as fascinating as I do," she says.

Taylor is the lead author for the study, funded by a University of Oregon Summer Research Award.

—Melody Ward Leslie, *Media Relations assistant director and science writer*

Alumnus, Retired Army Gen. Rosson Dies at 86

William B. Rosson '40, a retired four-star Army general and a former board member of the National D-Day Memorial Foundation, has died at 86.

Rosson, whose military career spanned World War II to the Vietnam War, suffered a heart attack on Dec. 12 at home in Salem, Va.

During the Vietnam War, Rosson served a tour as Gen. William Westmoreland's chief-of-staff. He retired in 1975 as commander-in-chief of the U.S. Southern Command in the Panama Canal Zone. His many awards included the Bronze Star, the Legion of Merit, a Purple Heart, and the Doughboy Award, the infantry's highest honor.

Does Teaching Work?

That's the question the *Wall Street Journal* asked Helen Neville, professor of psychology, earlier this month for a feature on the lack of evidence-based teaching techniques in the United States. Neville provided compelling reasons for schools not to allow teaching methods and practices without appropriate empirical support.

She also weighed in with a personal example. In the story, she mentioned that she had never heard of the "visual math" instructional approach, and even after her seventh-grade son, Justin, tried to explain that it had something to do with imagining squares and cubes of different sizes, she was still perplexed. So she marched down to the middle school Justin attended in Eugene and confronted the math teacher.

"What are you trying to teach them?" Neville recalls asking. "What's the evidence it works?" The teacher replied that she had read that Einstein "visualized mathematics," so this is what she had come up with. "It made no sense," Neville stated in the article, "and some of the kids lost a year of math" as a result.

The *Wall Street Journal* feature was picked up by other newspapers around the nation as well.



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Honors and Distinctions



Strickland Joins Law School Accreditation Body

Rennard Strickland, a UO law professor, former dean and one of the foremost experts on federal Indian law, will serve as one of 21 decision makers on a powerful council responsible for accreditation of all U.S. law schools.

Strickland was elected on Dec. 4 to fill a vacancy on the American Bar Association's (ABA) Council on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. In August, he will run for election to a full six-year term. The council is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the only accrediting agency for law schools. One hundred and eighty-nine schools, including the UO School of Law, now have ABA approval.

"I am deeply honored to have been named to the council and hope to continue to work on improving the quality and diversity of the legal profession through education," Strickland says.

A legal historian of Osage and Cherokee heritage, Strickland was dean of the UO School of Law from 1997 to 2002. He pioneered the introduction of Indian law into the university curriculum, has authored a number of scholarly and popular books on Native American law and culture, and was revision editor of the Handbook of Federal Indian Law, the foundation text for the field.

Strickland is one of two Oregon law faculty members who have served as presidents of the Association of American Law Schools. With this appointment, he becomes one of the few people to have served on the governing boards of the three major legal education organizations—the Association of American Law Schools, the Law School Admission Council, and the ABA education section.

—*Eliza Schmidkunz, School of Law assistant director of communications*



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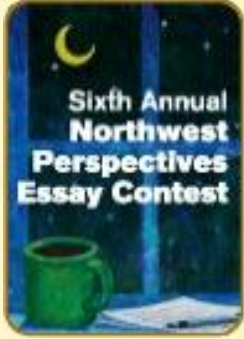
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Campus Briefs



Oregon Quarterly Invites Entries for Essay Contest

Oregon Quarterly, the magazine of the University of Oregon, invites submissions to its sixth-annual Northwest Perspectives Essay Contest. Lauren Kessler, professor of journalism who directs the UO's graduate program in literary nonfiction, will judge this year's contest.

The contest is divided into two sections—an open category and one especially for student writers. The open-category winner receives \$500, while the student winner gets \$250. Both winning essays will be published in the summer 2005 issue of the magazine. Entries must be postmarked by Jan. 31, 2005. There is no entry fee.

For more information and the entry form, visit the [magazine's website](#).

New Rule for Dependents, Staff Fee Rates

The IRS definition of a dependent child that the Oregon University System (OUS) uses for staff fee rates is changing as of Jan. 1, 2005.

A qualifying child:

- (1) Must be the son, daughter, stepchild, sibling, or stepsibling of the taxpayer or a descendant of any such individual (also includes adopted and foster children).
- (2) Must live with the taxpayer for more than one-half of the taxable year. Note: A person lives with you as a member of your household even if either (or both) of you are temporarily absent due to special circumstances. These can include absences due to illness, education, business, vacation, or military service.
- (3) Must satisfy age requirements (i.e., must not have attained age 19 before the close of the calendar year if not a student, or if a student, must not have attained age 24 before the close of the calendar year). There is no age limit if a child is totally and permanently disabled.
- (4) Must not have provided more than one-half of his or her own support for the taxable year.

Please contact the IRS at 1 (800) 829-1040 or your tax adviser if you're not sure whether you can claim a child as a dependent for tax purposes in 2005. More information is also available at the UO benefits website through the ["Frequently Asked Questions \(PDF\) Form."](#)

Changes For Multicultural Affairs

The former Office of Multicultural Affairs is now the Office of Multicultural Academic Support, a name

change made to better reflect its mission of offering a holistic approach to self-identified students of color.

Also, James Florendo, a longtime academic adviser in the department, is leaving Dec. 31 to join Lane Community College as Native American student program coordinator. His new position includes teaching courses in ethnic studies, as well as classes that will help prepare students to come to the UO. Florendo first came to the UO as a student in 1968 and has been working in various capacities on campus ever since.

Printing and Mailing Services Sets Holiday Schedule

Campus mail services will be closed on Dec. 23, 24, and 31. Pickup and delivery, FedEx, UPS, U.S. Mail metering, shuttle mail and other services will be unavailable on those days. Printing operations will be open on Dec. 23, but closed on Dec. 24 and 31.

Printing and copy services at the Baker Center will be open for walk-in services during regular hours.

The U.S. Postal Service will be open Dec. 23, 24, and 31. For those departments that get direct delivery, please contact your U.S. mail carrier about deliveries during the holidays.



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Bargains



Bookstore Offers Camera for Film Shooters

The UO Bookstore offers a special price to staff, faculty and graduate teaching fellows on a Pentax ZX-60 camera.

This SLR shoots film and offers the versatility of through-the-lens viewing, interchangeable lenses, and improved performance. The camera has autofocus with built-in flash and is offered in a kit that includes 28–90 zoom lens, strap, battery, and case. Archive your film, and get digital images, too: 24-exposure processing at the Digital Duck is \$9.25 for single prints and includes digital images on a CD. The Pentax ZX-60 kit is available while supplies last.

Pentax ZX-60 film SLR kit
Autofocus SLR with built-in flash
28–90 zoom lens
Strap, battery, and case
Price: \$150 (originally \$280)



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