‘S4S’ Charts National Course for Student Academic Success

By Todd Simmons

A new program overseen by an Education faculty member is reaching every public high school in the nation this spring—nearly 20,000 sites—with an aim of increasing student success at America’s research universities. Jointly funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts and the Association of American Universities (AAU), Standards for Success is the most ambitious outreach project ever undertaken by the AAU, organizers say.

Though the program seeks to address the long-standing question of what students must know and do to succeed in entry-level university courses, its messages are particularly relevant now, in today’s changing education environment, says David T. Conley, director of Standards for Success.

“American research universities are complex, diverse environments,” says Conley. Educational Leadership. “As more and more states adopt academic content standards and accompanying assessment standards, the requirements for post-secondary success become increasingly important to understand.”

President Dave Frohnmayer (left) and Dave Conley with a copy of Understanding University Success.

Conley authored a funding proposal for the group’s work that won a $1.2-million grant from the Pew Trusts—an amount matched by AAU institutions in 2000. That resulted in the creation of Standards for Success (S4S), a three-year project of the AAU and 17 of its member institutions. The outcome of two years of study involving 400 faculty members at AAU institutions, S4S identified the knowledge and skills necessary for success in entry-level university courses.

These knowledge and skill standards are included in a booklet and accompanying CD-ROM, Understanding University Success. The materials may be accessed free of charge via the project’s web site, <www.s4s.org>.

Understanding University Success is divided into six disciplines—English, mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences, second languages and the arts. Its straightforward, elegant presentation has already won significant support: The College Board has licensed the included standards and accompanying student work samples to be used as foundational elements in development of that group’s examinations, including the SAT, PSAT and Advanced Placement exams.

UO’s role in overseeing the project didn’t end with Conley’s work. Printing and Mailing Services designed, produced and distributed the massive project.

“The standards contained in this document are designed to help create a better connection between high school and university expectations,” Conley says. “To the degree that these materials do that, they will have gone a long way toward achieving our goal.”

Serving on AAU’s Committee on Undergraduate Education, President Dave Frohnmayer played a key role in the genesis of the project when he nominated Conley to the AAU’s K-16 Task Force in 1998. The task force was charged with examining ways to influence the academic preparation of high school students planning to enroll in post-secondary education.

Longhouse Groundbreaking Set May 10

Coquilles Donates Timber, Cash for $1.2 Million Project

A groundbreaking ceremony for the UO’s new Many Nations Longhouse is set for 11 a.m. Saturday, May 10, in the courtyard of the Knight Law Center, near where the new gathering place will be built. Official representatives of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon will join President Dave Frohnmayer for the free public event. The longhouse will be built just south of the Museum of Natural History on the site of the old longhouse.

Construction of the $1.2 million project will begin this month and is scheduled for completion by spring 2004.

Todd Simmons is UO director of Communications.

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Classified Staff Join Online Balloting

Classified employees are joining with faculty and officers of administration to cast their votes online for representatives to serve in the University Senate and on various elected standing committees and councils. One position is available for election of a classified staff nonvoting participant in the University Senate for a two-year term.

The Duck Web polls opened at 9 a.m. May 2 and will remain open 24 hours a day through 5 p.m. Sunday, May 11. Voters may participate from any office or home computer with Internet access; public-access computers are available in Knight Library and on the second and fourth floors of Oregon Hall.

For information, contact Gwen Steigelman, <gwen@oregon> or 6-3028.

Center Seeks Advisory Members

The Oregon Humanities Center is accepting nominations through May 12 to fill seven three-year positions on its advisory board this fall. Nominees must be full-time, tenured faculty who are strong scholars and teachers and who do not plan to apply for center fellowships during the next three years. Send nominations to Julia Heydon, 6-1001, or by e-mail, <jheydon@darkwing>.

Library Seeks Solari Fellowship Nominees

The UO Libraries’ Faculty Grants and Awards Committee invites nominations of current library faculty for the Richard and Mary Corrigan Solari Library Faculty Fellowship. The $3,000 awards recognize noteworthy contributions and support professional development. Send nominations, available at <libweb.uoregon.edu/iris/faculty/grants.html> and due May 19, to Sandy Tilcock, Knight Library, 465-9079.
Campaign Planning Underway, Priority Setting Pending

The university’s new fundraising campaign will help us move “from the realm of the good into the realm of the excellent,” says President Dave Frohnmayer.

The focus on improving university quality in four areas: teaching and learning; creating new knowledge through research and scholarship; enhancing student opportunity and experience; and strengthening our community, state, and society.

“We are daring to choose excellence for the future of the University of Oregon in a time when ‘good enough’ might be acceptable to some,” he says. “Our future is in our hands, and we choose distinction.”

Private gifts from UO alumni, friends, corporations and foundations, faculty and staff will be the primary financial resource for improvements. Funding for student scholarships and fellowships, endowed faculty positions, teaching and research programs, and facilities will increase the university’s quality as measured against its peers and national benchmarks.

A presentation about defining UO quality made to the UO Foundation trustees in March showed where the university stands now and where it would like to be on these measures.

For example, as a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities (AAU), the UO is among the top 2 percent of all colleges and universities in the nation. However, this campus ranks toward the bottom of the AAU on benchmarks such as faculty salaries, faculty membership in national academies, academic quality of entering freshmen, and state funding per student.

Through resources generated by the campaign, the university hopes to improve on its rankings among AAU institutions.

Currently in the planning phase, the campaign will kick off publicly in Fall 2004 and is expected to last until Fall 2007. The specific dollar goal and fundraising priorities have not yet been determined.

In preparation for the new campaign, last fall Frohnmayer appointed a 20-member Internal Campaign Advisory Committee to sift through and narrow down some 700 funding proposals from all over campus to come up with a list of specific campaign priorities.

The committee is expected to make its recommendations to the president this month, and he will select the final priorities by the end of May, says Vice President Lorraine Davis, Academic Affairs. She co-chairs the panel with Vice President Rich Linton, Research and Graduate Studies, and Vice President Allan Price, University Advancement.

New Johnson Hall ‘O’ Planting Ready For University Day: The flowery “UO” in front of Johnson Hall since 1991 has been transformed into the redesigned ‘O’ for University Day 2003 on Thursday, May 15. “University Day is a chance for students, faculty and staff to lend a hand in sprucing up the campus,” says Jennifer Ames, the event’s student coordinator. About 1,000 people, including 35 UO departments, are expected to participate. Volunteers may register from 8 a.m. at the Pioneer statue. New teak benches and a plaque commemorating the Moon Tree, south of East 13th between Carson and the EMU, will be unveiled at noon. [kl]

Tribe’s Gift Offers ‘Sacred Connection’

Towering trees that might have witnessed the near-extinction of the Coquille Indian tribe on the southern Oregon coast 150 years ago will help support the new longhouse on campus for descendants of the Coquilhs and other Oregon tribes.

The Coquille tribe has donated 40,000 board-feet—about 20 cedar and Douglas fir trees, some of them as large as three feet in diameter and 220 feet tall—of aboriginal timber from the Coquille Forest to help build the Many Nations Longhouse. The tribe also gave $50,000 in cash to the project.

“We deeply appreciate this gift, not only for the tangible impact it has in moving the project toward completion but also for the deep symbolism of the Coquille tribal timber providing valuable structural support for this wonderful facility,” says President Frohnmayer.

According to longhouse architect Johnpaul Jones of Seattle, a UO alumnus anddescendent of Chocitaws and Cherokees, some of the fir trees will be used as huge exposed columns and beams to form the “bones” of the building. The cedar will be used sparingly in design features on the walls.

The Coquille tribe, which once occupied about 800,000 acres near what is now the Coos Bay-Coquille Valley area, regained about 5,500 acres of the land under the tribal land restoration act passed by Congress in 1996.

Ken Tanner, chief of the Coquille Tribe of Oregon, says tribe members decided to give the timber, in addition to cash, because they wanted to give something long-lasting that also had “some sacred connection” to the tribe’s history.

“The trees carry a spirit, so the longhouse itself will have that same spirit,” says Tanner. Two other Oregon tribes contributing to the $1.2-million longhouse project are the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde’s Spirit Mountain Community Fund, which gave $125,000, and the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation, which donated $40,000.

Participating in the May 10 ceremony will be representatives of the Burns Paiute Tribe, the Klamath Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, the Coquille Indian Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians and the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw. [ix]
**Wednesday, May 7**

Spring Career/Science Graduate School Fair. 10 a.m.–3 p.m. EMU Ballroom. 6-6016.


Human Resources Workshop: “Class Issues in the Workplace and the Academy.” Preregistration required. 1–4 p.m. EMU Alsea and the Academy. 6-3934; <darkwing.uoregon.edu/~committees/longhouse/>.

**Thursday, May 8**

Human Resources Workshop: “Open Space Technology.” Preregistration required. 2–4 p.m. EMU Rogue Room. 6-3195; <lir.uoregon.edu/dep_cal.html>.

Author Reading: Mark Doty and Paul Lisicky. 8 p.m. GAL. 6-0509.

**Friday, May 9**

**Humanities Work-in-Progress Talk:** Judith Raskin, Women’s and Gender Studies. “Do You Speak Mahu?” Noon–1 p.m. Howe Field. $CAPS Lecture: Kyung Park, UC Berkeley visiting scholar from Keimyung University, “Korean Hereditary Shamans and Their Washing Rituals for the Dead.” 3:30 p.m. 192 Music. 6-1521; <www.uoregon.edu/~caps/lecture.html>. Reception follows.

Anthropology Colloquium: Barry Hewlett, “Culture and Adaptation to Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever in Congo.” 4 p.m. KL Browsing Room. 6-5102; <darkwing.uoregon.edu/~anthro/>. Chinese Film Series: “Ashes of Time.” English subtitles. 4–6 p.m. 115 Pacific. 6-4041; <darkwing.uoregon.edu/~film/film.html>. Multimedia Presentations: Don Hunter, UO Libraries emeritus, presents “The Pageant Years” and “Mt. St. Helens and the Volcanic Cascades.” 5:30 p.m. 175 Knight Law. $ 6-3024; <culturalhistory.uoregon.edu/>. Reception follows at 7 p.m. at the MH where an exhibition about Hunter’s legacy continues through Aug. 31.

**Saturday, May 10**

Longhouse Groundbreaking: Tribal chairs of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon join President Dave Frohnmayer to break ground for the Many Nations Longhouse. 11 a.m. East Courtyard, Knight Law. 6-3036; <www.uoregon.edu/~humanctr/>.

Men’s Rugby Alumni Game: Noon–4 p.m. Southbend Field, near AS footbridge. 6-3733 or 485-7602; <darkwing.uoregon.edu/~clb/rugby.html>.

Softball vs. Stanford: 1 p.m. Howe Field. $Boifest: This live music festival showcases queer male and queer male identified musicians and performers. 8 p.m.-midnight. Agate Auditorium. $ 6-6034; <culturalforum.uoregon.edu/boifest>.

**Monday, May 12**

LaVerne Krause Gallery: MFA printmaking by Kari Lamb and visual design by Samantha Stengel-Goetz and Vincent Chan. Show opening 6–8 p.m. Monday. Through May 16.

Learning in Retirement Lecture: Historan David Del Mar, a UO alum and adjunct professor at PSU and OSU, “The Lewis and Clark Expedition and Native Americans.” 1:30–3:30 p.m. Baker Downtown Center. 6-0697; <lir.uoregon.edu>.

CAPS/Transnational Lecture: Historian Wayne Patterson, St. Norbert College, “The Centennial of Korean Immigration to the United States (1903-2003) and What It Tells Us About American and Japanese Policy Toward Korea at the End of the Choson Dynasty.” 4 p.m. 375 McKenzie. 6-1521; <www.uoregon.edu/~caps/lecture.html>. Environmental Studies Lecture: Economist Eban Goodstein, Lewis and Clark College, “Global Warming: Can We Stop It?” 4–5 p.m. 16 Pacific. 6-5081; <darkwing.uoregon.edu/~ecosity/speaker/>. Reception follows.

**Tuesday, May 13**

Campus Planning Design Review Subcommittee Meeting: Living Learning Center preliminary master plan discussion. 2–3:30 p.m. 143 Straub. 6-5572; <darkwing.uoregon.edu/~plan/>.

Graduate Research Colloquium on Diversity and Community: CODAC Graduate Research Awardees Jenie Goetz and Vincent Chan and Samantha Stengel-Goetz, both visual design, preview their May 12–16 show at the KG. 1–2:30 p.m. HC Jacobs Gallery. $ 6-2057 or 6-3610; <art.uoregon.edu/dep_cal.html>.

Softball vs. California: 2 p.m. Howe Field. $CAPS Lecture: Kyung Park, UC Berkeley visiting scholar from Keimyung University, “Korean Hereditary Shamans and Their Washing Rituals for the Dead.” 3:30 p.m. 192 Music. 6-1521; <www.uoregon.edu/~caps/lecture.html>. Reception follows.

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Wednesday, May 14

Human Resources Workshop: “Job Search.” Preregister. 9 a.m.–noon. 461 Oregon. 6-3159.


University Senate: 3–5 p.m. 240C McKenzie. 6-3028; <darkwing.uoregon.edu/~uosenate/senate.html>.

Author Reading: Literary historian Paul Collins reads from and signs copies of his latest book, Sixpence House: Lost in a Town of Books. 7 p.m. K. Browsing Room. 6-4331, Ext. 228; <www.uobookstore.com>/generalschool/authors/author evt.cfm>.

Honors Halls Panel Discussion: Biologist Karen Sprague, Undergraduate Studies vice provost, moderates discussion of “Cloning” by Law, Biology and Chemistry faculty. 7:30–9 p.m. Dymtyn Lounge, Walton Complex. 6-5414; <honors.uoregon.edu/students/hhah>. 

University Theatre Second Season: “This Lime Tree Bower” by Irish playwright Conor McPherson is an offbeat comedy that tells the story of three young men from a seaside town near Dublin who give their overlapping recollections of one fateful night. 8 p.m. AT. Continues May 15–17 and 22–24. 

UO Ensemble Concert: The Vocal Jazz Ensemble. 8 p.m. BH.

Thursday, May 15

Oregon State Board of Higher Education Meeting and Campus Visit: EOU. 6-5793; <www.ous.edu/boad>.

University Day: Campus clean-up and beautification. Register at 8 a.m. or later at the Pioneer statue. 6-2275; <facilities.uoregon.edu/grounds/projects.htm>.

Take Back The Night: Annual rally and march to the Saturday Market area downtown honors women and resists the notion that women should have to be afraid of the streets at night. 5 p.m. EMU Amphitheater. 6-4095.

Author Reading: Poets Barbara Baldwin, Jane Glazer, Donna Henderson, Ingrid Wendt, Janice Gould and others read from and sign copies of A Fierce Brightness: Twenty-Five Years of Women’s Poetry, published by Calyx: A Journal of Art and Literature By Women. 7 p.m. UO Bookstore. 6-4331, Ext. 228.

Outdoor Program Film: “Impassable Canyon” by photographer and river runner Matt Leidecker documents running the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. 7 p.m. 100 Willamette. 6-4365; <outdoorprogram.uoregon.edu>.

Ad Night: Includes a speaker and presentation of faculty choice awards as well as Rhody awards for winners of Journalism’s student advertising contest. The Ad Team also presents its Toyota Matrix campaign pitch. 7 p.m. EMU Ballroom. 6-3819; <comm.uoregon.edu/departments/undergrad/advertising.html>. Refreshments served.

Dance 2003: Guest dancer Rebecca LeDu joins student dancers to bring to life nine works by UO Dance faculty and by West Coast modern dance pioneer Bella Lewitzky. Performances honor Janet Descutner, Dance emerita, retiring after 32 years of teaching, choreographing, advising and research. 8 p.m. Dougherty Dance Theater. Gerlinger Annex. $ Ticket sales begin at 7 p.m. and doors open at 7:30 p.m. each night. 6-3386; <dance.uoregon.edu>. Through May 17.

University Opera Ensemble Concert: The UO Opera Ensemble presents opera scenes under the theme, “Shakespeare and Opera.” 8:15 p.m. BH.

Friday, May 16

Spring Family Weekend: Activities include awards ceremonies, receptions, films, a fun run, a golf tournament, a rock climbing wall, a tie-dye extravaganza, campus tours, family workshops, a purse party and day spa, as well as numerous prize drawings and a free SRC weekend pass. $ Preregister. 6-3216; <studentlife.uoregon.edu/family/weekends%20cover.htm>. Through May 18.

Humanities Work-in-Progress Talk: Mieke Kolk, visiting from the University of Amsterdam, “How Tragic is King Oedipus?” Noon–1 p.m. 159 PLC. 6-3934; <darkwing.uoregon.edu/~humanctr/>. 

MFA 2003 Artists’ Talks: Jason Johnston, sculpture, and Eric Reinemann, painting, preview their May 19–23 show at the KG. 1–2:30 p.m. HC Jacobs Gallery. $ 6-2057 or 6-3610; <art.uo.uoregon.edu/dep_cal.html>.

Oregon Humanities Center Lecture: Linda Barnes, Boston University School of Medicine, “Worlds of Healing: Ethnicity, Culture and Curing in American Medicine.” 3:30 p.m. 125 McKenzie. 6-4056.

Jeremiah Lecture Series: Historian Alexander Woodsie, University of British Columbia, “Who Will Feed China? Ricefield Doomsday Scenarios and the Functions of Imagined Crises in Asian Studies.” 4:30 p.m. KL Browsing Room. 6-1521; <www.uoregon.edu/~capc>. Prelecture reception at 4 p.m.

Regalia Order Deadline: 5 p.m. UO Bookstore. 6-4331, Ext. 268; <www.uobookstore.com/>.

Japanese Film Series: “Gojo,” English subtitles. 7 p.m. 207 Chapman. 6-4041; <darkwing.uoregon.edu/~basket/filmfest/>. 

UO Ensembles Concert: The Oregon Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Lab Bands II and III. 8 p.m. BH.

Saturday, May 17

SAPP Short Course: “Strategy/Adversity.” Two credits. 8 a.m.–5:20 p.m. 180 PLC. 6-4135; <sapp.uoregon.edu>.

A Cappella Concert: On the Rocks and Divisi perform. 8:30 p.m. BH. $ <uoonotherocks.com>.

Sunday, May 18

Law Commencement: David Boies, Al Gore’s 2000 election litigator, speaks. 1 p.m. HC Silva Concert Hall. 6-1558; <www.law.uoregon.edu/>. Reception follows at Knight Law Center.

UO Ensemble Concert: The University Symphony. 3 p.m. BH.

Monday, May 19

PRIORITY REGISTRATION FOR FALL TERM 2003: To register online, visit DuckWeb, <duckweb.uoregon.edu>–<crogistrar.uoregon.edu>. Through May 30.

LaVerne Krause Gallery: MFA painting by Eric Reinemann and sculpture by John斯顿. Show opening 6–8 p.m. Monday, Through May 23.

Tuesday, May 20

Streisinger Memorial Lecture: Carol Gross, University of California, San Francisco, Medical School, “Stress Signaling Pathways in Bacteria.” 4 p.m. 100 Willamette. 6-5151; <morel.uoregon.edu/>. Reception follows at 5 p.m. in 225 Streisinger.

Judaic Studies/Romance Languages Lecture: Frances Malino, Wellesley College, “Jewish Sisters in Muslim Lands: The Teachers of the Alliance Israelite Universelle.” 7:30–9:30 p.m. GAL. 6-5288; <darkwing.uoregon.edu/~jadst/4041>. Reception follows.

Wednesday, May 21

German and Scandinavian Work-in-Progress Lecture: John McCole, History, “Disenchantment and Reenchantment: Georg Simmel on Religion.” 3:30 p.m. EMU Metolius and Owyhee Rooms. 6-4051; <darkwing.uoregon.edu/~gerscan/>. 

Honors Halls Panel Discussion: Fred Crafts, Register-Guard arts reporter and KVAL-TV arts commentator, moderates discussion of “What is Art?” by Robert Kyr, Music; Leon Johnson, Art; Kenneth Helpend, Landscape Architecture; Julie Ann Newton, Journalism and Communication; and Kirk Boyd, Willamette Repertory Theatre artistic director. 7:30–9 p.m. Dymtyn Lounge, Walton Complex. 6-5414; <honors.uoregon.edu/students/hhah>.

UO Ensembles Concert: The Oregon Wind Ensemble and the UO Symphonic Band. 8 p.m. BH.

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