
Inside Oregon

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

November 12, 2007

University of Oregon's Joe Thornton honored by President Bush



Joseph W. Thornton, professor of biology at the University of Oregon, was honored recently at the White House as a recipient of a 2006 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) -- the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government on young researchers at the outset of their careers.

Thornton, an evolutionary biologist, received the award in a ceremony at the White House.

Thornton, whose work is supported by the National Science Foundation, was among 56 PECASE honorees -- and one of two from Oregon. In all, the

winners came from 19 institutions in 15 states.

[Full story »](#)

Professor's book examines urban sprawl at military outposts



Mark Gillem tackles issues from 10,000 feet.

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Law school prof: Wave 'hello' to renewable, green offshore energy



Few if any legal obstacles could prevent ocean waves from providing a clean, reliable and renewable power source off the Oregon coast, Richard Hildreth, of the University of Oregon School of Law, told some of the region's top wave energy researchers earlier this fall.

At an October conference in Newport, Hildreth, the director of the UO's Ocean and Coastal Law center, delivered the keynote address to mostly scientists gathered at a workshop dubbed "Ecological Effects of Wave Energy Development in the Pacific Northwest."

[Full story »](#)

Hutchison named associate VP



Rich Linton, vice president for research and graduate studies recently named chemistry professor Jim Hutchison associate vice president for research and strategic initiatives (AVPRSI). Hutchison's part-time assignment will be focused on enhancement and support of UO's

research initiatives related to science and technology. He will assist Linton with external committees and workgroups connecting UO research to larger regional efforts, expand public-private partnerships in support of research, work with colleagues at other institutions on collaborative, large-scale research projects, and support UO research centers and institutes in evaluating and leveraging their activities.

Hutchison began his career at the UO as an undergraduate, receiving departmental honors in chemistry. After receiving his doctorate from Stanford in organic chemistry and doing postdoctoral work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he returned to the UO in 1994. He has served as director of the Materials Science Institute, a member of the leadership team for the Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute (ONAMI) and as the director of ONAMI's Safer Nanomaterials and Nanomanufacturing Initiative. He has received numerous grants and honors to support and recognize his research activities and achievements, including a UO Faculty Excellence Fund Award, a UO Research Innovation Award, a Camille Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award, an Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship and a National Science Foundation Career Award.

[Full story »](#)

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Design students honored with American Society of Landscape Architects award

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**Monday, Nov. 12 -- 8 p.
m.**

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Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 general admission, \$8 for students and senior citizens. The duo will be joined at this concert by tubist Kyle Turner and pianist Laretta Bloomer. The program includes a wide range of music for horn. The Virtuoso Horn Duo began performing in 2002, and since then has performed extensively throughout Europe. The duo has performed in South Africa, Australia and Indonesia. Kerry Turner is a member of the world-renowned American Horn Quartet, was a Bronze Medalist at the Prague Spring International Music Competition and is a member of the Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestra. Kristina Mascher has been principal horn in various chamber orchestras in the United States and Germany. She has appeared as a guest artist with the American Horn Quartet in Slovakia, Spain, Australia, the United States and South Africa.

[Full story »](#)

Little Knight Music Series offers free concerts

Visitors to the Knight Library on the University of Oregon campus will hear beautiful sounds coming from the Browsing Room this month—the sounds of live performances of classical music. In November, the UO Libraries will offer three free concerts in the Browsing Room as part of the Little Knight Music series.

A concert on Monday, Nov. 19, at 8:30 p.m. will feature UO French horn students under the guidance of Lydia Van Dreel, assistant professor of horn. Music on the program will include pieces by UO graduate composer and performer Jamie Keesecker, Paul Dukas, Anton Reicha and others.

[Full story »](#)

Call for proposals: Freshman Interest Groups and Freshman Seminars

First-Year Programs invites faculty members to submit proposals for Freshman Interest Groups (FIGs) and Freshman Seminars for the 2008-09 academic year.

FIG instructors teach a one-credit College Connections seminar during fall term to a cohort of 25 students who are co-enrolled in two lecture classes. The seminar is intended to explore related themes between the two classes and to connect freshmen to campus resources. Out-of-class activities, both social and academic, are encouraged. Past activities include trips to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, an excursion to the Columbia Gorge to see salmon spawning, visits to museums and galleries in Portland, and a special viewing of the Eugene

Symphony. For more information and the FIG proposal form, visit <http://firstyear.uoregon.edu/> or call 346-1241. Proposals will be accepted through Jan. 30.

[Full story »](#)

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Thornton, an evolutionary biologist, received the award in a ceremony at the White House.

Thornton, whose work is supported by the National Science Foundation, was among 56 PECASE honorees -- and one of two from Oregon. In all, the winners came from 19 institutions in 15 states.

Thornton, who was among 20 NSF winners, is widely known for his work using advanced biochemical and computational techniques to resurrect ancient genes that existed hundreds of millions of years ago and determining precisely how they evolved modern-day functions.

The awards were presented in a ceremony presided over by John H. Marburger III, science advisor to the president and director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Thornton was among 54 of the winners who attended the event.

"We are delighted to learn that this prestigious national honor has been given to Joe Thornton," said President Dave Frohnmayer. "The award speaks both to his many accomplishments and to his potential as an evolutionary biologist and vital contributing member of our already outstanding biological research community."

According to the White House, Thornton was recognized "for innovative research on the evolution of complex molecular systems, for reconstructing and experimentally characterizing ancient genes, for elucidating the mechanisms by which hormones and their receptor proteins evolved, and for educating students and non-governmental organizations about issues at the interface of biology and public policy."

"I'm very grateful for NSF's very strong support of the research that my students, postdocs and I do," Thornton said. "It's quite encouraging that he White House is giving this award to an evolutionary

biologist, especially one whose work demonstrates how evolution assembled the so-called 'irreducibly complex systems' that Intelligent Design advocates say can't possibly have evolved."

Each year, the NSF recommends a small number of nominees from among recipients of its CAREER awards, which are large research and teaching grants given to extremely promising early-career scientists. Thornton's CAREER award -- a \$911,000 grant over five years -- supports his laboratory's research on the molecular evolution of the endocrine system, his work teaching students about issues at the nexus of evolution, molecular biology and politics, and his service as a technical adviser to environmental organizations on the effects of toxic chemicals on public health.

Thornton is a member of the UO Center for Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. He joined the UO faculty in 2002, after postdoctoral research and doctoral studies at Columbia University and the American Museum of Natural History. He graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in English in 1987 from Yale University and then worked at Greenpeace for almost a decade as an environmental activist.

Portland State University's Lisa M. Zurk, a professor of electrical and computer engineering in the Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science, was the other Oregon PECASE winner. She also was nominated by the NSF, which had 20 nominations selected for the 2006 awards.

For more information on Thornton's research, read a short profile at: <http://tinyurl.com/2o8txa>.

Other agencies submitting nominations for the awards were the Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, Department of Defense,

Department of Education, Department of Energy,
National Institutes of Health, National Aeronautics
and Space Administration and Department of
Veterans Affairs.

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Professor's book examines urban sprawl at military outposts



This aerial photo of Okinawa illustrates the differences in density on the base and off the base.

Mark Gillem tackles issues from 10,000 feet.

For his new book, "America Town: Building the Outposts of Empire," Gillem flew over U.S. military bases in several parts of the world to detail the social and economic impact of U.S. land use abroad.

"The photos we took to accompany the research were stark representations of the disconnect between the way Americans and American allies in Europe and Asia value land," said Gillem. "The local

Okinawan community on the left side of the plane was densely populated and the U.S. military base on the right side was spread out and sprawling like typical suburbs in America."

In the book, Gillem reveals modern military outposts as key symbols of not just American power but also consumer consumption and discrepancy in the value of land. Through case studies of U.S. military facilities including Aviano Air Base in Italy, Osan and Kunsan Air Bases in South Korea, and Kadena Air Base in Japan, he addresses how the U.S.'s approach to outposts has changed since Sept. 11, 2001.

Historically the U.S. built military bases in capital cities alongside local communities. According to Gillem's findings, this approach has changed in the past six years; and new bases are located in remote locations where military personnel can be isolated from local communities.

In addition to an examination of the U.S. outpost strategy and its impact, America Town details similar actions throughout history including those of the Roman, Spanish and British empires.

The book is available now at: http://www.upress.umn.edu/Books/G/gillem_america.html.

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The evening of dinner, conversation and presentations highlighted the contributions of the inductees. In addition, music was provided by the UO School of Music and Dance.

The UO Business Hall of Fame recognizes alumni whose professional achievements in business have been marked by unprecedented success, innovation and leadership. Inductees are graduates from a UO school or college who have served at the highest levels within regional, national and international companies.

UO President Dave Frohnmayer and master of ceremonies, Craig Wessel, publisher of The Portland Business Journal, honored the Class of 2007 inductees.

The Class of 2007 is:

- Carolyn Silva Chambers '53, chairman & CEO, Chambers Communications
- Earle A. Chiles '27, former chairman & president of the board, Fred Meyer
- Philip H. Knight '59, chairman, NIKE
- Charles M. Lillis Ph.D. '72, former chairman & CEO, MediaOne Group
- Robert B. Polet M.B.A. '76, president & CEO, Gucci Group
- James F. Rippey '53, former president, Columbia Management

While representing different industries, all six of the Hall of Fame honorees have added value to society while bringing product and service innovation to the global marketplace.

"The University of Oregon Business Hall of Fame is a chance to honor individuals who exemplify the innovative thinking we work to instill in students when they attend our institution," said Frohnmayer. "These individuals' contributions have been invaluable to the business world, our economy, and the University of Oregon -- and it is time to celebrate them."

The gala in Portland highlighted the UO's expanding presence in the Rose City. This spring, before the university officially calls the White Stag Block home in the fall of 2008, several UO programs will begin offering classes in the renovated building. The plan for the new facility is to host classes for Portland- and Eugene-based students, host public lectures and other events, and serve as a catalyst for the reinvigorated downtown development.

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Law school prof: Wave 'hello' to renewable, green offshore energy



Few if any legal obstacles could prevent ocean waves from providing a clean, reliable and renewable power source off the Oregon coast, Richard Hildreth, of the University of Oregon School of Law, told some of the region's top wave energy researchers earlier this fall.

At an October conference in Newport, Hildreth, the director of the UO's Ocean and Coastal Law center, delivered the keynote address to mostly scientists gathered at a workshop dubbed "Ecological Effects of Wave Energy Development in the Pacific

Northwest."

The governor's office has backed proposals to study wave energy technology, which would use buoys with electrical coils and magnets anchored to the ocean floor roughly two miles off the coast to collect energy from ocean waves. A 2006 agreement of West Coast governors on ocean health calls for a coordinated, three-state approach to renewable energy development.

Currently Europe is leading the world in wave energy technology. The U.S. boasts only three small projects off the coasts of Washington state, Hawaii and New Jersey.

The company Ocean Power Technologies is planning to build a 50-megawatt wave park off the coast of Gardiner on the central Oregon coast in the next five to 10 years.

Locating wave energy buoys in even the most restrictive existing ocean preserves appears to be legally feasible, Hildreth said. Scientists continue to study potential ecological effects. There are concerns, Hildreth said, that whales or other marine species could become entangled in the buoy anchors or the cables that deliver energy to land.

In addition, facilities would have to be placed in some form of "no entry" zone, which might create conflicts with commercial and recreational fishing interests and shipping channels. It's quite likely, however, that the benefits of affordable, green energy would outweigh any potential environmental or economic impacts, Hildreth said.

"I see this as a way to unhook ourselves from fossil fuels," Hildreth said. "The concept is really gaining traction."

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with colleagues at other institutions on collaborative, large-scale research projects, and support UO research centers and institutes in evaluating and leveraging their activities.

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While the health benefits of breastfeeding are widely documented, the hassle of carrying around equipment and finding privacy to fulfill the duties while at work or school and away from the little one can send some parents straight to the formula aisle at the grocery store.

Many breastfeeding mothers find it hard to continue breastfeeding after they return to work, but the University of Oregon is making it easier for faculty, staff and students struggling with the challenge.

As the Jan. 1, 2008, effective date looms for a new law requiring employers to accommodate breastfeeding mothers, the UO is already going above and beyond the legislation. The new law requires employers to provide reasonable unpaid rest periods for milk expression and make "reasonable effort" to provide a private room or other location with the caveat that these

accommodations do not cause hardship to operate the business.

At the UO, the basic services have been in place for several years and recently took another step. At the start of the 2007-08 academic year, personal refrigerators became available to check out from Work and Family Services administrator Karen Logvin.

The refrigerators, acquired with gift funding, are intended to be used by faculty and staff for storing milk at the optimal temperature when use of a family resource room isn't necessary or convenient. Half of the eight available refrigerators are already in use, according to Logvin.

"Mothers, children and society all win when the University of Oregon offers greater support and services in this area," said Frances Dyke, vice president of finance and administration. "We try to provide a nurturing environment and want to help employees find a balance between work and life."

According to the Oregon Department of Human Services, women with children under the age of 3 are the fastest-growing segment of today's workforce, making the UO policy an important recruitment and retention tool.

"Women considering maternity leave from the UO need to know how much support will be waiting for them upon return," said Mary Gatlin, research analyst at the Office of Development. "It was stressful thinking that I might have to come back and pump in a bathroom or in my car. The lactation support system, especially the family resource rooms and rental refrigerators, made a smoother transition for me when I came back."

Several years ago, the UO allocated a nominal

amount of funding to create family-friendly spaces on campus that can be shared by faculty, staff and student parents. Two current locations can be found in Prince Lucien Campbell and McKenzie halls. A room will be open soon in the Health Center followed by an additional site in the Knight Law Center.

The rooms provide private, intimate spaces for mothers to nurse and/or express milk as well as to make use of the refrigerator and secure storage for equipment. Keys are checked out by month, term or year to those interested.

"The family resource services have made my transition back to work far easier than it might have been," said Kathy Lynn, a research assistant with the Institute for a Sustainable Environment. "It made it easier for me to focus on work and not feel like I had to choose between career and parenthood."

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Design students honored with American Society of Landscape Architects award

University of Oregon graduate students Anna Hook and Heather Rusch were awarded one of three Honor Awards in Student Collaboration from The American Society of Landscape Architects earlier this fall.

Representing the top student honors in the profession, ASLA presented awards to 25 projects from 22 colleges and universities. Hook, a landscape architecture student and Rusch, an architecture student, won for their work in Brook Muller's "Wild Urbanism" studio during winter term 2007.

The ASLA, which was founded in 1899, has a long-standing relationship with the landscape architecture community. The association promotes the landscape architecture profession and advances the practice through advocacy, education, communication and fellowship.

Every year, the ASLA Student Awards program gives the public a glimpse into the future of the profession. "The depth and breadth of this year's projects are simply amazing," said Patrick W. Caughey, president of ASLA. "These students show that our industry's future is as bright as ever."

Utilizing both their knowledge of architecture and landscape, Hook and Rusch created a project for the ASLA program that incorporates natural ecological forms into an urban community. In a statement for ASLA, Hook and Rusch wrote that the collaboration between landscape architect and architect was paramount to the success of Wild Urbanism.

"The design work was realized through an integrative and responsive process of merging each other's ideas and skills. Every layer of information in every drawing was passed through two sets of hands," Hook and Rusch wrote. "Both of us relinquished our own geniuses and listened to one another."

The design of Wild Urbanism is based on six primary principles: Reconstruct, Superimpose, Intersect, Water Spine, Overlap and Share. The principles were conceived from the site's location, scale and ecology in Portland.

The Student Awards Jury described the project as: "A refreshing look at how to create a neighborhood. The collaboration seems really strong, the synthesis and analysis are particularly good. The presentation gave an excellent explanation of team members' roles and interaction."

As award recipients, Hook and Rusch will receive coverage in Landscape Architecture magazine and in many other design, construction and general interest media.

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School of Music and Dance hosts a variety of events



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since then has performed extensively throughout Europe. The duo has performed in South Africa, Australia and Indonesia. Kerry Turner is a member of the world-renowned American Horn Quartet, was a Bronze Medalist at the Prague Spring International Music Competition and is a member of the Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestra. Kristina Mascher has been principal horn in various chamber orchestras in the United States and Germany. She has appeared as a guest artist with the American Horn Quartet in Slovakia, Spain, Australia, the United States and South Africa.

Tuesday, Nov. 13 -- 8 p.m.

The university's Vanguard Concert Series presents violinist Gerald Elias and pianist Marjorie Janove in a program titled "Four Centuries of Music for The Violin." Concert time is 8 p.m. in Beall Concert Hall, Music School, 961 E. 18th Ave. Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 general admission, \$8 for students and senior citizens. The program features "Sonata in E Minor" by Mozart, "Sonatina in G Major" by Dvorak, "Distance de Fee" by Toru Takemitsu and two works by university faculty -- "September Elegy" by David Crumb and "Peace Variations" by Robert Kyr. Gerald Elias is a violinist, teacher and composer. As a soloist he has performed with symphony orchestras from the Sydney Symphony to the Boston Pops. He has performed in the United States, Italy, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

Wednesday, Nov. 14 -- 8 p.m.

The university's Campus Orchestra and Campus Band will share a concert at 8 p.m. in Beall Concert Hall, Music Building, 961 E. 18th Ave. Admission is free. Campus Band, directed by Vu Nguyen, will play "Chorale and Fugue in F Major" by J.S. Bach, "English Folk Song Suite" by Ralph Vaughan Williams, "Sleep" by Eric Whitacre and "Kirkpatrick

Fanfare" by Andrew Boysen, Jr. The Campus Orchestra, directed by Jonathan Glawe, will perform the Intermezzo from "Cavalleria Rusticana" by Pietro Mascagni, "Irish Suite for Strings" by Arthur Duff, "Acht Stucke" by Paul Hindemith and one movement from "Sinfonia IX" by Felix Mendelssohn.

Thursday, Nov. 15 -- 8 p.m.

Student chamber ensembles will give a "Chamber Music on Campus" concert at 8 p.m. in Beall Hall, Music Building, 961 E. 18th Ave. Admission is free. The program features a piano quartet by Robert Schumann, a saxophone quartet by Jean Absil, a string quartet by Dmitri Shostakovich, a Bach piece for brass quintet and a humorous scherzo for bassoon quartet by Sergei Prokofiev.

Friday, Nov. 16 -- 8 p.m.

Jazz pianist Toby Koenigsberg will give a Faculty Artist Series recital at 8 p.m. in Room 178, Music Building, 961 E. 18th Ave. Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 general admission, \$8 for students and senior citizens. Koenigsberg will be joined by Tommy Sciple on bass and Jason Palmer on drums in a program of jazz standards, classics, contemporary jazz and improvisations. Selections include music by Thelonius Monk, Cole Porter, Elliott Smith, Andre Canniere, Gordon Jenkins and others.

Koenigsberg is assistant professor of jazz piano and associate director of jazz studies at the University of Oregon. He has performed throughout the United States and around the world with such jazz musicians and ensemble leaders as Marian McPartland, Rich Perry, Ben Monder and Bill Holman. He tours with the Toby Koenigsberg Trio, performing at the various jazz festivals.

Saturday, Nov. 17 -- 3 p.m.

The Oregon Percussion Ensemble, directed by Charles Dowd, presents "Octagon," a concert of contemporary avant-garde music, at 3 p.m. in Beall Hall, Music Building, 961 E. 18th Ave. Tickets, available at the door, are \$7 general admission, \$5 for students and senior citizens. Dowd is a professor of percussion music at the university. The concert will feature "Octagon for Eight Percussionists" by Elliott Schwartz, a piece commissioned by and written for Dowd and the Oregon Percussion Ensemble. "Octagon" presents two multiple percussion quartets mirroring each other in a battle across the stage, utilizing scores of instruments in spatial, modern notation. Also on the program is "Octet for Keyboard Percussion" by Kenneth M. Snoeck and "Quintet for Mallet Percussion" by Serge de Gastyne. The PRAXIS Marimba Quartet will perform "Marimba Quartet" by Daniel Levitan. The quartet (Aaron Jester, Bryan Schuster, Alexander Singer and Paul Owen) is dedicated to bringing new and unusual works for marimba quartet to Eugene audiences.

Saturday, Nov. 17 -- 8 p.m.

The University Opera Workshop will present "An Evening of Arias and Song" at 8 p.m. in Beall Hall, Music Building, 961 E. 18th Ave. Admission is free. Voice students under the direction of Douglas Webster will perform music from the world of opera and musical theater.

Sunday, Nov. 18 -- 3 p.m.

The Oregon Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band -- the university's two top concert bands -- will share an afternoon concert at 3 p.m. in Beall Hall, Music Building, 961 E. 18th Ave. Tickets, available at the door, are \$7 general admission, \$5 for students and senior citizens. The Oregon Symphonic Band, directed by Timothy A. Paul, will perform "Tempered Steel" by Charles Rochester

Young, "Be Thou My Vision" by David Gillingham, "Incantation and Dance" by John Barnes Chance, and "March" by Paul Hindemith. The Oregon Wind Ensemble, directed by Robert Ponto, will perform "Cakewalk" from Robert Russell Bennett's Suite of Old American Dances, "Ballad" by Morton Gould, "From the Delta" by William Brant Still and "Variations on a Shaker Melody" by Aaron Copland.

Monday, Nov. 19 -- 11:54 a.m. -- 12:08 p.m.

SoundBytes, a short weekly series of new music will be presented at Collier House, 1170 E. 13th Ave. Admission is free. The programs, coordinated by professor Brian McWhorter, feature new works, experimental pieces and works in progress in a bite-size format. The Nov. 19 program will feature the Swigartian Arts Ensemble.

Monday, Nov. 19 -- 8 p.m.

Members of the university jazz faculty will present an evening of original music based on Israeli nursery rhymes and Jewish folk tunes at 8 p.m. in Room 178, Music Building, 961 E. 18th Ave. Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 general admission, \$8 for students and senior citizens. Idit Shner, Toby Koenigsberg, Tyler Abbott on bass and Jason Palmer on drums will perform music derived from Israeli nursery-rhymes and traditional Jewish tunes, re-cast and reworked for a jazz quartet.

Tuesday, Nov. 20 -- 8 p.m.

The Oregon Composers Forum will present an evening of new music by composition students at 8 p.m. in Beall Hall, Music Building, 961 E. 18th Ave. Admission is free. Selections will include two works for solo piano, a horn sextet, a piece for mixed chamber ensemble and a quartet for violin, piano, marimba and percussion.

Sunday, Nov. 25 -- 3 p.m.

The university Chamber Music Series (CMS)

continues its 40th season with the Waverly Consort's presentation of "The Christmas Story" at 3 p.m. in Beall Hall, Music Building, 961 E. 18th Ave. Reserved tickets, ranging from \$16 to \$36, are available in advance from the Hult Center, 682-5000, or the EMU ticket office, 346-4363.

Each season the Waverly Consort tours "The Christmas Story," a program that illustrates the Biblical narrative as conveyed by music manuscripts and illuminated miniatures of the Middle Ages. Since its premiere at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art in 1980, this seasonal offering has become a favorite of audiences throughout North America. CMS director Janet Stewart feels the Waverly program will be one of the most distinctive and memorable holiday concerts local audiences have seen in some time. "I've had my eye on the Waverly for years, but this is first opportunity we've had to book them during a West Coast tour," said Stewart.

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On Tuesday, Nov. 27, at 5:15 p.m., a second concert will welcome the return of the UO School of Music and Dance faculty's Oregon Wind Quintet. The quintet will play a premiere of a work by UO professor emeritus of composition, musicianship, and music history Hal Owen, music by UO alumnus Kurt Mehlenbacher '07, and quintets by Georges Onslow and Ferenc Farkas.

The third concert on Friday, Nov. 30, at 4 p.m. will feature UO School of Music and Dance students performing compositions by Ervin Schulhoff, Aram Khachaturian, György Ligeti, Franz Schubert, Eugène Bozza and Francis Poulenc, among others.

All performances are free and open to the public. A reception will follow each concert.

For more information, contact Leslie Bennett, coordinator of the Little Knight Music series, 346-1930, lbennett@uoregon.edu.

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Inside Oregon - For the University of Oregon Community

November 12, 2007

Call for proposals: Freshman Interest Groups and Freshman Seminars

First-Year Programs invites faculty members to submit proposals for Freshman Interest Groups (FIGs) and Freshman Seminars for the 2008-09 academic year.

FIG instructors teach a one-credit College Connections seminar during fall term to a cohort of 25 students who are co-enrolled in two lecture classes. The seminar is intended to explore related themes between the two classes and to connect freshmen to campus resources. Out-of-class activities, both social and academic, are encouraged. Past activities include trips to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, an excursion to the Columbia Gorge to see salmon spawning, visits to museums and galleries in Portland, and a special viewing of the Eugene Symphony. For more information and the FIG proposal form, visit <http://firstyear.uoregon.edu/> or call 346-1241. Proposals will be accepted through Jan. 30.

Freshman Seminars are small, interactive courses

designed to introduce first-year students to thought-provoking, challenging, and stimulating subjects. Limited to 18-23 students, these three-credit seminars give freshmen a focused academic experience in an area of special interest to the faculty member. Topics have ranged from building and firing raku pottery to investigating the history of space flight. Ten Freshman Seminars are taught each term. For more information and the Freshman Seminar proposal form, visit <http://firstyear.uoregon.edu/> or call 346-1136. Proposals will be accepted through Jan. 11.

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First-Year Programs

Undergraduate Studies Student Orientation First-Year Programs
Academic Advising Disability Services Academic Learning Services

- **FIGs**
- **Freshman Seminars**
- **Transfer Seminars**
- **Information for Faculty**
- **First-Year Programs News**
- **Student Jobs with First-Year Programs**
- **Chart Your Course (pdf)**
- **Get Connected (pdf)**
- **Get a Clue (pdf)**
-
- **Contact Us**



"I gained more confidence asking questions in class and I learned to feel more comfortable with college-level courses. The FIG also created a lot of social opportunities. All of my friends are members of my FIG!"

- Camina Giloti, Human Nature A FIG