

# Inside Oregon

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON COMMUNITY

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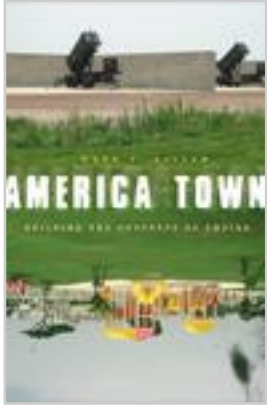
March 31, 2008

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[Full story »](#)

## Gillem's 'America Town' lauded for excellence



The Environmental Design Research Association has selected a book by the University of Oregon's Mark L. Gillem for one of its 2008 EDRA/Places awards. Gillem was chosen for "America Town: Building the Outposts of Empire."

[Full story »](#)

## Woodburn, Oregon: a microcosm of immigrant shifts in America



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[Full story »](#)

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[Full story »](#)

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[Full story »](#)

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Concert time is 8 p.m. Beall Hall.

Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 general admission, \$8 for students and senior citizens.

[Full story »](#)

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Sincerely,

Zack Barnett  
Publications Editor  
University of Oregon  
Office of Public and Media Relations

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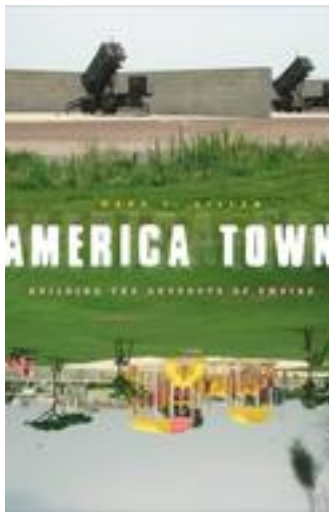
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Gillem, professor of architecture and landscape architecture, is among seven winners in four categories who will be honored May 29 during EDRA's 39th annual meeting in Veracruz, Mexico. The award program recognizes professional and scholarly excellence in environmental design.

America Town, a 392-page book published in August 2007 by the University of Minnesota Press, provides an overview of U.S. military outposts around the world. It considers land-use issues, their construction and their feel-at-home environment. The bases, he argues, have become symbols of not just American power but also consumer consumption.

Gillem, an 18-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force and Air Force Reserve, discussed the book in a slideshow presentation last fall before addressing NATO about his work.



EDRA and Places -- a peer reviewed journal that covers design, the arts and social sciences -- initiated the award program in 1997. This year, it includes a partnership with Metropolis Magazine, a publication that examines contemporary life through design, including architecture, interior design, product design, graphic design, crafts, planning, and preservation.

Winners were chosen in four categories -- design, planning, place research and book. Entries can include aspects of other social science areas such as environmental psychology, sociology, anthropology and geography. Gillem was the only winner selected in the book category.

The UO's Kenneth L. Helphand, professor of landscape architecture, was a 2007 EDRA/Places award winner for his widely acclaimed book "Defiant Gardens: Making Gardens in Wartime."

Jenny Young, professor of architecture, and Eugene-based Rowell Brokaw Architects won in 2006 for their joint Paleo Project in Fossil, Ore.



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Details of the research by [Lise Nelson](#), professor of geography, appeared in two recent journals, *Geographical Review* (October 2007) and *Cultural Geographies* (January 2008). The former examined migrant farmworkers and community relationships as they transitioned from a

migratory workforce in isolated labor camps to having year-round roles in the economy and becoming permanent residents. The latter follows the friction between an advocacy group's efforts to build new housing in the 1990s and resistance from mostly white residents and city officials.



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Many of the changes

detailed were fueled by globalization in the 1980s, Nelson said. Mexico faced an economic crisis, the U.S. economy became service-oriented and created a demand for low-wage workers, and the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 allowed millions of undocumented workers with long employment histories to become legal workers. These events, in turn, allowed more family members to migrate and join the workers. The dynamics expanded already well-established labor flows between Mexico and the United States.

Economic changes in the northern Willamette Valley in the 1980s also contributed to increasing numbers of immigrant farmworkers arriving and settling in Woodburn. The expansion of the greenhouse and nursery industry, agricultural processing plants, the Christmas tree industry and a transition to immigrant tree planters in public and private reforestation activities combined to create nearly year-round demand for immigrant workers, mostly from Mexico.

While Nelson's research is on Woodburn, a city of 20,000 people just south of Portland, similar changes occurred in nearby Gervais and Canby and many other non-metropolitan cities. The 2000 census found Woodburn to be the largest Oregon city with a majority population of Latinos.

"Woodburn is a place that represents a microcosm of the broader-scale migration and settlement dynamics that are changing small- and medium-sized towns throughout the United States," Nelson said. "Woodburn's farmworker

housing struggle in the 1990s offers a window into the shifting dynamics of belonging and identity in these contexts.

"The housing struggle reflected a deep resistance on the part of some white residents to the presence of Mexican immigrants, yet today we see, at least on an official level, a more active embracing of Woodburn's multicultural identity. A few years ago Woodburn inaugurated, as its first urban renewal project, a downtown plaza, designed in a Latin-American style," Nelson said. "For several years now the city has helped organize a community celebration of Mexican Independence Day. This is not to say the picture is all rosy, as racism and discrimination against immigrant residents have not disappeared, but there have been public and visible changes."

Nelson collected data from archived newspaper articles, public records and personal interviews done in English and Spanish. Her research follows shifting politics and immigration, as well as economic changes that drive both. She has done extensive research in Mexico, especially in Michoacán, within migrant-sending communities.

Mexican workers came in large numbers to the northern Willamette Valley in the 1940s under the U.S.-sponsored Bracero Program to alleviate World War II labor shortages. The workers often lived in cramped, ill-equipped labor-camps. By the 1950s and 1960s, most farmworkers were Mexican-American citizens coming from border areas on a seasonal basis. The rural labor force shifted again by the late 1970s, when large numbers of workers again began arriving from Mexico. By the 1990s, the trend saw more immigrants seeking employment in smaller cities rather than large gateway cities such as Los Angeles and Chicago.

During the 1980s as farmworkers workers sought housing in Woodburn, Nelson found, they often were crowded into single-family housing units or lived in garages and cars. Landlords often charged for entire families to live in one

room; multiple families shared bathrooms, living rooms and kitchens. Overcrowding created unsafe conditions, fostered social tensions and led to housing decay. Few residents were pleased, Nelson noted. Longtime residents, both white and Mexican-American, reported plummeting living conditions, and immigrant families were concerned about the effects on their children and family life.

In response, a coalition of advocacy groups formed the Farmworker Housing Development Corp. (FHDC) in 1991 to build safe and affordable housing. With bank loans and grants, FHDC sought to take over a failed Housing and Urban Development-funded site to build an apartment complex with rents scaled by income. Although this appeared to be a win-win situation, Nelson said, the city, which was forced to foreclose on the property after a private developer went bankrupt, resisted the proposal for two years before giving in to avoid paying \$245,000 to the government.

Nelson's study provides insight to the battle. FHDC eventually prevailed and opened Phase 1 of the Nuevo Amanecer (New Dawn) complex in August 1994. "Nuevo Amanecer created living space for farmworkers that contrasted sharply with traditional farmworker housing," Nelson noted in *Geographical Review*. "It enacted a spatial claim to place and belonging in the community for farmworkers who had historically been relegated to the labor camp. FHDC staff worked with residents to generate rules governing the complex, from security to garbage-collection schedules."

FHDC's efforts to build another complex also met with resistance. In 1995 FHDC purchased, to the city's surprise, an abandoned lot near Woodburn City Hall. Again, the city balked and stalled its approval, but, again, FHDC won and opened Esperanza (Hope) Court in October 1997. The FHDC later won awards for its design and operation of the complexes.

"I talked to some residents in Woodburn who had

originally opposed the housing projects," Nelson recalled. "They said that they thought there would be gangs, more trash and more problems. Instead, they found them to be well run and a nice place for families -- with a lot of participation by residents. It is seen by many as a really innovative and successful program." The September 2005 dedication of the downtown plaza, she added, "indicated a shift in who is seen as belonging in the community, and the nature of the town's 'place identity' itself."

"Woodburn's housing struggle," she said, "offers a window into the shifting dynamics of belonging and identity between white residents and Latinos, including Mexican-American and Mexican immigrants. These inter-group dynamics are now more accommodating, more understanding and more accepting of differences, even though not all racial tensions are gone."

The Woodburn Area Chamber of Commerce proclaims the city's diversity on its Web site, noting the city has "grown up a lot," is one-half Hispanic, one-fifth Russian and one-quarter senior citizen. "People of all ages and all cultures have come together to know Woodburn as the City of Unity, a place where they can celebrate their differences and share their cultural heritage," the site says.

In the Cultural Geographies paper, Nelson concludes that "the political and economic power structures remain overwhelmingly white ... But constructions of place identity and the public sphere in Woodburn have become decidedly more pluralistic, partly, I think, as a result of the successful struggles such as those to build Nuevo Amanecer and Esperanza Court." She predicts that over time the town's power structure will become more pluralistic as well.

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# Be ready for Eugene 08

[Up one level](#)

The 2008 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials are inching closer to the starting blocks. Stay tuned to this site for updates and information on everything from parking to event schedules. We hope to ensure that you and other members of the University of Oregon community come out of the gate ready for the best track and field trials ever.



## [Eugene 08 Flyover VIDEO](#)

The InfoGraphics Lab at the University of Oregon created this flyover VIDEO as a preview of the U.S. Olympic Team Trials -- Track and Field to be held in Eugene, Ore., at historic Hayward Field this summer.

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## [University of Oregon at the Eugene 08 Festival](#)

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## [Web site to keep campus community updated on Eugene 08 doings](#)

You can help make Eugene and the UO the best hosts ever of the U.S. Olympic Team Trials-Track and Field.

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## [Eugene 08: Save these dates](#)

During the 10-day U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials, only three days of competition will coincide with classes and work at the University of Oregon. Below, find a list of dates to save. Even if you don't have a ticket, you're more than welcome to attend the free Eugene 08 Festival.

[Read More...](#)



## [Where can I park?](#)

Here's the latest parking map for the 10 days of the Trials. Be sure to check back here for updates on the parking situation and any changes to the map.

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## [Free Eugene 08 Festival features array of attractions](#)

No ticket? Soak up the excitement at the free Eugene 08 Festival

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## [Eugene, UO to host 2012 trials and more](#)

Track Town USA, Now and Forever lays claim to major events through 2012

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## [Help us make the 2008 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials the best ever](#)

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Help us make the 2008 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials the best ever. Please feel free to contact the University of Oregon's [Office of Public and Media Relations](#) with questions, suggestions or concerns about Eugene 08.

PMR Affiliations

**PMR is located within the UO [Division of Advancement](#) and part of the [Office of Public and Government Affairs](#).**

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## UO News Archive

[Click here](#) to enter the archives for news release produced after Sept. 24, 2007

[All previous archives](#)

## Geri Richmond given awards from AWIS & Coblentz Society

UO chemist Geri Richmond is among the 2008 Class of Fellows named by the Association for Women in Science (AWIS). Six women and one man were so honored during February's annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Boston. Richmond was noted for "her support of professional advancement of women through leadership of the Committee for the Advancement of Women Chemists (COACH)."



Richmond, who is the Richard M. and Patricia H. Noyes Professor of Chemistry at UO, in March will receive another award. The Coblentz Society, a non-profit organization founded in 1954 to foster the understanding and application of vibrational spectroscopy, has chosen Richmond as the 2008 recipient of its Bomen-Michelson Award. The annual award, given since 1987, honors A.E. Michelson, developer of the Michelson interferometer, and is sponsored by the Swiss firm ABB Bomem Inc., a world leader in space spectrometry. The Coblentz Society noted Richmond's "contributions to the field of molecular spectroscopy through the use, development and advancement of nonlinear optical methods to study molecular structure and interactions at complex surfaces and interfaces."

## UO Snapshot

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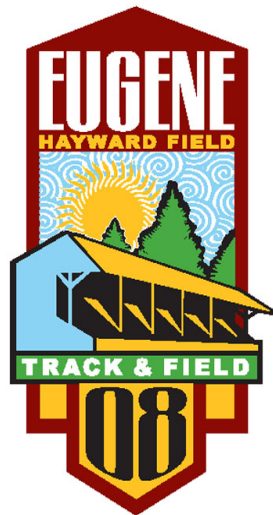
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UO vote-by-mail expert weighs in on Florida, Michigan primaries

It will take a massive public education effort should Florida and Michigan implement last minute vote-by-mail democratic primaries, says Priscilla Southwell, the associate dean of social sciences in the University of Oregon's College of Arts and Sciences. Southwell, also a professor of political science, has extensively studied Oregon's vote-by-mail program for a decade. [CLICK HERE](#) to listen as Southwell discusses the prospect of vote-by-mail in Florida and Michigan.

## YLC to begin Native-American Sahaptin language course in fall



The UO's World Languages Academy, beginning in Fall 2008, is offering a language course in Yakima Sahaptin, a Native American language of the Mid-Columbia River area of Oregon and Washington. The course will be taught by tribe elder Virginia Beavert, pictured, and will focus on learning the language as well as the culture and history of the Sahaptin peoples. Read more about the yearlong course in the [YLC Quarterly](#) (link goes to a PDF of the Winter 2008

issue).

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A free symposium for UO faculty and graduate teaching fellows on computational thinking and its relation to teaching and academics is scheduled for Friday, April 11, in the Browsing Room of Knight Library.

Presented by the library's Center for Educational Technologies (CET), the daylong event will offer perspectives on the use of computers in education, specifically on how "computational thinking," that is, the use of human brains and computer "brains," can be used to solve intellectually challenging problems and accomplish intellectually challenging tasks in higher education.

The keynote speaker, Helen Neville, UO professor of psychology, will discuss the connections between brains and computers in a talk entitled "Human Brains and Computer Technology Working Together to Better Understand Brains."

Russ Tomlin, vice provost for academic affairs,

will address issues related to faculty promotion and tenure in his talk, "Considerations about Information and Communication Technology in Faculty Promotion, Tenure, and Retention at the UO."

A pair of panel sessions—"Intellectual Property and Faculty Rights: Institutional Support for Online Faculty Publishing" and "Integrating Computational Thinking Throughout the Curriculum: Now and the Future"--are also on the program.

The complete schedule can be found at <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/cet/workshops/symposium-080411/index.html>.

The symposium runs from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The event is free to UO faculty and GTFs, but advance registration is required. To register, contact Tiffany Ambiel, UO Libraries, 346-3056; [tambiel@uoregon.edu](mailto:tambiel@uoregon.edu).

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These two recognition programs were specifically created to acknowledge excellence in officers of administration and classified employees. We hope you will join us in acknowledging those who have made outstanding contributions to the UO in the past year. The award recipients were chosen by a selection committee.

For a complete list of the 2007-08 Recognition Programs, visit the Human Resources Web site at: <http://hr.uoregon.edu/recognition>. If you have any question contact Kathy Cooks, HR Special Programs Coordinator at [kcooks@uoregon.edu](mailto:kcooks@uoregon.edu) or 346-2939.

## **CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES**

Linda Miller, athletic records liaison, admissions

Becky Vaughan, office specialist, public safety

## **OFFICERS OF ADMINISTRATION**

Herb Horner, operations lieutenant, public safety

Darrel Kau, Cultural Forum program coordinator,  
Erb Memorial Union

Patty Valenzuela, business manager, physics  
department

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The program will include a wide range of music for violin, piano, and saxophone: transcriptions of

Bartok's "Rumanian Dances" and Ravel's "Adagio for Piano Concerto in G Major"; "Consuelo's Dream" and "Pat's Aria" by John Adams; and "Cantilene et Danse" by Marc Eychenne. The program also includes two trios written specifically for the artists by David Morgan and Nikola Resanovic.

**Thursday, April 3 — Guest Artist: John Kamitsuka, piano**

Acclaimed pianist John Kamitsuka will be on the UO campus for a recital at 8 p.m. in Beall Hall. Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 general admission, \$8 for students and senior citizens.

Kamitsuka's recital includes five selections: Mozart's "Sonata No. 9 in A Minor," Beethoven's "Sonata No. 21; a movement from Samuel Barber's "Excursions"; and two of Bach's Preludes and Fugues from "The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book One."

**Monday, April 7 — French Chamber Music**

UO music faculty and students will present a program of French chamber music as part of Eugene Symphony's "Discovering Daphnis Festival." The concert begins at 8 p.m. in Beall Hall, and admission is free.

Selections include a wide range of instrumental and vocal chamber music, including: "Villanelle for horn and piano" by Paul Dukas; six French songs by Germaine Tailleferre; works for organ and voice by Olivier Messiaen; and four pieces by Maurice Ravel. Among the 20 performers are faculty vocalists Douglas Webster and Laura Decher Wayte; flutist Laura Barron; organist John Jantzi, pianist Victor Steinhardt, harpist Laura Zaerr; and the Eugene Contemporary Chamber Ensemble.



The "Discovering Daphnis Festival" is a weeklong festival of free, multidisciplinary arts events, culminating in the Eugene Symphony concert featuring Maurice Ravel's rarely performed masterwork "Daphnis and Chloé." All festival activities are free and open to the public, and include live dance and music performances, visual art and presentations by leading experts on music and artwork inspired by Ravel.

**Tuesday, April 8 — Faculty Artist Series:  
"Eclectic Sonorities"**

Three members of the UO music faculty will present a varied program titled "Eclectic Sonorities" at 8 p.m. in Beall Concert Hall. Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 general admission, \$8 for students and senior citizens.

Pianists Alexandre Dossin and David Riley and saxophonist Idit Shner will be featured on the program. Dossin will perform "Bachianas Brasileiras No. 4" and "Danca do Indio Branco" by Villa-Lobos; "The Peregrination Suite" by Terry Vosbein; and three selections by UO Professor Emeritus Victor Steinhardt, composed while on a trip to Brazil last year. Shner and Riley will offer two selections for alto saxophone and piano: "Village Scenes" by Terry Vosbein, and "Brilliance" by Ida Gotkowsky.

**Saturday, April 12 — Guest Artists: Double Image**

David Friedman and Dave Samuels, known as the renowned duo "Double Image," will perform jazz vibraphone and marimba selections at 8 p.m. in room 163 of the music building. Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 general admission, \$8 for students and senior citizens.

Dave Samuels and David Friedman, two masters of mallet percussion, began their duo in 1974,

creating the unique combination of vibraphone and marimba. What emerged was a totally new sound and approach that has set a new standard for mallet percussionists everywhere.

**Sunday, April 13 — Guest Artist: Kim Robertson, Celtic harp**

Celtic harpist Kim Robertson will give a guest artist recital at 3 p.m. in Beall Concert Hall. Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 general admission, \$8 for students and senior citizens.

The program will include "Jupiter" from Holst's "The Planets" for harp ensemble and flute; "Arran Boat Song" for harp ensemble; "Habanera Gris" by Alfredo Rolando Ortiz; and in the Celtic tradition, "Chanter," "Morrison's Jig" and "Sleep Sound in the Morning."

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