

# News & Views



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Faculty and Staff Newsletter of the University of Oregon

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June 11, 1998

## **Matching gifts endow Knight chairs**

The university is nearly halfway to its goal of creating a total of 15 endowed Knight Chairs, thanks to generous matching donations from UO alumni, supporters and faculty.

"It's wonderful that so many UO alumni and friends have stepped up to the plate so quickly to meet Phil Knight's visionary challenge," President Dave Frohnmayer said June 11 in announcing the achievement. "These new endowed chairs will help us keep current faculty members from leaving for higher-paying positions and recruit new professors we otherwise wouldn't be able to attract."

In 1996, Knight donated \$25 million to The Oregon Campaign, the UO's \$200 million capital campaign which has already exceeded its goal and now stands at \$217 million raised. Knight's gift dedicated \$15 million to the creation of endowed chairs across campus and challenged the campus to find a matching donor for each chair.

The remaining \$10 million is helping to finance construction of a new law school building to be named the William W. Knight Law Center after Phil Knight's father, a 1932 UO law school graduate.

Recent gifts qualified Arts and Sciences to receive four Knight Chairs, and the Knight Library and Journalism and Communication each to receive one. George Shipman holds the Knight Chair for University Librarian. Earlier, a Knight Chair was designated to the Law dean position, held by Rennard Strickland, which brings the current total of Knight Chairs to seven.

Two gifts announced during the final week of spring term will help establish a Judaic Studies Program at

the UO and make possible a new level of research, strategic planning and long-range, visionary leadership for the Knight Library.

- **JUDAIC STUDIES:** A \$1.5 million gift from the Harold and Arlene Schnitzer CARE Foundation, founded by Portland philanthropists Harold and Arlene Schnitzer, will help establish the Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies at the UO--the first degree-granting program of its kind in Oregon.

The proposed Judaic Studies program will offer a multidisciplinary curriculum that will focus on Jewish history, culture and philosophy and will include instruction in modern Hebrew. The program will grant both minor and major degrees in Judaic Studies. It is expected that the degree program will begin fall term 1999, but several classes are anticipated for fall term 1998.

"A national search for a central scholar will begin immediately," says Joe Stone, Arts and Sciences dean. "We expect to fill the position by fall 1999."

- **LIBRARY:** The Nissho Iwai American Corp., a key NIKE international trading partner, has made a generous gift to help endow the Knight Library's management initiatives and to increase support for the library. It is the firm's second gift to the Knight Library. The first, in 1990, helped finance the library's \$27.4 million expansion and renovation.

Yutaka Kase, general manager of the company's Portland office, says the Nissho Iwai American Corp. made the gift to underscore its long-term commitment to the people of Portland, of Oregon, and of the Pacific Northwest.

"The second reason," Kase continued, "is to honor Mr. Knight's great commitment to supporting the University of Oregon. We hope that through our gift to endow the management initiatives of the Knight Library, our gesture of respect for Philip Knight will inspire others to follow his example."

Librarian George Shipman says that for the foreseeable future, the annual income from the endowment will support the Knight Library's current efforts to nurture information-sharing relationships with other research libraries in the United States and abroad.

Previously announced gifts that released Knight Chairs and the endowed chairs they create are:

- **ARTS AND SCIENCES:** A donation from James and Shirley Rippey for a rotating endowed chair or professorships which will recognize faculty members who are equally distinguished in research and lower-division teaching.
- **OREGON HUMANITIES CENTER:** A gift from the estate of UO alumnus Vern Stolen, Class of '52, to endow the directorship of the Oregon Humanities Center.

- **ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS:** A gift from UO Professor Emeritus of Economics Ray Mikesell for a chair in environmental economics.
- **PUBLIC RELATIONS:** An anonymous gift to the School of Journalism and Communication to create a chair in public relations.

The Knight Chairs matching these gifts will be allocated to designated departments, programs or areas by Provost John Moseley in consultation with deans. Considering both the Knight Chairs and matching chairs, the UO expects to fill at least 10 new endowed posts over the next year.

"When these are filled and the remaining Knight Chairs are matched, this will result in almost a quarter of our full professorships being augmented by endowment support," says Moseley. "I believe every major academic program in the university will directly benefit from this transforming increase in support for our leading faculty."

To qualify for a Knight Chair, UO schools, colleges or departments must raise a minimum of \$1.2 million in matching funds. The Knight Chair endowment, plus the matching contributions, are expected to eventually support at least 30 new endowed chairs.

The Knight Chairs are being allocated to UO schools, colleges and programs under a formula developed by Provost Moseley and approved by President Frohnmayer. The formula is roughly based on faculty size and the number of students served.

Phil Knight also proposed to endow a position to be occupied by the president of the university, which was approved by the state chancellor of higher education and the Oregon University System board. This chair will not be established until all of the 15 Knight chairs are released.

## **UO announces spring degree candidates**

Former judge and legal scholar Beverly Ledbetter, vice president and general counsel at Rhode Island's Brown University, will address the Class of 1998 on Saturday, June 13, during the UO's 121st spring commencement.

Nearly 3,800 spring-term degree candidates and fall- and winter-term graduates are eligible to participate in the ceremonies which begin at 12:30 p.m. at Hayward Field. Rain will move commencement indoors to McArthur Court.

Parking, although limited, will be free at meters and in campus lots. Those attending are advised to arrive early. Enforcement will be suspended for the day except at restricted spaces.

Ledbetter, a popular speaker and expert on legal issues facing higher education, says her commencement

keynote address "will offer some sage advice to graduates about how to prepare for life's rewards and its challenges in this next and very important chapter in their lives."

President Dave Frohnmayer will present the university's 1998 Distinguished Service Awards and Presidential Medals. Recipients of several distinguished teaching awards for faculty members and graduate teaching fellows also will be recognized. [SEE "[UNIVERSITY TO HONOR 16 AT COMMENCEMENT](#)"]

At a pre-commencement brunch, the UO Alumni Association will bestow its 1998 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award on 1981 marketing graduate Alberto Salazar, a world-class distance runner and marathon runner who is a Nike, Inc., sports marketing executive. Also to be honored with this year's Distinguished Alumnus Award will be the founder and long-time president of the Portland Trail Blazers Harry Glickman, a 1948 journalism graduate.

"Beverly Ledbetter is an impressive legal scholar who understands and can speak with eloquence about the pivotal issues facing our graduates in this rapidly changing world," Frohnmayer says. "We are honored to have someone with her insight, foresight and energy as this year's commencement speaker."

A native of East Texas, Ledbetter, 53, received her bachelor's degree in chemistry from Howard University and her doctor of jurisprudence degree from the University of Colorado.

In addition to the university-wide exercises on June 13, each school or college--including departments in Arts and Sciences--will hold its own ceremony at various campus locations on Friday and Saturday, June 12-13. During these ceremonies, individual recognition will be given to master's and bachelor's degree candidates. For information about these ceremonies, browse <http://www.uoregon.edu/~stl/comm.htm>.

Among spring term's 2,704 degree candidates are 2,011 completing requirements for bachelor's degrees, 12 for certificates, 438 for master's degrees and 78 for doctoral degrees. Another 165 students received law degrees on May 17.

Also eligible for spring commencement are 572 fall term and 518 winter term graduates. No ceremonies are held during those terms.

## **Hundreds of Ducks on parade!**

Next fall's Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade may have something different to show America: 200 marching Ducks. The Oregon Marching Band was one of 12 musical units worldwide invited to join the New York City parade. Dana Huddleston, administrative coordinator, says the band needs to raise up to \$400,000 to finance the trip. Band members and supporters already plan a series of fund-raisers. Send tax-deductible donations, payable to OMB/UO Foundation, to the Band Department. To offer ideas and

for information, browse <http://gladstone.uoregon.edu/~omb> or call 6-2138.

## University to honor 16 at Commencement

Sixteen people will be recognized for their exemplary service, philanthropic leadership and teaching excellence June 13 during commencement.

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS**--Honorees are **Lawrence J. Dark**, president and chief executive officer of the Urban League of Portland; **Ralph Johnson**, a University of Washington law professor and influential expert on Native American treaty rights; and **Hope Hughes Pressman** of Eugene, effective advocate for higher education and the arts.

The faculty select recipients for this award "who by their knowledge and skills have made a significant contribution to the cultural development of Oregon or society as a whole."

**PRESIDENTIAL MEDALS**--Eugene business and civic leaders **Aaron** and **Marie Jones** and **Randy** and **Susie Papé**, and Portland philanthropist **Earle M. Chiles** will receive hand-forged solid silver medals for their visionary investments that have helped transform Oregon into one of the "rising stars" of America's best research and teaching universities.

The Presidential Medal honors individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to higher education through their long-standing and extraordinary support. Each medal is a replica of the myrtlewood medallion the UO president wears at ceremonial occasions such as commencement.

**ERSTED AWARDS FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING**--Students consistently praise **Leon Johnson**, Fine and Applied Arts, for the discipline and high standards he brings to the classroom, and colleagues call him "an extraordinary teacher."

The Ersted awards, established in 1957, recognize exceptional teachers early in their careers. Funded by a trust created by the late A. J. Ersted of Atherton, Calif., the awards include a crystal apple and a continuing salary increase of \$2,000.

**THOMAS F. HERMAN AWARD FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING**--**Richard Koch**, Mathematics, was honored for the clarity of his teaching style and for the enthusiastic way he advises students.

**Luis Verano**, Romance languages, won the award both for the passion he brings to the classroom and for his dedication as director of undergraduate studies in Romance languages.

The Herman awards honor senior faculty members who have achieved outstanding records as teachers. Supported by an Alamo, Calif., business leader and 1962 UO alumnus, the awards consist of a crystal

apple and an ongoing \$2,000 salary raise.

GRADUATE TEACHING FELLOW AWARDS--Doctoral degree students **Elaine Roth**, English, and **Jonathan Flojo**, School Psychology, will receive \$500 honoraria for excellence in teaching.

GTFs **Sara Burke**, a spring Law graduate, and doctoral students **Kathleen "Kate" Sullivan**, English, and **Penelope Heinigk**, Germanic languages and literature, will receive \$100 honorable mention awards.

The awards, established jointly with the UO chapter of Mortar Board and first given in 1979, recognize excellence in teaching and academic guidance. This year, 25 graduate students from 20 departments or programs were nominated.

## Our People

### In the spotlight

Four proposals for innovative projects that contribute to the quality of the educational experience of UO undergraduates will receive financial support from the Tom and Carol Williams Fund for Undergraduate Education for 1998-99. **Aileen Buckley** and **Patricia McDowell**, both Geography, will develop new teaching and learning approaches in "Environmental Measurement and Mapping" across the discipline of geography. **Matthew Dennis**, History, and **Gordon Sayre**, English, will develop and offer an interdisciplinary course on "Contested Events in Early America." **Deborah Exton**, Chemistry, will receive renewed funding for peer learning support-groups in introductory chemistry courses. **Anne Laskaya**, English, will receive funding for a second year for "writing in the disciplines."

### On the move

Provost John Moseley announced June 10 the appointment of **Thomas Dyke**, Arts and Sciences associate dean, as vice provost for research, and Marketing professor **Marian Friestad** as dean of the Graduate School. The interim appointments, effective July 1, divide responsibilities in the Provost's Office formerly held by Vice Provost **Steadman Upham**. He will leave the UO to assume the presidency of Claremont Graduate University on July 1. The appointments are expected to continue until a national search is held to fill the position vacated by Upham.

**Pam Daener**, Resource Management, has resigned as budget officer, effective in mid-June, to accept a financial management position in academic affairs at the University of California, San Diego.

**Stephen Stolp** has been appointed associate director of Academic Advising and Student Services, replacing **Marliss Strange** who has retired. Stolp, who has been a counselor and has taught several UO courses, will assume many of Strange's duties, including serving as lead adviser for pre-health sciences students.

**Connie Keating** has joined the Development Office as executive assistant to **Matt Roberts** and **Susan Plass**. Keating formerly worked as information specialist and staff assistant to the president of Bridgewater State College, West Bridgewater, Mass.

## In Print/On Display

**Alan Contreras**, Legislative Relations, has published *Birds of Coos County, Oregon: Status and Distribution* as Oregon Field Ornithologists Special Publication No. 12. In 1997, he published *Northwest Birds in Winter* (Oregon State University Press).

**Greg Ringer**, Asian and Pacific Studies adjunct now a visiting Fulbright professor at Makerere University, presented an assessment of the potential for sustainable ecotourism and conservation in Uganda to Presidents Clinton and Mandela during Clinton's March tour of Africa.

**Madonna L. Moss** and **Jon M. Erlandson**, Anthropology, published "A Comparative Chronology of Northwest Coast Fishing Features" in *Hidden Dimensions: The Cultural Significance of Wetland Archaeology* (University of British Columbia Press, 1998). **R. Scott Byram**, Anthropology doctoral candidate, published "Fishing Weirs in Oregon Coast Estuaries" in the same volume.

## On the podium/stage

**John Lukacs**, Anthropology, presented "Enamel defects and subsistence transitions in ancient India" at the Paleopathology Association annual meeting on April 1 in Salt Lake City. He also participated in a workshop on the diagnosis of diseases of malnutrition in human skeletal remains.

**Leslie D. Hall**, Substance Abuse Prevention Program, presented "A Theology of Mutual Respect: Gender, Family and the Case of Housework" at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion in November 1997 in San Francisco. She will present a workshop in June on "Housework, Family and Gender: Developing a Theology of Mutual Respect" at the annual meeting of the Society for Pastoral Theology in Chicago.

## In memoriam

Former OPEU local president and chief steward **Risa D. Haberman**, East Asian Languages and Literatures, died May 23 of cancer. A native of New York City, she was 48. Memorial contributions may be sent to the National College of Naturopathic Medicine, c/o Hahnemann Education Foundation, 49 S.W. Porter, Portland, OR 97201.

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