





#### HAWAIIAN ART GALLERY SHOWCASES BLUE PIGMENT CREATED AT OSU

Inspired by the story of how Oregon State chemist Mas Subramanian and his team discovered the first new blue pigment in 200 years, a gallery in Hawaii commissioned several painters to create a "Brand New Blue" show. (Painting by Melissa Chimera)



#### ON THE WEB

Oregon State University: OregonState.edu

OSU Athletics: OSUBeavers.com

OSU Foundation and Alumni Association:

For Oregon State.org

Beaver Lodge: ForOregonState.org/BeaverLodge

OSUAA Travel: For Oregon State.org / Travel OSU Connections: OSUConnections.org

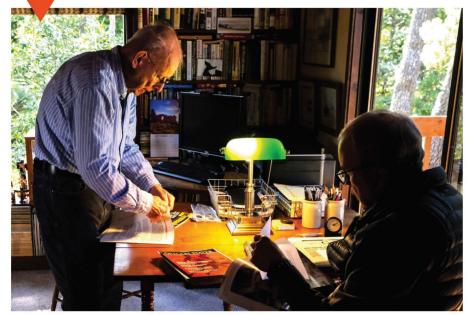


#### **FACEBOOK**

Oregon State: Facebook.com/OSUBeavers OSU-Cascades: Facebook.com/OSUCascades OSU Athletics: Facebook.com/BeaverAthletics OSUAA: Facebook.com/OregonStateAlum OSUF: Facebook.com/OregonStateFoundation

#### A LEGACY OF PROFOUNDLY IMPORTANT IMAGES

Chris Johns, '74 (lower right in photo below), photographer and former National Geographic editor, reviews memorabilia with retired OSU journalism professor Ron Lovell during filming of a documentary on Johns' life. (Photo by Riley Yuan)



#### ON THE COVER

4-H grows responsible young people with OSU's help, so why not study the mighty beaver at a 4-H Wildlife Stewards Summit? (Photo by Elli Korthuis) Story on page 18

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- Living not just longer, but better: More than ever, the Linus Pauling Science Institute seeks to be a trusted source of wellness science.
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#### LINKEDIN SEARCHES

"Oregon State University"

"Beaver Careers Group"

"Oregon State University International Alumni"

"Oregon State University Foundation"

## It's been a great gig and it's time to go

"I've been lucky enough to have

two careers that fit my skills and

filled my soul, and Oregon State

gave me both of them."

Early in my career as a newspaper reporter, in my first job after graduating from OSU in 1978, I worked in a small newsroom where it seemed like we all had to go full speed every day just to get the paper out. When the time came for me to take another job, in a great spot at a paper twice as big, I was wracked with guilt.

"How will they get along without me?" I wondered.

(I know. I was a little full of myself.)

At the end of my last day, my city editor walked me to the employee door. Standing there holding my box of pens and

pencils and a piece of my going-away cake, I told him how sorry I was to let him down by leaving. No one who truly knows me will be surprised that I was fighting back tears.

"Kevin," he said, "when you go home tonight, I want you to fill up your bathtub. Then I want

you to roll up your sleeve and stick your arm all the way into the water. Look at it, and then pull your arm out of the water and try to find the spot where it was."

He told me I was a fine young reporter who worked hard and would do well.

"But this place was here a long time before you got here, and it will be here a long time after you're gone," he said. "We'll be fine."

So it will be with the *Oregon Stater* as I step down after 16 years and 49 issues as editor.

I'm no longer a fine *young* anything, and I'm not promising I won't be a little weepy on June 3, my official retirement date. But if I do cry (I can hear my two daughters saying, "You mean *when* you *do* cry") they will be tears of gratitude.

I've been lucky enough to have two careers that fit my skills and filled my soul, and Oregon State gave me both of them.

I've written before in this space of my late mother's insistence that I enroll at OSU because she, in all her tiny fierceness, had decided it was time for someone in the family to get a degree. I wanted to work in a lumber mill, pulling boards on a green chain, where a big, strong kid like me could make a lot of money. She said I was welcome to do that in the summer, but I was going to college.

Alas, I was more interested in smoking Swisher Sweets, drinking cheap, formaldehyde-scented beer and trying to catch steelhead on the Alsea River than I was in going to class. I flirted with academic probation and made a hobby of changing majors until I took Journalism 111 on a lark. The instructor took one of my stories to the *Barometer*, which printed it, and a light flickered on in my giant noggin.

The next thing I knew, a couple of terms had passed as OSU worked its land-grant magic to save me from my aimless self. Journalism professor Ron Lovell appeared in my life as my mentor. One night he intercepted me in the old bookstore parking lot

and told me to sign the form he was holding, which was an application to be *Baro* editor.

That launched a 27-year career in newspapers — in which I had so much fun, learned a lot and helped get a few crooked public servants canned — and then someone from the OSU

Alumni Association called to see if I would serve on the search committee for the third new *Stater* editor in 40 years. I'm still not sure how we got from there to me applying for the job, but pretty soon I was in my last interview for the editorship, with then-OSU President Edward J. Ray.

I understood that the editor was to be a lead storyteller for the broad community of OSU alumni and friends, which sounded great, but a couple of old colleagues who knew about alumni relations had tried to wave me off, saying it was hard to imagine a university president with whom I could get along.

The meeting with President Ray was a revelation. Within about 20 minutes I knew that:

- » Transformative and much-needed changes were coming to my beloved but sleepy alma mater.
- » I should never ask Ed Ray a question if I didn't want an unvarnished answer.
- » I was absolutely not going to turn down this job and miss the chance to witness and report what was about to unfold.

It truly has been the greatest of gigs for a guy like me. Thank you to all who have helped. To my work family, know that I will treasure our friendships forever. As for me, I won't disappear from all things OSU, but it's once again time for me to pull my arm out of that tub.

— Kevin Miller, '78, editor

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#### Robots, tipless deliveries

I'm impressed with the article about the food robots in the winter 2022 *Oregon Stater.* The world is changing.

I have distinct memories of my last year at OSU in 1975-76, delivering pizza from Shakey's in the VW delivery Bug to frat row. I had to deal with the argument at nearly every stop as to who ordered it, who gets to take it and who pays.

It helped that I was a big guy who played on the rugby team, so nobody dared to grab and run without paying.

But tips from the frat bros? No tips that year.

But it got me through the year with minimum wage and a free pizza every night. And it was practical experience to go along with my marketing/ advertising major.

> Jeff Schirle, '82 Shenandoah, Iowa

## No fan of OSU's training of public policy experts

Regarding the essay "Public policy for tough times" in the winter edition of the *Oregon Stater*, I was amazed that OSU was harboring such a school.

I actually read the article several times trying to make sense out of what is essentially training for politicians and bureaucrats.

Our country is a representative democracy. That means the citizens decide public policy, not a cadre of elites fresh from a liberal education. Decisions about climate change or public health are supposed to be made by politicians informed by science and citizen input.

#### Edward Dornlas, '64 Las Vegas, Nevada

Catherine Bolzendahl, director of the School of Public Policy, responds: I thank Mr. Dornlas for reaching out after learning more about our school and students. We're proud of what we do. Students who leave OSU with a major in economics, political science, public policy and sociology, or a graduate degree in public policy, are critical-thinking citizen scholars who forward the OSU

mission by promoting the economic, social, cultural and environmental progress of the people of Oregon and beyond. They take our training into their work, political participation, community life and, ves. occasionally even into elected political office. Their post-OSU jobs reflect their incredibly diverse talents and interests, such as finance and banking, founding and running nonprofits, teaching at all levels, health care, law, entrepreneurship, human resource management, service in the U.S. military and much more. Anyone who'd like to learn more, please reach out to spp-director@ oregonstate.edu and we'll add you to the mailing list for our quarterly newsletter.

#### Send us letters

We'll edit them for clarity, brevity (no more than 250 words) and factual accuracy. We give preference to letters that support the *Oregon Stater's* mission of growing pride and strengthening connections in the worldwide community of graduates and friends of Oregon State University.

Send them to **stater@osualum.com**. Please include your class year when appropriate, your city of residence and a telephone number in case we need to contact you.

#### Corrections

Please note that in most cases, mistakes reported in this space will have already been corrected in the Stater's digital versions, available at ForOregonState.org/Stater.

Even under new name, image and likeness rules, college athletes risk their eligibility if they hire an agent to explore turning professional. Wording in a story in the winter issue made that unclear.

Contributing photographer Hannah O'Leary received an M.F.A. from Oregon State in 2019. The year was listed incorrectly in the winter issue.

Alumna Vicki Guinn's first name was misspelled in a story in the winter issue.

Report errors at stater@osualum.com. \_\_

#### **OREGON STATER**

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# #5 IN THE NATION BESTONLINE

BACHELOR'S PROGRAMS

It's no secret how Oregon State University became **one of the nation's best online education providers**, worthy of a top-10 ranking for eight straight years and counting.

We owe it to a legacy of academic excellence that dates back to 1868. To the OSU faculty who can expertly teach everything from biology to Spanish to engineering online. And to an entire university community that supports OSU students learning online in all 50 states and more than 60 countries.

Earning this national recognition helps reaffirm what you already know: **Oregon State is home to greatness.** 



# OSU in remarkably good shape, says Johnson at one-year mark

If the OSU Board of Trustees keeps to the schedule it has set for hiring Oregon State's next president, Interim President Rebecca "Becky" Johnson is in the last few months of her service as the university's temporary leader.

Johnson has served Oregon State in faculty, staff and top administrator jobs since 1984. She led the creation of the state's newest four-year campus at OSU-Cascades in Bend and was eagerly planning an active retirement when — in

April 2021, in the middle of a pandemic and in the wake of a leadership crisis — OSU's trustees asked her to put those plans on hold and lead the university while they chose a new president.

Johnson recently sat down with *Oregon Stater* editor Kevin Miller, '78, to assess the state of the university, provide a look ahead for OSU and herself, and offer a peek at what it's been like to live in the new presidential residence.

The first question needs to be, "How are we, as in the university, doing?"

"We're doing great. Oregon State University is doing really well. Enrollment and interest in enrolling next fall are still high, our numbers of graduates are high, our other student success numbers — retention rates and graduation rates — are creeping up over time.

"So many good things are happening. Our foundation—I just went to the OSU Foundation Board of Trustees meeting last week. Those are important supporters and they love what we're doing. They set a fundraising record last year and are right on target to do that again.

"Also, coming back to class in person has gone well. We've had good compliance with our public health measures.

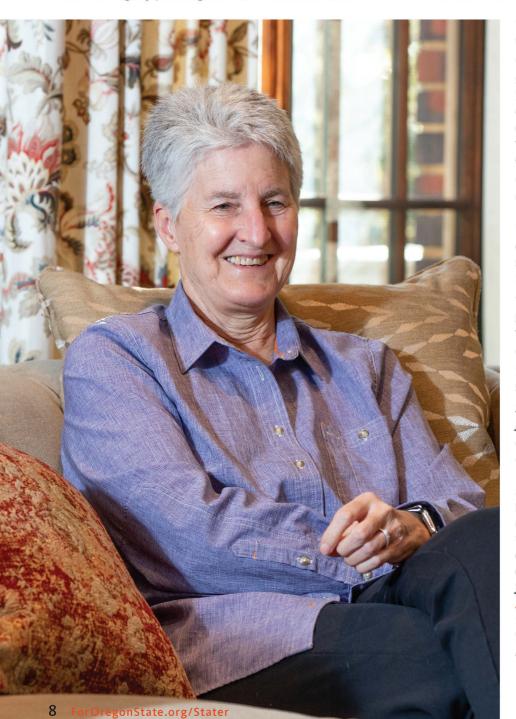
"We're going back to in-person commencement. And I'm the commencement speaker at Cascades."

So you'll lead the ceremony in Corvallis on June 11 and be the speaker in Bend on the 12th?

"Yes. It's going to be a busy weekend."

I know that while you were honored to get the opportunity to serve the university in this capacity, you and your wife Lori (Elkins, M.S. '03) were also eager to start your retirement. Are you confident that you'll be out of work by fall and you two will be out having fun?

Interim President Becky Johnson relaxes in the President's Residence. (Photo by Amanda Loman)



They make great grad gifts. Plus, OSUAA members eceive a discount!

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"The hardest part of answering that is the uncertainty of not knowing when we'll be out of here. We had planned a trip to Slovenia two years ago, before COVID, when I was still working and it was just going to be a vacation. We've paid for that and it just keeps getting postponed. Are we going to Slovenia this October, or will we still be here, waiting for the next president to arrive?

"One thing that does cause me a little anxiety when I think about this coming to an end, is, 'How do you go from a high-energy position like president of a major university to retired in one day? What does it feel like when you wake up that day?'

"I do have plenty of hobbies and it will be nice to get back to them. I golf and I fish and we have an Airstream we want to take to all the national parks. We didn't even de-winterize it last year because, with all that goes with this job, there was no way we would use it."

What has it been like to occupy OSU's new presidential residence? Not many people will ever live in a fine home like this where the downstairs is essentially a public space for hosting events, and the upstairs is their private home. What's something we wouldn't know about that?

"It's a great house. But the kitchen downstairs is the only kitchen. We've set up a coffee service for ourselves in the laundry room upstairs, but we come down into the kitchen for our meals. Because it's a public area, I feel like we need to keep it clean all the time. Lori's quite a chef and she might use 10 pans and splatter all over the place, and I'm on cleanup, so every night I make sure the kitchen is very tidy."

Realizing that this might be the last time you're interviewed as OSU's top executive for a Stater article, what would you like to say to the alumni and friends who read the magazine?

"I want them to know how much we need them. OSU will not be successful without their continued engagement and support." 🔎

Follow progress toward selection of OSU's next president at bit.ly/osuleader.

president. I realize that you have a lot of administrative experience — you ran the Cascades campus for many years — but what's it like to be an interim leader of an entity as large as the university? "It's been more normal than I expected

(She laughs.) "Yeah, I'm pretty confident.

I'm told everything is on track with the

applicants. I don't know anything about

them, but I know the process is going.

I think it's a really tight timeline, but if they have finalists on campus at the end

of May, and the search is successful, it'll

transition from wherever they are. We're

happy to stay on through the summer, or

however long it takes that transition to

Let's talk about life as an interim

happen."

just depend on how fast someone can

presidential search. I know they have

it to be, maybe because of my length of tenure at OSU and the fact that so many people already knew me. We've kept OSU's momentum going. I've had a lot of people thank me for stepping in. We were in a situation where there was a lot of anxiety, and then, boom, we got right back to work.

"I think sometimes, when you're an interim, it's easy to feel like a placeholder. I haven't felt like that. People have treated me like I'm the president, and it's been all about, 'What can we do to keep advancing Oregon State University?""

#### How important was it that your administrative team rallied quickly?

"We have a really good administrative team at OSU and Ed Feser is the rock star of provosts. He is a scholar of higher education who knows what's going on around the country and the world in higher ed, and he really has his finger on best practices. I just think he's done a great job. That made it easy for me coming in, knowing that the internal part of the university was running well and in good hands, and I could focus more on the external part, the donors, the Legislature — those things where I've focused much of my career."

What's the first fun thing you and Lori will do together once you're done with this and can start your postponed retirement?



# Spread the word

As part of a continuing effort to enlist alumni and other friends to help share the Oregon State story, OSU University Relations and Marketing joins the Oregon Stater to present another batch of talking points for not-so-bashful Beavers.



#### **OSU ECAMPUS CONTINUES TO BE AMONG NATION'S BEST**

For the eighth consecutive year, OSU Ecampus has been ranked among the nation's top 10 providers of online education by U.S. News & World Report. Ecampus is No. 5 in the 2022 rankings, which evaluated online education offered by nearly 400 higher education institutions. And there's more: U.S. News named OSU best in the nation in four academic degree programs: No. 2 for Best Online Psychology Bachelor's Programs, No. 4 for Best Online Business Bachelor's Programs, No. 13 for Best Online Bachelor's Programs for Veterans and No. 24 for Best Online Master's in Engineering Programs. (See page 7 or visit ecampus.oregonstate.edu.)



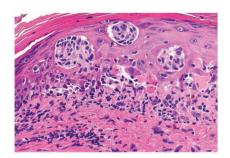
#### EARNING AN OSU DEGREE A PRIORITY EVEN DURING PANDEMIC

Beaver students remain committed to earning an OSU education even while subject to personal and public health measures as a result of the pandemic. Proof is in the numbers, as the university's winter term enrollment defied national higher education trends by attracting more enrollment than a year ago. Corvallis campus enrollment is up almost 1%. Ecampus enrollment is up about 7.3%. Student credit hours at OSU-Cascades are up 17.5%, a strong indication that students increasingly are attending the Bend campus full time. Overall, the university's winter term enrollment is up about 2.1% from 2021.



#### PROVOST WORKS TO GROW STATE'S SEMICONDUCTOR INDUSTRY

Ed Feser, the university's provost and executive vice president, is serving on a committee of federal, state and private sector leaders to advance Oregon's semiconductor industry. Oregon has long been a center of high tech employment, research and development, with 43% of the state's exports tied to the high tech sector and more than 40,000 Oregonians employed. But technology firms recently have announced they will invest billions of dollars to construct new facilities in other states. As Oregon's higher education leader in engineering and computer science education and research, OSU will contribute to strategies to retain and advance Oregon's leadership in high tech discovery, innovation and employment.



#### **OSU MAKES BREAKTHROUGHS IN SKIN CANCER RESEARCH**

Melanoma is the fifth-most common cancer — as well as the most lethal and most common type of skin cancer. In the U.S., roughly 100,000 new cases are diagnosed annually and more than 7,000 people die each year. Researchers from the OSU College of Pharmacy are working to change that. Research led by Professor Arup Indra suggests that a vaccine stimulating the production of a protein critical to the skin's antioxidant network could bolster defenses against skin cancer. Separate research led by Associate Professor Andriy Morgun has found that a diet rich in fiber helps optimize immunotherapy defense for melanoma. 🗩



## A wealth of 'Science Near Me,' with help from OSU STEM team

Oregon State's STEM Research Center has helped launch a national website aimed at connecting the public with science in interactive ways. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math.

The new website is Science Near Me, found at ScienceNearMe.org, and its premise is simple: Plug in your location, dates and interests and peruse the options that pop up.

"Science Near Me provides the first convenient tool to find all types of science-related engagement activities, both in person and online, in one place," said Martin Storksdieck, director of the STEM Research Center.

Meanwhile, he said, the system gives researchers insights into how people engage in science — information that can inform future projects aimed at creating broad and inclusive science engagement.

The STEM Research Center is part of a response in the research community to a call for scientists to make their work more accessible to all segments of society. One goal is to encourage more people to trust science when making important personal and public decisions.

"Science Near Me is doing something long dreamed about in STEM but never before executed to this extent," Storksdieck said.

Supported by the National Science Foundation, Science Near Me features a constantly updated library of thousands of STEM events, projects and programs hosted by organizations across the United States. The goal, Storksdieck said, is a one-stop site to make it easier for those interested in becoming involved with science to know at a glance what's going on around them.

"Science Near Me is a way of pulling together traditionally separate offerings from museums, science festivals,



Visitors to ScienceNearMe.org can find events like this NASA astronomy fair. (Photo by Aubrey Gemignani, NASA)

citizen science, science policy forums, after-school programs, maker programs, astronomy clubs and more," Storksdieck said.

It's also a means of catalyzing new studies about how diverse audiences engage with science, said Darlene Cavalier, founder of the citizen science platform SciStarter, of which Science Near Me is a subsidiary.

"There is no shortage of opportunities to participate in science across many levels," Cavalier said. "Science Near Me will help make it easier for people from all backgrounds and interests to connect with the right opportunity and help accelerate research on science engagement and learning in the process.

"While there are many resources for people to learn about science, we're creating a place for people from all backgrounds and interests to easily find ways to interact, because when everyone is engaged in science, we all win."

In addition to the STEM Research Center, core partners in Science Near Me include the Center of Science and Industry's Center for Research and Evaluation, the Association of Science and Technology Centers, the MIT Museum's Science Festival Alliance, The Connectory and Discover magazine. For more information, visit ScienceNearMe.org.



#### **OSU FOUNDATION LIFETIME TRUSTEE AWARD**

Over the last two decades, Pat Reser has been an extraordinary volunteer leader. In addition to her service as an OSU Foundation Trustee, she was also the inaugural chair of the university's Board of Trustees. Her generous heart has touched nearly every corner of campus — from Athletics to business, health and wellness, and the arts.

- "Pat's skills as a savvy business leader made her an exceptionally valuable trustee. But behind her strength in business is a gifted educator. The best teachers don't just share important lessons. They inspire us to become our best selves. And that's what Pat has done – for me, for our board, for our university."
- Shawn L. Scoville, President and CEO,
   OSU Foundation

- "Pat Reser has made an incredible impact on OSU. Her dedication to supporting education has made our state a better place for everyone."
- The Honorable Kate Brown, Governor,
   State of Oregon



# A life-changing invention

#### Student-developed dog harness helps owners detect seizures

By Ashley Locke | Illustration by Heather Miller

One out of every 130 dogs is affected by epilepsy. Their seizures are often distressing, and it can be difficult to track them all — especially while the owner is asleep or away. To give owners more information and better control over their dog's treatment, OSU-Cascades computer science alumna Marji Symonds, '21, developed a health monitoring device that attaches to a dog's harness.

The device, which Symonds calls a smart dog harness, connects over Wi-Fi and sends data to cloud storage. It collects data from an accelerometer and gyroscope sensor to measure a dog's movement and orientation. Through machine learning, the device differentiates between activities like sleeping, walking, leisure, running, a car ride and a seizure. The movement data of a seizure is unique enough that it is rarely confused with any other activity. When a seizure is detected, the device sends an alert to the owner's phone.

Symonds says tracking information from the device will help owners know when to administer emergency treatment, and it can help owners and their veterinarians adjust treatment plans. Many seizure medications can be taxing on a dog's liver, but a clear record of when and how often seizures occur offers insights into treatments to reduce seizure severity - including precise medication doses and calming techniques like applying cooling products to the dog's head.

Symonds presented her research at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in April 2021 and at Oregon State's annual Celebrating Undergraduate Excellence event in May. A team of College of Engineering students is continuing work on the smart dog harness prototype, a web app for tracking and a large-scale trial in collaboration with veterinarians.

For many of us, pets are part of the family and add to our quality of life. Symonds' innovation will help add to theirs.

Ashley Locke is a marketing writer for OSU University Relations and Marketing.





Marji Symonds discovered just how difficult it can be to witness seizures while trying to provide protection and comfort with her friend's pug, Sophie. Sophie's seizures were often caused by overstimulation, excitement, overexertion and excessive heat, while others appeared to be random. Sophie had a very strict medication regimen and had to be restrained during episodes to avoid injury. Symonds was determined to find a better solution for dogs like Sophie. With the smart dog harness, she has.



#### Get inspired by more stories online.

When Beavers take action, problems get solved. Goals become accomplishments. And new knowledge turns to positive change. See how, and meet these dreamers and doers, at oregonstate.edu/stories.



# OREGON STATE'S DAY OF GIVING AND CONNECTING

DamProudDay.org



## Great food and drink, less waste

#### Food science and technology program not resting on its laurels

By Kevin Miller

One of Oregon State's best-recognized academic departments and almost certainly its tastiest (think cheese, beer, wine, ice cream and more) is committing itself to include sustainability more prominently in the recipe for everything it makes and every career it launches.

"We believe the Department of Food Science and Technology has the responsibility and the opportunity to be a leader in evolving our food systems to better incorporate sustainable practices and technologies," said Lisbeth Goddik, '89, department head. To that end, FST has launched the OSU Initiative for Excellence in Sustainable Food and Beverage Technologies.

Goddik specializes in dairy research, holding the Paul and Sandy Arbuthnot and Jacobs-Root Professorships. OSU is at work on a \$20 million dairy plant, but the department's reach goes way beyond milk, cheese and ice cream. Brewing, winemaking, seafood processing, fruit and vegetable processing and other programs related to food are under the department's umbrella.

Established in 1918, OSU FST is part of the College of Agricultural Sciences and is one of the two oldest food science departments in the nation. It operates in three locations: the Corvallis campus, the Food Innovation Center in Portland and the Seafood Education and Research Center in Astoria.

The aim of the sustainability initiative, Goddik said, is to deliver an across-theboard, transformative change that's unique among U.S. food science departments.

Collaborative research, innovations in teaching and partnerships with entrepreneurs and established industries will help make it happen.

A new undergraduate degree and curriculum, food science and sustainable technologies, will result in the department's largest curricular transformation in decades.



Yanyun Zhao, an Oregon State food technology professor, conducts research that turns apple pomace into an environmentally friendly packaging material that could serve as an alternative to plastic. (Photo by Benjamin Davis)

Students and teaching faculty are eager for the changes. Goddik noted that a recent survey of FST students found that 75% aim to dedicate their career to promoting and implementing environmentally sustainable food systems.

As for research, Goddik said sustainability already plays a role in virtually every scientific investigation across the department. However, the refocus will bring researchers more support for work to minimize the environmental impact of food production, improve the health impacts of food and enable long-term financial success for stakeholders. Examples of projects already under way include:

- » Replacing single-use plastics with edible coatings in food containers.
- » Substituting apple pomace (peel, flesh, stem, core, seeds and juice residues left after processing) for paper pulp in cartons.

- We use of sub-micro fish bone as calcium supplements that can be safely consumed.
- » Conversion of watermelon rind into dietary fiber.

Another key element of the refocus will be even more emphasis on getting the word out about new developments, using forums, webinars and extension programs to highlight advances in sustainable technologies.

Goddik said her colleagues and the department's students are committed to making sure that the second century of the 104-year-old program is at least as impressive and productive as its first.

Interested in supporting the Food Science and Technology Department? Learn about opportunities by contacting Amy Crumley at amy.crumley@osufoundation.org.









# **A** powerful reach

Rooted in tradition, OSU-led 4-H adapts as it grows responsible young people across Oregon









By Kevin Miller

The story of OSU's 4-H program and the ways it reaches nearly 75,000 children across Oregon has so many important parts that it almost defies telling.

In and around John Day, in remote Grant County, 4-H is Tate Waddel, born with cerebral palsy, and his mom Simmie Waddel or one of his siblings — all 4-H members — rising early on a frigid morning to help Tate care for Bam Bam the half-ton steer.

Bam Bam was destined to be sold at the 4-H auction so Tate could give the proceeds to the local physical therapy team that cares for him. It was a good deed that would trigger a cascade of generosity that will impact John Day and the surrounding area for years to come, but more on that later.

Opposite page: Tate Waddel shows his steer, Bam Bam, with help from his mom, Simmie Waddel, raising \$33,000 for charity at the Grant County 4-H auction. (Photo by Steven Mitchell) Above, left to right: Among myriad other opportunities, OSU 4-H participants can master sewing skills, learn how to harvest salmon eggs and get them fertilized and hatched and then, after tending them, release the babies to swim toward the ocean. (Photos courtesy Oregon 4-H) Oregon 4-H is also Maureen Hosty, 4-H director in Multnomah County, teaching unforgettable lessons about endangered wildlife and indigenous culture as she takes a pair of live lampreys on a tour of pandemic-bored Portland schools. The slimy fish with their scary-looking sucker mouths provide a compelling way to tell an impactful tale.

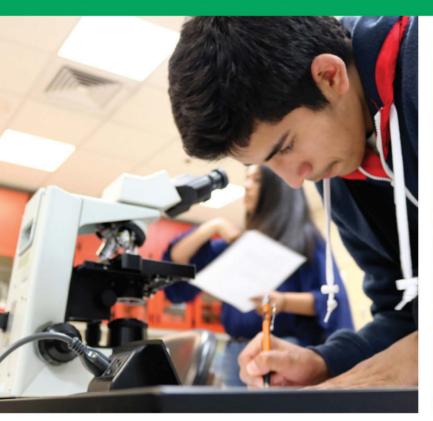
"I never thought walking into a school with a couple of eels splashing in a tub would make me feel like Mick Jagger," Hosty said. As OSU's Leonard and Brenda Aplet Financial Literacy Professor, she also teaches 4-Hers how to manage money.

And 4-H is Mario Magaña Álvarez, '97, M.A.I.S. '99, state 4-H outreach specialist, sorting through college and high school graduation invitations from multiple generations of Latinx students whose lives he has altered with programs that reach into communities to show students how to rise from humble beginnings and earn their way to an education. His personal story is their story, and he shares it with fierce joy and encouraging candor. There's no telling how many generation-changing transformations his work has ignited.

4-H in Oregon is also excited kids learning to swim in the pool (the one with the familiar 4-H green shamrock painted on the bottom) at the Oregon 4-H Center north of Salem.

#### The 4-H Pledge:

I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking, my HEART to greater loyalty, my HANDS to larger service and my HEALTH to better living, for my club, my community, my country and my world.





It's children who might never have considered flying for a living, or maybe even designing airplanes or spaceships, sitting in a cockpit as a whole new ambition takes root during a 4-H aviation club field trip to the local airport.

It's a city kid who'd never visited the Oregon on the other side of the Cascades getting a chance to try ranch life as part of a 4-H exchange, discovering he's a cowboy (a real one, not the movie kind) at heart, and going on to become a well-paid, expert ranch hand. And it's a country kid going the other direction in the same exchange program, spending time with a Portland surgeon and realizing that's exactly what she wants to be and going on to accomplish that.

Or how's this: At a time when civil discourse can seem imperiled from top to bottom in our democracy, 4-H is thousands of young people sitting in mandatory business meetings for 4-H clubs that offer their favorite subject — maybe sewing or canning or dog training or entrepreneurship or robotics or raising bunnies or long-distance fitness running — and learning to conduct their business and speak clearly in public and make progress on their issues with respect for everyone's opinion.

A 2019 impact statement provided data-driven insight into the scale of the program, using pre-pandemic numbers.

Across the U.S., more than 6 million children are involved, making 4-H the nation's largest out-of-school program for children (notwithstanding that many of its programs reach into schools).

An Oregon 4-H outreach program brings children who might not be thinking about college careers to campuses to get a sense of what it might be like to be a scientist.

About 75,000 young people across Oregon participate, with 9% living on farms, 36% in towns with a population of 10,000 or less, 24% in cities between 10,000 and 50,000, and 30% in urban areas (including suburbs) larger than 50,000.

More than 6,000 adult and youth volunteers across the state make it all possible by leading clubs and teaching skills.

At Oregon State, 4-H is one of several programs under the umbrella of the OSU Extension Service, which in turn is part of the Division of Extension and Engagement. A stated goal of OSU 4-H is to have a person from the OSU faculty, with an appropriate master's degree, in charge of 4-H in each of Oregon's 36 counties.

It's all part of the university's time-honored, land-grant commitment to spread practical knowledge wherever it's needed.

In all but one county (Multnomah), 4-H is funded partially by a locally imposed extension tax. Other support comes from government appropriations, from fees charged to the children who participate and from philanthropy.

Oregon 4-H is supported by the Oregon 4-H Foundation, a group of impassioned volunteers that operates as part of the OSU Foundation. Its members are tasked with lofty fundraising









Animals from frogs to horses and beyond are frequently part of the 4-H experience.

goals to maintain and expand 4-H across the state, while keeping it affordable for children from cash-strapped families.

And while 4-H has proven over the years that it will evolve and offer almost any type of knowledge-based, practical content for young people that's needed, it has never turned its back on its roots — the cooking, canning, sewing and livestock raising that many envision when they see the familiar green shamrock.

And that brings us back to 10-year-old Tate Waddel and his 4-H story. Tate was born with a life-threatening disorder that got worse and left him with cerebral palsy. He was life-flighted out of John Day and spent his first 61 days at Doernbecher Children's Hospital in Portland.

"We drove one to two times a month to Portland or Bend for the first five years of Tate's life," recalled his mom Simmie. She and Tate's dad, Wade, who is a sheriff's deputy, have huge extended families in the area, so large that their 4-H kitchen skills club is called the "Cookin' Cousins."

Tate is "about as upbeat as they come," his mom said. "He's not a big complainer. Everybody knows him. He has absolutely no filter, says hello to everyone he sees and gives them a high five."

She seemed surprised when asked how old Tate was when he showed an interest in 4-H.

"Around here, it's not really a decision. 4-H is a way of life for us," she said. For years, Tate raised a calf and took it to the 4-H auction, but in 2021 he decided he wanted to raise a full-sized steer and give the profits to the local rehab unit that cared for him. Here's what happened next:

Tate named the steer Bam Bam. Simmie asked the local feed store if she could buy Bam Bam's feed at cost. A national feed supplier offered it for free. Local businesses reimbursed the family for the original cost of Bam Bam. Steven Mitchell of the Blue Mountain Eagle wrote a great story about Tate's plan. Someone from the Sisters-based Roundhouse Foundation, on the lookout for ways to help organizations in rural Oregon, saw the story and donated warm coats for the 4-H Tree of Joy and enough money to help with 4-H fees for any youngster in Grant County.

Bam Bam sold for an astonishing \$33,000 at the auction. None of it would have happened, said Simmie Waddel, without the support of 4-H.

"Community involvement, citizenship, running a business, running a meeting, public speaking, raising and caring for an animal, hard work, responsibility and making good choices," she said. "It's all in there. That's what 4-H does."

Kevin Miller, '78, is the editor of the Oregon Stater.

Support 4-H at Give.ForOregonState.org/3w8UD8HWuk.



# A loving eye for all that lives

He reached the pinnacle of photojournalism by following his heart

Story and photos by Riley Yuan

he convenient thing about photographing a photographer is that he's patient while you futz with your gear and ask him to do this and that. He knows what it's like on your side of the camera.

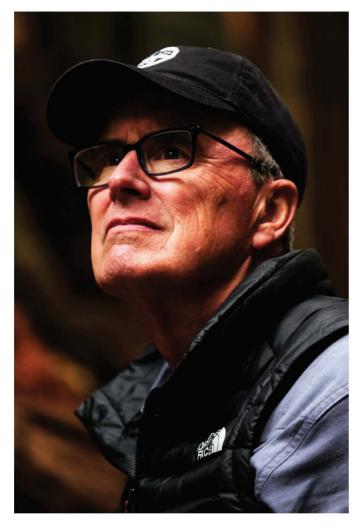
At least that's how Chris Johns, '74, probably the most notable photojournalist in OSU history, treated me last September as David Baker, director of OSU Productions, producer Saskia Madlener, M.S. '15, and I spent several weeks with him, working on a feature-length documentary film about his life and career. Still in production, its release is expected in 2023.

Baker and Madlener conducted most of the interviews and operated the main cameras. As a photographer and M.F.A. candidate in nonfiction writing, my role was to make production stills and envision how all the elements might eventually come together. Wherever we went, we worked as a team to gather miscellaneous shots and bits of narrative.

And we went to a lot of places. Chris' hometown of Central Point, and the area surrounding it in the Rogue River Valley. The OSU campus in Corvallis, where Chris discovered journalism and photography. Gleneden Beach to visit Ron Lovell, the retired OSU professor who was instrumental to that discovery. Crescent City, California, and neighboring Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, where Chris would often go on boyhood excursions. The Anderson Ranch in Montana's Tom Miner Basin, where his daughter Louise lives and works (as a photographer, documenting the intersection of ranching and wildlife).

We stopped in Missoula, which Chris and his wife Elizabeth call home. And finally, in the Pryor Mountains, where we saw the wild horses Chris photographed almost two decades ago with 10-year-old Louise in tow, on his last assignment as a staff photographer for *National Geographic Magazine*.

Chris Johns revisits one of the massive residents of Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park.



In all these places, we'd shoot take after take, looking up between each one to say, sorry, Chris, that was great, but can we try one more?

"Of course!" he'd say. "Whatever you need me to do. I know how it goes."

#### A career becomes a calling

When Chris was a kid in southern Oregon, he and his dad would sit at the kitchen table and draw. His dad, a school principal, drew house plans. Chris drew souped-up cars and pickup trucks. Now that strikes him as telling.

"Even then," he said, "I wanted to get out of there and see the world."

His first stop was Oregon State University. There, thinking he'd need an easy A if he was going to get into veterinary school, he signed up for Journalism 111 with Ron Lovell. Lovell gave him a B and also a sense of what was possible — of how storytelling could feed his curiosity. Encouraged by his roommate and future colleague at National Geographic, Dennis Dimick, '73, Chris took more journalism classes. He studied photography with the late Fred Zwahlen and bought his first 35mm film camera at the campus bookstore. He made pictures for the Barometer and interned

#### "Even then, I wanted to get out of there and see the world."

for the Corvallis Gazette-Times and Albany Democrat-Herald. By the time Chris graduated in 1974, he'd found his path.

Thus began an almost four-decade career that saw him become National Geographic's first field photographer-turned-editor-in-chief. If you, like me, ever had a bookshelf at home brimming with those telltale yellow spines or knew someone who did, then you've seen his work. Maybe you'd recognize the face of a geisha-in-training, maneuvering a piece of tofu between rouged lips with a pair of chopsticks. (That image came from a story on the humble soybean, the immense cultural and economic significance of which Chris spent months researching in East Asia.) Or the shoulder blade of bushman Klaas Kruiper. whose game-tracking abilities were mythical and of whom Chris still speaks reverently. (That image is one of countless he made during five years spent documenting the lives and plight of bushmen in southern Africa.)

How about the profile of a wildland firefighter battling flames in southern Oregon? Cheetahs hunting in the Okavango Delta? A mosquito feeding on the eyelid of a native Hawaiian honey creeper? A whole California redwood, top-to-bottom, fit into what appeared to be a single frame.

Chris' ability to see the world allowed him to travel the world. But as he matured, he found a much deeper calling. At his core, his purpose was to remind people, through stories, that they share a common fate not only with each other but with the rest of the natural world.

This wasn't an academic notion. It was lived and personal. Chris had grown up in a staunchly conservative environment and felt at odds with many of its values. His grandfather, for instance, had been a logger and millwright who resented the National Park Service and felt a deep mistrust of the government. But his grandfather had also been a first-rate naturalist and one of Chris' earliest guides to the wilderness.



What if he could honor this and other complexities through narrative? Could his stories and photographs be striking and honest and nuanced enough to capture the fusion of wonder at the cultural and ecological diversity of the world, and worry for the continued and collective well-being of its inhabitants?

Once I asked Chris to think of a story that demonstrated this fusion of wonder and worry. After a characteristic pause, he identified a pair of photographs that he'd made about as far from home as he'd ever gotten — both of elephants. Maybe you've seen them. One was in Tanzania, the other in South Africa.

The elephant in Tanzania was foraging in the Ngorongoro Crater, where Chris had been observing wildlife for months. The silhouette of a photographer perched on top of a Land Rover was unfamiliar to the lone bull, so he ambled over for a closer look.

Chris slid down through the roof hatch into the backseat. The bull followed with its trunk, tickling Chris' neck with its hairs and filling the vehicle's interior with the cavernous sound and earthy musk of its breath.

Then, after a few moments, it lifted its trunk and continued on its way. The picture doesn't show this interaction, but it does show how Chris felt during it.

Chris Johns scans the landscape while daughter Louise checks a camera trap in Montana's Tom Miner Basin, home to grizzly bears.

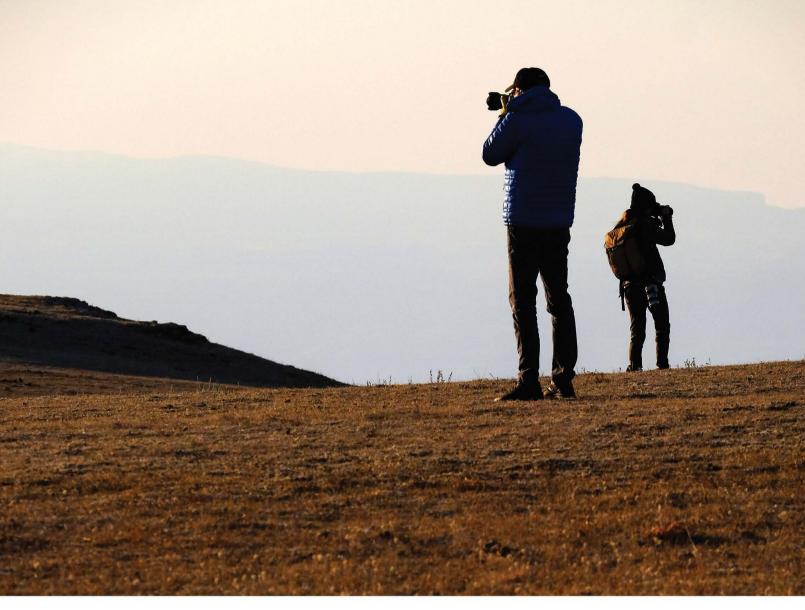
"It was a moment of mutual trust and respect," he said. "I came out of it a better person."

The elephant in South Africa was dead — hanging upside-down inside an abattoir with chains around its legs. It had been shot from a helicopter during an elephant-culling campaign in Kruger National Park. "The fear and terror in their eyes was the stuff of nightmares," Chris recalled.

What choice did a man with his talent, passion and sense of purpose have but to channel his conviction into telling important truths? People needed to know what was happening because, as he put it, "we've got to do better."

#### Still figuring it out

At some point during our few weeks together, I realized that it wasn't only Chris' experiences as a photographer that made him so understanding of our tinkering. There was something in it for him too, because each one of our shooting locations was somehow formative or precious to him. The longer we stayed in a place, the longer Chris got to reflect on what it meant to him.



Those reflections could be painful. In Central Point, with our cameras rolling, he managed to stroll gamely up and down the street in front of his childhood home — a single-story ranch house that is now an adult foster home. He stopped to chat with an old neighbor who knew his family. But it hurt to realize that this plot of land that he fondly remembers his father calling "the most beautiful place on Earth" had been sold by his family and was part of a subdivision like any other.

For the most part, Chris observed his surroundings with the same quiet wonder and curiosity that had always sustained him. In a pear orchard not far from the ranch house, where we made him pick up fallen fruit all morning, he recalled a season spent working the orchards alongside migrant laborers, and how the experience had made the casual, small-town racism all around him seem so galling and inexplicable to his adolescent mind.

In the redwoods, he lay flat on his back at the base of a giant, old trunk and stared up into the canopy, just as he had decades ago. Our camera-laden drone hovered and whined inches from his face, as did some hungry mosquitoes.

And in the Tom Miner Basin, while hiking to check on camera traps with daughter Louise, he called out, "Hey bear!" every

Father and daughter revisit the Pryor Mountains on the Montana-Wyoming border, where 10-year-old Louise joined him almost two decades ago as he photographed wild horses for National Geographic.

few minutes in an almost congenial tone. It was as if he were greeting the unseen creature and asking for permission to be in its space.

None of these actions were just for our cameras. They belonged to a man who loves the world in all its myriad contradictions who'd seen much, felt deeply and was still figuring out what it all meant.

Working mostly remotely from his home in Missoula, Chris Johns teaches a project-based journalism class in OSU's College of Liberal Arts. He also serves on the Oregon Stater Advisory Council.

See a preview of "The Wonder and the Worry," the documentary on Johns' life, at films.oregonstate.edu/wonder. There you will also learn how to help fund the film's production.

# Pauling Institute all about living a long, healthy life

By Kevin Miller | Photo by Karl Maasdam

Emily Ho, who has led OSU's Linus Pauling Institute for two years, has a simple and ambitious elevator speech about what she and her colleagues are up to:

"We want to help people live not just longer, but better. We want to make a difference in people's lives."

The institute, named after OSU's most famous graduate, is home to some of the university's most accomplished scientists, doing work on the edge of human knowledge. It's also home to some of OSU's most easily accessible science, served up in ways that allow anyone to research best practices for their health.

The institute's website at **lpi.oregonstate.edu** is a trove of information for anyone wanting to gain better control of their health. It offers webinars, topical reports, scientific papers and the world-renowned LPI Micronutrient Information Center, **lpi.oregonstate.edu/mic.** 

Ho's own work centers on preventing cancer and chronic disease through better nutrition. She joined the OSU research enterprise in 2003, became endowed director of the Moore Family Center for Whole Grain Foods, Nutrition and Preventive Health in 2012 and then became endowed chair and director of the Linus Pauling Institute in 2020.

"What I do is about taking control of your health, and food is one of the main things you can take control of to benefit your health," she said. "The institute embraces that as well. Given what fate has already given you, how do you optimize your health? Micronutrients, supplements and what you eat are all things you can take control of, to take back your health."

It's challenging work because producing great science is only part of the task; getting people to incorporate it into their lives is another.

"If I ask almost anybody, do you think broccoli is good for you, most people will say yes," Ho said. "And I can tell you every pathway that broccoli affects, in terms of your metabolism and health. The end message is, 'Try to eat a bit more broccoli.' Yet people aren't doing it. So, we're looking at other ways to get those bioactives into people while we also look at how we can enable you to make broccoli part of your life."

It becomes even harder to motivate change with science-based messages when topics get politicized.

"It's definitely frustrating when you're trying to communicate with a wide audience and you want them to differentiate between fact and anecdote, and they don't know who the real expert is," Ho said. "The field of nutrition has had this particular issue for a lot of years. I don't know of many fields where you can have no training or background and still be lauded as an expert and listened to when you give specific recommendations."



"We want to help people live not just longer, but better. We want to make a difference in people's lives," said Emily Ho, director of the Linus Pauling Institute.

She said scientists face a particular challenge when they need to address fallacies being spread on social media, often to a young audience with no training in objective science.

Today, the institute is paying more attention to providing more personal solutions, learning to gauge public concerns and respond to them.

"Many people are getting disillusioned with the 'sick care' approach to health care. They really want to see more ways to take control of their health so they can prevent themselves from getting sick and needing care.

"The institute really shines at providing this information, needed especially in the area of nutrition. We can really help people build their own prevention strategy."

Support the Linus Pauling Institute's outreach and education work at Give.ForOregonState.org/K2LUmefAuw.

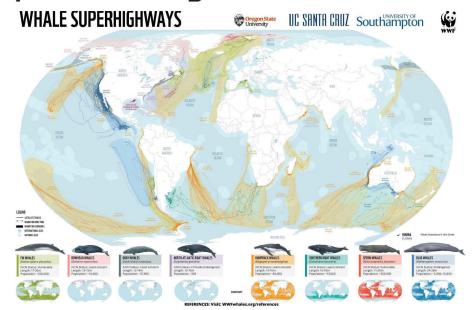
### New report exposes dangers to whales

A comprehensive new map and report tracking whale migrations shows the cumulative impacts the animals face from industrial fishing, ship strikes, pollution, habitat loss and climate change.

"Protecting Blue Corridors" was developed with leading marine scientists from Oregon State University, the University of California, Santa Cruz, the University of Southampton and others.

The report, released by World Wildlife Fund and available as a PDF at bit.ly/ whaleroutes, provides a visualization of the satellite tracks of 845 migratory whales worldwide. It also outlines how whales are encountering multiple and growing threats in their critical ocean habitats.

"Contributing years of data from Oregon State's satellite tracking studies, pioneered by marine mammal researcher Bruce Mate, we see migrations across national and international waters creating conservation challenges for populations



to recover," said report co-author Daniel Palacios, endowed associate professor in whale habitats with OSU's Marine Mammal Institute at the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport.

View a full-size version of the "Whale Superhighways" threat map at bit.ly/ whalethreats.

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# A precise and cheesy palate

Alumna Jill Allen sets the standard at Tillamook

By Cathleen Hockman-Wert  $\mid$  Photo by Karl Maasdam

Rule 1 of professional cheese tasting: Love cheese.

Rule 2: Don't eat it on the job. You might taste 150 samples in a day, so just taste it.

Rule 3: Bring an airtight bag for your lab coat, which will be downright cheesy when it's time to go home.

Jill Allen, '02, director of product excellence in research and development at Tillamook County Creamery Association (TCCA) — known for its dairy products and for being the most popular tourist attraction on the Oregon coast — has spent more than two decades in the creamy, crumbly, stretchy, melty, gooey, oozy world of cheese.

Born and raised near Tillamook, where cows outnumber people, Allen grew up with a passion for agriculture and the people who feed us. As a teen she was active in Future Farmers of America and had a job milking cows. After a stint at community college, she transferred to Oregon State, where she worked in the university dairy and participated in the dairy club.

Don't let Jill Allen's pristine lab coat fool you. By the end of a cheese competition or tasting session, it's covered with cheese and ripe as a Stinking Bishop (that's a funky English cheese).

For her agricultural business management major, she had one summer internship in the accounting department at TCCA, but it was the sensory lab where she felt at home. After graduation she took the company's rigorous sensory taste test.

"I found out I was really good at tasting cheese."

Each day, the Tillamook plant — one of two production facilities owned by TCCA — produces about 30 vats of cheese. After about 60 days, each batch is assessed by graders who taste for slight anomalies, flavors undetectable to the average consumer that could disappear or intensify as cultures continue to work their magic over time. Which batch of Tillamook's #1 selling medium cheddar deserves to be aged two years and transformed into extra sharp? Which could be extraordinary in 10 years?

In her leadership role, Allen focuses on ensuring that established products maintain their competitive positioning. She also develops a few new products; she pioneered the recipe for an English-style sweet cheddar that won a 2021 gold award in an international competition. Her team, which includes fellow Beaver Sara Maruyama, '15, M.S. '21, works with all kinds of dairy foods, but to Allen, cheese is special.

"It's living," she said. "You don't know how it's going to turn out."

For the last decade or so Allen has helped judge national and international cheese competitions in the U.S., United Kingdom and Italy. The competitions are a little like dog shows, she said. There's a standard of what each variety of cheese should be, from Asiago to Zamorano, and judges must give fair, unbiased evaluations of each sample, from first to last, as many as 150 a day.

Instruments can accurately measure traits like viscosity — the ooziness of food — but competitions and creameries still depend on exceptionally fine-tuned human palates for the most crucial assessments.

"Everyone has a different way to make sure their taste is consistent and calibrated with their fellow judges," Allen said.

"You have to be very aware of your senses, and make sure your palate is clean and that you're able to smell properly. One reset technique is to sniff your elbow. You have to love what you're doing and take it very seriously."

#### Nibbles from the Big Cheese

#### Do you eat cheese every day?

"Probably, yes. A little on my morning eggs."

#### What's your favorite grilled cheese sandwich?

"Lots of salted butter on both sides of the bread, medium cheddar, fresh tomatoes, red onion, spinach and a sprinkle of garlic sea salt."

#### Any pet peeves?

"If there's cheese on a plate of meats, please don't call it charcuterie (which means meat) - it's a cheese board with charcuterie."

#### Do you eat from cheese plates at parties?

"Oh, sure! I always smell it first. I can't help it."

#### What about on a judging trip?

"Sure! On one trip to England, I ordered a cheeseburger made with black pudding (blood sausage) and Stilton. It was amazing."

#### Green Bay Packers fans are famous for wearing cheesehead hats. Are you one of them?

"Actually, I am. My parents were born in Wisconsin. I've got a cheesehead (hat) somewhere."

#### How about a pro tip?

Allen wrote two entries in the encyclopedic, 872-page Oxford Companion to Cheese. Her article on using wire-based cheese slicers notes that it's best to allow cheese to come to room temperature before cutting it that way.









"You have to be very aware of your senses, and make sure your palate is clean and that you're able to smell properly. One reset technique is to sniff your elbow. You have to love what you're doing and take it very seriously."



Tools of Allen's trade include a cheese trier, used to extract samples as she checks for consistent taste and quality in large blocks.

A day of judging starts with cheeses with the least fat and flavor and ends with the most pungent. The first test is visual. Picture a judge maneuvering an 80-pound wheel of Parmigiano Reggiano — practically hugging the cheese — and you'll see why that airtight bag for the lab coat is crucial for the trip home.

"You get intimate with it," Allen said. "There's an art of flavor. For some really great cheeses, it comes down to pizzazz — it just tastes so good."

An OSU communications minor, she has always loved telling the stories of food: where the ingredients came from, how the product was made. She describes one memorable cheese made with yak's milk at a remote Tibetan monastery. For the first leg of its journey to the Wisconsin competition, a monk carried it over rough roads by motorbike. His community's livelihood depends on their cheese, so an award would make a great difference for them, Allen said. "I felt so honored to judge it."

Tillamook County Creamery Association is a 113-year-old, farmer-owned cooperative that has partnered with OSU for decades. In 2016 TCCA committed \$1.5 million to help the College of Agricultural Sciences build a new dairy pilot plant at the Corvallis campus. One of Allen's colleagues in research and development, Hadi Eshpari, occasionally teaches Oregon State classes in food science and technology. OSU student interns gain experience at the cheese factory visitors center.

Since the pandemic, Allen has worked a lot from home, with samples shipped to her house and stored in a refrigerator in the garage. Tucked away is a block of cheddar from the year her 18-year-old son was born. "I thought we might get it out when he graduates."

Even Allen's Yorkie terrier, Daisy, has developed a discriminating palate. She loves cheese but refused to touch one competitor's sample. Alas, Allen agreed with Daisy's assessment.

Cathleen Hockman-Wert is senior writer and editor for the OSU Foundation.

# Thank You

Donors to Oregon State University's cause-based fundraising initiatives have given **more than \$500,000** to student food pantries, veteran students and diversity, equity and inclusion priorities.

Together, the OSU community is making this university a place where everyone can thrive. That's our commitment.

And that's our path to a brighter future.

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## The Great Uniter

"A successful alumni magazine is the trusted vehicle that bridges our differences and inspires our impact."

By John Valva

Over the last 154 years, sharing and re-sharing the stories and traditions of Oregon State University have been The Great Uniter. There have been 15 OSU presidents in that time, 546 football victories, four different mascots (before settling on our beloved Benny in 1952), and at least 50 food-delivery robots. We have enrolled students from more than 105 countries, managed almost 12,000 acres of college forests, given diplomas to 272,000 graduates and offered more than 1,500 state-of-the-art online courses. There have been nine institutional name changes, two Nobel Prizes, a Heisman Trophy and 16 national athletic championships.

Change and growth are constants at OSU. How we retell our stories is what holds us together as time passes.

And each of us has our own Oregon State story. Our personal experiences, like lifelong relationships that started on campus, successful careers and other college memories, combine with examples of OSU's stature as one of America's great public universities to define our collective soul.

All of us reading this page — and the Oregon Staters who came before us and will come after us — are bound together by stories as we share traditions and celebrate successes of our faculty, students and graduates.

This common bond becomes especially important during our biggest challenges, be they personal struggles or global strife.

It is intentional that the Oregon Stater magazine is so simply named. The brand promises a means of sharing our collec-

JOYFUL **SURVIVOR** From refugee

Left: The cover of Kevin Miller's first Oregon Stater as editor, in fall 2006, featured Mitch Canham, then catcher, now head coach, tearfully hugging a teammate after the Beavers won their first national championship in baseball. Right: In fall 2015, the Stater's 100th anniversary cover, and Miller's favorite, featured alumna and Veterans Administration surgeon SreyRam Kuy, who survived Cambodia's killing fields and was wounded as a child refugee, and then went on to build a stellar career taking care of America's veterans.

tive story. We are each Oregon Staters. Together, we have built the legacy of our university and been inspired by learning, discovery and service. The caretaking of those stories and the integrity with which they are shared are essential for appreciating how yesterday's successes and challenges prepare us for tomorrow's impact.

A successful alumni magazine is the trusted vehicle that bridges our differences and inspires our impact. This issue marks the 49th and final for our chief storyteller and steadfast champion, Kevin Miller. One of us — an OSU alumnus from the class of 1978 — he has chosen to apply his considerable professional journalism skills as editor and master steward of our collective stories for the past 16 years.

Kevin is larger than life, literally. His enormous physical presence serves as an external symbol of his intellect and, especially, his heart. Read more about that on page 34.

From the fall 2006 issue that helped imprint a magical national championship in our shared memory, to Miller's personal favorite issue in fall 2015 with a cover story about a Cambodian refugee turned OSU alumna surgeon, to this wonderful finale, he has thrown himself fully into this work. His passion and love for Oregon State are obvious.

Kevin Miller is quintessentially an Oregon Stater. All of us who have worked alongside him, been featured in these pages or have flipped through each issue with Beaver pride are blessed and grateful to have done so.

His work ensures that OSU's stories will be known by generations to come, making his extraordinary contributions in these pages an invaluable part of the university's leverage for a great next 154 years. 🔎

John Valva is executive director of the OSU Alumni Association — which also makes him publisher of the Oregon Stater — and he is the OSU Foundation's vice president of alumni relations.



### MAY 11 to 21

**ONLINE AND IN PERSON** 

NO MATTER WHERE YOU LIVE, YOU CAN GIVE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY DURING THIS ANNUAL OSU TRADITION.

Your service project? Your choice!

- Lift spirits through inspiring sidewalk messages
- Pick up trash in the neighborhood
- Volunteer at an animal shelter

- Serve food to those in need
- Do anything that aligns with your passions
- All service counts

Connect with fellow alumni and friends and serve your community at a volunteer project virtually or in person.





# Every Beaver has a tale, and he told them in unforgettable ways

By Cathleen Hockman-Wert | Photos by Karl Maasdam

After 16 years with the *Oregon Stater*, editor Kevin Miller has announced his retirement.

The first in his family to attend college, Miller came to OSU as a student "in jeans and a flannel shirt, with a lot of frizzy hair and not much of a clue," he wrote in his first *Stater* editorial. "A passable writer, I had the requisite curiosity and short attention span for newspaper work."

Miller became editor of *The Daily Barometer*, the campus newspaper, and graduated in 1978 with an OSU degree in technical journalism. He spent most of the next 28 years with *The Register-Guard* in Eugene and was senior editor when tapped to lead the *Stater*.

Prior to Miller's return to OSU in 2006, the OSU Alumni Association mailed only about 22,000 copies of the *Stater* to dues-paying members. Recognizing the need to connect more broadly with the alumni community, the OSU Foundation board helped expand circulation to all alumni. Today, about 190,000 copies of the magazine are sent to nearly 220,000 recipients (there are many couples on the list) around the world, three times a year.

Miller brought a voice all his own to the magazine, once describing himself as "the guy who gathers the rest of the villagers around the metaphorical campfire and tells them what's been happening that might inspire them and make them proud to be part of our village."

He received many awards including a Grand Gold from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education for a column where he described his mother, who was determined that her first-born son would go to college. "Well, I had my doubts, but resistance was futile," Miller wrote. "She packed me off to campus and wouldn't let me quit. Mentors on the faculty helped me find a calling despite myself, and after four majors in five years, I left with a degree and a career that I still love."

Yup, that's Kevin Miller. Loves storytelling. Loves his university.

## Oregon Staters recognize a dearly loved mentor, colleague and friend

For many years, Kevin has often called me his mentor. High praise which I treasure, but not really true. Kevin knew how to write and report before he ever took a class from me.

- RON LOVELL, writer and retired OSU journalism professor

Those who know Kevin know that when he's on the receiving end of a compliment, he'll begin to softly shake his head, fidget a bit, right up until he either deflects the praise, or, even more likely, shifts it to others. That's just who he is.

He is a passionate voice when it comes to the stories and people he's written about over the years, but now that he's the story, he'll just have to shake his head and fidget a bit when I say what I know so many of us feel: Kevin Miller is on the shortest of short lists when it comes to Beavers who are deserving of lifetime achievement awards.

He is the storyteller of our fine university.

- MIKE RICH, '81, screenwriter

The last 20 years have been transformational in the history of OSU, and we needed to have the *Stater* chronicle, critique and anticipate that transformation. Kevin was the perfect person to reshape the *Stater* from a very good alumni magazine into a world-class publication. He is a treasure as a writer, editor, alumnus and friend to every one of us who believe in the promise that is Oregon State University.

- PRESIDENT EMERITUS EDWARD J. RAY

The phone rings. I have to pick it up. It's Kevin.

We talk about the *Oregon Stater* and how it can be better. He tells me about the latest cover story and how incredible the four featured scientists are and what a nice job Nancy Steinberg did celebrating the women's research. I hear his love of journalism and Oregon State in his voice, as he shares his latest conversation with Interim President Becky Johnson. Following our call, I peruse the *Oregon Stater* and feel Kevin's enthusiasm and commitment to excellence on every page. What a joy! He makes me proud to be a Beaver.

- CHRIS JOHNS, '74, former National Geographic editor

Kevin is a master storyteller, both in writing and in conversation. As a mentor, Kevin typically had a related anecdote to share. His stories illuminated the facets of what we were working on and guided me toward making a decision. This wasn't an accident. Kevin cares deeply about mentoring young people and passing on what he's learned to help them grow. Being mentored by Kevin changed the trajectory of my life; I'm deeply grateful to have learned from and worked alongside him.

- HANNAH O'LEARY, '13, M.F.A. '19, marketing manager

Kevin is not only what every journalist strives to be, but also what editors want to become — a complete journalist. That's what Kevin is.

His journalistic command of the *Oregon Stater* has helped to elevate Beaver Nation to new heights.

Oregon State University faculty, staff, its administration, the students past and present owe him our gratitude for his writing skills and editorial direction of the *Oregon Stater*.

- ROGER WERTH, '80, retired photojournalist

Oregon Stater editor Kevin Miller restored the typewriter he once used as editor of *The Daily Barometer*. He enjoys showing it to children who visit his office and are mystified by the analog technology.





Alumnus and OSU staff member Dorian Smith mentors many students like Vanessa Sellers. "As the years have gone by, I've gone from feeling like a big brother to being like an uncle," he said. "Eventually, I'll be more like a granddad. It's cool to have these relationships and know what students are going through in their day-to-day lives." (Photo by Karl Maasdam)

By Cathleen Hockman-Wert | Photo by Karl Maasdam

or Dorian Smith, '09, M.A.I.S '17, helping OSU increase the diversity of its student body isn't just a job, it's an opportunity to walk beside students who are following in his footsteps.

A standout defensive end as a Beaver student-athlete, Smith has worked for the university's Educational Opportunities Program since 2016. He recently became director of the new Griggs Center for Black and Indigenous Student Success.

Once students are enrolled and have started their studies, he connects them with programs that help them find community and make the most of their time at OSU. But his first step is to encourage Black, Native American, Pacific Islander and Alaskan Native students to commit to OSU in the first place.

Students of color make up more than 28% of OSU's overall enrollment, a percentage that's doubled in a decade. However, less than 2% of students at the Corvallis campus identify as Black. (About 2% of Oregon residents identify as Black.) To grow the percentage at OSU, Smith works to build trust in Black communities across Oregon, providing prospective Beavers with guidance on everything from which high school classes to take to how to fill out financial aid forms.

He also connects with out-of-state students like Le'Waski Watkins of Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Passionate about hemp research, Watkins contacted the head of OSU's Global Hemp Innovation Center for information and soon received an email from Smith.

"Before I took my first class — before I even had my schedule — he was sending me all these resources, everything I needed. I was blown away," said Watkins, a junior double major in horticulture and crop and soil science. His transition from Alabama to Oregon was hard and lonely at first.

"But I always had Dorian," Watkins said. "He gave me tips about how he coped when he first came here, to help me be more comfortable. He gave me his phone number and said, 'Call me if you need anything.' In fact, if I don't check with him, he's going to check in with me."

The university is expanding its programs for underrepresented students. In fall 2020, OSU opened two living-learning communities on the Corvallis campus that center on the experiences of Indigenous people and those with Black and African American identities. These communities are open to all students.

For Vanessa Sellers of Tulsa, Oklahoma, the Nia Black Scholar Living-Learning Community was key to her choice to come to Oregon State. In addition to living together at Poling Hall, Nia residents can take an African American studies class together. For many, it might be their only OSU class with more than one Black student. "Having the hall helps a lot," she said. "We have a lot of events together."

Smith noted that strong communities and great advice are important but can't help students who can't afford their OSU experience.

"We know the pandemic has had disparate impacts on the Black community," Smith said. "This year I have had more emails and

calls from students with financial holes, students taking a gap term, students struggling to come back and finish their degree because of financial reasons."

The OSU community is responding, and opportunities for alumni and friends to get involved are growing as the OSU Foundation and OSU Alumni Association increase efforts to secure financial support and build communities that promote lifelong success. Between 2019-20 and 2020-21, philanthropic gifts for diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives at Oregon State more than doubled, and the number of participants in identity-based OSU alumni groups grew by 300%.

That matters for students like Watkins, who considered dropping out during his first year because he was running out of money. "I reached out to Dorian and said, 'I've got this balance on my account.' A little while later, he told me to look at my account and the balance was not on it. I don't know how, but he made it happen."

More support is on the way, including some from Timothy Moriarty and Arthur Anderson, '77. Strong proponents of increasing opportunities for Black communities through education, the couple spent years looking for a place where their estate gift, expected to exceed \$1 million, would make a real difference. When they learned about Smith's work and OSU's three-pronged approach of investing in student recruitment, retention programs and financial assistance, they knew they found the right fit, and structured their gift to support all three areas.

"We would like to have other people join us in helping build a better community in Oregon, our home, and help offset the injustices of the past," Anderson said. To that end, the couple is also providing annual challenge gifts to encourage other donors, hoping to see measurable growth in OSU's Black student population within their own lifetime.

After earning doctoral degrees in plant pathology and soil microbiology at OSU, Anderson worked more than 40 years as a leader in the nursery industry. He served as the first president of the Oregon Garden Foundation when the much-loved botanical garden was founded in Silverton.

Moriarty, who left school at age 16, achieved so much success as a high-end Boston hairdresser and business operator that he retired at age 52. "I was born poor — financially and also culturally," he said. "So, when I became successful, I thought, 'Wow, I hope I can give somebody else an opportunity."

Watkins remains grateful for the support he has received and for Smith's mentorship.

"I call OSU the land of opportunity," he said. "OSU is a very nurturing school, a great place to learn. A place that gives me a chance to prove myself.

"Much as I love the school," Watkins added, "if it wasn't for Dorian, I don't know if I'd still be a Beaver."

Cathleen Hockman-Wert is senior writer and editor for the OSU Foundation. To learn more about supporting diversity, equity and inclusion efforts at OSU, contact Mike Moran at Mike.Moran@ osufoundation.org, or call 503-201-0185.

## The art of YInMn Blue

Hawaii art gallery owner Tiffany DeEtte Shafto first heard of YInMn (for yttrium, indium and manganese) Blue, also known as "Mas Blue," in 2018 as she researched origins of pigments used by artists. The vibrant blue pigment appeared coincidentally in 2009 as OSU Distinguished Professor Mas Subramanian and graduate student Andrew Smith, Ph.D. '11, baked various elements at ultra-high temperatures in search of new coatings for the electronics industry.

What they found instead was the first truly new blue in 200 years and a steady stream of worldwide publicity and commercial and scientific interest. Fascinated by the story and eager to see what her stable of Hawaii-based painters might do with the new blue, Shafto waited until the pigment became available as an art supply in 2020, bought a lot of it, and then commissioned her artists to use it in Hawaii-related pieces to be included in a show, "Brand New Blue."

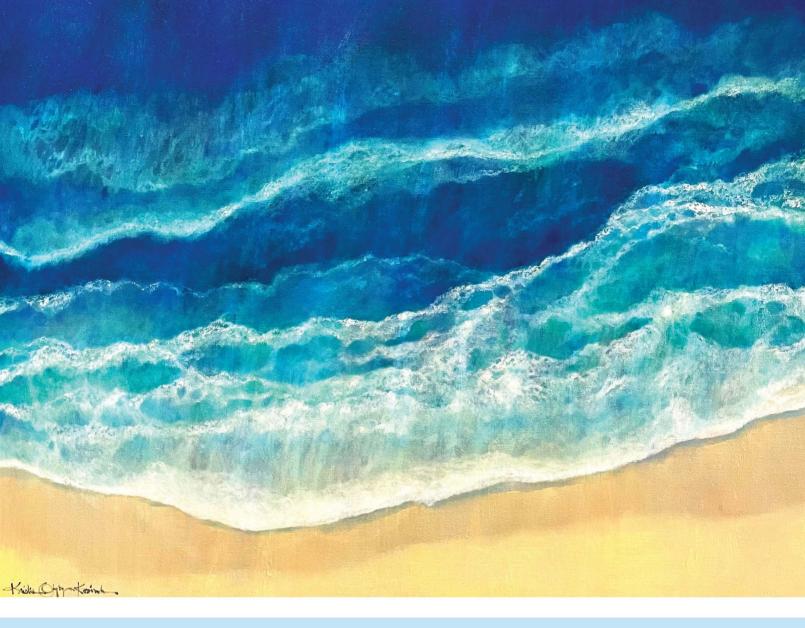
It hangs now at Tiffany's Art Agency, open by appointment only. Shafto has posted additional information, a virtual tour and a video at bit.ly/newblueshow.



Above: "Break Through," by Timothy Allan Shafto. Above right: "Opelu," by Melissa Chimera. Right: "Makai," by Mark Ley. Opposite page: "Soar," by Kristie Kosmides.







## 'That blue changed my life'

Things haven't been the same for Mas Subramanian, Milton-Harris Professor of Materials Science, since that day in 2009 when he looked at the bright blue material left over after grad student, Andrew Smith, baked the elements yttrium, indium and manganese at about 2,000 degrees.

"That blue changed my life," Subramanian said. He and his team had been commissioned to find new coatings for the electronics industry. Instead, they got a valuable new pigment, YInMn Blue, now recognized and patented as the first truly new blue in two centuries.

A materials scientist with a long record of discoveries in industry and academia, Subramanian quickly heard from scientific and commercial interests around the world, asking what other color work he was doing, or could do. Crayola held a national contest to select a name for its new "Mas Blue" crayon: "bluetiful."

Subramanian and his team refocused their efforts to embrace a new specialty: finding new and useful pigments. Although he can't reveal exactly where that work is heading, it's safe to say more pigments will be born in Subramanian's lab.

Subramanian loves teaching and mentoring student scientists at least as much as he likes being a world-class chemist, and he cherishes the powerful lesson embedded in the creation of YInMn Blue.

"We could have just said, 'Oh, that blue stuff is not what we're looking for. It's not going be useful as an electronic coating,' and thrown it away," he said.

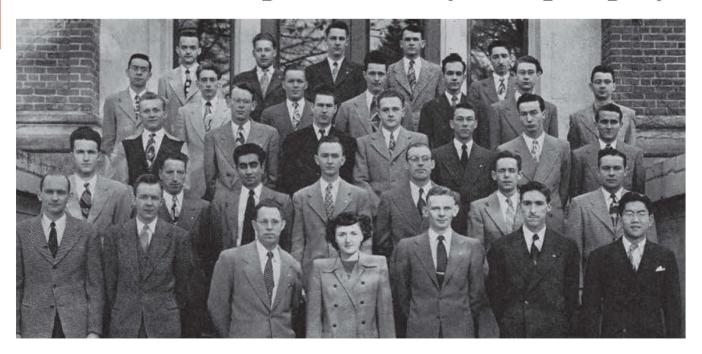
Instead, like many scientists before them who achieved change-making discoveries out of what seemed like mistakes (Post-Its, Velcro and even Viagra, to name a few), he and his team shifted their focus and let their sense of wonder bring forth other possibilities.

"Science is about having an open mind," he said.

Learn more about the Subramanian's work at bit.ly/masteam.

# Reaching new heights Pioneer female engineer left a space-age legacy

## Pioneer female engineer left a space-age legacy



By Siobhan Murray | Photos courtesy OSU Special Collections and Archives Research Center

Growing up, Elaine Gething Davis, '49, would hear an airplane soaring above her family's coastal Oregon farm and rush outside with everyone else to watch it. Later, living near a military base during World War II, she was amazed by the variety of airborne machines leaping into the sky. After the war, her father bought a surplus airplane and gave the whole family flying lessons. Thus began a lifelong fascination with things that fly.

When she arrived at Oregon State College in 1945, she was the sole woman in her mechanical engineering class.

"I can recall the day as a freshman that I went to orientation. I could hear the rumble-rumble-rumble of a lot of people talking all the way down the hall, coming from a big auditorium," she recalled in a 2017 interview for Boeing's oral history archive. "When I stepped up to the door, all of a sudden, everybody quit talking."

She was one of six undergraduate women engineering students on campus. Before them, only three female engineering majors had ever braved the hallowed halls of the engineering buildings.

Her male classmates taunted her that she was "just here to get married." She told an Oregon State Technical Record reporter that she was in engineering for a career and was not considering marriage. "A woman must choose between one or the other," she added defiantly.

At right, Elaine Davis was photographed for a student engineering publication in an Oregon State test laboratory. A photo of OSC's Institute of The Aeronautical Sciences in the 1949 Beaver makes it clear how unusual it was to be a female aeronautical engineer.

She was determined to prove herself. "I simply would not give up, as hard as it was," she said in the oral history. "I figured, 'My parents are sacrificing to send me to school.' I couldn't disappoint them."

Her parents had always emphasized that a good education was the only way out of poverty. "I was lucky," Davis said.

Many of the older students — men returning to Oregon State after their service in the war — were supportive and kind toward her. She had the support of her professors as well, especially Ben Ruffner, an aeronautical pioneer who would prove vital in her career.

Eventually even the scoffers among her classmates came to treat her with respect. By her junior year, she'd zeroed in on the aeronautical option within her mechanical engineering major and was thriving in her classes. She graduated with top honors, was quickly hired by Boeing, and moved to Seattle, renting a room at a residential hotel for women. She couldn't wait to put her engineering training to use. But Boeing had relegated her to a clerk position. She spent her days entering data alongside other women. It was tedious but she kept her head down and gave it her all.



One day, about a year after she'd been hired, Ruffner, one of her mentors at Oregon State, visited the offices to do some consulting for Boeing. After saying hello to Davis at her clerk's desk, he marched straight to the head of the company's human resources department.

"I thought you said there was no discrimination here," he said. "There isn't."

"Well, I know for a fact there's an engineer here — because I graduated her," Ruffner continued. "And yet, she doesn't have an engineering classification." He said he wouldn't work with the company unless Boeing put her in a position worthy of her skills.

Almost immediately, Davis was reclassified as an aerodynamicist and became one of the first female space engineers at Boeing. She helped design a new wind tunnel, mapped out launches and worked on putting machines into orbit.

After hours Davis loved to cut loose. Every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, she'd go with her roommate to dance the night away across Seattle. That's how she met her husband, Phil. "He was an electronic engineer, and we had a lot of the same interests," she said.

She wasn't allowed to talk about her work, even with her husband. The Cold War was ramping up and she was doing classified work in partnership with the military. She started working on SRAMs, Short Range Attack Missiles that could deliver nuclear warheads, using a computer program to simulate their launch.

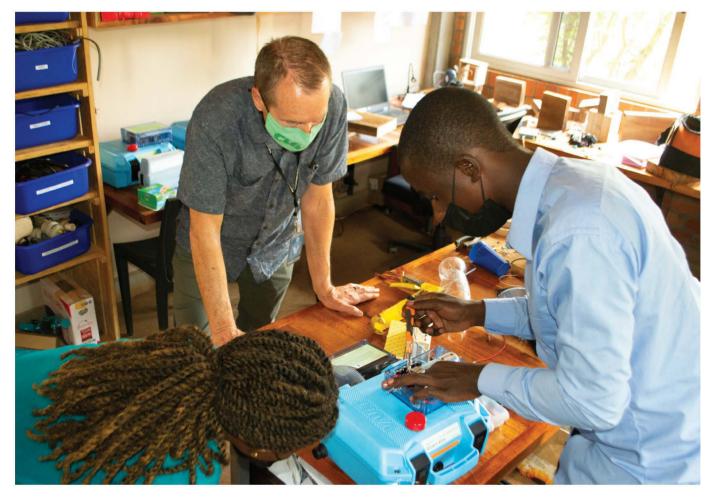
"It was scary," she said about her work with nuclear materials. "I had quite a few nights of nightmares. I personally don't believe war solves anything, but unfortunately in this world, you have to make sure you've got your defenses, because otherwise you're vulnerable ...."

After retiring in 1992, Davis sailed the San Juan Islands with Phil and kept dancing into her 80s. She died in 2018 at age 90.

Having grown up poor, she understood the importance of scholarships, and planned her legacy accordingly. She decided to create a scholarship at Oregon State to support "those in need of all races, genders and anything else," including students of all majors. The first Elaine Gething Davis Scholarship was awarded in 2020. 🗪

Siobhan Murry is a writer for the OSU Foundation. An estate gift to the foundation can help future students carve out their own pioneering paths. Learn more at ForOregonState.org/GiftPlanning.

## Pure water from a box is project's promise



By Cathleen Hockman-Wert

What if you could give millions of people access to safe drinking water, and help solve the climate crisis at the same time? As a bonus, you could help your own community prepare for when the Big One comes.

That's the vision behind a personal-sized water treatment appliance now in development by a team led by two OSU alumni.

"Few people in the U.S. realize that for most people around the world, water out of the tap has to be treated, not optionally for better taste but to make it safe to drink," said civil engineering graduate Paul Berg, '78.

Boiling works: it kills bacteria. But there's a less energy-intensive option. Many city utilities treat water using ultraviolet (UV) light. What if you could scale down this technology? A water systems engineer who spent his career with CH2M Hill, Berg knew his family would need dependably clean water while living in Kampala, Uganda, where he would take a planned sabbatical in 2009-10.

Paul Berg, '78, works with civil engineers in Uganda as they learn how to use and service a DayZero UV-H2O portable water purification system.

He installed a UV bulb in a rugged, shoebox-sized container that holds a gallon of water. Plug it in, and in two minutes, the water was purified and safe to drink. Because electricity can be undependable in many African cities, Berg attached a hand crank generator as an alternative power source.

In 2017, Berg talked about his water box at a City Club of Corvallis workshop about how to obtain safe water after an earthquake. In the audience, Dave Conklin, '10, was intrigued. A climate researcher with an OSU doctorate in biological and ecological engineering, he did some back-of-the-envelope calculations and realized that the water box had the potential to eliminate a significant amount of global greenhouse gas emissions, given the 600 million people who boil water every day to make it safe to drink.

The two men formed a partnership around a shared dream: getting the water box into millions of households worldwide. Today the device is formally known as the DayZero UV-H2O-Box. Its name references a 2018 crisis in Cape Town, South Africa, when city officials counted down the remaining days before the municipal water supply was estimated to run out.

Berg has worked with others to improve the water box from the start. In 2009, a team of OSU engineering students — Megan Heinze, Tom Jacroux and Richard Oleksak, all from the class of 2010 — worked on it for their senior capstone project. Eventually, in 2020, a model became available for purchase.

Last year, preparation began for field tests in partnership with nonprofits Engineering Ministries International and Uganda Christian University. The goal is to solicit honest feedback from potential users, information that will inform the final design for successful scale-up.

After consulting with Nordica MacCarty, OSU's Richard and Gretchen Evans Scholar of Humanitarian Engineering, Berg went to Kampala to help train two UCU civil engineering graduates who will distribute water boxes to about 20 households and collect data about their use after four weeks.

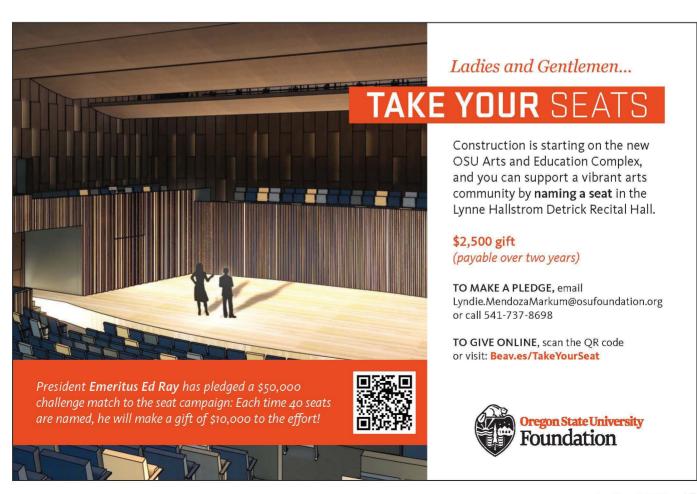
DayZero UV-H2O-Boxes are meant to be used in cities, where many people use an electric kettle to boil water for drinking. The DayZero team calculates that the monthly electricity cost for using an electric kettle to boil drinking water (not counting use for tea) is about \$1.50. The comparable cost for using a water box: about half of one cent.

Of course, boiling water over a fire — as people do in urban areas worldwide — is even harder on the environment. In energy terms, UV water treatment is 10,000 times more efficient than burning wood to boil water. Reducing wood and charcoal fires would help ease deforestation as well as health hazards from smoke exposure and burns, especially among children.

Back in Oregon, the DayZero founders recognize that their own communities may find themselves at ground zero of a major earthquake — the type of natural disaster when the water box could be most valuable. Pacific Northwest residents are urged to have supplies on hand for an emergency, but experts warn that it may be months before communities recover. No one can store that much drinking water. DayZero UV-H2O-Boxes can be purchased for emergency preparedness kits for about \$300.

The latest prototypes are made at Conklin's house in Portland, where volunteers assemble them by hand. Each purchase helps to advance DayZero's goal of providing a better alternative to people in the developing world who rely on boiled water every day.

"I would love to have a design team of experienced product engineers take hold of this and develop a product that's ready to be mass produced," Berg said. Learn more at dayzerointernational.org. ....



## 'A lot of big goals'

## Providing more equitable medical care is just part of her plan



Juriana Barboza Sagrero is working on her master of public health degree, and hopes to eventually combine it with a medical degree to help her advocate and provide better care for underserved populations.

By Gretchen Schrafft | Photo by Karl Maasdam

Juriana Barboza Sagrero, '21, was just 5 years old when she learned English from the daughter of the manager of the apartment building where her family lived in Forest Grove.

Soon her Spanish-speaking parents began asking her to translate documents written in English. By the time she was 10, Sagrero had effectively become her family's medical interpreter, relaying doctors' diagnoses and instructions relating to the health of her mother — who had chronic pregnancy-related health problems and at one point was in critical condition — and her seven younger siblings.

Now 23, Sagrero is a full-time student in OSU's Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) program. She has a B.S. in bioresource research from OSU and plans to go on to earn a medical degree. She sees the expertise she can gain from the M.P.H. program about the interpersonal side of health care as just as important as honing her research and clinical skills.

"My ultimate focus is to provide health care for minorities and underrepresented communities," she said. "My goal is to use the knowledge I gain from the M.P.H. to aim for equity."

Sagrero recalls an early instance where her role as translator put her in a heartbreaking position. In addition to providing a diagnosis, the doctor was "making fun of the situation we were in, where I was a child, translating for my parents. That was when I realized: You won't understand where we're coming from. You won't understand why a child has to translate because you weren't in that situation."

Differences in experiences between providers and the populations they serve have a significant impact on patient outcomes, Sagrero said. Her mother struggled throughout her pregnancies with diabetes and obesity, and her doctor simply told her, via Sagrero's translation, "You need to eat healthier."

"You can't tell someone who is low-income that they just need to buy produce and find healthier options when what's available to a low-income family is the food that is cheap. Also, in Mexico my parents were raised to eat certain foods more than others."

Sagrero intends to address such issues not only by providing equitable care to minorities as a direct provider, but also by transforming what she's learned from life and school into a message that will "impact some of my colleagues that don't really understand what it means to be a minority and show them that care needs to be tailored to the needs of specific people."

"It's a lot of big goals and I'm still trying to figure out how I would make such a change," she said. She's already performing many of these actions at OSU as interim coordinator of OSU's STEM Leaders Program, which supports high-achieving students from underrepresented groups in the sciences by placing them in paid positions in OSU research labs and pairing them with a student mentor who has completed the program.

If Sagrero can already do this at 23, while also succeeding in a demanding graduate program, it's hard to doubt that in a few short years, she'll be reaching "a lot of big goals" and leading a change-making professional life.

Gretchen Schrafft, M.F.A. '16, is a teacher and writer in Providence, Rhode Island.

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Sign up and hear from fellow alumni about the power of OSU Connections: OSUConnections.org



## Study contradicts idea that wildfires start on public land, then burn into private land

Research led by OSU shows that fires are more likely to burn their way into national forests than out of them.

The findings contradict the common narrative of a destructive wildfire igniting on remote public land before spreading to threaten communities, said Chris Dunn of the OSU College of Forestry.

The study, which looked at more than 22,000 fires, found that those crossing jurisdictional boundaries are primarily caused by people on private property.

It also showed that ignitions on Forest Service lands accounted for fewer than 25% of the most destructive wildfires - ones that resulted in the loss of more than 50 structures.

"In the old framing, public agencies bear the primary responsibility for managing and mitigating cross-boundary fire risk and protecting our communities, with their efforts focused on prevention, fuel

The study found that fires crossing jurisdictional boundaries are primarily caused by people on private property. Ignitions on Forest Service lands accounted for fewer than 25% of the most destructive wildfires.

reduction and suppression," Dunn said. "This has been the dominant management approach of years past, which is failing us."

The findings, published in Nature Scientific Reports, followed by a few weeks the Forest Service's release of a new 10-year fire strategy, Confronting the Wildfire Crisis. The strategy aims for major changes within the agency, Dunn said.

"We are long overdue for policies and actions that support a paradigm shift," he said. Scientists including Dunn and

OSU's Will Downing investigated 27 years of fires that crossed jurisdictional boundaries.

Cross-boundary fires consumed just over 17 million acres during the study period of 1992 to 2019, and about half of the burned area was Forest Service land. The study area covered almost 141 million acres across 11 states and included 74 national forests.

Read more at beav.es/wYt.

## CELEBRATE HERITAGE,

## HISTORY AND COMMUNITIES.

Join in the festivities and help OSU alumni networks recognize our Beaver communities at various events, activities and connections during these celebratory months:

APRIL César Chávez Tribute Month (OSU-specific)

MAY Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Heritage Month

JUNE

Identity-specific graduation celebrations, Pride Month, **Juneteenth** 



Show your support: ForOregonState.org/AlumniNetworks



## Hemp v. coronavirus testing could start soon

The Oregon State University scientist who led the groundbreaking discovery that a pair of hemp compounds can block the coronavirus from entering human cells thinks preclinical trials will happen within a few months.

Preclinical research involves using cell cultures and/or animal models to test the safety and efficacy of a new drug candidate, Richard van Breemen explained.

Those types of studies are required by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration before any clinical testing in humans can begin, said van Breemen, a researcher with OSU's Global Hemp Innovation Center, Linus Pauling Institute and College of Pharmacy.

"We need preclinical trials to prove the efficacy of what we discovered, and I think that will happen very soon, in the next few months," he said.

Van Breemen, OSU colleague Ruth Muchiri and five collaborators from Oregon Health & Science University published a study in the Journal of Natural Products that showed hemp compounds identified via a chemical screening technique invented at OSU display the ability to prevent infection from the virus that causes COVID-19.

They found that a pair of cannabinoid acids bind to the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, blocking a critical step in the process the virus uses to infect people. The study continues to generate significant attention from around the globe, and several compa-



nies are interested in collaborating with Oregon State for further work on the hemp compounds, van Breemen said.

"I'm delighted people are interested in the work we do, and I want to thank all of my students and postdocs and other collaborators over the years," he said. "It's been an honor working with a very talented team of people, and I'm just glad to have contributed something in the field of natural products and analytical chemistry." 🔎

Read more at bit.ly/hempcovid. View a video about the hemp-COVID research at bit.ly/hempcovidvideo.



## Bits and bytes join bats and gloves

## OSU's DAM Analytics Squad aids baseball, softball coaches, players

By Kip Carlson | Photos by Karl Maasdam

Home run, fastball, stolen base, double play: bits of baseball lingo as old as the game itself.

But if you've recently watched or listened to Major League Baseball, you've noticed some additions — launch angle, spin rate, exit velocity, to name a few — related to a data-driven style of analyzing and improving player performance.

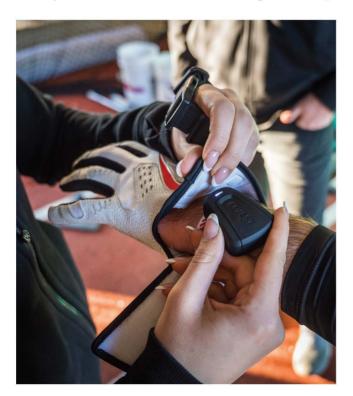
And it's not just for the pros. Leading-edge, high-tech analytics is fast becoming an important tool in Oregon State's baseball and softball programs.

"A lot of it has to do with validating what we're saying," OSU Head Softball Coach Laura Berg said of the value of the data as she and her assistant coaches help players improve their performance. "Numbers don't lie; these guys are very visual and they can absorb information very quickly, and that's what this stuff does: It gets them information very quickly."

OSU Pat Casey Head Baseball Coach Mitch Canham, '11, was introduced to baseball's new world while managing in the Seattle Mariners organization, where the player development staff and the analytics staff were on the same page.

"We all worked very closely together so we got to understand each other's worlds and what they were trying to say and why it matters," Canham said. "We always talked about connecting the dots, trying to get it all together.

"I look at it as a different style of communication and I think it can help some. I don't think all of it is necessary all the time,



but this is a different way to communicate with a group of players and it's also a way you can see if you're doing it right or not."

The equipment that gathers and analyzes the data brings an additional set of new terms into the dugouts and coaching rooms: Rapsodo, TrackMan, 6-4-3, HitTrax, K-Motion, Yakkertek, Synergy, Blast Motion and more.

Those technologies can measure where in the strike zone a hitter makes their strongest contact; spin rates for balls thrown by pitchers; nuances of hitters' swing techniques; the path of the ball from a pitcher to the plate; the flight of balls all over the field, and how efficiently hitters generate power through their swing. They can chart every pitch and play to give insight into opponents' tendencies.

Translating the information in ways that improve players' performance still requires the human touch. Berg used the example of hitters seeing proof that they are swinging at the speed of the pitch rather than at their optimal bat speed. Canham noted that a pitcher can use data to pinpoint the movement on a certain pitch and see where to throw it to cause the batter to make weak contact or to swing and miss.

As is the case in the business world and in other fields where data collection has become incredibly efficient, the scope of what's collected can leave users with more information than they can handle. One of those in charge of sifting through it is Brad Brown, OSU's director of video and analytics, who has been with the baseball program since 2018.

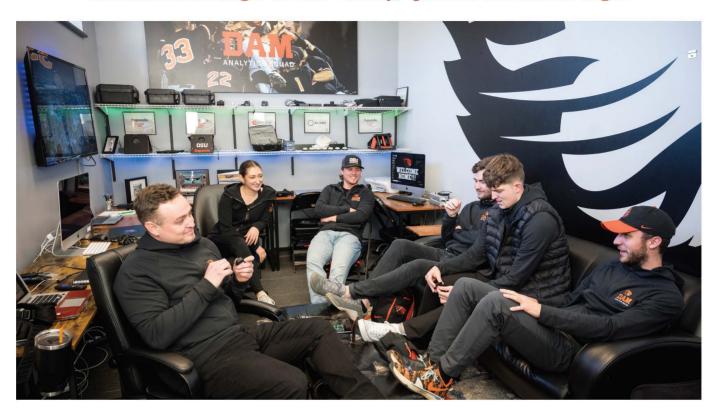
Helping Brown is the DAM Analytics Squad of six student interns whose majors range from kinesiology to business. The business majors, Brown said, "have a great understanding of being able to create a consumable data point that we can then send to the coaches so they get an understanding. It's not just a body; it's being able to tell you what the body is doing .... Otherwise, it just looks like a numbers sheet."

Brown noted that a TrackMan file recording a pitch can track over 280 data points. OSU coaches might focus on six at a time, including velocity and release point, two big indicators of injury risk for pitchers. For hitters, key measurements might be exit velocity, spin rate and launch angle: Are they getting too much backspin off the bat and losing distance?

In the fall and the preseason, the "body technologies," often with wearable sensors on the players, are emphasized to help them perfect their skills. When spring arrives, the data analysts can expand their focus to advance scouting of opponents, down to what an opposing pitching coach is likely to call on a no-ball, one-strike count.

At practice, DAM Analytics Squad member Abigayle Darula fits a player with a biometric sensor that helps reveal whether a hitter is generating power from the ground up, as desired.

A file recording a pitch can track over 280 data points. OSU coaches might focus on six at a time, including velocity and release point, two big indicators of injury risk for pitchers. For hitters, key measurements might be exit velocity, spin rate and launch angle.



"Once it's season time, it's time to go win baseball games," Brown said.

While the students on the DAM Analytics Squad certainly help Beaver Baseball develop talent for the major leagues, the analysts are also developing skill sets that are valuable in the pros. One of its interns was recently hired by the Boston Red Sox and others have lined up interviews with MLB teams.

"It's not only providing opportunities for players to grow and the staff to get better, it's also providing opportunities for students from campus to come in and get real-life professional experience that they can take into their professional lives," Brown said.

Canham recalled his introduction to analytics in the Mariners organization as being "full immersion. Jump in and start seeing what's out there because there's still a ton more." He remembers late nights and early mornings spent poring over data to come up with new ideas and questions.

"It's a huge rabbit hole and it requires many, many hours," he said. "But at the end of the day, what are the things you value? Measure those things and put them into play."

Both OSU coaches agree that the human, intuitive, eyeball-test elements of coaching remain important. Coaches must constantly weigh how much data to share with players, and when.

Surrounded by the tools of their trade, DAM Analytics Squad leader Brad Brown, far left, meets with student technicians (clockwise) Abigayle Darula, Eric Steneroden, Ted Stephenson, Chase LePerle and Connor Heath.

"It's kind of a fine line," Berg said. "You don't want to give them too much information but you want to give them just enough information where there's not an 'analysis paralysis' type deal ... just enough to know this is what they need to fix, or this is what they need to work on."

Added Canham: "Just because a guy might need more rotational acceleration doesn't mean we need to bring that up right now because he's trying to work on five other things, and we don't need to add this sixth because maybe it's not the most important at that time."

Both coaches also are leery of relying too much on players' data when gauging overall talent.

"There's something to be said about guys who are just gamers," Canham said.

"In a game, you've just got to trust your gut," Berg said. "That's one thing a computer can never have, so you just have to trust your gut as far as who to pinch-hit for, who to pinch-run for at what time, where to play hitters and things like that."



By Siobhan Murray | Photo by Karl Maasdam

On a dark blue-gray morning in January, just before the sun rose, Corvallis woke up to a boom. A reverberating crash shook the ground as the west side of Reser Stadium tumbled backward into the parking lot. Sound waves from the blast traveled to Philomath, Albany and as far away as Lebanon, nearly 20 miles east.

Groups of dedicated onlookers had gathered at a safe distance, jockeying for the best view of the implosion, which would make way for the transformation of Reser Stadium. With the final "fire in the hole!" warning, Scott Barnes, vice president and director of OSU Athletics, pushed a detonation button and explosives ripped through the structure (see photo, inside front cover). The grandstand crumpled, the colossal roof tipped backward, and the stands disappeared in a plume of dust. It all went exactly as planned.

In the crowd were 30 journalists, who would make sure the rest of the world found out about the event: TV and radio outlets reached more than seven million people worldwide with news of Reser Stadium's implosion. Meanwhile, 10,000 people watched the livestreamed video on YouTube. Videos of the implosion across social media have collected more than 1 million views.

Construction crews began clearing the rubble quite literally as soon as the dust settled. Construction on the \$160.5 million project is set to conclude by the fall of 2023, with the Beavers continuing to play at Reser during the 2022 season as the stadium is transformed into a best-in-class venue that's not just about football.

The completed facility will feature year-round programs and spaces serving OSU students, faculty and staff, fans and community members. Included are a state-of-the-art welcome center for new and prospective students and their families, and a 35,000-square-foot wellness center.

Twenty donors have given \$91.6 million to the Reser Stadium initiative, exceeding the \$85 million goal, with an anonymous donor making a gift of \$50 million. The same 20 donors have given \$119 million to OSU's academic programs during their lifetime. For seven of these donors, their gifts to this project marked their first million-dollar commitment to the university.

"The Reser Stadium project is a great win for our student-athletes and fans and a win for the Oregon State community," said OSU Interim President Becky Johnson. "It incorporates valuable new spaces and programs that will serve the entire university.



OSU Athletics and the OSU Foundation worked together with our amazing donors to make this possible."

The transformed west side of Reser Stadium will provide the closest premium seating to the football field of any college stadium in the nation, Barnes said. The completed stadium also will feature a 360-degree concourse, premium and general seating options, additional concessions and restroom facilities, enhanced sightlines, accessibility upgrades and other new fan amenities.

"Our student-athletes, coaches, fans and the university community deserve this first-class, year-round facility," said Barnes. "I'm excited for our football program, but also for the impact Reser Stadium will have on all of our sports programs at OSU and the greater university."

Barnes noted that revenues from OSU Football substantially support 10 women's and seven men's intercollegiate sports.

"I am grateful for donors' remarkable generosity as well as for the leadership of Scott Barnes and our colleagues in OSU Athletics and the OSU Foundation for their outstanding execution of the fundraising plan," said Shawn L. Scoville, president and chief

executive officer of the OSU Foundation. "Donors to this project are true community leaders who exemplify OSU's incredible fundraising momentum in the past five years."

"After all the challenges associated with the pandemic, it was incredible to come back to Reser with Beaver Nation this fall," said Jonathan Smith, '02, Oregon State's head football coach, who led the team to a 6-0 record at Reser Stadium in fall 2021. "It's such a special place. I know that the transformation of the stadium will make the game day experience for players and fans even better. As families and recruits come to campus, they will see the stadium as a reflection of our athletics program and our university community. I am so grateful to everyone involved."

In addition to philanthropy, the Completing Reser Stadium project will be funded by premium seating payments and other revenues. 🔎

Visit CompletingReserStadium.com for the most up-to-date information on the project, including a live webcam view of the rapidly progressing work.

## He can wrestle opponents and cultural stereotypes



By Kip Carlson | Photo by Karl Maasdam

When Mateo Olmos was growing up, his aunt, Beatrice Ruttagah, pointed him in a particular direction.

"She was always telling me, 'Read this, watch this, learn this,' in terms of Black history and social justice," Olmos recalled. "I didn't always watch or read everything she told me. She was very adamant about it, but I did do my research and began to learn more."

His consciousness of racial and social justice issues continued to grow, and in the fall of 2017, Olmos arrived at Oregon State on a wrestling scholarship. In February, he received the Frances Dancy Hooks Award during OSU's 40th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration.

The Hooks Award is defined as "open to students, staff and faculty who: lead actions to advance diversity; show actions consistent with 'Walking the Talk;' demonstrate an ability to build cross-cultural bridges; demonstrate a willingness to take

Mateo Olmos, recipient of the Frances Dancy Hooks Award during OSU's 40th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, sits for a portrait in the Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center.

risks when promoting diversity; and promote cultural diversity activities as a sharing, caring and educational endeavor, not for personal gain."

The ceremony left a mark on Olmos.

"I'm just really humbled, reflecting on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his legacy and his sacrifice, all that he did for me as a young man," Olmos said. "Being mixed race myself, I'm a part of his legacy and all the work he did and he sacrificed his life — that was something I was reflecting on that day and the days prior."

A junior majoring in public health, Olmos is involved in Kappa Alpha Psi, Dam Change and the Black Student Union (BSU). He works at the Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center and he's a nationally ranked 174-pounder in OSU's wrestling lineup.

### "Everyone says, 'Make the world a better place,' but that's kind of what I want to do. I just want to spread love and help people be successful in life."

"Mateo is going to be the kind of person who changes the world for the better, and it's been a blessing to have him be part of our program," said Chris Pendleton, Beaver head wrestling coach.

"I don't know how he balances his time at such a high level, but he does it. You want to talk about somebody: a 4.0 student-athlete of the year, involved in multiple things on campus, a ton of charity work — and at the time being ranked top 15 in the country in his weight class, that's pretty amazing."

Olmos, who describes himself as a Black Mexican-American, grew up in the diverse setting of San Diego. He wasn't involved in social justice organizations back then, but the topic came up. As Oregon State recruited him, Olmos found a beautiful campus and a team of what struck him as pretty nice guys, including his recruiting hosts Devan Turner and Adam Rateb, both Black and from California.

However, his first year at OSU was "rough — it was definitely a culture shock for me." He felt isolated and cold in the winter in his dorm room, and he didn't feel a lot of connection to the general student population. He had never been around so many white people — particularly those from rural backgrounds whose limited interactions with Blacks could lead to a lack of understanding.

"I could just feel sometimes the uncomfort of maybe a guy like me coming into the space or just being in a class," Olmos said. "Not so much that they were treating me poorly, but just we're so different and I have no one to talk to, I just feel out of place."

OSU's Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center, one of several such centers at Oregon State, provided him with a respite and a growing sense of belonging. He began dropping into the BCC and he, Turner and Rateb attended events and BSU meetings there.

"I wasn't yet fully comfortable as a freshman; I was just kind of seeing what was going on and finding my niche," Olmos said. "But once I started to go and get more involved, I became well-acquainted and felt comfortable there."

One of the activities that attracted him was the Distinguished Scholars Initiative, aimed at encouraging male students from diverse backgrounds to focus on and be proud of academic excellence. It was founded by Jason Dorsette of OSU's Office of Diversity and Cultural Engagement, whom Olmos calls "one of the great mentors of my life." Dorsette has since been named Linn-Benton Community College's executive director of equity, diversity and inclusion.

Olmos was proud to share the 2022 Hooks Award with another of his mentors, Tarron Anderson of OSU's Office of Equal Opportunity and Access, who was also involved with the scholars initiative.

From the BCC. Olmos branched out into other activities, and his growing commitment to social justice has included frank conversations with teammates.

During his redshirt season, 2017-18, he heard things he "would consider not to be okay" in the wrestling room, but as a newcomer he wasn't sure how to address them. As he grew in the program, he tried to spark discussions around diversity and culture "in personal spaces - you know, go to their houses and just literally talking and hearing what they have to say.

"So that led to sometimes positive feedback and them literally saying, 'Hey, I never knew that' or 'Hey, I've been thinking about what you have to say and I agree with you.' Or I've gotten negative feedback: 'There's no way I'll ever believe that, there's no chance.' 'That's impossible.' Or just them giving me what they believe wholeheartedly. So, I've definitely tried to spark these conversations on my team."

Olmos' ultimate goal is to start a mentorship program for youth called "I Will be a Champion," incorporating the three A's of arts, athletics and academics.

"I want to do community programming, helping anyone I can: families, youth, homeless," Olmos said. "Some sort of social work in that aspect, or public health work. Everyone says, 'Make the world a better place,' but that's kind of what I want to do. I just want to spread love and help people be successful in life."

For the time being, there are still things he wants to accomplish at Oregon State.

"Every day I'm just thinking about how I can leave a positive impact here on this campus," Olmos said. "And how I can prepare the younger students, the freshmen and sophomores, to continue the work when I'm done." 🚁

### LIFE MEMBERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The new OSUAA life members listed below have made a lifetime commitment to help students and alumni of all ages connect to a network of more than 230,000 alumni and friends, where they'll have fun, find career help, get and give crucial advice, gain life skills, share experiences and give back to Beaver Nation. Will you join more than 7,000 life members? Find yourself on the list in the next Oregon Stater by joining or upgrading at ForOregonState.org/Join.

Kelly Denise Adams, '90 Robert Arthur Adams, '89 Erik Aften Shelley Rae Aften, '97 Emmanuel Buernor Agamloh, '06 Julia Jones Anderson, '75 Steven P. Anderson Karsten G. Balleby, '87 Kimberly J. Balleby Celeste Rae Barthel, '10 Rachael Marie Birken, '21 Adam Scott Bowles, '98

Kathryn N. Bowles, '98

David F. Decker, '20 Allison K. Dickerson, '04 Eric Bryan Dickerson, '04 Jacen Robert Doebler, '20 Charles C. Du Fault Jr., '99 Debra Lee Earley, '77 Jim V. Earley, '86 Brenda Kay Feldhousen, '86 Franklin Felizardo lackson Felizardo **Timothy Felling** Linda Groves Ferrell, '84 Susan E. Folden, '86

"I saw that you were looking to find out what our OSUAA membership means to us. For some time, it meant discounts and status. I lived near Corvallis and staying connected was easier because I could come to campus and talk to people and see the old sights. Now I live several hours away and the membership is my connection back to the OSU family, where I got my start. It means more now to me than it ever has because without it, I would be very disconnected from the university."

- George Long, '05, life member

David C. Brands, '77 Robert C. Byrne, '72 Roy M. Carlson Jr., '74 Keeley Baney Chan, '20 Doris Ohling Charles, '50 David L. Chin, '89 Allison Culver, '13 David L. Cummings, '73 Patrice D. Cummings Cory M. Cunningham, '93 Melissa Cunningham Shirley Diane Cyr, '78 Thomas E. Cyr

Terrance G. Folden Barbara Herron Fredenburg, '67 Edward Fredenburg, '68 Luella P. Fritz, '70 Sarah Garcia, '18 Gwen Gazeley Herb Gazeley, '73 Danielle R. Glover, '97 Robert Jeffrey Glover, '98 Alyssa M. Gordon, '13 Sean L. Gordon, '13 Ruth E. Gregg, '64 Kate M. Gribskov, '75

Keith A. Gustafson, '96 David Ky Hampton, '78 Kimberly M. Hampton Mary Jo Hampton, '79 Anna Hart Jonathan Perry Hart, '02 Cheryl Ann Hayes, '75 Clark Hayes, '72 Ricki V. Hermes, '66 Dustin James Hewitt, '99 Diana M. Hinatsu, '86 Stephen Hinkle, '18 Jodi Hoelscher Steve E. Hoelscher, '16 Dr. Thomas E. Houston, '02 Douglas S. Huestis, '76 David Ingham Brayden Christopher Johnson, '16 Megan Michelle Johnson, '16 Micaela Johnson, '21 Al Norris Kafader, '76 Carol Kafader Jon Martin Karl, '90 Matthew George Kerr, '16 Margaret Kieft Peter Koonce, '95 Susan Renee Koonce, '96 Lynn Kimura Kunishige, '85 Ray Kazuo Kunishige, '89 Vincent A. Lim Liping Liu, '16 Abigail Elizabeth Lyon, '19 Neil V. MacInnes, '74 Patricia R. MacInnes Kevin David McElhaney, '14 Robert L. McIntosh, '75 Laurie Meyer McKenna, '78 Maryann Frances Meredith Heather L. Merfeld, '21 Norman M. Michaels, '72 Jeanne Miller, '76 Olivia Grace Miller, '18 Steven Nicholas Morris, '21

Leslie L. Groves, '82

(List continues on page 55)

## **BEAVERS FOR LIFE**

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Bob Polich, '78

Dawn Pozzani

Brianna Li Brennan Prickett, '18 C. Carv Rea, '75 Cathy Reiner, '77 Molly Susan Ringo, '78 Sharon Hotchkiss Roesler, '73 Deborah M. Rosato, '75 Victor I. Rosato, '74 LeTracia Rose Dennis H. Rutledge, '71 Sharon Micka Rutledge, '72 Shawn L. Scoville Tamara V. Scoville Jean Fisher Shearer, '82

Kevin J. Shearer Stephen A. Shiflett, '68 Shelly H. Signs Joanne Dee Skinner, '76 Lori Jean Squire, '89

Dr. H. Clayton Stearns, '69 Patricia Stearns

Roy A. Stein, '71 Michael Stephenson, '18 Choeu Tran Sok Bun Tran Patricia Ibeth Vargas, '21 Katrina L. Vehrs-Hinkle, '18 Tricia Connors Voges, '92 Deborah Warner, '78 Bradley A. Wiens, '76 Frederick A. Willer, '70 Ian Willer Scott A. Williams, '74

Reed Daniel Wilson, '07 Dr. Vincent Lee Wilson, '80 Jessica D. Wolfer, '10 Nicholas Winn Wolfer, '12 Bonnie J. Wood, '75 James N. Woodcock, '62

Xiangyu Yan

Amber Masaye Yonamine, '17

#### **PASSINGS • ALUMNI**

Elnor Levina Alkio '39, Pendleton Dean Lauderback '41, Turner Glen Ernest Bredemeier '42, Portland Alpha Tau Omega

Malcolm L. Fleming '42, Bloomington IN Jeanne Hardy '43, Portland Kappa Kappa Gamma

Alice Wiesendanger Jacobson '43, Eugene Kappa Alpha Theta

Paul E. Northrop'44, Pasadena CA Sigma Phi Epsilon

Mary Patricia Vernier '44, Portland Kappa Alpha Theta

Milton Howard Johnson '45, Vancouver WA

Helen Wright Merck '45, La Grande Pi Beta Phi

Lillian Adams '46, Portland Jerry Lou Hawkins '46, Spokane WA Карра Карра Gamma

Kathryn Wassam '46, Colfax WA Sigma

Wallace B. Hayes '47, Portland James W. Ogle '47, Lakeview Alpha Tau

Buena Washburn '47, Salem Sigma Kappa Mildred Louise Elder '48, Corvallis Zeta Tau Alpha

James H. Klann '48, Dallas Alpha Gamma

Dorothy Withers Ogle '48, Lakeview

Delta Delta Delta

Barbara Bassett Piroutek '48, Albany John David Rowell '48 '50, Sacramento CA Phi Gamma Delta

Richard Leroy Slocum '48, Mountain View CA Theta Xi

William Harvey Klein '49, Portland Kappa Sigma

Gerald E. Morgan '49, Bend Sigma Alpha

Walter Greiff Schroeder '49, Dallas Donald R. Walker '49, Portland Phi Delta

Janet Saucerman Balmer '50, Portland Delta Gamma

Charles James Bullock Jr. '50, Auburn WA Ruth Young Cordon '50, Portland Sigma Карра

Carol J. Dillon '50, Eureka CA Alpha Xi

Theodore J. Langton II '50, Corvallis Alpha Tau Omega

Robert C. Lutton '50, Bartlesville OK Sigma Phi Epsilon

Robert K. McIntyre Sr. '50, Albany Harry Herbert Moore '50, Marquette MI James G. Palmer '50, Eugene Sigma Nu June Reiman '50, Portland

Wilford D. Rock '50, Cloverdale Alpha Gamma Rho

Mary Edwards Romig '50, Eagle ID

Edward G. Stauber '50, Bend Cherry D. Taylor '50, Springfield Ernest Will Templin '50, Medford Theta

Kendall A. Adams '51, Medford Delta Tau

George E. Crandall '51 '61, Troutdale Mary Frances Dallas '51, Meridian ID Marjorie E. English '51, Eugene Neil Thorvald Gribskov '51, Beaverton Theta Xi

John R. Holmquist '51, Vancouver WA John R. Oakley '51, Vista CA Phi Delta Theta

Roger L. Robertson '51, Orlando FL Pi Kappa Alpha

Bill Lee Rose '51, Woodburn Ella Lee Ross '51, Little Rock AR Alpha Chi Omega

Alan Hayes Selby '51, Santa Rosa CA William H. Sims '51, Roseburg Elaine Nadine Skidmore '51, Bend Kappa Delta

Elaine Mickelson Stamm '51, Tucson AZ Kappa Alpha Theta

Bryan Ninde Stebbins '51, Kailua Kona HI Martin E. Thompson '51, Albany Marian L. Williams '51, Meridian ID Alpha Chi Omega

Janice Ann Houston '52, San Marcos CA Sigma Kappa

Garvin L. Jabusch '52, Newcastle CA Chi

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William M. Mosby '52, Buellton CA Sigma

Mary Jean Webb '52, Palm Desert CA Карра Карра Gamma

Donald R. Wiley '52, Kent WA Kappa Delta Rho

Donald James Baker '53, Sun City West AZ Phi Kappa Tau

Bonnie Wendt Bitney '53, Palm Desert CA Alpha Omicron Pi

Dorothy Johnson Erickson '53, Great Falls MT Chi Omega

Phyllis Ann Goebel '53, Klamath Falls Delta Zeta

Richard Edwin Hodges '53, Mountlake Terrace WA

Donald F. Keene '53, Pewaukee WI Theta Xi

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W. Wesley Hylen '54, Mission Viejo CA William Alfred Kittredge '54, Missoula MT Phi Delta Theta

John Tucker Malarkey '54, United Kingdom

Sam Millazzo '54, Carson City NV Pearl A. Moranda '54, Phoenix AZ William A. North '54, Fort Collins CO John R. Perrott '54, New Braunfels TX Phi Delta Theta

Edward L. Petersen '54, Warrenton VA Joan Sharon Rydman '54, Santa Barbara CA Kappa Alpha Theta

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Charles Wallace Woosley '54, Corvallis Charles D. Zimmerman '54' 62, Tacoma WA Siama Chi

L. Burton Zurcher '54, Oregon City Delta Sigma Phi

Wayne Elton Arens '55, Glendale CA Gordon R. Aune '55, Pleasanton CA Alpha Tau Omega

Don L. Bales '55, Gerrardstown WV Wallace L. Bischoff '55, Milwaukie Don C. Clark '55, Madison NJ Phi Kappa

Mary Ruth Cox '55, Redwood City CA John A. Findlay '55, San Jose CA Dwight F. French '55, Livingston TX Paul A. Hammack '55, Bellevue WA Kappa Delta Rho

Howard F. Horton '55, Corvallis Theodore P. Jacob '55, Tillamook Sigma Chi

Kathleen Kelly '55, Simi Valley CA Delta Gamma

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Kaija Lietuvietis '55, Des Moines WA Nancy Jane Lingle '55, Hermiston Patricia Daum Montgomery '55,

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John Louis Stephenson '55' 60, Portland Robert L. Stockhoff '55, Wishram WA Harvey Tenny '55, Kennewick WA Joan Rintoul Wade '55, Condon Alpha Chi Omega

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Frank Lloyde Messersmith '56, Cupertino CA

Alene Moulton '56, Corvallis Ben W. Pankratz '56, Missoula MT Janet Gray Paul '56' 63, Bend Pi Beta Phi, Pi Kappa Phi

Luther Tompkins Wallace Jr. '56, Berkeley CA

Laque Warren Youngblood '56, Longview WA Kappa Sigma

George H. Ascherl '57, Elmira Phi Kappa

Vija Lietuvietis Birnbaums '57, Bellevue WA Delta Zeta

Harding G. V. Carlson '57, Tualatin Frank Dale Christensen '57 '72, Corvallis Kappa Delta Rho

David P. Estergard '57, Olympia WA Alpha Gamma Rho

Robert E. Fullerton '57, Escondido CA Jerry Leroy Jarvis '57, Thousand Oaks CA Pi Kappa Alpha

Benjamin Wing Lei '57 '60 '63, Steamboat Springs CO

Donald Lokke MacKinnon Jr. '57 '58, Juneau AK Acacia

Tom Neal '57, Eugene

Truman James Robnett '57, Camarillo CA William T. Schattenkerk '57, Winston Janet Elizabeth Sims '57, Seattle WA John S. Walker '57, Avondale AZ Delta Chi Robert W. Arndorfer '58, Troutdale Beta Theta Pi

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James E. Folston Jr. '58, Soquel CA Phi Delta Theta

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Gerald W. Harte '58, Dayton OH Kappa Delta Rho

Brad M. Imano '58, Kapaa HI Arthur Madison Imel '58 '60, Nampa ID Charles N. Iseri '58, Hilo HI

Molly Hanavan Keudell '58, Portland Карра Карра Gamma

Robert Joseph Leduc '58, 'Nanaimo BC Canada

James C. Lundy '58, Coeur D Alene ID Alpha Kappa Lambda

Glenn Allen Miller '58, Fresno CA Lola Lavera Pike '58. Denver CO John A. Roedel Sr. '58, Richland WA Hugh P. Stanley '58' 61, Friday Harbor

Russell James Walls '58, Portland John R. Winchell '58, College Place WA Virginia E. Bender '59, Seattle WA Warren Z. Biden '59, Portland Lambda Chi Alpha

Darrell George Brackenbrough '59 '73, Bayamon PR

Barbara Joanne Broadhurst '59, Milwaukie Kappa Delta

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Norman Frederick Kujala '59 '66, Warrenton

Richard M. Lumenello '59, Cuyahoga Falls OH Sigma Nu

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Reinard Bryan Okeson '59, Portland James M. Reiser '59, Stayton Wallace Wesley Riehle '59 '64, Palmer

John Seaders '59 '63, Corvallis Edward George Shelley '59, Ashland Sharon Beauvais Sickler '59' 60, Lake Oswego

Floyd Madison Stout '59' 60, Alsea Arthur C. Thomas '59, Bend Susan Westcott '59, Portland Victor L. White Jr. '59, Corvallis Kappa

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Leslie Fairchild Ludwig '60, Lake Havasu City AZ Alpha Phi

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James Gowlan Wells '68, Hood River Theodore William Zahn '68, Aberdeen

William Ernest Albright Jr. '69 '71,

Paul Wendell Chilcote '69 '70, Seattle

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Andrew Thomas Beitel '97, Colville WA Melissa Jane Gray '99, Portland Kappa Карра Gатта

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Jessica Marie Bell '06, Williamsburg VA Michael Dennis Lemke '08, Gold Beach James Andrew Bickers '09, Redmond John A. Wallace '10, Idaho Falls ID Diana Marie Edwards '13, Beaverton Sigma Kappa

Curtis Blank '15 '17, Prineville Tricia J. Sebald '17, Colorado Springs CO Anja J. Sjostrom '20, Corvallis Tabitha Blair Melbourne FL

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#### RECOGNITIONS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Broken Top Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals, which strives to prevent workplace injuries in central and eastern Oregon, has honored four OSU alumni with awards. Included are:



Reva Hartenstein, '15, received the National Safety Council Rising Stars of Safety Award. She is a senior safety management consultant with SAIF Corporation, with a broad service area in Northeastern Oregon.



Scott Brown, '83, received the Juniper Award from the Central Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Association (COSHA). The award is given to an outstanding safety team or individual for making a significant contribution to the industry and community. Brown is a Senior Safety Management Consultant with SAIF Corporation, serving Central and Eastern Oregon.





David McClung, '10, has been named Safety Professional of the Year by the Broken Top Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals. He is safety manager for Deschutes Brewing in Bend, and was singled out for advancing safety practices among his fellow professionals in the region.

Cory Stengel, '87, has received the Peak Leadership Award from the American Society of Safety Professionals, Broken Top Chapter. A senior industrial hygiene consultant for Oregon OSHA in Central Oregon, he was selected for his many years of service as a safety leader in the region.

#### **RECOGNITIONS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS**



Ric Campo, '76, chairman of the Port Commission of the Port of Houston Authority, has been named 2022 Maritime Leader of the Year by the Greater Houston Port Bureau, "for his steadfast commitment to improving the greater Houston port region."

Campo will be honored at the Port Bureau's annual Maritime Dinner on August 20, 2022.

The Houston Ship Channel is the nation's busiest waterway. Campo was appointed as chairman of the Port Commission, which oversees Port Houston, in January 2019. He is chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Camden Property Trust and also serves on the board of directors of several organizations that focus on the economic development, business outlook and future growth of Houston. He also was chairman of the Houston Super Bowl LI Host Committee.



Edward J. Smith, M.S. '90, Ph.D. '92, received the 2021 Genetics Society of America Elizabeth W. Jones Award for Excellence in Education, in recognition of his highly successful mentoring programs at Virginia Tech.

Smith grew up in Sierra Leone and has six older brothers who also have doctorates. He was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2020.

He is renowned for his research, especially advancing understanding of the genetics of turkeys, and for helping students from historically excluded and underrepresented groups become successful scientists. To learn more about his career, visit genestogenomes.org/2021-jones-award-edward-j-smith.

## BEAVER PARENTS

Join us for Spring Family Weekend | April 29 to May 1

Celebrate your extended Beaver family during a weekend designed for you:

- » Network with other parents and families.
- » Learn more about university resources.
- » Support student success.

Plus, discover a great way to become more involved with your student's school life: the Parent and Family Advisory Council. First meeting is during Spring Family Weekend.

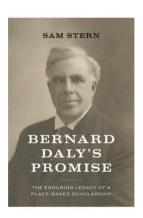


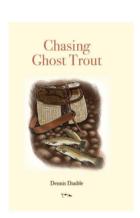
Engage with us: For Oregon State.org/Parents



## In print: Notable books by Beavers, friends







Air Force Ace (Mascot Books), by Katie Nelson Marcucci, '07, is a children's book that employs a fanciful tail of a stowaway pet dog to help younger members of military families understand what's happening when a parent must leave home for an extended deployment. Marcucci's husband, Logan Marcucci, '07, is a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force.

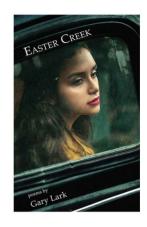
Bernard Daly's Promise: The Enduring Legacy of a Place-Based Scholarship (OSU Press), by Sam Stern, professor and dean emeritus of education at Oregon State, examines the impact of a scholarship endowed by Daly, who was the town doctor in Lakeview, a state legislator, Oregon Agricultural College regent, county judge, rancher and banker. When he died in 1920, his estate, valued at about a million dollars, established a college scholarship for the youth of Lake County, ensuring that most of them could attend college. Today, Lake County students are much more likely to go to college, graduate in four years without debt, go on to graduate school, have successful careers and contribute to the larger community.

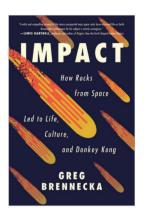
Chasing Ghost Trout: Heartfelt Tales of a Fishing Life (FishHead Press), by Dennis Dauble, '72, Ph.D. '88, shares the events and people that shaped his love for wild trout and the streams of Oregon's Blue Mountains.

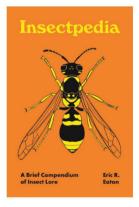
Easter Creek (Main Street Rag), by Gary Lark, '72, is a collection of poems which, in the words of Oregon Book Award winner Ingrid Wendt, "honors working-class friends, neighbors and strangers whose folkways and inner complexities revolve around each other in the hills of southwest Oregon."

Impact: How Rocks from Space Led to Life, Culture, and Donkey Kong (HarperCollins), by Greg Brennecka, M.S. '06, argues that Earth would be a lifeless, inhospitable piece of rock without being fortuitously assaulted with meteorites throughout the history of the planet. These bombardments transformed Earth's early atmosphere and delivered the complex organic molecules that allowed life to develop on our planet.

Insectpedia: A Brief Compendium of Insect Lore (Princeton University Press), by Eric Eaton, '83, celebrates the long and storied history of entomology, highlights our dependence on insects for food and ecosystem services and explains the meaning behind various entomological terms. It features dozens of entries on topics ranging from murder hornets and the "insect apocalypse" to pioneering entomologists, dispelling many common myths about insects while offering new perspectives on the vital relationships humans share with these incredible creatures.









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Rewarding rural responsibility

Through thoughtful estate planning, Nancy, '71, and V. Kent Searles, '71, have created endowed scholarships in the colleges of Agricultural Sciences and Public Health and Human Sciences for students with financial need, especially those from Eastern Oregon. Kent notes that kids who work on farms grow up fast. "We want to allow those kids with responsibilities but without the resources the opportunity to get an education," he says.

They started their scholarships with annual gifts of cash — for an immediate impact — then made plans to endow the scholarships through their estate — creating a permanent legacy. Recently, they elected to fund one of their endowments now, through a tax-wise gift of appreciated stock.

You might be surprised to find out how easy it is to join the Searles in making a difference for students.

What will your legacy be? Learn more by requesting our free estate planning series.





