Portland State Magazine

Portland State University. Office of University Communications

Follow this and additional works at: https://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/psu_magazine

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation
Portland State University. Office of University Communications, "Portland State Magazine" (2016).
Portland State Magazine. 20.
https://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/psu_magazine/20

This Book is brought to you for free and open access. It has been accepted for inclusion in Portland State Magazine by an authorized administrator of PDXScholar. Please contact us if we can make this document more accessible: pdxscholar@pdx.edu.
Join us at pdx.edu/alumni

Here are some of the benefits you will find

Stay connected to Campus Rec, the library, and the Bike Hub with special alumni memberships.

Find travel and insurance discounts through our partner pages.

Receive career and professional development advice through our free online career community for alumni and students. We feature live webinars each month and offer an archive of past career presentations.

Becoming a member of the PSU Alumni Association is the easiest way to maintain a connection to Portland State University and our community of over 150,000 alumni worldwide. Membership is free! Just sign up online at pdx.edu/alumni/join-now to unlock a host of benefits and services.
FROM THE PRESIDENT
Time for a new chapter

LETTERS
That’s me
Outdoor Program memories
Challenging high school students
More public art

PARK BLOCKS
Calling all Uber entrepreneurs
The draw of bigger cities
Campus is buzzing
Testing for toxins

Hard hats needed
You want Figaro with that?
$1.2 million to help the blind
The hidden hazards of cycling

FANFARE
Wearing Portland State of Mind
Filming the refugee experience
Schnitzer students put art on display
New Works

GIVING
Investing in innovation

ALUMNI
Painting a brighter world
Alumni in the news

ATHLETICS
New branding for winning program

LOOKING BACK
70 years ago, our first student newspaper

Features

THE SPARK OF LIFE
Chemist Niles Lehman is searching for how it all began.

CULTURE CHALLENGE
For Korean immigrant parents, supporting their children in American schools can be a confusing and difficult task.

YEARBOOK COLLECTION GOES ONLINE
Viking yearbooks from 1947 to 1978 and 1989 to 1995 are available on the PSU Library website.

AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO PUBLIC HEALTH
Dr. David Bangsberg is leading the new OHSU-PSU School of Public Health.

HONORING THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND
For 30 years, Enid Traisman has counseled people through the grief of losing their pets.

ON THE COVER
Life on Earth may have begun when molecules—including those delivered by meteorites—found themselves drawn to each other. See story on page 10. Illustration by Chris Butler/Science Source.

Come to campus for fun, free and low-cost events; see list on pages 14-15
WHEN I ACCEPTED the appointment as Portland State president back in 2008, a friend told me, “You know Wim, this isn't a job, it’s a life.” I have to say he was absolutely right.

And what a life it has been! Leading this dynamic and wonderful—and yes, sometimes a bit quirky—University has been an exhilarating, humbling and all-consuming experience.

So it was with mixed emotions that I announced in July that I am stepping down at the end of the upcoming academic year. I gave what amounts to a year's notice to allow the PSU Board of Trustees ample time to conduct a national search for my replacement. I am confident they will find someone who will keep the University moving forward. In the meantime, however, I plan to be as involved as ever in the day-to-day operations of PSU and in laying the groundwork for its successful future.

I have a long list of goals for my final year as president, but three stand out as key priorities.

**The College Affordability and Success Coalition.** This innovative group, formed between influential business leaders and Portland State, has set its sights on coming up with $25 million each year in regional and other funding for PSU scholarships and student support. In my last letter, I described a proposed regional business payroll tax that would provide annual funding for PSU. This coalition replaces that effort, and it is my goal to have a plan well under way before I leave.

**Increased private giving.** With the PSU Foundation under the new and capable leadership of William Boldt, we are moving forward with our $300 million comprehensive campaign. For PSU to thrive, we need to significantly increase our endowment.

**Our five-year roadmap.** What I liked best about the development of our new strategic plan was the intense campuswide spirit of collaboration that went into it. I’m seeing that same spirit as we have taken our first steps in carrying out the plan.

After I retire as president, I will take a yearlong sabbatical, then return as faculty in the College of Urban and Public Affairs. Alice and I have loved our time in Oregon and plan to remain active in the state, in Portland and at PSU.

We are proud of what we accomplished these past eight years, but mostly we are thankful for this amazing opportunity to get to know so many friends and supporters among the alumni, faculty, staff, students and community leaders. The collective effort by all of you continues to build PSU’s reputation and importance in this region. There’s still much to be done, and we look forward to staying involved.

Go Viks!

Wim Wiewel
PRESIDENT, PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY
That’s me

When I turned to the last page (“Looking Back,” spring 2016 Portland State Magazine), I was stunned. That is me in the picture, second from the left.

One of my good friends, Dave Kuchler, is shown on the very bottom of the picture. During my four years at PSU, I had many climbing and kayaking adventures with the Outdoor Program.

The picture brought back a flood of great memories, including meeting my wife, Paula, in the program office in 1971. In that picture, I was barely 19 years old. Needless to say the program was a very important part of my PSC/PSU experience. Trips with Sam McKinney were always great adventures. Sam and the Outdoor Program gave us students experiences that have laid the groundwork for a lifetime of outdoor adventures.

Glen Kirkpatrick ’72

Outdoor Program memories

So the latest edition of Portland State Magazine arrived in my mailbox, and I’m looking through it and arrive at the inside back cover… hello! I recognize that photo. The student in the middle is Glen Kirkpatrick, and the one in the right-hand corner is Joseph Beattie. I think that the climber is Jon Marshall. However, the date and location listed in the article are incorrect.

This photo was taken at the first workshop, as stated in the article, but that was in 1968 (not 1969), at Horsethief Butte State Park on the Washington side of the Columbia Gorge, just east of The Dalles, and involved only the PSU Outdoor Program, then a fairly small group. The workshop held at Smith Rock in 1969 was a second, much larger event, held in conjunction with the Outdoor Program at Oregon State, and it included Gil Leaf, who was then with Outward Bound.

Thank you very much for the article. It was an exceedingly pleasant surprise that brought back a number of sunburned memories.

Ellen (Sandberg) Cameron ’71

Challenging high school students

I thoroughly enjoyed the article on Senior Inquiry (“Inquiring Minds”) in the spring 2016 Portland State Magazine. There is also another dual-credit [high school-University] program at PSU, Challenge. Started 40 years ago, it is the longest running dual-credit program in Oregon, one of the oldest in the nation, and the only Oregon dual-credit program that has national accreditation. A complement to Senior Inquiry, Challenge targets accelerated students, offering lower-division, catalog-listed courses in computer science, math, history, English, world languages, and honors at 20 area high schools, serving approximately 1,200 students.

Our news writing class at Grant High School has won the Columbia Scholastic Press Association’s Gold Crown Award the past two years, and our annual Young Historians Conference honors and awards exceptional historical research and writing. Winning papers are submitted to PSU’s digital repository, PDXScholar, leveraging access to this scholarly work globally.

Together, Senior Inquiry and The Challenge Program bring opportunity and the best of PSU to area high school seniors.

Sally Hudson ’75
Director of High School Programs
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Portland State University

More public art

I really enjoyed seeing the public art from PSU alumni (“Art Connection”) in the spring magazine. I also noticed your request for alumni to contact the magazine in case you overlooked their public art. I attended PSU from 1972 to 1976 and studied with James Lee Hanson, Mel Katz, Don Wilson and many others.

I am a stone carver and currently have a piece on display in Lake Oswego (pictured here) plus three animal relief sculptures—Wolf, Bear and Musk Ox—in the Oregon Zoo’s Alaska Tundra Exhibit. I recently had a show at the Lan Su Chinese Garden in Northwest Portland. I have been a member of the Portland Art Museum Rental Sales Gallery for a long time and currently have work there. The city of Salem purchased one of my tall basalt sculptures and it is in the sculpture garden outside of the Salem Convention Center. Keep up the good work.

Dave Haslett
www.orcastone.com
Calling all Uber entrepreneurs

SAMUEL BRACKEEN IV drives for Uber in Portland two or three days a week, but his real passion is Workout Bunnies LLC, a social network and app that he founded to connect people with fitness partners. The University’s Business Outreach Program is collaborating with Uber and Portland WeWork office space to help driver-entrepreneurs like Brackeen. Their joint effort, called UberEntrepreneur, includes business development workshops with Business Outreach staff, followed by a competition to win a $10,000 grant from Uber. Brackeen’s app was recently released for Android and iOS, and he plans to take part in the Uber grant competition. Portlanders may catch an Uber ride with him most Friday and Saturday nights.

The draw of bigger cities

IS PORTLAND really the place where young people go to retire? According to “Talent on the Move,” a new report from Portland State urban studies researchers, migration of the young and college-educated to the nation’s largest cities has surged by nearly 40 percent since the Great Recession of 2007-2009. In recent years, the top five destinations for people 25 to 39 with at least a bachelor’s degree were, in descending order: Houston, Austin, Seattle, San Francisco-Oakland and Atlanta. Portland came in sixth. The report found that economic opportunity and quality of life serve as unmistakable draws to the nation’s largest metro areas, and young people are willing to pay higher rent to live in places they like.
A SMALL orchard on the western edge of campus, planted by students in 2011, has thousands of new guests: bees. This past spring, the Student Sustainability Center installed an apiary among the young fruit trees and flowering plants that will host as many as 100,000 bees. The project began with one nest box for Mason bees (Northwest natives that pollinate but don’t make honey), followed by two hives for Carniolan and Italian honeybees. Bees and other pollinators play an essential role in nearly one-third of our food crops, but in recent years bee populations have been declining at alarming rates. The apiary, tended by volunteers, will bring both ecological benefits and educational opportunities.

Testing for toxins

IN FEBRUARY, a U.S. Forest Service study of moss samples revealed unhealthy levels of arsenic and cadmium in the air in Southeast Portland, shown in maps such as this one from the Multnomah County Health Department. The alarming report has prompted a new research project in the PSU Institute for Sustainable Solutions. Institute faculty and students in partnership with the city of Portland and Multnomah County will conduct in-depth testing for heavy metals in at least six sites around the metro area for the next two years. They will gather and analyze samples of air, soil, moss and possibly indoor surfaces. Initial results of the study, including maps, will be available in early 2017, with final reports delivered in July 2018.

Estimated cadmium concentrations

- Below 0.6 (Cancer risk < 1 in 1 million)
- 0.6-5 (Cancer risk 1 to 9 in 1 million)
- 5-10 (Cancer risk 9 to 20 in 1 million)
- 10-30 (Cancer risk 20 to 50 in 1 million)
- Above 30 (Cancer risk >50 in 1 million)

Nanograms per cubic meter
Hard hats needed

THE RENOVATION and expansion of the School of Business Administration building, now known as the Karl Miller Center, continues in the heart of campus. Slated to open in fall 2017, the $60 million project will triple the size of the old space. Meanwhile, the outdated Peter W. Stott athletics facility on the Park Blocks is getting a $50 million renovation to turn it into the Viking Pavilion and Academic Center. When complete in March 2018 the building will include 15,000 square feet for studying, tutoring and advising and a new 3,000-seat arena. Breaking ground next year is a long overdue remodel of Neuberger Hall and its 37 classrooms, 18 labs and student service offices. Hacker Architects is designing the $60 million project.

You want Figaro with that?

INSPIRED by Portland’s food-cart culture, the PSU School of Architecture and Portland Opera have teamed up to create Opera a la Cart, an elegant movable performance cart. Students modified a standard box truck, adding a foldout stage, an overhead shelter, vertical columns suggesting a proscenium arch, and storage for set pieces. This summer the cart traveled to community events and gathering spots all over Portland to offer a “menu” of operatic specials du jour. Audiences could order bite-size arias, duets and ensemble pieces sung by singers from Portland Opera’s chorus, Resident Artists Program and guest artists. Opera a la Cart was such a hit that it will be back again next summer. Photo by Jonathan Ley.
$1.2 million to help the blind

BLIND and visually impaired students need practical training on how to navigate around their homes, workplaces and communities, but there is a growing shortage of educators trained to teach those skills, especially in rural areas. In April, the U.S. Department of Education awarded Portland State a $1.2 million grant to develop courses on how to teach orientation and mobility. Over the next five years, PSU will certify 38 new mobility specialists, who will also receive financial aid through the grant. This builds upon an existing program in the University’s Graduate School of Education that prepares teachers of students with visual impairments.

The hidden hazards of cycling

CYCLISTS GET many health benefits from riding their bikes rather than driving a car, but they can also be exposed to toxins—particularly in high-traffic areas. A Portland State study, published in *Environmental Science & Technology*, found that cyclists can inhale up to twice the concentration of air pollution on high-traffic streets than on low-traffic streets. The study also showed that separated bicycle paths and low-traffic routes can significantly reduce exposure concentrations, and that cyclists can reduce their pollution uptake by detouring as little as one to two blocks, from major boulevards to parallel, low-volume streets.
WEARING PORTLAND STATE OF MIND  Asked to portray Portland as cool, alumnus Rory Phillips '09 drew the back of a leather jacket covered with patches representing the city’s young and hip values. His art will be used in this year’s annual Portland State of Mind celebration. Phillips, a Portland-based designer, illustrator, printmaker and animator, teaches advanced illustration at PSU. “I love to share my passion for design and illustration with students,” he says. T-shirts, totes, posters and coffee mugs with Phillips’ design are for sale online at www.pdx.edu/shop. See the many events that make up Portland State of Mind on pages 14-15. See more of Phillips’ work at www.gogopicnic.com.
Filming the refugee experience

**STUDENT** Paul Newman is filming a refugee family from the moment they step off the plane through their following eight months in the United States. A junior in film studies, Newman won $10,000 from PSU to make the documentary as the first recipient of the Andries Deinum Prize for Visionaries and Provocateurs. The Deinum prize is named after the late pioneering film educator, who founded and directed the Center for Moving Image at PSU from 1969 to 1981. Grateful former students, colleagues and others inspired by Deinum’s values established the prize. Through the documentary, Newman hopes to counter stereotypes about refugees and show the personal side of an issue that is often reduced to statistics and sound bites.

Schnitzer students put art on display

**ART THAT REVEALS** the relationship between individuals and their surrounding world influences the work of this year’s winners of the Arlene Schnitzer Visual Arts Prize at PSU. MFA students Renee Sills and Roz Crews and alumnus Kyle Lee MFA ’16 will exhibit their work Oct. 3-21 in Autzen Gallery, 205 Neuberger Hall. Sills’ *How to Dance Like a Boss*, a participatory art piece pictured here, uses live performances and responsive technologies and video. Crews also creates site-specific projects that require audience participation. Lee is a painter who celebrates everyday absurdities in his pieces. Autzen gallery is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A reception and awards ceremony for the winning artists is scheduled from 4 to 6 p.m. Oct. 13 in the gallery.

**New Works**

**HOW TO TALK TO (ALMOST) ANYONE ABOUT (ALMOST) ANYTHING**
By Elaine Cogan, Vanport alumna, Wise Fool Press, 2016

**CASSIE AND JASPER: KIDNAPPED CATTLE**
By Bryn Fleming ’90, WestWinds Press, 2016

**HOPTOPIA: A WORLD OF AGRICULTURE AND BEER IN OREGON’S WILLAMETTE VALLEY**
By Peter A. Kopp MA ’04, University of California Press, 2016

**EXPLORERS OF THE MARITIME PACIFIC NORTHWEST**
By William L. Lang (history emeritus faculty) and James V. Walker, ABC-CLIO, 2016

**CANDY CIGARETTES**
Digital album by Lane Mueller ’16, badcamp, 2016

**VANPORT: IMAGES OF AMERICA**
By Zita Podany ’85, MS ’92, Arcadia Publishing, 2016

**THE QUIRKY LANDLORD’S ROMP, WRANGLE, & WARBLE**
By Clancy Rohring (Mary Ann Jayne MA ’72), CreateSpace, 2016

**ABOVE**
By Roland Smith (attended in early 1970s), Scholastic Press, 2016

**GLIMPSE OF ME IN 30 POEMS**
By Beenish Zia MS ’11, CreateSpace, 2016
The way chemistry professor Niles Lehman sees it, life on Earth began somewhat like a tornado. The chemical soup that existed on the young planet four billion years ago was made up of simple structures that, alone, were devoid of life. But they found themselves drawn to other chemicals, forming networks that became increasingly complex and, ultimately, self-replicating. Like a tornado, the forces of attraction built on themselves to form something powerful.
“The origin of life was almost certainly something like that,” he says. “You had the right conditions for molecules to start aggregating and reacting, causing more reactions and leading to a runaway event. In the case of a tornado, it’s a wind funnel. In the case of life, it’s a replicative system.”

Lehman, who has been working on the science behind the origins of life for nearly 20 years, recently received a $600,000 grant from the John Templeton Foundation as part of its mission to answer “Big Questions” in science—the basic forces, concepts, and realities governing the universe and humankind’s place in the universe.

Lehman’s approach is different from conventional thinking about life origins in which a single molecular accident became the spark from which all subsequent life flowed. Lehman believes that multitudes of events happened, all involving chemical attractions and the networks they formed.

“My approach is new, which is why I got funded,” Lehman says. “I think the key is network cooperation. The question is when and how do these chemicals become life?”

Lehman is testing his theory on RNA molecules, which play an essential role in life, but only if they’re paired with other molecules. His previous work demonstrated that RNA molecules can form simple triangles. His newest research will build on that to see if they can create complex networks.

Doing so involves the daily pipetting of solutions containing strands of RNA from one test tube to another, week in and week out, and measuring how they react with each other. The process is unglamorous, says Lehman, but that’s what you have to do to answer the question mankind has been asking itself for millennia: where did we come from?

THE ORIGIN and evolution of genetic code has been an interest of Lehman’s since he was a chemistry undergrad at University of California – Berkeley in the early 1980s.

“How did organisms settle on this one particular genetic code? The fact that every living thing uses the same code is strong evidence that all life shared a common ancestry,” he says.

His other inspiration was his mother, who was interested in the creation myths of different cultures and shared that interest with her son. Just about every culture has a creation myth. Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden is just one of hundreds.

“If you think about it, the creation myth that we scientists think about is the chemical origins of life,” Lehman says, explaining that in the beginning there was just chemistry, and at some point chemistry became biology.

“Once I thought of it in that way, I thought I’d be pretty lucky to study that,” he says.

MUCH OF Lehman’s research during his career has been funded by NASA, which began a broad-based effort to learn about life beyond Earth soon after it was established in 1958. Space has been a factor in the origins of life discussion for decades. Scientists believe that much of the Earth’s water could have come from passing near the tails of comets, which are essentially big balls of ice. And, Lehman says, organic materials—the building blocks of life—may have been delivered by meteorites.

“People have detected amino acids and nucleotides on meteorites, as well as sugars, lipids and all kinds of things we associate with life,” he says.

If life originated once that organic material reached Earth, it could have easily been snuffed out by the bombardment of more meteorites, which happened constantly in the planet’s early existence. What most likely happened, he says, is that life started and was exterminated several times before it finally took hold.

“That’s why I always say the ‘origins’ of life rather than the ‘origin’ of life, because it probably happened multiple times.

That’s not to say life itself came from outer space, just some of the building blocks. But the idea was batted around with some seriousness in the 1960s, when scientists found themselves stumped by the chemistry of life puzzle. One theory, espoused by Nobel Prize-winning scientist Francis Crick, proposed that life originated elsewhere and was purposely spread by an advanced extraterrestrial civilization.

“Nobody really knows if he was joking, but it came at a time when scientists were stuck,” Lehman says. “A lot of people still talk about it, but serious people in the origins field don’t.”

For one thing, scientists are less stuck now. They’re closing in on what likely happened when the Earth was “only” about 500 million years old—a time when the atmosphere was made up of nitrogen, ammonia, carbon dioxide and methane. There’s considerable agreement about what happened, even among scientists who disagree about “how.”

“We’re pretty close to having a unified theory. We’ll never know the answer for sure; you’d have to have a time machine for that,” he says. “The best we can do is come up with a plausible sequence of events. If we did, then I think we would have accomplished something very important for humanity.”

John Kirkland is a staff member in the PSU Office of University Communications.
JUNGHEE LEE knew she had tapped into something revealing when the parents she was interviewing started getting intensely personal. Speakers would begin by saying, “Well, this happened to a friend of mine,” then let go with emotion-filled stories about what it’s like to be a Korean immigrant parent, trying to raise and educate children in a new country without understanding the language, the mores, the popular culture.

And, for the first time, someone was listening.

“I was surprised to hear the depths of their struggle,” Lee says. “Because whenever I met with school representatives, the common message I heard was Koreans don’t have any problems. Korean kids are very good. They’re model students.”

But the story I heard in the focus groups was very different.”

An associate professor in Portland State’s high-ranking School of Social Work, Lee led a team of researchers to study the challenges faced by Korean-American immigrant parents and how to help overcome them. The results, published in the *Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies*, could have far-reaching impact, not just for Koreans but also for other Asian immigrants facing similar obstacles.
The study revealed a number of findings. Despite high levels of education, Korean immigrants often are ill-equipped to navigate U.S. school systems because of deep cultural differences. Koreans, like other immigrant groups, need culturally appropriate assistance as they adjust their way of looking at schools and their own family dynamics. Special education resource rooms or English-as-a-second-language classes aren’t always best for new Korean students, even if they’re not yet fluent in English.

Jenny Kim, past president and founder of the Korean American Coalition of Oregon, said Lee’s research not only confirms the experience of many in her organization, it also could go a long way to help others understand the challenges they sometimes face.

Korean mothers bear most of the responsibility for overseeing their children’s education, a role they take seriously.

KOREAN CULTURE, with its Confucian influence, more strictly defined gender roles and more structured school system, can make it difficult for new immigrants to adapt, Kim says. Korean schools, for example, sort students by aptitude—some are tracked into high-level math and sciences, while others go into more vocational studies.

That doesn’t happen as much in U.S. schools, she says, “and that can cause some frustration” for Korean parents. “They don’t think the schools are pushing their kids enough.”

The results from Lee’s focus groups, Kim says, could help open doors between school counselors and parents.

Lee, who is Korean, says she wasn’t sure what to expect when she first advertised for focus group participants. As a culture, Koreans are known to be reserved about personal matters. Getting them to speak candidly, she worried, could prove problematic. It didn’t take long, however, for the mothers and fathers to open up.

“They wanted me to hear their experience,” Lee says. “One by one, I would hear, ‘This is what is happening. You need to know.’”

There were stories of mothers who wanted to explain to teachers that their children were working below their capacity but couldn’t make themselves understood. Stories of fathers who wanted their children to adapt to the more casual American school culture, but faced resistance from their wives.

“They expressed a deep frustration with their inability to properly support their children’s educational achievement,” the research paper states, “which often resulted in feelings of helplessness, stress and depression.”

Koreans like to present a calm exterior, Lee says. “But inside there is that stress, that trouble.”

AN ESTIMATED 1.7 million Korean Americans reside in the United States, about 10 percent of the Asian American population, according to Lee’s research. Statistics show they are more likely to live in poverty than other Asian subgroups, and they are more likely to socialize primarily with other Koreans. Korean mothers, Lee’s article says, bear most of the responsibility for overseeing their children’s education, a role they take seriously.

That can cause tensions within families, says William “Ted” Donlan, another social work faculty member who contributed to the study.

“Children adapt more easily to a new environment,” Donlan says. “Mothers have really high expectations” and expect strict discipline and rigor at school. In Korea, children often attend school from early in the morning to late in the evening, he says. “But here, their children may be having a fun, engaging experience. Sometimes those two are at odds.”

Over the course of five months, Lee and her four-member research team selected and interviewed 30 Korean-American parents, all but two of them first-generation immigrants. Using interpreters and modern data-analysis techniques, they identified a significant gap between what the parents need to navigate their new world and what kind of help they are receiving.

Foremost among their conclusions: Social workers and other community service providers need to find culturally competent ways of delivering services to Korean parents. They need to understand that language barriers must be overcome, and Korean parents may not step forward to express concerns because of their need to “save face.”

Lee and Donlan are working on a technology-based solution that would include a smart-phone app aimed at improving parenting skills and mental health care access. They have applied for funding through the National Institutes of Health, but so far have not been successful. They say the app would also help Vietnamese and other Asian-American immigrants.

For Lee, a first-generation immigrant who raised two children attending public schools, the research is personal as well as academic. She had limited English when her children started in U.S. schools, and often felt powerless when problems arose.

“I wasn’t able to step in when my son was misunderstood,” she says. “I am working through very first-hand experience.”

Harry Esteve is a staff member in the PSU Office of University Communications.
Get into a Portland State of Mind as PSU opens its doors to the community for a celebration of knowledge and culture. For a full list of events visit pdx.edu.

Tickets
pdx.edu or 503-725-3307

Travel Accommodations
Discounted hotel accommodations and car rentals are available for alumni. Read about them at pdx.edu.

Sponsored by

THURSDAY, OCT. 13
Susan Murrell: Resident Artist Open Studio
12-2 PM, 225 Art Building, 2000 SW 5th, free

Pop-Up Divinity School
Poems and music by Judaic Studies artist-in-residence, 4-5:30 PM, 333 Smith Memorial Student Union, 1825 SW Broadway, free

Black Lives Matter: Rhetoric or Reality?
Panel discussion, 4:30-6:00 PM, 327 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Arlene Schnitzer Visual Arts Prize Awards and Exhibit
4-6 PM, Autzen Gallery, 205 Neuberger Hall, 724 Harrison, free (on exhibit October 3-21)

Concert
Performances by !!! (Chk Chk Chk), EASTGHOST and Force Publique; 6-10 PM; 101 Smith Memorial Student Union, $15

PDXTalks
Knowledge and experience from faculty and alumni, 7-9:15 PM, 75 Lincoln Hall, 1620 SW Park, free with ticket

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14
Campus Sustainability Tour
10-11:15 AM, start in Urban Plaza, SW 6th & Harrison, free

Chemistry Alumni Seminar and Student Poster Symposium
3:15 seminar, 107 Science Building 1, 1025 SW Mill; 4:30 PM symposium, 2nd Floor Lounge, Science Research and Teaching Center, 1719 SW 10th, free

Outdoor Program 50th Anniversary Celebration
6-10 PM, 515 Campus Rec, 1800 SW 6th, free to alumni with online RSVP

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15
De-Radicalizing Radicalization
Discussion with Indonesian and U.S. scholars, 8:30 AM-5 PM, Hoffmann Hall, 1833 SW 11th, free

Campus Rec Alumni Event
11AM-1PM, Campus Rec rooftop, free to alumni

Homecoming Tailgate
11:30 AM, SW 20th & Morrison, free

Homecoming Football:
PSU vs. Cal Poly
2:30-5:30 PM, Providence Park, 1844 SW Morrison, $5-$40

University Studies
Beautification Project and Bravo Youth Concert
1-3 PM, George Middle School, 10000 N. Burr, free

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17
Global Professionals and the Language Enterprise
Talk, 11 AM-12:30 PM, 238 Smith Memorial Student Union, free
World Languages Fair
1-3 PM, 238 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Being You
5:30-6 PM reception, Broadway Gallery, Lincoln Hall; 6 PM film screening and conversation with director, 75 Lincoln Hall, free with ticket

Should Oregon Raise Corporate Taxes?
Town hall discussion, 7-8 PM, 355 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Paper Tigers
Film Screening and panel discussion, 7:30-9:30 PM, 327 Smith Memorial Student Union, free with ticket

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18
All Majors Career and Internship Fair
11 AM-3 PM, 355 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Electron Microscopy Center Open House
2-4 PM celebration and Tech Talk, 238 Smith Memorial Student Union; 4:30-6 PM microscopy tour, 22 Science Building 1, free with online RSVP

Campus Art Tour
3-4:30 PM, start Broadway Gallery in Lincoln Hall, free

CHINA Town Hall
Live webcast and local speaker, 4-6:30 PM, 296 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Open for Business
Networking and celebration for LGBTQ professionals, 6-8 PM, Ecotrust Billy Frank Jr. Conference Center, 721 NE 9th, free

Election Roundtable
Political Science faculty to talk, 7-9 PM, 238 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19
STEM Career & Internship Fair
11 AM-3 PM, 355 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Discover GSE
Graduate School of Education open house, 12-3 PM, 200 Fourth Avenue Building, 1900 SW 4th, free

New Ways to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse
Talk, 2:30-4 PM, 327 Smith Memorial Student Union, free with online RSVP

OHSU-PSU School of Public Health Forum and reception, 5:30-8 PM, Hilton Portland, 921 SW 6th, free with online RSVP

Beyond Curb Appeal—Recycling Isn’t Just for Home
Talk, 5:30-7 PM, 541 Market Center Building, 1600 SW 4th, free

Ann Niles Active Transportation Lecture
6:30-7:30 PM, 75 Lincoln Hall, free with online RSVP

Fingerstyle to Feedback: Guitar Types and Why They Differ
5:30 PM reception, Broadway Gallery, Lincoln Hall; 7-8 PM lecture, 119 Lincoln Hall, free

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20
The True Costs of College
Film screening and discussion, 1-3 PM, University Place Hotel & Conference Center, 310 SW Lincoln, free

How the Danjuros Created Kabuki Super-Heroes
Talk, 6:45-7:45 PM, 296 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Feminist Queer Crip: Imagining Accessible Futures
Talk, 6:30-8:30 PM, 238 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Volleyball: PSU vs. Eastern Washington
7-9 PM, Peter Stott Center, 930 SW Hall, $5/$10

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21
Early Childhood Across PSU
Brown bag lunch discussion, 12:10 PM, 323 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Biography Alumni Seminar and Celebration
4:30-6 PM, seminar, 107 Science Building 1; 6-8:30 PM, reception, 2nd Floor Lobby, Science Research and Teaching Center, free

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22
Day of Service
Projects on and off campus, 8:30 AM-2 PM, meet Hoffmann Hall, free with online RSVP

Museum of Natural History Open House
Family friendly interactive exhibits, 1-4 PM, 2nd floor lobby and rooms 219 and 257, Science Research and Teaching Center, free

Helen Gordon Child Development Center Open House
2-5 PM, 1609 SW 12th, free

Volleyball: PSU vs. Idaho
7-9 PM, Peter Stott Center, $5/$10

Nerds Reign! Computer Chess Film screening and Q&A with director, 7-9:30 PM, 75 Lincoln Hall, free

Housing and Residence Life Annual Fright Night
7-10 PM, Montgomery Court, 1802 SW 10th, $2/$5 donation
PAJAMA DANCES, basketball games, rights protests and student elections. These seemingly disparate events come together in the Viking yearbooks available this fall on the PSU Library website. The library’s Special Collections archivists have scanned all the yearbooks produced by Vanport and Portland State students from 1947 to 1978 and 1989 to 1995. Download the books as PDF files or view them online in a page-turning format at pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/viking.
OPPOSITE PAGE: Viking 1969
an innovative approach to
PUBLIC HEALTH

Dr. David Bangsberg is leading the new OHSU-PSU School of Public Health.

written by STEPHANIE ARGY
photo by EDIS JURCYS
AS A TEENAGER growing up in Portland, David Bangsberg M.D., M.P.H., used to study in the libraries at Portland State University and Oregon Health & Science University. “My first college lecture was at PSU, and my first research job was at OHSU,” he says.

“When I graduated from Lincoln High School and left Oregon to attend college, I never imagined leaving forever. I thought I would go to college and maybe graduate school and then come back. But then one job opportunity after another kept me away.”

Bangsberg’s career has taken him to Boston, New York, Baltimore and San Francisco and abroad to England and Uganda. He was most recently director of Global Health at Massachusetts General Hospital, the largest teaching hospital affiliated with Harvard Medical School, where he was a professor. But in September, he returned to his hometown to become the founding dean of the new OHSU-PSU School of Public Health.

The school is a partnership between the two universities. “Each institution lists it as one of their schools,” says Sona Andrews, provost and vice president for academic affairs at PSU. “The students will get a degree from both institutions.” The arrangement is unusual—this will be the only joint school of public health in the country in which two institutions are equal partners, says Andrews.

“My first goal with this new school,” Bangsberg says, “is to help bring the faculties from the two universities together, so they feel that they can tap colleagues in other disciplines to create innovative approaches to public health.” OHSU, he says, offers expertise in biomedicine, biostatistics and epidemiology; PSU complements those areas with health policy, community health and urban health. “Where are the talents, and where are the passions?” asks Bangsberg. “And how do we best align those talents and passions with the greatest public health needs of Oregon?”

THE TWO universities committed to the creation of the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health in 2010. Elena Andresen became the interim dean in 2014, overseeing the school’s process of accreditation, which is expected to be completed in early spring 2017.

There are currently 1,443 students at the school; 1,233 are undergraduates, and about 210 are graduates. Bachelor’s through doctoral degrees are offered in such areas as health studies, biostatistics and epidemiology. A dual Doctor of Medicine and Master of Public Health degree is also offered.

According to PSU Provost Sona Andrews, faculty members of the new school deserve recognition for launching the joint effort. “To create a school that the institutions share, when the two institutions are very different, takes a tremendous amount of work,” she says. “This wouldn’t have happened without our faculty and the OHSU faculty.”

ALTHOUGH Bangsberg has extensive experience working on public health issues around the world, the emphasis of the new school will hit closer to home. “A school of public health in Oregon should focus first and foremost on the health needs and health disparities of Oregonians,” says Bangsberg. “The school is supported by the state, so it should serve the state as its first priority.”

Oregon, he says, has many significant health challenges, including substance abuse, suicides, mental health, under-activity, over-nutrition, obesity, cardiovascular disease and cancer. “There are challenges related to access, education, and economic opportunity. Portland in particular has struggled with issues around homelessness. All of these are important to Portland, and to Oregon, but they’re also issues that are important to the U.S. at large.”

And, while the focus of the school is on Oregon, Bangsberg says that he will be open to wider outreach. “In every university across the country, there is a new generation of young people who grew up in the Internet age, who are aware of what global health disparities are, and who have a real passion to make a difference. With my experience in global health, I can make connections and create opportunities for the students and the faculty.”

BANGSBERG has personal experience in following a passionate belief. “When I first went to medical school, I was pretty certain I wanted to study basic neuroscience and be a brain surgeon. I had a full M.D./Ph.D. scholarship at Johns Hopkins, which paid for my tuition and living expenses.”

But at the time, HIV was raging through East Baltimore. Marginalized populations, including gay men and injection drug users, were particularly devastated.

“Seeing public health and health disparities through the lens of Johns Hopkins Hospital in East Baltimore, I said, ‘These issues can’t be ignored, and they’re what I want to focus my career on.’”

He left the Ph.D. program, giving up the scholarship that went with it, so that he could start addressing HIV in gay men and injection drug users at a free clinic in Baltimore. After Johns Hopkins, Bangsberg moved to New York City (“the only place where you could find more HIV and structural violence than East Baltimore”) and then to San Francisco (“because that was the Mecca to study HIV”). He went on to work on some of the same issues in rural Africa while a professor at Harvard and director of Global Health at Massachusetts General.

THROUGHOUT his career, underlying issues that affect health have captured Bangsberg: economic disparity, mental health, substance abuse, and unstable housing. “I look at health through a very broad lens—not only biological health, but also mental health, social health and economic health.”

Now, he says, he will apply that same broad lens to guide the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health through its examination of health disparities in Oregon. “I have a lot of faith and a lot of optimism that we’ll come up with really creative solutions. And I look forward to discovering those, in partnership with not only the faculty, but with the students and the staff as well.”

Stephanie Argy is a graduate assistant in the Office of University Communications.
HONORING THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND

WRITTEN BY SUZANNE PARDINGTON
PHOTOS BY NASHCO PHOTOGRAPHY

For 30 years, Enid Traisman has counseled people through the grief of losing their pets.
EVEN AFTER 30 years of leading pet loss support groups at DoveLewis animal hospital, Enid Traisman MSW ’86 still gets surprises. The latest was the deep bond between Huey the duck and her “mom,” Nancy Wilson.

Raised as a house pet, Huey would follow Wilson around all day and sleep in her bed every night. The little duck came running for croissant crumbs, used a litter box, wore booties on her webfeet and loved to go for rides in a pink stroller. She won Wilson’s heart by resting her neck on Wilson’s shoulder for “ducky hugs.”

When Huey died of cancer last year, Wilson was so devastated she drove every week from Tillamook County to Portland for months to attend Traisman’s support groups and art workshops.

“It’s all about the bond, not about the species,” Traisman says. “I’ve seen that time and again.”

Since she founded the DoveLewis Pet Loss Support Program in 1986, Traisman, 57, has helped thousands of grieving pet owners like Wilson heal from their losses with free support groups, art therapy workshops and other resources.

CONTINUED
Traisman was a recent graduate of PSU’s School of Social Work when she approached DoveLewis with the idea. Pet loss was such a new and little-known field at the time that several veterinarian offices turned her down before DoveLewis agreed to give it a try. Now celebrating its 30th anniversary, Traisman’s program is one of the oldest in the country, and she is recognized nationally as a pioneer and leader in the field.

Many Portland pet owners turn to DoveLewis at some point for emergency animal care. The nonprofit, 24-hour hospital treats about 15,000 animals every year, many of them in life-and-death situations. When they don’t survive, Traisman is there—for both the owners and the clinic staff who deal with trauma and loss every day.

“Enid is like a gem for the Portland community,” says Ron Morgan, DoveLewis president and CEO. “She’s very beloved here, not just by the people who come to see her, but by the staff.”

GROWING UP in Chicago, Traisman was the animal lover in her family. She was the kid who was always finding a bird with a broken wing or kittens born in a field and bringing them to the local vet.

“I never liked Barbie dolls or anything; I was totally all about the critters,” she says.

Yet she didn’t want to be a vet, because she doesn’t like blood. Instead, she studied human development and family life as an undergraduate at the University of Kansas. (“The next best thing to animals are cute little kids,” she says.) After working in a day care center and a private psychiatric hospital for adolescents, she enrolled in PSU’s social work program with her husband, David, whom she had first met in kindergarten. Today they are the parents of two grown children.

Traisman was first drawn to grief work when she worked in a neonatal intensive care unit at Kaiser in her second year at PSU. Recognizing the importance of the grieving process, the hospital had started to give parents who had lost a baby more time to say good-bye. They would swaddle the baby, bring a rocking chair to the room and make footprints as a memorial.

“What I saw, in addition to deep sadness, was that with some support and validation, the human spirit could begin to cope and heal,” she says.

Around the same time, she read a book by a social worker who had started one of the first pet loss support programs on the East Coast. She had found her calling: a career that combines her love of animals and grief work. She later added art to the mix by leading art therapy workshops and creating pet memorial artwork. Her colorful fused glass pieces brighten the walls throughout DoveLewis.

DESPITE BEING surrounded by loss, Traisman finds her work to be uplifting.

“I don’t feel like I have to fix people in grief or do anything other than open my arms, either literally or figuratively, provide support and understanding, and allow them to get their feelings out,” she says. “I know they are going to heal, and I know grief is a normal process.”

The sadness is a reflection of the love they felt for their pet and the meaning of the relationship in their lives, she says, no matter if it’s a duck or a dog.

Debbie Conrad sought help from Traisman after she lost her golden retriever, Lonny. It was a dark time, she recalls, but sharing her story and listening to others helped her heal.

“Enid’s the light at the beginning of the tunnel,” says Conrad. “It’s that little beacon that says we’re here, you’ve got to go through this, but here’s a light to guide you.”

Fourteen months after she lost Lonny, Conrad called Traisman and told her she was ready to open her heart to another dog. Traisman, known for her skill as a pet matchmaker, found Champ, a golden retriever in need of a new home. Champ was aggressive when scared, unsocialized and suffering from allergies when he was adopted, Conrad says, but with patience and love, he turned into a sweet dog.

To give back to the program that helped her so much, Conrad started assisting in art therapy sessions and leading support groups when Traisman was gone. Now she is one class away from becoming certified in pet loss support herself.

Traisman taught her that “grief comes from a place of love,” she says, “and the love doesn’t disappear.”

THE ANNIVERSARY of Huey’s death in June was a tough time for Wilson, and she returned to DoveLewis for extra support. She credits Traisman with helping her find the strength to tell her story, first in the group and eventually, she hopes, in a book and through a foundation.

“It was wonderful meeting other people who felt the same things that I felt,” Wilson says. “We’re not imagining this. We’re not crazy. These are our kids, and we’d do anything for them—even when they are gone.”

Suzanne Pardington is a staff member in the PSU Office of University Communications.
YOU MAY have heard of venture capitalism, but what about venture philanthropy? PSU’s University Venture Development Fund allows donors to support ideas and research that are on the brink of moving out of University laboratories and into the marketplace. The fund also supports entrepreneurial education programs at PSU, and all donations to the University Venture Development Fund are eligible for a generous tax credit.

Over the past six years, PSU research has resulted in more than 40 issued patents, eight start-up companies, and the licensing of 45 projects to external partners. However, many important research discoveries never make the leap from lab to market due to lack of funding. Traditional faculty grants support academic research, yet rarely include funds to move the results to commercial readiness. Many venture capitalists will fund companies ready to market their product, yet shy away from funding the critical early stages of development and commercialization such as prototyping and market studies.

Recognizing this funding gap as well as the need to provide seed funds to important institutional discoveries, the State Legislature recently renewed the University Venture Development Fund program, which rewards donors contributing up to $1 million to the fund with a 60 percent Oregon income tax credit.

So far, PSU has granted venture development funds to 18 projects and start-up companies, with awards ranging from $3,000 to $120,000.

To learn more about PSU’s University Venture Development Fund, please visit www.psuf.org/uvdf.

Written by Jyoti Roy, PSU Foundation
GROWING UP in Puerto Rico, Gretchen Schauffler ’85 was surrounded by vivid colors—from the ocean to the foliage to the brightly painted buildings. Portland came as a shock when she moved to the city as a young woman. The gray skies seemed to erase the color from everything. Rather than complain about the drabness, she set out to redecorate it. She started Devine Color, a line of vibrant interior paints designed as a brighter counterbalance to the dull shades of Northwest winters.

“Each one of the colors had to have a purpose to integrate with the environment and feel natural with wood colors, different forms of lighting and so on,” she says. “Each one is its own work of art.”

The line of paints was an immediate hit with the public, and is now sold nationally through Target and Western region paint stores. Devine Color also helped transform the paint industry, which has shifted to deeper, brighter colors along with traditional offerings.

Schauffler went on to develop other Devine products, such as vinyl flooring and wallpaper, which met with similar success. That led to a bath design and remodeling company. All her work reflects her passionate belief that color can enhance mood and is integral to quality of life.

Her latest project: creating colorfully pleasing environments in facilities for aging adults.

“Color wealth contributes to a feeling of well-being,” she says. “And one’s life should be filled with color.”

As part of Schauffler’s effort to improve lives for seniors, she is joining in the fight against Alzheimer’s disease through Devine Color’s support of the Alzheimer’s Association and as a member of the Oregon Alzheimer’s Association Leadership Board.

Schauffler, a restless, creative soul, studied at colleges in New York and Oregon before she found her niche in Portland State’s graphic design program, where she earned a bachelor’s in 1985.

“It just felt so right,” she says. “PSU was able to channel my creativity, and it has paid off 20 million times.”
ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

Michael DeShane MA ’71, PhD ’77 and Keren Brown Wilson PhD ’83 will receive the PSU Foundation 2016 Simon Benson Award for Philanthropy on November 3. The couple have devoted their lives to helping people with limited means age with dignity.

Tom Fink ’71 will receive the PSU Foundation 2016 Simon Benson Award for Alumni Achievement on November 3. President of Magnacorp Financial Group, Fink serves on the boards of youth services organizations and has supported PSU for more than 30 years.

Paul De Muniz ’72 received an honorary degree and spoke at the University's morning commencement ceremony June 12. De Muniz is a former Oregon Supreme Court chief justice.

Nancy Goldman ’76 had her Portland garden featured in the July issue of Gardens Illustrated, a British magazine.

Rita Collins EdD ’92 after a long teaching career is trying her hand at a small business venture: a traveling bookstore. She mostly stays in her home state of Montana, but was in Portland and New York in September. Read about the business at www.saintritasbooks.com.

Veronica Ervin ’95, MBA ’13 was named senior vice president/chief compliance officer of Oregon’s OnPoint Community Credit Union in July.

Lynn Peterson MURP ’95, MS ’08 received the Nohad A. Toulan Urban Pioneer Award for Public Service at PSU in June. The former Washington (state) Secretary of Transportation is senior transportation policy advisor for Smart Growth America.

Vishnu Shivaji Rao MS ’00 is director of software services and platforms for NanoLumens, a manufacturer of LED displays based in Norcross, Georgia. Rao is a renowned development specialist in smart TV and mobile platforms and holds numerous patents on user interface, connected platforms, big data and server technology.

Robert Visser MIM ’02 is director of international business development for Barenbrug USA, a grass seed company based in Oregon. He speaks fluent Dutch and Mandarin and is studying Russian.

Renae Davis MBA ’06 was promoted to partner from senior manager in the Portland office of Ernst & Young, a multinational professional services firm.

Sergey Bogza ’09 assumes leadership of the Millikin-Decatur Symphony Orchestra at Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois, this fall. After PSU, Bogza earned a master’s and doctoral degree in music.

Jeff Swanson ’09, MS ’12 was selected city manager of Battle Ground, Washington, this spring. He was previously Clark County’s director of economic development.

Emma Bailey ’14 was recently appointed museum educator at the Whaling Museum & Education Center in Cold Spring Harbor, New York. Her mother, Lynn Demuth Averbeck ’85, EMPA ’13 is on a rotational assignment as environmental program and policy advisor at the Oregon Department of Transportation.

FOR MORE ALUMNI NEWS follow us @PSU_Alums on Twitter and PortlandStateAlumni on Facebook. Have news you would like to share? Email psualum@pdx.edu or mail your information to Portland State University, Office of Alumni Relations, PO Box 751, Portland OR 97207-0751. To submit your own alumni news online, go to www.pdx.edu/alumni/contact.
PORTLAND STATE, in partnership with Nike, unveiled a new look for PSU athletics this spring. The new lettering, shield and Viking image were created by Nike designers and are featured on clothing and other items for sale at the PSU Bookstore, Smith Memorial Student Union Spirit Store and the downtown Nike store. “We’re launching a new identity, but it’s a lot more than that,” says PSU Athletics Director Mark Rountree. “It’s a new era for the Portland State Vikings and comes on the heels of one of the most successful seasons in school history.”

GET ALL OF THE LATEST sports news at GoViks.com. Game stories, statistics, schedules and much more are available and updated daily. You can also hear and/or see game broadcasts. Buy season and single-game tickets online at GoViks.com or call 1-888-VIK-TIKS or 503-725-3307.
BEFORE Portland State was a university or college, it was the Vanport Extension Center, founded in 1946 to serve veterans returning from World War II. One of those veterans, Don Carlo, started the first student newspaper, *Vet’s Extended*, just months after the center opened.

Carlo had lost his sight while serving in the army, but newspapers remained his passion. He had worked on the student newspaper at Portland’s Washington High School, the *San Francisco Chronicle* and on army post newspapers.

The editorial offices for *Vet’s Extended* were in Carlo’s apartment, where the staff read stories to him for editing. Just a few months after the first issue, the newspaper’s name was changed to the *Vanguard*, which today is published every Tuesday during the school year.

Carlo only attended Vanport for a term. He went on to earn advanced degrees with the help of his wife, Joyce. His blindness never held him back, says his son, Andrew Carlo.

He was teaching history at a private school in Connecticut when he died in 1974 at the age of 51 from a brain tumor, a possible complication from the head injury that left him blind.
SHOW YOUR PRIDE
Sign up to receive a PSU window cling at pdx.edu/fearless

KNOWLEDGE IS INNOVATIVE

Nabil Mistkawi, a fearless Intel engineer who earned his Ph.D. in chemistry at PSU, developed a chemical process that helped create smaller and faster computer chips.