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FALL 2015

PORTLAND STATE MAGAZINE



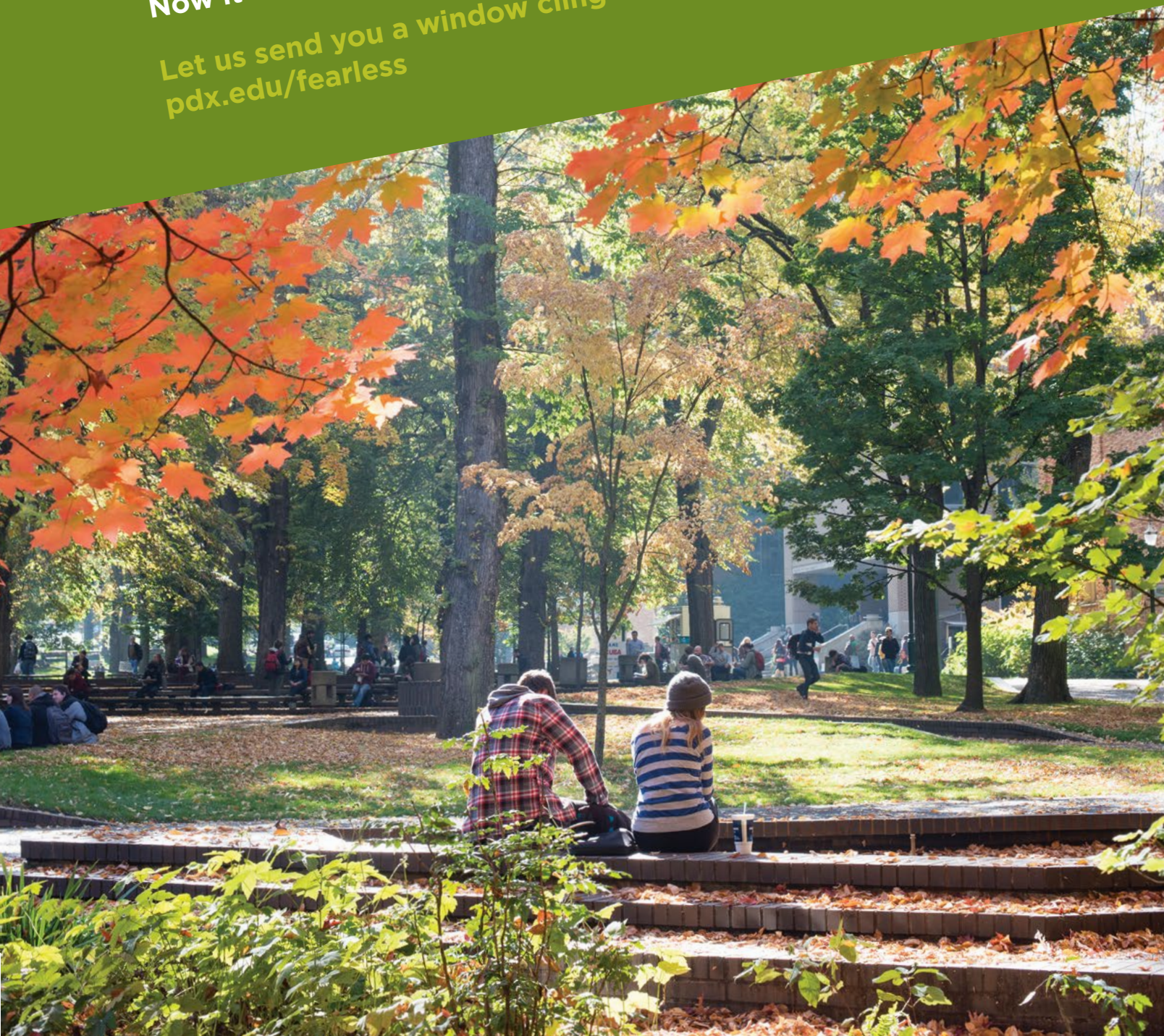
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pdx.edu/fearless



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PORTLAND STATE *OF Mind*
OCTOBER 22-31

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see list on pages 14-15

ON THE COVER It's has never been easier to get to campus now that Tilikum Crossing and the MAX Orange Line are complete. Illustration by Nguyen Tran. See story on page 10.

PORTLAND STATE MAGAZINE

FALL 2015 VOL. 30 | NO. 1

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Portland State Alumni,

DID YOU KNOW there are more than 165,000 of you out there? If you were to incorporate you would become Oregon's second biggest city.

This isn't about trivia; it's about potential. PSU's growing base of graduates is also its biggest untapped resource. That's about to change.

In partnership with the PSU Alumni Association, we are beginning an unprecedented outreach effort to those of you who spent time here and are now enjoying life outside the University. We want to hear what you are up to at pdx.edu/fearless. Tell us how you are using what you learned here to make an impact on your community.

Portland State has been the springboard for thousands of creative jobs, successful businesses, political careers and all kinds of other life journeys. Some of you lead high-tech startups, teach math to middle schoolers or make parts for the International Space Station (See page 12). Some of you play in the NFL; some play jazz. One of you graduated this year at the age of 77 and plans to remain at PSU as a volunteer in an archaeology lab (See page 22).

WE WANT TO HEAR more of these stories, celebrate them and share them. People like you add incredible value to

our region. You are a big part of the reason *U.S. News & World Report* recently ranked us as one of the "most innovative" universities in the



nation—on the same list as Stanford, Harvard and MIT. As PSU becomes increasingly independent from the state, it is more important than ever to tell our story. And who better to tell it than our alumni?

In short, we want you to not only take pride in your alma mater, but also to share it and show it.

You will hear more in the coming weeks and months about our efforts to move forward on a number of fronts to build awareness and greater financial stability for PSU. That includes asking the 2016 Oregon Legislature for better state funding; working to ensure that state funds are distributed equitably among the public universities; launching a comprehensive campaign; carrying out our "reTHINK" cost efficiency innovations; and exploring the possibility of a local revenue source.

In the meantime, please go to the web site pdx.edu/fearless to help us grow, thrive and fulfill our motto: "Let Knowledge Serve the City." Thank you.

Wim Wiewel
PRESIDENT, PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

Portland State Magazine *wants to hear from you. Email your comments to psumag@pdx.edu or send them to Portland State Magazine, Office of University Communications, PO Box 751, Portland OR 97207-0751. We reserve the right to edit for space and clarity.*

Letters



Gloves or no gloves

Several readers called or wrote about the bare-handed handling of the 15th-century Book of Hours photographed for the cover for the spring 2015 *Portland State Magazine* and in the accompanying story “Illuminating the Past.”

The PSU Library took the comments seriously and created a web page—“Gloves or no gloves?”—to answer any concerns. According to the web page, the PSU Library follows the recommendations of the Library of Congress, which states, “wearing gloves while handling antiquarian books may do more harm than good.” Apparently gloves can carry more dirt than thoroughly washed and dried hands. In addition, the lack of sensitivity when wearing gloves can lead to torn pages. However, clean gloves are recommended when handling photographs or books with metal or ivory parts.

Remembering a past student

I saw your article “It’s Never Too Late” in the spring 2015 edition of *Portland State Magazine*, and I was intrigued to learn that so many students who were previously unable to complete the requirements to graduate received assistance in earning their degrees decades after leaving PSU.

I could not believe my eyes. Your article reminded me of the many times I had thought of contacting someone at PSU whenever I received a new edition of the magazine. My story has to do with a student who passed away before having the opportunity of completing the requirements to graduate: my mother, Jane Ward Holden.

She was a student at the time she passed away in May 1970 at the age of 53. I don’t know the details of when she attended PSU prior to the 1969-1970 academic year, nor what the academic records will show as to her status at that time. I was led to believe that she was close to graduating, and she was so proud of the idea of reaching that goal. We were to have attended summer term together. I was just completing my junior year at Catlin Gabel School.

Might it still be possible to locate those records in the archives?



Jane Ward Holden

I thank you in advance for whatever you are able to do on my mother’s behalf.

*Bill Holden ’78
Westport, Conn.*

We forwarded Mr. Holden’s letter to Robert Mercer, Portland State College of Liberal Arts and Sciences assistant dean and a history and master’s of English alumnus. Here is his answer:

Bill, I was very touched by your story—particularly that the two of you had planned to take courses together. My own mother passed away in 1991 and there isn’t a day I don’t think about her many times.

I see that your mother started as a part-time student in 1962 and took courses off and on until that spring of 1970. Since she was a history major, it is likely that she and I had some of the same professors. (I began as a history major in the mid-’70s.) While she had accumulated well over 100 credits, she was still more than 60 credits away from completing her degree.

I am sorry that we cannot award her a degree. But I suspect she would be very touched that you thought to inquire about it. If I can provide any additional information, please do let me know.

Robert Mercer ’80, MA ’86

Park Blocks



VIKINGS GO AIRBORNE

A team of engineering students launched their helmet-inspired human-powered flying machine into the Willamette River on Aug. 1 for Red Bull Flugtag. PSU's team was one of 45 selected from several hundred applicants. Photo courtesy of Red Bull.

Animal crossings

WHY DID THE DEER CROSS THE ROAD instead of using a designated wildlife crossing? PSU doctoral student Leslie Bliss-Ketchum is tackling this twist on an age-old question by studying the Boeckman Road Wildlife Crossing Structures in Wilsonville. The under-road culverts and one under-bridge crossing are meant to help wildlife cross safely without encountering drivers, but everything from fencing design to artificial light can affect how animals use them. Bliss-Ketchum captures the travelers—including deer, coyotes and bitterns—with motion-sensor cameras to evaluate their behavior. Her research, she says, is “contributing to the knowledge that just because an animal can fit through a small culvert doesn’t mean that it will actually use it.”



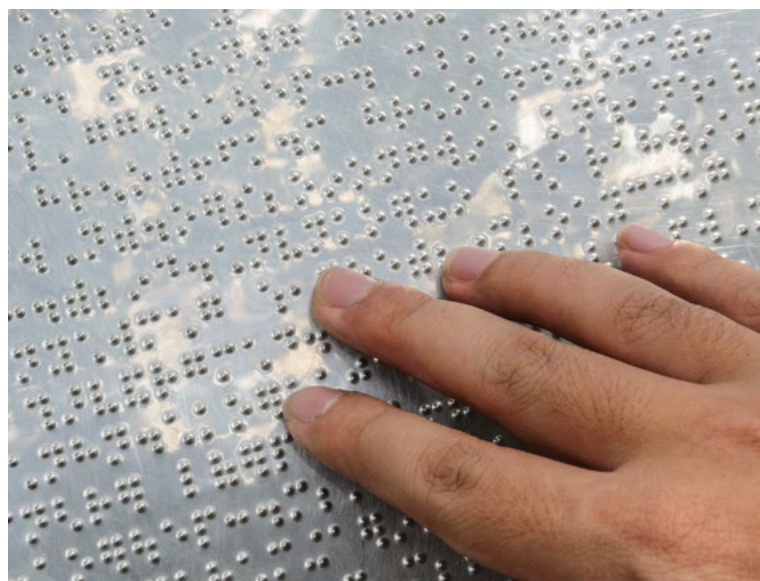


Remodel slated for Neuberger Hall

FIFTY YEARS of heavy use has taken its toll on Neuberger Hall and its 37 classrooms, 18 labs, and Financial Aid, Admissions and Veterans Services offices. A \$60 million remodel will begin sometime in 2017 with state bond funding approved by Oregon legislators in the last session. The leaky roof is a priority along with the building's mechanicals. Classrooms, labs and offices will be updated to meet the needs of modern instruction. Student services offices on the first floor will be reworked, and the entire building will be made accessible for people with disabilities. Improvements in energy efficiency should qualify the building to meet or exceed LEED Silver requirements.

New braille, new teaching methods

ENGLISH BRAILLE is getting an update—the most extensive since the 1930s—and PSU is teaching it online and through phone apps. A \$548,483 federal grant is allowing special education and computer engineering students and faculty to come up with inventive ways to teach the new Unified English Braille to adults—both sighted and sight-impaired—over the next five years. Braille is a system of raised dots or code that can read by the fingers of people who are sight impaired. It is estimated that there are 286,000 working-age braille users in North America. The new braille brings the code into the computer age while dropping some contractions and allowing for a wider array of symbols. PSU's online teaching tools can be accessed by voice-over or through a braille terminal.



Portland crime maps

REPORTED CRIME HAS FALLEN in Oregon over the past three decades, but 90 percent of its citizens still believe crime in the state has increased or remained the same. To raise awareness of actual crime rates in the state's largest city, Portland State criminology and criminal justice students teamed up with the Portland Police Bureau to create a website that maps crime trends in Portland from 1995 through 2013. It geographically and temporally covers 13 offenses, from domestic assaults and gun crimes to bicycle thefts and burglaries. For example, while 63,609 residential burglaries were reported in Portland during that time frame, the incident rate decreased 53.3 percent over the years. The website, www.pdx.edu/crime-data, will be updated as new data becomes available.



Career placement bragging rights

MATT WALSH, pictured here, graduated in 2013 with a business degree, a Food Industry Leadership Certificate and an immediate job in Portland's commercial baking industry. Now, just a year later, he is a grocery sales rep for Stumptown Coffee Roasters. Thomas Appenzeller earned a master's in speech and hearing sciences this past June and was hired as a speech-language pathologist by Portland Public Schools before he even graduated. These are just two alumni from Portland State programs that boast 100 percent career placement for graduates: the Food Industry Leadership Certificate in the School of Business Administration and the Master's of Speech and Hearing Sciences degree program.

University plan nearly complete

EFFORTS TO CRAFT a new strategic plan for Portland State have reached the home stretch, and a draft will soon be ready for public review. The plan, meant to guide the University over the next five years, is the culmination of a yearlong campus conversation about PSU's mission, goals and priorities. It reflects thousands of comments and suggestions from all corners of PSU, including alumni. In late October, a draft of the plan will be available for public comment at pdx.edu/president. A revised version of the plan will be submitted to President Wim Wiewel, who expects to deliver the final document to the PSU Board of Trustees for approval in December.



Creating à la carte seating

THE FOOD CARTS along Southwest Fourth Avenue between College and Hall streets are a favorite grazing ground for the campus community and employees from surrounding buildings. But where do you sit? Architecture students in partnership with the South of Market (SOMA) EcoDistrict designed and built seating in June with more than \$15,000 raised through crowdfunding. The city of Portland-approved wooden structure replaced two parking spaces on the street with seating for more than two-dozen people. The space, known as a parklet, is the first public street seat installation in downtown Portland. There are others around the city, but they are for exclusive use by restaurants and bars.



Lightening the textbook burden

STUDENTS ARE SAVING MONEY by downloading free textbooks written by Portland State faculty through PDX Open, a publishing service provided by the PSU Library. Five textbooks, exploring topics such as Japanese language and Portland's artisan economy, were published as open-access ebooks as part of the University's reTHINK project to reduce higher education expenses. In the service's first term, the textbooks saved students more than \$23,800—and because anyone has access to the books, they were also downloaded in countries such as Poland, Thailand and Brazil. Due to this success, the library will publish five more faculty-authored, open-access textbooks in January on topics in language and business. ■

Fanfare



PORTLAND STATE OF MIND

TELLING TIMELINE—Graphic design alumna Randi Haugland '12—who works under the moniker Randimade—lent her distinctive hand-drawn style to artwork for the University's annual Portland State of Mind celebration. Her design traces the history of Portland along a twisting timeline, highlighting events and major landmarks. "I wanted to mostly pick things that are very recognizable to us day-to-day," she says, "that includes bridges, transportation, etc., but I also wanted to sprinkle in a few that people may not know about, like the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition and the history of PSU itself." Haugland's design will be used on T-shirts, totes, coffee mugs and advertisements promoting the many events that make up Portland State of Mind, Oct. 22-31. See pages 14-15 for a full list.



Big screen release

LATE ACTOR Robin Williams' last dramatic role was in an independent film that he chose: *Boulevard*, written by alumnus Doug Soesbe '71, MA '76 and released in July by Starz Digital. Soesbe's script revolves around married banker Nolan Mack, played by Williams. At 60 years old, Mack is acknowledging his homosexuality and attempting to finally live a new, true life. "Williams sparked to the material and wanted very much to do it," says Soesbe. "I was honored by his participation." *Boulevard* is Soesbe's fifth produced movie, and his first feature film. The longtime Los Angeles-area resident also has worked as a story analyst and editor for Tri-Star and Universal, assisting such well-known directors as Martin Scorsese and Judd Apatow.



It's the winning print

YOU VOTED and Lincoln Hall was chosen as the iconic image that best represents the University. Printmakers Stephen Sasser '70 and Lyn Nance-Sasser created this print and presented it to Laurel Butman MPA '10, whose name was picked from those who ventured an opinion. Butman is deputy administrator for Clackamas County. The Sassers, who met and fell in love while art students at PSU, have been making prints together for 35 years. They plan to make a gift to the PSU Foundation from sales of the Lincoln Hall print. Their work is on display at YouAreHerePortland.com.

New Works

**MOTIVATE FROM WITHIN:
A YOUNG ADULT'S GUIDE TO
SHOOTING FOR THE STARS**

By Camille Adana '99,
ADANA Dynamics, 2015

LIKE IT NEVER HAPPENED

By Emily Adrian '09, Dial Books, 2015

**PORTLANDNESS:
A CULTURAL ATLAS**

By David Banis and Hunter
Shobe (Geography faculty),
Sasquatch Books, 2015

**THE ACTIVIST'S
TOOLKIT**

By Rex Burkholder '84,
CreateSpace, 2015

**CROSSING THE LINE:
A NOVEL**

By Thomas Doulis
(English emeritus faculty),
Archway Publishing, 2015

**GETTING THERE:
AN AMERICAN
CULTURAL ODYSSEY**

By David Horowitz
(history faculty),
Inkwater Press, 2015

**CONFESSIONS OF A COLLEGE
PROFESSOR: WHAT WE NEVER
TAUGHT YOU IN HIGH SCHOOL,
COLLEGE OR CAREER**

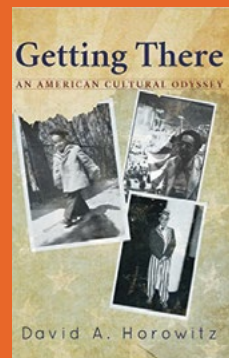
By William Manning (business emeritus
faculty), WAM Publishing, 2015

**PhDIVA: THE SMART GIRL'S GUIDE
TO GRADUATE SCHOOL SUCCESS**

By Goal Auzeen Saedi '07, Corby Books, 2015

**DANGEROUS SPIRITS: THE WINDIGO
IN MYTH AND HISTORY**

By Shawn Smallman (International Studies
faculty), Heritage House, 2015



DESTINATION PORTLAND STATE

All modes of transportation lead to campus

WRITTEN BY JOHN KIRKLAND

TILIKUM CROSSING, the largest car-free transit bridge in the United States and the first major span across the Willamette River in more than 40 years, opened with great fanfare in September. Bicyclists, bus riders and pedestrians suddenly have a new way of crossing the Willamette, and the new MAX Orange light rail line, which traverses the bridge, now allows Milwaukie riders quicker access to downtown jobs, entertainment and, of course, Portland State University.

The bridge represents the culmination of decades of development that has made Portland a national transportation model. The University has been a key player in that work, helping to mold transit around the campus and at the same time configuring campus to fit Portland's evolving transit system.

"Portland State's motto is 'Let Knowledge Serve the City,' and with the way mass transit has developed over the last 40 years, the city is also serving Portland State. It's a win-win," says Portland Mayor Charlie Hales.


The University is the single largest generator of transit trips in downtown Portland, and in the middle of campus sits Portland's busiest transit hub: the Urban Center Plaza, bordered by Fifth and Sixth avenues and Mill and Harrison streets. Buses and light rail lines parallel the plaza and the Portland Streetcar splits it diagonally. Most of the city's MAX lines converge on the plaza or close by, connecting Portland State to North Portland, the airport, Gresham, Clackamas, Milwaukie, Beaverton and Hillsboro.

Building of the Urban Center Plaza in 2000 happened in the midst of a 40-year trend in Portland to boost mass transit and downplay the use of the automobile. Since the 1970s, city leaders removed a major highway along the waterfront and

turned it into a park. They revived an underused bus system, created the downtown transit mall where people could ride buses for free, established the MAX light rail system and the Portland Streetcar and made Portland into one of the most bike-friendly cities in the country.

Nohad Toulan, the late dean of the College of Urban and Public Affairs, was instrumental in the Urban Center Plaza's construction and for making it the hub that it is today. Planning for the plaza was happening at a time when TriMet, the agency that operates mass transit in the region, was mapping out possible north-south MAX routes. The original idea for the Orange Line included an awkward 90-degree turn down Harrison Street, but planners later decided to route it along Fifth and Sixth avenues, clearing the way for the future Portland Streetcar to run through the plaza, according to Ethan Seltzer, professor of Urban Studies and Planning and a member, along with Toulan, of the 1995 University District planning team.

THE URBAN CENTER PLAZA and other changes to the city's transportation system have made a big difference in the way people get to campus. Within three years of the plaza's construction, mass transit replaced driving as the favored mode of transportation to PSU for both students and employees. That trend grew over the next decade: Student car trips to campus fell by half and commutes by mass transit rose by 34 percent. Today, more than 70 percent of PSU students and employees get to campus by taking mass transit, bicycling or walking.



Tilikum Crossing makes it easier for bicyclists, pedestrians and MAX Orange Line riders to get to campus from southeast Portland. Photo by Edis Jurcys

The University's **Urban Center Plaza** is Portland's busiest transit hub.

The Portland Streetcar was extended to the South Waterfront in 2006, and is now one of the primary ways PSU students get to the Collaborative Life Sciences Building, which sits at the west end of Tilikum Crossing. The new building is a state-of-the-art laboratory, research and classroom facility that PSU shares with Oregon State University and Oregon Health & Science University.

Portland State is a national research center for sustainable transportation, and the city's transit system is a living laboratory for people such as Jennifer Dill, director of the Transportation Research and Education Consortium and the National Institute for Transportation and Communities.

"It's very easy to just look outside and gather data," she says. "We get people from all over the country who come here to learn about bike transportation. We give them a hands-on view of what pedestrian design is all about."

In 2013, PSU urban design students created a detailed vision plan for the neighborhoods and industrial areas at the east end of the Tilikum Crossing, examining the characteristics of the area and anticipating how they could change with the opening of the Orange Line. TriMet used some of their ideas, including creating better pedestrian access and moving the planned location of a service building in order to allow more business development. The students' work also influenced the way TriMet created public art in the Clinton neighborhood and provided inspiration for a private company to create a giant mural on the side of an industrial building.

"The students' work had the effect of dropping a pebble in a thought-pond. It created ripples of awareness that is heralding

a new kind of vitality in the area," says Bob Hastings, TriMet's agency architect.

PSU's influence can be seen on the bridge itself. The School of the Environment owns water-monitoring equipment, which produces data that TriMet is artfully using to control LED lights on the bridge. The lights are programmed to translate the water height, flow speed and temperature of the Willamette River into colors and motion effects on the bridge. Essentially, it's river mood lighting. The real-time data from the equipment is displayed on the first floor of the PSU Science Research and Teaching Center, 1719 SW 10th.

PSU researchers have measured passenger riding habits for TriMet for years, which have helped give planners ideas on transit improvements. They also collected data on the protected bike lane created along SW Broadway, in which street parking was moved away from the curb, providing a protected lane for cyclists.

Dill and her colleagues will be studying how the new Tilikum Crossing will affect traffic. "It will make it a lot easier to get downtown on a bike from a lot of areas," Dill says. "It's an incredible addition to the city. It seems very 'Portland' to have a no-car bridge." ■

John Kirkland is a staff member in the PSU Office of University Communications.



SIPPING COFFEE IN ZERO GRAVITY

Research that will get us to Mars

WRITTEN BY HARRY ESTEVE

AT FIRST GLANCE, it looks like a big, plastic nose—part of a translucent Groucho Marx disguise. Its bulging, curved surface belies the breakthrough research it represents: It's the coffee cup that may make travel to Mars viable one day. Meanwhile it's keeping the astronauts aboard the International Space Station caffeinated.

"This is fundamental science," the cup's co-inventor, Mark Weislogel, practically shouts, sounding like a cross between a lab-coated movie actor and a kid with a new toy. His excitement is palpable. "It's absolute confirmation. It shows what is possible. We're getting calls from all over the world."

Weislogel, a Portland State engineering professor who specializes in fluid science, has become one of NASA's go-to researchers on matters relating to the complex but critical movement of liquid in the unforgiving conditions of space. Until NASA can solve thorny problems relating to everything from carbon dioxide recycling to urine removal—basic plumbing in other words—manned long-distance space flight likely will remain a pipe dream.

Consider what they're up against. In zero gravity, where there is no up or down, how do you get water to flow where it should? And then there are the bubbles. Anytime you deal with liquids, you have to deal with bubbles.

"**A BUBBLE ON EARTH** is not a problem," Weislogel explains. "But a bubble in space is like a beach ball—it bounces all over the place." If one gets loose, it can shut down a primary life support system in the spacecraft. "A bubble," he says, "can delete the mission."

NASA's solution to date has been to fully contain every bit of liquid in sealed containers. When astronauts want a drink, they squeeze it out or suck it out through a straw of sorts. But airtight containers are prone to failure, and experiencing your morning cup of joe through a bag is, let's face it, kind of a downer.

Enter Weislogel and his cup. Through a combination of extensive mathematics, prodigious use of PSU's famous 90-foot drop tower (which mimics the effects of weightlessness) and ongoing research aboard the International Space Station, Weislogel and his students zeroed in on fluid movement in space. What they discovered is that with the right material, shape and design, liquids can be encouraged to follow a specific path in an open container without the benefit of gravity.

The technical term is large length scale capillary fluidics. Surface tension—a result of the attraction of liquid molecules—plays a big role, too.

Once they thought they had the problem licked mathematically and theoretically, they moved on to applying it to something that could be used. When it comes to science, Weislogel has something of a playful streak. He likes to humanize his results. A cup that would allow an astronaut to drink coffee like a terrestrial, he reasoned, would be a fun application of a lot of research.

He and his team designed a prototype that looked a bit like a see-through whiskey flask. It was delivered to the International Space Station where Oregon astronaut Don Petit filmed himself and colleagues sipping from the open container – something never before done in space. Weislogel tweaked the design to its current form and sent more cups to the space station.

On May 4, 2015, a different kind of breakthrough occurred. Italian astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti brewed espresso in a special machine and took a photo of herself drinking it from one of Weislogel's cups. The picture went viral on Twitter. Coffee in space became an international sensation.

But this story is about more than getting a caffeine fix 251 miles above Earth.

"Mark is opening a Golden Age of working with fluids in microgravity," says John Graf, who develops life support systems at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston. "He's



ABOVE: DESIGN OF THE 3-D PRINTED SPACE CUP REQUIRED A DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF HOW FLUIDS BEHAVE IN ZERO GRAVITY.

proposing to do crazy bold things that were impossible to credibly think about 10 years ago.”

THE COFFEE CUP demonstrated beyond doubt that liquids can be harnessed in space in a reliable way. This has huge implications for future space travel, according to Graf. The next step is to develop bigger systems that can remove and recycle carbon dioxide. Next might be a working toilet and vast improvements in refrigeration and air conditioning.

“It sounds like very simple-minded, fundamental stuff,” Graf says. But astronauts in the space station spend inordinate amounts of time tending to these basic problems—time that could be better spent on research and exploration.

“You can’t go to Mars with hardware that breaks,” Graf says.

Weislogel went to work for NASA after getting his engineering Ph.D. at Northwestern University. Entranced by videos he saw of water droplets moving in space, he developed experiments that included fun spinoffs, including popping water balloons during low-gravity flights to see what happens to the suspended liquid.

After 10 years at the space agency, Weislogel went on to work for a Colorado tech firm, then took a job at Portland State, where he continued and refined his fluid movement examinations. He set up a program in which he and his students could monitor experiments on the International Space Station, talking to the astronauts in real time from a room in the Maseeh College of Engineering.

NASA DEMANDS for Weislogel’s products have grown to the point that he has partnered with one of his former students to create a small aerospace company, IRPI. Ryan Jensen ’05, MS ’08, who studied engineering under Weislogel and helped design the cup, now works with him to design and market products for use in space and on the ground. IRPI, now seven employees strong, uses 3-D printers to manufacture their most complex components—another breakthrough that has enabled rapid advances in space hardware.

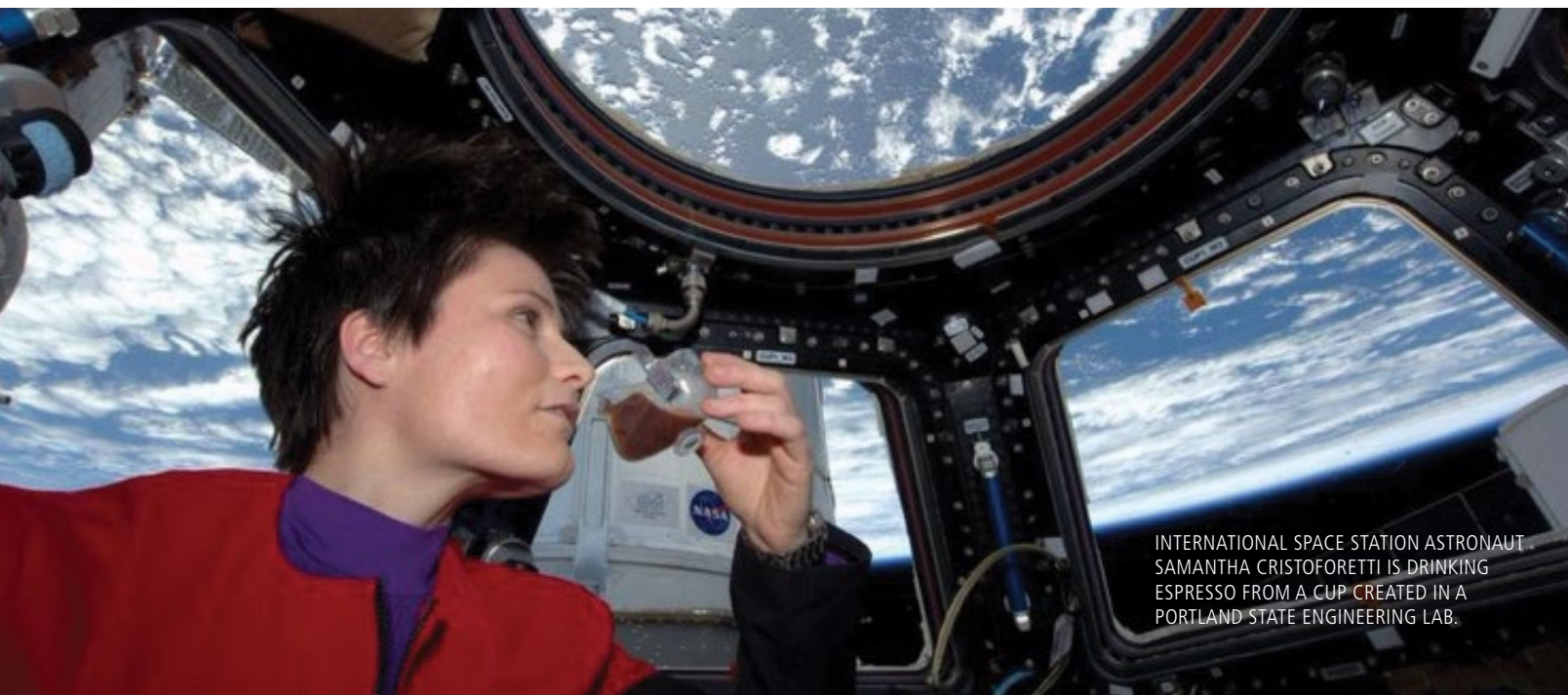
Jensen credits Weislogel for putting PSU on the map when it comes to developing plumbing in space.

“He won’t say this, but he’s really the best in the world in this area,” Jensen says. “You throw a problem at him in this realm, and it will get solved.” ■

Harry Esteve is a staff member in the PSU Office of University Communications.



THE RESEARCH OF PROFESSOR **MARK WEISLOGEL** AND HIS STUDENT TEAM CONTRIBUTES TO NASA'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE MOVEMENT OF LIQUID IN THE UNFORGIVING CONDITIONS OF SPACE.



INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION ASTRONAUT SAMANTHA CRISTOFORETTI IS DRINKING ESPRESSO FROM A CUP CREATED IN A PORTLAND STATE ENGINEERING LAB.



PORTLAND STATE OF Mind

OCT. 22-31

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.

THURSDAY, OCT. 22

Latino Americans: 500 Years of History

Documentary series screening, Noon-1:30 PM, 229 Smith Memorial Student Union, 1825 SW Broadway, free

Arlene Schnitzer Visual Arts Prize Exhibit and Reception

Paintings and sculpture by winning students, 4-6 PM, 205 Neuberger Hall, 724 SW Harrison, free

The Only Ones Author Talk and Honors Reception

Talk at 4 PM, 212 Urban Center Bldg, 506 SW Mill; reception at 5:30 PM, Simon Benson House, 1803 SW Park, free

The Cutting Edge: Printmaking Exhibit and Reception

5-8 PM, ArtReach Gallery, 1126 SW Park, free

Panel Discussion: Art and Remote Conflict

6:30-8 PM, 250 and 294 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Volleyball: PSU vs. Montana

7-9 PM, Peter Stott Center, 930 SW Hall, \$5/\$8

FRIDAY, OCT. 23

PDXTalks

Five speakers and music by The von Trapps, 8:30-11:15 AM, 75 Lincoln Hall, 1620 SW Park, free with ticket

The Thanouser Studio and the Birth of American Cinema

Film screening and Q&A with producer, Noon-2 PM, 115 Lincoln Hall, free

Music Festival

Northwest musicians and bands, 4-11 PM, 26 and 101 Smith Memorial Student Union, \$10/\$15/\$20

Chemistry Alumni Seminar and Student Poster Symposium

3:15-7:30 PM, 107 Science Building 1, 1025 SW Mill, free

Biology Alumni Evening

4:30 keynote, 107 Science Building 1; 5:30 PM reception, lobby Science Research and Teaching Center, 1719 SW 10th, free

Hack-a-Thon

24 hours of coding fun, 5 PM Friday-8 PM Saturday, Engineering Building, 1930 SW Fourth Ave., free

SATURDAY, OCT. 24

Day of Service

Organized community volunteering, 8:30 AM-2 PM, meet at 238 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

PSU at the Farmers Market

Visit our booth, 8:30 AM-2 PM, South Park Blocks, free

College of the Arts Open House

Tours 10 AM-2 PM, start Lincoln Hall Park Ave lobby, free

Museum of Natural History Open House

1-4 PM, 219 and 257 Science Research and Teaching Center, 1719 SW 10th, free

Volleyball: PSU vs. Montana State

7-9 PM, Peter Stott Center, \$5/\$8

Housing and Residence Life Annual Fright Night

7-10 PM, Montgomery Court Residence Hall, 1802 SW 10th, \$2 donation

SUNDAY, OCT. 25

Music Forward Preview

Solo and chamber performances, 4-5 PM, 75 Lincoln Hall, free



Alumni Night with the Portland Timbers

4-7 PM, Providence Park, 1844 SW Morrison, \$57

MONDAY, OCT. 26

Community Environmental Services 25th Anniversary Celebration

4:30-7:30 PM, Native American Student and Community Center, 710 SW Jackson, RSVP bit.ly/CESCelebration

Care and Repair of Books

6-7:30 PM, 160 PSU Library, 1875 SW Park, free

TUESDAY, OCT. 27

Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Community Altar & Craft Making

8 AM-2 PM, 229 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Bound for Graduate School?

Learn strategies, 3:30-5:30 PM, 238 Smith Memorial Student Union, free with ticket

Raising Oregon's Minimum Wage

Town hall discussion, 6:30-8 PM, 355 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

MFA Studio Visiting Artist Lecture Series

Artist Ryan Pierce, 7-9 PM, 75 Lincoln Hall, free

Women in Writing and Publishing

Panel discussion, 7:30-9 PM, 102 University Pointe, 1955 SW Fifth, free

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28

Future Fortune: What's Ahead for the Regional Economy?

Conversation from 7:15-9 AM, Multnomah Athletic Club, 1849 SW Salmon, \$25/\$30

Political Science Open House

3-4:30 PM, 212 Urban Center Bldg, 506 SW Mill, free

Portlandness: A Cultural Atlas

Release of new maps, 4-6 PM, 413 Cramer Hall, 1721 SW Broadway, free

From Stumptown to Treetown: Interpreting Portland's History through its Heritage Trees

Talk from 6-7 PM, 238 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Van Jones: Environmental Justice for All

Talk from 7-9 PM, Peter Stott Center, free

THURSDAY, OCT. 29

Center for Retail Leadership Open House

4-7 PM, 260 School of Business Administration, 631 SW Harrison, free

Geography Party

5-8 PM, 424 Cramer Hall, free

Simon Benson Awards Dinner

Philanthropy awards and Arianna Huffington to speak, 5:30-9 PM, Oregon Convention Center, tickets available for purchase

Beyond the Limits to Growth: New Ideas for Sustainability from Japan

Lecture from noon-1:30 PM, 296 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

Gray Matters: School of Architecture Film Screening

6-7:30 PM, Shattuck Hall Annex, 1914 SW Park, free

Intersections: An Evening of Storytelling about Identity, Culture, Community and Pride

6:30-8 PM, 101 Smith Memorial Student Union, free

SATURDAY, OCT. 31

Preview Day

For high school seniors and their families, 8 AM-3 PM, 355 Smith Memorial Students Union, free

Homecoming Tailgate

Noon-2 PM, 1730 SW Taylor, free

Homecoming Football: PSU vs. Montana

2:05-5 PM, Providence Park, 1844 SW Morrison, \$10-\$69

Volleyball: PSU vs. Sacramento

7-9 PM, Peter Stott Center, \$5/\$8

Tickets

pdx.edu or 503-725-3307

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Illustration by James Fenner

MY LIFE

Opening new possibilities for foster youth

WRITTEN BY JOHN KIRKLAND

SHAWN MAY moved out of his mother's house at 14. There was just too much friction, so he went to live with his dad, who was bipolar. That didn't go well either.

"I lived with him for 20 months until I couldn't take it anymore," he says.

His next step was moving in with his grandmother and uncle. That lasted five and a half months. She kicked him out on his 16th birthday. He tried living with his mother again, but he didn't get along with her new husband. So, out of desperation, he found temporary quarters at a group foster home.

This wasn't supposed to be a long-term solution. But it became one after he found out that his mother and siblings had abruptly moved to the Czech Republic, her husband's home country. They didn't bother to tell Shawn; they just left.

May's story is all too common among children in foster care, who share a common backstory of instability, often through no fault of their own, during their most vulnerable years. Sometimes their families cannot provide them with the basic safety and protection they need. Many have also faced difficult experiences, including parental substance abuse, sexual or physical abuse, and abandonment.

"All of them have experienced trauma. Most of them have some form of PTSD," says Larry Dalton, community development coordinator for the Oregon Department of Human Services. "When you have that trauma history, you need support."

Currently there are 1,581 youths 15 and older in Oregon foster homes. In the last year, 413 Oregon young people between the ages of 18 and 21 transitioned out of foster care, Dalton says. That's an average of more than 34 per month.

Not surprisingly, they don't fare as well as young adults with more stable, loving homes. They're more likely to be incarcerated, drop out of school, be unemployed or homeless, abuse drugs and have teen pregnancies.

May, however, is bucking the odds with the help of a Portland State University program called My Life, which helps youth successfully transition out of foster care.

MY LIFE pairs foster youth with mentors who help them build life skills, including finding jobs and getting into college. The project is led by professors Laurie Powers and Sarah Geenen in the Regional Research Institute for Human Services, the research arm of PSU's School of Social Work. Last year, My Life was named one of the best programs of its kind in the United States by the Center for Study of Social Policy in Washington, D.C. Teens in the program are coached over a one-year period. During that time, they also attend several workshops with other My Life youth and adult mentors who have been in foster care.

One of those mentors is Emilie Morris, 23, who entered the foster care system at age 16, and who is now working toward a bachelor's degree in political science at PSU.

"My parents were abusive," she says. Her mother had a history of mental health challenges, Morris says, and would do things such as sell Morris' possessions—including a car Morris had purchased on her own—and keep the money. Her mother and stepfather kicked her out when she was 16 with the idea that she go live with her father, but he didn't want her, Morris says, so she went to live with her grandmother, where more abuse awaited.

At this point, Morris's high school got involved and contacted the Oregon Department of Human Services, which assigned her a caseworker. Morris used that opportunity to ask to be put into foster care.

All too often, foster care isn't the safe haven it's supposed to be. The turnover can be high and the quality of care is hit-or-miss. Morris started out in a homeless youth shelter, then was transferred to her first foster home, which she described as an



Two Portland agencies helping youth in foster care—New Avenues for Youth and Albertina Kerr—have adopted the My Life model.

“absolute nightmare.” That lasted about a month until she was transferred to another group home.

“It made me a stronger person, albeit more cold and jaded than I would have been otherwise,” she says. “There’s a fine line between someone who gains a lot of strength and the ones who can’t take it and resort to self-harm, suicide or a life of mental problems.”

She used that strength to get her own apartment at 18 and to go to college. People involved with the My Life program heard about her and asked her to be a foster youth peer mentor. She was a mentor for two years: four six-month rounds, each of which involved 20 to 30 young people.

“My time as a mentor was telling youth how to successfully gain independence, but to also let them know I knew where they were coming from. That had a deep impact,” she says.

SIXTY-NINE FOSTER YOUTHS were involved in My Life when it started as a small pilot project in 2003. Grants from the U.S. Department of Education and the National Institutes of Health to expand the program have resulted in 300 more young people being involved during the past five years. There is a large research component to My Life, so while half the youth participants receive weekly coaching to help them formulate goals and work toward a plan of achievement, the other half—the control group—receive standard

state services. Analyses from the larger My Life study are still being conducted, but data from the pilot study show that 72 percent of the young people receiving the intensive mentoring graduated from high school and 45 percent of them had paid jobs compared with 50 percent and 28 percent in the control group, according to Geenen.

Even though it’s still in the research stage, two Portland agencies helping youth in foster care —New Avenues for Youth and Albertina Kerr—have adopted the My Life model into their own services.

“Our approach is helping young people identify and work toward goals that are personally meaningful to them,” Geenen says. “The traditional way is to fit kids into existing services. My Life is very individualized and focused on meeting youth where they’re at.”

Shawn May is one of those people. He’s been coached by Summer Pommier, a My Life manager. At 19 years old, May now has a job, 29 college credits and is working toward an associate’s degree in order to be a park ranger. He says he’s considered a role model in his foster home, and soon will be moving to an apartment with one of his foster brothers.

“Before I met Summer, I didn’t think about going to college. I didn’t want to go to school again. But she helped me develop the mindset that I can do anything I set my mind to,” he says. ■

REACHING OUT THROUGH RESEARCH

The Regional Research Institute for Human Services is the research arm of Portland State’s School of Social Work, which has graduated more than 5,000 students since its first class in 1962. At any given time, RRI is conducting as many as 65 projects in partnership with agencies, municipalities and service organizations in Oregon and around the country. Projects may address outcomes anywhere from attendance at a single elementary school in Portland to HIV prevention in the Amazon.

Some important projects in the past few years include assessing the quality of services for emotionally at-risk American Indian youth living in Portland, and evaluating Catholic Charities’ services for victims of human trafficking who now live in Oregon. In addition, RRI staffs Reclaiming Futures, a project started in 2001 through a \$21 million grant that is now in 41 communities helping young people involved in the juvenile justice system.

Learning by the book

Behind the covers is a unique, student-run publishing house

WRITTEN BY BESS PALLARES

NESTLED in a small workroom at the heart of campus, students in the graduate program in book publishing are churning out novels, memoirs, anthologies and more through the country's only student-run publishing house.

Ooligan Press, founded in 2001 in the English Department to offer real-world experience to students pursuing a master's of writing in publishing, has produced more than 30 books and continues to gain prominence as a regional independent press.

Ooligan's early books explore myriad topics and genres, such as time travel science fiction and Croatian poetry in translation, but a shift in its mission in 2010 led the press to focus on titles exploring the places, people and cultures of the Pacific Northwest.

"We started looking at what books were doing well in terms of sales and in terms of what we were good at editing, designing and marketing," says Ooligan Press publisher Abbey Gaterud. "And we found that those things all were regional titles."

Though it took awhile for Ooligan to gain a foothold

in Portland's busy publishing market, Gaterud says many of the books acquired during that time of transition have contributed to its success as a regional press—and with every new book things are getting better. Ooligan books have been popular with regional booksellers for years, often making the "recommended" walls at Powell's City of Books, and recent titles are now finding a broader reach.

"The Pacific Northwest booksellers are a fan of the books," says Gary Lothian, a sales representative who handles Ooligan titles for book distributor Ingram Publisher Services.



A Series of Small Maneuvers: Making it out of the wilderness is just the beginning for 15-year-old Emma, who must confront her guilt and grief after inadvertently causing an accident that kills her father during a canoe trip that was meant to bring them closer. This young adult novel is scheduled for release in November.

Untangling The Knot: This collection of personal essays by 26 authors discusses societal and cultural issues directly related to queer communities, particularly topics largely ignored in the mainstream discourse about marriage equality, such as definitions of family or even holding hands in Wyoming. Released in February 2015.

“That said,” Lothian adds, “I feel that many—*A Series of Small Maneuvers* and *The Ghosts Who Travel with Me*—deserved national attention and marketing. Having just read *A Series of Small Maneuvers*, I found it a wonderful, heartfelt story and recommend it highly to all my accounts.”

THE BOOKS Ooligan publishes are chosen by all who make up the press, usually about 60 master’s students. The students consider a manuscript’s quality, how well it fits with the backlist and its marketability. Thanks to the press’s status as a nonprofit, students can select the best book to fit Ooligan’s mission, and in a sense pick their own homework for the coming year.

“We’re looking for good content that can teach good lessons in the

process,” Gaterud says. “We don’t have to develop a romance line to pay the bills.”

The practical lessons and skill-building opportunities available through the press are leading to success in the post-grad world: 93 percent of graduates in the past five years have found work in publishing or are using their publishing skills in a different industry.

“We’ve always just tried things and been experimental, and it’s paid off,” says Gaterud. “But I think it’s only something that could happen at Portland State.” ■

Bess Pallares is a PSU book publishing student and a graduate assistant in the Office of University Communications.



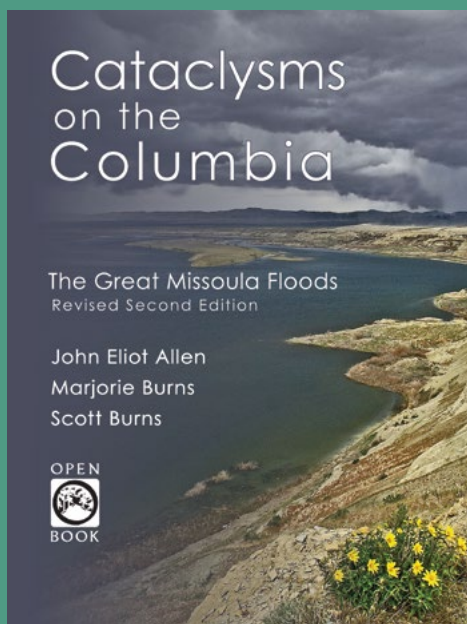
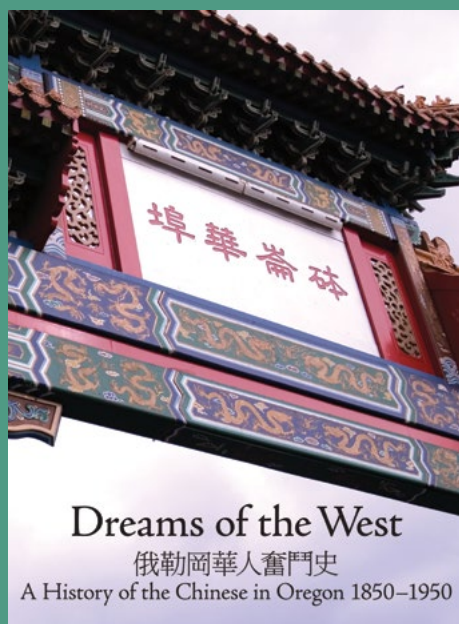
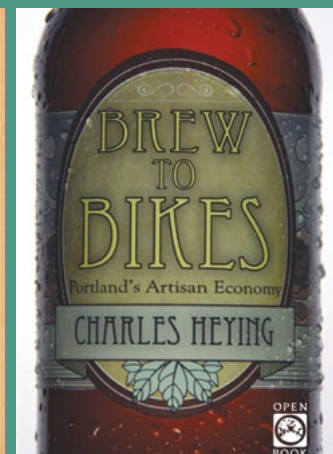
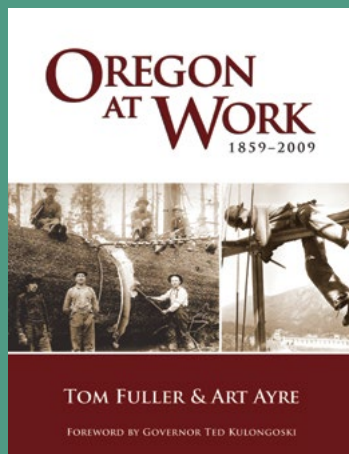
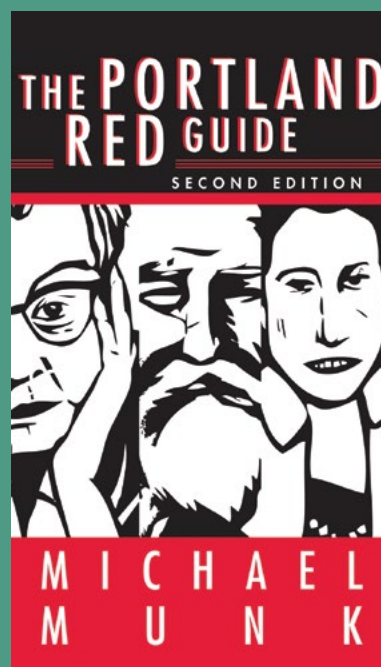
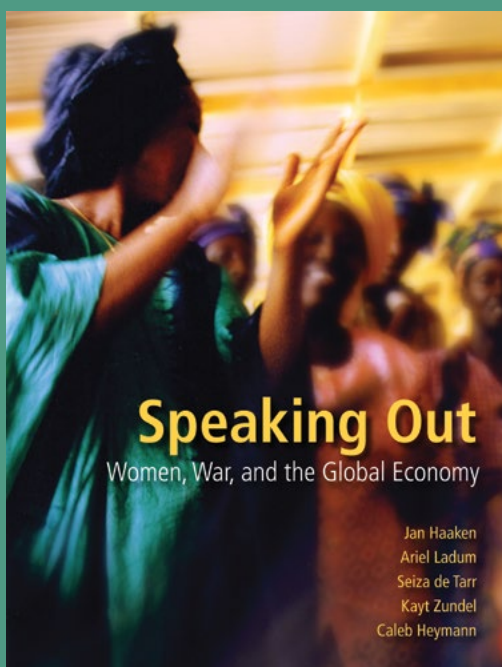
Forgive Me If I’ve Told You This Before:

Set in 1990s Oregon against the backdrop of Ballot Measure 9—which would prohibit state government from promoting “abnormal” sexual behaviors including homosexuality—teenager Triinu Hoffman copes with growing up, fitting in and accepting herself for who she truly is. A young adult novel released in October 2014.

Ricochet River: This young adult novel is a classic coming-of-age tale set in a fictional Oregon town in the late 1960s. The river rushing past town links three teenage friends with their pasts, their plans and the world beyond. The best-selling novel was revised by author Robin Cody and rereleased by Ooligan in 2005.

The Ghosts Who Travel With Me:

A lesbian, feminist writer retraces Richard Brautigan’s steps in *Trout Fishing in America*. She explores the roots of her deep connection to Brautigan’s famous novel while examining how the influences in our lives intertwine to make us who we are. Released in June 2015.



Ooligan nonfiction titles

The collection honors the cultural and natural diversity of the Pacific Northwest, including bestseller *Cataclysms on the Columbia* by emeritus professors Margorie Burns, Scott Burns and the late John Eliot Allen.

School at 77

Michelle Reed says no to retirement

WRITTEN BY SUZANNE PARDINGTON

MICHELLE REED retired from 45 years as an emergency room nurse, moved to Portland to be close to her grandchildren, and thought, “OK, what now?”

She had spent her life caring for others—as a wife, mother and nurse. This time was for her, and she decided to spend it learning about something she had loved since childhood: archaeology.

In June, at age 77, she became the oldest person to graduate from Portland State in at least a decade. Two of her grandchildren graduated in the same week—one from college and the other from high school.

Reed is part of a wave of retirees who have moved to Portland in recent years for the mild climate, social services and easy access to cultural and outdoor activities. College courses are a popular way for them to stay active and engaged in lifelong learning, says Professor Margaret Neal, director of PSU’s Institute on Aging.

Enrollment numbers at PSU reflect that trend: Students ages 65 and older have nearly doubled in the past five years, from 332 in 2010 to 561 in 2014.

Most older students audit courses for free; Reed is unusual in taking her classes for credit and earning a bachelor’s degree.

“I’m one of those people—I’m all in,” she says. “I’m either going to do it or I’m not going to bother with it I’m coming out with something at the end.”

That attitude served her well while raising three children on her own after a divorce, waiting tables and going to nursing school at the same time, and later working in emergency rooms from California to Saudi Arabia, volunteering in disaster zones and writing and publishing novels.

Archaeology seems calm by comparison. But going to college in her seventies had its own challenges. “It was hard studying at my age,” she says. “As you get older, things don’t stick as well.”

She credits Virginia Butler, Shelby Anderson and other Anthropology professors with encouraging her to keep going. When Reed would say, “Oh, I don’t know if I can do this,”

Butler would pat her on the shoulder and say, “Yes, you can.”

“Michelle is an exceptional person,” Butler says. “She always provided leadership in classes, was always prepared, and always asked great questions. PSU is lucky to have students like her.”

REED TRACES her interest in archaeology to digging in the backyard as a child. She only read about it until she got the chance to work in Anderson’s lab at PSU. There, she spent hours sifting through layers of dirt and sediment, sorting artifacts and animal bones, and cleaning and cataloging tools from Anderson’s digs in Alaska.

“The idea of putting your hands on something that is 2,000 years old is amazing to me,” she says.

It is slow, meticulous work, but she enjoyed it so much she stayed for four terms.

“It’s something useful I could do,” she says. “I wasn’t going to go on a dig. I’d fall in a hole and they’d have to cover me up.”

Her sense of humor helped her make friends with younger students, who she says treated her “like one of theirs.” She liked being around them and finding out what their generation thinks. At the same time, her levelheadedness—gained from so many years in emergency rooms—made her a steady, strong influence in the lab, Anderson says.

“All of her knowledge and life experience bring perspective to everything she does,” Anderson says. “On the one hand, she knows why lab work is important, but also that it’s a learning experience and if you make a mistake, it’s not a big deal.”

MANY OLDER STUDENTS audit classes for free through the Senior Adult Learning Center, a program of PSU’s Institute on Aging. Some can’t afford to take classes for credit, already have a degree, or just want to learn something new, says Neal, the Institute’s director.





With a new PSU degree in archaeology, **Michelle Reed** plans to continue to catalog artifacts in a campus lab.

“We hear from a lot of auditors in the program that they simply enjoy being with younger people,” she says. “This is the perfect place to have those interactions.”

Now that Reed has finished her degree, she is continuing to volunteer in Anderson’s lab this fall and she might use her new knowledge to volunteer at archaeological sites such as Fort Vancouver. She lives near campus, making it easy to come back to campus.

Over the summer, she published her fourth mystery, *Books of the Dead*, about archaeologists in Egypt, and is in the middle of writing two more. She has her own publishing house for her books and those of other writers.

Her advice to others considering a return to school? “Go for it.” “It’s such a mistake to become complacent,” she says. “As my English teacher from high school used to say, ‘Don’t rest on your laurels.’ Make new laurels.” ■

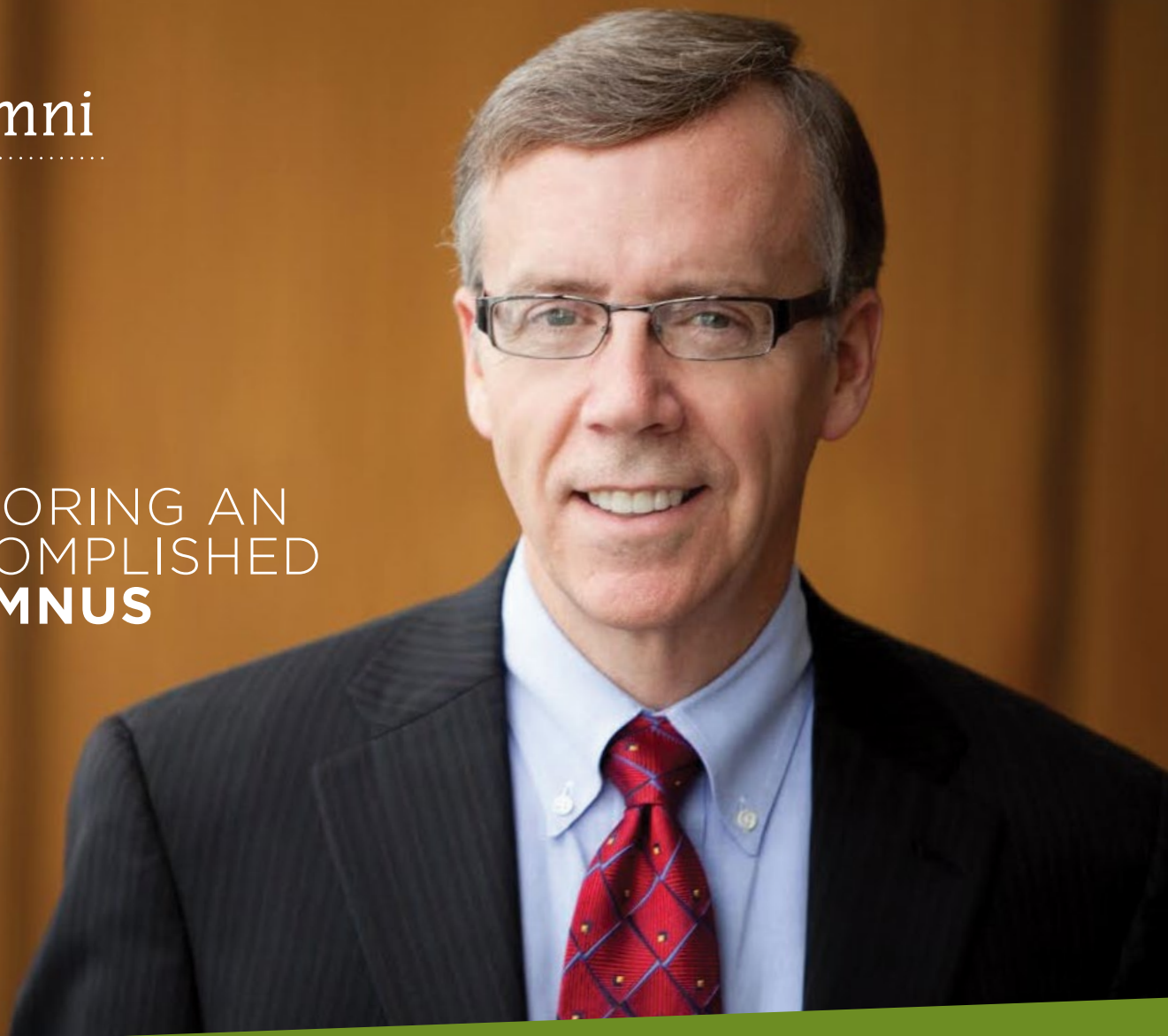
Suzanne Pardington is a staff member in the PSU Office of University Communications.

How to audit classes

PSU’s Senior Adult Learning Center allows Oregon residents 65 and older to sign up for classes tuition-free on a space-available basis. Popular classes often fill up with paying students, but PSU offers thousands of courses open to auditors. The program is supported by donations. For details, call 503-725-4739, email salc@pdx.edu or go to bit.ly/SALCinfo.

Alumni

HONORING AN ACCOMPLISHED **ALUMNUS**



GREG NESS MBA '87 will receive the Portland State University Foundation's top alumni achievement award at this year's Simon Benson Awards Dinner on Oct. 29.

Ness, 58, leads StanCorp Financial Group, the Portland-based parent company of The Standard, a provider of insurance and financial services. He joined The Standard at 22 years old and grew with the company, accepting every new position offered to him.

"It was extremely beneficial that I worked 15 different jobs. It allowed me to see how the sum of the parts fit together," he says.

Ness has served as chairman, president and chief executive officer since 2011. In July, StanCorp announced an agreement to be acquired by Tokyo-based Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance Co., but Ness says it will be business as usual as The Standard

remains headquartered in Oregon with the same employees and management team.

Even after three decades in corporate management, Ness says his most valuable professional move was returning to school and earning an MBA.

"I've always believed that it is a good idea to work before going to graduate school," he says. "Work gave me an added perspective when thinking about economics, business and financial analysis."

In the community, Ness serves on the boards of the Armory Theater Fund, Greater Portland Inc., Grow Oregon, the OHSU Foundation and the Oregon Business Council. He and his wife, Terry, have been generous supporters of PSU's School of Business Administration for more than 20 years.

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS



Albert Chen

Albert Chen MS '72 is founder and CEO of Telamon Corp., a telecommunications, energy management, industrial assembly, business-process outsourcing and telehealth company based in Raleigh, N.C.



Terry Cross

Terry Cross MSW '77 spoke at PSU's June commencement and received an honorary doctorate. Cross is the founding executive director of National Indian Child Welfare Association, a Portland-based policy and advocacy organization for Indian children and their families.

Larry J. Brant '81 received the highest award of merit that an Oregon tax attorney can earn from the state bar in June. He is with the law firm of Garvey Schubert Barer in Portland.



Fariborz Maseeh

Fariborz Maseeh '80, MS '84 spoke at PSU's June commencement and received an honorary doctorate. He is a pioneer in the field of micro-electro mechanical systems and his philanthropy supports the PSU engineering school, which is named after him, as well as PSU departments, fellowships, professorships and scholarships.



Matt Zybas

Matt Zybas MURP '93 earned a top award from the Washington State Association of County Engineers for his leadership in the emergency response and debris removal following a road-destroying landslide near Oso, Washington. He is director of the Snohomish County Public Works Solid Waste Division.



Amanda R. Ulrich

Amanda R. Ulrich '01 was campaign director for a policy passed in August by the Portland City Council that assures the city will not purchase communication equipment that contains metals illegally mined in or smuggled out of the Congo. Ulrich is co-founder of the Oregon Coalition for Humanity.



Berri Leslie

Rob Melton '03, MA '05 recently opened a second location for his Opus School of Music. His first school opened in Ridgefield, Wash., almost a decade ago. The new School is in Camas, Wash.



Safina Korishi

Berri Leslie MPA '06 is overseeing the Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace (formerly Cover Oregon) within the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services.

Safina Korishi MPH '09 is medical director of Columbia Pacific Coordinated Care Organization in Oregon. She is a family practice physician and works out of Portland and Scappoose.



Kim Adamson

Kim Adamson MPA '12 is general manager for DeepWater Desal, a company that is constructing a 25-million-gallons-per-day desalination plant in Moss Landing, Calif. The plant will provide drinking water in Santa Cruz and Monterey counties.

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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.

Athletics

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Big Sky country comes to town

THE VIKINGS will face off against Big Sky behemoths Montana State and Montana in home football games this October. The Montana State Bobcats, ranked No. 1 in the pre-season Big Sky Conference coaches' poll, will meet the Vikings Oct. 17. The Montana Grizzlies (pictured here) will challenge the Vikings for Portland State's homecoming celebration Oct. 31. Both teams participated in the NCAA playoffs in 2014,

which means the Vikings are in for a tough month. But with a strong roster of returning players, including quarterback Kieran McDonagh and former offensive coordinator Bruce Barnum at the helm as interim head coach, the team is ready to defend its turf in Providence Park. Tickets are available at GoViks.com, and a "Montana Package" for both games can be purchased for \$80 to \$100. Photo by Todd Goodrich/University of Montana.

Kennedy energizes women's basketball

THE VIKINGS women's basketball team will take to the court this season with new head coach Lynn Kennedy. Kennedy comes to Portland State from Southern Oregon University, where he served as head coach for 10 years. He's already added fresh faces to the organization, bringing in three assistant coaches and signing 10 players to the 2015-16 roster. "I believe Coach Kennedy is the right person to re-establish Portland State as one of the top programs in the Big Sky," says Director of Athletics Mark Rountree. "He has strong recruiting ties in the state, and plays a fast-paced, up-tempo style. Our student athletes will enjoy playing that way and I know our fans will enjoy watching." Photo by Al Case/Ashland Daily. ■



Scholarship supports returning students



IN 1990, a group of Nancy Ryles' friends came up with a plan to honor her long legacy of public service and her advocacy for education, women and human rights. When they told Ryles they were creating a scholarship in her name, she insisted that it go to students who returned to school at PSU after their education was interrupted.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the creation of the Nancy Ryles Scholarship, which has been shepherded through the years by many of the same friends who launched it. Together, they have celebrated Ryles' unique accomplishments in state and local government.

Ryles, who died in September 1990, was elected to the Beaverton School Board in 1972 and then served in the Oregon Legislature. She was later the first woman appointed to the Oregon Public Utility Board.

Nearly 40 women have been awarded the scholarship, which is renewable and will provide \$8,000 for the 2015-16 school year, the equivalent of a full year's tuition. For some students, the scholarship has been the difference between earning a degree and dropping out of school.

"I just don't know how some people do it, even if you have a scholarship," says Joan Johnson '78, Hon.D. '02, a longtime friend who helped create the scholarship. "A lot of them are working and raising a family. It seems impossible."

But the recipients say they get far more out of the scholarship than smaller tuition bills. They are welcomed into the community of Ryles' friends and other scholarship supporters who gather each year for a dinner that includes recipients.

Michelle deParrie received a Ryles scholarship in 2013 while pursuing a bachelor's degree in child and family studies in the School of Social Work. She says that joining the Ryles community has been an unexpected bonus to the scholarship.

"It's incredible, year after year, maintaining that connection," says deParrie. "It's really powerful."

RYLES GREW UP in Portland and graduated from Jefferson High School in 1955. She dropped out of Willamette University after one year, got married in 1957 and had two children.

Ryles served in the legislature for eight years, where she helped pass a bill in 1981 that mandated public kindergarten in Oregon. She was also a vocal supporter of girls' sports and hiring more female principals and administrators.

One reason Ryles wanted the scholarship to go to students whose educations were interrupted is because her own college experience ended when she had a family, says Martha DeLong, a friend who worked for Ryles in Salem.

"I think that she always wished that she had finished," DeLong says.

To make a gift to the Nancy Ryles Scholarship, please go to portlandstate-foundation.org/nancy-ryles-scholarship.

THE PSU FOUNDATION is committed to supporting Portland State's mission to be a leading public university and strives to fulfill the philanthropic needs of the university. Gifts to PSU support academic excellence, cutting-edge research, exceptional faculty and valuable community partnerships. Philanthropy has the ability to transform PSU. —*written by Steve Beaven, development writer in the PSU Foundation* ■



The Nancy Ryles Scholarship helped Michelle deParrie graduate in 2014—a proud day for her daughters Jeanne (left) and Lydia.



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Looking Back

A trophy tribute

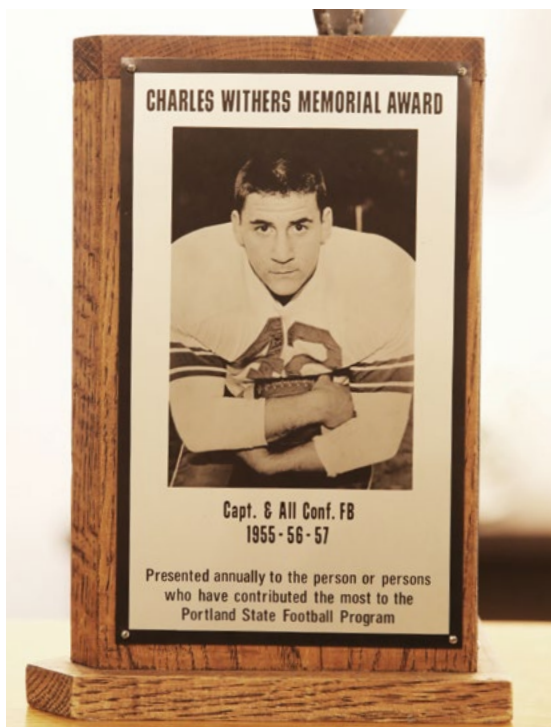
SINCE 1975 a magnificent two-foot metal sculpture has memorialized a great Portland State football player and honored those who have contributed to the program.

The Charles Withers Memorial Award, which sits in the Athletics Department in the University Center Building, combines the symbols of the PSU Vikings with the modern game of football. Mounted atop a walnut base, a skillfully welded horned-helmet hangs from a sword like one used by an early Norse seafaring raider, the weapon piercing a sculpted football.

The award honors the memory of Chuck Withers, a former all-conference player of the mid-'50s—a time when the Portland State football program was in its infancy. The trophy was designed and created by our former teammate Gary Hamblet, and I helped make sure it saw the light of day.

Chuck was the most competitive football player on our Ralph Davis-coached 1955 team. He was our inspirational leader. Sadly, he died unexpectedly in 1973 at the age of 38.

Gary was an artist and a skilled metal worker. His finished product wowed first-year athletics director Roy Love. Since the unique sculpture stood out from traditional trophies, Roy decided the award should be used to honor those who have made a significant contribution to the football program. The last recipient of the award was supporter Tim Boyle, CEO of Columbia Sportswear. —written by Bob Gill, former Portland State student and quarterback under Ralph Davis ■





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