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ON THE COVER Carl Wamser, professor of chemistry, holds an artificial
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Photo by Kelly James.
**LETTERS**

Debbie Murdock is not forgotten

We were somewhat surprised by the lack of a feature article in the latest issue of *Portland State Magazine* about Debbie Murdock, a great friend of PSU, who died August 14, 2007.

In her 14 years representing Portland State as our lobbyist in Salem and Washington, D.C., she was more than a good friend. Debbie was devoted to the University.

She was not only dedicated to public education and Portland State, she had the drive, the passion, and powers of persuasion that helped transform the University. Debbie was a brilliant strategist, helping PSU gain millions of dollars in federal funds, as well as increased state support. Look around. Her vision is reflected in the Urban Center Building and Plaza, the streetcar line going through the campus, the Native American Center, the new engineering building, and the new Academic and Student Recreation Center currently under construction, among others.

The fact that PSU is now the largest University in the state system and widely respected for its leadership as an urban institution is due in no small part to the efforts of Debbie. We know. As chairs for the Portland State Advocates, we worked closely with her. We grew to respect her intelligence, her ability to strategize, and her unfailing devotion to Portland State.

Debbie never took credit for her accomplishments. She was forever thanking us for all we and the advocates did for Portland State. But we all owe a great big thank you to Debbie Murdock.

Joan C. Johnson '78 (1994-96 chair)
Gary Salyers '51 (1997-99 chair)
Roger Capps '60 (2000-02 chair)
Angela Wykoff ’72, MS ’75, ’80 (2002-04 chair)
Gerry Scovil ’65, MS ’68 (2005-07 chair)
Kori Allen ’84 (2007-08 chair)

New veterans service on campus

The article "A Different Casualty Count" in the fall magazine included a list of free services for veterans in Portland. There is now a new service on the PSU campus. The University in cooperation with Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) has established the PSU Student Veteran Services, which I am staffing. The office offers a full range of services to veterans, their dependents, and survivors of veterans, as well as information on taking courses at PSU and at partner colleges.

The PSU Student Veteran Services is located in room 123 of the Extended Studies Building, 1633 SW Park Avenue. Right now the office is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information, call me at 503-725-2905.

I just want to get the word out that I am here, on the job, and I will strive to serve veterans and their families as honorably as they have served us.

Frank C. Van Meter '04
Veteran Service Officer
PSU Student Veteran Services

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Portland State Magazine wants to hear from you. E-mail 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.
The award-winning Community Watershed Stewardship program educates students of all ages.

Watershed program best in the West

STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY members have planted more than 80,000 native plants, enhanced 12,000 feet of streams, and revitalized 2 million square feet of stream banks during the past 12 years in Portland through the Community Watershed Stewardship program.

A partnership between Portland State and the Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, the program earned the University the C. Peter Magrath/W.K. Kellogg Foundation Engagement West Region Award this fall. PSU is the only university west of the Mississippi to receive the prize.

The Community Watershed Stewardship program is run by PSU graduate students with the help of Barry Messer, adviser and a professor in urban studies and planning. Through the years, the PSU students organized assistance on more than 130 community projects: from restoration, stormwater management and nature-scaping, to educational workshops and creative writing, art, and video projects.

Johnson Creek and its Spring Water Corridor Trail is one of Messer's favorite program projects. Over more than a decade of volunteering in the area, students of all ages have learned about native plants, watershed issues, even trail signage.

"Johnson Creek is a great example of restoration through multi-layer projects that affect the life of the community," says Messer.

Business School among ‘Global 100’

THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS Administration ranked 22nd on a list of Global Top 100 Schools in the 2007-08 edition of Beyond Grey Pinstripes for integrating social and environmental issues into its MBA+ program. The report places PSU in the company of Yale, Columbia, and Stanford.

Beyond Grey Pinstripes, a biennial survey and alternative ranking of business schools, measures the extent to which schools prepare students for tomorrow's markets while equipping them to understand the social, environmental, and economic perspectives required for business success in a competitive global economy.
AROUND THE PARK BLOCKS

Men share heart-to-heart advice

MARCUS BRANCH, a private youth counselor, is used to helping people get their minds around their problems. But helping fellow African Americans with their physical health by screening them for high blood pressure has proved just as gratifying.

"I screened a couple of men in their 40s, who were afraid to go to the doctor," says Branch, "but they needed to, and with this early intervention they are getting their health under control."

Branch was one of 10 African American men trained by Charles Smith and Bill Baney from PSU's Early Childhood Training Center, to go out into the community and screen five male acquaintances for high blood pressure and other health issues.

Funded by the Multnomah County Health Department, the project is aimed at African American men because that population suffers high rates of hypertension, a potential early warning of such conditions as stroke, heart attack, and kidney failure.

So far, Smith says, anecdotal results of the Men's Blood Pressure Project have been positive. Screenings have encouraged some at-risk participants to make lifestyle changes or see a doctor.

Smith thinks one-to-one communication is the key. Because they were talking to people they knew, he says, it opened the door.

A student shares in the research of engineering professor Liza Zurk, who recently won a Presidential Early Career Award.

President George Bush honors prof

AT A WHITE HOUSE ceremony in November, Lisa Zurk received the nation's highest honor for professionals at the outset to their academic careers—a 2006 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. Zurk, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, is one of two Oregonians to receive the award this year, and the second professor from PSU to receive it.

In only three years at Portland State, Zurk has earned more than $2 million in research funding, spearheaded a record number of collaborations, and founded the Northwest Electromagnetic and Acoustics Research Laboratory.

Zurk's research involves sensors and their applications, including the development of advanced sonar systems for the U.S. Navy as well as the mapping of coral reefs and the estimating of salmon populations. She's also researching terahertz imaging for medical applications, such as the detection of skin cancer, and for security uses, including the detection of explosive devices and bio-agents.

This year, she begins a five-year, $500,000 research initiative with The Nature Conservancy to assist in its worldwide marine conservation efforts.

What's new?

THIS FALL, Portland State welcomed 2,620 freshmen, the largest class ever. Statistics tell their story.

- 3.23 average high school GPA
- 4.7 percent international students from 28 countries
- 5.1 percent with a parent who graduated from PSU
- 19.8 average age
- 23.1 percent minority
- 51.8 percent women
- 61.5 percent with a parent who graduated from college
- 75.9 percent from Oregon
Afghanistan language offered

THE EYES of the world are on Afghanistan and Pakistan, yet few U.S. universities teach the languages of those countries—an important element in developing deep understanding of their cultures.

This fall, PSU began offering Pashto, which is widely spoken by Pashtuns in Afghanistan and the tribal areas of northwest Pakistan. The class is part of the Heritage Language program, which caters to students who are familiar with a language usually because it is spoken by their parents or grandparents. The Pashto class is also attracting armed services members and people interested in that part of the world.

Amin Wahab, a city of Portland environmental program manager, is teaching the class. He immigrated to the United States from Afghanistan soon after the Soviet Union invasion of 1979.

Only native speakers may teach in PSU’s Heritage Language program, which started four years ago. The most popular language in the program is Tagalog, a language of the Philippines. Spanish is the second most popular heritage language.

Viewpoint

While average housing prices in the U.S. have fallen for the first time in 70 years, Portland/Vancouver prices are appreciating, says Gerard Mildner, director of the PSU Center for Real Estate. He shares some of the reasons behind the Northwest’s good fortune.

Q: Why are our area housing prices holding up better than the U.S. average?
A: The Pacific Northwest has been relatively untouched chiefly due to the strength of our local economy, including access to trade in Asia. Other factors are continued in-migration, our low rate of subprime lending, low loan-to-value ratios for borrowers, and growth management constraints that have limited over-building, which is so evident in the Sunbelt markets.

Q: How has trade in Asia made a difference?
A: The opening of foreign trade in China and India has dramatically changed global trading patterns. Most low-skilled manufacturing jobs and some low-skilled service sector jobs have moved to Asia, creating opportunities for more high-skilled employment in the U.S. That’s what’s happening with the leading firms in our region—Intel, Nike, Boeing, and Precision Castparts—and it’s that higher-skilled, higher-paid workforce that strengthens our economy and therefore our housing market.

Q: In 2008, what Portland neighborhood could see the highest increases?
A: If I knew the answer, I would be investing accordingly. Since 1990, we’ve seen large increases in the close-in neighborhoods on the eastside and North Portland. This gentrification may have played out, and we could see greater appreciation on the westside. My wife and I sold our house in Southeast Portland in October and moved to the westside, so maybe I’m not an unbiased observer.

New fund bridges ‘valley of death’

A 60 PERCENT income tax credit is now available to Oregon taxpayers who contribute to a new program designed to fast-track commercialization of research discoveries at Oregon’s eight public universities.

“This tax credit is one of a kind,” said Oregon State Treasurer Randall Edwards at the unveiling of the University Venture Development Fund on the PSU campus in October. “No other state has a program where donors can receive such a large tax credit in return for helping move research from lab to market.”

“The fund will support the difficult early stages of a new venture, often referred to as the ‘valley of death,’ because so many promising innovations don’t make it through to commercialization,” says David Chen, chair of the Oregon Innovation Council. Oregon universities’ growing research in nanotech, infectious disease solutions, renewable energy, and green building technologies are good candidates for the new funding, says Chen.

The Oregon Legislature has authorized the universities to receive a total of $14 million in tax credit-eligible gifts, with each institution’s allocation based on its annual income from research grants and contracts.
Audience reaction to the female impersonators at Darcelle XV is the subject of a documentary directed by Prof. Jan Haaken.

**On Campus**

**Rushdie book brought to stage**

While in hiding, author Salmon Rushdie wrote a bedtime story for his 10-year-old son. The resulting tale became a children’s book, *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*, and was eventually adapted for the stage.

Portland State Prof. Karin Magaldi directs *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* in Lincoln Performance Hall, 1620 SW Park, February 22–24 and February 27–March 1. All performances are at 7:30 p.m., except for a 2 p.m. matinee on February 24. Tickets are available at the PSU Box Office, 503-725-3307, or through Ticketmaster.

“Set in a city so ruinously sad that it has forgotten its name,” *Haroun* takes the audience on a young boy’s journey to find the Sea of Stories so he can help his father, a famed storyteller, regain his ability to devise intricate stories. The fairy tale is told in singsong poetics and is intended for older children and adults who are young at heart.

**Queens of Heart**

*DARCELINE XV*, the oldest drag club in the United States, is a Portland institution. When people enter they leave society’s rules and gender restrictions at the door and act as they never would in their day-to-day lives.

A documentary exploring audiences’ reactions to the club and what those reactions say about society premiered in Los Angeles this fall. *Queens of Heart: Community Therapists in Drag* is directed by Jan Haaken, PSU professor of psychology. She had the help of PSU graduate students and the full cooperation of Darcelle—Walter Cole—the club’s owner and main attraction.

Filmmakers Gus Van Sant and Eric Edwards, and musician Thomas Lauderdale with Pink Martini contributed to the documentary, which was produced by Kwamba Productions of Portland. *Queens of Heart* is being shopped around to other film festivals and is under consideration by public television.
New film major: That’s a wrap

HITCHCOCK, THE ROAD MOVIE, Vietnam on Screen—these are a few of the elective courses available through the new film major in the Theater Arts Department.

“The demand for this degree has been here for a long time,” says Sarah Andrews-Collier, Theater Arts chair. “There was not a week that would go by without someone walking in and asking why we didn’t have a film major.”

The new bachelor’s degree offered this fall includes courses from 14 departments. Students will study all forms and genres of the moving image, ranging from the silent film era to present day cinema, television, and digital video production. The faculty is committed to providing strong emphasis on written, oral, and visual expression; critical thinking; an international perspective; and the creative experience.

The human side of welfare reform

BOB, 33, FEELS his diabetes is terminal because he has no health insurance and cannot afford medication. Sarah, 32, has put her dreams and aspirations on hold as she and her seriously disabled eight-year-old son work daily to survive with no insurance.

Vivid stories of Oregonians’ need for health insurance coverage as they transition from welfare to work are told in Prof. Karen Seccombe’s new book, Just Don’t Get Sick.

Seccombe and co-author Kim Hoffman assess the ways in which welfare reform affects the well-being of adults and children. They drew upon data and in-depth interviews with over 500 families in Oregon. Ironically, the low-wage jobs that people in transition typically get provide few benefits; yet often disqualify them and their families from receiving federal aid.

Seccombe is a professor in the PSU School of Community Health, and Hoffman is a senior research associate at Oregon Health & Science University. The two social scientists present a compelling argument for assuring security, stability, and well-being for poor families through health care.
A professor investigates how to use leaf "technology" to harness solar power. Another helps architects use dirt to conserve energy. A third looks at ways to squeeze more power from existing systems.

What's the common thread? The broad variety of disciplines that these Portland State professors and others across the campus are using to shape the future of alternative energy.

With oil reserves dwindling and the world's energy appetite escalating, understanding and developing new sources of power is increasingly important. Current research at PSU and across the nation may shine a light toward a green and sustainable energy future.

"For renewable energy to be developed effectively and to be useful, a lot of things need to be understood," says Jennifer Allen, associate director of the PSU Center for Sustainable Processes and Practices.

The breadth of research on campus, she says, is adding to that understanding, from new energy sources, to what motivates people to conserve, to making the Northwest power grid as efficient as possible.
What makes one family use more or less energy than its neighbor? Loren Lutzenhiser, professor of urban studies and planning, is interested in the answer.

A FUNNY THING happened during the 2001 energy crisis in California. As summer temperatures soared, people turned off their air conditioners—without being asked.

When surveyed about the reason, residents said it wasn’t to save money. In fact, prices hadn’t started to rise at that point. Rather, by voluntarily curbing their energy consumption, Californians said they felt like they were doing something to help their home state avert an energy crisis. And that made them feel good. Although he’s studied consumer behavior for years, surveyor Loren Lutzenhiser, professor of urban studies and planning, was surprised.

Before the survey, commissioned by the California Energy Commission, “It was assumed,” says Lutzenhiser, “that people would tar and feather you” if you suggested they do without modern conveniences such as air conditioning. “That was the received wisdom, but that’s not what happened.”

Under the auspices of the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, Lutzenhiser has also studied such questions as who’s in charge of creating a greener Portland skyline—finding that it’s not just architects, but also developers and bankers. And he’s looked at how the city of Portland and other Oregon governments decide whether to buy green—finding that it’s not just purchasing managers, but a wide range of employees that decides what technology to buy and how to use it. In the future, Lutzenhiser hopes to shed light on how decisions are made by consumers and manufacturers.

There are two broad categories ripe for investigation, he says. First, the types of technology that are brought to market. After all, consumers can buy only from the list of choices they have. The second category is why consumers make the choices they do.

Bottom line, says Lutzenhiser, is understanding what motivates people to buy, not buy, conserve energy or not. This will be crucial as the world grapples with global warming.
Energy like the sun
Squeezing hydrogen atoms together creates heat. It's what the sun does every day—using intense gravity to suck in hydrogen and squash it into a smaller and smaller space, until it fuses.

If you could squeeze hydrogen on Earth, you could produce the power of the sun and deliver plentiful, clean energy. Just one problem: Earthly methods of squeezing hydrogen use more energy than the power produced. Or do they?

Researchers around the world, including John Dash, professor emeritus of physics, are pursuing a way to make hydrogen squeeze itself, so to speak.

The metals titanium and palladium are sort of super sponges for hydrogen. Palladium can attract and absorb up to 900 times its own weight in hydrogen. And when that much hydrogen gets attracted into and squeezed onto the metal, cold nuclear fusion happens. (It's "cold" because no heat is used to squash the atoms together.)

Researchers at a handful of U.S. universities, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and University of Illinois, are working on developing cold fusion to a scale where it could be useful. There might be more scientists working on the technology except for the stigma.

About 20 years ago, two scientists trumpeted to the press that they had created cold hydrogen fusion. Their claims made them the wunderkind of the age—instant Einsteins. But when only a few scientists of the many who tried could duplicate their claims, the study of cold fusion gained a reputation as pseudoscience and government funding fizzled.

With that kind of skepticism, only a few intrepid scientists, like Dash, continued to investigate cold fusion and its potential for safe and inexhaustible energy.

With funding from PSU and the U.S. Army Research Office, Dash got positive results with his first experiment. He and his student assistants continue to produce incremental improvements in heat output. Their efforts caught the eye of a private, anonymous donor, who has contributed $1 million to Dash's research.

John Dash, emeritus physics faculty, expects to prove that cold nuclear fusion can eventually provide safe, plentiful energy.

To power up or not
Managers at the aluminum companies along the Columbia River do their job with one eye on the clock. They have to.

From hour to hour they have to decide whether to make aluminum or sell the electricity the process would have used. With their monthly electric bills reaching $10 million or more and prices for electricity bouncing up and down, the chance to make—or miss—a small fortune is colossal. Fortunately, they have Gerald Sheblé, Maseeh Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, to help.

Sheblé is an expert in optimizing systems, especially power systems. When a Texas utility started using Sheblé's methodology, it began saving $3 million a year. Globally, Sheblé has helped more than 40 electric utilities, and he can analyze any system—from massive coal power plants to rooftop solar panels.

Sheblé's current efforts are aimed at helping an Oregon company, Rogue River Wind, develop models for its urban wind turbines, which supply power for a single building, while integrating efficiently and reliably with the Northwest power grid. He's also in contact with Bonneville Power Administration and the Northwest Power Pool, a consortium of utility planning groups, discussing technological changes to optimize power.

Sheblé even looks at futuristic systems. For instance, what if utilities could store excess power in your garage?

It might work like this: Electric cars have large storage batteries that aren't used when a car is not being driven. What if power companies could use that storage capacity, when it is not needed by drivers, for, say, wind power—an off-and-on-again energy source?

Sound like something from a sci-fi novel? Sheblé says a proposal to allow electric utilities to do just that is already making the rounds on Capitol Hill.

Turning down urban heat
Cities are hot. Machinery, cars, buildings—they all spew heat. Even the average human contributes—producing about as much heat as a 60-watt light bulb.

All that warmth adds up. In any good-sized city, downtown temperatures are
David Sailor, mechanical engineering faculty, has developed software that analyzes the energy savings that a green roof, such as this one on The Broadway on the PSU campus, can provide a building.

as much as seven degrees hotter than the surrounding countryside. And all the buildings and roads create a massive heat stockpile that radiates for hours after the sun sets.

Scientists say cities are heat islands and that’s where David Sailor, associate professor of mechanical engineering, steps in.

Sailor studies how much heat is gained or lost by specific activities or items—say, driving to work versus staying home with the air conditioner on. Or planting 100,000 trees versus installing 1,000 green roofs.

Sailor hopes his data will help people understand how to turn the urban heat island’s temperature down. And it has.

Until Sailor’s research, architects and builders could not easily evaluate precisely whether a green roof would benefit their project. Did a layer of soil and plants allow a building to absorb less heat and therefore use less air conditioning? Using software developed by Sailor, they can now figure it out.

Sailor is also part of a PSU faculty team mapping Portland and Houston, Texas, block-by-block to determine the precise air temperature coming from asphalt roads and from shady lanes. When he’s done, cities will be able to verify whether planting 100,000 trees, for example, will really pay off in lower temperatures.

The project is also surveying residents to determine what they actually do when they hear an air quality alert, which will help governments determine how best to design effective advisory systems.

For Sailor, cooling off the island all starts with the data. “Understanding the causes of the urban heat island,” he says, “is the first step in knowing what to change.”

Learning from leaves
If you lived inside a leaf, you’d have all the free energy you could want. Sound a little crazy? Scientists have already developed prototypes.

The method is called artificial photosynthesis, and Carl Wamser, professor of chemistry, believes we’ll see commercially viable applications within the decade.

A leaf’s green chlorophyll membrane absorbs sunlight and uses that solar energy to push electrons that exist in the membrane into the plant cell in a form the plant can use for energy.

Wamser and about 50 others researchers worldwide are developing synthetic membranes using a similar process to convert sunlight into electricity—on a scale that one day could be used in homes and skyscrapers.

To date, scientists have created artificial membranes that work; however, these prototypes are only about five percent efficient (compared to silicon cells, which can be 10 to 15 percent efficient). But Wamser is optimistic that current research—including his—will one day result in membranes so efficient, durable, and thin they could be embedded in, say, roof shingles or siding to power a building.

“Scientists like to point out,” says Wamser, “that in one hour the amount of sunlight that falls on the Earth is more than all the energy used worldwide in an entire year.”

Wamser, a longtime solar power enthusiast, is also working with more traditional solar panels. Using a $144,000 U.S. Department of Energy grant, he’ll be testing nine configurations of solar panels. The panels are set to begin operation on top of Cramer Hall in summer 2008.

Melissa Steineger, a Portland freelance writer, wrote the article “A Different Casualty Count” in the fall 2007 Portland State Magazine.
Age-friendly Portland

WRITTEN BY KATHRYN KIRKLAND

FROM ISTANBUL to Rio de Janeiro to Portland, older people are asking for the same things: to be respected, to be included, and to have suitable and affordable housing.

The needs of older adults in 33 cities across 22 countries are candidly revealed in "Age-Friendly Cities: A Guide," recently published by the World Health Organization (WHO). Portland was the only U.S. city to participate in the project, thanks to research conducted by PSU Prof. Margaret Neal, director of the PSU Institute on Aging, and doctoral student Alan DeLaTorre. The guide is aimed to advise city and regional agencies and governments around the globe as they strive to make their cities and services more age-friendly.
A PSU professor and student highlight Portland in a worldwide guide on older adult needs.

Neal says that because of the growing legion of baby boomers, the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area will see a doubling of its 65-and-older population over the next 30 years, making this one of the fastest-growing population segments. The same thing is happening in the rest of the world. The WHO study reports that by 2050, the number of people 60 and older will surpass the number of those 14 and younger for the first time on record.

PORTLAND IS WELL SITUATED to handle this demographic shift in key areas that the WHO guide values: easy transportation, friendly service people, meaningful volunteer opportunities, housing close to shopping, and accessible outdoor and recreation areas with those always important benches and bathrooms.

"People like all the parks, the green spaces, and the environment here," says Neal. "They also like organizations such as Elders in Action, where older adults are consulted with respect to decisions and issues that matter in their daily lives."

Elders in Action was one of several service organizations that provided volunteers, older adults, informal caregivers, and others to serve on focus groups for Neal's study. Participants were asked to evaluate their everyday experiences in such areas as transportation, outdoor spaces, housing affordability, employment, and civic engagement opportunities.

Respect and social inclusion was also evaluated, and Portland scored high with many citizens and business people, including TriMet drivers, showing respect and sensitivity to the needs of "Honored Citizens"—a TriMet term. Educational opportunities such as PSU's free classes and discounted classes at Portland Community College elevated Portland's social inclusion rating.

For Raissa Moore, 71, the opportunity to give back to the city was her top priority, and as a focus group participant, she found that others shared her view.

"TO BE A WORTHY CITIZEN and maintain my dignity, I want to give back to Portland, the city that has given me so much," says Moore. She volunteers at Multnomah County Library, Oregon Humane Society, Portland Parks and Recreation, and at her synagogue. One of her most interesting volunteer jobs is certifying businesses as elder-friendly through Elders in Action. For example, Moore and her cohorts put Portland Nursery through a 10-page certification test. The Southeast Portland business passed with flying colors.

The city does have areas in need of improvement. The lack of affordable housing and employment for those 65 and older was mentioned as a recurring barrier to age-friendliness. Seniors not only found age discrimination in the workforce toward themselves, but also toward their children, who are in their 40s and 50s. However, New Seasons Market scored high in hiring seniors.

Portland is expected to serve as an example in other parts of the world, as cities initiate age-friendly development and practices. The World Health Organizations will follow up with more in-depth studies in years to come.
Fading Voices

Tucker Childs documents the disappearing languages of West Africa, so a culture, a linguistic heritage will not be lost.

WRITTEN BY JEFF KUECHLE

WHEN HE WAS a Peace Corps worker in the remote back-country of Liberia back in the 1970s, Tucker Childs felt like an outsider. "I drew a lot of attention," he says. "They had a saying there—'Eeh, white men!'"

Then one day, Childs noticed a villager who reminded him vividly of Buddy Bertha, an old man Childs had known when he was growing up in the Midwest. "It was like an epiphany, only longer lasting," Childs explains "—a realization that, at the level of everyday interaction, just in being human, there are so many connections between us. And suddenly my sense of otherness was gone."

Nelson Mandela once said, "If you speak a language a man can understand, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart."

Over a career that spans three decades, Childs, a professor in PSU's Department of Applied Linguistics, has been speaking to the hearts of Africans. He has dedicated his career to a highly unusual specialty: documenting and preserving the disappearing tribal languages of West Africa, in nations like Guinea and Sierra Leone.

RIGHT NOW, Childs is working on his most ambitious project yet—the three-year Documenting Krim and Bom Project in Sierra Leone. Funded by grants from University of London's Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Project and the National Science Foundation, Childs and students from the U.S., Europe, and Africa will track down and record the few remaining speakers of the Krim and Bom languages of West Africa.

Once common, Krim and Bom have been supplanted by the Mende language in Sierra Leone, one of the most widely spoken of the country's 20-plus languages and dialects. The reasons for their disappearance are complex, and include the changing political landscape of the country, the rise of militarism in this formerly peaceful part of the continent, and simple socioeconomics: to find work, people need to speak a common language.
"The tribes are still around, but they're adapting—assimilating," Childs says. "Many people there don't understand what we're doing. But the old people who speak Mani are so flattered. The last time I was there, we found two old ladies who had been refused permission to sing at a Susu festival. We interviewed them, and they were so grateful that we had given them a chance to speak."

Childs estimates that there are fewer than 40 fluent speakers of Krim left in Sierra Leone, and even fewer speakers of Bom, all scattered throughout the country's swampy coastal areas. "These people are really hard to find—they're all old, they don't speak it every day, it's a real challenge, but it's rewarding," he says.

Under Childs' direction, the members of the Documenting Krim and Bom Project team will search out those who speak the language, then document them via audiotape and videotape during Sierra Leone's dry season, from September through June. There will be two years of intensive fieldwork, followed by a year of writing up the results.

THE WORK IS GRINDING—and, at times, distressing. Childs, who speaks fluent Spanish and French, as well as Kisi, Swahili, Liberian English, and a smattering of many other African dialects, lost 40 pounds the last time he was in Africa. He's endured malaria and had guns pointed at him. The region's civil unrest has spawned horrific violence in recent decades.

"The physical context and grinding poverty are the two most salient features," he says. "The fact that the culture is so different is obviously another challenge. It's very hard work—you have to have a sense of yourself, but you also have to have the ability to subvert yourself and melt into the other culture."

Childs' situation is a little unusual because no one in Sierra Leone has asked him to come and document the country's disappearing languages, and he is pessimistic that they can be saved. But the project is part of Childs' efforts to bring healing to a region that has known inestimable sorrow and war since he first lived there as a Peace Corps volunteer.

"It's helping them to feel that their language and culture is legitimate," Childs says. Restoring the languages to viability, however, is another matter. "That's up to the people," Childs says.

WHAT WILL BE THE END RESULT of Childs' years of work? "The final product depends on what people want," he says. "We will definitely produce a dictionary and will also make available videos, recordings, pedagogical materials, whatever media they can use. Ultimately everything will be digitized and stored at the University of London and here. We've filled two 50-gig servers with what we already have."

So why is Childs willing to dedicate years of his professional life searching for disappearing languages in the backcountry of Africa? "I do it because it's something that would otherwise be lost," he says. "It's part of the world's cultural and linguistic heritage. If there are no other languages left to study, what are we going to do—study English all the time? Language is culture, and we are left poorer for the loss of a culture. I'm struck by the fact that the same places that are experiencing a loss of biodiversity are also experiencing a loss of linguistic diversity. The parallels are exact."

Jeff Kuechle, a Portland freelance writer, wrote the article "Generation Boomerang" in the fall 2007 Portland State Magazine.
In the world of zero-g

FORGIVE MARK WEISLOGEL if he looks a little tired. He’s about to leave for Japan, and he just got back from India. “I spent 30 hours in transit to get there,” he says, “First I flew to London, then Bombay, Bangalore, and Hyderabad. I couldn’t sleep on the planes, so I was up for 50 straight hours.”

Weislogel, a professor in the thermal and fluid sciences group at Portland State’s Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science, finds himself a sought-after presenter in the field of fluid dynamics, thanks to his work with NASA on the International Space Station. Designed to illustrate fluid movement processes under zero- or micro-gravity conditions, Weislogel’s experiments offer the promise of better fluid movement and delivery systems in the future—ranging from bubble-free IV systems for hospitals, to “lab on chip” modules used to process biological samples, to more efficient hydrogen fuel cells, to improved ink cartridges for computer printers and copiers.

“It’s pretty exciting,” Weislogel says. “NASA wants us to tell the story.” Hence Weislogel’s upcoming presentation at the International Symposium on the Physical Sciences in Japan, with presentations to follow in China, Australia, Canada, and the United States.

Moving liquids, when gravity does not apply, is the specialty of this engineering professor.

WRITTEN BY JEFF KUECHLE

Photo by Kelly James
Weislogel’s specialty may be obscure, but the basic concept is simple. On Earth, fluid management systems like water mains and automobile fuel tanks work with gravity to move their contents around. Weislogel and his co-investigators, including Purdue University’s Steven Collicott, are investigating how the shape and dimension of their containers can help move liquids when gravity doesn’t apply. While the immediate applications of this technology are improved water and fuel systems for spacecraft, there is also an extensive array of potential applications here on Earth.

“The better we understand how capillary flow works in space, the better we can make these systems work on the ground,” Weislogel says. “The possibilities are limitless for things like biological scaffolds—peptide-based, laboratory-grown support systems that can help spinal cord injury patients regenerate nerve tissue, ‘high-efficiency fuel cells that rely on capillary flow, and things like better laptop cooling systems, which are driven by wicking.”

BY DAY, WEISLOGEL can be found in a PSU classroom, teaching courses in Applied Fluid Mechanics and Thermodynamics as well as Capillary Flows and Phenomena. In his “spare” time, he and his grad students are immersed in grant-funded research for NASA, the National Science Foundation, and private corporations. Most of the experiments they design are focused on unlocking the mysteries of capillary flow, including what happens when the surface of a liquid comes into contact with a solid. “Wicking”—the phenomenon that occurs when you dip the corner of a paper towel in water—is one example of capillary flow.

On Earth, gravity tends to overwhelm and dampen capillary force. But in space, in the near-absence of gravity, capillary forces express themselves freely. Introduce a rotating vane to a specially designed vessel, for example, and the agitated liquid—silicone oil, in the case of Weislogel’s NASA experiments—reacts far differently than it does on Earth. Careful review of the ultra-slow-motion videos of the zero-g NASA experiments reveals nuances of liquid behavior that exponentially multiply the data Weislogel and his colleagues would obtain from a similar, earthbound experiment.

NASA is interested in Weislogel’s research because of the unique engineering challenges inherent in a zero-g environment. Instead of hugging the bottom of the tank as it does on Earth, liquid rocket fuel, for example, becomes a free-floating blob of liquid, reacting to the motion of the shuttle vehicle. The less fuel is in the tank, the more room the “blob” has to move around, and the more acute the problem becomes.

“Aboard the shuttle, you don’t want to have liquid shifting unpredictably from one side of a container to the other,” Weislogel says. “It may sound like a small thing, but when you’re talking about 80,000 pounds of rocket fuel, that’s a pretty significant weight shift. If you didn’t predict it, that would be very bad; it would shift the entire center of gravity on the ship.”

By changing the geometry of the containers used to carry liquids on board the shuttle—say, from a cylinder to an ellipse—and introducing simple elements like internal vanes to shift the liquid from one part of the container to another, Weislogel and colleagues are helping NASA solve such vexing problems. “Most of the older systems rotated to produce artificial gravity,” he explains. “That adds risk, mass, and power draw. The solutions we’re designing are more passive and elegant. They may or may not perform as well, but then again, they may not need to.”

BECAUSE NASA IS PLEASED with the information generated by Weislogel’s 19 capillary flow experiments aboard the International Space Station, it has asked him to help design the futuristic fluid delivery systems aboard its next-generation Crew Exploration Vehicle (CEV). The CEV, currently scheduled for deployment in 2014, will be capable of carrying a crew of four into lunar orbit.

It’s an exciting prospect. But for now, Weislogel is keeping his feet firmly on the ground. After a career that included 10 years at NASA and a stint at a private aerospace firm in Colorado, he chose Portland State.

“I wanted to come to PSU because it was the most interesting place in the Northwest that I looked at,” Weislogel says. “I felt PSU was on the rise, and I wanted to be a part of that. I love the whole student-teacher thing. I love helping my students along their path and firing them up about science. They’re really good—they can do anything. I really like them—don’t tell them that, but I do.”

In his campus lab, Prof. Mark Weislogel’s work is bound by gravity, unlike his capillary flow experiments aboard the International Space Station, which astronauts have conducted on at least seven expeditions.
**Coming back strong**

**WHOEVER SAID YOU** can’t go home again? You can and the experience the second time around can be even better than before.

That’s what Sherri Murrell, head women’s basketball coach, is experiencing in a whirlwind six months since her return to the Park Blocks. An Oregon native, Murrell served as an assistant coach for the Vikings for two seasons from 1996 to 1998 under Jenny Yopp. She left Portland State for the head coaching position at University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, and later at Washington State University in Pullman. After nine seasons away from Portland, Murrell came home to replace head coach Charity Elliott, who resigned after three seasons at the helm.

“I pinch myself every day to make sure this is really happening,” says Murrell. “I’m so excited to be back in Portland and coaching at Portland State.”

While Murrell was in charge of rebuilding programs at Pacific and Washington State, she doesn’t view Portland State as another renovation project. Even though the Vikings have not had a winning season since going 18-10 in 1998-99, Portland State seems poised for a breakout year.

“Charity did a great job recruiting players; we’re just not real big on experience right now,” says Murrell.

Ironically, Murrell was the assistant coach who recruited most of the players on the 1998-99 PSU squad. She left to take the head coaching job at Pacific prior to the start of that season, when the team made its first and only Big Sky Tournament Championship game appearance.

Things changed at PSU while Murrell was gone. The Vikings are more established as a Big Sky Conference member and ready to take that next step toward climbing to the top of the conference—a “Championship Journey” as Murrell calls it.

You can go home again—it’s just about timing.
Lokey gift elevates Judaic Studies

PROMINENT PHILANTHROPIST
Lorry Lokey raised the profile of PSU's rapidly growing Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies with a $1.5 million gift in August to create a new faculty chair. The Lorry I. Lokey Chair in Judaic Studies will support a scholar of international distinction with expertise in the history and culture of modern European Jewry.

"This gift is absolutely transformative," says Michael Weingrad, academic director of the program. "It meets student interest in the often glorious, often tragic story of modern Jewish experience in Europe, including, of course, the Holocaust. And it brings us a giant step closer to our vision of four, full-time faculty positions in Judaic Studies, teaching about Jewish life and culture in modern Europe, America, Israel, and the pre-modern world."

Portland State's program, founded in 2002 with leadership support from the Harold Schnitzer Family, takes an interdisciplinary approach to understanding the encounter of Jews and Judaism with the modern world. In five years, Weingrad and his colleagues have successfully launched a minor degree option with courses in Hebrew language and a broad range of cultural, social, religious, and political topics—as well as a summer program, annual lecture series, and partnerships with other community groups.

Lokey, who grew up in Portland, credits his early education at Alameda Elementary and Grant High School with shaping his character. In 1961, he founded Business Wire, a San Francisco-based international media relations company with over 25,000 clients. Now chairman emeritus of the company, Lokey devotes considerable energy to philanthropy. He has said publicly that he intends to give away the bulk of his fortune over the next decade. His gift to Portland State is one of many significant contributions, which he and his life partner, Joanne Harrington, have made in recent years to universities in the United States.

BY KATRINA RATZLAFF

Annual fund tops $1 million

FOR THE FIRST time ever, Portland State's annual fund streaked by the million-dollar milestone. Contributions during 2006-2007 increased 20 percent over the previous year.

"We are thrilled to see annual support for PSU grow to this level," says Tracy Mendoza, director of Annual Giving. "This $1 million encompasses gifts of $1 up to $25,000 from thousands of Portland State alumni, faculty, staff, students, parents, and friends."

Student scholarships, faculty research, and programs and community partnerships throughout campus benefit from annual fund contributions.

"Our heartfelt thanks go out to every person who said "yes" to a student caller from the Telefund, responded to a letter, gave online, or simply made a spontaneous contribution," says Mendoza. "It's impossible to overemphasize the impact of your support."

BY KATRINA RATZLAFF

NEARLY $17 MILLION AND GROWING

Individuals, businesses, foundations and community organizations contributed a total of $16,974,103 to Portland State during 2006-2007. Private gifts benefit every area of the University, from promising students and outstanding faculty to exceptional opportunities for learning, service, research, and achievement. To read more stories about the impact of giving to PSU and view the annual honor roll of donors, visit www.pdx.edu/giving. To make a 2008 gift to Portland State, visit www.foundation.pdx.edu.
Her mother would be proud

ON THE SURFACE, sophomore Molly Conroy seems a typical pre-med student: smart, self-possessed, focused. If you didn't ask her, you might never know she's also exceptionally resilient. She's had to be.

Her mother, a PSU alumna, died unexpectedly when Conroy was five years old—a turn of events that tested her emotionally, socially, and financially throughout her life. Conroy was undaunted, yet each time she reached a milestone in her childhood, she wondered what it would have been like to share the experience with her mother.

Now she has something to keep that connection alive as the recipient of the 2007 Jane Wiener Memorial Alumni Scholarship. Given by the PSU Alumni Association to children of alumni who lack the financial resources to attend Portland State, the scholarship covers tuition and fees for up to 15 terms. This milestone was, in a way, shared by Conroy and her mother. Conroy earned the scholarship, awarded once every four years, but her mother's 1990 graduation from PSU made it possible for her to apply.

To cover other expenses and gain experience in health care, Conroy works three jobs: resident assistant at The Broadway building, certified nursing assistant at OHSU, and PSU Student Ambassador. Student Ambassadors give campus tours and serve as representatives of the student population at official functions. Conroy was one of 13 chosen from a pool of almost 90 applicants.

Conroy is motivated by what she thinks her mother would have liked to do, such as travel. That drew her to become the youngest person in the Institute on Aging's Nicaragua Service Learning Program in August. The two-week project took PSU students to Central America, where they held a health fair for the elderly.

Alan DeLaTorre, Ph.D. candidate and student leader for the program, says Conroy, who had worked in a retirement community her freshman year, helped the project planning team—researchers to the core—understand the practical needs of the elderly.

"As we were developing the day-to-day program," DeLaTorre says, "Molly pointed out how important touch is for older people." As a result, the health fair included foot and hand massages for older Nicaraguans, with Conroy rolling up her sleeves to help.

Conroy can't really explain what motivates her, but she thinks she may have inherited one of her mom's personality traits, illustrated by a story her aunt told her about their elementary school days.

As her aunt remembers the story, Conroy's mother once tackled the "cool" kid in school because the kid had dared make fun of the aunt. "My mom had spunk," says Conroy, proudly.

So, too, does her daughter.
Association board members appreciated

FIVE MEMBERS RETIRED from the Alumni Board after distinguished service during the past six years. They are Jackie Bell '71, who served on the Connections Committee; Rob Edmiston '84, also a member of the Connections Committee; Roberta McEniry '76, PSU Weekend chair and board president during 2005-06; Gary Purpura '71, Investment Committee chair; and Trish Trout MA '88, PSU Weekend chair and board president during 2004-05.

New members joining the board this fall are Charles “Chip” Dunn '01, a relationship manager with MBank; Kendal McDonald MA '02, an archaeologist; Milica Markovic '04, a program coordinator with the World Affairs Council; Barbara Verchot MPA '97; and Rick Watson MBA '00, a consultant. The volunteer board members serve three, two-year terms and commit to at least one board committee.

At home and around the world with PSU alumni

1 In September, Robert "Mitch" Michel brought nine family members, including wife, Mary Beth, and son, Sean '99, to an Alumni Association-sponsored tailgate party before the Viking vs. San Diego State game at Qualcomm Stadium. Viking football alumni Jayson Hefley '07 and Erik Ries '97 also attended. Joel '65 and Colleen McCloud were among the many guests at an alumni reception the night before.

2 "This has been the best weekend I've ever spent at PSU!" said Barbara Tombleson '78 (right to left) as she poses with keynote speaker Frances Moore Lappe and her sister, Peggy Tombleson '87, who went on to say, "I'm devoted to life-long learning and this fits the bill for me. I loved Ms. Lappe and Jost Lottes, the baby-boomer retirement lecturer." The sisters and many other alumni and friends attended the 17th annual PSU Weekend celebration of life-long learning on campus October 27.

3 Pianist and faculty member Susan Chan (left) talks with Andrew Millar, son of Branford Price Millar, PSU’s third president, at an alumni reception following her Carnegie Hall concert in September. Millar and his wife, Sandra, were among the 35 guests who attended. Artist Thomas Lovcik '61, a lifetime alumni association member, and architect Mike Gibson '97 were also at the event.

4 In October, University administrators were in Tokyo to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Waseda University, a Portland State partner institution. Hiro Ejima '95 (right) congratulates Maki Shina '04 on her new job with the Tokyo Foundation at a special dinner for alumni. Ejima is a manager at Starbucks in Tokyo. Other alumni at the event, included Hiroshi Sakai '71, Koichiro Ue '96, and Hideo Uratani '74.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

JANUARY 17
Business Briefing: Oregon’s Emerging Medical Industry Cluster
For details: e-mail www.sba@pdx.edu

JANUARY 25
Robert Burns Dinner,
a benefit for the School of Fine and Performing Arts
For details: e-mail macleanj@pdx.edu

JANUARY 26 AND 31
Alumni Basketball Nights,
sponsored by PSUAA
For details: www.alumni.pdx.edu

FEBRUARY 23
Night of Wine and Roses,
sponsored by Athletics Department
For details: www.goviks.com

MARCH 15
Special Education Reunion,
sponsored by Graduate School of Education
For details: e-mail wiscars@pdx.edu

APRIL 9-10
Seattle-area alumni events,
sponsored by PSUAA
For details: www.alumni.pdx.edu and watch your mail

APRIL 10
MPA Alumni gathering/reunion
(1985-1995)
For details: www.alumni.pdx.edu or e-mail hamilton@pdx.edu

APRIL 25
Alumni Opera Night,
sponsored by PSUAA
For details: www.alumni.pdx.edu

MAY 8
PSU Salutes, honoring outstanding alumni and faculty
For details: www.alumni.pdx.edu

STAY CONNECTED
JOIN THE PSUAA TODAY
www.alumni.pdx.edu

WINTER 2008 PORTLAND STATE MAGAZINE 21
Making history

ROBERT K. "BOB" SUTTON MA '73 has gone from historian for Oregon State Parks in the 1970s to an appointment this fall as chief historian of the National Park Service.

Sutton is only the ninth person to occupy this top post with the park service since it was created 76 years ago. And he credits Portland State's History Department—in particular the late Prof. Gordon Dodds—with launching his career.

"I just became completely absorbed in history while I was there," Sutton exults. "My classes in history at PSU were hard, but they gave me the discipline I needed to succeed."

While Sutton was pursuing his master's degree, he worked part time as a ranger at Fort Vancouver, a job Dodds steered him towards. He also was a curator at the Oregon Historical Society. Sutton completed his Portland State degree with emphasis on the Civil War and Western history and later obtained a Ph.D. from Washington State University.

For the past 12 years Sutton was supervisor of the Manassas National Battlefield Park in Virginia, which attracts more than 800,000 annual visitors. At Manassas, Sutton emphasized not just the battles and soldiers but the experience of civilians and slaves, as well as the causes of the War Between the States.

From his new office in Washington, D.C., Sutton provides direction to the national parks interpreting the significance of America's historically designated places. There are two major projects on his to-do list: the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War (2011-2015) and the 2016 centennial of the National Park Service.

A native Oreganian, Sutton often visits his parents, now in their 90s, who are still in good health and living in Salem. When he can, he stops in at Fort Vancouver "happy to see much that is familiar, and much that is new and wonderful." ■ BY CLIFF COLLINS
Jerry Gordon '68 has joined the PSU Alumni Board of Directors. Gordon is a retired high school teacher and coach. He lives in Portland.

Joe Spooner '68 is a self-employed illustrator and author living in Portland. Spooner wrote and illustrated a book titled *N is for Nostir*, an alphabet book for children, which was published and released in October.

Roy Barbour '69 is a senior systems programmer at Intel Corporation in Hillsboro.

Ron Campbell '69, MA '70 started a Dracula-themed blood drive this past Halloween at North Carolina State University, where he teaches business law. The drive reached maximum capacity of student donors. Campbell, who has donated 25 gallons of blood in his lifetime, got other colleges in the area to hold their own drives that day. He hopes to have hundreds of schools participate next year.

1970-79

Ned Helzer '70, MST '71 retired from the Reynolds School District, where he was a health and physical education teacher. Helzer and his wife spend winters in Mesa, Arizona, and enjoy sunshine, golf, and travel.

Larry St. Pierre '70 lives on Isla Colon, a tropical island in northeast Panama. St. Pierre is involved with the Bocas Educational Services, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving educational services in Bocas del Toro. He tutors three American boys and teaches English and business at the local high school. He also volunteered to map, name, and number some of the rural roads and streets. St. Pierre writes, "This whole experience is . . . like Prof. Dodds' History of the Westward Movement course. We didn't discuss much about urban planning."

Larry Medinger '71 was appointed by Gov. Ted Kulongoski to chair the Oregon State Housing Council. The agency sets housing policy and administers federal and state anti-poverty, homeless, energy assistance, and community service programs. Medinger owns and operates Medinger Construction Company in Ashland.

Richard "Dick" Chiesa MBA '74 owns Coquille Valley Financial Management, a tax and financial services practice in Myrtle Point. In recognition of his commitment to his clients and his professionalism as a financial services professional, Chiesa received the excellence award from H.D. Vest Financial Services, a non-bank subsidiary of Wells Fargo & Company.

Scott Davis '74 was recently named chairman and chief executive of UPS (United Parcel Services). Davis, who lives in Alpharetta, Georgia, joined the company in 1986 and served in positions of increasing responsibility in finance and accounting before assuming the role of chief financial officer in 2001. Read about his career in a past *Portland State Magazine* at www.pdx.edu/magazine/profiles/7568/.

Joan Hoss MSW '74 is director of human services for Sutter County in Yuba City, California. Hoss has been with the agency for 30 years, serving as assistant human services director since 1996.

Bruce Williamson '75 is conductor of the Southwest Washington Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and teaches orchestra at Kelso High School and two middle schools in Kelso, Washington.

June (Jackson) Balaban MA '77 is retired and lives in Edmond, Oklahoma. Balaban is building and maintaining a library—pre-K through high school—in a shelter for abused and neglected children, and a home for teen mothers.

Labib Baltagi '77 is a certified public accountant and owns Labib Baltagi, CPA, in North Miami Beach, Florida. Baltagi would like to reconnect with old friends and can be reached at baltagi46@aol.com.

Stephen Stetson '77 has been elected senior vice commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). This is the second highest position in the state of Washington. Stetson hopes to be elected the State Four commander in June, a supervisory position for more than 33,000 VFW veterans.

Bernard "Bernie" Kleutsch '78 is a manager with the Oregon Department of Transportation, where he supervises a group of structural, hydraulic, and geotechnical engineers; engineering geologists; hazmat specialists; and drafters. He lives in Keizer.

Kenneth Rust '78 is the city of Portland chief administrative officer. Rust's duties include coordinating human resources, purchasing and technology for Portland, and managing the city buildings and budget. He previously served as Portland's chief financial officer and as the debt manager.

1980-89

Bethe (LeCoure) McChesney MS '80 is co-founder of the Itafari Foundation, which benefits Rwanda in the aftermath of the 1994 genocide. Information on the foundation is available on the Web at www.itafari.org.

Kelly (Hall) Reams MSW '80 writes that she was among the first class that graduated from the Oregon Psychoanalytic Institute in 2004—becoming its first social work psychoanalyst. Reams now owns a practice in northeast Portland and is also a faculty member at the institute.

Ellen (Gordon) Yager '82, MST '89 is music specialist for Lyle Elementary School in Dallas, Oregon. Yager teaches general music in kindergarten through fifth grade. She also teaches an after-school elementary community choir at the school and is a piano accompanist for a choir at LaCreole Middle School. She lives in Oregon City with her husband, Steve, two dogs, and one cat.

Deborah Bond '83 is the city of Gresham finance director, after having served as deputy director for three years. Bond previously spent 11 years working for Portland's water bureau. In her spare time, she enjoys golfing and bike riding.

Lisa Rawlings '83 is principal at McBride Elementary School in St. Helens. Rawlings previously taught in the Beaverton and Redmond school districts. She and her husband have three children.

Nelson Wong '83 is a network hardware engineer at Intel Corporation in Hillsboro.

Linda Samek MS '84, EdD '03 received the Oscar Schaaf Secondary Mathematics Education Award at a ceremony in August. The award is given by the Oregon Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Samek has spent more than 30 years in education and has been an advocate for high quality mathematics teaching for all students. She is provost and professor of teacher education at Corban College in Salem. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, hiking, and traveling.

Jeff Davis '85 sold his landscape business in 2006 and is now semi-retired. Davis lives in central Oregon.
Jan Hootman MST '85 was inducted into the National Association of School Nurses Academy of Fellows at its convention this fall. Hootman is a supervisor for the Multnomah Education Service District and has served in the field for 26 years.

Richard Roper MBA '86 is operations manager for Standard Builders Supply in Salt Lake City. Roper is responsible for the company's lumber operations, as well as security, safety, and facilities maintenance.

Maryann Beebe '87 is director of marketing training in the U.S. human health division at Merck & Company, Inc., in North Wales, Pennsylvania. Beebe won Merck's marketing award for FOSAMAX (treatment of osteoporosis). She and her husband live in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Enrique Nikutowski '87 is senior technical manager at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Nikutowski serves as the commercialization leader for the company's digital orthodontic scanner.

Tim Olson '87 is vice president of sales for Bend Broadband and Central Oregon Cable Advertising. Olson previously worked with TCI, AT&T Media Services, and Comcast Spotlight.

Cheryl (Petersen) Craig '88 is an Internet buyer for www.solutions.com at Norm Thompson Outfitters. Craig lives in Hillsboro.

Sylvia Gray '88, MA '91 is a full-time instructor of history at Portland Community College. Last May, Gray participated in the 2007 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition for Outstanding Amateurs in Fort Worth, Texas.

Tim Miller '88 is regional business banking manager for Southern Oregon at Wells Fargo Banking Group. Miller manages a team of four business bankers and has been with the firm since 2002. He lives in Medford.

Dixie Lund EdD '89 is interim president at Eastern Oregon University (EOU) in LaGrande. Lund retired in 2004 after working at EOU for 31 years, most recently as dean of the division of distance education. This is the second time since 2003 that Lund will serve as interim president. She has been married to Ed Lund '72 for 38 years.

Theresa Reed '89 is a Portland freelance writer and speaker, who for more than a decade has covered the adult entertainment industry and alternative sexuality beats. She is assistant editor at YNOT.com, an adult entertainment industry online resource, and owner of Darklady Productions.

**1990-99**

Robert Van Winkle '90 received a master's degree in quality management from Webster University in St. Louis in March. Van Winkle works with Integraph Corporation, a mapping and GIS company where he says he utilizes both his geography degree from PSU and his later degree. His wife, Catherine (Brown) Van Winkle '91, is a part-time strings instructor in the Mehlville School District, St. Louis County.

Michael Menger '91 writes, "I'm living in New York City pursuing my acting, writing, and directing career. I've appeared on the sitcom Hope and Faith, and have a commercial running on national television as the Crest Spinbrush pro guy. In addition, I've been doing several voice overs for local and national radio and TV spots. I am working on a play in development titled Secrets: The Untold Story of Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung. I'm also producing an original musical extravaganza, The Really BIG Pirate Show, which I wrote (my wife composed the music). We produced an earlier version of the work in Portland at the Winningstad Theatre in 2001."

William Ghormley MST '92 relocated to Luxembourg and teaches music to primary and middle school students at the International School of Luxembourg. Ghormley writes, "I am having a ball traveling around Europe in my time off from my duties at the school." He previously completed 30 years as a music teacher for the Evergreen Public Schools in Vancouver, Washington.

Scott Kepner '92 owns Riverview Animal Hospital in Vancouver, Washington, and has been practicing small animal veterinary medicine for 11 years. Kepner has three children, ages 5, 6, and 11.

Linda Lipscomb MSW '92 is a licensed clinical social worker in Oxnard, California. Lipscomb writes, "We recently fulfilled our lifelong dream of living at the beach, when we moved this past spring. Private practice office (x2) keeps us busy."

Dale Wishewan '92 is co-founder of Booster Juice, a juice and smoothie bar chain. Wishewan and his partner's goal was to create nutritious drinks that taste good, but did not contain an abundance of sugar and artificial ingredients. The first stores were in Canada but are now being opened in markets across the U.S. While at PSU, he was a member of the Vikings baseball team. He lives in Lake Oswego.

John DeWitt MBA '93 is a product marketing engineer for the business client group at Intel Corporation in Hillsboro.

Stephen Graves '93 is senior government account executive at Sprint Nextel in South Burlington, Vermont.

and his wife have two daughters, Sofia and Alexis.

Denise Damico '94 is costume shop manager at Seattle Repertory Theatre. Damico previously was a staff design assistant with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival for nine years.

Allyn (formerly MacInnes) Bailey '94 is studio executive at the Mendota Heights, Minnesota, branch of Allen Interactions, a custom designer and developer of e-learning programs for corporations. Bailey previously was business manager and model workplace research strategist for Intel IT Flex Services in Oregon.

Scott Lippold '94 is a corporate implementation specialist at Barrett Business Services, Inc., in Vancouver, Washington. Lippold has 15 years of management experience in staffing, project management, and retail management. He was a radioman while serving in the U.S. Navy and received the Armed Forces Expeditionary and Navy Achievement medals.

Darin Molnar '94, MA '99 earned a Ph.D. in organization and management with a specialization in leadership from Capella University in June.

Kaloni Taylor MSW '94 is a therapist and lead clinical staff person at Youth Dynamics, Inc., in Great Falls, Montana. Taylor has had two therapeutic workshops for children published and is also a poet.

Heather Devine '95, MS '97 is the Wheeler soil and water conservation district engineering technician. Devine provides technical and engineering assistance to the district for landowner projects, including grant-funded practices for conservation of natural resources. She also assists with project design, contracting, permitting, monitoring and implementation of the district's technical programs.
Beyond the water cooler

NOVA NEWCOMER ‘99 has a simple message for companies: In our technologically sophisticated world, the office water cooler no longer cuts it for employee communication.

The water cooler symbolizes the grapevine in which employee perspectives and concerns circulate, often becoming magnified and distorted in the process. During her six-year stint with Adidas Group, Newcomer found a better way.

As senior manager of internal communication at Adidas, she developed an innovative internal communications platform known as “Ask The Management.” Its success inspired her to found Blue Hill Solutions in Portland with her husband and business partner, Peat Bakke, in 2006. The two came up with a secure software application, Chatter Mill, based on the “Ask the Management” concept.

“While managing Adidas communications for 2,000 employees across 25 countries, I recognized the need for a platform for improving employee-management communication,” says Newcomer.

Using Chatter Mill, employees can ask questions, air ideas or complaints, and receive a response from management—all anonymously.

“It’s not scientific, but it gives you a snapshot in time of what people are thinking about an issue,” she explains. Providing confidentiality encourages safe idea-sharing and thought-provoking discussion, Newcomer contends.

The service, launched in May 2007, has garnered good reviews and attracted corporate attention. Companies are recognizing that members of their current work force, especially the rising younger generations, “want access to tools that allow them to express their ideas,” she says.

Newcomer, a native Portlander and high school athlete, began communicating early. She was a public-address announcer for Parkrose High School football and basketball games. Thinking she might pursue a career in sports casting, she worked in the Athletics Department at PSU as a media assistant. She also started taking classes on the side, completing a degree in political science.

Much of athletics is teamwork—a concept that stuck with Newcomer, who is helping companies come together and work it out each and every workday. ■ BY CLIFF COLLINS
In 12 years, his gift will pay his granddaughter's college tuition.

Bill created a deferred charitable gift annuity using the four-year college option. When his granddaughter is ready to attend the college of her choice, the annuity will provide her with fixed payments over four years. Any remaining annuity funds will go to PSU.

Benefits of the "college option" deferred charitable gift annuity are:

- You select the recipient of the payments.
- Fixed payments to the recipient begin at a date you select and continue for four years.
- The annuity pays generous interest rates.
- You receive an immediate charitable income tax deduction.

A deferred gift annuity with lifetime payments may also be created to supplement retirement.

For more information on including PSU in your estate plan, view our Web site or contact Mary Anne Rees, Director of Gift Planning, at 503-725-5086, e-mail mrees@pdx.edu, or visit www.pdx.edu/giving/planned.

Please consult your tax adviser to see how this option would work for your own situation.
fifth annual Filipina Women's Network Summit in Washington, D.C., in October. Oliveros is the multicultural center coordinator at Portland Community College and adjunct faculty in the Women's Studies Department at PSU. In 2005, she formed the Portland Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines to raise awareness of the country's ever-worsening human rights violations and to mobilize support for the international campaign, "Stop the Killings in the Philippines." She also helped establish the Asian Pacific American Compass Radio Collective, the only news and public affairs show of its kind in the Pacific Northwest.

Brian Eagle Heart '99 is a banker at Wells Fargo Private Bank in Portland. He previously was business relationship manager for Wells Fargo in Rancho Mirage, California.

Angela Niederloh '99 sang her first lead role in Portland Opera's Cinderella in November. The mezzo-soprano sang the role of Angelina, better known as Cinderella, in the Gioacchino Rossini opera.

2000-2007

Nick Adams '00, MS '07 is a senior software engineer at Intel Corporation. Adams lives in Beaverton.

William "Mick" Bittick MS '00 coaches football, men's basketball, and both women's and men's track, and also teaches humanities related classes at Waldport High School. In his spare time, Bittick is a sports photographer and enjoys scuba diving.

Margaret Boutell MBA '00 is director of the community development department at Jefferson County. Boutell previously was community services director for Veneta. She lives in Madras and enjoys gardening and hiking.

Heather Ellis MS '00 is human resources coordinator at Kandy Weaver & Associates in Boise, Idaho. Ellis formerly worked for the Idaho Commerce and Labor Employer Association. She is bilingual in Spanish and English and served four years as a linguist for the U.S. Army.

Melissa Goff MS '00 is the Sherwood School District director of teaching and learning. Goff has been an educator at the elementary, middle school, and high school level and most recently served as principal at Sky View Middle School in the central Oregon district.

Peter "Pete" Danner MS '01 is principal at Claggett Creek Middle School in Keizer, where he previously served as assistant principal.

Charles "Chip" Dunn '01 has joined the PSU Alumni Board of Directors. Dunn is a relationship officer at MBank in Gladstone. While at PSU, he was a member of the Vikings football team.

Dustin Mead MBA '01 is a commercial loan officer at ShoreBank Pacific in Ilwaco, Washington. Mead has been with the firm for 10 years.

Alfred Watson '01 is a civil engineer with the U.S. Forest Service stationed at Mount St. Helens National Monument. Watson and his wife, Joelle, have 3-year-old twins, who "make us laugh every day."

Leah (Barkhurst) Christensen MSW '02 is a social work clinician at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. Christensen works in the areas of pediatric oncology and stem cell transplant.

Mary Cunningham '02 and Chris Moller '01 were married October 7 at McMenamin's Grand Lodge in Forest Grove. As students at PSU, both were active in student government; Cunningham was student body president, and Moller was chair of the student fee committee. The two reconnected at a "young alumni" party at Cassidy's in August 2006 and became engaged six months later. John Wykoff '02 (former Vanguard editor) officiated at the wedding ceremony, and a number of alumni and former PSU students were in attendance.

Addie Gurgurich '02 is a professor at the University of Central Florida in the Nicholson School of Communication teaching public speaking and business and professional communication courses. Gurgurich is pursuing a second master's degree in elementary education (her first master's degree was in mass media communications). She writes, "I moved to Orlando in 2003 to pursue a career in music management, spending two years working on a celebrity charity event. My plans changed and my degree from Portland State came into good use when I decided to pursue a master's degree. I owe my successes to Jill Freeman of the Communication Department at PSU. What a great undergraduate communication program."

Christopher Kleck '02 graduated from University of Arizona medical school in 2007 and is a resident in their orthopedic surgery program.
**ALUMNI NOTES**

Shawn (Gonda) Macalester '02 graduated from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2006. Macalester completed his internship and is a second-year resident in the internal medicine program at Doctors Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. He is married to Skye Macalester '05, a clinical research coordinator at Ohio State University.

Kendal McDonald MA '02 has been elected to the PSU Alumni Board of Directors. McDonald is officer manager and archaeologist at Applied Archaeological Research, Inc., in Portland. She and her husband, Dan McDonald MBA '91, live in Beaverton.

Rebecca Ragain '02 owns a Portland-based freelance writing and marketing business. Ragain received a fellowship to attend the NEA Arts Journalism Institute for Dance Criticism on the Duke University campus in June.

Brian Kearns MS '03 is manager of quality control at Fox Interactive Media in Beverly Hills, California. Kearns stopped by the PSU Alumni Office while in Portland attending the Pacific Northwest software quality conference. He says Prof. Cindy Brown encouraged him to study computer science and helped him succeed.

James "Pat" Mobley '03, MPA '07 is manager of investor relations at the Columbia River Economic Development Council in Vancouver, Washington. Mobley manages communications with 170 agencies and private entities that fund the agency.

Erica Rumpel '03 is a yoga instructor at Nature Yoga Sanctuary in Chicago. Rumpel writes, "I have been teaching yoga to adults, children, and at-risk youth for four years. In the fall of 2007, I entered graduate school to pursue a master's degree in clinical psychology."

Tara Warrick '03 is an academic adviser with Capella University, an online university. Warrick received a master's degree in education curriculum and instruction from University of Phoenix in May 2007.

Matthew Horner MPA '04 is a consular officer with the U.S. Foreign Service. Horner previously worked for the U.S. Department of Justice as a liaison between Cuban refugees and the U.S. Marine Corps in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, and most recently was coordinator of the Reynolds School District's English as a second language program.

Chantelle Heine Horoz '04 is a realtor with Coldwell Banker in San Diego.

Milica Markovic '04 has joined the PSU Alumni Board of Directors. Markovic is program coordinator in the international visitors and training program at the World Affairs Council. She lives in Portland.

Heather (Meyer) Marr '04 and her husband, Ryan Marr '04, are serving 27 months in the Peace Corps in Madagascar. Both are teaching elementary and high school-age students. They met while students at PSU.

Edi Pazos '04 is general manager at Forest Landscape, Inc., a landscape and construction company in Forest Grove. Pazos was a member of the PSU football team in 2001-02. He is married, has two children, and is a professional drag car racer.

Lawrence "Larry" Vergun MBA '04 is an attorney at Harris Law Firm in Hillsboro. Vergun's specialties include representation of small and emerging businesses and representation of real estate professionals. In his free time, he enjoys playing softball with his 8-year-old daughter, Madeleine.

Amanda Rojas '05 is a fourth grade teacher at Centennial Elementary School in Scio. Rojas formerly taught in the Stayton School District and also has worked as a migrant coordinator and English language learner instructional assistant.

Joao Simoes MS '05 writes, "As a senior engineer at Nokia Siemens Networks, I worked within the professional services team, executing international consulting for two years. Now I am a project leader working in Lisbon and Dusseldorf in an effort to merge two teams and two products." Simoes lives in Lisbon, Portugal.

Marc Boucher-Colbert MA '06 and Erin Altz '06 are partners at Edible Skylines in Portland. The team design and maintain eco-roofs and have installed a rooftop commercial garden at Rocket restaurant.

Aaron Hegji '06 is a second-year student at University of Las Vegas William S. Boyd school of law. Hegji is ranked seventh in his class and is a staff member of the Nevada Law Journal.

Kim Lane '06 is enrolled at University of New Mexico, working towards a master's degree in occupational therapy. She writes, "I'm still getting used to the desert. I miss Oregon terribly!"

Michelle Miller MURP '06 is an associate planner with the city of Sherwood. Miller previously was a land use planner in the private sector and has also practiced juvenile law in Iowa. She is married with one child and enjoys gardening and travel.

Gina McCrea '06 is assistant vice president, assistant branch manager for Bank of the Cascades, Third and Revere branch in Bend. McCrea is responsible for branch oversight, including commercial and consumer loans and processing, facility management, customer service and developing business banking relationships.

Martha Wallulis '06 is a multi-media artist, vocalist, and curator. Wallulis' speciality is oil, but she often utilizes encaustic, gouache, and egg tempera painting, pastel drawing, sculpture, poetry, and experimental media. Her paintings were featured at Portland's Launch Pad Gallery in November and December. She is also pursuing a professional scholarship in the Byzantine Arts, is a professional chanter at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, and teaches workshops in Byzantine chant.

Laura Arthur MEd '07 is a teacher at Athey Creek Middle School in West Linn. Arthur teaches band, music appreciation, and guitar.

Joel Gay '07 is a research assistant at the Center for Research on Occupational and Environmental Toxicology within Oregon Health & Science University.

Celeste Miller MSW '07 is a first-year student at Seattle University school of law.

Ken Kennedy '07 is a teaching assistant and pursuing a master's degree in mathematics at Oregon State University. While at PSU, Kennedy was a recipient of the Robert Rempfer award for excellence in mathematics.

**In Memoriam**

William "Bill" Tuttle, professor emeritus of music, died Nov. 24 from Parkinson's disease. He was 64. Dr. Tuttle, a faculty member from 1977 through 2003, was well known as the director of bands at PSU. He conducted the orchestra that accompanied commencement each spring. Dr. Tuttle's interests also extended beyond the campus. He helped organize Portland Brass and directed the Pacific Crest Wind Symphony.
Looking Back

30 YEARS AGO

IN 1978, FREEMAN WILLIAMS was the NCAA Men's Basketball Division I scoring champion and a Portland State all-time scoring leader. He went on to a pro career playing for the San Diego Clippers from 1978 to 1982. (photo from the 1978 Viking yearbook)
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