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Retirement Association of Portland State
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RAPS Sheet, May 2017

Retirement Association of Portland State

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May 2017

Retirement Association of Portland State

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President's Gathering for Retired Faculty and Staff on May 18



This year's annual gathering of retired faculty and staff is scheduled for **Thursday, May 18th, 2017 in the Columbia Falls Ballroom at University Place Hotel, 310 SW Lincoln Street**. Invitations have already been sent, so let us know if you did not receive yours.

As you may know, this summer President Wim Wiewel completes his tenure in the role of Portland State's president. The luncheon honoring retirees will be his last as president, and we want to make it a memorable occasion. For those who wish, we invite you to bring or send a personal note to the president, and these will be given to him during the gathering. If you decide to send something, address it to President Wiewel c/o the RAPS Office, and Adam Jones, RAPS Office Manager, will see that it is delivered.

Lunch will be served at **12 noon**, but the doors open at **11:15am** to give attendees sufficient time to meet and visit with colleagues and friends, browse at the RAPS table, and participate in our scholarship raffle.

We will, of course, have our usual RAPS Awards, honoring two outstanding recipients this year. **RSVP no later than May 10th if you want to attend**. We are unable to take late reservations this year. Last, when you respond, please indicate if you prefer the vegetarian option for your lunch.

Co-President's Message



Transitions – life is a series of transitions occurring across time and space. Some we welcome as exciting, an adventure, while others we approach with fear and concern, and we're not quite sure of the outcome. Our country seems in the midst of a transition that evokes all of the foregoing, and more.

On a smaller, yet no less important scale, PSU is on the verge of transition as our current president leaves his position after a lengthy time at the helm. What will this mean for the university -- its faculty, staff, students, programs, and, yes, us? Unlike retirement associations in some higher education contexts, we are currently well situated within the university and enjoy

support and recognition for who we are, what we do. Will this change or remain the same as we go forward under new leadership? It is hard to tell.

For me, the point is to sustain our position within the structure and to continue our remarkable track record of outstanding contributions to the institution and its constituents. We are relevant and must remain so. Do we have the resources, skills, abilities, and savvy to do this? Yes! Of that, I am confident. We can, we must, as we move ahead in the 21st Century.

-- Susan Poulsen, Co-President

New RAPS Officers Announced

Doug Swanson (University Relations) has been elected to a two-year term as Co-President of RAPS, and Brian Lewis (Human Resources) has been elected to a second two-year term as Secretary. Doug and Brian officially assume their new roles in June, when the RAPS Board holds its final meeting of the 2016-17 year.

As incoming Co-President, Doug will share the role with Dawn White (International Affairs), moving into her second year as Co-President under the two-year staggered term leadership structure approved by RAPS in 2015.

This election marks Doug's second stint on the RAPS Board. Upon retiring in 2006 from the Office of Publications, Doug joined RAPS and was soon pressed into service as editor of the *RAPS Sheet*, a position he held for four years. In 2011 Doug and Steve Brannan (Special Education) produced *Creating Portland State 1946-1955*, which won a Silver Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

Thank you, Brian, for your willingness to continue as Secretary, and welcome, Doug!

May 2017

Dear RAPS member,

Have you ever thought about a time when you might need medical help or other assistance in your home to continue living your life as you would like? Have you ever thought about a time in the future when you might benefit from the services of a social worker?

We have. That's why we work so diligently to raise funds to provide a scholarship each year to a student who is passionate about a career related to gerontology, a career serving our future needs. RAPS scholarship recipients are planning to work in many fields ranging from health to housing; their work will improve the lives of all of us as well as the lives of other older people.

The cost of a college education for graduates and for undergraduates is steep. Tuition and fees at PSU this year for a graduate student averaged \$16,700 for three terms for a resident and \$26,976 for a nonresident. Tuition will rise another 9% in 2017-18. Our recipients often report severe financial difficulties in supporting themselves (and their families) while working toward a degree because other costs, such as housing, continue to rise along with tuition.

The first RAPS scholarship was awarded in 2011-12. This year **Tanya Kindrachuk**, a senior in the Aging Services and Community Health Education programs, received our sixth scholarship. **Keborah Andren**, a graduate student in the Master of Social Work program, has just been announced as the 2017-18 recipient. While giving one \$3,000 scholarship each year, RAPS has also raised more than \$25,000 toward the \$50,000 required to endow our scholarship fund.

More than ever we need your help to continue awarding these scholarships and to reach our goal of an endowed fund with the University. Please help us in any way you can. You will be helping to make life a little easier for a worthy student!

Thank you for your support.

Nancy Chapman
Scholarship Chair

Susan Poulsen
RAPS Co-President

Dawn White
RAPS Co-President

RAPS Scholarship Donation Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Donation amount: \$ _____

Donation made in memory of _____

Donation made to honor _____

Make checks payable to: *PSU Foundation* and noted for RAPS Scholarship.

Please mail to RAPS@PSU, PO Box 751, Portland, OR 97207-0751.

Or, to use a credit card, go to <https://www.pdx.edu/raps/scholarship-fund>

RAPS Group Reports

The RAPS Book Group. The book group met on April 18 at the new home of Phyllis Leonard, with its spectacular views of the city. We discussed *The Buried Giant* by Kazuo Ishiguro. Set in post-Arthurian Britain, it is a tale of an elderly couple that sets off on a journey, and everything that happens on that journey is replete with symbolism and has, or may have, multiple meanings. Some of us liked the book, some found its pace too slow and complex. Everyone left with something that they wanted to investigate further, from rereading the book to brushing up on the Arthurian legends.

Next month's meeting will be on Tuesday, May 16. We will be discussing *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen, winner of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. After the dream-like novel we read for April's meeting, we were relieved to see *The Sympathizer* described as having the pace and suspense of a thriller. It is the story of an army captain who comes to the United States after the fall of Saigon and, while building a new life here, reports back to communist superiors in Vietnam. We will meet at the home of Brian Lewis, 12828 SW Walnut St., Tigard. Contact him at 503-590-5890 or by e-mail, brianlewispx@gmail.com, to let him know whether you will be there, and to get directions. The book group meets the third Tuesday of every month at 1:30pm. New members are always welcome.

--Joan Shireman

The RAPS Bridge Group. The RAPS bridge group usually meets in the afternoon on the first Tuesday of each month. We begin play at 12:15pm. We try to finish up by 4pm. We meet in Smith Center, usually on the second floor, but sometimes on the third floor. **For the month of May, we will be meeting on a Monday afternoon instead.**

Please mark your calendars for the following upcoming months; bridge dates, rooms, and times:
Note: May date is on **Monday** (not Tuesday)***

Monday, May 8, 2017; 12:15pm in SMSU 296

Tuesday, June 6, 2017; 12:15pm in SMSU 294.

I will send out the reminder email notice about one week prior to each date we play. The RAPS bridge group members are very friendly and are always looking for new players. If you wish to join us, please contact Steve Brennan, [503-646-6297](tel:503-646-6297). My email address is the.steve.brennan@gmail.com.

--Steve Brennan

The RAPS Hiking Group. On March 28th, a small group did a short hike in the Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge. Several waterfowl were sighted from a distance. Several other birds were also sighted. There were some high water issues on the trail. Lunch was at a Mexican restaurant in Ridgefield. The April 25th hike to Catherine Creek in the Columbia Gorge was our first strenuous hike for the year outside of the local area.

On **Tuesday, May 23rd**, we will hike the Fanno Creek trail out of Tigard with an alternate of Mt. Talbert if there is too much high water. The Fanno Creek hike will be followed by lunch at a restaurant. Remember to confirm your participation with Tom Dieterich at tgdieterich@earthlink.net. On June 27th, we will hike along the Wilson River near the Tillamook Forest Information Center. The Wilson River hike will include a sack lunch on the trail. More information on these hikes and the hikes for the remainder of the year can be found on the hiker's page on the RAPS website. A quick link is www.pdx.edu/raps/RAPS-Hikers.

--Cilla Murray

In Memoriam: Philip Eugene Harder, 1931-2017

Philip Eugene Harder, who served Portland State as ecumenical minister from 1976 to 1998, died in Portland on February 24 at age 85.



Dr. Harder was born December 2, 1931, to Chester and Florence Harder in Missouri Valley, Iowa. In high school he was active in sports and music, and on weekends played trumpet in a big band. After graduation he attended Iowa Teachers College, in Cedar Rapids, for a year, then joined the Navy and became a medic attached to a Marine Corps unit in Korea during the final years of the war.

Dr. Harder returned to college at the University of Northern Colorado, where, thanks to the GI Bill, he completed both a bachelor's and a master's degree in education. He taught and coached at Longmont, Colorado, and Klamath Falls before completing a doctorate in theology at Claremont. He was ordained in the United Methodist Church.

He resumed his work with young people by becoming a campus minister, first at Willamette University from 1968 to 1971, then at Southern Oregon University from 1971 to 1976 before joining PSU.

Dr. Harder's deep interest in peace and justice led him to visit developing nations, and he drew on those experiences to teach seminars and classes on campus and at church. It was at a meeting on the theme of women and justice that he met his wife, Anita. They were married on December 20, 1975. Their lives were intertwined with work on issues of peace, justice, the earth, the church, and young people. Dr. Harder's dedication to peace was recognized in 1992 by the Board of Multnomah County Commissioners with the Thousand Cranes Peace Award. The citation commended him as "a model peacemaker in his efforts as a convener, an educator, and a community leader."

After retirement he became pastor of a small local church, Fern Prairie United Methodist Church, in Camas, Washington. He also served as president of the Camas Neighborhood Association; fundraising chair of the campaign to build a skatepark in Camas; chair of the Democratic Forum; and president of the Men's Golf Club. In addition, Dr. Harder sang in the Village Chorus.

Dr. Harder was preceded in death by his parents and younger brother, Babe Harder. He is survived by his wife, Anita, of Camas; two sisters, Mary Ann Glennie, of Escondido, California, and Linda Dooley (Ken), of Missouri Valley, Iowa; brother, Bill Harder, of Missouri Valley; son, John, of Gig Harbor, Washington.; daughter, Kerry (Ray Montoya), of Muscat, Oman; three step-daughters, Tori Mattson, of Vancouver, Washington; Trena Eaton (Donnie), of Washougal, Washington; and Tiffany Whitmire, of Camas; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life service was held on April 2 at St. John's Presbyterian Church in Camas. A family burial will be held this summer at Skyline Memorial Gardens in Portland. Dr. Harder's online memorial and guest books may be found at www.skylinememorialgardens.com and www.columbian.com/obits.

-Doug Swanson

In Memoriam: Donald M. Mihalow, 1938-2016

Donald M. Mihalow, an adjunct instructor who taught at Portland State from 1998 to 2015, died of cancer October 8, 2016 in his Bellingham, Washington home. He was 78 years old. Dr. Mihalow was born July 5, 1938, to Michael and Rose Mihalow in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. He graduated with a degree in philosophy from Westminister College, New Wilmington, Pennsylvania, then earned a M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1964. He settled in Eugene in 1969 and entered the University of Oregon, completing an M.A. in counseling psychology in 1971 and an Ed.D. in 1991.



In addition to Portland State, Dr. Mihalow was an adjunct instructor at Lane Community College, Northwest Christian College, University of Oregon, and Lewis & Clark College. Professor Rick Johnson, Graduate School of Education, remembered Dr. Mihalow as a “passionate and talented educator who inspired generations of counselors.”

“He had many students and colleagues who admired him greatly,” Professor Johnson recalled. “His great passion professionally was Jungian theory and practice.” Dr. Mihalow taught courses in Jung, sex therapy, family life cycle

development, couple therapy, counseling practicum, and many other courses in the marriage and family counseling area.

In his three decades in Eugene, Dr. Mihalow built a successful private practice in marriage and family therapy, raised a family, and remodeled his home. In 2006 he moved to Bellingham and retired from psychotherapy, but continued to commute by train to teach at Portland State. He also enjoyed his many interests, including jazz, politics, wine, astronomy, cooking, baseball, and the outdoors.

Dr. Mihalow is survived by his wife, Betty Kellow; daughters Christine Lindholm (Erik), of Portland, and Andrey Mihalow (Jim Berry), of Ithaca, New York.; stepdaughters Shannon Kellow and Misty Parker (Mike) of Bellingham; brothers Jim and Jack Mihalow, of Cleveland and Ambridge; and his former wife, Billie Mihalow, of Portland. He also leaves behind seven grandchildren.

A celebration of life was held on November 5. The family suggests remembrances be sent to an institution of higher learning or to a hospice.

–Doug Swanson

Mark Your Calendar: Upcoming Events

June 13, 2017, PSU Faculty/Staff Chorus’s final concert of the season. The concert will be held from 7:30-9pm at the **First Christian Church, 1314 SW Park Ave, Portland**. Come hear current and retired faculty and staff perform with piano and orchestral accompaniment. Refreshments will be served following the concert. Admission is free.

August 17, 2017, RAPS Summer Picnic. This popular summer afternoon event returns to a Willamette Park Picnic Shelter (SW Macadam and Nevada in Portland). Look for details in the Summer *RAPS Sheet* that will be published in mid-July.