Portland State University Magazine

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PSU Salutes


The Portland State University Alumni Association congratulates and honors the 2009 PSU Salutes award recipients. This year's awards recognize outstanding career achievement, excellence in education and research, extraordinary volunteerism, and inspirational leadership.

Michael Schrunk '64
Distinguished Alumni Award
District Attorney (since 1981), Multnomah County, Portland

Adam Reid '03
Outstanding Young Alumni Award
Co-founder, Leadership & Entrepreneurship Public Charter High School, Portland

Susan Emmons '78
Distinguished Alumni Service Award
Executive Director, Northwest Pilot Project, Portland

Waddah Sofan '05
John Hakanson Student Advancement Award
Graduate Student, Conflict Resolution Master's Program

Veronica Dujon, Ph.D.
Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award
Associate Professor, Chair, Department of Sociology

Hassan Al-Ghanim '80
Outstanding International Alumni Award
Minister of Justice, State of Qatar
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ON THE COVER Students and faculty are using the $25 million Miller gift to make sustainable things happen. See story on page 10. Photo by Kelly James.
Celebrating leadership through partnership

ONE OF THOSE PERFECT Portland days fell on May 1. The sun was shining and the air was clear, as I was officially sworn in as president of Portland State University.

Faculty, students, and alumni, who inspire me every day with their passion for teaching and their love of learning, joined in the celebration. The daylong event was also attended by people in the city and the larger region, who have made my family and me feel so welcome, and who from day one have told me how much they want PSU to be a great and stellar university. I was also grateful to have family and friends present from around the country and from the Netherlands.

I feel so fortunate to be president of this amazing, life changing, and innovative University. I believe Portland State is headed toward a glorious future—one that it and Oregon deserves. What makes this University destined for greatness is its leadership through partnership, a focus that in my view pervades who we are and what we do.

At inauguration, we reaffirmed and expanded a key civic partnership with the city of Portland. The mayor and I signed a Memorandum of Understanding that extends our joint economic development planning. We will make sure that our degree offerings educate people for the occupations most needed, while enhancing our analysis of the region’s economy and development of the campus as an eco-district using best practices in energy and water management.

For the University, partnerships are a way of life. Each year, our students take on more than 200 community projects their senior year. Our joint taskforce with the Portland Public Schools has recommended ways to improve teacher training and college readiness. We partner with many other public organizations as well as industry, and plan to expand on these relationships.

This past year has been one of the most rewarding, challenging, and intellectually stimulating of my life. I am honored to be part of so many lives, and thank all who make this University and this region so wonderful.

Wim Wiewel
PRESIDENT, PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

A DAY OF PAGEANTY President Wim Wiewel poses with his wife, Alice, (top right) following his swearing in as eighth president of Portland State University. Drummers from Hillsboro Century High School and Portland Royal Rosarians (bottom right) led the procession of faculty, including education professor Samuel Henry (second from top on left), down the Park Blocks. Earlier in the day, Oregon Congressional Rep. Earl Blumenauer (bottom left) spoke at a campus town hall on University-community partnerships. Photos by Kelly James.
Sustainable beef?

“Sustainability: More Than Just Green” (winter 2009 issue), like so many discussions of sustainability, misses something rather important. A good example is the description of so-called sustainable beef. We are told this beef is sustainable because no hormones or antibiotics are used and cattle graze on the open range. Perhaps this makes them organic, but sustainable?

There is no discussion of the native herbivore species that cattle displace, the large amounts of water needed to grow cattle, their effect on riparian areas, soil (e.g., compaction) and native grasses, and the slaughter of predators to make the world safe for such dim-witted domestics.

Perhaps sustainability is being defined to exclude these factors, but if so sustainability means very little because it will do little or nothing to reduce the high rates of anthropogenic extinction and the degradation of ecosystems.

David Johns ’76, McMinnville

Real cost of transportation

John Charles’s assertion that “motor vehicles pay their own way” is patently false (letter in winter 2009 issue).

Highway vehicles receive significantly more subsidies, mostly indirect, than other form of transportation. Gasoline taxes do not come close to paying the cost of building and maintaining the roadway infrastructure.

The American Lung Association stated that if a tax were levied to sufficiently cover the medical costs from gasoline fumes alone, it would be 40 to 45 cents per gallon. And that does not include pollution-related damage to infrastructure, the high cost of highway trauma, roadway related erosion, pollution to water systems, inflated sewerage costs from roadway runoff, costs of law enforcement and fire suppression, gunboat diplomacy to protect our addiction to oil... need I go on?

Dan L. McFarling, Beaverton

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.

Are you FBI material?

HIGH-TECH CAREER opportunities await you at: the first 5-digit prime of Fibonacci sequence.com.

Yes, this is so difficult that it’s cryptic to many of us, and it’s meant to be. Portland State advertising students are using this on signs, posters, and handbills in a campaign to recruit IT applicants for the FBI. It is based on a successful Google recruitment campaign.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation asked students in Prof. Don Dickinson’s advertising campaigns class to help in its recruitment efforts. Nationally, the FBI is in need of 3,000 employees in specialized fields such as IT (information technology), engineering, intelligence, and languages. The local Bureau office sent agents to talk with the students about its needs and set a campaign budget at an underwhelming $2,500.

But the students were up for the challenge. They created a 94-page guidebook that can be used anywhere in the country. "Their campaign is off-campus oriented, grassroots, and very guerrilla," says Dickinson with obvious pride. "It is not even specific to Portland. We call it our plug-and-play plan."

This is the first year the FBI has received a student plan that reaches into professional and cultural communities. That’s not to say that the PSU students didn’t include the University in their recruitment materials. In fact, they wore FBI shirts and talked up the Bureau at a campus career fair.

The Fibonacci sequence? It is being used for recruitment near the high-tech companies west of Portland. If you’re familiar with its 5-digit prime, then maybe you are FBI material.
The tides, they are a-changin'

TIDES ARE GETTING BIGGER along the West Coast and global climate change is the likely culprit.

Engineering Prof. David Jay says the amplitude of tides from Alaska to Mexico has increased, meaning the change between the highest and lowest tides is bigger. Though the rise in global sea levels is well documented, the tides themselves were, until now, thought to be constant.

Jay came upon the tidal change almost by accident. He was training a high school student in how to run a tidal analysis program when the student's results indicated an increase in tidal amplitude near Astoria. Jay had him recheck his work, and then suggested analyzing data from a San Francisco site.

There, too, tidal amplitude was increasing. That began a five-year project to collect and analyze historic tidal readings along the West Coast. Study findings were published in a Geophysics Research Letters article early this year.

The growth in tidal amplitudes may accelerate coastal erosion, says Jay, especially in areas along the Oregon coast where the sea level is rising and storm waves are growing larger. Tides also play an important role in oceanic processes related to healthy ecosystems, but the role larger tides may play in these complex processes, and what effect the increased tides may have on nutrient supplies and fisheries, requires further study.

It's an angel of a deal

FOR A STARTUP COMPANY, receiving angel funding from the Oregon Entrepreneurs Network is nothing short of heaven-sent. For Portland State, the stars couldn't be better aligned.

From a group of 50 new companies, the network chose only two to receive 2009 Angel Oregon funding. Both are located in the PSU Business Accelerator, and one was started by a Portland State professor.

At the University's Business Accelerator on Southwest Corbett Avenue, the two winning companies, DesignMedix, Inc., and WeoGeo, are in a building that can accommodate 25 businesses. With occupancy comes affordable rates, specialized services from the business community, and access to the research and development potential of the entire University.

DesignMedix, started by chemistry professor David Peyton, modifies drugs to make them effective against drug-resistant diseases. The company's first product is showing early success in treating malaria. WeoGeo creates map-managing software for surveyors, engineers, architects, and other professionals.

DesignMedix garnered a $150,000 investment from the Oregon Entrepreneurs Network and WeoGeo won $80,000.

The judging panel was made up of 46 angel investors who each pledged $5,000. Angel investors, by definition, take a leap of faith when they invest their own money in startup companies.

DesignMedix impressed the investors. "The company has an absolutely unique technology that could solve a major health problem," said Drew Smith, panel chairman.
The art of puppetry

Imagine working a puppet more than twice your height as you walk and dance. It's an art that students are learning from Michael Curry, an internationally renowned master of puppetry and kinetic theatrical design. He creates the magic from his huge Portland workshop.

Curry has designed characters and choreographed productions for the Olympics, Disney, the Superbowl, and Cirque de Soleil, among others. For PSU, he is putting together a short performance that includes dancers, live music, and puppets controlled by theater arts students. Carolyn Holzman, adjunct choreography faculty, is also helping train the students.

All of this hard work will culminate in an opening ceremony for the Society for College and University Planning annual conference in Portland, July 19.
Mind detective

HOW MANY DECISIONS have you made in the past week based on faulty information and untrustworthy advice?


Drawing on philosophy, science, and psychology, Philips introduces readers to their own faulty perceptions and provides tips for seeing through the simple untruths that pervade modern life. The book, written for "literate and intelligent people," said Philips, is based on a course he taught at PSU during his almost 40 years on the faculty.

Philips retired three years ago and describes himself as an "academic philosopher in recovery." He has written for publications ranging from Mind and Philosophy Now to The New York Times. He is also the author of Philosophy and Science Fiction and a book on moral philosophy, Between Universalism and Skepticism: Ethics as Social Artifact.

Amateur filmmaker meets success

THE STAR was reluctant, the camera was cheap, and the budget was just $700. In the end, none of that mattered. The documentary created by Lonnie Tristan Renteria '95, MA '97 was so well received that Viacom bought it and aired it during February, Black History Month, on LOGO TV.

The name of Renteria's documentary, Ebony Chunky Love: Bitch Can't Get a Date, is R-rated, just like the comedy of the film's star, Keith Price. Price is a gay, black comedian from Texas who deals with issues of dating and self-esteem in his one-man show in the comedy clubs of New York.

Renteria—a self-taught filmmaker—spent two weeks filming Price and much longer assembling the footage back home in Seattle, where he teaches at the Art Institute of Seattle. The resulting film includes candid interviews interspersed with footage of Price's act and his home movies.

Renteria was surprised by the film's broad appeal and how powerfully some audience members were affected, regardless of their race or sexual orientation. "What the film does tell you is that comedy can be cathartic," says Renteria. "People who see this film realize that there are ways of transcending their own sense of marginality."

Ebony Chunky Love was awarded best film in its category at the 2009 San Diego Black Film Festival and was well received on the festival circuit. The film can be seen at logoonline.com. Renteria is working on a sequel that he hopes to have finished in time for the fall festival circuit.
The sky’s the limit

James Pankow’s lofty work on air and water pollution has placed him in an elite academy.

WRITTEN BY MELISSA STEINEGER

THE ANNOUNCEMENT that he’d been named to the most prestigious organization in his field came via FedEx in February.

Opening the unassuming envelope, James Pankow learned he was now Oregon’s only active professor in the National Academy of Engineering. Actually, “prestigious” barely covers it.

For an engineer, election to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) is a little like earning a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame. However, few actors advise the federal government on policy questions in science and technology. Nationwide, the NAE includes a scant 2,400 members—just 19 from Oregon. Among its ranks are astronaut Neil Armstrong, businessman Lee Iacocca, and Google co-founder Sergey Brin. Membership is the highest professional distinction available for engineers.

Pankow, needless to say, was wowed. “It’s a very big honor,” he says. “The way you are elected (by members of the academy) is recognition of work you’ve done in your lifetime—it’s a lifetime achievement award, if you will.”

Lifetime is about right.

Twenty years ago, Pankow developed a groundbreaking theory that predicts how toxic and other compounds adhere to particles in the air. That theory is crucial to current climate change research. And his ongoing research in air and water pollution continues to contribute to scientific understanding of pollution.

He received the 1999 American Chemical Society Award for Creative Advances in Environmental Science and Technology and the 2005 Haagen-Smit Prize from the editors of Atmospheric Environment for his work.

AS THE NAE HONOR highlights, Pankow is on the forefront of research into water and air pollution that will factor in addressing climate change.

One area of interest is the chemical properties of atmospheric particulates—in other words, what makes smog. Such particles in the air “form like toxic dew,” Pankow says. They affect public health, the earth’s absorption of light, even cloud formation. Yet what they are and how they interact is barely understood.

To know how to deal with such toxic dew, scientists first must understand how it forms and how it is dispersed, among other things. In fact, the International Panel on Climate Change underscored the problem when it identified airborne particles as the biggest unknown factor in climate change. Pankow is working to change that.

Specifically, he is looking at chemical thermodynamics—the chemical equations that govern how the particles form. After all, if you know how they add up, you stand a better chance of figuring out how to subtract them.

Pankow, who came to PSU in 2008 from Oregon Health & Science University, holds joint appointments to the departments of Chemistry and Civil and Environmental Engineering. He is the author of more than 130 peer-reviewed publications and four books.

And if all that’s not enough, Pankow is one of the world’s foremost authorities on nicotine chemistry in tobacco smoke, serving as an expert witness for prosecutors during the tobacco trials of the 1990s.

TODAY, HE’S LEADING a national effort supported by the U.S. Geological Survey to identify the next generation of contaminants in water. Scientists routinely monitor and measure a few hundred known chemicals in the Earth’s water supply. But in the U.S. alone, some 3,000 chemicals are produced each year in volumes of more than 1 million pounds each. Are they harmful? Not harmful? No one really knows.

“You don’t want to be surprised by what’s in the water—you want to know what’s there regardless of whether someone thinks it’s toxic,” says Pankow, “and some of the 3,000 chemicals are toxic. We’re trying to figure which are a high priority.”

Melissa Steineger, is a freelance writer and frequent contributor to Portland State Magazine. She wrote the article “Present Perfect” in the winter 2009 issue.
GROWING GREEN IDEAS

The $25 million Miller grant is allowing students and faculty to champion sustainable solutions.

WRITTEN BY KATHRYN KIRKLAND
PHOTOGRAPHY BY KELLY JAMES

FROM WHAT WE EAT and drink to the ways we share ideas for a sustainable world, the projects funded in the first round of a new $25 million grant are smart, green, and all over the map.

Portland State intends to become a regional, even national, touchstone for sustainability education, and it has the 10-year James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation matching grant—the largest gift in the University’s history—to help it get started.

The call went out early this academic year for projects seeking to share in the sustainability dollars. The students’ proposals caught the attention of the University’s new president, Wim Wiewel, who was impressed and doubled the funding to nearly $70,000. Fourteen student projects were selected from 34 proposals. The selection process was even more rigorous for the 99 faculty submissions; only 21 were chosen and should be complete by the end of spring term.

Many of the grants have appeal beyond campus and are attracting partners and funding from outside sources. Others are setting the stage for work in later years. What follows is a look at a few of the first winning projects. Read more about them as well as second-round winners at www.pdx.edu/sustainability.
WORMS + FOOD
SCRAPS = COMPOST
TAKE BACK THE TAP Portland’s water is good and disposable water bottles are not, according to students in the Environmental Club. They are using Miller funds to educate students about the source and quality of Portland’s public water and purchase at least 500 reusable water bottles. They plan to sell the bottles to purchase two water filtration centers for installation at key locations on campus.

BAMBOO BVOC That lacy grove of bamboo in your backyard or outside your office may be helping or hurting Portland’s air quality. Some bamboo species emit isoprene, a biogenic volatile organic compound (BVOC) that leads to high ozone levels on hot, windless days. BVOCs are commonly overlooked when analyzing city air quality, according to one student’s project. Funding will allow the student to survey emission rates and produce a list of low-emitting bamboos for use by urban planners and horticulturists.

BIKES TO BORROW With donated and refurbished bicycles, students are creating a fleet of VikeBikes, which other students may borrow for a term or maybe longer. The students’s goal is to make bicycle travel accessible and affordable. VikeBikes will come equipped with the essentials: helmet, lights, U-lock, and fenders. Education on rider safety and bicycle maintenance is also part of the package.

WORMS + FOOD SCRAPS = COMPOST A knowledgeable student will teach the basics of vermicomposting to several faculty and a group of students. Each person, in turn, is expected to share the know-how with two other people. Before you know it, everyone in the state may have rich, brown compost from their own worm bin.

LET’S TALK ABOUT IT Kim Stanley Robinson, an award-winning science fiction author, spoke on campus during spring term giving his vision of a future where permaculture replaces our carbon-burning lifestyle. Robinson and scholars in anthropology, history, literature, and philosophy were brought to campus through the Humanities Sustainability Research Project, a Miller-funded grant initiated by English and philosophy faculty.

RAIN APPRECIATED The PSU Engineering Building at SW College and Fourth uses 40 percent less water than similar buildings. Some of it comes from a rainwater reclamation system that collects water on the rooftop and pipes it to a room on the second floor. There the water is stored in a 1,000-gallon tank, filtered through carbon, and zapped with UV light before it is pumped to toilets on the first floor. It’s pretty interesting, if you know about it, but many people don’t. Engineering faculty are making sure students understand the process by turning the water filtering room into a teaching laboratory.
FOOD FOR THOUGHT If you graduated before 2002, you may not know that there is a student-run café in the basement of Smith Memorial Student Union that serves meals mostly made from local, organic, and sustainably grown food. Food For Thought Café serves up buckwheat pancakes for breakfast and vegetarian lasagna for lunch, to name just a few of its dishes. Students, who want to spread the word and the tofu, received Miller funding to make Food For Thought Café a "living laboratory" for campus research and teaching, while improving sustainable practices throughout PSU's food system.

COOL DATA FOR COOLING DOWN Large data centers with hundreds of computers can consume about the same amount of power as a small city. Decisions such as what racks and nodes to use can minimize power consumption and optimize cooling efficiency. A computer science professor plans to integrate this knowledge into system software, creating a novel approach to potentially reduce the power and cooling burdens for large labs and data centers.

DAMMED IF YOU DO Roslyn Lake is gone and some Sandy residents are angry. A few understood too late that with the removal of the Marmot and Little Sandy dams in 2007 and 2008, the lake would drain away. PSU students learned of the residents's consternation from surveys they conducted as part of a Miller-funded project. The students shared their results with community partners, including the U.S. Forest Service, which will use the findings in future dam removals. Students and faculty from business, economics, environmental sciences, geography, sociology, and urban planning looked at the environmental, social, and economic impacts of removing two dams. With use of their research, they expect similar projects will lead to more sustainable results.

GREEN BUILDING LAB A proposal to establish a Green Building Research Laboratory at PSU not only received Miller grant funds, it also attracted $300,000 from outside sources, including the Oregon Built Environment and Sustainable Technologies Center. Faculty from engineering, urban studies, and architecture are creating a lab that can test everything from green roofs and window glazings to interior moisture levels and a building's surface temperature.

LOOKING TO EACH OTHER With so many sustainability projects on campus, it would be easy to miss what a colleague down the hall or a student in the basement is doing. Two faculty members who specialize in helping PSU faculty succeed received Miller funding to hold a retreat spring term that will enable faculty to share information about the green things they're doing. The pair is also using grant dollars to develop a video showcasing PSU sustainability teaching and research for campus newcomers.
GIVING IT HER ALL

Through willpower and scholarships, Caressa Sims is the first in her family to earn a university degree.

WRITTEN BY MELISSA STEINEGER

DYNAMO, says the Webster's entry, means "a forceful, energetic individual." There isn't a picture of Caressa Sims in the dictionary, but there could be.

Sims '08 caught fire her junior year at Portland's Jefferson High School. A mediocre student until that point, she decided that she wanted to attend college. As the first in her family to aspire to higher education, she knew she would have to get there on her own. "I didn't have one penny for school," she says. Sims immersed herself in her studies, earning straight As her last two years at Jefferson.

But Sims, realizing she needed scholarships to afford college, knew it would take more than a couple of years of good grades to qualify. So she threw herself into athletics, hoping to garner a scholarship. Track seemed the easiest to learn, so she willed herself to become a sprinter.

Her plan worked. Sims was accepted to nine schools and offered several athletic scholarships. She chose Portland State in part because the University offered her the Jane Morrow Scholarship for athletics and the Goodman Scholarship for academics. She went on to earn other scholarships at PSU, including the Les Fahey/KPMG Scholarship and the Levin/Fowler Scholarship. This last gift came with a surprise: personal help and encouragement from the donor couple, Irving Levin and Stephanie Fowler (see accompanying story).

Once at PSU, Sims pursued a major in business accounting because, she says, the subject was so difficult. "I wanted
something I could stay interested in," she says. "I read every textbook cover to cover. I didn't want to just get good grades, I wanted to know the material."

She also made the track and field team, first as a sprinter, but switching to hammer and shot put on the advice of her coaches. It was good advice. After a stellar throwing career at PSU—including setting PSU records for shot put and hammer throw and being named Big Sky Conference champion for two years—Sims is working on qualifying for the 2012 Olympics. Although track kept her "busy beyond full time," Sims also found time to mentor athletes, serve two years as team captain, and volunteer at track and field activities.

**AFTER GRADUATION,** Sims landed her dream job working at the Boeing Company's Portland fabrication manufacturing facility, where she had shined as a student intern. Sims is a supply chain management analyst coordinating materials from suppliers to workers on the shop floor.

"I make sure suppliers understand the needs of our manufacturing and industrial engineers," explains Sims, "and then I check the quality of delivered products and take care of problems if there are any."

Boeing allows Sims to begin work at 5:15 a.m. so she can spend afternoons training for the Olympics with Mac Wilkins, former Olympic gold and silver medalist in the discus.

Sims has three sisters who have now followed her footsteps into college, and she's ready to tackle her next goal—earning a master's degree while working full time and training two to three hours a day for the Olympics.

"I'm just excited about life," says Sims. "I have my degree. I feel I could do anything."
Oregon's Tour Guide
For 20 years, alumnus Steve Amen has shown Oregonians Oregon.

WRITTEN BY JEFF KUECHLE

TRYING TO FORCE STEVE AMEN '86, the well-traveled host and executive producer of Oregon Field Guide, to identify his favorite place in Oregon, is like trying to photograph a hummingbird in flight (something the OFG crew managed to do in recently aired Episode 2012).

“When I first came to Oregon, it was definitely the beach,” Amen says. “I grew up in Wyoming, so the ocean was a novelty. Personally, I love the Wallowa Mountains, the area around Joseph. And my family loves Central Oregon—the climate is so great, and there’s just so much to do there.”

Stumped, Amen pauses. “I guess it depends on the mood of the day,” he says at last. “But that’s the beauty of Oregon, and why we’re so lucky to live here. We have all of these options to choose from.”

If he was hosting a show in his native state—call it Wyoming Field Guide—Amen says he would have run out of story ideas within a year. But because he was lucky enough to land in Oregon—Amen’s father moved him here for his senior year of high school—Oregon Field Guide recently celebrated its 20th anniversary on Oregon Public Broadcasting. And according to its host, there’s no end in sight.
“When we first started out, we thought, ‘This will be a nice five-year gig,’” Amen says. “But it just keeps going. I don’t see this program ending any time soon—in fact, there are at least 50 story ideas that I know of kicking around for next season.”

That’s good news for OPB. *Oregon Field Guide* continues to be the highest-rated locally produced program among all the PBS stations in the U.S. The show has won eight regional Emmy Awards and was up for an amazing 13 nominations this year. “The Silent Invasion,” an *Oregon Field Guide* special on the impact of invasive species on Oregon ecosystems, won a 2009 Alfred I. DuPont/Columbia University Award for broadcast journalism, the broadcast equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize.

**WHAT’S THE SECRET to *Oregon Field Guide’s* longevity?**

“On the job, we’re environmental reporters, not environmentalists,” Amen explains. “No matter what we’re reporting on, we let our audience make up their own minds.”

The program’s hard-earned reputation for fairness and respect on hot-button environmental issues like the Klamath Basin water rights battle or grazing on public land is another key to its success. “A lot of what we do is give people access,” says Amen. “We’ll take you places that, chances are, you’ll never see in person, and allow you to meet people and experience ways of life you wouldn’t otherwise see.”

The affable Amen isn’t one to shy away from adventure or from a challenge. Last year, he took on a new one: imparting the trove of knowledge acquired during his quarter-century-plus of award-winning documentary filmmaking as an adjunct professor in PSU’s fledgling film program.

“I’m a PSU alum, and I love the school,” Amen says. “They asked me if I knew anyone who could teach a documentary film production class. As it happened, I did. I love teaching, and I love filmmaking. It all came together very quickly.”

So during winter term, Amen found himself face to face with a class full of students—many of whom had zero experience behind, or in front of, a camera. After a few weeks of what Amen called “Documentary Filmmaking 101,” he began to impart the underlying message of his curriculum: Documentary filmmakers carry a certain responsibility and because of that commitment, it’s not for everyone.

By spring term, only a core group of students remained—those who realized that being a documentary filmmaker isn’t just a four-hour-a-day job. “Basically, you become a lunatic,” Amen says, “the type of person who can be locked in an edit bay staring at the same clip for eight hours straight and enjoy it.”

During the second term, students pitched ideas to Amen and started shooting. “The goal was for each student to have at least one broadcast-worthy story at the end of the term,” Amen says. “Because in this business, while the resume is important, at the end of the day, it’s all about the tape.”

**THE CREATIVE CHAOS** that goes into the production of 13 original 30-minute *Oregon Field Guide* episodes each year, says Amen, starts with an intensive planning session in March. OFG’s staff and other producers pitch their ideas for the upcoming season to Amen, who, as the show’s producer, looks for a healthy blend of stories. The successful OFG formula includes one investigative piece or in-depth story, one species or location related piece, and one lighter or more scenic piece per episode.

For each 7- to 10-minute piece ultimately aired on OFG, the crew will shoot roughly five or six hours of video over the better part of a week. More weeks are spent researching, looking at tapes, writing scripts, and editing the video.

“It’s a large commitment,” Amen says. “We’re very grateful that OPB gives us enough of a budget to really follow the story. Before we started *Oregon Field Guide*, we looked at a lot of different outdoor shows. We discovered that a lot of them are just hooks and bullets. We wanted to find a more thoughtful balance.”

Growing up poor in rural Torrington, Wyoming, Amen had no thoughts of a career in television journalism. While at PSU, he studied theater, speech, print journalism, and still photography. It wasn’t until he took an internship at Portland’s KATU-TV that the adrenaline rush of TV news first took hold. “Not long after I started at KATU, the DC-8 crashed in east Portland,” Amen says. “I was up 24 to 36 hours at a stretch without sleep while we were covering the story—I absolutely loved it.”

Documentary films for the likes of HBO and PBS *Frontline* followed. But for the last 20 years, Amen’s heart and soul have been right here in his adopted home state.

“I have the greatest job on the planet—people tell me that all the time,” Amen says. “But I’m not the star of *Oregon Field Guide*—Oregon is the star.”

Jeff Kuechle is a freelance writer and frequent contributor to Portland State Magazine.

The crew of *Oregon Field Guide* seen above in 2004 are (left to right) Todd Sorrflieth, Jim Newman, host Steve Amen, Ed Jahn, and Nick Fisher.
WINNERS!

BASKETBALL, both the men's and women's teams, made it far and finished big in March. For the second year in a row, the men's team completed a 23-10 season, won the Big Sky Conference Tournament, and advanced to the NCAA Tournament. The women finished 14-2 for their best record ever and came in second at the Big Sky Conference Tournament, earning them a place in the Women's National Invitation Tournament.

TOP: Senior guard Andre Murray was one of only two Vikings to start every game during this winning season. Photo by Stanley Brewster. BOTTOM: Kelsey Kahle, Kelli Valentine, Claire Faucher, Eryn Jones, and Katia Hadj-Hamou wait to be introduced as the starting lineup at a Women's National Invitation Tournament game. Photo by Troy Wayrynen.
Tenth anniversary event honors generosity

FARIBORZ MASEEH—alumnus, engineer, and philanthropist—received the 2009 Simon Benson Award in a room overflowing with those who give. Past award recipients were invited to the 10th anniversary event for special recognition by the new president, Wim Wiewel.

Awards were the theme of the evening. Rosalynn Carter, featured speaker and former first lady, recognized three Portland State programs with first-ever Carter Foundation awards for outstanding campus-community partnerships. Stroke Camp Northwest won first place, and second place prizes went to the Portland Public Schools Migrant Education Program and the Community English as a Second Language Project.

The evening raised more than $200,000 for support of student and faculty scholarship. Wells Fargo provided lead support for the event, which is named for Portland philanthropist and timber baron Simon Benson (1851-1942).

More than 800 people attended the annual Simon Benson Awards Dinner April 7. Rosalynn Carter gave the keynote speech, and President Wim Wiewel presented the 2009 award to Fariborz Maseeh. Photos by ©2009 Prints Charming Photography.
ALUMNI CAREER NETWORKING The PSU Alumni Association offers two great ways to enhance your professional outreach. Attend exclusive alumni events as a member of PSUAA. Rates begin at $10 for new grads; just visit www.pdx.edu/alumni. Or join LinkedIn, the largest online professional social network, for free. Go to LinkedIn.com and search for PSU alumni.

Getting together

MORE THAN 50 alumni, students, and faculty advocates met with Oregon legislators March 12 for PSU Day in Salem, which included lunch with Attorney General John Kroger. Salem area alumni and friends introduced to President Wim Wiewel included Supreme Court Justice Paul DeMuniz ’72 and the Hon. Mary Mertens James ’78. The PSUAA sponsored a Boise tailgate March 20 for Viking fans at the first round of the NCAA men’s basketball tournament, while Portland-area alumni cheered the Viks at viewing parties at McMenamin’s Mission Theatre and the Cheerful Tortoise. Young PSU alumni networked at Bridgeport Brewpub in the Pearl District after author Sherry Mueller discussed her book Working World: Careers in International Education, Exchange, and Development. Don’t miss out on future alumni events! Submit your e-mail address at www.pdx.edu/alumni.

Puzzle master to keynote PSU Weekend

GIVE YOUR BRAIN a workout at what promises to be a truly unique and interactive lecture by Will Shortz, Saturday, October 10. As crossword editor at The New York Times and puzzle master on NPR’s Weekend Edition Sunday, Shortz reaches an estimated 50 million people each week with his and other’s brainteasers. And keep your calendar clear for great reunions, receptions, and other lectures during PSU Weekend 2009, October 9 and 10. Visit www.pdx.edu/alumni for more information.

Will Shortz is the only person in the world to hold a college degree in enigmatology, the study of puzzles.
1960-1969

Lowell Burnett '64 is chief technology officer at Quasar Federal Systems, a producer of electromagnetic sensing systems for manufacturing, security, and exploration. The company is located in San Diego. Burnett is a scientific adviser and board member of QuasarGeo, a division of Quasar Federal, which works with the oil and gas industry.

Ken Dunder '69 is president of Hydrokinetic Systems, a Salem-based manufacturer of industrial waste treatment systems. Dunder also is co-owner of the Santiam Valley Ranch, a family-owned farm that propagates fish. Dunder operates the fish business on a seasonal, part-time basis with help from his wife, Kathy, and sons, Nils, Jake, Andy, and Luke.

Steve Biles '65 is vice president of investments at Biles, Urdes & Hart Partners, a wealth management group in Portland. Biles' dog, Jaralu Ouia, a Scottish deerhound, defeated 50,000 dogs of all breeds last year as one of seven finalists for the highly coveted AKC National Champion “Best in Show.” Biles, his wife, Eileen, and their dogs live in Sherwood.

Scott Parker '68 is providing insights on T.S. Eliot's most national, part-time basis with help from his wife, Kathy, and sons, Nils, Jake, Andy, and Luke.

Tamar Lewis '69 is a neurological sales consultant with Dynasplint Systems, Inc., a company that markets a bilateral, spring-loaded splint system. Lewis, who lives in Portland, is a past president of the PSU Alumni Association.

1970-1979

Calvin Gantenbein '70 is the chief judge of the Siletz Tribal Court of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians in Siletz. Gantenbein earned a law degree from Northwestern School of Law at Lewis & Clark College in 1974. He also volunteers as a court-appointed special advocate in Clatsop County Juvenile Court.

Antonio Amandi '71 is a senior fish health specialist with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Amandi received his master's and doctorate in fish health at Oregon State University. He lives in Corvallis with his wife, Elizabeth Amandi '71.

Annabelle Jaramillo '71, MS '74 has been sworn in for her third term on the Benton County Board of Commissioners, where she will be serving as vice chair.

Steven Scanlin MSW '71 has been appointed state affiliate director for the National Association of Local Boards of Health, which represents the grassroots foundation of public health in America. Scanlin is an attorney in Boise, Idaho, and has served on the Central District Board of Health for eight years.

Dianne Capsouto Graham '72 retired after 26 years of teaching English as a second language and primary classes in Portland Public Schools. Graham now lives in Sun City, Arizona.

Bruce Carocci '73, MBA '75 is new vice president of business development at Ontier, Inc., a Portland software developer for business users. Carocci has more than 25 years of senior management experience.

Barry Simon '73 has been elected vice president of resource development for the Southern California division of the United Nations Association of the USA, a nonprofit membership organization that supports the work of the United Nations. Simon is an independent investment adviser and lives in Santa Monica, California.

Timothy Miller '74 is acting associate director for geology with the U.S. Geological Survey. Miller, who has worked for the USGS for 36 years, was senior adviser for water quality. He lives in Reston, Virginia, with his wife, Rhonda Miller MA '75, an attorney.

Anthony G. White MPA '74, PhD '94 won an administrator's excellence award for community outreach from Bonneville Power Administration in March. White is a public utilities specialist and secretary to the U.S. Entity for the Columbia River Treaty. He has also spent many hours helping build homes for Habitat for Humanity. White lives in West Linn with his wife, Carole Ann White MBA '74.

Scott Anderson '75 is chief of police for the city of Troutdale. Anderson retired from the Portland Police Bureau in 2004. In 2005, he was one of five international police leaders to assist in the reforming and restructuring of the Haitian National Police.

Mark Carpenter '75 is president of Columbia Roofing and Sheet Metal in Tualatin. Carpenter lives in Wilsonville with his wife, Barbara.

Michael Reed '75 is town board chairman for Lisbon, Wisconsin. Reed is a retired business owner and lives in Lisbon with his wife, Valerie.


Frances Storlie '76 has authored five books and written more than 120 articles on health care. Storlie, now retired from the nursing profession, participated in more than 20 medical mission trips in Central and South America.

Christopher Gniewosz '77, MA '03 has co-authored and self-published a book, Noble Flight—A Family's Exodus and Survival During World War II. He lives in Portland.


Daniel Laizure '79 is a dentist and owns Walla Walla Dental Care in Washington. Laizure is actively involved in the National Spit Tobacco Education Program. He is married and has three children and one grandchild.
Margaret Shirley MFA '79 is adjunct art faculty in the PSU School of Fine and Performing Arts and at Marylhurst University. Shirley’s art has been featured on campus and at the Portland Art Museum, Oklahoma Art Center, Texas Fine Arts Association, and other galleries. She lives in Portland.

1980-1989

Hassan bin Abdullah al-Ghanim '80 is the 2009 PSU Outstanding International Alumnus. Al-Ghanim is minister of justice for the State of Qatar in the Middle East. The PSU Alumni Association honored Al-Ghanim for his distinguished career and leadership in Qatar and in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

Maryw Ann Haisch '80, MPA '93 is an assistant professor in the school of dentistry at Oregon Health & Science University. Haisch holds offices in the American Dental Education Association and is on the editorial board for the Journal of Practical Hygiene. She lives in Vancouver, Washington.

Pamela J. Luna '80, MST '82 evaluates programs in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Luna earned her doctoral degree from Loma Linda University in California. She writes, "The PSU community was a perfect fit for reinforcing my career in health and education. Thank you PSU." Luna lives in Riverside, California.

Olive Orjiako '80, MUP '82, PhD '89 is director of the Clark County Department of Community Development in Vancouver, Washington.

Judith Poutasse MPA '81 is evening coordinator for the Student Success Program at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham.

Margaret L. Dryden MA '82 is heritage program manager for the U.S. Forest Service, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area in Hood River. Dryden has been an archaeologist with the Forest Service since 1979.

Mark Fischer '82 is a dentist with Cascade Dental in its Fischer’s Landing office in Vancouver, Washington. Fischer also volunteers with Medical Teams International to help disadvantaged patients and disaster survivors both locally and in Mexico. He and his wife, Corinn, have three children and two grandchildren, Sofia and Lucia.

Catherine Murray '82 is chair of the department of art and design at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City. Murray will have a one-person exhibition of new work at High Point University, High Point, North Carolina, in November 2009.

Ali M. Al Ali '83 is chairman and general manager of Qatar’s General Postal Corporation. Since the Middle Eastern country’s postal service became an independent corporation in 2001, Al Ali has shifted its operation from years of revenue loss to a 49 percent profit.

Carolyn Johnson-Bell '83 is an artist who specializes in interior decorative painting, including faux painting, stencilling, and free-hand custom murals. Johnson-Bell is a member of the Stencil Artisans League and is a professional resource affiliate member of Northwest Society of Interior Designers.

Susan Moffet '83 is an attorney with Dexter and Moffet, an adoption law office in Wilsonville. Moffet earned her law degree from Northwestern School of Law at Lewis & Clark College. She is married and has a daughter and two cats.

Diane O’Malley '83 is the accounting manager for Portland Youth Philharmonic in Portland. O’Malley has more than 20 years’ experience in accounting, human resources, and finance. She also teaches hospitality accounting at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham and serves as a children’s minister and bookkeeper for her church.

Tommy Conlon '84 is an attorney and co-founder of Conlon and Fong Bankruptcy Attorneys, a law firm in Carmichael, California. Conlon earned his law degree from Lincoln Law School in Sacramento. He volunteers attorney time with Northern California Legal Services.

Cynthia Keiser Mansfield '84 is an early childhood education assistant with the Clackamas Education Service District. Mansfield lives in Milwaukie with her husband, Roy. Her mother, Jean Keiser '79, is a retired medical technologist in West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Renee Fellman MBA '85 is an award-winning turnaround expert, who has been interim CEO for 16 companies.

David Lezak PhD '85 is a physicist and CEO of Wygant Scientific, a developer of digitized voice communication systems in Portland. Lezak lives with his wife, Bridget, and their two children, Stephen and Eleanor.
Peter Bitar '86 is team leader for LunaTrex, a team of U.S. rocket, robotics, aviation, energy, and propulsion experts pursuing the $20 million Lunar X Prize sponsored by Google. The winning team must land a privately funded spacecraft on the Moon by 2012. Bitar, an entrepreneur and inventor, is president and CEO of AiroBuoyant in Anderson, Indiana. He has developed the VertiScooter, a rough terrain vehicle, and the VertiPod, a one-person flying platform. A licensed pilot, Bitar is also an aerospace and defense sector consultant for the Gerson-Lehrman Group.

Dennis Ades MS '87 is a non-point source specialist for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. Ades' position emphasizes federal land management issues through the governor's forest planning team.

Susan Beilke '87 is an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife project manager for Burlington Bottoms wetlands 12 miles northwest of Portland. She has worked to protect and enhance the area's fish and wildlife habitat since 1994.

Sonia Lynn Kingston '88 is a board member for Loaves & Fishes, a nonprofit that provides meals to seniors living in Portland. Kingston is also a member of the PSU Alumni Association. She lives in Portland with her husband, Harry.

1990-1999

Christine McCoy '90 is the commodity manager in electronics for Tyco Electronics Corporation in Wilsonville.

Michael Orenduff '90 is division director of the movement science laboratory at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas, Texas. Orenduff is a founding member of the Gait and Clinical Movement Analysis Society and has had three best-paper nominations from the society.

Char Tong MSW '90 has been appointed to the board of directors of the Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force. Tong is director of mental health programs at Northwest Human Services, a nonprofit health care and social services agency in Salem.

Ron Deisher '91 is a board member for the Port Townsend Marine Science Center in Port Townsend, Washington. Deisher, a retired health care administrator, lives in Port Ludlow with his wife, Ann. He volunteers for several marine environment and nonprofit organizations in the area and is also an avid boater and fisherman.

Daniel Russell '91 and his wife, Joy Russell '94, are senior pastors at the Battle Ground Foursquare Church, in Battleground, Washington.

John Wolf '91, MA '94 is a PhD candidate in anthropological sciences at Stanford University. Wolf has conducted field surveys and excavations in the Pacific Northwest, Kingdom of Tonga, and in the Peruvian Andes.

Mario Au MBA '92 is board vice president for the Organization of Chinese Americans in Seattle. Au is a claims team manager for State Farm Insurance. Born and raised in Hong Kong, he now lives in Olympia, Washington, with his wife and two children.

Melissa Bosworth MPA '92 is program manager for the Oregon Geriatric Education Center at Oregon Health & Science University.

Ronald Farnsworth '92 has been honored by the Portland Business Journal as one of the 2008 Forty under 40. Farnsworth is executive vice president and chief financial officer of Umpqua Holdings Corporation and Umpqua Bank in Portland. He lives in Scappoose with his wife, Toni.

Ken Kissir '92 is a board member of the Multnomah Educational Service District in Portland. Kissir is an attorney in Gresham.

Jose Pinomesa '92 has been owner of Jose Mesa Auto Wholesale in Portland for the past 18 years. Pinomesa was voted 2008 president of the Oregon Independent Auto Dealers Association in Salem. He and his wife, Josephine, have two children, Francisco and Madeleine.

Mary Pfauth '92, PhD '02 is a research associate at the PSU Center for Lakes and Reservoirs, where she works on aquatic invasive species.

George Cheshier '93, MST '95 is a professional pianist and organist. Cheshier teaches private piano lessons at Classic Pianos in Portland and at the Portland Parks & Recreation Community Music Center. He is also the accompanist for the Holy Family Parish and a member of the jazz trio Organized.

Anthony "Ray" DeMarco '93, MS '98 is a federal projects administrator with Portland Public Schools, where he supervises a migrant project created by PSU Prof. Joan Strouse. Through the project, 135 Portland State education students tutored children in 45 Portland schools last term. DeMarco recently celebrated his 60th birthday at the PSU Simon Benson House. He lives in Portland with his wife, Jane.

Brett Langer '93 is an account executive investment adviser for The Summit—Financial Strategies, a financial investment firm in Beaverton.
Bringing solutions off the hill

HOW DO SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES become products that benefit the world? Ask Kristin Rencher '96, MBA '04. Her work at Oregon Health & Science University helps make this happen.

"OHSU scientists have created lots of solutions and research discoveries in search of a problem," says Rencher, associate director of the university's Office of Technology and Research Collaborations. "The challenge is to figure out which ones will translate into real solutions that benefit mankind."

One such discovery has transformed the treatment for a particular type of stomach cancer. OHSU's Brian Druker M.D. has found a way to "personalize" drugs for each patient so that they attack just the cancer cells, leaving healthy cells alone.

Another discovery has resulted in collaboration between Intel and OHSU that may free millions from the constraints of diseases like Alzheimer's. The institutions are using new technology to wire the homes and even the clothing of Alzheimer's patients. Caregivers will know where a patient is, if that patient has fallen, and even if medication was taken. This will enable people to live independently for as long as possible.

It is Rencher's job to determine if projects such as these are patentable and analyze potential markets. If a discovery looks promising, she puts together a compelling case to convince a company to license the technology and develop it into a product.

The 44-year-old mother of three got what she calls her dream job by working as an intern at OHSU through Portland State's MBA program. Rencher's advanced degree and her background in science and business enabled her to quickly rise to her position as associate director.

"I had no idea a job like this existed until I was in the MBA program," she says. "The program presented me with this opportunity and it turned out to be the perfect intersection of science and business for me. I've found my career nirvana."  

BY BOBBIE HASSELBRING

Colette Livermore '93 is a board member for Loaves & Fishes, a nonprofit that provides meals to seniors living in Portland. She lives in Portland with her husband, Jeffrey Livermore '87.

Brent E. Turvey '93 is a senior partner, forensic scientist, and criminal profiler with Forensic Solutions in Sitka, Alaska. Turvey has served as an expert witness in criminal trials around the world. He is also an adjunct professor in the department of criminology at Oklahoma City University and in the graduate criminology department at Bond University in Gold Coast, Australia.

Sheila Selkregg PhD '94 is a full-time faculty member in the public administration master's program at University of Alaska Anchorage. Selkregg is also the owner of a planning and community development firm. She lives in Anchorage with her three children.

Addam Stell '94 is a principal dancer with the New Jersey Tap Dance Ensemble, based in Bloomfield, New Jersey. Stell, who has been dancing since age 7, also owns his own company, Tap Cats, and is a member of the Foot and Fiddle Dance Company in New York City.

Helen Young '94, EdD '06 is a board member of the Autism Society of Oregon and a PSU special education faculty member. Young is also program coordinator for the Oregon Regional Programs Autism Training Sites Project. She lives in Portland with her husband, Creighton Young '78, MSW '80.

Michael P. Brown MS '95 has joined Samaritan Health Services urgent care clinics. Brown completed his medical education at Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine in San Francisco and his residency training in family medicine at Oregon Health & Science University. He lives in Salem.

Laura Cailloux MBA '95 is the dean of workforce education at Skagit Valley College in Mount Vernon, Washington. Cailloux is responsible for managing the college's 26 professional and technical programs.

Rebecca Childs MSW '95 is the housing program manager for Northwest Pilot Project, an advocate agency for homeless seniors in Portland.

Jamae Hilliard Creecy MPA '95 received an Administrator's Excellence Award in employee development from Bonneville Power Administration in March. Creecy is a policy and planning manager.
Kelly Jones '95 is a sergeant with the Washington County Sheriff's Department in Hillsboro. Jones is married to Stephanie Jones MST '03, director of the Autism Society of Oregon. Jones lives in Alsea.

Tracey Crouser Stoppelmoor '96 is a writer, archaeologist, and explorer. Smith's most recent expeditions have taken him to Alaska, Iceland, and South America. His writings have been published in Scientific American Mind, Playboy, Archaeology, The Writer, South American Explorer, Spaceflight, The Next Step, and Skeptical Inquirer. Smith is the author of The Top Ten Myths About Evolution and Anthropology for Dummies. His next books will be The Frost Giants and Wilderness Survival for Dummies.

Sarah Lawrence MA '95 is executive director of Wahkiakum Community Foundation and manager of the Wahkiakum County Fair in Cathlamet, Washington. Lawrence lives in Puget Island, Washington, with her husband, Paul.

Deirdre Lorenz '95 landed her "coolest television role yet" in a small part on NBC's Law & Order Special Victims Unit "Baggage" episode, which aired April 7. The actress, producer, and model lives in New York City.

Cameron McPherson Smith MA '96 is an account executive at the Northwest Evaluation Association, a national nonprofit organization that provides assessments, training, and other services to school districts and education agencies. A lifetime member of the PSU Alumni Association, Snyder lives in Portland.

Maggie Daane MM '97 is a music director, soprano soloist, teacher, and adjudicator known to audiences and students throughout the Northwest. She has appeared as a guest performer with the Oregon Symphony, Portland Baroque Orchestra, and many other musical groups. She lives in Alsea.

Michael Fletcher '97 is a marketing and business development manager for Point West Credit Union in Portland. He is married to MaryAnn Fletcher '99, a Web page designer. They have two children and enjoy sports and music.

Lawrence "Rusty" Jacobson '98 is a legal assistant at Muir & Troutman, a debt relief law firm in Beaverton.

Randall Glenn '99 is a dentist in Oregon City. Glenn is also president of the Clackamas County Dental Society and is adjunct faculty at Oregon Health & Science University. He enjoys spending time with his wife, Brook, and their children, Parker and Abrianna.

David Mildrexler '99 is a forest scientist with the WildWest Institute, a nonprofit environmental advocacy organization in Missoula, Montana. Mildrexler completed his master's in forest science at University of Montana under the direction of Prof. Steve Running, whom he continues to work for as a research assistant. Running shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize.

2000-2008

Scott Dillinger MSW '00 is a trauma and orthopedic social worker at Oregon Health & Science University. Dillinger also oversees and coordinates...
Dentist with a heart

MICHAEL AUST '02 once dreamed of owning a garage full of Ferraris, but his heart got in the way.

Aust, who earned a dentistry degree from Marquette University in 2006 after completing a science degree at PSU, comes from humble beginnings. During high school, he and his mother experienced homelessness, used food stamps, and received public health care. It's little wonder he yearned for something better. "I saw dentistry as my avenue to financial freedom," he says. "I thought owning a large dental chain was a way to make money."

Then he met a woman, who later became his wife, doing her postgraduate dental residency at an HIV/AIDS clinic. Aust is a graduate student field placement program between PSU's School of Social Work and OHSU. He lives in Portland with his partner, Cameron Crook, and enjoys co-parenting his two-year-old son.

Brenden Butler '01 and wife, Emily Galliland

Brenden Butler '01 and his wife, Emily Gilliland, walked with AmeriCorps alumni in the Washington, D.C., inaugural parade for President Barack Obama. He writes, "It was such a huge honor to be carrying the Oregon state flag in our nation's capital for such an historic event." Butler is a program manager for Hands On Greater Portland, a nonprofit clearinghouse for volunteer opportunities in Portland.

Erik Emerick '01 is a service performance manager at Vestas American Wind Technology, a worldwide wind turbine manufacturer. Emerick and his wife, Mary, live in Portland and are expecting their first child.

Julie Sheldon Huffaker MBA '01 is a partner at On Your Feet, a Portland-based business consulting firm that uses improvisational theater. Huffaker is also an avid traveler and is learning Spanish.

Jost Lottes MBA '01, PhD '04 is the evaluation specialist for the Oregon Geriatric Education Center at Oregon Health & Science University. Lottes also directs the Senior Adult Learning Center at Portland State. He is a favorite speaker at PSU Weekend, held on campus each fall.

Michelle Medler '01 is a member of the Quadraphonnes, an all-female saxophone quartet...
that released its first CD "Music To Watch Girls By," Medler and her husband, Benjamin Medler '01, direct the Portland Jazz Youth Orchestra.

Zoe Rawson MSW '01 is a staff attorney with The City Project, an advocacy group for improving parks and schoolyards in Los Angeles. Rawson earned a law degree from University of New York School of Law at Queens College.

Mark Rosenkranz MEM '01 is the water resource specialist for Lake Oswego Corporation in Lake Oswego. Rosenkranz is also past president and a current board member of the Oregon Lakes Association.

Thaddeus Shannon MS '01, MS, PhD '07 is an assistant professor of theater at Western Oregon University in Monmouth.

Eli Caudill '02 educates contractors in the home building industry about energy efficiency in residential construction. He also designs small scale, thermal management prototypes. He lives in Portland.

Ted Cramer '02, MEd '03 is a science teacher at Hood River Valley High.

Ben Dale '02 is an English language instructor at three schools in Sapporo, Japan.

Rachel Diamond '02 is an attorney with the St. Andrew Legal Clinic in Clackamas County.

Sarah Fielding Moore '02, MPA '07 oversees residential energy efficiency program offerings for Bonneville Power Administration. Moore's team works with 140 public utilities in eight states.

Megan Gnekow '02 recently exhibited her art at the 20th annual Illustrating Nature exhibit at the Museum of Natural History in Santa Cruz, California.

Jason Kennedy MBA '02 is director of business development at Intel, where he directs business customer focused engagements between Intel and Microsoft. Kennedy and his wife, Kim, have two children. They live in Portland.

Adam Tucker '02 is a partner in Lexicon Staffing in Beaverton. Tucker likes to travel and has visited 16 countries.

Colette Watts Quaglia MFA '02 is an artist specializing in paintings and drawings of nature and pattern. Quaglia's most recent exhibit was at the Houghton House Gallery at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, New York.

John Blakeman '03 is a tax specialist with the Internal Revenue Service's Stakeholder Liaison Division in Portland. Blakeman has also joined the Stakeholder Liaison Team in Portland State's Tax Practitioners Institute.

Lars Campbell '03 is a trombonist and co-founder of the Portland Jazz Orchestra. Campbell is also a member of the jazz trio Chopslaugher and the Bobby Torres Ensemble.

Karanja Crews MED '03 is a teacher at Jefferson High School in Portland. Crews is part of the Portland Teachers Program, which is in partnership with Portland Community College, PSU's College of Liberal Arts and Studies, and PSU's Graduate School of Education.

Eric Nance MSW '03 is an outpatient mental health therapist at Steller Human Services in Bemidji, Minnesota. He is also co-coordinator of a countywide crisis program for children and their families. Nance writes, "I want to thank PSU and the School of Social Work for all you did for me. I will keep in touch."

John Stephens MIM '03 is an assistant program officer for Mercy Corps in South Asia. Stephens facilitates communication with field offices in Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.

Robin Taylor-Weber '03 is a purchasing agent for Grand and Benedicts, a store fixture and merchandising company in Portland. Taylor-Weber writes, "I had a fantastic internship the summer of 2002 with the Fred Meyer headquarters buying department. It became the road to my first career as assistant buyer in athletic shoes."

Mary Sue Tobin '03, MM '05 is a saxophonist for the Portland Jazz Orchestra. Tobin performs regularly with the Oregon Symphony Pops and Portland Center Stage. She has played with many of Portland's leading jazz artists, including Glen Moore and Darrell Grant.

Dan Gaynor '04 is a pianist for the Portland Jazz Orchestra. Gaynor has performed professionally as a jazz pianist since the age of 17 with artists such as Nancy King, Kelly Joe Phelps, Alan Jones, and "Sweet Baby" James Benton. Gaynor appears on the Oasis album by David Valdez and Pere Sotos and on Saffron Robe by Chopslaugher.

Ayasha Shamsud-Din '04 is a case coordinator with LifeWorks NW in Portland. Shamsud-Din works with women who are recovering from alcohol and/or drug addiction. She writes, "I enjoy the rewards of knowing that I am making a difference in the lives of children and their families."

Francene Ambrose '05 was selected as the 2008/2009 Hatfield Fellow by the Spirit Mountain Community Fund. Ambrose is a Grande Ronde Tribal member. She is a staff member in Sen. Ron Wyden's Washington, D.C., office.

Allan Collins MPH '05 is the pathways director for Inland Empire United Way in Beaumont, California.

Daphne Bussey '05, MEd '06 is a teacher at Rosa Park Elementary School in Portland. Bussey was honored for her achievements during Black History Month by the Portland Trail Blazers.

Anna Fidler MFA '05 is an artist specializing in paper, paintings, installations, music, and film and flash. Fidler lives in Los Angeles.

Viki Points MPH '05 is an assistant professor at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls, where she teaches classes in restorative dental hygiene.

Michael Rudis '05 is an architectural consultant for 4Frontiers Corporation, a space commerce company focused on the settlement of Mars. Rudis is also working on a master's degree in space architecture at University of Houston.

Jennifer Cox '06 is a freelance artist and a part-time editorial assistant for New ConneXion, a bimonthly journal of spirituality and natural health based in Marylhurst, Oregon.

Nichole Maher MPH '06 was recognized by the Portland Business Journal as one of Portland's 2008 Forty under 40. She is executive director of the Native American Youth and Family Center in Portland.

Driss Takir '06 is an instructor in the department of earth and planetary sciences at University of Tennessee Knoxville, where he is working on a PhD in planetary science.

Jeffrey Baxter '07 is a pianist and instructor with Classic Pianos in Portland. Baxter, who has been playing the piano since he was four years old, is studying with concert pianist Susan Chan at Portland State.

Sheila Benson '07 is the office manager for Beery Elsner and Hammond, a legal firm
in Portland. Benson joined the firm in June 2007 and is a member of the Association of Legal Administrators.

**Tierra Curry MS ’07** is a conservation biologist with the Center for Biological Diversity, an advocacy firm in Tucson, Arizona. Curry focuses on the listing and recovery of endangered species.

**Jonathan Davies ’07** is a commercial broker with CV Newton Company, a commercial real estate brokerage in Portland.

**Mary Jane Dunne ’07** was part of a visual effects team for the animated movie *Coraline*, which was released in 2009. Dunne is now working as a development assistant for St. Mary’s Home for Boys in Aloha.

**Liza Jacobson ’07** is an environmental educator at Port Townsend Marine Science Center in Washington.

**Michelle McIlvoy MS ’07** is a student involvement manager on the Vancouver campus of Washington State University.

**Lori Noice ’07** is enrolled in the medical physics master’s program at University of Alberta in Canada. Noice is working on a quantitative analysis of a medical imaging technology that takes 3-D snapshots of moving anatomy, such as a person’s breathing lung.

**Toni Pennington PhD ’07** is an aquatic biologist for Terra Tech, an engineering consulting firm in Portland. Pennington is also treasurer of the Oregon Lakes Association and a member of the North American Lake Management Society, the Western Aquatic Plant Management Society (scholarship chair), and the Aquatic Plant Management Society.

**Summer Hatfield ’08** is an artist living in Portland. Hatfield’s work has been shown in several group exhibits throughout the Pacific Northwest as well as in Spain and Germany. She is also the co-founder of Scratch Print Arts and recently painted a mural at Staccato Gelato, in northeast Portland.

**Jason Lee MBA ’08** is a senior project manager for Portland Energy Conservation, Inc., an energy consulting firm.

**Jane Lierman MS ’08** has co-founded a mentoring program in the Lake Oswego School District that pairs high school honor students with fifth- and sixth-graders.

**David Moen MS ’08** is a condor research associate for the Oregon Zoo. This winter, he was featured in *The Oregonian* newspaper and on the public television show, *Oregon Field Guide*, for his research on identifying condor-breeding areas in Oregon.

**Naomi Molstrom ’08** is a program assistant for the Wild Salmon Center, an international conservation organization based in Portland. Molstrom, originally from Japan, helps the center communicate with Japanese colleagues, and she organizes events.

**Jessica Ormundo ’08** is managerial assistant for the Valerie A. Foster dental office in Aloha.

**Brian Wozniak ’08** is a senior tax specialist with the Internal Revenue Service’s Stakeholder Liaison Division in Portland. Wozniak is also an instructor for the Tax Practitioners Institute at Portland State.

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**Looking Back**

1969: IT’S YOUR THING

**MUSIC, PROTESTS, AND ALLEN GINSBERG.** Classes, basketball, and new university status. Those Portland State students who cared, cared deeply such as these students campaigning for ASPSU presidential candidate Andrew Haynes (second from right). Haynes won in an election fraught with drama.
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