Color matters
Racial disparity in Multnomah County 7-8

World of the deep / 12
Harvest of questions / 14
The afterlife of oil / 16
THE ADVENTURES OF

PSU WEEKEND

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October 22-24, 2010

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See insert on page 16 for more details
CONTENTS

Departments

2 FROM THE PRESIDENT
Helping Latino students succeed

3 LETTERS
Not 'alternative' any more
Campus protests still stir debate
It was a tough call

4 PARK BLOCKS
Professor takes to police work
Stacked, racked bicycles
From a comic book expert
Working together

6 FANFARE
The stuff we buy
Success from both sides of the camera
Come to campus for fall play
New Works

22 ATHLETICS
Winning women's teams defend
Big Sky titles
See them play at Hillsboro Stadium

23 GIVING
Twenty years of new beginnings

24 ALUMNI
Welcome new alumni—class of 2010
Board comings and goings
Help us honor those we admire
Give back by being a mentor
Dishing up tradition
Legacy of learning

33 LOOKING BACK
1960

Features

8 COLOR MATTERS
Alumni of color tell what it is like
to live and work in Multnomah County.

12 WORLD OF THE DEEP
Scientist travels to extreme cold, hot,
and pressure-laden environments to
gather microscopic life.

14 HARVEST OF QUESTIONS
Is growing genetically engineered
crops good for farmers and the
nation?

16 THE AFTERLIFE OF OIL
Applying the research from one
environmental disaster to the next.

ON THE COVER
Longtime state legislator Margaret Carter '72 is familiar
with the unequal social and economic realities that people of color experience
in Multnomah County. See story on page 8. Photo by Kelly James.
Helping Latino students succeed

THE COVER STORY in this issue of Portland State Magazine on the lack of progress for people of color in Multnomah County is a forceful reminder of how far we still have to go in our community to achieve equal opportunities for all. Portland State needs to be part of the solution, which is why I appointed a campus task force a year ago to develop strategies to better serve our Latino and Latina students, including specific steps to improve recruitment and retention.

Chaired by professor Carlos Crespo, who directs our School of Community Health, the group worked for months to study the social, economic, and educational barriers that many Latinos face. The challenges grow urgent as Latinos make up the fastest growing population in Oregon and across the country. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that more than 430,000 Oregonians are Latino—nearly four times the 1990 Latino population in the state. Nationwide, the 2010 census is expected to show that the Latino population approaches 50 million people.

Yet that growth rate is not reflected in higher education here or elsewhere. Portland State educates the largest number of Latino students in the Oregon University System—nearly one in 20 students on our campus is Latino—but that compares to nearly one in five students in Oregon public schools who are Latino.

We must do better. This academic year, we are implementing key recommendations from our Latino task force to increase scholarships, hire more Latino faculty and staff, open a La Casa Latina support center on campus, and bolster recruiting in high schools and community colleges. Long term, our goals include providing annual full scholarships to 100 Latino undergraduates and 25 graduate students. We will detail this initiative in October at a campus event called Exito, or success.

Yes, these efforts are aimed at current and future Latino PSU students and their families. But the benefits that ripple from their success will be shared by everyone as part of our mission to educate Oregon’s work force of the future.

Wim Wiewel
PRESIDENT, PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY
Not ‘alternative’ anymore

It’s great that PSU is taking such a leading role in developing and promoting sensible, efficient, healthy and sustainable transportation. But why keep using the term “alternative”? Every time that word is used, it implies that there is a standard sort of transportation that should be considered first. Just drop the word. We don’t need to be reminded of the foolish, wasteful, deadly and shortsighted “standard” mode of transportation.

Merlin Rainwater, Seattle

Campus protests still stir debate

There are two sides to the story regarding “Memories of Confrontation” presented in the magazine’s spring 2010 issue. I’ve personally witnessed it. The great fascist Lenin prophesied, “Give me a generation of youth, and I’ll change the world.” That would entail the complete removal of dialogue, didactic debate, legislative debate and a paradigmatic view based on censorship.

Dear reader, there are two sides to the story. Protect dialogue. Protect debate. Protect freedom of speech.

Tom Del Zotto ’84
Sacramento County, California

I was getting my MBA at PSU at the time of the riot and viewed it and knew the background. First of all, the city told the people inhabiting the tent in the South Park Blocks to vacate because it was on city property, and they gave them weeks to do it. They deliberately refused, and the police were finally called in to remove them. Of the 31 injured, very few of them were PSU students. They were instead troublemakers there to create a confrontation with authorities enforcing the law. Most of the students going to PSU at the time were working and raising families and felt the rioters and protesters were immature adolescents just out to tweak the authorities.

Nelson Olf MBA ’73

I thought about how so many generations of PSU grads will be reading the cover story in so many parts of the world and wonder what kind of impact it will have. Probably as varied as the feelings about the whole era of Vietnam War protests. I liked how you used the entire cover for the photo of 1970 PSU students, all looking so youthful, vibrant, and committed to changing the world. For many of us who were there, these were indeed the best days of our lives, or at least the most fun and exciting.

Doug Weiskopf ’71, Burbank, California

It was a tough call

Thank you for your fond remembrance of my father, Sharkey Nelson, (spring 2010 issue, “Looking Back”) and our final basketball game against Eastern Oregon in 1965. I would like to fill in a couple details. After our season’s last road trip to Southern Oregon, two of the players were found to have been drinking and had missed curfew.

After conferring with the assistant coach, it was decided they would have to miss the last three home games. It then developed that not just these two players had missed curfew, but all of the team had except myself. I had been recently married and was probably the only married student on the team.

My father was now in a quandary. He had already imposed the sanctions on the two players and felt it would be unfair if the same penalty wasn’t uniformly imposed. I know it was extremely uncomfortable for him to suspend all the players but his son. I can assure you it was also very awkward for his son.

Since I was the only varsity player joining the JV team, he turned over coaching duties to his assistant and good friend, Bob Scruggs, and Bob willed us to victory over the conference champs 100-96.

My best memory of the game is that most all of the suspended players came to the game and sat with my wife, Sandy.

John Nelson ’66
Professor takes to police work

EVERY DAY, police officers slide behind the wheel of their cruisers and take command of an array of technology that does everything from operating lights and sirens to accessing computer databases. It keeps the officers multitasking—sometimes dangerously so.

Warren Harrison knows this firsthand. For the past six years, the computer science professor has served as a reserve deputy with the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office. He knows that electronics and computers are essential tools inside the patrol car, but they're distracting when driving. And officers lose access when they step away from their vehicles.

His solution was to create a hands-free, voice interaction system that works up to 100 yards from a patrol car. Harrison was inspired to do police work following the 9/11 terrorism attacks. "I just felt the need to do something to help make a safer community," he says.

As a skilled software engineer, he initially offered his services to local law enforcement agencies in computer forensics. But he tired of lab work, so he changed course and became a reserve sheriff's deputy. It was during his probationary period with Clackamas County that he came up with the idea of interfacing a voice-activated system with a patrol car's technology.

A grant from the National Institute of Justice allowed Harrison to create a prototype that he and other officers are now testing. Outside their cars, the deputies can send queries directly to their vehicles' computers rather than use a radio to call dispatch.

STACKED, RACKED BICYCLES. The University's new Montgomery Street Bicycle Garage has space for up to 77 bikes in its two-tier racks. Sorry, campus students and employees only, but a similar, larger garage just opened on Southwest Fifth and Harrison that allows public bicycle parking for a fee.
From a comic book expert

THIS WINTER, aspiring graphic novelists have a rare chance to learn from the best of the best: Brian Michael Bendis. The Portland resident is one of the most successful and acclaimed comicbook writers in the country, with best-selling titles such as *Ultimate Spider-Man* and *Daredevil*.

Bendis’s class taps into a pool of students who are eager to break into Portland’s bustling comics scene and learn how to use words and art to tell a story, a skill that’s in high demand in an increasingly visual and digital world. In addition, Portland State aspires to become known for its graphic novel program.

The University’s Branford P. Millar Library gained national recognition in 2008 when it acquired the only complete research collection of Dark Horse Comics anywhere. Dark Horse, the third-largest comics publisher in the United States, is based in the Portland suburb of Milwaukie, and its founder and executive vice president are Portland State graduates.

Michele Glazer, director of Portland State’s new Master of Fine Arts program, said the University has offered literature classes about graphic novels before. But Bendis’s class is the first to focus on writing graphic novels.

“I don’t see it as a one-shot thing at all,” Glazer said. “It’s an important thing that’s influencing writing, not just locally. We’re lucky to be in the hub of it.”

Working together

A UNIVERSITY CHEMIST, engineer, and botanist have joined forces in a groundbreaking study to see if placing solar panels on an ecoroof can help each run more efficiently.

Professors Carl Wamser, David Sailor, and Todd Rosenstiel have installed 720-square-feet of ecoroof—soil, sedums, and other plants—partially shaded by 16, 175-watt solar panels on the south roof of Science Building 2.

Combining ecoroofs and solar panels has traditionally been an either/or decision, says Wamser. “It just doesn’t occur to people to do multiple things with their roof, nor that plants and panels can be mutually beneficial.”

In addition to reducing stormwater runoff, insulating a building, and creating wildlife habitat, ecoroofs cool ambient air, which is a plus for solar panels, explains Wamser. The silicon in photovoltaic cells transmits electricity more efficiently at cooler temperatures resulting in higher output. Electricity from the panels is being used in Science Building 2, which is undergoing an extensive remodel scheduled for completion in March.

The benefits roll the other way, too. The solar panels may provide an ideal, shaded environment for ecoroof vegetation. Sedums are often chosen because they can handle summer’s lack of rain. With shade, sedums and other plants might better thrive and provide superior cooling.

The scientists will make available video of the plants and compile statistics on electricity output and soil and air temperature into a database. Both will be available online for anyone willing to consider creating a roof that does it all.
The stuff we buy

READING KATE BINGAMAN-BURT'S *Obsessive Consumption: What Did You Buy Today?* is like flipping through her private sketchpad. The illustrations chronicle three years of daily purchases, from iced coffee to parking tickets to her wedding ring. The book, in its second printing by Princeton Architectural Press, has garnered attention from *Time* magazine, *The New York Times*, *CoolHunting.com*, and other media.

The assistant art professor’s interest in consumption began more than a decade ago at her first job out of college, designing labels for a food and gift manufacturer and spending time at trade shows. “I was surrounded by companies selling all of these seemingly unnecessary items, and I became really interested in why people buy what they buy,” she says.

Her daily drawings began in 2007 as an exercise in sketching (she continues to offer the originals for sale on her website). It was her unique drawing style that caught the eye of the arts and crafts industry, and in 2007 she was contracted to illustrate the book *Handmade Nation*, also published by Princeton Architectural. That is when editorial staff saw a sample of her daily drawings and other work and proposed the book, which has been on Amazon.com’s art/photo/culture best seller list since its release.

By “documenting the mundane and putting a story behind the common, mass produced items” Bingaman-Burt hopes to inspire readers to see their own consumption habits a little more clearly.
Success from both sides of the camera

WHEN DEIRDRE LORENZ '95 first visited the Greek island of Santorini for a friend’s wedding, she was amazed by the rugged, volcanic landscape. “This is a place people should see,” she thought, “and if they can’t make it here, they should see it on the screen.” Lorenz was able to make that happen—she’s a New York-based actress and model who has appeared in films (Two Weeks Notice, El Cantante, and The Emperor’s Club) on television’s Law and Order: Special Victims Unit and on the cover of New York Magazine. After five years of fund raising and shooting, she is now the producer and star of her own first feature-length film, Santorini Blue.

The film asks the question, Lorenz says, “Can love be rekindled?” Matthew Panepinto, the film’s director and Lorenz’s longtime creative partner, plays the male lead. He tries to win back his estranged wife, played by Lorenz, on the island where she has gone to get over his infidelity. The movie features several of Lorenz’s Law and Order co-stars, including Ice-T and Richard Belzer.

Lorenz says her business education came in handy in her role as producer. “In filmmaking, you have to budget everything. If you can’t run a business, you can’t get anything accomplished.” For her work in front of the camera, she was nominated for Best Actress at the Hoboken International Film Festival, and Santorini Blue won the audience award for Best of the Festival. In September, the film will be shown at the prestigious Toronto Independent Film Festival, and in October it comes to the Eugene International Film Festival.

That’s not the only trip to Oregon Lorenz has planned. She’ll appear in a film to be shot in her home state soon. She plans to keep taking opportunities as they come, whether developing her own projects or acting in others’ films. “I just feel so lucky to be in the business,” Lorenz says, “whether it’s my good story or someone else’s good story, that’s what I like—a good story.”

Come to campus

Enjoy the newly remodeled Lincoln Hall at a performance of The House of Blue Leaves Friday, November 12, through Saturday, November 20. The savagely funny play examines the pursuit of fame with humorous lines set against tragic circumstances. Tickets are $12 for adults and may be purchased at the PSU Box Office, 503-725-3307.

New Works

EXTRA LIVES: WHY VIDEO GAMES MATTER
By Tom Bissell (English faculty), Pantheon Books, 2010

SOLVING THE CHILDCARE AND FLEXIBILITY PUZZLE
By Arthur C. Emlen (social work emeritus faculty), Universal Publishers, 2010

THE ECO-NOMICAL BABY GUIDE
By Joy Hatch and Rebecca Kelley MA ’03; Stewart, Tabori & Chang; 2010

INTERFACE RACE
By Michael Hollister (English emeritus faculty), AuthorHouse, 2009

FIRST DOG

A LIFE TRANSFORMED - BY ACCIDENT
By Helen Decker Liere MPA ’79, Outskirts Press, 2009

KIEV, JEWISH METROPOLIS: A HISTORY, 1859-1914
By Natan Meir (Judaic Studies faculty), Indiana University Press, 2010

OREGON STORIES
Compiled by PSU Ooligan Press, 2010

LITTLE GREEN: A NOVEL
By Loretta Stinson ’98, MS ’07, MFA ’09, Hawthorne Books, 2010

THE BOYS FROM LITTLE MEXICO
By Steve Wilson ’01, MA ’06, Beacon Press, 2010
Color matters

PSU research finds deep levels of racial disparity in Multnomah County. Alumni of color tell what it is like to live and work here.

WRITTEN BY PAIGE PARKER

ANN CURRY-STEVENS, an assistant professor of social work, expected sobering findings as she began researching social and economic conditions of Multnomah County’s communities of color. But what she found was worse than she anticipated: overwhelming, pervasive disparities between people of color and white residents.

The data shocked her. In measure after measure, Multnomah County’s people of color lag behind white residents. On average, they earn half as much, and they’re twice as likely to live in poverty. Nearly one-third of the county’s people of color have not graduated from high school, compared to 7 percent of white residents. The disparities—many of which have their origins in Oregon’s early history—are getting worse, and they’re more pronounced in Multnomah County than in Washington’s King County, which has similar demographics.

Curry-Stevens called the county “toxic” for people of color when she released “Communities of Color in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile” this spring.

“This research causes me personally to say, ‘How did I come to believe Portland was progressive?’” Curry-Stevens says. “Our progressive identity gets in the way of naming racism.”

The Coalition of Communities of Color, whose membership includes more than 40 culturally specific organizations in Multnomah County, requested the research.

This partnership between PSU and the coalition, says Curry-Stevens, is leading to research that is more robust, insightful, and powerful than if either entity was doing it alone.

Lee Po Cha, the coalition’s co-chair, looked to PSU for demographic data on people of color, which he says is more sophisticated than the 2000 U.S. Census numbers. He calls the undercount of people of color in the census “unbelievable” and expects even less accuracy from the 2010 census because of changes in the survey format.

The report estimates that people of color make up roughly 26 percent of Multnomah County’s population. That includes, from most populous to least, Latinos, Asian/Pacific Islanders, African Americans, Native Americans, and African immigrants and refugees. The Coalition of Communities of Color also made the unusual distinction of including the Slavic community because of the issues and disparities they face in Multnomah County.

PSU is working with the coalition on six more community-specific reports. Armed with better data, coalition leaders plan to press local governments for policy changes that, they hope, will reduce disparities and promote culturally specific services.

We spoke to four alumni and one master’s candidate about the challenges they’ve faced as people of color living and working in Multnomah County. Having a college education means they’ve already beaten many of the odds highlighted by the report. And today, most of them are working from within Oregon institutions to eliminate racial disparities.

The slow pace of progress

When Margaret Carter ‘72 won her house seat in 1984, it was the first time an African American woman had been elected to the Oregon Legislature.

A quarter century later, when she left the state senate, Carter was one of just three people of color in the 90-member legislature. That’s not progress, says Carter.
“It is hard for women to raise money, and doubly hard for people of color to raise money,” Carter, 74, says. “When I ran, it was a group of white people of goodwill who believed in me. They helped me raise money. They campaigned for me. And I don’t see that happening anymore.”

Carter’s career was slow to take off. Carter says she worked for years in the counseling department at Portland Community College without being considered for an administrative position. All too often, she says, talented people of color are overlooked for promotions and other opportunities that could build their leadership skills and political connections.

“But I have hope … that white people of goodwill will get together, see who is not at the table, and do something about it.”

Carter left the Oregon Senate in 2009. Her resignation to take a job as a deputy director for the Oregon Department of Human Services drew some criticism, but not because of her race. It was party affiliation and alleged favoritism that worried a few politicos—issues that those who wield power and influence regularly face.

Equalizing education

Judy BlueHorse Skelton ’06, MA ’08 returned to school in her 50s and assumed she’d fit right in. After all, she’d spent 15 years working in schools and on education issues in such positions as cultural student support specialist for Portland Public Schools, a member of the Oregon Indian Education Association board, and a co-teacher for a Portland State Capstone course.

And yet, “I felt like an outsider in higher education. I was surprised that it was like a foreign language to me,” she says.

A Nez Perce, Cherokee, and Chickasaw, BlueHorse Skelton says individuals at PSU offered her support, guidance, and encouragement. Her experience gave her greater empathy for young Native students and made her a better educator.

The problem, she explains, is that Native students rarely see teachers or other adults at school who share their heritage. Textbooks teach little about Native contributions to American culture, or they offer cursory, cliché stories.

“When you don’t find yourself in an institution, when you don’t hear the stories that speak of you, you automatically disengage,” she says.

Now an instructor of PSU’s Environmental Education Through Native American Lenses course, BlueHorse Skelton says she’s dedicated to improving the system.

“I compare it to a Nez Perce story, where coyote has to enter the belly of a monster to transform it,” she says. “We have to go inside institutions, sometimes, to change them.”
For Binh "Jimmy" Le, Multnomah County has provided nothing but opportunities, making this 26-year-old's story a sharp departure from the Communities of Color report's findings.

Le '07, MPH '09 is the son of Be Le and Dung Tran, both Vietnamese immigrants. After settling in Oregon in 1975, Be Le landed a job at Columbia Corrugated Box, where he still works as a box maker. Dung Tran, who immigrated in 1980, is a homemaker.

Neither Binh Le nor his sister, Kim Le '09, spoke English when they enrolled at David Douglas District schools. Still, they thrived. Though he attended school with few other Vietnamese students, Binh says he never felt out of place or experienced discrimination. Both Binh and Kim were awarded PSU's diversity recognition scholarship, which paid their tuition for five years. Today, Binh is on the brink of pursuing either a Ph.D. or becoming a physician's assistant.

"We like to seek out opportunities," Binh says. "We don't wait for them to come to us."

In contrast to Binh Le's experience, the Communities of Color report found that profound differences exist for the local Asian community compared to whites. Nationally, Asian Americans tend to have incomes, poverty rates, occupations, and education comparable to or better than those of whites. Not so for Multnomah County's Asian Americans. According to the report, this community, in comparison to whites, is less educated, holds significantly more service positions and fewer professional ones, earns close to 19 percent less in family median income, and has 8 percent more of its children living in poverty.

**Helping to foster change**

Oregon's Native American and African American children are far more likely than whites to be removed from their homes and, once in the foster care system, may languish there for years.

Kory L. Murphy, an African American graduate student in social work, is attempting to change that as an Oregon Department of Human Services analyst focused on child welfare racial equity. Murphy, 37, was born and raised in Portland by a single mother and a supportive extended family. He graduated from Benson High School, then played football and earned a degree in sociology at University of Oregon.

Murphy was identified as a gifted student in elementary school, which is rare in Portland Public Schools, where African American boys are disproportionately targeted for special education. Murphy says he had strong African American male role models in his family, at school, and in sports. Still, the conditions that allowed him to succeed are far from systemic, Murphy says.
Murphy's personal and professional experiences convinced him that Oregon's social programs must be overhauled to eliminate racial disparities, and that people of color must be involved in designing new systems.

"What happens more often than not is that we run on Eurocentric tracks," he says. "It is not just overt racism. Whoever is at the table when social policy is made, gets to shape that social policy."

**Simmering prejudice**

Being born to well-educated, middle-class activist parents all but determined that Shelli Romero MPA '01 would go to college and become a successful professional.

And so she did. Romero’s now a commissioner on the Housing Authority of Portland Board, vice chair of the Portland Parks Board, and a public policy and community affairs manager for the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Romero, 42, acknowledges that an advantaged childhood and her fair skin have protected her from hard-core discrimination. Still, she’s experienced feeling less than welcome as a Latina in Multnomah County, most recently in the battle over renaming a Portland city street for Cesar Chavez.

"I’d go to public meetings and some of the things I’d hear out of people’s mouths were just disgusting, hateful," Romero says. "At times, it made me disappointed and ashamed to live in Portland. It also gave me more drive and passion to do what’s right."

Equity and social justice are tied to income. People of color are more likely than whites to be among the poor and working poor, Romero says, and those who are stuck in poverty are at a lifelong disadvantage. Removing the financial aid and admissions barriers that keep undocumented immigrant students out of universities could chip away at generational poverty and boost the economy, she suggests.

"We need a work force that these kids in a lot of ways cannot be a part of. We have all of these kids who are not contributing to the tax base in the way they could, and who aren't paying tuition the way they could."

Paige Parker is a freelance writer based in Portland.
Scientist travels to extreme cold, hot, and pressure-laden environments to gather microscopic life.

WRITTEN BY ERIC GOLD

A MILE AND A HALF below the surface, Alvin creaks softly as it approaches the ocean floor off the coast of Oregon. On board is biology professor Anna-Louise Reysenbach, who studies organisms that live in one of Earth’s most extreme environments: deep-sea hydrothermal vents. Reysenbach uses the sub to collect microbes that could advance medical and nano technology and hold the key to life’s origins. “You don’t know what to expect,” she says. “It’s almost like going to Mars or the moon.”

For the past 11 years, Reysenbach has brought prestige, hundreds of thousands of grant dollars, and a passion for understanding and cataloging elemental life to Portland State. The South Africa native travels the world studying microbes in high temperature and high pressure environments. These microscopic bacteria are more diverse and older than any other form of life.
On the ocean floor, super-heated water (as hot as 750°F) spews from cracks above magma chambers—the result of moving continental plates. The water is laced with chemicals such as hydrogen sulfide, iron, and carbon dioxide. When the scalding water hits the much colder water at the bottom of the sea, the minerals precipitate out in a cloud of black and then harden into porous rock formations. The microbes Reysenbach studies live on these rocks, absorbing energy through a chemical process called chemosynthesis—cons older than photosynthesis used by modern plants.

The microbes, Reysenbach says, are nature’s chemists. “They’re able to break down almost anything,” she says, “even some very recalcitrant things.”

Heat-loving organisms like these have been used to clean up oil spills and the toxic drainage from mining operations. Minerals produced by the microbes could even be used in cutting-edge nanotechnology as microscopic raw materials.

“If you look at places humans haven’t explored much, the possibility of new industrial or medical applications is greatly enhanced. There’s a whole candy store out there,” says Reysenbach. But the microbial ecologist’s main focus is on the microbes themselves. “What organisms are there, which ones colonize first, and what they are doing?” she asks.

TO LEARN MORE, Reysenbach brings samples back from the inhospitable environments where the microbes live using the Navy-owned submarine Alvin, which was used to find the Titanic and can dive up to 2.8 miles. It can carry two scientists and a pilot and in November 2009, Reysenbach rode in Alvin to investigate vents at the bottom of the Gulf of California. She has also used remotely operated submarines, similar to those involved in the response to the BP oil spill. Back in the lab, Reysenbach and her team reproduce the temperature and pressure conditions of the microbes’ native habitat to better understand the bacteria and their genetic makeup.

Some of the microbes have never been studied before. Reysenbach and her colleagues discovered Acidiliprobundum boonei off the coast of Tonga, and named it after the late PSU professor David Boone. Under a microscope, the organism looks like a balloon with two little horns. “I call it the thermal devil blob,” she says.

Reysenbach has also studied microbes at vents in the Indian Ocean, all through the mid-Atlantic, and in several regions of the Pacific. Microbial life also flourishes in the hot, acidic waters around geysers, which has sent Reysenbach to collect samples at geysers in Iceland, Kamchatka (Russia), and Yellowstone National Park.

Just recently the National Science Foundation has again taken notice of the work of Reysenbach and her colleagues at PSU, granting the Biology Department an award to fund laboratory renovations. “They recognized our critical mass of research working with extreme environments,” Reysenbach says.

*Eric Gold is a master’s student in the creative writing program at Portland State.*
Harvest of questions

Is growing genetically engineered crops good for farmers and the nation? A national committee headed by professor David Ervin answers a cautious yes.

WRITTEN BY MELISSA STEINEGER
Some 80 percent of corn, soybeans, and cotton crops grown in the United States are genetically engineered to resist bugs, herbicides, or both.

Companies responsible for developing the plants cheerlead "lower costs" and "greater yields." But do their claims hold up to rigorous science? And what unintended impacts do GE (genetically engineered) crops have?

Concerned about the unknowns, the National Research Council (NRC) tapped David Ervin, professor of environmental studies, to investigate.

Ervin, who grew up on a small farm in Ohio, has a considerable track record in environmental economics. He is studying the BP oil spill's impact on natural systems and finances. He's also published extensively and taught at agricultural schools, including Oregon State University.

When the NRC, part of the National Academy of Sciences, proposed a $2 million study of how GE crops are affecting the economic and environmental sustainability of farms, the council named Ervin as chair of a 10-member committee.

It should be noted that the committee's task was to examine GE crops on the farm not in the supermarket, and concerns regarding the long-term consumption of GE foods is a whole other issue.

By early 2010, the Committee on the Impact of Biotechnology on Farm-Level Economics and Sustainability had some answers.

Sort of.

Among the committee's findings: There is a possible link between GE crops and cleaner water, happier farmers, and the emergence of "superweeds," depending on which research is used.

Superweeds? GE seeds can be modified to resist the herbicide glyphosate, the generic name for Roundup. As these crops grow, farmers can spray entire fields with the herbicide and only the weeds will die. Perfect, except for what one researcher calls a "Darwinian evolution in fast-forward." In a little more than a decade, 10 species of weeds in 22 states have become resistant to Roundup.

Ervin fears that if these superweeds are not addressed soon, the economic and environmental benefits of herbicide-resistant crops could vanish.

Cleaner water? When farmers use glyphosate to control weeds, they are using one of the least harmful of available herbicides. And they're tilling their fields less. Tilling reduces weeds, but it also increases runoff of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides into ponds, rivers and streams. If you're not tilling because you're using Roundup, odds are the water quality is better. Odds are, but no one really knows.

The committee's report said the U.S. Geological Society, which is tasked with the job of monitoring water, doesn't have the resources to screen and analyze on the scale needed to determine whether the report's hypothesis is correct.

Are Farmers Happy or Not?
The committee found that farmers growing GE crops are spending less on controlling weeds and pests, which should translate into more money in the farmer's pocket. However, the report noted a need to look at whether GE crops cause problems for farmers who don't plant GE seeds. For instance, in what's called "gene flow," GE pollen can drift into an organic farmer's field, pollinate the plants, and eradicate the organic-ness of the crop and the farm.

Other concerns are the price and availability of GE seeds. Because of development costs, GE seeds cost far more than traditional seeds. But farmers who can't afford or don't want GE seed may find fewer options. Smaller seed companies—locked out of the GE seed market by the corporations that hold the patents—increasingly are shutting their doors, while companies such as Monsanto, ADM, and others experience increased profits.

One big unknown, the report notes, is the social impact of GE crops. What impact will GE crops have on farming communities when some farmers plant them and others don't? What effect will the less-labor intensive GE crops have on farm workers? Will farming communities as a whole suffer or benefit?

Perhaps recognizing that its work raises almost as many questions as it answers, the committee recommends more research on all these topics. And to help shape the future, the committee recommends collaboration between corporations, farmers, and the public to determine what sorts of GE crops should be developed.

For instance, farmers may be interested in plants that use less water, an especially useful trait as climate change affects the world's food producing regions. Consumers might prefer plants that have higher nutritional qualities. Communities might want input into where GE crops are planted.

"It's a trade-off," says Ervin. "GE plants can make farming safer, more profitable, and lower food costs. But there's also risk. Taking advantage of the good solutions and not the others—that's the big challenge."

Melissa Steineyer, a Portland freelance writer, wrote the article "1970: Memories of Confrontation" in the spring 2010 Portland State Magazine.
The afterlife of Oil

Applying the research from one environmental disaster to the next.

DIGGING in the intertidal zone in Alaska's McClure Bay in 2004, scientists found a pocket of oil four inches below the surface. This was to be expected; the team was working with the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council studying lingering oil 15 years after the tanker grounded on a reef and spilled 11 million gallons of crude oil in Alaskan waters.

But the small pocket of oil did not feel or smell right to one of the scientists from the National Marine Fisheries Service Auke Bay Lab who requested it be tested. She was right. It was fuel oil spilled 25 years before the Exxon Valdez during the Great Alaskan Earthquake of 1964.

"Oil lasts a lot longer than we ever thought," says Katie Springman, a member of that 2004 team of scientists and now a researcher in Portland State's Chemistry Department.

Springman, a molecular toxicologist, has spent the past seven years exploring the aftereffects of the Alaskan North Slope crude oil that poured from the Exxon Valdez in 1989. Studies are funded from a government settlement made with Exxon.

Is this research now relevant for the Gulf of Mexico, where 18 times as much oil is estimated to have leaked from BP's well? You bet, says Springman.

She and her colleagues know the questions that need to be answered in the Gulf. Questions such as what does the oil's chemical profile do at different depths, how does it age, and the big unknown—how do dispersants affect it and the environment? Dispersants, which allow microbes to access oil more easily in the hopes of eventually breaking it down, were less important in the Valdez spill.

"Just looking at the quantity of oil alone is bad," says Springman, "and use of dispersants changes everything."

DATA STRONGLY SUGGEST, says Springman, that oil becomes more toxic by volume as it ages because its most toxic compounds—compounds that make the list of probable human carcinogens—linger while others dissipate.

Some oil from the Valdez has remained in a form that wildlife can absorb. Springman's research has shown that even small amounts of oil could strip animals of their immune systems.

In addition, sea ducks continue to be exposed to the oil because of how they eat, says Springman. "They root around in the mud looking for invertebrates for dinner. Sea otters do the same thing and get the oil on their paws, and ingest it when they clean themselves," she says.

Concerned over the toxicity of oil, Springman testified before a congressional committee last year about drilling on the outer continental shelf. In her testimony—that proved to be prophetic—she suggested that pre-drill environmental data be collected to serve as a basis for comparison after drilling. If an oil company harms the environment, even on a small scale, it can be known, she said.

Ocean oil drilling is not going away, says Springman, but "how about requiring—not zero release of oil—but zero effect, meaning not enough oil to make a fish sick." BY KATHRYN KIRKLAND

Sea ducks in Alaska continue to pick up oil from the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill, according to PSU toxicologist Katie Springman, pictured above bagging a device that measures pollutants such as oil.
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Winning women’s teams defend Big Sky titles

THE FALL SPORTS SEASON gives three Viking women’s programs the chance to defend Big Sky Conference championships. Volleyball, soccer, and golf teams all won Big Sky titles during the 2009-10 campaign and are favorites to compete for titles again this season.

While the women’s golf championship does not take place until April, the team has four fall tournaments, including one it will host with Oregon State and Langdon Farms Golf Club on September 27-28. Head coach Kathleen Takaishi, Big Sky Coach of the Year in 2010, will try to lead her team to a sixth Big Sky title in nine seasons.

Women’s soccer will seek its second-consecutive Big Sky regular season championship this fall. Third-year head coach Laura Schott, Big Sky Coach of the Year in 2009, hopes this year’s balanced schedule aids in the team’s run at a first NCAA Tournament bid. The Vikings welcome eight newcomers to the squad and boast 28 women on the roster, including 11 Oregonians and five returning All-Big Sky selections.

Portland State volleyball has scored an impressive run under head coach Michael Seemann, going 68-25 during his first three seasons. Go back farther and you will find the program coming off its fifth straight 20-win season. The defending Big Sky champions have eight returning letter winners and will host the championship tournament November 26-27 at the Peter W Stott Center.

See them play at Hillsboro Stadium

Women’s soccer and men’s football will play at Hillsboro Stadium during the 2010 Big Sky Conference season as PGE Park undergoes renovation. The stadium is just off Highway 26 at the Cornelius Pass exit.

The next women’s match is October 1 against Utah Valley. The football team opens home play the following day, October 2, against Idaho State. See the schedules and buy tickets at www.goviks.com or call 888.VIK-TIKS.
Twenty years of new beginnings

WRITTEN BY MEG DESCAMP

“GOING BACK TO COLLEGE was a very tough decision,” says Sue House '98, MEd '99, reflecting on her decision to attend PSU in the mid-1990s. Thirty years old at the time, House was supporting herself and her two children on a receptionist's salary. “The fact that someone was willing to invest money in me to go to school was a huge support.”

That support came from the Nancy Ryles Endowed Scholarship Fund, and it covered tuition and fees as House earned a bachelor's degree in biology. She went on to earn a master's in education and has taught science at Portland’s Madison High School for 11 years.

This fall on the 20th anniversary of the Ryles Scholarship, Harrie Justesen becomes the most recent scholar. She's a single mother whose college career was interrupted more than 10 years ago. She plans to pursue a double major in business management and human resources. “It's an honor to be part of such an incredible group of women,” says Justesen.

The lives of returning women students are changed through the Nancy Ryles Scholarship.

IN JULY 1990, Nancy Ryles learned that a fast-growing brain tumor would take her life within months. The former state legislator was then serving as the first woman member of the Oregon Public Utilities Board.

Three of her close friends—Joan Johnson ’78, Leslie Emery, and Jean Morton—wanted to create a lasting tribute to Ryles, something that would reflect her commitment to education and women. They came up with the idea of an endowed scholarship.

Ryles suggested that the scholarship be for women whose college education had been interrupted, and that it be established at PSU to serve women in the metro area. The scholarship was announced at PSU on September 10, 1990, and Ryles died two days later at the age of 52.

IN THEIR FIRST meeting with PSU administrators, Johnson, Emery, and Morton announced their intention to raise $250,000 to endow the scholarship. What they raised instead were eyebrows. “We had no cash in hand, but we did have experience fund-raising for Nancy’s political campaigns. Clearly, this was not the usual way to set up an endowment,” remembers Johnson.

But they proved they could do it. Twenty years later, the fund stands at more than $710,000, with the vast majority of that money coming in small donations—anywhere from $5 to $150. It is now PSU’s largest endowed scholarship that is funded primarily by grassroots donations.

The true measure of the scholarship's value is how many women it has assisted. Since 1991, 28 women have been Ryles Scholarship winners and 23 have completed their bachelor’s degrees. The scholarship provides complete tuition support for up to four years of undergraduate study, and it's renewable so long as students complete at least 36 credit hours in a year and maintain a 3.0 GPA.

The fund has provided nearly 53 school year's worth of support—in dollar terms this is well over $265,000.

And while the financial assistance is important, Johnson says, “Time and time again, Ryles scholars have said the fact that people believed in them and saw their potential has inspired them to achieve their goals.” That’s exactly what Nancy Ryles wanted.

To support the Nancy Ryles Scholarship Fund visit www.pdx.edu/giving or call 503-725-4911
Welcome new alumni—class of 2010

You and more than 5,000 other graduates (largest class ever) have joined the ranks of Portland State's 120,000 alumni.

Many of you earned bachelor’s degrees in psychology, criminology, or general, liberal, or health studies. Education was the top master’s degree awarded, followed closely by social work. We even have one new alumnus with a master’s in music conducting.

Fifty of you received Ph.Ds, mostly in education administration, urban studies, and electrical and computer engineering. But an elite few earned the University’s first doctorates in mechanical engineering and applied physics, as well as a rare Ph.D. in mathematical sciences.

New international alumni represent 53 countries, mostly India, China, and Thailand, but there are also a few of you from Cyprus, Ghana, and Mongolia.

We hope you will all stay in touch. You can find us on Facebook, LinkedIn, or through e-mail and the web. In person, you can find us in the historic Simon Benson House.

Best wishes for your future endeavors, and be proud of your good work and your degree.

Board comings and goings

SPECIAL THANKS to these PSU Alumni Association board members who are leaving for new adventures: Kori Allen '84, retires after serving six years as president, treasurer, and member of the investment and advocates committees; Milica Markovic '04 has moved to New York City as associate administrative officer of the United Nations Emergency Preparedness and Support Team; T. J. Newby '90, recent chair of PSU Advocates, has moved to Montana; and Barbara Verchot, co-chair of PSU Weekend, has moved to Salt Lake City.

Joining the board of directors are Ron Adams '60, retired educator and community leader; Sarah Bracelin '01, marketing consultant; Nicole Gallagher '01, accountant with Martin & Bischoff; Shelby Kardas '96, vice president at the World Affairs Council; and John Whearty '91, attorney and principal with Maclaren & Whearty.

The volunteer board governs the nonprofit PSU Alumni Association, which welcomes volunteers in all capacities, and especially for upcoming activities like PSU Weekend and the new alumni mentoring program. For information, go to www.pdx.edu/alumni or call 503-725-4948.
Help us honor those we admire

**NOMINATE OUTSTANDING** alumni, faculty, and students by October 8, and we will salute them on February 27, 2011.

Many of our 120,000 alumni around the world are doing incredible things, so each year we honor a few exceptional graduates along with a faculty member and a promising student. The categories for PSU Salutes are: Distinguished Alumni (career achievement), Distinguished Alumni Service, Outstanding Young Alumnus, Outstanding International Alumnus, Distinguished Faculty Achievement, and the John Hakanson Student Advancement Award.

Go to [www.pdx.edu/psu-salutes](http://www.pdx.edu/psu-salutes) on or before October 8 to nominate alumni, faculty and students. The six people chosen will receive recognition throughout the year.

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**Give back by being a mentor**

**DO YOU LOOK** back on your time at PSU and wish you’d had a mentor? Now is your chance to help today’s students and make a positive impact.

This fall, the PSU Alumni Association is launching an alumni/student mentoring program and inviting alumni to share their knowledge and experience with students as they prepare to graduate and start new careers and lives.

The Alumni Association is working with the PSU Career Center in developing a user-friendly computer software program for alumni mentors and student mentees to interact online. Students may select a mentor in their desired career path or general field. It is up to mentors to decide how much feedback and support they will provide. Examples of mentor support include reviewing resumes, giving tips for success, and providing informational interviews.

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"PSU has offered us so much in terms of education, opportunity, and exposure to cultural diversity. By being part of the PSUAA we want to give back to the PSU community.”

- Krishna Regupathy, MS ’99 Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Pradheepa Krishnasamy, BA ’03 Business Administration

PSUAA Joint Life Members (with son Arjun Regupathy)

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Don’t miss out on the benefits and opportunities of PSU Alumni Association membership. Join online at [www.alumni.pdx.edu](http://www.alumni.pdx.edu) or call 503-725-8209.

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Please visit our website at [www.pdx.edu/alumni](http://www.pdx.edu/alumni) for more details and to sign-up.
Dishing up tradition

Rosanna Bowles has a simple suggestion: "Unplug and try and take a moment of quality time."

Forging quality moments and transforming them into time-honored rituals is the aim of Bowles’ first book, Coming Home: A Seasonal Guide to Creating Family Traditions, which was published in March.

"It's a book about living and living well," Bowles says. Coming Home combines Bowles' idiosyncratic tradition-building tips like belting out tunes from Mamma Mia! and throwing a '60s-themed birthday party with over 50 original recipes that incorporate fresh, seasonal produce—the foundation, as Bowles sees it, of true Oregon living.

Being in tune with the seasons is "very much part of being an Oregonian," Bowles says. "I think that's really the answer to living well."

Bowles’ desire to write a book sprang from her experience with Rosanna, Inc., the artisan dishware company she launched in 1982 with little more than an idea and a $15,000 line of credit. Bowles’ Seattle company is now worth between $7 million and $10 million, and her internationally distributed products have been featured in myriad publications, including Good Housekeeping, Bon Appetit, and Country Living.

Bowles—who primarily studied Italian, French, literature, and art history at Portland State—attributes Rosanna, Inc.'s sustained success to her liberal arts background and Portland roots.

"I was very lucky to be educated here and grow up here and I think that's the basis of the success of the company," Bowles said. "I literally use my language, art history, and literature background everyday."

BY LOUIE OPATZ

1960-1969

Sonja Haugen '64 is general manager of Springbrook Properties, a 450-acre mixed-use development in Newberg.

Sally Ann Peters Marson '66, MST '68 has been appointed to the city council of Columbia City, Oregon. Marson, a retired U.S. Bancorp vice president, is on Columbia City’s parks and audits committees.

Roger Warren '67 is an executive enrollment counselor for University of Phoenix. He and his wife of 42 years, Karen Lusher Warren '64, live in Sun Lakes, Arizona.

Beverly LoPiparo Eberly '68 is a retired Clackamas elementary teacher. Eberly volunteers weekly for the Democratic Party of Oregon and the Tualatin Food Bank.

1970-1979

Barry Simon '73 is an independent investment adviser with Wedbush Securities in Santa Monica, California. Simon was recently elected vice president for resource development in the United Nations Association of the USA, Southern California Division.

Daniel Mosser '74 is a professor of English at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg. His most recent publication, A Digital Catalogue of the Pre-1500 Manuscripts and Incunables of the Canterbury Tales, was published by Scholarly Digital Editions.

Lenore "Stoffel" Savage MST '75 is the gifted resource teacher and independent study coordinator at Albemarle High School in Charlottesville, Virginia. For more than 30 years, Savage has held similar positions at the high school and at Piedmont Virginia Community College.

1980-1981

Connie Beck '83 is an associate professor of psychology at University of
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John E. Hall '86
Award recipients for 2010.
Women in Business Orchid was selected by the speakers.com in Portland. Read an organization chat promotes Francine Read '86 Systems Security Professional. and president of VOICES, Inc., with other therapist for Outcomes Inc., a nonprofit social service agency that provides support for individuals with special needs. The company is based in Clatskanie, Oregon.

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Arizona in Phoenix, where she teaches in the psychology, policy and law program.

Candace Petersen MBA '83, PhD '96 is president and chief operating officer of Learning.com, a Portland-based software company that serves the K-12 education market.

Luana Berens '84, MSW '88
is development director for the Oregon Council on Problem Gambling in Wilsonville. In June, Berens hosted the 24th Annual Conference on Problem Gambling in Portland, which had 450 attendees from around the world.

John E. Hall '86 is manager of computer technology at Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research in Portland. Hall manages computer infrastructure and is a certified Information Systems Security Professional.

Meredith Links '86 is a psychotherapist for Outcomes Inc., a nonprofit social service agency in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Links earned a social work degree from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

Francine Read '86 is founder and president of VOICES, Inc., an organization that promotes both the VOICES Contemporary Lectures and Greatwomen-speakers.com in Portland. Read was selected by the Portland Business Journal as one of its Women in Business Orchid Award recipients for 2010.

Donald Snedecor '86 is publisher and editor of the Southwest Portland Post. He is married to Anne Snedecor '86.

Michael Hubbard '87 is accounting manager for the PSU School of Extended Studies. Hubbard and his wife, Barbara, have three daughters, one of whom is a chemistry student at PSU.

James Prutsman '87 is the senior vice president for Rust Consulting, Inc., which specializes in class action settlement administration. He lives in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Dan Swift '87 has been promoted to senior vice president of the Portland office of CB Richard Ellis, a commercial real estate firm.

Colleen Schierholtz '88 is the director of admissions and recruitment for the physicians assistant program at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland.

Cheri Stuller '88, MBA '96 is host of Sustainable Today, a monthly TV show broadcast through the facilities at Portland Community Media. Stuller was excited to be on campus for an Earth Day screening that featured interviews with some of the staff and professors leading sustainability efforts at Portland State.

Laura Todd '88, MS '99 is the Newport field supervisor for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Kent Wiles '88 and his wife, Lynn Wiles, own Wiles & Associates, Inc., a job placement firm for individuals with special needs. The company is based in Clatskanie, Oregon.

Jeff Allen '89 works for SAP BusinessObjects Division, a global business software company. Allen is also a volunteer consultant on the Haitian Creole database project through Carnegie Mellon University and is helping with the Haiti disaster relief efforts by providing language communication and translation technologies. Allen lives in Killeen, Texas.

Jane S. Peters PhD '89
Jane S. Peters PhD '89 is owner and president of Research Into Action, a Portland-based social marketing and evaluation research firm that specializes in energy. Peters frequently mentors PSU students and graduates, including employees Dulane Moran MPA '03; Collin Fellows '05, MS '08; Michelle Levy MEM '05; and April Armstrong '06, MS '08.

1990-1999
Clark Holmes '90 is vice president of finance and administration at Learning.com, a Portland-based software company that serves the K-12 education market.

Sheila Sletmoe '90, MED '06 is a sixth-grade teacher at Horizon Christian School in Hood River. She is married to Eric Sletmoe '92. Sletmoe writes, "I'm thankful that I had the opportunity to get my master's in Hood River through PSU's cohort program. I loved learning in that environment."

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Legacy of learning

Behzad Hosseini’s father, a man who never went to school, instilled in his children the value of a good education. For Hosseini, that meant leaving his native Iran in 1983 and coming to Portland. He was following in the footsteps of his brother, a Portland State graduate who was then teaching on campus. Their sister soon joined them.

Twenty-seven years later, Portland State remains an important focus for Hosseini, director of Information Technology Strategy for Portland General Electric. He shares his expertise as an adjunct instructor in the School of Business Administration, teaching courses in finance, information technology, and management. And in July, after years of serving on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, he became president.

As vice president last year, Hosseini led the board through a strategic planning process. However, “strategy is not an end,” he says, “it’s a journey.” As president, he hopes to lead the association toward its vision of being a “cornerstone organization” at the University and in the lives of its alumni.

For Hosseini and his wife, Lisa, encouraging their children to earn university degrees is a given. Their daughter, Laila, is attending University of Oregon. However, Keon, their 11-year-old son, wants to go to Portland State like his father and uncle. Hosseini knows his father would be proud. He fondly recalls his father’s oft-repeated motto: “There are times in life that you might lose your wealth, position, and title, but nobody can take away what you have learned.”

Jon Rousseau ’91, MA ’02 is a student adviser and recruiter for Massey University in Wellington, New Zealand. He and his wife, Celeste, and their two-year-old son enjoy hiking, going to the beach, and going to restaurants in and around Wellington.

Lucrecia Suarez MSW ’92 is an assistant professor and associate director of cross-cultural services in the School of Professional Psychology at Pacific University in Hillsboro.

Debra Gahlhoff Clemans ’93, MA ’95 is a scholarship adviser and financial officer in the PSU Office of International Affairs. Clemans writes, “It’s nice to balance the finance side of my work with the student side.” She is also involved with Lego Robotics and Portland Public Schools students from ACCESS Academy.

Tim Malone MSW ’93 is a field instructor and supervises the senior mental health program at Deschutes County Mental Health in Bend. He also teaches for the Portland State social work distance program. Malone writes, “the son birthed during my time at PSU just graduated from high school!”

Keith Steele ’93 is a managing partner at Sitka Technology Group, a software and technology development company in Portland. He lives by the Sandy River with his wife and two children. He enjoys hiking and coaching his daughter’s soccer team.

Linda Meyer ’95, MS ’07 is editorial director for Ink & Paper Group, a publishing company located in Portland that has three imprints: Bowler Hat Comics, Dame Rocket Press, and Three Muses Press. In addition, Meyer is an adjunct professor in the PSU writing/publishing master’s program.

Dean Westwood ’94, MSW ’00 is director of the Center on Self-Determination and training coordinator for the Oregon Institute on Disability and Development Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland. Westwood has been appointed by the governor to the executive committee of the Oregon State Independent Living Council and is a newly appointed commissioner and executive committee member of the Portland Commission on Disability.

Brian Knowles ’95 is a managing partner for Sitka Technology Group, a software and technology development company in Portland. He lives by the Sandy River with his wife and two children. He enjoys hiking and coaching his daughter’s soccer team.

Thach Nguyen MPA ’95 is the counseling services manager in the Multnomah County Juvenile Services Division. Nguyen was awarded the 2010 Sy Award by the Multnomah County Citizen Involvement Committee for his 25 years of service on social justice issues.
Dave Ris MBA '95 is an attorney for the city of Gresham.

Michael Spooner '95 is an analyst in the Oncology Department at Cetelina, a pharmaceutical clinical trial information company. He lives in San Leandro, California.

Bernd Hoereth MBA '96 is account director and member of the board of directors for TDS Informationstechnologie, a provider of information technology and human resources. He works in Unterfoehring, Germany.

Eric Kiesau '96 is an assistant head coach for University of Colorado football program in Boulder. Kiesau played football for four years at PSU. He is married to former PSU soccer player Wendy Kanan. They have two children.

Cynthia Pemberton EdD '96 is a professor of educational leadership and associate dean of the graduate school at Idaho State University in Pocatello. Pemberton has been selected as one of 102 national delegates to participate in the Vision 2020 Women in Leadership National Project, which involves writing a Declaration of Equality.

Paul T. Shattuck MS '97 is an assistant professor at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. Shattuck is a national expert on disabilities, specifically autism.

Sami Abdallah Al-Habaileet '98 is the director of the Telephone Exchange Planning and Traffic Department for the Ministry of Communication in Kuwait. Al-Habaileet writes, "I just wanted to say that I miss PSU and Portland a lot and regarding everything else, my career, family, etc., I'm doing great."

Gail Hayes Davis EdD '98 is executive director of Young Audiences Arts for Learning in Oregon and southwest Washington. Davis is an artist who enjoys painting and fused glass. She recently completed a 47-foot mural in Bend.

Krista Lynn Minnottos MS '99 is an assistant professor of sociology at University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

Jack Ohman '99 is a syndicated editorial cartoonist for The Oregonian newspaper. He recently hosted the annual convention of The Association of American Editorial Cartoonists at Portland State, which was attended by such notables as Dick Tracy cartoonist Dick Locher.

Dan Overbay '99, MS '03 is the associate director of student recruitment at Clark College in Vancouver, Washington.

Beth Shiffman MBA '99 is a senior marketing manager at IBM Corporation in Portland. Shiffman writes, "I was a part-time, evening MBA student taking courses at the Capitol Center in Hillsboro. I thoroughly enjoyed the teachers and course work, even though I was in a perpetual state of exhaustion!"

2000-2010

Chester Garrison MEd '00 is a science teacher and cross country track coach at Rowe Middle School in Milwaukee. Garrison received two grants this year for a Smartboard and a Student Response System for the classroom. He writes, "I love teaching and coaching, and PSU made my career a reality!"

Patricia Kenney-Moore MS '00 is associate professor, associate director and academic coordinator for the physician assistant program at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland. She helped to develop and implement the program's academic curriculum.
Dorothy Oser dedicated her career to educating others. She was passionate about the importance of educating women, and saw firsthand how hard it can be for women to return to school to earn a college degree.

Although Dorothy hadn't given to Portland State University before, when she read about the Nancy Ryles Scholarship, she knew that this was where she wanted funds from her estate to go. After her death in July 2008, the PSU Foundation received a generous gift from Dorothy's revocable trust to benefit the scholarship.

Women who return to college after interruptions in their education can face daunting challenges as they balance the demands of family, work, and school. Many urgently need financial assistance. Thanks to gifts like Dorothy Oser's, the Nancy Ryles Scholarship can complete the formula for their success at Portland State.

For more information on supporting students and programs at Portland State University through your estate plan, visit www.pdx.edu/giving or contact Mary Anne Rees, Director of Gift Planning, at 503-725-5086 or mrees@pdx.edu.

Samantha Nguyen-Le '00 is a Java/Oracle developer in the Product and Account Management Support unit at Accenture in Dallas, Texas.

Chris Tamborini MS '00 is a research analyst at the Social Security Administration in Washington, D.C.

Laura Daye '01, MA '05 is an associate at Accurex, a direct marketing firm in northwest Portland. Daye also enjoys traveling and recently visited Germany, Italy, Turkey, Syria, Spain, France, and Mexico.

Patricia Drew MS '01 is an assistant professor of human development and women's studies at California State University, East Bay. Drew wrote, "I remember Portland State fondly and really enjoyed my time in the Sociology Department."

Leslie Garcia MPA '01 is the assistant vice provost for diversity and the director of the Center for Diversity and Multicultural Affairs at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland.

Ebony Sloan-Clarke MSW '01 is the culturally specific addictions services director for LifeWorks NW, a nonprofit mental health and addiction services company in Portland.

Sari DeLaMotte MST '02 is chief executive officer and founder of Nonverbal Solutions in Portland, where she leads workshops and provides one-on-one coaching to individuals on the power of nonverbal communication.

Jason Kennedy MBA '02 is chief of staff and technical adviser for Intel's Business Client Platforms Division. Kennedy lives in Portland with his wife, son, and daughter and enjoys snow skiing, movies, music, and travel.

Rosana McNew MIM '02 is a sales manager, Latin American region, for Warn Industries, a manufacturer of automotive accessories based in Clackamas. McNew writes, "My passion is to create connections with people and institutions around the globe to ultimately develop both business opportunities and friendships."

Polly Anne Birge '03 is the community outreach coordinator with the city of Portland.

Stephanie Rawson '03 is a solid waste permitting and compliance specialist for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality in Portland.

Lisa Vertulfo MSW '03 is the vice president of adoption services at Holt International Children's Services in Eugene.

Milica Markovic '04 is associate administration officer for a United Nations Emergency Preparedness and Support Team in New York.

Steve Marx MPA '04 is a district representative in the Portland office of Congressman David Wu. Marx works on issues concerning natural resources, environment, energy, and human rights.

Jeremy Tanzer MS '04 is an adjunct instructor of sociology at University of Portland.

Mahsa Darahi '05 is a broker with Windermere Real Estate in Portland. Darahi is married to Ali Panahpour '97, assistant vice president and wealth management adviser for Merrill Lynch in Portland.

Tara Hebert MS '05 is an assistant athletic trainer at Portland State.

Pooya Naderi MA '05 is an assistant instructor and doctoral student in sociology at University of Kansas in Lawrence.
John Provo PhD '05 has been named interim director of the Office of Economic Development at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Roanoke. Provo also writes an economic development blog.

Lara Sohail Yasin '05 is co-owner of the Al Narah Hookah Lounge in Gresham. Yasin also co-owns Diamond Imports, a used auto dealership in Troutdale. She writes, “Best memory of PSU would be graduation day! Going up on that stage and having my whole family and friends of course cheer me on.”

Chapin Zakrzewski MBA '05 is a new product innovations buyer at Xerox Corporation in Wilsonville.

Robin Baker '06, MS '09 is a research assistant in the Oregon Health Care Research Program at Portland State.

Michelle Eigner '06 is the clinical education coordinator for the physician assistant program at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland.

Stephan Hiroshi Gilchrist MS '06, EdD '06 is the assistant vice chancellor and chief diversity officer for the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at University of Wisconsin Colleges and University of Wisconsin Extension in Madison. He writes, “Thank you to the Conflict Resolution Program and the Educational Leadership Program at PSU. Both programs have been invaluable in contributing to the success of my current work.”

Ruben Bjorge MS '07 is a PhD candidate in physics at Norwegian University of Science & Technology in Trondheim, Norway.

Allison Collins MS '07 is co-founder and marketing adviser for Ink & Paper Group, a publishing group in Portland that has three imprints: Bowler Hat Comics, Dame Rocket Press, and Three Muses Press.

Bernadine Delaney '07 is the communications and outreach coordinator for Oregon Health & Science University in Portland.

Megan Lockwood '07 is an education volunteer at the Lawra Methodist Clinic and Orphanage in the Upper West Region of Ghana.

Lori Noice '07 has completed a master's in medical physics at University of Alberta. She is now working on a doctorate in the same field at the university and completing a practicum in Charleston, South Carolina.

Lukusa “Lou” Radja '07 is co-founder and executive director of EduCongo, a U.S-based nonprofit providing schooling for underprivileged children in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Radja is also a recognized international motivational speaker.

Joel Alley MIM '08 is a vice consul with the U.S. State Department in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Alley writes, “Thank you to Kelly Doherty and Jeff Millard and all the staff for your help and support in the Masters in International Management. I truly do feel that experience was instrumental in landing a job with the Foreign Service.”

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**ADVOCATES LEADERSHIP TRAINING DAY**

**JANUARY 8, 2011**

Caitlin Burke '08 is a medical student at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland. Burke is on rotation at Dunes Family Health Care in Reedsport.

Gary Evans '08 has established a new food cart business in Portland. Evans is co-owner of Namu Food carts, inspired by food he ate while growing up in Hawaii. He says design of the food cart was inspired by the architecture class he took at PSU.

Ben Gahlsdorf '08 is staffing manager at Action Employment Services in Portland.

Cat Goughnour '08 has completed the master's program in race, ethnicity, and postcolonial studies at the London School of Economics. He continues to live in London and to work at University of London.

Lee Ann Phillips '08, MSW '10 is a research associate project manager in the School of Social Work at Portland State. Phillips will be leading two research projects that empower teenagers in foster care.

Aaron Taylor '08 is a senior account manager for International Paper Company in Portland. Taylor is a member of the Food Industry Leadership Center Advisory Board at Portland State.

Kelly Thoen '08 is executive director and founder of Two Dollars a Day, a nonprofit that she created to raise awareness about the importance of women's literacy and the development of impoverished nations.

Nicole Babnick '09 is in the top 10 percent of her class as she enters her second year as a law student at Barry University School of Law in Orlando, Florida.

Rachel Foxhoven MS '09 is the new international business programs coordinator for the PSU School of Business Administration.

Taylor Johnson '09 is a freelance artist working in Berlin. Johnson participated in the Oregon/Germany study abroad program while attending Portland State and was a research assistant for Max Planck Institute of Economics.

Blythe Pavlik '09 is a communications program manager for the Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Coalition, which supports neighborhood associations and community partners in southeast Portland by providing education and training for neighborhood leadership, urban planning, fiscal management, and communications.

Nicole Babnick '09 is in the top 10 percent of her class as she enters her second year as a law student at Barry University School of Law in Orlando, Florida.

Claire Faucher '10 has been accepted into the MBA program at Portland State.

Christian Aniciete '10 is working for Apple and is a part-time social media specialist in the PSU Office of University Communications.

Tobin Krell MS '10 is a youth mediation specialist with Resolutions Northwest, a Portland mediation service. Krell is also developing and teaching an online class on Foundations of Conflict Resolution for Southeastern Community College in Iowa. He and his wife, Mollie, and their son, Aidan, live in Portland.

Kimberley Mansfield '10 has been accepted into the college of law at Willamette University in Salem. Mansfield is interested in fighting for the disadvantaged.

Nabil Mistkawi PhD '10, a researcher at Intel, developed a chemical solution for microprocessors that is saving the company millions of dollar. Mistkawi says, "Everything I've done at Portland State has certainly been of significant importance to what I'm trying to do now at Intel."

Zach Springer MFA '10 plans to continue his collaborative handyman service, "Build Something Together," that he started as a project of PSU's Art and Social Practice program. Springer helps people build things with mostly free and recycled materials.

Erin Yankus '10 has been accepted into the speech and language pathology master's program at Portland State.

**Faculty in Memoriam**

Carol Franks, senior instructor emerita in English, died of cancer on June 9 in Park River, North Dakota. She was 61. Ms. Franks was a beloved instructor on campus for 21 years. In 2004, she moved back home to North Dakota to open a bookstore, and continued to teach online for PSU until her death. Ms. Franks, who received the PSU Alumni Association Distinguished Faculty Award in 1995, was described by former students as "funny, stimulating, and encouraging."

Ladis K.D. Kristof, professor emeritus of political science, died June 15 at his Yamhill farm. He was 91. Dr. Kristof taught Eastern European politics at PSU as recently as 2007. Born in Romania to a privileged family, Dr. Kristoff lost everything during World War II and spent time in concentration camps—a perspective that influenced his life and work. He is survived by his wife, Jane Kristof, PSU professor emerita of art history; and son, Nicholas D. Kristof, New York Times columnist, and his family.
SEN. JOHN F. KENNEDY met informally with Portland State College students during his 1960 campaign for president. (Photos from 1960 Viking yearbook.) Sen. Hubert Humphrey also visited campus, and folk singer Pete Seeger performed on campus at the Fine Arts Festival.

That academic year was Branford P. Millar's first as PSC president. Bob Ziemer served as student body president, and Connie Dahl was homecoming queen. Costume dances were the rage, and men's basketball captured the Oregon Collegiate Conference championship.
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