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Portlanders give high marks to PSU

THE NEW YEAR brings encouraging news that I want to share with you about the rising public perception of Portland State. As we develop our priorities for the future of the University, it's crucial that we have an accurate understanding of how our community views PSU.

We commissioned a public survey in the fall to determine public awareness and gather opinions about a wide range of issues relating to the University's reputation. Here are some key findings:

- 79 percent of those surveyed agreed that PSU provides a quality education to students. Only 7 percent disagreed, and the rest had no opinion.

- 80 percent of those surveyed consider PSU important to the overall quality of life in the Portland metro area. Only 5 percent disagreed and the rest said they didn't know or were neutral.

- 68 percent of those surveyed consider PSU important to attracting and keeping jobs in the Portland metro area. Only 6 percent disagreed, and the rest said they didn't know or were neutral.

- Portland State compares favorably to the University of Oregon and Oregon State University. PSU ranks higher in community partnerships and expertise in urban issues such as transportation and about the same when comparing the quality of graduates, faculty, and academic programs.

This data comes from 500 adults in Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas counties who were interviewed in September by Davis, Hibbitts & Midghall, a leading public opinion research firm in Portland.

WHILE THESE POSITIVE perceptions may not surprise those of us familiar with PSU, researchers noted that the findings go against the larger trend of public opinion. Adam Davis, a veteran Oregon public opinion researcher who headed the study, says the strong positives surprised him, given that other polling shows how the public has soured on public institutions and public officials during these tough economic times.

The survey also shows some reputation areas we need to work on. The majority of those surveyed rated UO and OSU higher than PSU in research and campus facilities, and these are two priorities that I've identified for our campus going forward. And the survey shows that PSU and higher education in Oregon must do a better job of informing the public about funding. For example, nearly one in five of those surveyed believed that state taxes are the primary source of funding for PSU even though they comprise less than 14 percent of our budget.

The bottom line: We are proud of the increasing public recognition of our quality and impact. The survey not only affirms our rising reputation but also reinforces the areas that we are working to improve.

Wim Wiewel
President, Portland State University
Objecting to Condoleezza Rice
To have Simon Benson’s name associated with Condoleezza Rice is a disgrace to our PSU collective conscience (Portland State Magazine, Fall 2011, “Simon Benson Awards Dinner”). At the very least, Ms. Rice was a conspirator in deception and misinformation leading directly to unjustifiable invasions and occupations, countless deaths of Afghans, Iraqis, Pakistanis, and Americans. In league with other national figures, her actions led to an era marked by warrantless wiretapping and expanding broad abuses of presidential power.

Dale A. Brounstein ’69

EDITOR’S NOTE: See article on page 18.

No boss is the best boss
I read with interest the article in the fall edition of Portland State Magazine, “How’s Work?” I recall my first years as a PSU grad trying to find a decent job in what was then the post-Vietnam war recession. My first employer used to like to say that his method of dealing with low worker morale was to “start firing people until morale improves.” Keeping your head down, a respectful look on your face, and appearing as though you’re hard at work was the key to survival.

After a few years I had an opportunity to start my own sales repping business. This became the happiest time of my working life. I would work long weeks on the road, but then decide to take a week, or so, off and hang out on a beach somewhere in Mexico without having to grovel hat in hand to some cranky boss.

I received my Portland State Magazine (Fall 2011) and was a bit taken aback at the artwork on the cover. Was it your intention to make the “boss” on the cover look like the SciFi-esque “love child” of Hitler and Stalin? I’ll grant you, Corporate America does seem to have arrived—I’m wondering if this was your message too?

Jim Harrison ’95

Taking it to the streets
I could not help but think back to the cover photo on your Spring 2010 issue of Portland State Magazine after watching so many cities, including Portland, erupt in peaceful protests and occupa-

Chris Lawrenson, 1974 student

A likeness of evil?
I received my Portland State Magazine (Fall 2011) and was a bit taken aback at the artwork on the cover. Was it your intention to make the “boss” on the cover look like the SciFi-esque “love child” of Hitler and Stalin? I’ll grant you, Corporate America does seem to have arrived—I’m wondering if this was your message too?

Jim Harrison ’95

Doug Weiskopf ’71

Letters
From petting crocodiles in Ghana to celebrating Halloween in Tunisia, PSU students—including Sarah Wimmer (pictured here)—are experiencing life abroad and sharing their adventures with students in local schools. For their senior capstone, a PSU-required project that helps the community, 15 students studying abroad have each created a blog for a Portland middle school class that chronicles their life-changing experiences.

What’s new on campus?

- Lincoln Hall glass entrance and lobby on Southwest Broadway
- Laboratories and classrooms in the remodeled Science Building 2—now called Science Research and Teaching Center
- College Station, a 16-story residence hall now under construction
- Electric Avenue car and bike charging stations on Southwest Montgomery
Greening the Portland skyline

PSU MAY SOON BE home to a "living" building, the Oregon Sustainability Center, rendered here. The $62 million, seven­story structure is designed to capture and process all its own water, generate its own electricity, and leave no carbon footprint. It will be a resource for education, green business, and energy and environmental research and development. Groundbreaking is planned for early 2012 if the Oregon Legislature approves $37 million in state-issued bonds.

Unsettling news

MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S Native Americans are three times more likely to live in poverty than their white counterparts. Their income is, on average, half that of whites, their unemployment rate 70 percent higher, and their children 20 times more likely to be placed in foster care. This information comes from "An Unsettling Profile," the second of seven planned reports from PSU's School of Social Work and the Coalition of Communities of Color. The first report, a general survey of racial disparities in Multnomah County, was detailed in "Color Matters," Portland State Magazine, Fall 2010.

Team science

MANY OF TODAY'S most innovative products are developed when scientists from varied disciplines collaborate. But mixing vastly different experiences, terminologies, methods, and backgrounds can cause chaos, not creativity. Professor Melissa Appleyard in the PSU School of Business Administration is studying scientists at eight nanomedicine development centers. Her goal: identify those who have developed what she calls a "knowledge-meshing capability" that occurs when scientists merge different fields and create new ways of approaching challenges.
Throughout their relationship, Chris and Stephanie Gabriel (both 2011 graduates) have been making sweet music together—literally. From meeting in a Hilo (Hawaii) High School performance class to teaching their two children to sing and play instruments, music has been central to their lives. The couple took a huge musical leap forward this fall. They opened a school, Musikhaus, in Portland's Goose Hollow neighborhood where they offer lessons to children in guitar and Hawaiian ukulele.

WE WANT TO HEAR about your books and recordings and your future exhibits, performances, and directing ventures. Contact the magazine by emailing psumag@pdx.edu, or mailing Portland State Magazine, Office of University Communications, PO Box 751, Portland OR 97207-0751.

DIANA ABU-JABER

Conveying the passion of pastry

BAKING IS A DARKER ART than most people know. Sweet and comforting desserts have their indulgent, even hedonistic, side in some bakers' kitchens. English professor Diana Abu-Jaber, whose books have received critical acclaim since her debut novel, Arabian Jazz, was exposed to the emotional side of restaurant baking when she profiled a pastry chef for the Oregonian. Now, her forth novel, Birds of Paradise (W.W. Norton, 2011), focuses on a family with a mother who's an elite pastry chef consumed with beauty as she deals with her runaway daughter.
Remembering Haiti

"WHEN WE FIRST MOVED TO HAITI, I was six years old," writes Apricot Irving MA '04. "Haiti was an adventure, and I was mesmerized by the mud houses painted to look like cotton candy and the Kamion buses that roared past blaring carnival music." Irving’s memories are shaping her first book, an autobiography titled The Missionary’s Daughter. Trips back to Haiti are also helping the writing, thanks to a prestigious $25,000 writer’s award she received from the Rona Jaffe Foundation. Irving, who lives in Portland, was one of six women to win the prize in 2011.

A sisterhood of voices

COMMANDING FEMALE VOICES, intimate chamber-like orchestration, and the most heart-wrenching finale in all of operatic history, make Dialogues of the Carmelites an impressive opera. Music students and others will sing its demanding roles in Lincoln Performance Hall April 27 through May 5. Composed in 1956, the opera is based on the true story of 16 nuns martyred during the French Revolution. Renowned British stage director David Edwards is assisting as the Jeannine B. Cowles Distinguished Visiting Professor of Opera. For tickets call 503-725-3307.
FREEDOM TO

Funding the ideas of engineering students is fostering hands-on ingenuity.

Students Jen Hanni, Eric Dinger, and Jonathan Harker monitor but do not control the mission of their autonomous quadcopter. Photo by Kelly James.
Thomas Edison left a trail of hundreds of unsuccessful attempts at a light bulb before he finally achieved illumination. When asked by a reporter how it felt to fail so many times, Edison famously took offense—each experiment, he said, was an important step closer to incandescent light.

It is that spirit of undaunted pursuit that Renjeng Su, dean of the Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science, hopes to promote in the college’s new Innovation Program. Giving engineering students the freedom to fail might be the best way to stoke their imagination, he believes.

“We know the creativity is there; it just needs to be nurtured and unleashed,” says Su.

Local entrepreneurs, philanthropists, and companies agree. Funding for the student projects is provided solely through donations, including those made by Jeannine Cowles, Glumac, Henry W. Schuette, Tektronix, TriQuint Semiconductor, and Howard S. Wright Constructors.

The Innovation Program is off to an energetic start. Twenty-three projects involving more than 50 students have received a $1,000 grant to explore their ideas. As expected, some projects are blossoming; others have been shelved.

“We wanted to spread lots of seeds because you never know which ones will grow into something special,” says James McNames, chair of PSU’s Electrical and Computer Engineering Department and Innovation Program director.

With the seeds planted, McNames is trying a counter-culture cultivation strategy—eschewing oversight and quelling competition—that stands in stark contrast to similar programs at other universities. Even more unusual, students are not judged on whether their project succeeds or fails.

“College is about what they learn rather than what they produce,” says McNames.

And teaching students how to confidently pursue potential fixes to society’s problems strengthens the Maseeh College’s role as an economic engine.
Engineering undergraduates rarely get the opportunity to work on international-scale projects, much less ones with a humanitarian focus. Yet when Mercy Corps, a Portland-based international aid organization, needed a way to confirm that hand-washing stations and latrines installed in Jakarta, Indonesia, were improving sanitation practices, it turned to Engineering at PSU. The Innovation Program provided Anndee Huff and other team members with the resources to design sensors able to monitor water usage and performance for Mercy Corps. "What's unique is that we included a remote sensing device that can send the data back to Portland via the Internet so that we can analyze it here," says Huff. The project has since grown, with sensors possibly going to Haiti, and the project has already impacted Huff's career aspirations. The trip to Indonesia to install the sensors confirmed her desire to work in international development. "If we want to help people," she says, "we have to be open to new innovative ideas that will be needed to save lives."

SOAP + WATER = SAVED LIVES
Engineering undergraduates rarely get the opportunity to work on international-scale projects, much less ones with a humanitarian focus. Yet when Mercy Corps, a Portland-based international aid organization, needed a way to confirm that hand-washing stations and latrines installed in Jakarta, Indonesia, were improving sanitation practices, it turned to Engineering at PSU. The Innovation Program provided Anndee Huff and other team members with the resources to design sensors able to monitor water usage and performance for Mercy Corps. "What's unique is that we included a remote sensing device that can send the data back to Portland via the Internet so that we can analyze it here," says Huff. The project has since grown, with sensors possibly going to Haiti, and the project has already impacted Huff's career aspirations. The trip to Indonesia to install the sensors confirmed her desire to work in international development. "If we want to help people," she says, "we have to be open to new innovative ideas that will be needed to save lives."

STEALTH COPTER
Super spies all over the world would kill for a gadget like this. With its four mini-propellers spinning, the robotic copter being developed by students flies autonomously—black ops style. The quadcopter must be able to navigate unknown buildings, retrieve a flash drive, and emerge undetected for the team, led by senior Greg Haynes, to win the International Aerial Robotics Competition in August 2012. "We are in a competition where the problem is not yet solved—so we are helping advance the state of the art," says Haynes. With the support of the Innovation Program, they were able to simply
buy the frame and direct their creative energies toward the big hurdle—figuring out how to map an unseen building while flying. The solution requires a smattering of sensors, a dollop of math know-how, and a dash of artificial intelligence experience. If they do win, they will have turned a $4,000 investment into a $30,000 prize. That's some lucrative, yet legal, espionage.

The PSU Aerospace Society is a group of 20-odd rocket enthusiasts achieving milestones that elude professional companies. Their ultimate goal? Putting a nano-satellite into orbit. "For an amateur group, that's completely crazy," says junior Chris Mullens. Funny thing is, with three different Innovation Program grants in hand, the team is systematically ticking off the remaining hurdles. Now that they have achieved control of the inevitable roll as a rocket speeds toward space, they are working on a guidance system to steer the rocket as it hurdles to 528,000-feet. "To get this thing to punch through the atmosphere into orbit, we can't shoot it straight up or it will just fall straight back down," says Mullens. Rather, the rocket has to move tangentially to the Earth. "To do that, we need to steer the thing," says Mullens. "If we pull this off, we're going to have a whole lot of street credit—personally and professionally, which would be pretty cool."

GAINING TRACTION

Josh Yasbek is a sophomore, a motorcyclist, and a tinkerer. He's using his newfound engineering skills to promote faster, safer motorcycling. A traction control gauge, he decided, would be ideal since losing traction while rounding a corner is the most common cause of crashes. Existing wheel-based traction control systems electronically cut engine or braking power, but they work abruptly and eliminate the rider from the decision-making. Yasbek combined sensors on the suspension system with LED sensors inside his helmet that allow the rider to see weight distribution data while going through a corner. Unfortunately, the visual data proved distracting. While the gauge may not be the real-time read-out he envisioned, Yasbek realized it still has utility. He is now coupling sensors with a global positioning system to create a training tool to help racers optimize their driving. "Going from idea to product is a bigger process than what I expected," he says.

Virginia Gewin is a freelance science journalist based in Portland.
CONQUERING MALARIA

PSU chemistry professor David Peyton modified an early malaria drug, creating a newly potent weapon against this deadly disease and a start-up business, DesignMedix, to develop it. Research innovations and discoveries—part of PSU's $1.4 billion annual economic impact.

Oregon is our classroom    pdx.edu
Three weeks before she died on October 4 at age 99, physicist Gertrude Rempfer visited her basement lab at Portland State for the last time.

BY THEN her body was frail, but her mind was still sharp as she continued to advise graduate students and collaborate with colleagues to design, build, and perfect an electron microscope.

Well into her late 90s, Rempfer would rise early to do chores on her eight-acre farm in Forest Grove (her daughter would often wake to the sound of a power saw), pack a rustic lunch of bread and cheese, drive herself to Hillsboro, ride MAX downtown, and then walk to campus. She always carried a pad of paper to do calculations and sometimes help a struggling math student along the way.

Rempfer, known as “Gert,” became a world-class physicist at a time when women were told—as she once was—that they should not take jobs away from men. She was a pioneer in electron optics who did her most prolific work after she retired from teaching at age 65. And she was a mother and teacher as devoted to her family, students, and ideals as she was to her research.

“She had a brilliance that you don’t find every day; she was a phenomenon,” says Hayes Griffith, a professor emeritus at University of Oregon who worked closely with her for 25 years.

ROLF KOENENKAMP, who holds the Gertrude Rempfer Endowed Chair in Physics, said Rempfer’s most notable scientific contribution was her demonstration that a mirror can be used to correct aberrations and improve the resolution of electron microscopes. In her last decade of life, Koenenkamp and his research team worked with her to build what he called “the best microscope of its kind in the world” based on her designs.

“SHE had a brilliance that you don’t find every day; she was a phenomenon,” says Hayes Griffith, a professor emeritus at University of Oregon who worked closely with her for 25 years.

Growing up in Seattle, Rempfer liked math, botany, and being outdoors. During the Depression, her mother encouraged her to enroll at the University of Washington, where she first studied forestry. She switched to physics after she was not allowed into a required, all-male forestry camp.

It was not the last time sexism, racism, or politics would force her to change course.

At her first academic job at Mount Holyoke, a women's college, she was passed over for a tenure-track position because a man was given preference. In the early 1950s, she and her husband, the late PSU math professor Robert Rempfer, were forced out of their jobs at Antioch College for trying to prevent the execution of convicted spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg. They then lost their teaching jobs at Fisk University, a historically black institution, for supporting racial integration. She joined the Portland State faculty in 1961.

“She said there are always obstacles, but they are an illusion,” recalls her daughter, Rhoda Rempfer Kameroff, a Native American the Rempfers adopted at age three. “She had a drive in her. If you told her she couldn’t do it, she’d do it all the more.”

Rempfer had four other children, and she once acknowledged her career was in low gear while she raised them. At age 78 she said she was in her prime, and she kept going for another two decades. She published, received grants, submitted patents, mentored graduate students, and won awards for her contributions to science.

In addition to working well with colleagues, Rempfer would do anything she could to help graduate students, in and out of the lab. It was her students who helped fund the Rempfer Chair in Physics. “Even some who had received Ds,” remembers physics professor Erik Bodegom. The University is now creating a student scholarship to honor her work.

As Rempfer grew weaker in her last year of life, her happiest days were those when she was driven to campus to visit her lab, Rempfer Kameroff says. When she couldn’t make it, she would work in her study at home, taking breaks only for chocolate.

“I spent hours with her on the telephone,” Koenenkamp says, “We were not talking about the grandkids; those were conversations about science.”

BY SUZANNE PARDINGTON
Art student Jason Sturgill arranged for two tattoo artists to ink visitors with designs inspired by works in the Portland Art Museum. Photos by Tyler Brain.

WRITTEN BY SU YIM

No one will ever think of a museum as stuffy once they have square danced just yards from its collections, reason Portland State art students, who organized the event at the Portland Art Museum.

ARTIST CARMEN PAPALIA has lived with progressive vision loss all his life. As the 29-year-old Portlander became legally blind, he explored his disability in poetry and essays. But Papalia knew he wanted to do more.

"Disability art is usually directed at people with disability, but why not present it to contemporary art audiences and institutions?" he asks.

That premise led to his art project of the past year: walking tours in three different cities where participants lined up behind Papalia, closed their eyes, and followed him through city streets, parks, and nature areas.

Papalia, a student in the University's Art and Social Practice master's program, knows that his project covers unusual territory for those who think about art in more traditional terms. But art as social practice, also known as socially engaged art, represents a growing wave of highly interactive, collaborative public art that often combines unexpected disciplines, such as economics and food or social work and education. For example, artist Eric Steen MFA '09 worked with 15 homebrewers to create a public class to explore beer culture and economics in Glasgow, Scotland. Their 30 craft beers were served for free at a bar Steen built in Glasgow, as a means of engaging people in the process and artistry behind beer.

At last year's Conference on Art and Social Practice put on annually by PSU, Nashville artist Jonathan Paul Gillette hosted "What Are You Running From-Athon" at the Buckman Park running track. To register, runners filled out a questionnaire that asked what drove them to run, and Gillette hired three counselors to help people confront what they were fleeing.

THE DEFINITION of social practice is intentionally broad, with more focus on the artists' intentions and the creative process rather than the final product.

In social practice art, it's all about a new, creative flow, says PSU art professor Harrell Fletcher, who started the social practice program in 2006. Rather than all the attention and energy focusing in one direction, from a "genius" artist to his "masterpiece," as it does in traditional art, social practice art is more inclusive. An artist may choose
to work with individuals in a neighborhood. For example, one group of artists set up a screen printing shop in a local library to help community members and organizations print posters, bulletins, and T-shirts to increase communication about their events. “You can create art that is relevant to people in the community,” Fletcher says.

The idea isn’t new. Social practice as a term used in art started about eight years ago, says PSU art professor Jen Delos Reyes, who teaches a course on the history of art and social practice in the program. But its predecessors include the 1920s Dada movement, which combined various practices, such as mixing theater and publications. The Intermedia Society in 1960s Canada worked to create experimental artists’ workshops, performances, and exhibitions.

Today, social practice is especially relevant in a highly digital age filled with social media, says Allison Agsten, curator of public engagement at UCLA’s Hammer Museum. “There is something about the element of human-to-human contact that is incredibly precious right now,” she says.

SOME MUSEUM curators may struggle with finding a place for social practice in the art world. Papalia says a gallery curator in Vancouver, B.C., lost all interest in him once he explained his social practice approach. Agsten acknowledges that some museums don’t understand the artistic merit of some projects. But others, like Hammer and the Portland Art Museum, see opportunities to foster dialogue with visitors through social practice pieces.

In October, the Portland Art Museum’s Shine a Light third annual one-day exhibit expanded conventional conceptions of art to include tattooing based on art from its collection, art-inspired recipes from local chefs, and Papalia’s walking tour. PSU students and faculty planned most of the exhibits.

Social practice also provides different opportunities for making a living through art, Fletcher says. “I don’t see the studio/gallery model as a sustainable practice,” he explains. Overall, few artists score gallery shows—although that is the aspiration taught in many art programs. The system also keeps art in controlled environments.

In contrast, Fletcher says social practice artists can find funding through grants for specific projects. He and Delos Reyes point to prominent artist Mierle Laderman Ukeles of New York City, who established a project in the 1970s to shake hands with every member of the city’s sanitation department. The project led to his long-term relationship with the city as an artist-in-residence.

In Portland, PSU students Molly Sherman and Nolan Calisch have partnered to combine agriculture, social work, and education into artist-in-residence positions with New Seasons Market, the Portland area grocery chain. The two will interview local farmers who supply the stores with produce and share audio from the interviews with shoppers at the Concordia store, Sherman says. The project is an outgrowth of their Farm School project, which educates people about the source of their food.

Sherman, who moved from New York to attend PSU’s Art and Social Practice program, has long been interested in education and says she would be excited to work in a high school teaching art. Rather than apply for a master’s in education, she chose the art approach because it gives her flexibility for unconstrained creativity, she says. She sees hope in how other artists have sustained themselves through grants and other funding.

Agsten agrees that art as social practice has a promising future as a new way for artists to work and for audiences to experience art.

“I have more and more conversations about social practice, and how to formalize the museum’s role in fostering this kind of work,” she says. “It’s almost certain we’re going to see more really thoughtful work in the future with much more visibility.”

Su Yim, a graduate assistant in the PSU Office of University Communications, wrote “Business as Art” in the Fall 2011 Portland State Magazine.
CRIME BY THE NUMBERS

Professor Kris Henning is helping Portland Police crack cases by targeting the most dangerous offenders through reliable new databases.

WRITTEN BY MELISSA STEINEGER  PHOTO BY KELLY JAMES

WITH ONLY so many police officers and so much jail space, it makes sense to focus on catching and putting away the really bad guys. But how do you know which ones they are?

Kris Henning, professor of criminology and criminal justice, devised a checklist that the Portland Police Bureau uses to predict who is most likely to commit another act of domestic violence—abusive physical, emotional, or psychological behavior aimed at controlling an intimate partner.

Based on police data, Henning identified eight variables that indicate whether someone is likely to be rearrested for committing an act of domestic violence. Factors include such things as how old someone was when first arrested and the total number of times an individual has been arrested. He scored the results, giving some variables more significance than others, and together, he and Portland Police automated the entire process.

One officer, says Sgt. Stewart, recently used the system to link seven additional burglaries in east Portland to a single suspect.

"Rather than going from crime scene to crime scene," and solving cases after they have occurred, says Henning, "you're focusing on the offenders to prevent crimes from occurring in the first place. It's a better use of resources."

Decision-making in law enforcement, according to Henning, is often based on personal opinion or doing things the way they've always been done. But that can create a system that is sometimes ineffective or, at worst, may do more harm than good.

For Portland Police, statistics combined with professional judgment are now the rule when police decide which domestic violence cases to pursue. Each morning a computer spits out a report, and Portland officers have a hot sheet of the suspects most likely to commit another act of domestic violence.

"This is super efficient because it lets us target the most dangerous offenders," says Portland Police Sgt. Greg Stewart.

"Plus in a practical sense, it frees two to three officers a day to go do work, which is just enormous. It was like adding two more investigators to the unit."

In the first year, says Stewart, the number of cases investigated doubled and arrest rates were up 15 percent. "It made a real immediate impact. We were able to do more work and able to focus the work on bigger problem people."

It's been so successful at reducing police time on paperwork that officials from the Multnomah County District Attorney's office as well as Seattle police are looking at Henning's work with an eye to developing their own checklists.

HENNING OFTEN WORKS with three or four students to analyze real-world crime issues using Portland Police data. Last year, a team looked at burglaries.

Reviewing Portland statistics, they found that a burglar is more likely to commit several crimes in the same area within days or weeks of each other. That gave police a way to link items missing from several homes to what they found in one burglar's stash—clearing multiple cases based on one arrest.

For the past six months, police have been able to plug an address into a computer for a report of potentially linked burglaries. One officer, says Sgt. Stewart, recently used the system to link seven additional burglaries in east Portland to a single suspect.

What's next? Henning hopes to create a simple checklist to use in each of the 25,000 or so arrests made in Portland each year. That doesn't mean there are 25,000 bad guys—rather, some people are arrested more than once.

By identifying who is most likely to commit another crime or be violent, law enforcement can focus resources, such as parole officer visits and drug tests during probation, where the benefit is highest.

And that just might help keep more bad guys out of circulation without hiring more police or building more jails.

Melissa Steineger, a Portland freelance writer, wrote the article "Training on Site" in the fall 2011 Portland State Magazine.
Of the 5,000 reports of domestic violence that Portland Police receive each year, they are only able to investigate about 500. Criminology and Criminal Justice professor Kris Henning is helping them choose the most dangerous offenders.

COMPLEXITIES OF CRIME

In the past three years, one-fourth of all law enforcement officers in Oregon have completed awareness training that aims to help them recognize their own racial biases and give them skills to defuse racial tensions when they pull over drivers.

Professor Brian Renauer, a colleague of Kris Henning's in the PSU Criminology and Criminal Justice program, received grants totaling $1.2 million to launch the program, which is overseen by a state committee.

Faculty and students from the department are making a difference. Criminology and Criminal Justice has about 625 undergraduate and 25 master’s degree students. About half the undergrads complete their degrees online.

Who enrolls? Individuals interested in understanding criminal activity and how societal and individual factors contribute to it, as well as what policies, practices, and interventions make a positive difference. About 20 percent go on to become police officers. Others become lawyers, social workers, psychologists, or, as in the example below, continue their schooling.

Alumnus Jacob Mecum ’09 is now a master’s student in the justice, law and society program at American University in Washington, D.C. He hopes to eventually work for the U.S. Foreign Service as a consular officer.

While a criminal justice student at PSU, Mecum was the first recipient of the Bradley N. Horner Memorial Endowed Scholarship. Horner’s family started the endowment in 2006 following the death of the young Multnomah County sheriff’s deputy during a training accident. “We wanted to lend a helping hand, just like Brad would have,” says his father.
Giving

Families honored, top numbers achieved

A RECORD CROWD helped the University raise the most funds ever for students, faculty, and programs at the annual Simon Benson Awards in October. Event co-chairs Tom Fink '71, PSU Foundation president, and Richard Hawkins '69 led the effort that resulted in a record $840,000 raised.

More than 1,500 people came to the dinner at the Oregon Convention Center to honor the Furman and Mark families, who have given millions of dollars to education, the arts, and nonprofit organizations over several decades. Condoleezza Rice, former U.S. secretary of state, gave the keynote speech.

William Furman is the cofounder, president, and CEO of The Greenbrier Companies, an international rail and marine barge manufacturing company headquartered in Lake Oswego. He and his late wife, Joyce, have supported PSU School of Social Work programs that help youth and foster best practices in the field.

Melvin “Pete” Mark, chairman of the commercial real estate firm Melvin Mark Companies, supports a variety of institutions in Portland, including the Portland Art Museum, which his late wife, Mary, also contributed to. Gifts from Mark family members are also supporting PSU student veterans and programs in the College of Urban and Public Affairs.

Success at the Simon Benson Awards follows a best-ever year in 2010-11 for philanthropic support to the University. Private donors and organizations contributed more than $15.7 million to PSU, a 22 percent increase from the year before.
Winning spikes and passes

VOLLEYBALL almost made the NCAA playoffs this fall, followed closely by football, which scored its best season since 2006. The past five years have been good for the Viking volleyball program under head coach Michael Seemann. The team made its fifth straight appearance in the Big Sky Conference championship. The Viking football team was considered one of the most improved in the nation, going from 2-9 in 2010 to 7-4 in 2011, and coming in third this season in the Big Sky.

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Alumni

Bringing an adventurous approach

TOM BULL, PSU's new alumni director, is not known for spending much time at his desk. He once took a group of intrepid alumni on a continent-hopping excursion to Antarctica.

It was the trip of a lifetime—and a bonding experience for the alumni who went on it. They walked through a colony of penguins that were every bit as pesky as pigeons in a city park. They watched the sun set and then, within minutes, watched it rise again. The strangeness of Antarctica's landscape made them like it all the more.

Bull now brings his adventurous spirit to PSU, where in October he was named executive director of the PSU Alumni Association and the Alumni Engagement office, located in the Simon Benson House. He takes the word engagement seriously, vowing to connect alumni to the University and with each other—maybe even including a trip to Antarctica.

Bull has held alumni positions at Northwestern University—which organized the trip he led to Antarctica—as well as Loyola and DePaul universities. He came to PSU from Bastyr University, a private natural medicine school in the Seattle area, where he built the alumni engagement office from the ground up.

"We are delighted that Tom shares our vision for a deeper connection to our 130,000 PSU alumni," says Catherine Faris, associate vice president for advancement, who presided over the national search that led to Bull's selection.

AT PORTLAND STATE, Bull wants alumni to see the University as an "invaluable resource where they can enhance their skill set and become more marketable," he says. He expects to reach out to alumni around the country to strengthen their connections to the University. There are more than 20 major cities in the United States, including Seattle, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, with clusters of 300 or more PSU alumni. However, the more than 84,000 alumni living in the Portland metropolitan area are his top priority.

Reaching out to current Portland State students is also on his agenda. Bull wants alumni to help by volunteering at campus functions or mentoring students. While at Northwestern, Bull provided career advice to students, and still keeps in touch with some of them.

"There is such strength in those early connections that we make with students," says Bull.

Once you've been to Antarctica, almost any connection at all seems like it's right next door. ■
ANATOMY OF AN ENGAGED ALUM

Knows that the Portland State campus is a vibrant and vital part of downtown Portland.

Tells others about Portland State and suggests they check it out for themselves or their children.

Hears the buzz that as an urban research university, PSU is making a difference in the community through sustainable practices and solutions.

Shows the world they love PSU!

Feels a strong sense of pride for PSU.

1960-1969

Dick Matthews ’68, MA ’88 has retired as assistant executive director of the Oregon Historical Society after 17 years of service and more than 35 years in the field of historic preservation, work and public history museums.

Richard Willis ’68 recently completed a degree as an ordained minister at the Ministerial Seminary of America and is currently working on his divinity degree. Willis writes, “These accomplishments are directly related to my undergraduate work at PSU—what a great college and university. Not bad for a 70-year-old alumnus.”

Robert Handy ‘69, MA ‘71 was honored when the Foreign Policy Association awarded its annual prize to the Bay Area Unitarian Universalist Church in Houston for its Great Decisions foreign policy study-discussion group, which Handy started 12 years ago and continues to run. Great Decisions is a product of the association. Handy is an investment adviser with ViaQuest Financial Group in Houston. He also helped establish the Bernard V. Burke History Scholarship Endowment Fund at PSU in memory of the late professor.

1970-1979

Terry Cross ’70 received the prestigious Robert F. Kennedy Children’s Action Corps’ Embracing the Legacy award in June at the Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston. Cross is the founder and executive director of the National Indian Child Welfare Association in Portland, and has written multiple manuals used by child welfare staff who work with Native Americans. He is an enrolled member of the Seneca Nation of Indians.

Carol Van Natta ’76 is vice president of the Oregon State University Foundation—Portland Center. Van Natta works to increase private support for OSU in the metropolitan area, directs the foundation’s community relations activities, and manages the center itself. Van Natta has spent 34 years in higher education at seven universities.

Antoinette “Toni” Mountain ’71 is a breast cancer survivor programs manager for the Oregon and southwest Washington affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Mountain organizes conferences, coordinates a speakers bureau, and represents the organization as a frequent speaker at women’s health forums across the Pacific Northwest. Earlier Mountain was a breast prosthesis coordinator and buyer for Nordstrom.

Gale Castillo MA ’74 is president of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber in Portland.

Antoinette “Toni” Mountain ’71 is a breast cancer survivor programs manager for the Oregon and southwest Washington affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Mountain organizes conferences, coordinates a speakers bureau, and represents the organization as a frequent speaker at women’s health forums across the Pacific Northwest. Earlier Mountain was a breast prosthesis coordinator and buyer for Nordstrom.

Don Scott ’72 has retired as chairman and president of Retail Research Group, Inc., an international retail location consulting firm he cofounded in 1992. Scott has spent the past 33 years researching retail sites across the U.S. and Europe.

Gale Castillo MA ’74 is president of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber in Portland.

Hermann Colas, Jr., ’77 is the chief operating officer of his family-run business, Colas Construction Inc., which is involved in the rehabilitation of Portland’s historic Golden West Hotel and the demolition and reconstruction of TriMet’s Meeder Building. Colas Construction won a 2011 Excellence in Family Business Award from the Austin Family Business Program at Oregon State University. Colas also started the Portland-based Colas Foundation Fund to help victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

Susan Ford ’70, EdD ’90 is a field supervisor in the department of teaching and learning at Washington State University-Vancouver campus.
A Qadhafi insider

"You had 42 years to establish democracy and prosperity in Libya and you wasted it!" If he could, that's what Abubaker Saad would say to his former boss, the Libyan leader Moammar Qadhafi who was captured and killed in October.

Saad says he and many other young, well-educated Libyans rallied behind Qadhafi when he seized power in a 1969 bloodless coup. They believed he would lead Libya into a bright future. Instead, Qadhafi led the Libyan people into more than four decades of terror.

"I stayed for the hope of change. That was the tradition at the time, and I couldn't speak out for fear," Saad was quoted as saying to national media, when a coup attempt, in which he took part, was discovered. Saad drove straight to the airport and captured and killed in October.

In the 1970s, Saad was a Libyan diplomat and one of Qadhafi's personal interpreters. He traveled frequently—a fact that probably saved his life in 1978 when a coup attempt, in which he took part, was discovered. Saad drove straight to the airport and left the country one last time—without belongings, without saying goodbye to his parents and siblings, without any clear idea where he would live, and, most importantly, without having to explain to airport officials why he was leaving on such short notice.

Saad, now a U.S. citizen, teaches history at Western Connecticut State University, but his homeland still calls to him. "What I miss most is my family, and the heritage, the customs and traditions, that I grew up with," says Saad. Fearful for his family's safety, he had no direct contact with them for more than three decades. He now looks forward to reuniting with them openly and safely. BY MEG DESCAMP

Howard Ben Tré '78 is an internationally recognized artist known for his sculptures and large-scale works of art. Ben Tré's art includes urban plaza design, fountains, and benches for both private and corporate commissions. His work can be found in the Metropolitan Museum of Art; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Philadelphia Museum of Art; the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution; the National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto, Japan; and the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Nice, France.

1980-1989

Thomas Crofoot MSW '80 is a member of the Washington State Racial Disproportionality Advisory Committee, which works to reduce disparities for children in child welfare. Crofoot is an associate professor of social work at Clark College in Vancouver, Washington. He earned a doctorate in social welfare from University of Washington in Seattle. He is a descendant of the Colville Confederated Tribes, Okanogan Band.

Sara Kerr '80 is a professor of biology at University of the Incarnate World in San Antonio. Kerr earned advanced degrees from Texas A&M University. Her area of research is transmission of pathogenic protozoa.

Brenda Eichelberger '81 was a judge for the Portland State Business Accelerator's annual seed money and mentoring competition for students. Eichelberger is a business instructor in the PSU School of Business Administration.

Marty Miller '81 is a managing agent with Bissness Insurance in Hood River.

Gilbert B. Luzader '82 is counsel for HJM International Law Offices in Guangzhou, China, where he interviews current and potential foreign clients and reviews English documents produced by the firm. Previously, Luzader was a corporate language trainer at English First in Guangzhou. He also was a visiting international professor at the Guangdong University of Foreign Studies in Guangzhou and the East China University of Science and Technology in Shanghai.

Jennifer Sherman '82 is director of human resources services at Trupp HR, Inc., in Hillsboro.

Susan Daluddung MURP '83, PhD '05 has received the credentialed manager designation from the International City/County Management Association. Daluddung is deputy city manager for development and community service with the office of the city manager in Peoria, Arizona. Previously, Daluddung was chief planner for the city of Portland.

Brenda Meltebeke '83 has been elected chair of Ater Wynne law firm in Portland. Meltebeke has chaired the firm's Emerging Business Group since 2009.

Roger Muller '84 is a member of the Oregon Health Leadership Council and market medical director for United Healthcare's Pacific Northwest Region. Muller earned his medical degree at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland and completed his emergency medicine residency at Ohio State University.

Michael Reese '85, MPA '08 is chief of the Portland Police Bureau. He was previously commander of the bureau's East and Central Precincts. Reese lives in southwest Portland with his wife and three daughters. He enjoys competing in triathlons, playing music, coaching youth basketball, and attending school events with his family.
Cary Ecker ’86 has been promoted from senior account executive to vice president of marketing at Washington Casualty Company in Maple Valley, Washington. The company provides medical professional liability coverage to hospitals, healthcare facilities, and physicians in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Ecker and his wife, Regina, live with their two Siberian huskies in Duvall, Washington.

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Robert Gould ’86 is chair of the Oregon Peace Institute, which he cofounded with former Oregon Rep. Elizabeth Furse in 1984. He is also chair and cofounder of Portland State’s Graduate Program in Conflict Resolution and former chair of PSU’s Philosophy Department.

Steve Brown ’87 is lead singer and songwriter for the California band There Be Pirates! The band has released two CDs and has toured the United Kingdom for the past three years. Brown also is editor of The Sun Runner Magazine and president of the California Deserts Visitors Association. Brown writes, “I’ve definitely put what I learned from PSU to work. My time at the Vanguard eventually translating into me running a regional magazine, and my history degree is helping me with my investigative journalism work.”

Marian Houston Fenimore MSW ’87 is executive director of Jewish Family & Child Service in Portland.

Mark Summers MSW ’87 is cofounder of International Talk Like a Pirate Day, a parodic holiday that takes place on September 19. He and his friend, John Bauer, started the holiday in 1995 and have received much publicity through the years.

Lorie Wigle MBA ’89 was honored in 2011 with an Award for Innovation in Sustainability by Sustainable Business Oregon. Wigle, who is the general manager of the Eco-Technology program office at Intel in Hillsboro, also was named one of the Top 10 Women in Sustainability by PINK, an Atlanta-based multimedia Internet company that aims to help women become more successful in their careers and lives. She is also president of Climate Saves Computing Initiative, a nonprofit group of eco-conscious consumers, businesses, and conservation organizations dedicated to improving power efficiency and reducing energy consumption.

1990-1999

Thomas Favara ’90 is a vertical market specialist in the public education and government department for Associated Business Systems, a provider of printer products based in Portland. Favara also enjoys watching his son play in the Portland Youth Philharmonic.


Sandra Ahlquist MSW ’91 is an associate professor of social work at Warner Pacific College in Portland. Ahlquist is credited with the creation of the social work major at Warner Pacific. Through a mental health organization called Telos International, she has taught courses in Albania. She enjoys travel, hiking, gardening, and bird watching.

Linda Bailey ’92 earned her doctor of musical arts degree in flute performance from University of Washington. Bailey’s dissertation was titled, “After Hours: Five Encores for Flute and Piano,” a history and analysis of David Schiff’s work for flute and piano. It includes a practice guide.

Mark Peden ’92 owns Broadband ERA, a wireless and mobile telecommunications consulting firm in Beaverton. Peden also is a partner in and member of Keiretsu Forum, an angel investor network; a partner with Social Venture Partners; and a principal of AngelOregon.

Martin Mense MS ‘93 is a scientist working in the ion channel drug discovery program for Synta Pharmaceutical in Lexington, Massachusetts.

Mark Ray MS ’94 has been selected 2012 Washington State Teacher of the Year by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Ray is a teacher and librarian at Skyview High School in Vancouver, Washington.

Claire Bell ’95 is a consultant for Water the Bamboo Center for Leadership, a motivational organization in Portland. Previously, Bell was the director of mediation services at Resolutions Northwest in Portland.

Phillip King ’95, MS ’02 is dean of academic foundations and connections at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City. Previously, King was the director of enrollment and retention management for the college of arts and science at Florida International University in Miami. He has also been director of aquatics and recreation at Mount Hood Community College in Gresham.

Armando Laguardia EdD ’95 is an associate professor with the department of teaching and learning at Washington State University-Vancouver. Laguardia researches public policy and its impact on low-income and minority students in public schools as well as college participation and success of minority and Latino students.

Donald Nasca Jr., MBA ’95 has developed an online nonprofit organization called ThePortalUSA.org that helps individuals and organizations develop their own micro-organization website. Previously, Nasca worked as development and underwriting director for KBPS radio, and he was one of the cofounders of Portland State radio station KPSU.

Cindy Raz ’95 is director of organizational development at Lake Oswego-based EthicsPoint, a governance, risk, and compliance software and services company.

James Teeter MS ’95 has been promoted to vice president of engineering and operations at Portland’s Azuray Technologies, a solar technology company. Teeter is a member of the PSU Maseeh College of Engineering
ALUMNI PROFILE
CHRIS KITCHEL MBA ’77

Superlawyer

"Growing up, the concept of a professional career was an abstract," says Chris Kitchel. And yet, she has crafted a career that is anything but an abstraction.

Kitchel, a trial lawyer for the Portland-based law firm Stoel Rives, has been named a Leading Lawyer for Business in a national guide book each year since 2006. In 2010, she received the Multnomah Bar Association’s Mentor of the Year Award, reflecting her dedication to assisting young women attorneys. Kitchel earned her law degree in 1981 from Lewis & Clark College.

Most recently, she was named one of the top 50 Oregon Super Lawyers for 2011. She joins three other PSU alumni on the 2011 list: John E. Hart ’71, Steven M. Hedberg ’81, and Edward Sullivan ’82.

Kitchel represents employers in employment lawsuits. “I like solving problems,” she says. “I like figuring out what I have to get and how to get it.”

She took that problem-solving expertise on a 2011 sabbatical trip to Kenya, where she worked with young, female Kenyan lawyers, focusing on crimes against women. After two months, she came home with a fresh appreciation for the U.S. justice system. “On a national scale in Kenya, it’s a hopeless situation. Women are still viewed as property. But it helped me realize you can change one person’s life at a time.”

Kitchel and her husband, Jan, an attorney with Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt, have three daughters, the youngest of whom is finishing her law degree. BY MEG DESCAMP

and Computer Science Academy of Distinguished Alumni.

Andrew Asato MPA ’96 is executive director of the Make-A-Wish Foundation in Oregon. He was previously in charge of development and public relations. Asato enjoys gardening, cooking, bodysurfing, and reading a book with his children at the end of the day.

David Audley MA ’97 is executive director and chief executive officer for International Cellular Medicine Society, a safety advocacy organization for stem cell patients based in Salem.

Benjamin de Haan PhD ’97 is the executive director for Partners for Our Children, a child welfare policy and practice collective based in Seattle. De Haan was founding president of the Children’s Justice Alliance, an advocacy organization for Oregon children whose parents are involved in the criminal justice system. He continues to serve as board chair of the Children’s Trust Fund of Oregon Foundation, a private endowment focused on preventing child abuse.

Eli Spevak MURP ’99 is developing a new housing project in Portland called Cully Grove through Orange Splot, his housing development and general contracting company. He does public speaking on the opportunities and challenges of developing clusters of small homes and shared common spaces. He lives in Portland with his wife, Noelle Studer-Spevak, former sustainability manager at PSU.


2000-2011

Leslee Parr PhD ’00 is a professor and graduate coordinator for biological sciences at San Jose State University in California. She also is the program director of the National Institute of Health’s Minority Access to Research Careers, which supports undergraduate students who are underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences with preparation for graduate training at the doctorate level.

Paige Battle MeD ’01 has received the 2011 Washington Library Media Association Outstanding Teacher Librarian of the Year award for her work at Union High School in Vancouver, Washington. Currently, Battle is the librarian for Grant High School in Portland.
Phoebe (Robinson) Coleman '01 is an analyst in the Workforce and Economic Research Division of the Oregon Employment Department.

Patti Haack '01, MA '05 is the Schools Uniting Neighborhoods program coordinator at Clear Creek Middle School in Gresham. Haack is a member of Kappa Delta Pi and Phi Kappa Phi, serving on its Love of Learning scholarship committee.

Michelle Medler '01 is a multi-instrumentalist and music educator, and plays in an all-female saxophone quartet, the Quadraphonnes. She co-directs the Portland Youth Jazz Orchestra with her husband, Benjamin Medler '01, who also plays multiple instruments and is a music educator. Benjamin Medler has performed with numerous artists including Darrell Grant, Latin Expression, Afincando Salsa, and Tall Jazz.

Guy Poppe '02 has graduated from the Pacfic Coast Banking School at University of Washington in Seattle. Poppe is a member business lending credit officer at OnPoint Community Credit Union in Portland.

Kinga Bernath '03 is a corporate paralegal with the law firm of Herrick, Feinstein in New York. Previously, Bernath was a paralegal with the law firm of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld in Guttenberg, New York.

Lauriel Earley '03 is a research technician with the Lloyd and McCullough Lab at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland. Earley's main projects focus on determining the mutational spectra of specific DNA lesions and using polymerase chain reactions to detect steady state damage in mitochondrial genomes.

Diana Hoang '03 is a business analyst at NW Natural, a natural gas utility in Portland.

Hoang has been with NW Natural for eight years, working on information technology new system integration, business intelligence reporting, capital budgeting and forecasting, and operational improvement processes.

Pei Wang MS '04 is an international project manager in the server and tools division at Microsoft. Wang and his wife, Chen Chen MBA '01, live in Bothell, Washington.

Jennifer Cohen '06 is founder and executive director of the Portland-based Circus Project, a nonprofit that offers circus and performing arts training to homeless and at-risk youth while focusing on their personal development. Cohen, a professional circus performer with a master's in psychology, founded the Circus Project in 2008.

Christopher Gaslin '06 is owner of Bite Studio, a print-making cooperative celebrating six years in business in Portland.

Robert Hunte MS '06 is a member of the Oregon Peace Institute board of directors and a doctoral student in peace and justice studies at University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada. Hunte's scholarly interest is in the experiences of African American women in the building trades as they overcome structural and cultural barriers. She also is an adjunct instructor in University Studies at Portland State.

Barnabas Wong-Filotei '06 is a school counselor at Silverton High School in Silverton.

Brandon Fessler '07 is a graduate student in the department of biological sciences at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington. Fessler is specializing in the spatial ecology, behavior, and habitat of terrestrial coastal giant salamanders in the Central Washington Cascades.

Slade Faires Sapora '03 spent his summer working as an avian biologist at the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Cape Kruzenstern National Monument in Alaska. Sapora was the project coordinator for a shorebird study and an American oystercatcher study following the Deep Water Horizon oil spill along the Louisiana Gulf Coast.

Ian Falconer '04 is assistant football coach and offensive line coach at Lewis & Clark College in Portland.

Steven McGrath MBA '04 is founder and owner of Sustainable Solutions Unlimited, a Portland-based solar and wind energy contracting company. McGrath serves on many energy advisory committees and boards in Oregon, including the governor's energy efficiency transition team tasked with supporting the development of sustainable and inclusive, living-wage green jobs and careers.

Christopher Hume '08 is a scuba divemaster and assistant in University Studies at Portland State and a volunteer English as a second language tutor for the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization.

Angie Mejia '05, MA '09 is pursuing a doctorate at Syracuse University in New York. In addition, Mejia is an adjunct instructor in Chicano/Latino Studies at Portland State. Previously, she was a research coordinator at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland.

Douglas Rohde '05 is the communications director for the Council on Competitiveness, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit that makes policy recommendations. Members are corporate CEOs, university presidents, and heads of labor unions.

Alisha Moadab '04 is a licensed naturopath at Soleil Medical Spa and the Portland Integrated Health and Sports Medicine clinic, both located in Portland.

Claire Carlson '06 is executive director of Solar Oregon, an education and community outreach membership organization. Carlson was previously the education coordinator and programs manager. When she's not at work, she plays her cello and enjoys the outdoors with her family.
The core of an idea

"I love cooking, but never thought I'd create a kitchen gadget," says Adam Smith. "But when I cooked with other people, everyone complained about coring peppers. What’s the right way? How do you keep the seeds from going everywhere? For stuffed peppers, how do you remove the insides without wasting so much of the pepper?"

Smith says the Pioneering Innovation MBA course helped him recognize that the world needed—a pepper corer. "When customers can verbalize frustration with a task, but can't envision a different way of doing that task, there's an opportunity. And one night as I was falling asleep, I literally saw an item that could core peppers."

Smith turned that vision into a product. Working with professors Charla Mathwick and Dana Bostrom and the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA), he prototyped a corer, then licensed it to Progressive International. The company now distributes the corer to retailers, including Portland area Kitchen Kaboodle stores (southwest Portland location pictured here).

The product launched at the 2011 International Housewares Association convention in Chicago. "With funding from the PSU Business School, I attended the launch. It was a phenomenal experience," says Smith. He was also one of 12 students nationwide admitted to the NCIIA, which promotes commercialization of technological development at universities.

Smith is now a product manager for Portland-based Autodesk Inventor. The company develops 3D design software, which inventors use to create and test 3D models of new products—kitchen gadgets included.

BY MEG DESCAMP

Adam Hayward ’07 has signed another three-year contract as a middle linebacker for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in Tampa, Florida. Hayward was a sixth-round draft pick in 2007 and is going into his fifth year in the National Football League.

Kesia Micheletti MEd ’07 is the transition coordinator for Parkrose School District in Portland. Micheletti helped create and implement Life Education for Adults of Parkrose. In addition, she was recognized with a 2011 Miller Foundation Award for teaching.

Nick O’Donnell ’07 is a guitar instructor with Beacock Music Education Center in Vancouver, Washington, where he teaches beginning to advanced-level students ages 6 and up. O’Donnell has studied guitar with prominent musicians in Los Angeles and Portland. He has many years of playing and teaching experience in rock, jazz, blues, and classical guitar.

Meaghan Stetzik ’07 is a manager for the Confluence Project, an interpretive artwork project that will feature the work of artist Maya Lin (who designed the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C.) at seven sites along the Columbia River Basin in Oregon and Washington. Leaders from Pacific Northwest Tribes and area national parks organized the project as an alternative means of commemorating the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial in 2005. Stetzik started as a volunteer with the project.

Karen Bishop MPH ’08 is a health educator in the environmental health assessment program of the Oregon Department of Human Services in Portland.

Jayne Stevens ’08 appeared in the romantic comedy For Better at the Clackamas Repertory Theater in July.

Mark Baker ’09 worked on three video projects for the Multnomah County Communications Office that received National Association of County Information Officers awards.

Kirsten Hart MM ’09 is director of the Portland Lesbian Choir, the music director at Resurrection Lutheran Church, and a frequent soloist at The Grotto in Portland. Hart has taken part in both the Bel Canto Northwest and Astoria Opera apprenticeship programs and currently sings as a member of the Portland Opera Chorus. She has performed such roles as Dinah in Trouble in Tahiti, Katisha in The Mikado, Rosalinda in Die Fledermaus and Gertrude in Hansel and Gretel.

Jesse Laird MS ’09 is a doctoral candidate with a human rights education emphasis in the International and Multicultural Education Program at University of San Francisco.

Scott Morrison ’09 plays center for the Energa Czarni Slupsk basketball team in Poland. Previously, he played for the Anwil Wloclawek basketball team in Poland. Morrison was a member of the 2009 Big Sky championship basketball team that earned a berth to the NCAA tournament.

Katherine Reiners ’09 is director of operations at Lee Davies Real Estate in Portland.

Anna Sosnowski MS ’09 is a project manager for healthcare research and quality at Kaiser Permanente in Portland. She also volunteers as a foster parent to dogs and cats through the Pixie Project, a nonprofit animal adoption agency in Portland. Sosnowski writes, "I would like to acknowledge Dr. Leslie McBride, Dr. Carlos Crespo, and Dr. Gary Brodowicz for mentoring me during my graduate school thesis process."
Zibai Wang MS '09 is a financial consultant with China Merchants Securities, one of the top five investment banks in China.

Keith Bjella '10 is the business manager for Marina Accessories, Inc., in Bellingham, Washington.

Eunice Brady '10 is the student success coordinator and LEARN (Leadership, Enrichment, Academics, Recreation and Nurture) counselor at St. Stephen’s Youth Program Home in Boston.

Laura Cesafsky MUS '10 is a graduate student in the department of geography at University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

Fred Charlton MPA '10 has been named fire chief of Clackamas Fire District 1 in Oregon. Charlton, a battalion chief and 22-year veteran of the department, began his career as a volunteer. He also is an online instructor for Eastern Oregon University and has taught at the Oregon Fire Instructors Association symposium. Last year, he received an award from the Happy Valley City Council for helping save the life of a woman who suffered a heart attack.

Kelly Doherty MPA '10 is director of marketing and recruitment for graduate business programs in the PSU School of Business Administration. Doherty received a Fulbright Scholar grant to participate in the 2011 Seminar for U.S. Administrators in International Education in Berlin.

Sally Guyer MSW '10 is the child and family services program supervisor at Boys and Girls Aid in Portland. Previously, Guyer was the supervisor of pregnancy and adoption services.

Hannah Jickling MFA '10 and Helen Reed MFA '10 were invited to do a residency with the teacher education program at University of British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia. Jickling and Reed worked with teacher education students enrolled in the secondary art education program and with art education researchers.

Nicole Lavelle '10 is director of creative projects at Pinball Publishing, an eco-friendly, offset print and design shop in Portland. Lavelle is also editor of Bangback, an online journal dedicated to the print culture.

Tanya March PhD '10 is an historic researcher and educator in Portland.

William McGlothlin '10 is a graduate student of music theory at Boston University in Massachusetts.

Alan DeLaTorre PhD '11 is a research assistant and project coordinator for the Global Aging Initiative in the Institute on Aging at Portland State. He has completed his dissertation research on the planning and development of sustainable, affordable housing for older adults in the Portland area.

Joshua Kingsley MM '11 is a clarinetist and music educator in Portland. He performs with the Pacific Crest Wind Ensemble, the University of Portland Community Orchestra, and with Portland Chamber Music, which he also directs.

In Memoriam

Chuck Clemans '56 died December 22 in a car crash. He was 77. A longtime educator, civic activist, and supporter of the arts, Clemans was active at Portland State. Through the years he taught public school administration at PSU; served on the Alumni Association Board, including president; and received an Outstanding Alumnus Award. A resident of Oregon City, Clemans was named the city’s Citizen of the Year in 2009.

Carolyn Holzman, adjunct assistant professor of theater arts, died August 5. She was 55. Professor Holzman taught directing and choreography since 1984. She had recently adapted, directed, and designed White Nights, a short story by Dostoevsky, and co-directed with professor William Tate The Tempest at Portland State.

Stanley Lewis Johnson, professor emeritus of English, died July 27 in Portland. He was 90. Professor Johnson taught at Portland State for 35 years beginning in 1955. He was a Thomas Wolfe scholar but was interested in literature of all kinds.

Laurel Kirsch, longtime Theatre Arts office coordinator, died September 14 in Portland. She was 68. Kirsch worked in Theatre Arts during the 1980s and ’90s, having previously served as an office coordinator in the Honors Program office.

Rudi Nussbaum, professor emeritus of Physics and Environmental Science, died July 22 while visiting Amsterdam in the Netherlands, with his wife, Laureen Nussbaum, professor emerita of German. Dr. Nussbaum was a professor at PSU from 1959 to 1987, and an expert in nuclear radiation and nuclear solid-state physics, winning a PSU award for Faculty Excellence in 1982.

Morris Weitman, professor emeritus of Psychology and Urban Studies, died in Portland on Nov. 25. He was 87 years old. Dr. Weitman joined the Portland State faculty in 1963.
ONE OF THE BENEFITS (and occasional drawbacks) to being Portland State's media director for Athletics is you get to hear everyone's opinion on our programs, athletes, and coaches. Fans and media are quick to offer me their thoughts on everything Viking. Often, I am asked for my opinions on the state of things as well. Make no mistake, sometimes I have to tow the company line, and sometimes I can say what I really think.

A question that I have gotten more often than perhaps any other during my 23 years at Portland State is this: How many points do I think basketball legend Freeman Williams would have scored if he had played in the era of the three-point line?

After years of saying, "I have no idea," I finally decided to sit down and try to work out an answer. Keep in mind that this is completely unscientific.

For historical perspective, let's note that Williams played basketball at Portland State from 1974 to 1978.

"It's likely that Williams would have fallen in love with the three-pointer, and hit seven or eight per game." It was not until 1986 that the NCAA adopted the three-point field goal, which gave players an extra point for sinking a ball behind the 19 foot, 9 inch line. (Today it's 20 feet, 9 inches.)

As a PSU Viking, Williams scored 3,249 points in 106 career games. He once scored 81 points in a game, and he made 35 points or more on 41 occasions. Williams ranks second in NCAA basketball history in total points scored behind Louisiana State's Pete Maravich.

The 6-foot-4-inch Williams was a first team All-American in 1978 along with the likes of Larry Bird and Magic Johnson. He went on to play six seasons in the NBA.

I have to say I never saw Williams play in college, but I have probably witnessed, in person, more than 2,000 basketball games on the college and professional level.

FIRST, I HAD TO FIGURE out how many three-point shots Williams might have taken. Everyone says he could really shoot it from downtown, virtually unguarded territory. Today, the three-point rule would mean more outside defense, so I decided to convert half of his total attempts to three-pointers rather than more.

The toughest analysis for me is figuring out the percentage Williams would have shot from three-point range.

Defenses weren't as sophisticated in Williams's days and players overall weren't as athletic, meaning he would likely get more shots that he wanted (open three-pointers) than most players can get these days. And, Williams definitely had a shoot-first, ask-questions-later mentality on the court. In addition, he was playing teams on a remarkably large sliding scale of talent, from George Fox University to University of Southern California. I think Williams would have loaded up on threes against weaker opponents—in an era when stars did not sit down during blowouts.

So, let's give Williams the benefit of the doubt on percentage and go with 40 percent.

But, we aren't done yet. If Williams took that many three-point shots, he certainly would have been fouled less and gotten to the free-throw line less often. It's likely that Williams would have fallen in love with the three-pointer, and hit seven or eight per game. So I am going to assume a completely random—but likely close—average of five free-throw attempts per game.

That brings us to our total and the answer to the oft-asked question, how many points would Williams have scored at Portland State with a three-point line: 3,543 in 106 games or 294 more points than his actual career numbers.
Freeman Williams touting a 71-point game against Southern Oregon in 1977.
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