Scholarships Awarded to Five Students

At OSURA’s Annual Meeting on May 6th, five OSU undergraduate students were awarded $1,000 scholarships for the 2015-16 academic year to support careers improving healthy aging. The recipients are Briana Frink, Zach Goode, Stefan Herrenbruck, Duy Nguyen and Stephanie Zhao.

Briana Frink – Degree: Chemical Engineering/ Premed/ Honors College; June, 2017

Briana is a sophomore from Belo Horizonte, Brazil. She attended the American School of Belo Horizonte (high school) and holds dual-citizenship in the United States and Brazil. She has been active with Engineers Without Borders and founded Girls4Engineering, an outreach group to attract girls to engineering using social media. Her major focus is to attain a career in the medical field “to help others achieve lives where they feel healthy and where they do not have to be handicapped or affected by a disease.” Briana’s research in the Department of Biomedical Sciences

Knowing Our OSURA Retirees: Hal and Ann Pritchett

What will you put in your autobiographical chapter, “My Life after Retirement”? Well, it’s possible that Hal and Ann Pritchett have been too busy living that chapter to get it all down in writing. Of course there is primary time for family and friends – never to be cut short. Between them, Hal and Ann have five grown children, 12 grandchildren, and 6 great grands. Prior to her retirement, Ann was active in the travel industry and solved travel problems for a number of OSU travelers – myself included. Now Ann is a Master Gardener and she makes plants bloom all around her. Ann and Hal are long time residents of Corvallis and have now become citizens of Newport as well. In my visit with them I was privileged to see Newport through the eyes of a construction engineer. We toured the new International Terminal on the bayfront, the Community College campus – tucked away in a beautiful setting and with a number of building projects underway, and a housing development
Hello all OSURA members. First let me thank you for continuing to participate in OSURA -- by your membership and other participation you are helping us continue to serve OSU, the broader OSU community and our retirees. Before retiring, as faculty and staff as well as spouses and partners, we all have had a substantial stake in making OSU the institution it is today and making it a great place for a career. In retirement we are continuing to contribute in a variety of ways to make a difference. OSURA is a way we do this as a group with the identifier of OSU retirees. Please know that both your past and present efforts on behalf of OSU and the OSU community are appreciated by OSU and OSURA.

Your OSURA Board and Committees are working to make OSURA reflect the interests of OSU retirees, their spouses/partners and widows/widowers. So I have four requests for you to consider:

• Become involved with one of our committees or interest groups.

• Participate in one, several, or even all of our programs and volunteer events; whatever fits well with your schedule and interests.

• If you know of an OSU retiree, or spouse/partner or widow/widower of an OSU retiree that is not a member of OSURA and would benefit from such membership, touch base with them about OSURA or let us know who they are.

• If you have thoughts of some new activities or areas in which you feel we should be involved, please send them to us.

The Board has decided to change our initial big event this year and we hope that it is something in which many of you will be interested. Rather than having an early September event planned around golf (such as we had for many years), we have moved to a mid-October time. We thought this time might not be quite as busy and/or conflicted as early September. It is called the “OSURA Fall Start-up” and will feature dinner and a music program: Steve Zielke will present a program including student performances; a feature later in the newsletter has more details. We are excited about this event and hope you will be able to attend to hear about our upcoming year, gather with your Board Members and fellow retirees, and enjoy the program.

In the rest of this Newsletter you will read of several aspects of our Annual Meeting, including scholarship awards, other items of interest to our OSU retiree community, as well as some of our upcoming events. You will also notice an article “Knowing Our OSURA Retirees” which we hope to make a series, featuring one or more of our fellow retirees. Hope you enjoy the newsletter.

OSURA is grateful for the critical staff and financial support provided through University Events of OSU’s University Relations and Marketing. I wish to extend our thanks to Shari Brumbach, Event Coordinator, who is our direct contact and provides staff support helping OSURA run efficiently; Shelly Signs, Director of University Events; and Vice President Steve Clark for their interest, work and commitment to OSURA. The next time you see one of them you may want to extend your appreciation in person.

In closing, let me wish you the best for a great year. I hope to see you at some of the OSURA events.

Gordon Reistad, OSURA President, 2015–2016

BEAVER NATION

Are you an OSURA member?

Being an OSURA member is a great way to stay connected to OSU and friends at the university.

Memberships are $20 individual/$30 household and checks can be made out to OSURA/OSU Foundation. Membership forms and membership status can also be found on our website at: oregonstate.edu/osura.
Scholarships
Continued from Page 1

focusses on how environmental factors, and specifically the gut microbes, affect systemic metabolism. Over time, environmental insults including diet and lifestyle can alter our gut microbiota. Her work is helping advance our understanding of how alteration of our gut microbiota can contribute to the development of obesity, type 2 diabetes and metabolic diseases. As we age, our risk of developing these diseases increases and her work in exploring ways to curb these relates well to the issues of healthy aging. Through her research and coursework, she is developing the tools and knowledge base to allow her to pursue a career in the medical field to promote healthy aging.

Zach Goode – Degree: Biochemistry and Biophysics/ Honors College; June, 2017
Zach is a junior from Fairview, Oregon. He is an active participant in the Honors College undergraduate thesis research program. In his essay he states “I decided that majoring in biochemistry and biophysics would provide a perfect combination of quantitative chemistry and physics that holds major significance in modern research surrounding human health and biotechnology.” His initial research experience is directly along these lines: currently he is participating in an OSU research laboratory where he is working with DNA sequences to gain novel genomic information as well as carrying out a wet-lab project to express and purify protein samples; thus gaining important experience in structural biology. “Since proteins play such a large role in cells, their study in the structural biology discipline can contribute to advances in understanding molecular mechanisms for aging and potential ways to combat diseases associated with aging. Zach is excited by his work in this area. He plans to go on to graduate school, earning a PhD in structural biology and do research “to actively contribute to a massive collection of information that is improving our world.”

Stefan Herrenbruck – Degrees: Finance, College of Business/ Sustainability, College of Agricultural Sciences; June, 2016
Stefan is a junior from Lake Oswego, Oregon. He has been active in student organizations in the College of Business and the OSU Austin Entrepreneurship Program and is in the University Scholars Program. His long-term goal is to create a financial planning organization for all income brackets under the belief that “conquering financial concern is a major victory in achieving a happy and fulfilling life.” Stefan also wrote, “Despite our advances in medicine and extended life expectancy, the quality of life and retirement continues to be hampered by a widespread lack of financial wellness.” At OSU he has played a major role in developing a college-level financial literacy course, for which he is now the teaching assistant and in which he gets young people thinking about retirement and long-term financial wellness. He has taught financial literacy in elementary classes and is working to take the financial literacy program statewide. When he was co-president for OSU Enactus, the team opened a food bank in Tillamook County, collected over 100,000 pounds of food for the local food bank, created a microloan program for Nicaragua and served as mentors and business consultants for local businesses.

Duy Nguyen – Degrees: Computer Science/ Honors College/ Minors in Mathematics and Psychology; June, 2016
Duy is a senior from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Duy has been an undergraduate researcher in the Personal Robotics Lab for two years. He is currently conducting interdisciplinary research linking together robotics and social psychology. Specifically, he is investigating how various intelligent assistive devices can improve the quality of life of persons with severe motor disabilities – an area that holds promise for improved aging for many who have suffered a disease or debilitating health event. His current research project focuses on identifying facial expressions that indicate a person is losing interest in a conversation. “The robot can have the ability to read the body language and facial expression of its users then give out appropriate action.” He intends to eventually earn a Ph.D. in robotics, especially in human–robot interaction. In addition to his research, Duy has served as a Peer Mentor at OSU and as a volunteer in the Lego Robotics Program at Garfield elementary school. He is an orientation leader for the INTO Program, and he is a frequent volunteer for the Center for Civic Engagement.

Stephanie Zhao – Degree: Biology/ Honors College/ Minor in Medical Humanities; June, 2016
Stephanie is a junior from Beaverton, Oregon. Her goal is to pursue a career in clinical practice and research in geriatric medicine. As she put it, “To contribute to healthy aging, we need both doctors and researchers. I plan to pursue both to advance the general health of aging for my community and beyond.” At OSU she has been working in a healthy aging laboratory for the past two years. Currently she is focusing on the effects of Rapamycin on cells; with the intent of increasing health span – the number of disease-free years lived. Stephanie has diverse talents and interests. She studied piano and violin for many years. She was a member of the Portland Youth Philharmonic for six years and was invited to be a soloist with the Corvallis–OSU Symphony. Additionally, she engaged in competitive swimming for several years. Her volunteer activities are equally varied; she has been a volunteer for Stone Soup and the Heartland Humane Society in Corvallis, as well as the Avamere Rehabilitation Center in Beaverton, where her interest in healthy aging was stimulated.

Tidbits from the 2015 Legislative Session

The 2015 Legislative session had many positives for OSU and some interesting developments for higher education in Oregon. The following items particularly “caught our eye:

OSU Capital Budget: Forest Science Building -- $30 million Article XI-G bonds matched by $30 million in philanthropic funds was approved; Marine Studies Initiative -- $25 million Article XI-G bonds, matched by $25 million in philanthropic funds and $15 million in programmatic funds was funded; and the legislature approved $65 million for deferred maintenance to be shared by all seven campuses based on square footage.

OSU Statewide Public Service Programs: The OSU Board of Trustees endorsed $16 million in new programs for the OSU Extension Service, Agricultural Experiment Station, and Forest Research Laboratory in an effort to enable these programs to sustain rural communities and capture economic growth possibilities associated with natural resources across the entire state. With the passage of HB 5024, the legislature approved a $14 million increase for these.

Free Community College: Senate Bill 81 establishes the “Oregon Promise” program and appropriates $10 million to provide eligible recent graduates from high school with a tuition waiver to attend an Oregon Community College at least half time. It directs the HECC to administer the program for those students who meet specific requirements. Implementation of the program will begin in the 2016 academic year. The bill requires a biennial report to the legislature.  

OSU Retirement Association
Knowing Our Retirees

Continued from Page 1

or two. We also enjoyed lunch at one of their favorite restaurants where they are “regulars” and well known. Ann and Hal make wonderful tour guides!

Of course you know that Hal retired from OSU’s Construction Engineering Management Program (CEM). He spearheaded this new program in 1967, and it now has an endowed chair in his name, along with top-flight current students and alums heading major construction projects and companies in the Northwest, and around the world. Hal keeps in touch with many of his former students, and they with him. He and Ann travel to see them and their “works-in-progress.” Hal can point with pride to a number of landmarks in Portland that were built by CEM Alumni, and they attest to the values Hal helped instill in them: honesty, integrity, and ethics.

Never let it be said that Hal complained about too many meetings! When I called him several weeks ago, he was waiting for a meeting to begin in Newport as he keeps abreast of upcoming building projects. And, he tells me that he never missed a meeting (over an 8 year period) that dealt with construction of the new West Coast headquarters of the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Research Administration (NOAA) in Newport. Hal was recognized during the inauguration of this facility, and it was hailed as one of the very few U.S. Government projects that came in ahead of schedule and under budget!

In retirement (2002 after 45 years of service) Hal’s advice: stay busy! He continues to work for scholarship endowments for CEM, is active on the College of Engineering Advisory Board (among others) and renews his ties with Civil Engineering on a weekly basis. In 2003 he was awarded a “Golden Beaver” f from The Beavers – a fraternity made up of representatives from heavy engineering construction companies. He is one of only 3 academicians who have received this award in the group’s 45 year history. One aim of The Beavers is to “…give recognition to those men and women who have demonstrated particular skill, responsibility and integrity…” in the course of their careers. The award speaks to values that Hal holds dear.

OSURA Retirees have a number of things in common with Hal. Loyalty to OSU, great pride in the students and staff we’ve worked with, an interest in “what’s next” at OSU, a desire to stay “in touch,” and efforts made to support programs that further the aims of the University – building on the valued work of earlier generations of faculty and staff. Go OSURA Beavs! 🎉

Contributed by Gerry Olson

OSURA Recognizes 2015 Volunteers of the Year

Chris and Kate Mathews were recognized as OSURA Volunteers of the Year at the Annual OSURA Meeting. They have been loyal volunteers for OSURA events over many years, quite often serving together at activities like the OSU Career Fair, OSU Training Days, Flu Clinics etc. They are also active in other community organizations, among them the League of Women Voters and OSU Thrift Shop for Kate and Audubon and the Malheur Field Station for Chris.

At the time of this writing they are on a birding trip in Peru where Chris, an OSU Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry and Biophysics, just received an Honorary Degree from the University in Huanuco, Peru.

Jim Krueger was also recognized as OSURA Volunteer of the Year. He has been a member of OSURA for a long time, served on the OSURA Board for six years, being Secretary for two of those years. He was President of the Board for one year and made the establishment of more interest groups a priority of his tenure. He “put his money where his mouth is” by conceiving and establishing the OSURA Travel Share interest group which he continues to lead. He has also now organized an OSURA Golf interest group and those golfers among you should contact him for details.

Jim is Professor Emeritus of Chemistry and continues involvement with the department by participating in the Chemistry Teaching Mentor Programs. He continues his hobbies of tennis, piano, and colored pencil art. 🎼

OSU Trivia Question

What biochemistry and biophysics professor writes songs called “Metabolic Melodies” to help his students remember classroom material?

Check OSURA’s website for the answer: http://oregonstate.edu/osura/
President Ray addresses OSURA members at May Meeting

OSURA Elects New Board Members

Bill Becker, Richard Clinton, Betty Miner and Tom Plant were elected to the OSURA Board of Directors at the May 2015 Annual Meeting. Their three year terms will run from 2015-2018. Cheryl Lyons, Gordon Reistad, and Tony Van Viet were each re-elected to a second three year term for the same period. Introductory information for the new Board Members follows.

Bill Becker: Bill was born and grew up in San Francisco. He attended the University of California as an undergraduate, majoring in Economics. Following military service, and in his words, “being a glutton for punishment, he returned to Berkeley to earn a Ph.D. in Business.” He joined the OSU faculty in June 1970 and spent over 33 productive and rewarding years teaching Marketing (Principles, Communications, Management, and Strategy). Bill and his wife Joyce raised three children here, and now have 7 grandchildren, scattered around the country. Bill states “what a great place Corvallis is to spend one’s life!”

Richard “Dick” Clinton: Dick was born in Tennessee, raised in Florida, but has been a Native Oregonian since 1976. Educated at Vanderbilt University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he taught Political Science at Chapel Hill for five years before coming to OSU. His specialties were International Relations, American Foreign Policy, Latin American Politics, and Environmental Politics. At various times he has also taught at several universities in Peru under the Fulbright Program, and for two years he was the Alfred Hanna Distinguished Visiting Professor of Latin American Studies at Rollins College. He has been Professor Emeritus since 2004 and has thus been able to spend even more time doing yard work at his homes in Corvallis and Yachats. He is married to Rosalie Norwood, and they each have a daughter. They also have two granddaughters, one of whom has graced them with two great-granddaughters.

Betty Miner: In Betty’s professional life, she taught foods and nutrition in high school and several universities, including the University of Malawi, Africa. Later, she managed the Corvallis Senior Meals/Meals on Wheels program and coordinated a conference for the Extension Homemakers Association. She worked full time before her two daughters and one son were born, then part time. She now has three granddaughters and three grandsons. Being retired, she is involved in church; and she travels, swims, gardens, and grows roses. She moved to Corvallis in 1972 with her late husband. His sabbaticals took them to Singapore; Gainesville, Florida; and Malawi.

Tom Plant: Tom was born and raised in Wichita, Kansas. He got his education at Kansas State, Iowa State, and Illinois universities, respectively, in Physics and then Electrical Engineering. At Iowa State he met his wife, Glenda – who had Betty Miner as an instructor! He spent 2 years in Alabama in the U.S. Public Health Service between ISU and UI. After 3 years at Hughes Research Labs in Malibu, CA, he came to Oregon State in 1978 as the Optical Electronics professor in EE. He retired from teaching after 34 years in 2012 but still does MECOP advising for EECs, some consulting/design work. He and Glenda enjoyed sabbaticals in England, Germany, Finland, and Oak Ridge, TN. They have 2 adult children and 4 wonderful grandchildren in Corvallis and Madras, OR. Tom is a board member of Benton Habitat for Humanity, works in their Home Repair Initiative program, and is active in his church.

OSURA Board of Directors 2015-16. Back row, from left: Jack Walstad (President Elect), Barbara Moon (Secretary), Dick Clinton, Tom Plant, Gordon Reistad (President), Bill Becker, Dave Chilcote, Tom Savage. Front row, from left: Sue Borden, Cheryl Lyons (Treasurer), Betty Miner, Gerry Olson (Past President), (not pictured – Jack Drexler and Tony Van Viet).
OSU Retirement Association

OSU RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION
Oregon State University
205 Adams Hall
Corvallis, OR 97330

OSURA MISSION STATEMENT:
The Oregon State University Retirement Association (OSURA) promotes engagement among OSU retirees and between retirees and the University by providing information, programs, scholarships and volunteer service opportunities that contribute to a rewarding retirement and that support the University’s mission.

Calling all OSURA Members and Guests!
Start your fall off right and join your fellow retirees at our 2015 OSURA Fall Start-Up

What: A chicken BBQ with all the fixin’s, and a stellar musical celebration
When: 5:30 pm Wednesday, October 14th
Where: the Corvallis Country Club

* Hear Steve Zielke, director of choral studies at Oregon State University, music coordinator in the School of Arts and Communications, and the Patricia Valian Reser Distinguished Professor of Music, share what is new and exciting in OSU’s outstanding Choir and Voice program, and learn of its impact in the Corvallis area.

* Be among the first to welcome Marc Callahan, new Director of Opera and Voice.

* Mingle with vocal students and be entertained by their musical talents.

What’s Happening?
Save these dates:

September 21 | 10 - 30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
University Day Keynote Presentation
LaSells Stewart Center
Austin Auditorium

September 21 | 12 - 2 p.m.
University Day Expo and Lunch
CH2M Hill Alumni Center

October 14 | 5:30 - 8 p.m.
OSURA Fall Start Up
Corvallis Country Club

October 21, 22
Career Fair
CH2M Hill Alumni Center
volunteer opportunity – details will follow in email request

Check OSURA’s website for event details: oregonstate.edu/osura/events-calendar

October 22 | 3:00 - 4:30 pm
OSURA Travelshare Program
OSU Foundation Board Room
more information to follow

October 22 | 7 - 9 p.m.
Hideko Snider, Hiroshima Survivor
LaSells Stewart Center
C&E Auditorium

October 27, 28
OSU Training Day
volunteer opportunity – details will follow in email request

May 12
OSURA Annual Meeting
OSU Foundation Board Room