

OSURA News & Views

Fall 2018

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OSURA Storms the Field: Fall Kick-Off

Contributed by Terri Tower

Fifty-five OSURA members stormed the field at Reser Stadium as part of our Fall Kick-Off event on September 14, emerging through the same locker room doors that Beaver football players use when they enter the field during game days.

Our storming speed may have been somewhat slower than the team's, however. Maybe more of a vigorous saunter.



Carlos Garcia talking with OSURA folks on the field.

The locker room and playing field were the final stops on our serpentine tour of the 100,000 square foot Valley Football Center, which underwent a major expansion and renovation completed in 2017. Our group had convened an hour earlier in the impressive window-wall entryway and proceeded from there to our first (and only) sit-down stop in the spacious auditorium with its XXXL size seats.

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Gideon Alegado playing the OSU Alma Mater.

Member Spotlight: Gideon Alegado

Contributed by Tom Plant

As I entered the nearly-empty atrium of the Kelley Engineering Center on Saturday of Labor Day weekend to interview Gideon Alegado, I found him playing the OSU Alma Mater on the baby grand piano. It turns out that Gideon plays piano by ear and enjoys playing hymns and oldies. He also plays the guitar and has played the bugle, cornet, trumpet and baritone horn in the past. And for years now, Gideon is also the opening musical entertainer of the yearly Holiday Market sponsored and hosted by the MU Craft Center in the MU Ballroom on the first Friday of December.

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OSURA Board Members 2018-2019

President: Chris Matthews
President-Elect: Michael Schuyler
Past President: Tom Plant
Secretary: Tom Plant
Treasurer: Kelvin Koong

Members at Large: Kathy Motley
Bill Becker
Gordon Reistad
Judy Burridge
Bob Smythe
Terri Tower
Carol Kronstad
Jack Walstad
Phyllis Lee
Bill Young

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Oregon State
University

OSURA Storms the Field: Fall Kick-Off

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There we heard from student athlete Rodney Williams, a senior wrestler from Hawaii. Rodney described his experiences and challenges as both student and athlete, talking about the kinds of support that had helped him survive and succeed - including tutoring, classes, internships, mentors, coaches and involvement with the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). He graduates this year with a degree in Construction Engineering.

Our tour leaders Carlos Garcia and Presley Savarino, both from the Athletic Department's marketing staff, guided us from the auditorium past a multitude of specialized rooms to the comfortable players' lounge. From there we descended by stairs and elevator to the lowest level of the Center where the equipment and locker rooms are located.

The football team had left earlier in the day for the away game at Nevada, and yes, the locker room was clean. And big. Really big. Carlos pointed out that the OSU football program now has one of the largest locker rooms in the country, spanning the 53 yard width of the football field.

From the Reser stadium field, our undaunted OSURA members exited by climbing up the steep ramp that visiting teams now use for access to the stadium. By the time we arrived at the LaSells Stewart Center for dinner, most of us were ready to collapse into chairs and enjoy the delicious meal provided by University Catering.

Our dinner speaker, Kimya Massey, highlighted the components of "Everyday Champions," a student athlete development program based on a holistic approach to student success. Kimya, the Senior Associate Athletic Director for Student Athlete Development, described many of the personal and professional development opportunities available for student athletes - internships, special classes, mentoring, leadership development, community service, career planning, clubs and more.

The Fall Kick-Off was a joint effort of OSURA's Board and Program Committee. Special thanks to Ray Brooks for setting up the football center tour, arranging tour guides, and recruiting the student and staff speakers. 



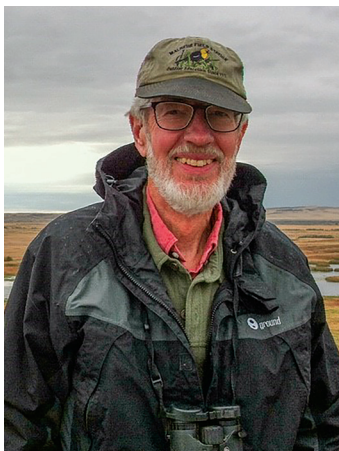
Rodney Williams, a senior OSU wrestler.



Presley Savarino talking with two OSURA members.



OSURA members enjoying dinner in the Alumni Center.



President's Message

By Chris Mathews

Greetings from OSURA 2018-19 President Chris Mathews,

As another academic year begins, it is a pleasure to greet members and friends of OSURA as your President for 2018-2019. Kate Mathews and I are both long-time members of OSURA. Strangely, neither Kate nor I can remember when we joined. Kate retired in 1998 from Environmental and Molecular Toxicology, and I retired in 2002 from Biochemistry and Biophysics. We must have joined shortly after my retirement.

Kate and I have both been active in service programs of OSURA. We especially like helping at the Career Fairs, because volunteers always get a nice lunch, and the students always look so appreciative of the small help we provide. I have taught a colloquium course in the Honors College for many years, and occasionally

a student from my course will come in. They always look surprised to see one of their instructors wearing a big smile and a funny orange shirt.

The OSURA Program Committee is planning a series of great activities this year, beginning with the Fall Startup.

Kate and I are long-time season ticket holders in women's basketball and gymnastics, so we fit right into OSURA event programming. Having dinner together with fellow OSURA members followed by a presentation by one of the coaches does enhance the experience of watching the game/meet. We look forward to the annual OSURA events associated with sporting events.

During the forthcoming year we will continue our traditional activities—pressing the Administration to recognize retired staff commensurately with retired faculty, improving our contacts with new retirees to seek their membership, offering information about retired living to those colleagues new to retirement, selecting excellent students for financial support through OSURA scholarships, finding ways to be of service to our university, and putting on a series of educational and enjoyable programs for our members.

On behalf of my fellow officers and committee chairs, welcome to OSURA 2018-19. 🐉

Chris Mathews
OSURA President
2018-2019



2018-2019 OSURA Board & Support Members

(left to right): Bill Young, Jack Walstad, Julie Searcy, Bill Becker, Michael Schuyler, Bobbi Hall, Tom Plant, Chris Mathews (President), Judy Burrige, Mealoha McFadden, Kelvin Koong, Terri Tower.

Missing members: Carol Kronstad, Jim Krueger, Phyllis Lee, Kathy Motley, Gordon Reistad, Bob Smythe. 🐉

Member Spotlight: Gideon Alegado

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Gideon was born in 1942 in the Philippines. He was raised by his foster parents, both ordained Protestant ministers who established and served many churches in the southern region of Mindanao, and founded Gingoog Institute in 1946. Gideon finished his high school education at Gingoog Institute (now Gingoog Christian College) and graduated from Silliman University (a Presbyterian-founded institution in central Philippines) with a BA in Socio-Anthropology. In 1974 he and his wife Rachel came to OSU where Gideon earned his MS in College Student Services Administration while serving as hall director of Wilson Hall for his assistantship. Rachel earned her MS in Public Health Administration. Their son Gideon II was born in 1975 in Corvallis and lives and works in Kent, WA with his wife, Katrina, their 13-year-old son (Gideon III), and 10-year-old daughter (Kitana Skye).

In 1976 Gideon returned to Silliman University where he served in various administrative, management and instructional positions. In 1980 he and Rachel came back to OSU where he earned his PhD in Adult Education with minors in Gerontology and Student Services. Their daughter Garnet was born in Corvallis in 1982 and now works and lives with her husband Chris Hayes in Vancouver, WA.


While working on his doctorate, Gideon began working as assistant night manager for the OSU Memorial Union. He just kept working his way up through various positions in the MU and became its building manager in 1997. He retired from that position in 2008. He served on the OSURA Board from 2009-2011 while also serving as President of Gingoog Christian College where he is currently President Emeritus and Vice-President for External Affairs. While at OSU, Gideon re-organized the Filipino-American Student Association which has become popularly known as Isang Bansang Pilipino (IBP) which means "One Filipino Nation." He served as its adviser until his retirement. He and Rachel also founded the Silliman University Alumni Association, Pacific Northwest Chapter in 1997. At that same year, they reactivated the Willamette Valley Filipino Association where Gideon served as president until 2001. He helped to organize the Council of Filipino

American Associations in Oregon and Southwestern Washington where he serves currently as a trustee.

Gideon remains active after his retirement. In 2013 he was invited by the Board of Trustees of his high school Alma Mater, Gingoog Christian College, to serve as its president. He served as President of the Silliman University Alumni Council of North America from 2013-2015. He is currently an elder in First Presbyterian Church and also serves on the Advisory Council of the Asian & Pacific Cultural Center. He kicks off the annual OSU Holiday Market each year by playing Christmas tunes on the piano, welcoming everyone to the MU and introducing the MU Craft Center staff who host the event every first weekend in December.

Once, while on a Boy Scout gathering with different troops, the official bugler inadvertently forgot to bring his bugle, to the dismay and disappointment of the scoutmaster. One of the officers approached him and mentioned that he knew of another boy who could play the bugle (or trumpet) even without the instrument. When Gideon was called to play, the somewhat perplexed scoutmaster could not believe what he saw and heard: Gideon playing the "Taps" using only his lips and cupped hands!

He also related the story of making a grown man cry. He was playing the MU grand piano in the lounge one day when an old man asked him if he could play the tune that was played at his (and his wife's) wedding several years ago. Gideon then began to play some wedding songs that he knew and when he got to play "Because," the old man exclaimed, "That's it!" When Gideon played and sang that song, he heard the gentleman sobbing behind him. It turned out his beloved wife had died a few months ago, and he felt he had no joy in life any more, becoming recluse; in fact, he said he only came out because he was a recipient of an OSU award. Hearing that tune which was played at their wedding turned his life around! He later asked Gideon about making a donation to OSU, so Gideon put him in touch with the head of the OSU Foundation which resulted in a sizable donation!

OSU is very fortunate to have such a capable ambassador in town. Gideon obviously loves OSU and people in general and goes out of his way to make the world a better place. 

Annual Meeting and Member Social: May 24, 2018

Contributed by Tom Plant

On May 24, 2018 in the OSU Foundation boardroom, the Annual Meeting and Member Social was called to order by President Tom Plant.

Tom presented highlights of OSURA activities in 2017-2018:

- **Fall Start-Up program on OSU150 with Shelly Signs and Larry Landis**
- **Three outstanding quarterly OSURA newsletters distributed electronically**
- **Volunteer support for several activities: Career Days, Provost's Lecture, University Day**
- **Tours of OSU Research Forest, COE Robotics Lab, and USDA Plant Repository**
- **Travel Share programs on Cuba and Ethiopia**
- **Women's basketball and gymnastics dinners with coaches and attending events**
- **Support of six OSURA scholarships in 2017-2018**
- **The Past Presidents Luncheon with 16 attending**
- **1984 OSU Theater play and pre-play presentation and tour**
- **Updated website**
- **ALL/OSURA bus tour to OSU150 display at Oregon Historical Society in Portland**
- **Pre-Retirement Workshop panel for those nearing retirement**

Membership in OSURA is 266 vs. 317 in 2016-2017. The OSURA board made plans for increasing membership.

Tom announced the 2018 OSURA scholarship winner, Phuong Uyen Nguyen, who was not able to be present for our meeting.

Tom closed by acknowledging the outstanding leadership and support provided by the OSURA Board, committees, and University Events Office.

Tom then opened the business meeting portion of the afternoon.

Kelvin Koong, Treasurer, presented a written financial report. He urged contributions to the Endowment Fund, as well as contributions to the Scholarship Fund. This will build the Endowment to help fund future scholarships. His overall conclusion was that the organization is in good financial health.



President Edward J. Ray speaks with OSURA members.

Past-President Jack Walstad, chair of the Nominating Committee, nominated these members for the OSURA Board of Directors: Bill Becker (re-election for a second 3-year term), Roberta Hall (election for a 3-year term), Tom Plant (re-election for a second 3-year term), Michael Schuyler (election for a 3-year term), Julie Searcy (election for a 3-year term), Robert Smythe (election for a 3-year term), and Bill Young (election for a 3-year term). There were no nominations from the floor. These nominees were elected by unanimous voice vote.

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Annual Meeting and Member Social: May 24, 2018

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Tom Plant recognized past OSURA presidents who were present, retiring board members, and the officers for 2018-19: Retiring board members were Gordon Reistad, Tony Van Vliet, Betty Miner, Cheryl Lyons, and Dick Clinton. The slate of officers for 2018-2019 includes Chris Mathews, President; TBA, President-elect; Tom Plant, Secretary; Kelvin Koong, Treasurer; and Kathy Motley, Newsletter & Website Coordinator.

Kathy Motley announced that the OSURA Volunteer-of-the-Year Award winner for 2018 is Roberta Hall who was recognized for her work on the Program Committee.

Incoming President Chris Mathews introduced OSU President Ed Ray, who spoke about the State of the University.

Ray thanked OSURA for its service to the Oregon State and then highlighted several outstanding points:

- **Overall enrollment Fall 2017 was 31,904 students**
- **E-campus enrollment of 5283 ranked 6th in the nation by US News and World Report**
- **47% of entering freshmen are "high achievers" defined as a GPA of 3.75 or better**
- **24.7% are U.S. underrepresented students; 73% are Oregonians; 3665 international students**
- **\$441 million in research grants and contracts last year vs. \$336 million the year before**
- **OSU is celebrating its 150th anniversary from August 2017 through October 2018**
- **Robotics program ranked #4 in country; Ag Sciences in top 10**
- **Student Success Program has a \$150 million goal - \$82 million already raised**
- **An Arts and Education Complex received \$25 million from an anonymous donor, seeks \$5 million in donations, and will seek state bonds of \$30 million. Opening planned in 2022**
- **Winter 2018 overall GPA of student athletes was 3.16; 16 of 17 teams earned 3.0 or better** 🏆



2018 OSURA Scholarship winner Phuong Uyen Nguyen.

Congratulations to our OSURA Scholarship Winner Phuong Uyen Nguyen

Phuong Uyen Nguyen is a junior from Portland who is pursuing three Bachelor degrees in three different colleges: Psychology, Human Development and Family Science, and BioHealth Sciences while minoring in Chemistry. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi and wants to enter the Pharmacy program after graduation to be a Clinical Pharmacist.

Phuong works as an Administrative Assistant in the Psychology Department, is an Athletic Academic Mentor and a TRIO Peer Mentor, is Secretary/Treasurer of Healthy Aging Club, a Lab Organizer for the McCarley Research Lab and VP of African Student Association. 🏆

Oregon State University: A Legacy of Transformation

Contributed by Bobbi Hall

OSURA (Oregon State University Retirement Association) and ALL (the Academy for Lifelong Learning) teamed up to organize a field trip to Portland. The main goal was to see the Oregon Historical Society's exhibit "Oregon State University: A Legacy of Transformation," featured from Feb. 10 to Sept. 9, 2018. Judy Ringle of ALL (and an OSU retiree) met with OSURA's program committee co-chairs to discuss how we might do this. It was a good collaboration, one indication being that I cannot even remember who suggested it—it just doesn't matter. Judy offered ALL's help in making reservations and taking payments, as ALL has a ready-made format for it, and took on the task of reserving a bus. I agreed to make arrangements with the museum and check out Portland activities.


Linda Roth of the Society's Education Department helped us choose a date and time. We decided a Wednesday in spring would work for OSURA and ALL and chose May 2. We built in an hour and a half for lunch in the city, and thought suggestions and a map would be good. Don Hall loaned his Photoshop skills to our downtown Portland map while I checked out restaurants with help from two Portlanders and the web. Sunny skies on May 2 completed the picture. Our bus left Corvallis at 9:40 a.m. and at 11:30 a.m. parked near the museum. We quickly set off to various lunch venues and at 1:00 p.m. we met with Linda Roth at the museum.



The Oregon Historical Society tour guide talking with our OSURA members.

As it happened, we had a reunion, typical when Oregonians gather; Linda is an OSU alum and also Judy Ringle's former teaching assistant. Linda introduced the spacious layout at the museum and suggested we also view "Racing to Change: Oregon's Civil Rights Years" and "Catching Birds with a Camera: Finley, Bohlman, and the Photographs that Launched Oregon's Conservation Movement," both representing significant achievements that are also works in progress as, in many ways, does the OSU exhibit as well.

Organized as 150 stories, A Legacy of Transformation celebrates OSU's 150 years. Some stories are about individuals and specific buildings or events while others deal with larger developments or processes. There are surprises too. My department, Anthropology, is in Waldo Hall. I'd served as Building Manager for several years and one of our students did an oral history interview with the building's construction manager, so I thought I knew the building's secrets. But I was wrong. I knew that the building served as a women's dormitory in its early days but I didn't know that Ida Kidder, Oregon College of Agriculture's first professional librarian, died in Waldo Hall in 1920. I learned from the OHS display that she was a much loved staff member who took that post in 1908.

My guess is that every OSU student or staff member and every member of OSURA will have at least one unexpected experience, and likely more than one, when viewing the OHS exhibit. 




OSURA members at the OSU150 exhibit at The Oregon Historical Society.

Tour of Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center: April 2018

Contributed by Terri Tower

An enthusiastic group of OSURA members toured the Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center this past spring, continuing OSURA's tradition to see the University's student cultural centers.

We were warmly welcomed by Terrance Harris, the Lonnie B. Harris BCC Director, who guided us through the facility and talked about the BCC's mission and programs. We also were introduced to a number of students in the lounge area, some of them peer facilitators who work with the Center's programs. Highlights of the tour included viewing the unique artwork and design elements incorporated into the Center.

The Black Cultural Center was one of the first cultural resource centers established at Oregon State. Originally sharing space with Hispanic and Native American groups in the early 1970s, the BCC opened its own center in 1975 and named its building for Lonnie B. Harris, the first director of the Educational Opportunities Program at OSU. The original BCC building was moved to another location to make way for construction of this new center on the same site. 



Terri Tower (OSURA Program Committee) introduces Terrance Harris, Director of the Black Cultural Center.



Mural on the wall of the large meeting room; commissioned to commemorate OSU's black student walk-out in 1969.



OSURA members have a chance to meet students in the main lounge of the Black Cultural Center.



Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center.

George Orwell's, *1984*: May 2018


Contributed by Terri Tower

Two plus two equals five. Two plus two equals five. Two plus two equals five.

That was the message drilled into the audience by a talented student cast in OSU Theater's May production of George Orwell's, *1984*.

A dozen OSURA members gathered for remarks by Director Elizabeth Helman before the Friday May 18 performance of the play, an adaptation of Orwell's well-known novel of a bleak and disturbing dystopian future in which Thought Police and Big Brother prevail.

Helman said in an earlier news release, "I hope we spark lively conversations about the parallels between Orwell's world and our own contemporary issues regarding nationalism, constant surveillance, disputes over fact and truth the threat of fascism and propaganda."

Following Helman's remarks, OSURA members toured through the costume and props rooms in the basement of Withycombe Hall, amazed by all the props and stacks of furniture in the open basement, plus entire side rooms full of just women's dresses, or men's shirts; sport coats and slacks. 



Elizabeth Helman, the play's director.



Carol Kronstad, Nancy Evans and Kim McAlexander pose with theater props in basement of Withycombe Hall.




A dozen OSURA members gathered for remarks by Director Elizabeth Helman before the Friday May 18 performance.

Renew Your Membership!

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

Full membership in the OSU Retirement Association is open to all retirees from Oregon State University! Becoming a member is a great way to stay involved in the life of the university. Our members make possible many important programs for students and retirees.

Memberships are \$20 individual/\$30 household and checks can be made out to OSURA/OSU Foundation. Membership forms can be found on our website at: osura.oregonstate.edu. 



Oregon State
University

What's Happening?
SAVE THESE DATES:

**JOIN US FOR
SOME GOLF!**

The OSURA Golf Interest Group has been playing at the Trysting Tree Golf course this summer.

We play nine holes, morning or afternoon, and usually get together for refreshments after finishing. It is very relaxed and we would like to have anyone interested in fun golf to join us. We will be playing through October.

Call Jim Krueger,
(541) 753-7257,
for info and next play date.

For more information on all our upcoming events visit osura.oregonstate.edu.



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.