Scholarship Winners

Ivana Dang is from Portland and is a junior majoring in Biochemistry and Biophysics. She aspires to a clinical career in geriatric medicine and a research career in healthy aging. She is a student worker in Dr. Perez’s Aging Lab where she works independently on issues associated with aging at the molecular level. In addition to her outstanding academic and research performance, Ivana is highly engaged in university and broader community activities. She is an officer in the Biochemistry and Biophysics Club and mentors first-year students. She minors in chemistry, music and Spanish. She volunteers in the medical center at Community Outreach and shadows two doctors at Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital. She is multi-lingual being proficient in English, Vietnamese and Spanish. She spent last summer studying abroad in Salamanca, Spain.

Lindsey Ferguson is a junior who will graduate in 2017 with a major in Zoology and a Pre-veterinary concentration. She is in University Honors College. She mentors students in Pre-Vet Scholars and also is and Honors Thesis Mentor. She also was a National Merit Scholar as well as playing 2nd violin in the OSU Symphony, chamber orchestra and quartets. As a volunteer at the OSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital, then as a Research Volunteer, she continued as a student Researcher in the Dept of Biomedical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine. There she has conducted research that could have long-range implications on the health and life span of our aging population. From January to March of this year, she has been an intern researcher at the Collin Laboratory, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama City.

OSURA Member Profile: Susan and Bob Poole

Susan and Bob Poole have been well known to the OSU and Corvallis communities for many years. On June 8 this year they became even better known. It was standing room only at the Corvallis Benton County Library, when Bob and Susan reviewed The Boys in the Boat at the Random Reviews program. Complete with props (oars) and historical slides, their presentation enthralled the overflow crowd, both with the story in the book and with their own passion for rowing.

When the Pooles’ names were suggested for an OSURA member profile, it was mentioned that Bob is not an OSURA member, having never been employed by, nor retired from, OSU. However, Bob’s OSU roots go deep, from his four undergraduate years at OSU, his three years on the rowing team, his leadership of the Interfraternity Council, and many subsequent years of service to OSU, including...
Dear OSURA members,

I am pleased to announce that the 2016-2017 iteration of the OSURA Board is well underway. We have several new members to add ideas and energy to the group as well as many veterans to make sure we stay the course. The attached photo features most of the current Board Members.

We also have another exciting year of activities and events planned or underway. Our Fall Start-up Event will feature Steve Amen, Executive Director of OPB’s Oregon Field Guide. He will address the OSURA membership on the evening of October 12 at The LaSells Stewart Center. So be sure to sign up for this auspicious occasion when formal announcements appear. This event was preceded by another interesting presentation by one of our own members, Ron Lovell, who is an acclaimed author of mystery novels. He featured his latest novel, A Dangerous Assignment, at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library on the evening of September 9.

The Board is also hard at work to improve services to our members. Principal among them are efforts to provide better parking access to all OSU retirees and to provide ONID accounts for retired staff. These are complicated issues for University Administrators to deal with, so negotiations are taking considerable time to make sure arrangements are both equitable and economical. However, OSURA believes the University needs to properly recognize and support all the time, work and money that OSURA members provide on behalf of the University. So stay tuned on this topic as well.

We’ll have our customary array of other fun and educational activities throughout the academic year. Plus, we’ll continue our various service functions and scholarship support. So I’m confident it will be another productive and meaningful year for OSURA. Please join me in acknowledging all the hard work and contributions of the Board and other active members of OSURA.

President’s Message

Jack Walstad, OSURA President, 2016-2017
BEAVER NATION

Increase Your Impact This Fall

What part of OSU means the most to you? You’ll have a new opportunity to enhance this program in the fall, when the OSU Foundation kicks off its first annual faculty, staff and retiree giving drive.

This giving program, which will run from October 3 to November 10, is a time for those of us who are closest to the university to demonstrate our commitment to its continued progress. Generosity is catching, and our gifts send a powerful message to OSU alumni, parents and friends.

You can choose what fund to support. One possibility is the OSURA scholarship, awarded to students pursuing careers in healthy aging. This fall, 6 students are receiving the $1,000 scholarship. Your contribution to the OSURA scholarship fund means we’ll be able to award even more scholarships in the future.

So, watch for information on the faculty, staff and retiree fundraising drive and consider making a gift. In appreciation, contributors will be invited to a reception on November 29 (shuttle to campus provided).

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.
Continued from Page 1

the donation of several boats to the rowing team. Susan, of course, is well known to OSURA, having served as both President and Program Chair during several years on the Board.

Susan and Bob both grew up in Portland, but they met at OSU, where Bob was a premedical student and Susan majored in Pharmacy. They married in 1969, following Susan’s graduation and Bob’s second year of medical school at OHSU. Susan was employed for ten years at various locations of Kaiser-Permanente, as she accompanied Bob through his completion of medical school, internship at UCLA, residency back at OHSU (urology), and service in the U.S. Air Force.

In 1979 Bob and Susan moved back to Corvallis, where Bob was employed at the Corvallis Clinic. By this time they had their two daughters (Laura and Lisa), so Susan scaled back her professional commitment with a half-time position at Rice’s Pharmacy. Her service to OSU began in 1986, with an Instructorship in the College of Pharmacy, assigned to the Student Health Service. In 1993 her responsibilities changed in the direction of active involvement in student programs, still under the aegis of Pharmacy and the Student Health Service. She retired in 2005, the same year as Bob.

As this is written, Bob and Susan are preparing to downsize from their spacious hilltop home in southwest Corvallis. During the design and construction phase of their new house, a major challenge is including space to store their 36-foot-long two-person rowing shell. Bob’s undergraduate passion for rowing has been revived in recent years. He is on the river five or six days per week. Susan’s commitment is somewhat less, but she rows frequently with Bob and finds some way to work out every day.

Consistent with her commitment to exercise is Susan’s commitment to service. Her list of OSU service activities takes up a half single-spaced page in her resume, and the list of community service activities is even longer. Space permits just a few examples. In addition to her service to OSURA, Susan currently serves on the College of Science Advisory Board and is a founding member of the OSU Women’s Giving Circle. She is currently involved in the Capital Campaign for the Boys and Girls Club of Corvallis and recently completed a term as president of the Center for Nonprofit Stewardship.

Susan’s exceptional service has been recognized in several ways, including Corvallis First Citizen (1997), Hans Neukomm Leadership Award (2007), Corvallis Senior First Citizen (2013), and OSURA Volunteer of the Year (2014).

As Bob and Susan continue in a service-oriented retirement, they take pleasure in having family relatively close at hand. Daughter Laura, with a grandson and granddaughter, lives in Bend, while their other daughter, Lisa, lives in Bellevue, Washington, with another grandson and granddaughter. Your author of these remarks hopes that much of the energy and passion for service of this remarkable couple has been passed along to their descendants.

OSURA Visits Spirit Mountain

We were welcomed by several casino employees and were separated into two groups. The first group moved into the Surveillance Center where they monitor all games and machines. All vendors are licensed to provide continual education to keep staff up to date on all hacking technics and new technology to stay ahead of this difficult problem. All new game machines and programs are subject to gaming laboratories, independent labs that verify that this new equipment will stand up to current requirements. They also review and verify that progressive games, those that are connected to other Casinos, are utilizing the most current security measures. The other group listened to the staff that work with reservation, state, and federal regulations. The Casino must follow the Indian Gaming law that passed law in 1988. Each tribe has a different contract with the Federal and State governments. Every person working at the Casino must obtain a gaming license and there are different levels of gaming licenses. The Casino has a regulatory commission to oversee Casino operations and to verify that all laws are strictly followed. Three members of the commission must be tribal and two are not, one is in law enforcement and one with a financial background and they all have a three year staggered term. Spirit Mountain Casino is one of two tribes nationally that are self-regulated because of their high quality operating structure.

David Harrelson, the tribal historian of the Grand Ronde also spoke to us. There are seven treaties that affect the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation that is made up of twenty-seven bands and tribes. The Reservation was
OSURA Elects New Board Members

Kelvin Koong, Chris Mathews, and Phyllis Lee were elected to the OSURA Board of Directors at the May 2016 Annual Meeting. Their three year term will run from 2016-2019. Jack Drexler was elected to his second three year term.

Chris Mathews grew up on the east and west coasts and considers Olympia, WA, as his hometown. Chris enjoyed a 39-year career in academia, beginning in 1963 with his appointment as Assistant Professor of Biology at Yale University. In 1967 he was called to the University of Arizona as Associate Professor of Biochemistry and a founding member of the College of Medicine faculty. In 1977 he was recruited to OSU as Professor and Chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, a position he held until retiring in 2002. After formal retirement he continued with his research on deoxyribonucleotides (the building blocks of DNA), plus part-time teaching, writing two textbooks, and service on several editorial boards. Chris met Kate in graduate school at the University of Washington, and they have been married since 1960 (two children, four grandchildren). Kate worked at OSU as a faculty research assistant and retired in 1998. Both enthusiastic birders, Chris and Kate have taken several nature study trips abroad since retiring, and both have served the Audubon Society of Corvallis in leadership roles. Currently Chris is president.

Phyllis joins the OSURA board following four years as the chair of the Member Services Committee. A native Oregonian and OSU graduate, she was appointed by President John Byrne in 1991 as the founding director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs to promote diversity and inclusion on campus, and build partnerships with communities and stakeholders. “One of the most challenging yet rewarding jobs ever!” – and, she’s held a lot of jobs – in education (teaching, administrating, civil rights technical assistance provider) and healthcare, and as a consultant, facilitator and trainer for public, private, profit and non-profit agencies and organizations. Phyllis is one of three citizen members of the Benton County Budget Committee; vice chair of the board of the Community Health Centers of Benton and Linn Counties; member of the Community Advisory Council of the College of Public Health and Human Sciences; member of the Community Police Review Board; and advisor to the Asian and Pacific American Network of Oregon. She and Gerald are proud parents of an attorney daughter and caregivers of a finicky rescued cat, Charley.

Kelvin Koong was born in Nanjing, China and grew up in Taiwan. After completing his B.S. degree in Animal Science at the National Taiwan University, he came to the United States to pursue his graduate education and obtained a M.S. in animal nutrition and a Ph.D in biomathematics from North Carolina State University. He began his teaching and research career at the University of California, Davis followed by employment at the USDA Meat Animal Research Center in Nebraska and the University of Nevada at Reno. In 1987, he joined the faculty at Oregon State University as an administrator and served in a number of different assignments over the next 28 years. Some of those positions included Associate Director of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station, Head of the Department of Animal Sciences, Associate Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences, Dean of the College of Veterinary Science, Interim Dean and Director of the OSU Extension Service and Executive Director of the Agricultural Research Foundation. He also taught a number of different classes and acted as an advisor and mentor between his administrative assignments. Kelvin retired from OSU in 2012 to spend more time with his family. Together with his wife, Janet, they have three sons and four grandchildren, all living in the Pacific Northwest.

Spirit Mountain Continued

Continued from Page 3

originally 69 thousand acres. The tribe runs a nation in every aspect: police, education, elder care, natural resources, and health and wellness care. All members of the Grand Ronde Tribe receive a stipend from the Casino earning. Six percent of all profits go to an outside community non-profit organization. Most of the Casino profits go to health and welfare of the tribal members, our first Oregonians.

Magnificent sculptures, on the campus grounds and inside the casino, represent early Native American life style.
Scholarship Continued
Continued from Page 1
Kelli Hoang is a second-year OSU Student from Portland, OR. She entered OSU with the equivalent of two quarters of Advanced Placement credits. She is in the OSU Honors College, majoring in BioHealth Sciences/Pre-Pharmacy option in the College of Science, along with minors in Chemistry and Spanish. She is also earning a Medical Humanities Certificate. Kelli’s career goal is to become a Pharmacist, initially counseling patients in an ambulatory setting, and later in clinical research, coordinating the development of new medications critical to increasing lifespan and quality of life.

Kelli has gained undergraduate research experience in two different OSU labs. One project dealt with cervical cancer research where she aided in identifying gene targets for therapeutic nanodrugs. She is currently investigating bacteria that cause serious problems in hospitals and nursing homes, seeking to better understand mechanisms of antibiotic resistance. She completed internships in 2013, 2014 and 2015 with organizations engaged in distribution of drugs for critical HIV/AIDS and cancer research, national security, and anti-terrorism programs. She is President of the OSU Bioethics Society.

Stephanie Krautscheid plans to receive her BS degree in BioHealth Sciences in 2017 with a minor in chemistry and a pre-pharmacy option and continue to graduate with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. Not only was she selected for the highly competitive Early Assurance Program in the College of Pharmacy she continues to do outstanding academic work at OSU. She always acts in an exceptionally professional and positive manner and goes above and beyond the expectations of an EAP student.”

Stephanie has also found time to serve as vice-president of the business fraternity, treasurer of the BioHealth Sciences Club, and a Resident Assistant (RA) in an OSU residence hall. Her interest in healthy aging stems in part from an experience in shadowing a pharmacist at a residential care facility for those over 55. Her long-term goal is to serve as a pharmacist in just such a facility in her home town of Gresham. Stephanie’s own words best summarize her goals and bright future as a pharmacist in a residential care setting: “In my career, I will be able to grow relationships, properly advise and work with patients to support them in their healthy aging...It’s sobering to see that something simple such as providing guidance for a prescription, helping someone get safely to the dining room, or even talking to patients and working with their mental health can have such a significant positive effect on their aging process.

Nadjialisse Reynolds-Lallement, who hails from McMinnville, arrived at Oregon State as a National Merit Scholar, enrolling for fall term 2014. She entered with over 50 hours of AP credits, and has since maintained very high grades. Her interest in age-related memory decline was stimulated by her work at an assisted living facility for elderly people living with dementia or Alzheimer’s. She has engaged in significant research as an undergraduate, first with Professor Frietag’s group in Biochemistry and Biophysics and currently with Professor Magnusson of the Linus Pauling Institute. With Magnusson, Nadjalis is investigating NMDA receptor activity in mice as a model for age-related memory decline. Reynolds plans on pursuing a Ph. D. in Neuroscience after graduation from OSU in June 2018, with a BS in Biochemistry and Biophysics (Honors College).

Hannah Valesano plans to graduate in the Fall 2017 with a BS in Exercise and Sports Science and Pre-Physical Therapy. She has a wide area of work experiences ranging from being the Kitchen Manager for her living group, shadowing a Physical Therapist at an elderly rehab center, last summer as a caregiver in an assisted living facility, and recently at the OSU Exercise Clinic for people with Multiple Sclerosis. She also brings a wealth of organizing experience from both Portland and locally. Her references dwell on her drive in academics and continuous desire to serve those in need among the elderly population. Her own back injury playing sports in high school has played an important role in her life’s professional pursuit. Her course work and excellent grades should help her reach her goal.

Informative 2016 Annual Meeting
Acting OSURA President Jack Walstad opened the Annual Meeting promptly at 3:00 PM on May 12 in the Board Room of the OSU Foundation. He conducted an efficient business meeting that concluded five minutes early, so we all had a chance to renew our snack plates and cups before President Ray arrived to speak to us on “Exciting Happenings and New Developments at OSU.” Rays’ remarks made us all proud to be associated with OSU and our role in helping it move forward.

The necessary business included the nomination of four Board members: Jack Walstad (for a second term), Kelvin Koong, Chris Mathews, and Phyllis Lee. The nominees were elected by unanimous voice vote. The OSURA officers for 2016-17 were also introduced: Jack Walstad, President; Sue Borden, Secretary; Cheryl Lyons, Treasurer, and Tom Plant, President-Elect.

The volunteer of the Year Award for 2016 was presented to Terri Tower for her outstanding work on a myriad of OSURA events. She was the main organizer of two very popular OSURA excursions this year: the visit to the Ocean Observing Lab and the tour of the Spirit Mountain Casino. She has served OSURA for many years as the Volunteer Coordinator and President of the Board, and wherever she was needed. She has been instrumental in creating and maintaining our trifold display board, too.

Tony VanVliet, chairman of the Scholarship Committee, introduced the six students the committee selected to receive OSURA scholarships. Five were present to receive their awards. The recipients, all outstanding women in science, are presented in a separate article in this newsletter.
OSURA Fall Start Up to Feature Dinner, Socializing and Talk by Steve Amen

Our Fall 2016 Start Up event will be Wednesday, October 12 at The LaSells Stewart Center. The Board is pleased to announce an exceptional program for OSURA Members and their guests: Steve Amen, the Executive Producer of Oregon Public Television’s very popular “Oregon Field Guide”, is our featured speaker following a special dinner with salmon and beef entrees. Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. (Free parking close to the Center begins at 5:00 pm.)

Steve Amen, the Executive Producer of “Oregon Field Guide”, will treat everyone to some of the more spectacular, remote natural settings they have visited over the program’s 27-year history and what it took to film them.

The cost is $30 per person, payable at the door (cash or checks please). Confirmed reservations required by October 4. Email RSVP@oregonstate.edu or call 541-737-4717. Accommodations for disabilities and dietary restrictions may be made with your reply.

Your OSURA Board is excited about this event and hopes that you will be able to attend to hear about our upcoming year, gather with your fellow OSURA members and guests, and enjoy the program. We especially invite you to bring fellow retiree guests who might enjoy experiencing our programs and potentially becoming members of OSURA.

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.