OSURA Members Tour Ocean Observing Center

Impressive. That’s the one word that best sums up the reaction of OSURA members after touring the Ocean Observing Center in March. Over 40 OSURA members and guests attended the two different tours at the Center’s location in South Corvallis.

The Center is part of a National Science Foundation-funded program called the Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI).

OSURA Member Profile: Cliff and Jo Anne Trow

In our last newsletter, OSURA profiled a newly retired member. In this issue, we highlight a retired OSU couple who have been long-time members of OSURA.

In beginning to write about Cliff and Jo Anne Trow, it becomes immediately apparent that such an article will only be able to touch on some of their many accomplishments and activities. Their story covers more than 100 combined years of active involvement in a myriad of organizations and projects dedicated to Beaver Nation, Corvallis and the State. In addition to very productive careers, they have been involved in many activities since they retired from OSU 21 years ago.

Cliff and Jo Anne each arrived at OSU in 1965, she as Dean of Women and he as a member of the History Department faculty. They met at OSU and married in 1969. Jo Anne became the first female Vice President in OSU history.

Cliff and Jo Anne Trow at their Corvallis home in front of one of their favorite paintings – by the late Nelson Sandgren, a fellow OSU colleague.

OSURA Board Members 2015-2016

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Newsletter & Contact Info
Editor: Cheryl Lyons
Layout: Shari Brumbach
Phone: 541-737-4717
Website: oregonstate.edu/osura
OSURA Member Profile

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and Cliff continued his notable career as professor of history. He was first elected to the Oregon Senate in 1974 and continued to be re-elected until retiring from the Senate in 2003.

During their OSU careers, each of the Trows made significant impacts on students and on the institutions they served. Jo Anne significantly influenced the status of women at the university, working to combat inequalities through formation of the OSU Women’s Center, Faculty Women’s Network, and implementation of Title IX. Recognition of her work at OSU is reflected in the Dr. Jo Anne Trow Woman of Distinction Award which OSU presents annually. Cliff’s career included receiving the prestigious Binkley-Stevenson Award from the Organization of American Historians, following his passion of teaching history to many students, and being recognized as “Education Senator of the Year” by the Oregon Education Association.

In retirement, Jo Anne has, among many other things, been involved with OSU Folk Club and the OSU Folk Club Thrift Shop where she has served as president in that organization’s 100th anniversary year. She was the leader in creating the Thrift Shop Foundation. She has served the community on the Parks and Recreation board, the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation board, the League of Women Voters, the Willamette Criminal Justice Council, the State Commission on the Status of Women, and the Benton County Historical Society. She is a past President of OSURA.

Cliff’s retirement has included continued work on state issues and policy recommendations. He has been active in issues related to hunger and poverty, and served as a citizen member of the Hunger Task Force. He served on the Corvallis-Benton County Library board and on the State Library board. He was a co-founding board member of ALL (Academy of Lifelong Learning) and continues to serve ALL as coordinator of the Humanities strand of the curriculum. With Jo Anne, he is a member of League of Women Voters and an advocate for the Benton County Historical Society. He continues to be active in the local Democratic Party.

In learning more fully about the Trows, one is struck by their generosity to OSU and to students through their support of scholarships. They have been involved with the OSU Presidential Scholars program since its inception and have provided funding for 10 Presidential Scholars. They are also avid supporters of OSU athletics, music and theatre programs. Their generosity toward OSU is most recently exhibited by their endowing an annual $1,000 teaching award in the new school of History, Philosophy and Religion. Jo Anne also participates in the Women’s Giving Circle which gives grants to campus programs that primarily benefit women, as well as OSURA, which gives scholarships.

When asked to give advice to others about to retire or in early retirement, they stressed staying involved in some meaningful activity such as helping the community, participating in your profession. In addition, they suggested planning ahead for finances beyond PERS, staying physically active and paying attention to your health. The Trows participate 6 days a week at Fitness Over Fifty! They say that it is also important, and easy, to keep in touch with OSU where we as OSU retirees have dedicated a substantial amount of our career. They advocate subscribing to OSU Today, Terra Magazine, Ag Progress, and other communication tools; participating in OSURA; joining the OSU Alumni Association, even if you are not an OSU alum; as well as attending concerts, theatre and sporting events.

We thank Jo Anne and Cliff for sharing their retirement experiences and thoughts with OSURA. Above all, we thank them for their leadership, generosity and service to OSU and its community of Corvallis and Oregon. Like many other OSU retirees, both OSURA members and others, they continue making a difference and make us proud to be part of Beaver Nation! 🐻

Ocean Observing Tour

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The NSF-funded project started at OSU in 2007, with grant renewal coming up in 2017. Other institutions involved in the OOI project are the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (Massachusetts), Rutgers University (New Jersey), and the University of Washington.

The tours were organized by the OSURA Program Committee. 📚

“OSU is networking the ocean with the buoy systems and torpedo–like sensors it is deploying off the Oregon coast to bring instant information about offshore conditions.”

George Keller

“Great tour. As a mechanical engineer I really appreciated the technology and capability of the gliders -- really impressive how they can gather data over a wide area and even when ships would not be able to because of weather conditions. I was very impressed by all of the instrumentation and packaging associated with the research buoys, as well as how big they are – they are huge!”

Gordon Reistad

“Awesome!”

Curt McCann

“I was fascinated by the Dollie tape and the underwater torpedo–like gliders with wings, electronically controlled, traveling down and up from surface to sea bottom, complete with their own ‘phone home’ devices and return–to–sender labels.”

Terri Tower

“What a tremendous asset OOI is to OSU & the State of Oregon. Indeed the center provides amazing resources from Corvallis to the world!”

Susan Poole

More information on the OOI and OSU’s Ocean Observing Center is available on the following websites:

http://ceoas.oregonstate.edu/ooi/
http://main.oceanobservatories.org/

To view the slide show presented for the OSURA tours, visit oregonstate.edu.osura.
Dear OSURA members,

It is April and spring is in the air. May is just around the corner and at our Annual Meeting, you will have a new set of officers and a new Board for OSURA. We hope that many of you will be able to attend the May 12 Annual Meeting to hear President Ray and meet the 2016-17 officers and Board. You will also get to hear from the new scholarship awardees, learn who the OSURA Volunteer of the Year is and socialize with long-standing and new retiree colleagues. Please mark your calendar for May 12 from 2:30-4:30 p.m.

We have had a productive year with a good blend of programs, events and service activities, with a Board that has actively worked to continue a strong OSURA. Two of our programs had relevance to national top-level involvement:

1. The evening when we heard from Coach Rueck before attending the women’s basketball game. The team, as you likely know, competed at the highest level and went to the NCAA Women’s Basketball Final Four.
2. The tour of the OSU Ocean Observing Center. OSU is one of just three Marine Implementing Organizations involved in the massive NSF Ocean Observatories Initiative.

Two areas of particular focus for the Board this year have been increasing membership and increasing visibility of OSURA. For increasing membership, we have been extra diligent in pursuing new retirees and have been active in person-to-person contacting of other OSU retirees. In the area of increasing visibility, we restructured our Fall Start-up event and have begun meeting individually with the academic deans to be sure they are aware of OSURA and to see how we might be able to work together to better serve OSU retirees and the OSU community. We also just recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Academy for Lifelong Learning to enhance collaboration.

It has been enjoyable for me to serve as your president. Most rewarding, I have had the opportunity to interact with many OSU colleagues with whom I previously had only slight involvement. This interaction has led me to a greater appreciation of the very significant dedication that hundreds of OSU retirees have for OSU and our broader community. It is both a pleasure and an inspiration to work directly with many such retirees and participate in an organization, like OSURA, that represents such contributing citizens. OSURA values each of you, and OSU greatly appreciates all you do and have done over the years to help with its mission and reputation as an outstanding institution.

Gordon Reistad, OSURA President, 2015-2016

BEAVER NATION

Scholarship Announcement

The OSURA Scholarship Committee will award $1,000 scholarships to each of six outstanding OSU undergraduate students. These students were selected from 16 competitive applicants in fields leading to careers that promote healthy aging. This now marks the fourth year in a row that one of the scholarships is completely funded by earnings from the OSURA endowment established in June 2012.

It’s time to renew your OSURA membership!

Our membership runs on a fiscal year basis of July 1 to June 30. It is now time to renew for the 2016-17 year. A renewal form is enclosed.

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.
OSURA Board Elects Officers for 2016-17

Jack Walstad was elected OSURA Board President for the coming year. Officers serving with Jack will be Tom Plant, President Elect; Sue Borden, Secretary; and Cheryl Lyons, Treasurer. Gordon Reistad will serve the Board as Past President. Current Board members completing their terms of service are Barbara Moon, Gerry Olson, and Tom Savage. Barbara Moon served as Secretary for two years, Gerry was Secretary and President, and Tom served as President. All were generous with their time serving on committees. Additional Board members will be elected at the upcoming Annual Meeting.

OSURA Members Watch Beaver Women Dominate Ducks!

OSURA members were treated to a double-double on Friday, January 8. The evening began with a stimulating pre-game talk by Coach Scott Rueck at a dinner at The LaSells Stewart Center. The dinner was catered by Valley Catering and 66 OSURA members enjoyed the fare. This was Coach Rueck’s sixth straight appearance at the OSURA event!

Rueck, who’s amassed over 100 wins as a coach, described the unique chemistry involved in the current team. Beginning with a formative road trip to Italy this past summer and followed by some rigorous pre-season tune-ups, the team rapidly achieved the poise, toughness and balance needed to compete in the Pac-12. This game against the UO showed it as they absolutely dominated the Ducks in every category, winning 60-33! It was their 10th straight victory over the Ducks!

We extend congratulations to the Beaver Women Basketball Program for a great season. They made history by reaching the NCAA Final Four and being ranked #2 nationally!!

ScholarsArchive@OSU

ScholarsArchive@OSU at the Valley Library provides a useful repository for a variety of digital media. Items stored at this website include scientific publications, student theses, research datasets, Extension articles, keynote presentations, historical photographs and other digitized media. Indeed, many granting agencies and organizations require that there’s open access to such information generated by their monetary support. Almost all major universities have a system nowadays for storing scholarly works and associated research data. OSU’s ScholarsArchive is routinely ranked in the top 10 among such systems.

In addition, the platform used by the Valley Library provides an easy means of tracking how many hits each item gets. So it’s a useful way to quantify how popular an item is. Such information is ideal for promotion & tenure dossiers, institutional research rankings and other evaluative measures.
Reichl at OSU

“A packed auditorium greeted Ruth Reichl, author, food writer, and former restaurant critic, when she presented the Provost’s Lecture on February 17. Ruth, an animated speaker, captivated her audience with tales that illustrate how food has changed in America over the last 40 years. For example, in 1970 there were just over 300 Farmer’s Markets in the US. Last year there were over 9,000. We are much more interested in fresh, healthy food and the food industry has responded to make those items available. This food revolution, which Reichl says is still going on, has been driven by ordinary people who can control what is on their dinner table. Fast food companies are now responding to public pressure for healthier food.

Reichl pointed out that food is not just for eating, but has cultural, political and economic implications. Even architecture has been affected by changing food choices and attitudes. Kitchens used to be closed off in the back of the house. Now people want large kitchens that are part of open dining and living areas.

My take-away from the evening was her statement that ordinary people can change the world. We are incredibly powerful, and we need to continue to demand what we want by voting with our shopping dollars.”

-Sue Borden, contributing author

OSU Gymnastics Meet with Stanford

The OSU gymnastics meet with Stanford on February 19 at the OSU campus was indeed a close match with many great performances. The OSURA group met at the Alumni Center for dinner and a talk given by Dick Foxal prior to attending the Meet. Dick Foxal, was Assistant women’s coach (uneven bars) at Oregon State University for 21 years and helped guide the team to 13 NCAA Championship appearances. This included 10 top 10 finishes, the team finishing fourth in 1996 and (11 all-Americans on bars.) He received the West Regional Assistant Coach of the Year honors five times.

After 38 years of coaching, Dick retired in 2008 from OSU. He currently works with special projects and assists with the summer camp. During Dick’s conversation with our group he indicated that OSU’s gymnastics team had a number of injuries this year which have made it a difficult process to qualify for the Regional competitions in 2016.

A brilliant performance by McKenna Singley on the final routine of the night powered the Oregon State gymnastics team to a come-from-behind 196.325–196.250 victory over No. 16 Stanford. This win helped propel the team into the Regionals.

All in all what a great evening.

Past Presidents of OSURA Board Met in March

OSURA was initiated in 2002, electing Les Dunnington as its first President. Presidents following, in order, were Jean Peters, Bill Brennan, David Eiseman, Ken Krane, Kathy Heath, Bill Smart, JoAnne Trow, Susan Poole, Terri Tower, Jim Krueger, Tom Savage, and Gerry Olson. At the luncheon meeting, current President Gordon Reistad, shared this year’s highlights with the group, and a lively discussion ensued. Bill Brennan and David Eiseman were absent.
OSU Retirement Association

Oregon State University
205 Adams Hall
Corvallis, OR 97330

OSU 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.

OSURA MISSION STATEMENT:

14th OSURA Annual Meeting and Member Social Agenda
May 12, 2016 | 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. | OSU Foundation Board Room

2:30 pm  Registration and Refreshments
         Dues renewal and Scholarship donations accepted.

3:00 pm  Welcome remarks
         Treasurer’s Report
         Election of New Board Members
         Volunteer-of-the-Year Award
         Jack Walstad
         Cheryl Lyons
         Gerry Olson

3:15 pm  OSURA Scholarship Awards
         Recognition of Committee Chairs and Board Members completing service to OSURA
         Introduction of the New Officers
         Tony Van Vliet
         Jack Walstad
         Gerry Olson

3:45 pm  *University Update – Exciting Happenings, New Developments and Challenges at OSU
         Ed Ray, OSU President

4:15 pm  Alma Mater

Refreshments and socializing with colleagues and guests.

What’s Happening?
Save these dates:
OSURA Pre-Retirement Panel
Thursday, May 5 | 3-4:30 p.m.
MU 206: Asian/Pacific-American room

Annual Meeting
Thursday, May 12 | 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.
OSU Foundation Board Room

Updates on Recent Legislature Session featuring Tim Nesbitt
Wednesday, May 25 | 3-4:30 p.m.
OSU Foundation Board room

AROHE Conference
August 14-16
University of Washington, Seattle, WA

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