

NEWS & VIEWS

Annual Meeting Highlights!

OSURA's annual meeting took place May 6. Emceed by outgoing president Bill Smart, meeting highlights included remarks by OSU President Ed Ray, a presentation entitled "The Birth of OSU" by former Oregon Stater editor George Edmonston, Jr., announcement of winners of the 2009 OSURA scholarship and of the Volunteer of the Year Award, and approval of new board members.

President Ray summarized the success of the still-ongoing capital campaign (recently surpassing the \$500 million mark), cited record highs in research grant dollars received by OSU during the 2008-09 academic year, and offered his regards to OSURA members and his appreciation for all that the organization provides in assisting the functions of the university.

Mr. Edmonston began his remarks by challenging the widely held notion that OSU's birth dates from 1868. Rather, he maintained, our real beginning is in the Corvallis Academy, formed in 1856, renamed Corvallis College in 1859, and moved to the location now occupied by the downtown transit mall. It was this institution to which Land Grant status was applied in 1868, via the Morrell Act. "The year 1868," according to Edmonston, "doesn't give proper recognition and respect to the predecessors without which there would be no OSU."

Among other historical observations of interest to Beaver faithful:

- OSU's original school color was navy blue
- For unknown reasons, there was no graduating class in 1877
- The school's first mascot was "Jimmy," a coyote
- Homer Maris, who wrote OSU's alma mater song, was a U of O graduate
- Benny Beaver was preceded by Billy Beaver

The 2009 OSURA Volunteer of the Year award went to Nancy Evans, for her work in arranging a variety of program events

and her service as Secretary during a term on the Board of Directors.

OSURA Scholarship recipients (see article on page 3) were Yun Soo Chung, Josh Huhndorf and Heather Hodnett.

Nominated as new Board members were **Gideon Alegado** (Memorial Union), **John Block** (Pharmacy), and **Helen Polensek** (English Language Institute). Renominated to serve a second term were **Erin Haynes** (Alumni Association) and **Terri Tower** (University Housing and Dining). All five nominees were elected by the members in attendance.

OSURA now looks forward to a new year of growth, excitement, and activity under the leadership of **Jo Anne Trow** (President), **Susan Poole** (President-elect), **Jim Krueger** (Secretary), and **Carol Kronstad** (Treasurer).



The OSURA Annual Meeting was held at the OSU Foundation and featured speakers George Edmonston Jr., retired *Oregon Stater* editor (pictured above) and President Ed Ray.

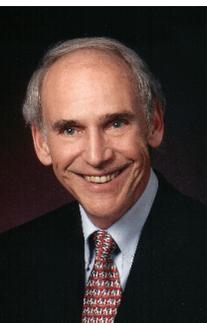
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President's Message

Spring is a time for change and renewal. It is a time for a change in OSURA leadership, not to mention the renewal of memberships. It is hard to believe that my year as President of OSURA has come to an end so quickly. The Board, committees, the many volunteers for OSURA, and event attendees have worked to make this an enjoyable and successful year. Kathy Heath, Past President, and Jo Anne Trow, President-elect, have given me sound advice and invaluable assistance throughout the year. Kate Sanders, the staff support from University Advancement, is a gem, working tirelessly with event publicity, financial accounts, committee support, the newsletter, membership liaison, the directory, and countless other matters that strengthen our efforts in OSURA. Thanks to all of you. Thanks also to Luanne Lawrence, for her work toward integrating OSURA into OSU's strategic vision.

In retirement my wife Ann and I have been able to pursue some of our special interests while continuing volunteer activities and hobbies. One of our passions has been to follow the OSU gymnastics team. The team was ranked #8 nationally late in the season. It advanced to regionals, where it once more qualified for the national championship competition. I will try to blend my interest in gymnastics with my OSURA message in this, my final message as President of OSURA. Let's see if I can "stick it," without any major breaks or deductions. If you can count all the gymnastics terms, you will have earned a perfect score of 10.0 for your performance. You are your own judge.

How can we advance the work of OSURA together, with enthusiasm, and nail our landings? I'd like to offer my modest top ten suggestions. We'll start with some warm-ups and increase our flexibility, while doing somersaults (no flip-flops!) through the list.

- Vault into OSURA events. Read those e-mails, occasional postcards, and the web site for a list of upcoming events. Beam the word to others, encouraging them to leap right in and attend the events with you. What a layout of events this year! The list included a golf tournament, an introduction to protecting your identity, implications of the current financial story for retirees, tracking whales, women's basketball vs. Arizona, wrestling vs. Iowa State, a performance at the OSU theater, travel options for seniors, gymnastics vs. UCLA, climate change, medical topics and a tour of Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center
- Mount a campaign to recruit members or refer potential members to OSURA. You are the most effective voice of the Association and can spot a good potential member. There

is not an insurmountable degree of difficulty here: no back bends or pirouettes, just great execution.

- Take a teeny hop by volunteering to serve on a committee or the Board. Your time and ideas are important, and you will find that you can quickly become an all-rounder. The time commitment is not great.
- Jump at the opportunity to suggest program ideas for future events, and don't bar yourself from giving feedback on the programs that you have attended.
- Tuck a little time into your schedule to volunteer for activities that support OSU's programs. What a perfect way to interact with students and your former colleagues while helping the University! Here's a sample of the volunteer work that OSURA undertook this year: Trail maintenance at Peavy Arboretum, OSU Day at the State Fair, University Day, Convocation, CONNECT Information Table, OSU Information Table, OSU Flu Clinic, and the Fall and Winter Career Fairs. Leap into action for some of the future opportunities related to graduation and prospective student visits.
- Take steps to nominate yourself or someone else for an office in OSURA. You don't have to be a specialist or a perpetual performer. The leadership has rotations.
- Get bonus points by donating funds, if possible, to help endow the OSURA scholarship for undergraduates majoring in fields related to healthy aging. **Your contribution to the OSU Foundation is tax deductible and will help land future benefits.**
- Floor the newsletter editor by helping with articles or submitting photos of OSURA events for the display board.
- Dismount from your routine to be sure that your dues are current and that you will continue to receive updates on OSURA activities.
- Don't wobble, but rather keep OSU in mind and let the Board know about other possible OSURA volunteer activities that support the work of the University.

If you have read this far, you deserve a perfect score for a terrific landing. We count on you not to take a bye in the coming year but, rather, to practice your handstands and cartwheels during the summer to support OSURA and its leaders in 2009-2010.

—Bill Smart, President of OSURA, 2008-2009

Sports Trivia

Who was the last Beaver basketball alum to play for an NBA championship team?

in Exercise and Sport Science. Heather has experienced a three month medical internship in India, as well as an internship with the local wellness organization, Fitness Over Fifty. She has also served as a Research Apprentice in both the Sports Medicine and Disabilities Laboratory and the Skeletal Biology Laboratory. Heather, too, envisions a professional career as a physician, at which time she hopes to practice primary care and preventive medicine with mature adults.

We congratulate each of these outstanding and deserving students, and we wish them well as they pursue their medical careers.

OSURA Scholarship Winners Announced!

Three promising undergraduates have been identified as 2009 recipients of the OSURA Scholarship. Now in its third year of existence, the scholarship assists undergraduate OSU students majoring in a subject that will lead them to a career in a field which promotes healthy aging.

Yun Soo Chung, recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship, is a native of Seoul, South Korea with a major in Chemistry, a minor in Psychology, and a 4.0 GPA. She is a proud member of the University Honors College. She has traveled to Bangladesh with an ophthalmologic team to assist in treating cataracts, and she is a volunteer with the OSU Multiple Sclerosis Exercise Program and the Community Outreach clinic. Yun Soo hopes to become a physician and to involve herself in the search for a cure for cancer.

Josh Huhndorf, winner of a \$500 scholarship, comes to OSU from Kenai, Alaska. His major is Health Care Administration, with a minor in Economics. He, too, hopes to become a physician. Of Athabascan heritage, Josh has

hosted a Free Diabetes Screening day at the OSU Longhouse, attended a Cross Cultural Medicine Workshop hosted by the Association of American Indian Physicians, and has created a student organization called the OSU Rural and Minority Healthcare Advocates. He has interned in the Harvard Medical School Four Directions Summer Research Program and looks forward to an upcoming internship in an Indian Health Service clinic.

Heather Hodnett, also a \$500 scholarship recipient, is from Medford. She is a member of the University Honors College and majors



Pictured from left: Josh Huhndorf, Yun Soo Chung and Heather Hodnett.

Free Benefits Updated

"I have never before gained so much in such a short time," says one OSU retiree. Another exclaims, "The personal benefits were nothing short of astounding." What are these people talking about? Have they found another Microsoft or Xerox to buy into? Has the Oregon Lottery launched a "winner guaranteed" policy? For that matter, are these real quotes, or something manufactured by a devious editor? And is the story's headline legitimate, or is it one of those crafty bait-and-switch jobs?

The quotes are real. The headline is, admittedly, a bit misleading. But it got you to read this far. Having made that much of an investment, please stay with us. We're talking about OSURA volunteer opportunities and the legitimate personal gains which accrue from them. The thing is: volunteering in service to OSU was one of the founding purposes of OSURA when it was established in 2001. Each year since then, OSURA members have helped out at a variety of campus-related events. During the past nine

months, for example, volunteer contributions on the part of 54 members spanned six events covering 14 days and accounted for 256 work hours. Additional volunteers are always welcome – and always needed!

Volunteer events over just this past year have included University Day, CONNECT WEEK, the OSU Flu Clinic, and Career Fairs conducted during Fall, Winter, and Spring terms. OSURA members also volunteer to help with Commencement and with tours of the Hinsdale Wave Lab.

Scheduling is always arranged for the greatest convenience of the volunteer, task assignments are generally straightforward but engaging (with orientation provided on-site), and new friendships are quickly and easily established, certainly with fellow volunteers and occasionally with those being assisted as well. If you are cautious about rigorous physical activity, there is no need to worry. We don't do yard work, painting, or house construction. In fact, most of our volunteer activities feature wearing an orange OSURA

shirt, sitting at a table or standing by a doorway, giving out information, and providing smiles and encouraging remarks.

So please begin thinking now about your opportunities to contribute next year. Find fulfillment in supporting the OSU community and its varied activities, and prepare to promote "Powered by Orange."

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Visit poweredbyorange.com to learn more about OSU's impact.

Visit oregonstate.edu/osura for the answer to the trivia question.

A Newsletter for Oregon State University Retirees

OSURA

Oregon State University Retirement Association
205 Adams Hall
Corvallis, OR 97331-2004

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YES! I/We would like to renew/begin a membership with OSURA. Please enclose the membership fee of \$20 for each person. Donations above \$20 are gladly accepted and may be specified to go to the Scholarship Fund. Please make checks payable to OSURA. Membership year runs from July 1 - June 30.

OSURA Annual Dues: \$20 per member

Annual Dues: _____

Scholarship Fund: _____

Total: _____

Name Are you a spouse/partner of a deceased OSU employee? Yes

Department _____ Retirement Date _____

Spouse/Partner

Department (If the spouse/partner is an OSU employee only) _____ Retirement Date _____

Address: _____ Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail The BEST way to receive notices and event announcements!

Please return this form to OSURA, Oregon State University, 205 Adams Hall Corvallis, OR 97331-2004.
For questions call: (541) 737-4717 or e-mail: osura@oregonstate.edu.