

# OSURA News & Views

Winter 2016

## OSURA Member Profile: Ilene Kleinsorge



Even though it has been only six months since she retired, former Dean of Business Ilene Kleinsorge is not wasting any time creating a full and interesting post-retirement life. Ilene is a new OSURA member, and is looking forward to intersecting with others from OSU and to continue relationships formed during her 29 years at OSU. She particularly is anticipating being of service to students through volunteering, and she has a number of ideas about how OSURA can identify opportunities to work with OSU students.

Ilene considers herself still to be in transition from work life to retirement. She is currently the development chair of the Benton Hospice board, and is on the Board of the Benton County Community Foundation, serving on the development committee. Her passions continue to be education and health care, and she is eager to learn new things in retirement. She is enrolled in a basic drawing class at LBCC this term, and has expressed interest in learning more about the new distance learning technologies used by OSU's E-Campus. Ilene is also full of travel plans. She will soon go on a tour to Costa Rica, and is looking forward to a trip to New Orleans to attend a Saints game to watch one of her former students play. She also is planning a trip to Turkey in 2016.

Ilene came to OSU in the fall of 1987. She never actually applied to OSU, as a former professor in her native Kansas sent a letter of introduction and she was granted an interview as a courtesy to him. After teaching accounting, she became the department chair in 1996 and director of the MBA program. In 2003 she was appointed Dean of the College of Business. Although she admits that the team effort to plan and construct Austin Hall may be remembered as her biggest achievement, she is most proud of the students she has inspired to realize their potential. Many of these students are giving back to OSU today.

Ilene feels that working at OSU was an extraordinary privilege. Her late husband Tom Walmsley supported her from the time she worked on her PhD and relished in her successes at OSU. Family is a top priority for Ilene. Her two children and

*Kleinsorge: continued on page 2*

## OSURA Scholarship Application Deadline Tuesday, March 1, by 4:30 p.m.

If you know of outstanding OSU students who are majoring in subjects that contribute to careers promoting healthy aging, encourage them to apply for an OSURA Scholarship. Application information is available on the OSURA website: [oregonstate.edu/osura/osura-scholarship](http://oregonstate.edu/osura/osura-scholarship). OSURA again plans to award at least \$5,000 in scholarships for the next academic year.

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## SAVE THE DATES:

**Friday, January 8:** Women's Basketball vs Oregon  
5:00 p.m. Pre-game meal | The LaSells Stewart Center, Ag Science Room

**Monday, February 29:** Women's Gymnastics vs Stanford  
5:00 p.m. Pre-meet meal | CH2M HILL Alumni Center, Willamette Room

Information to make reservations for these events will be sent by email and you may register by email. Mark your calendars now and watch more information.

**Volunteer Opportunity:** Spring Career Fair, February 24th and 25th. This gives you an opportunity to interact with students and learn about the employers currently hiring our graduates. Contact [kathymotley@comcast.net](mailto:kathymotley@comcast.net) for more information.

## Kleinsorge Continued

grandchildren live in Oregon, and she is an important part of all their lives. Her daughter is an MAT graduate of OSU, and teaches kindergarten in Grants Pass. She and her husband (principal at Grants Pass High School) have three daughters, the oldest of whom is a freshman at OSU this year. Ilene's son lives in Corvallis, and is an OSU graduate in economics. He works for Pastega Beverage company. He and his

wife (also an OSU graduate in pharmacy) have a daughter who is a sophomore in education at OSU, and a son who is a senior at CVHS.

Ilene has taken each grandchild on a trip in the United States after their 10th birthday. The trip was selected by each child, but had to be somewhere different than others had chosen, and could not include theme park destinations.

Upon graduation from high school, each grandchild can choose a trip to anywhere in the world, or a set amount of money. To date, one granddaughter chose a trip to Paris that she and Ilene did this past summer, and one chose the cash.

OSURA welcomes Ilene to its membership, and is looking forward to the new ideas and energy she brings. 🏛️

## OSURA Fall Start Up Hits a High Note!



Steve Zielke

Yes, it was a musical evening for 75 OSURA members who attended the Fall Start-up, and a wonderful beginning to our 2015-16 year packed with programs, social events, and more entertainment! Steve Zielke, coordinator of music programs at OSU, gave us background on the fast growing choral program, one whose reputation is gaining world-wide recognition. The quality of students entering music programs at OSU is remarkable, and attendees were treated to a sampling of the best. Mason Cooper rocked the Corvallis Country Club with his interpretation of Old Man River (those were the very lowest notes!) and Emma Nissen and Beth Atchley added high notes from South Pacific, and a Mozart opera. Joining Steve in the presentation was Marc Callahan, a visiting professor of opera and voice, and a world class performer himself. Marc shared some of the process of growing a voice to maturity and his students demonstrated his points. When we meet students and faculty like these, we know why we are Beaver Believers. 🏛️




Mason Cooper, Emma Nissen and Beth Atchley

# What do College Graduates Think About Their Education?

Brendon Busted, a leader in education work at Gallup, presented the results of a survey done by Gallup and Purdue University at this year's OSU University Day. More than 30,000 college graduates across the nation were included in this comprehensive survey that included people of all ages, majors, professions, and types of colleges (public, private not for profit, and private for profit). You may wish to access this report yourself, and the web site is included at the end of this brief summary. However, here are just a few of the highlights to tempt you. "Graduates who had a professor who cared about them as a person, made them excited about learning, and encouraged them to pursue their dreams," were more than twice as likely to be engaged at work and be thriving in their well-being." An internship or job where classroom learning could be applied, active involvement in extracurricular activities and organizations, and work

on projects that took at least a semester to complete also doubled the odds of being engaged at work. Workplace engagement includes job satisfaction, as well as being intellectually and emotionally connected to the work group and the organization. "People who are engaged at work are involved in and enthusiastic about their work." They are also loyal and productive. An earlier Gallup study showed that only 30% of Americans are engaged in their jobs. The survey includes five elements of Well-Being: Purpose, Social, Financial, Community, and Physical. Well-being combines all the things important to an individual - how a person thinks about and experiences life. One aspect, size of student loan debt, is of special interest. The higher the loan amount, the worse is the overall well-being score for graduates. The average U.S. student loan debt in 2014 was about \$29,000 and only slightly less at OSU. Clearly this is an issue that needs

to be explored at both local and national levels.

The study concludes that feeling supported and having deep learning experiences means everything when it comes to long-term outcomes for college graduates. As noted in the article, certain powerful college experiences can be felt years or even decades later. While students, their families, and the American public expect that college is a transformative experience that leads to great jobs and great lives, too often that is not the outcome. "A national dialogue on improving the college experience should focus on ways to provide students with more emotional support, and with more opportunities for deep learning experiences and real-life applications of classroom learning." 

<https://www.luminafoundation.org/files/resources/gallupurdueindex-report-2014.pdf>



## President's Message

Dear OSURA Members,

We hope that your 2016 is off to a good start, and that you have, or are making, plans for a fulfilling year. We invite you to include some of the upcoming OSURA events in those plans—dates are provided in this newsletter.

During the Fall, OSURA had a number of successful and interesting events. We hope your schedule permitted you to take advantage of some of them. Many OSURA members enjoyed a great evening at the Fall Start-up in October as summarized elsewhere in this newsletter. I was unable to attend and felt that I missed a great program - my wife and many others told me how nice the program was. I was able to participate in the OSURA volunteer activity of helping at the OSU Career Fair and particularly enjoyed seeing the many many

students that attended. It was also very interesting to view the setups of the large number and wide variety of organizations that were represented to talk with the students. The organizations filled the ballrooms and halls of the CH2M HILL Alumni Center. If you haven't been to one of these Career Fairs recently I recommend volunteering and spending some time there - it was an eye-opener for me. (There is one coming up in February.) The November OSURA tour of the new OSU classroom building was very interesting and revealing of the technology and variety of teaching spaces at the cutting edge of instruction at OSU.

Thanks once again for being a part of OSURA. Please contact any of the OSURA Board Members or me if you have input for activities or issues in which you feel OSURA should be involved. Also contact us if you would like to take part in an OSURA Committee or the OSURA Board. We want OSURA to represent as many OSU retirees as possible.

Gordon Reistad, OSURA President 2015-16  
**Beaver Nation**

Ps -If you know of an OSURA member who is not "on line", please share this issue with him or her. 