



Winter 2024

OSUURA

News & Views

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT CARROLL W. DEKOCK



I am pleased to report that OSURA is up and running well. We have a full Board of 15 members, and a very active program thanks to the hard work of our Board Members. I want to take this opportunity to highlight our Annual Spring Meeting which will take place on May 10 at 2:00 PM at the OSU Foundation. At this meeting we announce our scholarship winners. We are fortunate to have President Murthy join us to report on the State of the University and participate in handing out the scholarships. I have also asked her to comment on the athletic situation with the loss of the PAC 12 and formation of a new league.

A big shout-out to the Member Services Committee, Co-Chaired by Larry Pribyl and Tony Amandi, who have been very active this year. They organized an entertaining talk by David Bernell, from the OSU Political Science Department, who spoke on the State of Politics in the United States on February 9, 2024. One of the many points of interest was the observation that for President Biden to prevail in the upcoming election he must keep disaffected Trump voters from voting for 3rd party candidates. There was a very good turnout for Bernell's talk, more than 40 people.

Another recent program was presented by Gordon and Kathleen Reistad on their two different trips to Alaska with comments on the advantages of each one. Travel Share is a very popular OSURA program. We had another good turnout with more than 40 people in attendance. Thanks to Rose Kenneke for coordinating these events.

Our Member Services Committee, chaired by Jadwiga Giebultowicz, has been active in providing the Membership information on Athletic Clubs that are free to members through their health insurance plans. Jadwiga has noted that if exercise could be sold as a pill the pill would cost \$10,000! So get out and be active!!

Meanwhile there are other OSURA programs being offered this Spring. So keep an eye out for OSURA emails.

-Carroll



OSURA SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship season began January 1, and the deadline is February 16. After application reviews and interviews, scholarship recipients will be announced in May.

OSURA Scholarship Program

OSURA's scholarship program is one of our association's most visible services to OSU. If you aren't familiar with the guidelines and requirements, you can check them out on our website:

[OSURA Scholarship | OSU Retirement Association | Oregon State University](#)

Each year we award up to eight undergraduates a scholarship currently worth up to \$2,400. During this year's open application period, January 1-February 16, more than two-dozen students applied. About sixteen of those met the requirements, and the selection committee is currently working to pare the remaining group down to the finalists. Following interviews, the recipients will be announced at OSURA's Annual meeting in May.

The selection committee consists this year of Mary Burke, Bill Becker, Roberta Hall, Kevin Ahern, Richard Waring, Dale Weber, Indira Rajagopal, and Mike Schuyler. The budget this year is \$19,200, most of which comes via donations from generous OSURA members each year. About \$4,000 comes from OSURA's endowment with the OSU Foundation.

- Mike Schuyler
Chair, Scholarship Committee



IN MEMORIAM:



**Remembering 3 OSU and community leaders who
have passed. All were members of OSURA.**

IN MEMORIAM: CHARLES VARS



Raymond Charles Vars, Jr.
August 5, 1937 - July 27, 2023

Former Corvallis mayor and city councilor, Raymond Charles Vars, passed away peacefully on July 27, 2023, at the Lumina Hospice & Palliative care facility in Corvallis. He was 85.

Born in Westerly, Rhode Island, to a business-inclined family, Vars briefly attended the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, and later in 1957, the University of Denver where he fell in love with economics, particularly how it helped him better understand the intricate economics of his father's drugstore business.

Vars joined Oregon State University in 1966 as an economics professor and continued to teach and research full time while he served as a city councilor (1983-1986) and city mayor (1987-1995). As he told interviewers in an oral history project for Oregon State's Special Collections & Archive Research Center in 2013, Vars developed his interest in public service by watching his parents in their small town of 12,000.

His father's drug store was situated across from the town's post office. His mother was an office manager at an insurance company and a treasurer at the local Central Baptist Church. They lived next to the town's newspaper publisher. "What I'm getting at is we were plugged in, my sister and I, to thinking about the public sector and the community as a whole," he said in that 2013 interview.

This sense of community and collaboration, many of his loved ones and former colleagues say, formed the grounding ethos of Vars' work in public service as well as his personal life. Freda Vars, his wife of 54 years, said his legacy was defined by his willingness to work with everyone. "He often talked about the importance of collaboration, of people working together," she said in a phone interview.

Sons Fredrick and Raymond Vars recalled his geniality, hearty laughter, enthusiasm for learning, travel, being around others, education and ideas as some of his outstanding traits and qualities they will miss. "He wanted to have a practical impact. Some academics are satisfied to just write for each other, but he wasn't like that," said Fredrick Vars, a law professor at the University of Alabama.

Vars was the first mayor Deborah Jacobs worked with after her appointment as the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library director in 1987. This was the year discussions began about a library expansion to create room for the 170,000 books overflowing the library's 22,000-square-foot space. Jacobs recalled that under Vars, the city quickly became involved and amid several fundraising ideas for the project, Vars wanted to go the route of a bond measure. Jacobs said this was "pretty radical" in the late '80s.

"Libraries are valid community assets, and Charlie saw that," Jacobs said by phone. Freda Vars quickly took over a community organizing campaign, which saw the \$6.85 million bond measure pass by an overwhelming 70%. "At the groundbreaking, Charlie said something that has become a theme for me and something I have used while I was working and till

today: “When a good community comes together good things happen,” Jacobs said. This mantra became so invaluable that after she left the library in 1997, she had the quote framed. The words moved offices with her and made their way into speeches, especially because they aligned with how she too saw the value of community in effecting change.

“I think for me as a politician and as a leader, as I was growing professionally, I often thought about the lessons I learned from Charlie in the way he led the City Council so much so that whenever I got recognition for anything I did, I always called Charlie and thanked him,” Jacobs said. In 2001, Jacobs led a similarly groundbreaking bond measure to fund the Seattle Public Library as Seattle city librarian.

“The library is a tribute to his desire to see people come together to work towards a communal good,” Freda Vars said. While the public library is a substantial, concrete legacy he leaves behind, Fredrick Vars says it is important to remember that there are other less visible, less concrete ways he made his impact on the community.

Whether it was inviting civil rights icons John Lewis and Ralph Abernathy to the small college town, creating a lasting budgetary framework, initiating the Willamette Riverfront Task Force that eventually resulted in the development of the Riverfront Commemorative Park, or traveling to Uzhgorod, Ukraine to establish it as a sister city with Corvallis, his work is still felt in many ways throughout Corvallis.

As an academic, Vars also worked in the spirit of community and collaboration. He enjoyed venturing beyond the department of economics to ideate and execute research projects with scholars in other colleges from engineering and oceanography research groups to the air pollution institute at Oregon State and NASA.

Freda Vars said since her husband’s passing, she has been going through his research reports and has been astounded by his work as an academic. However, it wasn’t just about bringing people together, his son Raymond Vars, director of investment communications at Harding Loevner, said. There was also a deep sense of fairness that he brought to the conversations that he created room for. “He tried to work in a way that each of them saw the ultimate resolution as the common good,” he said in a phone interview.

Vars is also survived by a third son, John Vars, an organic farmer who earned a geology degree from Brown University. He also leaves behind three daughters-in-law, eight grandchildren, three brothers-in-law, three nieces, a nephew and a cousin.

“We didn’t use to think in those days about someone being an epitome of democracy because we took democracy for granted 30 years ago, which we can’t now,” Jacobs said. “But he was an epitome of democracy in such a fine ethical way.

“I’ve seen a lot of mayors in my life now. Charlie was the first mayor that I worked with, but he was the best,” she said.

Charles Vars Oral History Interview

Voices of Oregon State University Oral History Collection (OH 09)

Special Collections and Archives Research Center,
Oregon State University

IN MEMORIAM: CLIFFORD W TROW



Clifford W Trow
July 27, 1929 – October 31, 2023

Clifford W. Trow died Tuesday morning, October 31 at the age of 94 at Willamette Springs Memory Care with his family at his side. He was born in July 1929, in Topeka, Kansas and grew up in Salina along with an older brother and sister and a younger sister. He graduated from Kansas Wesleyan University with an honors degree in history in 1951. He then began a 45-year teaching career when he became a high school social studies teacher in Kansas and later in Boulder, Colorado. While in Boulder he pursued graduate degrees in history at the University of Colorado, completing his Ph.D. in 1966.

Through his contact with CU summer term professor from Oregon State University, George Barr Carson, Cliff was offered a professorial position at OSU and arrived in Corvallis in the fall of 1965 as a member of the history department.

Whether teaching large western civ classes, small seminars or special courses on Latin America or American Thought and Culture, he was devoted to his teaching. He read widely and after retirement

was often seen at local coffee shops with a book in his hand ready for a friendly conversation. But politics was also a special interest, and he became involved in Oregon Democratic politics as he had been in Colorado. Specifically, he worked on the campaigns of Wayne Morse, Oregon US Senator and became active in the local Democratic committee. Cliff ran for the Oregon Senate in 1970 losing to incumbent Dick Hoyt. Four years later he ran again, winning the seat that he would hold for 28 years until his retirement in 2003. And all this while continuing to teach in the OSU history department.

Cliff was a dedicated supporter of education and served on the Senate Education Committee for eight sessions including five as chair. In 1979 he was recognized as “Education Senator of the Year” by the Oregon Education Association and similarly honored as “Senator of the Year” by the Oregon Library Association in both 1991 and 1993. He, along with a Republican colleague, was instrumental in passing legislation mandating kindergartens in public schools as well as other important education issues. He received the Howard Cherry Award as the 2001 Outstanding Community College Advocate.

A member of additional committees, Cliff chaired the Senate Ways and Means in 1993 and subcommittees of Ways and Means from 1985-1991. He also chaired the Executive Appointment Committee for several sessions. Elected by his peers as President Pro Tempore of the Senate in 1981, Cliff also served as senate Democratic leader from 1995-1998.

He was recognized for his legislative leadership with awards from a number of civic, social service and governmental organizations including the Distinguished Alumni Award from Kansas Wesleyan University, the Distinguished Service Award from Western Oregon University, the Mark O. Hatfield Award in recognition of unselfish devotion to the call of public service and a strong conviction toward enhancing the quality of life in Oregon; the Jerry Bieberle Award in recognition of legislative leadership and dedica-

tion to fighting poverty in Oregon and the Frank Roberts Service Award from the Oregon State Senate in recognition of dedicated service to the people of Oregon. And, in 2002, on the eve of his retirement from elected office, Cliff was honored by the city of Corvallis, which declared December 16 to be “Cliff Trow Day.”

Statewide, Cliff also was a member and chair of the State Library Board, the Oregon Center for Public Policy, the Oregon League of Conservation Voters, and The Partners for Hunger Free Oregon. In Corvallis and Benton County he was active in Democratic politics, Cliff chaired the local central committee for a number of years in the 1960’s and 1970’s, was a member of the Benton County Corvallis Library Board and the Benton County Cultural Coalition and was a longtime member of the Corvallis Lions Club. A strong love of education and teaching led him to be one of the founders of the Academy for Life-long Learning when he served on the council and curriculum committees for many years. In addition, he taught or facilitated 48 classes over the years.

Shortly after arriving in Corvallis, Cliff met Jo Anne Johnson, a recent addition to the student affairs department at OSU and, in 1969 they were married. In 54 years of a wonderful and devoted marriage, they enjoyed music at OSU music performance and the Portland Opera; the OSU, Portland Center Stage and Oregon Shakespeare Festival theatres; Beaver athletics, especially women’s and men’s basketball, football, gymnastics; playing tennis, hiking in the mountains and at the beach; and especially, being great friends with a succession of Cardigan Welsh Corgis over the years. For over 20 years they started their day with a wonderful group of friends in the early morning exercise group at Fitness Over Fifty. And, over all, they supported each other, working on projects, running political campaigns, enjoying friendships with others, and celebrating all the ups and downs of life together.

Most of all, Cliff Trow was a true gentleman, but, as friends noted, of greater importance, a gentle man, a man of principle and moral strength, a man of integrity , and a dedicated public servant; a friendly face and a good listener with a keen interest in you as a person; a devoted and supportive husband, an excellent teacher, a committed champion for social justice, a mentor to those who worked with him, a model of a committed public servant and a genuine, kind, intelligent human being, a man who left the world a better place.

By Kosiso Ugwuede, Reprinted with permission from Corvallis Gazette-Times

Cliff Trow Oral History Interview - December 13, 2013

Voices of Oregon State University Oral History Collection

[Watch Video](#) | [Download Transcript \(PDF\)](#)

Special Collections and Archives Research Center, Oregon State University



IN MEMORIAM: JOHN BYRNE



January 14, 2024

by Sean Nealon, OSU Newsroom

CORVALLIS, Ore. – John V. Byrne, who served as Oregon State University's 12th president from 1984 to 1995 after leading the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, died Thursday. He was 95.

As president of Oregon State, Byrne oversaw the construction of buildings and the addition of degree programs, strengthened OSU's academic reputation and boosted fundraising.

"The university we know and love today would be unrecognizable without the many lasting contributions of President Emeritus John V. Byrne," said OSU President Jayathi Y. Murthy. "His life was distinguished by exemplary public service in Oregon and across the nation, scientific accomplishment, and the warm friendship he shared with colleagues, students, artists and community members."

Interested in teaching, Byrne left a position as a geologist at an oil company in Texas in 1960 to join the oceanography program at what was then known as Oregon State College. He was one of the first faculty members of the department and spent his early

years researching coastal estuaries.

In 1968, he was named chair of OSU's oceanography department, and three years later he was promoted to dean of the newly created School of Oceanography, now known as the College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences.

A year later, he was also elevated to serve as the director of the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport. Byrne served in this dual capacity until becoming Oregon State's first dean of research in 1976 and later vice president for research and graduate studies.

In 1981, he was nominated by President Ronald Reagan to serve as the third administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Washington, D.C. He remained in this role until 1984 when he returned to Corvallis to succeed Robert MacVicar as Oregon State's 12th president.

As president, Byrne oversaw the expansion, renovation or acquisition of dozens of buildings and other campus facilities, helped raise \$40 million for the expansion of the Valley Library, established more than 30 new degrees or certificates and created the University Honors College and the Department of Ethnic Studies. He did this amidst a budget crisis caused by significant reductions in state funding for higher education.

He also oversaw the implementation of the university's first strategic plan, development of the President's Commission on the Status of Women and acquired the Ava Helen and Linus Pauling Papers and other materials that were later housed in the OSU Libraries Special Collections.

In 1995, Byrne announced his intention to retire as president and was succeeded by Paul Risser in Janu-

ary 1996.

Upon retiring as president, Byrne remained a prominent member of the OSU community, participating in university and arts events, teaching in the Honors College, furthering his own scholarship, helping to found local arts organizations, and contributing to state and national commissions. He served on the state’s vote by mail commission and led the Kellogg Commission on the Future of State Land Grant Universities.

In 2017, Byrne’s memoir, “Undercurrents,” was published by Oregon State University Press. It explores his childhood during the Great Depression and World War II and his career as a scientist, educator and administrator.

Byrne, who was born in Hempstead, New York, earned a bachelor’s degree from Hamilton College in 1951, a master’s degree from Columbia University in 1953 and a doctorate from the University of Southern California in 1957.

Byrne is survived by his wife, Shirley, children Donna Byrne, Karen Byrne (Mike Dickey) and Steven Byrne (Holly), and grandchildren Adiv Paradise, Liat Para-



OSURA PROGRAMS:

A PRESENTATION FROM DAVID BERNELL:
CURRENT ELECTION CYCLE, PLUS WORLD
AFFAIRS AND CONFLICTS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9



On February 9, OSURA members welcomed David Bernell, Associate Professor of Political Science in the School of Public Policy at Oregon State University.

David talked about the current presidential election, the Iowa caucus, the Electoral College, legal trials, other presidential candidates, plus world affairs and conflicts.

Many questions from participants created an engaging conversation and presentation.

David Bernell's presentation was streamed live as a Webinar and recorded. To view his presentation, go to the OSURA website, <https://osura.oregonstate.edu/>

Select **Events** and scroll to the bottom of the page and select Past OSURA events then select **+2024** and finally select **Watch the recording** under David Bernell's, talk, "The Elections and Politics – Domestic and Global.

Note: there are previous recordings made from other OSURA presentations.

-Larry Pribyl
Co-Chair, Programs Committee

OSURA PROGRAMS:

BETH RAY CENTER TOUR

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

Nineteen OSURA members attended a presentation by staff and a tour of the Beth Ray Center for Academic Support on the Oregon State University Campus on March 1, 2024.

Ray Brooks of your Program Committee organized the tour and gave a quick summary of the program and introduced Cynthia Castro the Director of the Academic Support Team and Associate Athletics Director by letting us know the path she had taken to arrive at OSU.



Cynthia explained how the Academics for Student Athletes (ASA) works in assisting student-athletes by providing services needed in order for students to succeed and to make it through graduation and beyond. To carry out this mission, the program has a team of academic counselors and learning specialists that work with individual students to help with their specific needs.

Six academic counselors work with specific sports programs and their students. They guide and provide each student with help that they need through their entire academic process and work in conjunction with three learning specialists to ensure that each student's needs are met through their time at OSU.

Some of the ways that help is given to students is by academic counseling to assist students in selecting areas of study, determining class schedules and ensuring that they are connected to resources on campus. Peer mentoring provided by undergraduate and graduate students also provides individual support to student-athletes in specific subject areas. Learning specialists focus on helping students with time management strategies, study skills, reading comprehension, writing comprehension, and understanding of course-specific content.

Abbey Nelson, the Coordinator of Academic Support Programs, talked to us about some of the programs carried out to help students acclimate to the campus and to their individual needs.



Abbey specifically addressed the BEST Summer Bridge Program. This 4-week immersion program helps student-athletes in the summer before their first school term to adapt to the college environment and learn to balance academics with athletics and gives them a jump-start to their college career. The program includes daytime, evening and weekend activities where students from various backgrounds, interests and sports can participate.



From there we were led by Cynthia Castro and Abbey Nelson for a visit of floors two and three of the facility and looked at classroom spaces, study areas, and a lounge.



After the tour, the members disbanded and some of us headed for a baseball game that was mostly played in the rain. We all learned about a great program that assists students to cope with dual requirements of being a student and a team member in the sport of their choice.

Contributed by Tony Amandi
Co-Chair Program Committee

Three student-athletes, Sergio Montoya (Men's Wrestling), Riley Patera (Women's Track and Field) and Fran Cortijo (Men's Soccer) were then introduced to the audience and answered specific questions from staff regarding their backgrounds, home town, degree being pursued, assistance they had received from the program, etc. They then proceeded to answer questions from the OSURA members. They had great answers to each of the questions and all agreed that the BEST Program gave them a great start to university life and all mentioned that the rafting event was at the top of the list, where they made friends and relationships and hooked up with roommates as well.



OSURA PROGRAMS:

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL DINNER AND GAME

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29



Introduced tongue-in-cheek as “OSURA’s favorite women’s basketball head coach of the past decade,” Scott Rueck took the microphone for 30 minutes of comments and conversation with over 35 OSURA members and their guests at a pre-game dinner on February 29.



Scott, of course, is now in his 14th year (over a decade) as head coach of the women’s team. He has been OSURA’s guest speaker at a women’s basketball event each one of those years except for the two years of the Covid-No-Activity hiatus in 2021 and 2022.

As always, Scott spoke candidly about his experiences, praising this year’s team for how well they have come together, and exceeding all expectations in rising from polls that initially ranked them 10th in the PAC 12 to rankings as high as 9th in the country.



Scott had plenty of ad lib and often humorous answers for OSURA members who asked their questions between mouthfuls of the tasty huli-huli chicken served for dinner. Topics ranged from when Raegan Beers (injured in the UCLA game) might be back on the floor to what he anticipated next year without the usual PAC 12 competition. Scott’s answers sometimes were “I don’t know,” “Wait and see,” “Good question,” and “Your guess is as good as mine,” all of which provide a glimpse into the uncertainties that coaches face daily.



After the dinner, OSURA member Jim Krueger commented, “I really appreciate Scott’s sense of humor and his willingness to share his honest thoughts and perspective on team members, challenges, and proud moments.”

Jim’s son-in-law, attending the dinner as a first-time guest, noted how impressed he was with a coach who didn’t give a glossed-over account of a team’s achievements and challenges, but who really gave listeners an off-court look.

Despite battling bravely in that night’s game without starter Beers, the Beavers lost to top-ranked Stanford. Two nights later, Beers was back on the floor and OSU had the win against Cal (UC California Berkeley). Those two games marked not just the end of the regular women’s season, but also the last time for women’s basketball fans to see the PAC 12 at play in Gill Coliseum.

Contributed by Terri Tower
OSURA Program Committee

OSURA PROGRAMS:

HOW TO RECYCLE PROPERLY

KENNY LARSON, REPUBLIC SERVICES

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

Republic Services Presentation: Do You Know How to Recycle Your Waste Materials Properly?

On March 8, 2024, forty-seven Oregon State University Retirement Association members attended and were treated to a great presentation by Kenneth Larson on the ins and outs of recycling. A few of those joined virtually by watching the webinar. Mr. Larson is the Municipal Administrator and Recycling Education Coordinator for Republic Services in western Oregon.

To start with, Mr. Larson was adamant that recycling items is at the bottom of the waste reduction hierarchy when it comes to waste reduction. Reducing consumption of items with excess packaging should be the first step with reusing items a second step by purchasing those that can be used multiple times. Recycling materials would be the third step in the upside down pyramid with the caveat that not all items can be recycled for a variety of reasons.



He then defined recycling as a series of activities that includes collecting recyclable materials that would be considered waste, sorting and processing recyclables into raw materials that can then be made into new products. Mr. Larson then shared what products can be recycled and placed in the tan cart provided by Republic Services. He described why some of these were acceptable and why that was the case.

Paper Products that Can Go in the Tan Cart



Plastic and Metal Products that Can Go in the Tan Cart



He then shared things that should never go in the tan cart and explained that some of those are just not recyclable whereas others have no market available to be recycled. Several of these items though appearing to be recyclable, have multiple layers of different materials to the packaging and thus cannot be recycled. Mr. Larson explained that oil and paint containers could be recycled at the hazardous waste events provided by Republic Services.

These **Never** Go in the Tan Cart



These **Never** Go in the Tan Cart



In some cases some items such as very small items (bottle caps) and plastic bags can cause serious damage to recycling machinery. Items that have food or dirt on them should not be placed in the carts. A couple of items that leads to some head scratching are soiled diapers and doggie poop bags.

One of the slides showed the severe damage that can be caused by plastic bags to a sorting machine. In this case the entire operation has to be shut down and the plastic bags had to be removed by hand and in some cases having to cut them to pieces.



Republic Services does not recycle products that they collect. They contract with a company in Albany, Oregon that does some preliminary sorting and bundling and then send the materials to a material recovery facility in Salem, Oregon for processing. There they are separated into usable like products and sent to other facilities that can work with the materials and produce new products.



The MRF – Processing

- Materials are loaded onto a conveyor belt and are sorted (contamination makes it tough)
- Some sorting is automated, with powerful magnets, series of screens and fans. This is not always the case. Some facilities, only have "pick lines".
- The rest of the sorting is done by hand.
- Once material is separated into like commodities, it is baled for sale to manufacturers



Some of us learned the difference between a recycling symbol and one denoting the type of plastic comprising the item. The real recycling symbol is green and the one most common seen contains a number.



Chemical formulas for each of the most common plastics, numbers 1 to 6, were presented and learned that number 7 stands for mixed plastics.

What Do Your Recyclables Become?

At Republic Services®, we strive toward sustainability. Ever wonder what your recyclables become after they're sorted and processed? Take a look.

Old Magazines	→	Turned Into: Paperboard, newspapers	
Mixed Paper & Junk Mail	→	Turned Into: Cardboard medium, paperboard packaging, paper tubes, roofing paper	
Cardboard	→	Turned Into: Paper bags, new cardboard, paperboard, cardboard medium	
Notebook & Computer Paper	→	Turned Into: Paper towels, facial tissue, toilet paper, napkins, new notebook paper, new computer paper	

Visit RepublicServices.com for more information on recyclables.



A take away for the presentation regarding recycling is “When in doubt throw it out”

Here are the links that provide further information that Mr. Larson promised the audience during his presentation

- Department of Environmental Quality : Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act : Recycling : State of Oregon
- <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/recycling/Pages/Modernizing-Oregons-Recycling-System.aspx>
- Corvallis, OR Waste & Recycling Services | Republic Services
- Corvallis Sustainability Coalition | Addressing our most pressing sustainability issues at the local Corvallis level and beyond (sustainablecorvallis.org)

For those of you who were unable to attend in person or watch online, the presentation was recorded and is now available in your OSURA webpage at the following link

https://media.oregonstate.edu/media/t/1_q9jyki10

Alternatively, go to osura.oregonstate.edu > Events Calendar > Past OSURA Events > +2024 > click on Watch the recording.

Contributed by Tony Amandi
Co-Chair Program Committee

Recycling is regional and is driven by demand of recyclable materials and the ability of material recovery facilities ability to sort and process the items. Items that may be recyclable in Portland may not be recyclable in Corvallis. Some things that are recyclable may not be able to be recycled at a scale that offsets the environmental or financial cost. Mr. Larson also let us know that Oregon has passed a Plastic Pollution and recycling Modernization Act that will be implemented in the near future. This Act holds packaging manufacturers responsible for mitigating the environmental cost of their packaging. It creates a statewide list for what is and is not recyclable, The Act also established a Truth-in-Labeling taskforce to study and make recommendations regarding deceptive marketing practices around recycling. At this time the Legislature has not addressed these recommendations.

Mr. Larson also encouraged us to have an open mind when it comes to recycling and take into account all the different factors such as economies, facilities and companies being willing to produce new products.

OSURA PROGRAMS:

TRAVEL SHARE

ROSE KENNEKE

Travel Share, as the name suggests, is an OSURA committee providing members an opportunity to share with one another about the national and international trips they have taken. Presenters are members who volunteer or are invited to speak and show photos of their travels. Comments and questions from the audience are encouraged.

Travel Share was initiated in 2011 by Jim Krueger, after visiting another university with a similar program. It was well-received by OSU retirees and has existed to this day except for a hiatus during COVID.

Travel Share meets once a term during the academic year usually at the OSU Foundation Building, where ample free parking is provided. Typically, meetings run from 2-4 pm. The program begins at 2:30 pm, allowing for a brief social time beforehand for cookies and conversation.

Each year presentations have provided us with knowledge and insight into different ways of life. During Fall Term 2023 we traveled with Joe Nibler and friends by train through the Canadian Rockies. Winter Term 2024 we travelled north again with Kathleen and Gordon Reistad on their two Alaskan cruises.

Spring Term 2024 on April 8, Indira Rajagopal and Kevin Ahern will take us on another cruise. This time we will travel by ship from Athens to London. An email announcement of their presentation will be sent to members before the event, allowing interested persons to make reservations. The presentation will be recorded and a link is provided afterward for those not able to attend on <https://osura.oregon-state.edu/past-events>
Please put April 8th on your calendar.

Thanks,
Rose Kenneke





OSURA News & Views

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