

# THE *scene*

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2008

Make  
people

THOUGHTS ON DEMOCRACY

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THE SCENE • SUMMER 2008 • VOL. XXV NO. 2

THE MAGAZINE OF WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY



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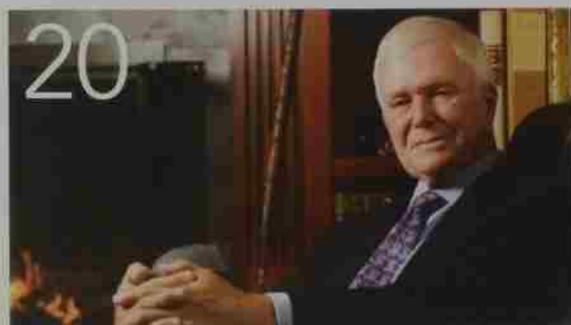


## The Emancipation of Robin Morris Collin

The great-granddaughter of slaves, Law Professor Robin Morris Collin sees a new landscape of discrimination — and new avenues for activism.

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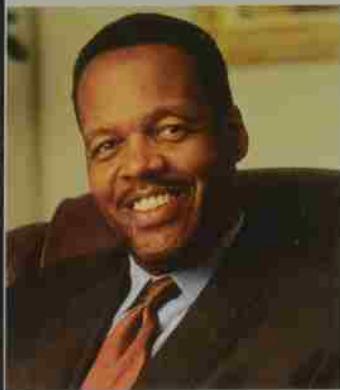
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The diverse views presented in The Scene do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editor or the official policies of Willamette University.

## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

In keeping with this issue's theme of democracy, we offer an excerpt of President M. Lee Pelton's valedictory remarks to the College of Liberal Arts Class of 2008. His words will resonate with every generation of Willamette alumni, and with all who appreciate the value of engaged and educated citizens:



In today's world, few things are more important than the cultivation of educated young men and women... imbued with personal integrity and with hearts warmed to the transforming power of virtue and beauty.

Our educational purpose is, in some fundamental sense, framed by the civic obligation that lies at the heart of our motto, a commitment to the society of which we are an essential part: to provide a better future, to make a better world.

Today, Willamette's most cherished and difficult educational objective is to educate for civic responsibility. And being in a very important election year puts what we do here in a special fight. The reduction of ideas and language to the lowest common denominator is one of the great dangers of contemporary American political society. The prevalent notion seems to be that a great mass of the people cannot understand, cannot form independent judgment on important topics that affect their lives, are incapable of meaningful intellectual engagement and reflection — attributes that distinguish our common humanity.

The noisy drum beat of slogans, the jangling discords of the news, the great storm of sound bytes that rain down ceaselessly upon the citizen make democracy vulnerable to those messages that are the loudest or most persistent rather than those that are most reasonable or well-considered. The waves and bits of detritus we endure now surpass anything that previous generations ever knew. Heaven help us from such puny, self-important and self-referential small mindedness masquerading as intellectual analysis. If independent judgment is the sine qua non of effective citizenship in a democracy, then we must admit that it is harder to maintain now than it has ever been before. Is it too much to hope that a strong dose of education in childhood and youth can inoculate a person to withstand the onslaughts on independent judgment that spin masters concoct every day? For this, much diligence is required. Also required is an insistence that our graduates acquire those habits of mind that give them the capacity to think deeply and think for themselves.

In this election year, I think how difficult must be the trials of John and Jane Q. Public. Yet the Democratic primaries — no matter the winner — ensure that [we] will participate in a historic national election in November. More than anything else, the presidential election reminds us that the call to greatness is alive in every generation.

In today's world, few things are more important than the cultivation of educated young men and women, clear-headed, tempered by historical perspective, disciplined by the hard truth of science, imbued with personal integrity and with hearts warmed to the transforming power of virtue and beauty.

Our nation is in want of young women and men whose perspective, whose courage and whose capacity to see through the confusion of the moment will permit them to hew out of the mountainside of despair a city of hope. The democratic ideal is equal opportunity for full human development, and, since education is an intrinsic part of human dignity, the democratic ideal demands that we should strive to see to it that all have the opportunity to attain the fullest measure of education that is possible to each.

Let us be mindful of our future and of others in that future.

So, let me now close with words that have concluded each of my valedictories to the departing classes: When you depart from this commonwealth of learning, may your life bring you some work of noble note, may you find meaning in your commitment to others, and may your memories of Willamette be undying.

Good luck and good cheer.

## EDITOR'S NOTE



### Voices

Summer bridges the two most significant ceremonies on the Willamette campus: Commencement in May, Convocation in September. These events are feasts for the senses, from the haunting strain of bagpipes to the riot of color festooning the caps and robes of our faculty and graduates. The pageantry and dress follow traditions dating back to medieval universities of the 11th and 12th centuries.

I have always been enamored by the symbolism of academic regalia, in which color and cut and costume have meaning. Though we rarely pause to reflect on their significance outside the scope of these ceremonies, I can't help but see them as a reflection of the democracy of scholarship.

Once daily garb for medieval students and faculty alike, the black gown covers clothing that would suggest social or economic standing, making equals of all who pursue higher education. The cap—whether mortarboard or tam—is a reminder of Roman rule, when only free men were allowed the privilege of wearing one. Today the cap symbolizes the freedom of scholarship, as well as the dignity and responsibility that come with having an education.

At the same time, the cut of the gown, the shape of the sleeves and the hue of tassels and hoods speak to the individuality of each scholar and the choices each made—what institution to attend, what field to pursue, to what lengths. And freedom of expression has found its place at Commencement, with graduates decorating their mortarboards and donning leis and other garlands.

With this edition of *The Scene*, we celebrate many aspects of democracy—issues that unite us, divide us, challenge us to rethink our beliefs, and allow us to express ourselves with unique, impassioned voices:

"I want to tell you about my beloved homeland."

"I want to do something meaningful with my life."

"I want to teach law and say, 'Here are the tools for changing the story.'"

"I would say that's what our founders intended."

"I plan to issue an annual challenge to the members of our community."

"I'm happy to do anything I can to further the experience of students and faculty members."

"I wanted to honor my family's sacrifice."

"I would like to change even a little piece of the world."

"I have my father to thank for my American citizenship, and my mother to thank for knowing how lucky that makes me."

Education, like democracy, is a privilege, one inherent with responsibility. "We the people" of the Willamette community honor that responsibility whenever we act with our motto in mind: Not unto ourselves alone are we born.

Rebecca Brant  
Editor

## MAIL BAG



to cover, is the best ever — not just as an alumni magazine, but also as an absorbing, interesting and, yes, artful work.

Many thanks to you and your staff. The only problem is to match or better the next one.

— Chet Daniels '56

**ABC's of Alaska**

As a Willamette alumna from Alaska (living back in Alaska now), I was happy to read "The ABC's of Alaska" in the briefs section of the spring issue. I am hoping there will be a follow-up article about the work the MAT candidates and instructors do while they are here working with rural schools. Please let us know about their progress and results.

— Courtney Everard '00

**Paying Tribute**

So that's what it comes down to. The life and career of a 27-year Willamette faculty member summarized in four inches of 6-point type on page 51 of *The Scene*. No photograph, no remembrances from former students, no eulogy from contemporaries or University leadership.

Stanley Butler taught music theory, music history and music appreciation to hundreds of Willamette students over his career... I studied piano with (him),



Stanley Butler, 1966 Willamette

**Top That!**

As an alumnus and past trustee, I have scanned many a *Scene* publication. This latest issue, which I finally finished reading from cover

although I was not a music major, I corresponded with him until his death. I attended one of his retirement recitals billed as his last, although it wasn't.

Stanley Butler toiled in a fringe of the Willamette environment. Most students in the College of Liberal Arts did not take classes from him. He was not as well known as Daniel Schultze, Ted Shay, Paul Trueblood, Ivan Lovell, Buzz Yocum or Chester Luther. But he had important and lasting impacts on many students. He shaped lives through music. He helped students achieve objectives, both at Willamette and, with lessons learned, later in life. He should be remembered for the role he played in combining academic rigor and musical precision with the maturing lives of the young men and women whom he instructed. His work affected not only the formative and adult lives of his many students, but also future generations through his legacy and memory.

Stanley Butler merits pause and reflection as one of Willamette University's prized faculty members.

— Marvin F. Case '65

*Editor's Note: The Scene is often the first word alumni receive that a beloved faculty member has passed, meaning tributes such as this come in only after publication. So we will create a section of the online version of the magazine for readers to share remembrances and reflections, and will include photos of faculty from their tenure at the University as they are available.*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, critical or complimentary, are always welcome. Send your questions, comments and suggestions to

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or to  
scene@willamette.edu

Letters may be edited for length and content or posted online in their entirety as the editor deems appropriate.

**Wanting to Reconnect**

Several readers, including Diane (McKenney) Mulholland '70 and Joseph Harvey '54, wrote in response to the "103-year-

old Recalls Birth of Star Trees" article in the fall issue of *The Scene*, asking for an address to contact Margaret Ringnalda. She would be delighted to receive your letters. Someone will contact you directly with her address.

**Our Mistake**

I greatly enjoyed the story "103-year-old Recalls Birth of Star Trees" in the fall 2007 issue, but there is a mistake in the box at the bottom of the page. The Coast Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) is the tallest tree in the world. The Giant Sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) is the world's largest tree by volume. Just a quick note from someone who studies tree rings for a living.

— Evan Larson '02

The chemistry faculty wanted to let you know that Natalie Muren '06, who was acknowledged in the fall *Scene* for her National Science Foundation Award, was actually a chemistry major, not biology.

— Karen Holman, associate professor of chemistry

*Editor's Note: Thanks to our readers for keeping us on our toes.*

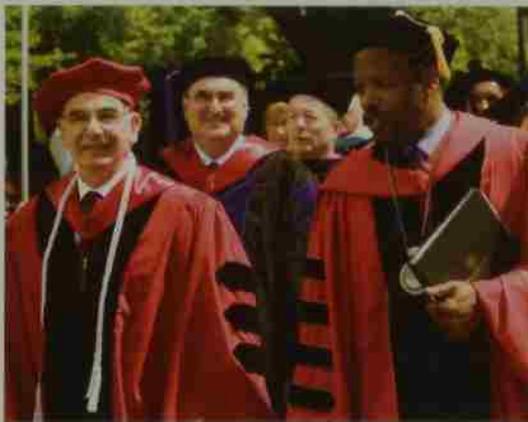
## FAREWELL TO AUGHT EIGHTS

The University bid adieu to the graduates of 2008 in four ceremonies Sunday, May 11.

The College of Liberal Arts honored its largest class ever, 502 graduates from 30 states and two countries. The most popular majors included economics (48), biology (45), politics and Spanish (both at 39). The College of Law awarded 109 JD and LL.M. degrees, and the School of Education presented 98 MAT degrees. The Atkinson Graduate School of Management recognized 47 Early Career MBA graduates at their commencement; 18 Professional MBA graduates were honored in January.

Helen Vendler, the A. Kinsley Porter University Professor at Harvard University and a noted poetry critic (top right), received an honorary doctor of humane letters and delivered the CLA commencement address. The Honorable Wallace P. Carson Jr. JD'62, former chief justice of the Oregon Supreme Court (bottom left), received an honorary doctor of laws degree.

Oregon Supreme Court Justice Paul De Muniz JD'75 (shown following President M. Lee Pelton and College of Law Dean Symeon Symeonides, below) delivered the law commencement address, and Jack McGowan, recently retired executive director of SOLV, spoke at the Atkinson ceremony. The School of Education commencement speaker was Dean Nakanishi '98, MAT'00, who teaches at a special education academy near Seattle and has researched and lectured on the history of Salem Japanese-American students sent to concentration camps during World War II.



## TIDBITS &amp; BRIEFS



### Museum Features Native American Regalia

Visit the Hallie Ford Museum of Art this fall to view a groundbreaking exhibition of historic and contemporary regalia from Oregon's Native American tribes, some of which is rarely seen by the general public.

"The Art of Ceremony," on display Sept. 27 through Jan. 19, was chosen by the Oregon Arts Commission as the state's 2008 National Endowment for the Arts American Masterpieces project. Tribes consider regalia, the items they wear and use in

private ceremonies and rituals, their finest artwork. Regalia is exceptionally diverse between tribes, from the Plateau area's buckskin and beadwork to the Great Basin's use of rabbit skins to the coastal area's abalone shell decoration. See p. 53 for photos.

The exhibition opens Sept. 27 at 3 p.m. with a public Procession of Nations from Jackson Plaza to the museum. The procession will be followed by an opening ceremony at the museum and a traditional feast in Goudy Commons. Regalia-makers will give free public presentations at the museum the following day from 1 to 5 p.m. The museum will host numerous other events, including tours, films, lectures and demonstrations throughout the exhibition. Check the website for details: [www.willamette.edu/museum\\_of\\_art](http://www.willamette.edu/museum_of_art).

The museum also celebrates its 10th anniversary Oct. 3. In just one decade, the Hallie Ford Museum of Art has had numerous accomplishments, including raising more than \$4 million toward an endowment fund; publishing 10 major books; creating 14 exhibitions that have traveled regionally, nationally and internationally; and increasing visitation from 10,000–15,000 visitors the year it opened to more than 30,000 annual visitors today. Look for information on the website this fall about an anniversary celebration.

### Students Teach for a Day

Undergraduate students and faculty traded places in mid-April for the eighth annual Student Scholarship Recognition Day. College of Liberal Arts classes were canceled that day as students gave oral, performance and artistic presentations across campus.

The student panels represented a wide array of topics, including "Living Sustainably in the Willamette Valley," "Art: Modern Installations and Traditional Ceramics," "Social Issues in Modern France," "Wal-Mart, Justice Movements and Inequality," and "Cell Signaling Pathways and Cancer Prevention."

### Bringing Africa to the Willamette Campus

Willamette hosted its third celebration of Africa in late February with a week of films, workshops, displays of African art and presentations by students who studied on the continent. The campus community tasted African cuisine all week in the University's dining facilities and browsed through an African market on the final day.

In previous years, the University hosted one day of Africa-related events, but with growing interest among students and faculty, the program was expanded to an entire week. The goal of the event is to educate the community about the true nature and diversity of Africa.

The most interactive and visual event was the creation of a 15' by 15' Africa puzzle map. Student groups from residence halls, sororities and Tokyo International University of America each decorated a blank puzzle piece to represent the ethnic makeup, geography, history and culture of an African country.



### Campus Leaders Commit to Civic Engagement

Willamette President M. Lee Pelton is among nearly a dozen college and university presidents who have signed on to the American College and University Presidents Commitment to Civic Engagement.

The initiative recognizes that "voting is the cornerstone of our democracy, the means of a representative government," and it seeks to encourage higher education leaders to create institutional structures that support and encourage all forms of civic engagement among their millennial generation students, especially voter registration and "get out the vote" programs.

In addition to Pelton, leaders who have committed to the initiative include the presidents of Oberlin, Haverford, Bryn Mawr, Kenyon and the University of Colorado.

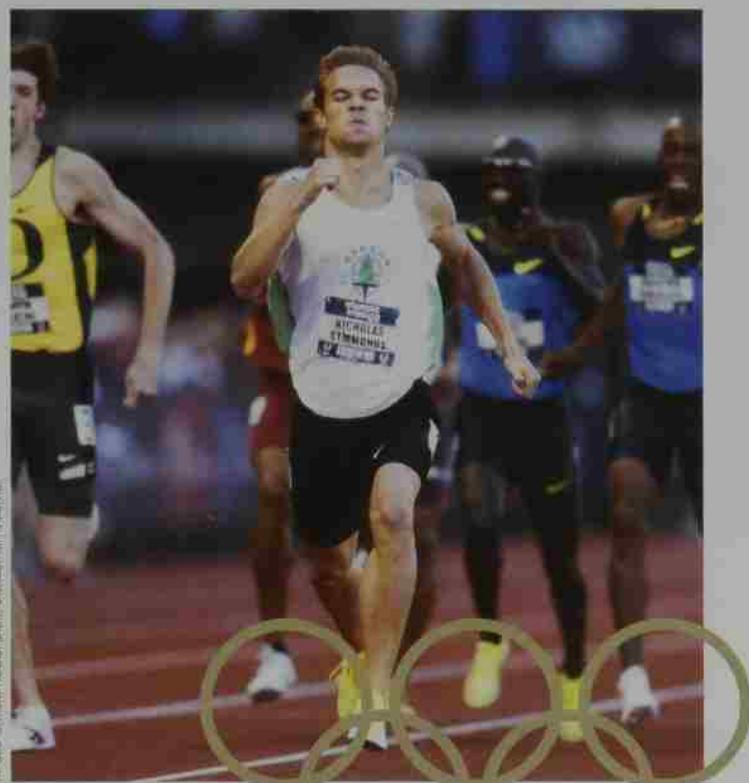


Photo Credit: Kobbie Blair, Statesman Journal

## Symmonds Runs to Beijing

Nick Symmonds '06 earned the top spot on the 2008 U.S. Olympic 800-meter team by running the second-fastest time ever recorded on American soil. At the final trial in Eugene, Ore., he drafted behind, running most of the two laps in sixth place. Only when he reached the final turn did he suddenly cut to the outside and blaze ahead with his powerful trademark kick, leaving America's top runners nearly a full second behind. The crowd at Hayward Field went wild as Symmonds crossed the finish line with a personal best 1:44.10. Andrew Wheating from the University of Oregon finished second (1:45.03), and Christian Smith of the Oregon Track Club/Nike finished third (1:45.47). All three will compete on the U.S. Olympic team. View the race online at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=hcVN5PjmaDs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hcVN5PjmaDs).

"I've been working on that kick for a couple years now, and I was going to wait until the last 100 meters to flip the switch," Symmonds says. "It felt so good to burn it on the last 100. I dreamed of this. It just felt amazing."

The *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *USA Today* and hundreds of other newspapers, television programs and blogs raved about the unknown who came from a small Division III school to lead the Olympic team. A news program in Symmonds' native Boise, Idaho, said he "has been proving that college size doesn't matter." Read the *USA Today* story online at [www.usatoday.com/sports/olympics/beijing/track/2008-06-30-padgett\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/sports/olympics/beijing/track/2008-06-30-padgett_N.htm).

Symmonds majored in biochemistry and won four national titles in the 800 meters and three in the 1,500 meters. He helped the Bearcats earn four Top 10 team finishes in NCAA Division III between 2003-06, including a tie for third place in 2004 and fourth place in 2005.

The Olympic Games began in Beijing Aug. 8, with the 800-meter prelims and finals scheduled for Aug. 20-23.

## Willamette Olympians

Willamette has produced four Olympians since 1936, including an honorary graduate who served as interim university president.

Andrew Herrmann '93 set an American record in the 25K race walk in 2000 and placed second in the U.S. time trials for 50K race walking, qualifying for the 2000 U.S. Olympic team. He finished 31st in the Sydney Olympics.

Dan Foster '75 played team handball with the U.S. Olympic team in 1980. Foster was a football player and wrestler at Willamette who went on to work for the Blackfeet Tribe in South Dakota.

Joe Story '75 was an Athletic Hall of Fame football player who helped organize team handball as a club sport at Willamette. The newly formed team won the collegiate division national championship in 1975. Story played for the U.S. Team Handball squad from 1978-88, served as team captain from 1986-88, and competed in the 1984 and 1988 Olympics. The 1986 U.S. team won the silver medal at the Goodwill Games, and the 1987 squad won the gold at the Pan-American Games. Story was twice named the U.S. Team Handball Player of the Year.

James Corson won a bronze medal in the discus throw at the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam. He was proud of his ties to Willamette, where he served as interim University president from 1972-73. The alumni association named him an honorary member of the Class of 1973, and he received an honorary degree in 1974.

Two additional athletes deserve an honorable mention:

Dean Benson '56 placed fourth in the high hurdles at the Olympic trials in 1956, missing a place on the U.S. team by inches. He set the Willamette high hurdles record and won an NAIA championship in 1955. As a coach at Medford High, Benson helped lead the football and track and field teams to five state championships.

Rachael Yocom '37 was invited to participate in the 1936 Olympic trials during her junior year. She placed sixth in the javelin and 5'2" in the high jump. A Willamette Hall of Famer, Yocom participated in every sport available at the University in the mid-1930s, including basketball, softball, soccer, tennis and volleyball. After graduation, Yocom taught dance at schools and universities in four states and trained many noted New York dancers.

## TIDBITS &amp; BRIEFS



Collegian staffers include (front to back, left to right) assistant news editor Elise Young '10, production manager Tatiana Mac '08, photo editor Connie Gladhill '09, news editor Tom Brounstein '10, managing editor Amy Hagelin '08, designer Claire Lindsay-McGinn '10, designer Kierbelee Kogama '08, designer Rhianon McCracken '10, sports editor Annette Hubbert '08, editor in chief Emily Strandin '08, arts editor Michael Cawley '09 and opinions editor Noah Zaves '09. Not pictured are imaging technician Patrick Willgohe '09, columnist Tom Ackerman '09, staff writer Lauren Gold '11, editorial board member Caillean Martin '10, business manager Drey Lutzer '06, advertising manager Eric Haddenham '08, copy editors Lu Wegner '09 and Sarah Orme '08, subscription manager Andrew Hand '09 and webmaster Jaesid Coes '08.

## Collegian Honored with Top Award

The *Collegian* won the Oregon Newspaper Publishing Association's award for general excellence in the Collegiate Newspaper Contest. In competition against all college newspapers in the state, the Willamette student paper received what is considered to be the ONPA's most prestigious collegiate award.

The *Collegian* also won awards in the following categories:

<b>Best writing:</b>	Tatiana Mac '08 ("New York Times' Associate Editor Reveals Secrets, Protects Civil Liberties," "Explore the Unexpected," "Blind Grading Ensures Objectivity")
<b>Best news story:</b>	Lauren Gold '11, "Students Mourn Sudden Death of Kaneko Cook"
<b>Best editorial:</b>	Editorial Board, "The Cost of Education"
<b>Best columnist:</b>	Tom Ackerman '10, Opinions section
<b>Best sports photo:</b>	Stephen Scott '10, photo of rugby club
<b>Best cartooning:</b>	Patrick Willgohe '10

## Journal Celebrates 25 Years

The *Willamette Journal of the Liberal Arts* will celebrate its 25th anniversary this fall. Conceived in 1983 as an interdisciplinary journal for an educated but not exclusively academic audience, the journal publishes articles from a broad array of fields. The forthcoming anniversary issue will highlight the interests and work of Lane McGaughey, professor emeritus of religious studies and one of the journal's founders.

The University will host a conference in honor of McGaughey in October. In recognition of his lifelong work on the historical Jesus, the symposium will explore the relationship between the early Christian Gospels and the ancient biographical genre. The Gospels have long been considered a unique literary form, but recent scholarship points to compelling comparisons between the Gospels and ancient biographies of

## Dean of Campus Life Steps Down



Robert Hawkinson, dean of campus life, will step down as dean at the end of the 2008-09 academic year. He will stay on for three years on a part-time basis to teach in the politics department and provide leadership in residential commons programming.

Hawkinson has been instrumental in bringing the residential commons system to life at Willamette. When Kaneko Commons, the first of four commons, opened in fall 2006, he said, "The development of this innovative, on-campus living community will distinguish Willamette from other universities in the West. While the design components are distinctive, it's the integration of the curricular and co-curricular lives of our students that sets it apart."

Hawkinson manages the largest administrative unit on campus, one that includes athletics, career services, community outreach, health and counseling services, multicultural affairs, residential life and student activities, among others. He has been dean of students since 1999, previously serving as vice president for student affairs for a year, as associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts for three years, and as a member of the politics department for 26 years.

religious and philosophical sages and reformers. Several scholars at the conference will reflect on the implications for such a shift in perspective.

The anniversary issue, due out this fall, will highlight the work of conference presenters. For information on the conference, contact the Center for Ancient Studies and Archaeology. For information on the journal, contact Jennifer Jopp, managing editor, at [jjopp@willamette.edu](mailto:jjopp@willamette.edu).



Shizue Seigel

## University Honors Wartime Students

Japanese-American students at Willamette during World War II were forced to say an abrupt goodbye when federal prosecutors sent them to concentration camps. In February, the University invited them to return for a series of events in their honor.

The families of four students returned to campus on the 66th anniversary of President Franklin Roosevelt signing Executive Order 9066 authorizing the removal of people deemed a threat to national security from the West Coast to relocation centers further inland.

They were honored with a dinner and an evening of poetry and jazz featuring Oregon Poet Laureate Lawson Inada, who was sent to a concentration camp as a boy. Other honorary events included a visit from author Shizue Seigel, who discussed cross-racial alliances to protect civil liberties during wartime, and the showing of two films related to Executive Order 9066.



## Wulapalooza Celebrates 10 Years

Willamette and the Salem community celebrated the 10th annual Wulapalooza, the University's music, art and Earth festival, in late April on Brown Field.

In addition to performances from local bands and a student art show, the festival featured four performers on the main stage: Mobius Band from New York, and Portland groups The Blow, Blitzen Trapper and Panther.

In the past decade, Wulapalooza has evolved from a small festival providing a creative outlet for students on campus into a community event that attracts nationally recognized talent. As part of the anniversary celebration, Willamette alumni enjoyed a gathering on the second floor balcony of Putham University Center.



## Guitar Series Goes 'Beyond Six Strings'

Three guitarists who are exploring the instrument in unique ways performed in April as part of the Grace Gaudy Distinguished Artists Series.

The performances, titled "Beyond Six Strings," explored significant trends in the development of the guitar, which has a history that often is narrowly interpreted to include only six-stringed instruments.

The series opened with Grammy Award nominee Paul Galbraith performing on the eight-string Brahms guitar of his own invention, which is held upright like a cello. The second concert featured Emmy Award nominee John Doan, associate professor of guitar, performing on the 20-string harp guitar and on a rare 1829 three-necked harpolyre. The series concluded with Rom McFarlane, considered one of the world's leading performers on the 13-course (18-string) lute.

## TIDBITS &amp; BRIEFS

## Willamette Establishes New Academic Centers

A grand opening in April marked the establishment of four new academic centers and the reestablishment of the Center for Governance and Public Policy Research.

"The creation of these centers, rare for a small independent university with a liberal arts focus, will establish Willamette as a place of distinction," President M. Lee Pelton said. The centers have already promoted cross-disciplinary interaction between departments, schools and institutions; hosted conferences and speakers; and provided new opportunities for faculty and student research and scholarship. Each center will build on already existing core strengths of the University.

### Center for Ancient Studies and Archaeology

Lane McGaughey, religious studies professor emeritus, CLA

### Center for Asian Studies

Juwen Zhang, Chinese, CLA

### Center for Religion, Law and Democracy

Steven Green, College of Law

### Center for Sustainable Communities

Joe Bowersox, environmental science, Dempsey Environmental Chair, CLA

### Center for Governance and Public Policy Research

Fred Thompson, Atkinson Graduate School of Management

## Salem-Keizer District Honors Willamette

The School of Education was honored by the Salem-Keizer School District as its "Business Partner of the Month" at the district's April board meeting. The award recognizes the University's many contributions to local schools, especially through the School of Education. MAT students have hosted Saturday Exploration workshops on campus and volunteered at fundraisers, in the classroom, and as reading club assistants and mentors.



Law Professor Paul Diller offers insights on the legislature and elections for KATU Channel 2 News.

## Willamette Faculty in the News

Willamette professors have been visible during this election season, with Law Professor Paul Diller and Politics Professor Melissa Michaux serving as liaisons with KATU Channel 2 television news, covering issues related to state and national politics. Law Professor Steven Green is a regular guest columnist with *The Oregonian*, offering insights

about democracy, politics and religion, while Atkinson professors and students publish monthly columns in the Inside Business section of the *Salem Statesman Journal*.

Willamette professors have been quoted extensively in local, national and international news outlets, with the University receiving more than 2,450 mentions this year. The University, professors, students and alumni have been featured or mentioned in *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Newsday*, *Washington Monthly*, *Boston Globe*, *Seattle Times*, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, *Sacramento Bee*, *CNN Money*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Rocky Mountain News*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *CollegeNews.org*. Willamette also made MSNBC and ABC national news, ESPN, Oregon Public Broadcasting, *Time* magazine's website and the "Today Show." The University was even the topic of a recent \$600 answer on *Jeopardy!*: "For fun at Willamette University, you can take a course on this; foils, masks and protective jackets are provided." (Question: What is fencing?) Read Law Professor Steven Green's *Oregonian* editorials at [http://blog.oregonlive.com/oregonianopinion/community\\_writers/steven\\_green/](http://blog.oregonlive.com/oregonianopinion/community_writers/steven_green/).

## Ringold Named JELD-WEN Chair in Free Enterprise



Debra Ringold, professor of marketing and dean of the Atkinson Graduate School of Management, was named the first holder of the

JELD-WEN Endowed Chair in Free Enterprise, effective May 1.

The JELD-WEN Chair, funded by the JELD-WEN Foundation of Klamath Falls, Ore., was established in 2007 to advance scholarship and research opportunities for Willamette students, academic institutions and community groups committed to the study of free enterprise. The \$2.5 million gift from JELD-WEN is the largest gift in the his-

tory of the Atkinson Graduate School of Management.

"In her 14 years at Atkinson," says Willamette President M. Lee Pelton, "Debra has earned significant recognition for her exceptional teaching and research and for her leadership skills and community service. With the unanimous support of her colleagues at AGSM, she was the clear choice for this honor."

Rod Wendt, president and chief executive officer of JELD-WEN Inc., says Ringold received the honor for her work in public policy issues and its implications for target marketing, consumer beliefs about advertising, and health claims in advertising, stating, "Her work has focused on issues that have real consequences for consumers."

## Pelton Outlines 2008 State of the University

In his annual address in April, President M. Lee Pelton said, "New gifts to the University, effective management of the operating budget, and a prudent and conservative debt management program for capital projects have allowed us to continue to move forward on several important initiatives during the last three years."

Strong revenues mean a 20 percent increase in CLA faculty and reduced teaching loads. Four new academic centers opened this year, and an existing center was revived. MBA for Professionals programs in Salem and Portland saw their first graduating classes this year, and the School of Education began the process of accreditation with the most recognized teacher education association in the U.S. Applications to CLA were up 35 percent, as were multicultural applications. Applications were also up for AGSM's two-year Early Career MBA program, with a record 38 percent increase this year.

The president reported that one of the greatest challenges for higher education will be making college affordable and accessible for a changing demographic. "Eighty percent of America's college students will soon be ethnic minorities, many from low-income families. There is also increased pressure for liberal arts colleges to educate to the competencies 21st century employers need. Willamette must balance workplace readiness with a traditional commitment to core liberal arts values," he said.

Construction of Ford Hall, the renovation of Carnegie Library to accommodate the new Oregon Civic Justice Center, and the renovation of Kresge Theatre are all on schedule.

Pelton said, "Future goals include full implementation of the residential commons program, expansion of the Hatfield Library footprint, Atkinson and College of Law expansions, a larger facility for the School of Education, athletics facility upgrades, a new or renovated admissions center, and a performance arts center."

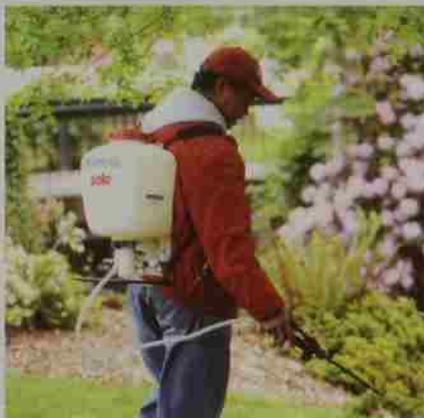
## Greener Than You Thought

Oregon travel guides rave about Willamette University's natural beauty, and *The Oregonian* named the campus one of the most beautiful urban walks in the state.



New grounds manager Jim Andersen and crew are pioneering a greener way of caring for Willamette's landscape. Adjacent lawns served as large-scale test plots last year. One received the traditional treatment of synthetic fertilizers and weed killers; the other was sprayed with organic compost tea. "The natural lawn is more lush now," Andersen says. "Traditional fertilizers work quickly, but they may not be as good for the long-term health of the soil. Now crews mow higher, leave lawn clippings as natural sources of nitrogen, water less and let some corner lawns go dormant in the summer. We want lawns that take care of themselves."

The natural approach extends to flower gardens, where pesticide use was reduced more than 80 percent last year. Weed treatment includes applications of vinegar and mulch rather than chemicals, and when time runs short, stray weeds in corner areas of campus are tolerated with mindful neglect. "It's important to preserve the history of the place, including the history of the plant life," Andersen says, "but sustainability gives us an exciting new avenue to explore."



TIDBITS  BRIEFS

## Justice Ginsburg Delivers Fall Atkinson Lecture



United States Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg will deliver the fall Atkinson Lecture Friday, Sept. 12, at 5 p.m., in Smith Auditorium. The Willamette University Board of Trustees will present her with an honorary doctor of laws degree prior to the lecture.

Appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1993 by President Bill Clinton, Ginsburg has spent a considerable portion of her career advocating for equal citizenship status for women and men as a constitutional principle. She previously served as a professor at Rutgers University School of Law and Columbia Law School, and as a federal judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Ginsburg's visit coincides with the College of Law's 125th anniversary celebration and annual reunion weekend, Sept. 12-14. The justice will join other dignitaries for the Sept. 12 ribbon-cutting ceremony to dedicate the law school's new Oregon Civic Justice Center. Located on the corner of State and Winter streets, the building served as Salem's first public library until it was purchased by the YWCA in the early 1970s. The University bought the building in 2003, and the law school has spent more than a year renovating the structure.



## MBA Students Make Community Impact

Six local nonprofit and government organizations benefited from special business consulting courtesy of Willamette MBA student teams participating in the Public, Private and Community Enterprise experiential learning program. PACE provides MBA students with the opportunity to design and present a for-profit business venture while serving local nonprofit community organizations.

All six teams delivered new venture and community impact presentations. Overall, the teams dedicated more than 2,000 hours of service to the six community organizations. Their business ideas were critiqued and judged for feasibility by the PACE board. Students may take these new venture ideas to market in their second year of studies through an elective course.

The PACE program is part of the first-year curriculum for all Early Career MBA students at Willamette. The program is recognized for its unique integration of business, government and not-for-profit management.

MBA students participating in PACE (front-back, left-right): Andrea Cantu MBA'09, Benjamin Coop '08 MBA'09, Tai Nguyen MBA'09, Elizabeth Ross JD MBA'11, Katie Rayfield MBA'09, Sara Ciardiello MBA'09, Gabriella Pop MBA'09, Fauzon Jaewal MBA'09, Christopher Tenney '08 MBA'09, Daniel King MBA'09, Oswaldo Simental '07 MBA'09, Majed Alharbi MBA'09, Daniel Miley MBA'09

A Legacy of Service:  
Remembering Bryan Johnston

The Willamette community lost a notable and popular member June 8, when former interim president, AGSM dean and professor Bryan Johnston died suddenly. He was 59.

Johnston was elected Oregon state representative twice from 1995-99 and served as a strong advocate for human service legislation, leading to his most recent appointment at the Department of Human Services.

At Willamette, Johnston served as interim president from July 1997 to August 1998, then as dean of the Atkinson Graduate School of Management from 1998 to 2001. He was a founding faculty member and director of the Center for Dispute Resolution at the College of Law, where he served as a professor in addition to being a professor of conflict management resolution at AGSM.

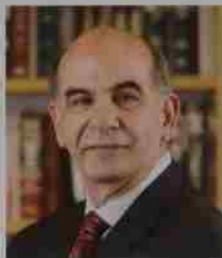
"Bryan approached his life and work with passion and vigor, humor and warmth," said President M. Lee Pelton. "His enormous generosity of spirit, his razor-sharp wit and his infinite capacity to lead and inspire others were the hallmark of all he undertook as husband and father, college professor, Atkinson dean, interim Willamette president, mediator, legislator, and the top administrator of some of the largest and most complex agencies in state government."

"He was very versatile in the areas of education and public service," said Oregon Senate President Peter Courtney, D-Salem. "Those are two of the highest callings you can aspire to, if you're chosen, and he was chosen time and again."

Just weeks before his death, Johnston had accepted the position of president of St. Martin's College in Lacey, Wash., and planned to relocate there over the summer. He cited his love for higher education as his reason for stepping down from his position with human services to return to academia.

In response to requests to share thoughts and memories with Johnston's family — including wife Anne and their four children — a forum has been set up on the Willamette MBA website. The site also includes information on the Bryan Johnston scholarship fund. See [www.willamette.edu/mba/forum/johnston.htm](http://www.willamette.edu/mba/forum/johnston.htm) for details.

## Stanford Law Review Calls Symeonides a 'Conflicts Giant'



The *Stanford Law Review* recently published a laudatory review of Dean Symeon C. Symeonides' recent book, *The American Choice-of-Law Revolution: Past, Present and Future* (2006).

Authored by Hillel Y. Levin and published in 60 *Stanford Law Review* 247 (2007), the review stated the book "offers the finest, most rigorous account of conflicts doctrine as it functions in the courts, as well as a penetrating and thoughtful analysis on how the doctrine should evolve...

"The conflicts giant Dean Symeon C. Symeonides... presents his findings with marvelous clarity, which, standing alone, is a gift to anyone who grapples with conflicts theory. To lay plain what courts actually do with the doctrine is an enormous achievement; for it demystifies a complex doctrinal area and provides actual guidance for scholar, judge, and practitioner alike."

*Revolution* is Symeonides' 19th book. His 20th book, *American Private International Law* (2008), was released by Kluwer International in March. That same month, Symeonides delivered a lecture about his book at Stanford Law School.

## Outstanding Law Mentors Recognized

The College of Law held a reception in April to honor the dedicated attorneys and judges who volunteer as mentors to Willamette law students. The popular Mentor Program is administered by the college's Office of Career Services, which hosted the annual awards reception at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art.

Kate Cooper Richardson JD'00 received the 2007-08 Judge Edward H. Howell Mentor of the Year Award. Richardson, chief of staff for the Oregon State Treasurer, was nominated by her mentee Stefyni Allen. A member of the Class of 2010, Allen praised Richardson for providing invaluable guidance and support and for always going "above and beyond."

Other WUCL mentors honored during the reception were Julie Bates JD'01, Jeff Dover JD'04, Tom Elden, Joe Groshong, Elizabeth Harchenko BS'72, JD'76, Cathy Hight, Michelle Ing JD'01, Dennis Koho JD/C'04, Holly O'Dell and Heather Vogelsong JD'05.

The College of Law's Mentor Program enables students, early in their legal careers, to forge an individual relationship with experienced legal practitioners who provide insight into and advice on the practice of law. For more information about becoming an attorney mentor, contact the career service office at [law-career@willamette.edu](mailto:law-career@willamette.edu) or register online at [www.willamette.edu/wucl/careers/mentor/](http://www.willamette.edu/wucl/careers/mentor/) for the 2008-09 Mentor Program, which begins in September.

## Law Alumnus Angel Lopez Honored



Angel G. Lopez JD'78 received the Honorable Paul J. De Muniz Award at the Oregon Hispanic Bar Association's second annual awards dinner. The De Muniz Award is presented annually to an individual who exemplifies the spirit of professionalism, enhances Oregon's legal community and makes significant contributions to the state's Latino community. The inaugural award was presented last year to its namesake, Paul J. De Muniz JD'75, chief justice of the Oregon Supreme Court.

Lopez is a partner in the firm of Squires & Lopez PC in Portland. The firm specializes in criminal defense and plaintiff personal injury work, with a subspecialty in assisting Spanish-speaking clients. Lopez has twice served as chair of the Commission of Hispanic Affairs of Oregon. He is past-president of the Oregon State Bar and the Multnomah County Library Board and was the first person of color to hold these positions in Oregon.



Dean Debra Ringold, President Lee Pelton and Mayor Janet Taylor

## Sprucing Up Downtown

In cooperation with the Salem Area Young Professionals, Willamette MBA students, faculty and staff hit the streets of downtown Salem to assist with a major clean-up effort on the first day of Atkinson's annual Brownwater festival. Mayor Janet Taylor, Willamette President M. Lee Pelton, and Atkinson Dean Debra Ringold welcomed more than 50 volunteers, who collected litter, pulled weeds, and spruced up the look of downtown streetscapes.

"People were honking, buying us pizzas and asking questions as they walked by," says AJ Nash '05, MBA'06 of Integrity First Financial. "We had more than 50 people there, and we ended up picking up more than 30 pounds of litter and 425 pounds of dirt and weeds."

The event was featured on the Salem Young Professionals website as well as on the front page of the Local section of the *Statesman Journal* April 19.

## A TRUMPETER PLAYS FOR HIS HOMELAND

His father was buried in February, his mother in April.  
His homeland was buried in May.



Willamette trumpet instructor Jay Chen's family still lives in Chengdu, about 50 miles from the epicenter of the 7.9 earthquake, and he had just returned from China when he heard the news. "The ground rippled like a dragon was below, and tens of thousands were instantly buried in cold, dark rubble,"

Chen says. "Survivors said it looked like the world was ending."

Chen spent five frantic hours dialing his family again and again, wondering if they had survived. "I have never cried so much in my life," he says. "The quake occurred in the middle of the day and so schools were the hardest hit. In just one school alone, more than a thousand children were buried. When they were uncovered, they were found wrapped in their teachers' arms."

Devastated by the disaster and unable to pull himself away from the television news coverage, Chen's first impulse was to fly back to China to help dig through the rubble. A friend suggested he use his musical talents instead. And so the man who plays lead trumpet with the Portland Opera invited 42 friends — the region's top brass musicians representing the Columbia Symphony, Oregon Symphony, Portland Opera, Portland Ballet and regional universities — to

join him in a benefit concert June 1 at the oldest church in Portland, the First United Methodist.

Feature stories about the concert soon appeared in regional newspapers and on TV news broadcasts. *Oregonian* music critic David Stabler and others promoted the concert on blogs, music and news websites ran announcements, supporters sent hundreds of emails, and an OregonLive.com podcast featured some of the scheduled music. Even *hellochengdu.com* picked up the story.

Former Willamette student Toshi Kosaka arranged slides of the devastation to accompany the music, and Chen asked former trumpet student Scott Gerweck '08 if he could write a brass instrument arrangement of the "Evening Prayer from Hansel and Gretel" — in three days. Gerweck, who plans to study composition in graduate school, gulped and said yes. "Even though our only rehearsal was the afternoon of the concert, I asked the performers if they could memorize the last three bars of the piece," Chen says, "so we could dim the lights on the last slide, several small girls holding candles during China's three-day period of mourning."

Five hundred people filled the church and waited, quiet light streaming from the tall stained glass windows. "I want to tell you about my beloved homeland," Chen began. "Chengdu lies in a valley ringed by two rivers and a rugged mountain range. The valley is so beautiful, the soil so rich and the flowers so yellow, they call it the

Land of Heaven. The people still alive there will always remember what happened that afternoon. One moment there were towns, full of life. The next moment, thousands were buried and millions were homeless. For the survivors of the 7,000 aftershocks, their desires are basic: "Please just let us have one decent night's sleep." And tents, food and water.

"I want to tell you about my beloved homeland. Chengdu lies in a valley ringed by two rivers and a rugged mountain range. The valley is so beautiful, the soil so rich and the flowers so yellow, they call it the Land of Heaven."

After Gerweck's song-prayer was performed, the cavernous hall was completely silent. Then a thunderous applause began, and Chen and his musician friends received a standing ovation. Supporters gave almost \$13,000, which was sent to China via the American Red Cross.

When Chen was a boy, his mother sacrificed half a year's salary to buy his first trumpet. She would have been proud.

*Concert photo by Richard Yates*

## FROM SALEM TO D.C.: FELLOWSHIP FURTHERS STUDENT'S POLICY WORK

Collin Siu's whirlwind of jobs during college, researching and influencing public policy, are enough to make most people dizzy. But Siu '08 sees his work as a natural extension of his ultimate goal in life: leaving his community better than he found it.



While at Willamette, Siu served on the ground level for policy organizations and government in his home state of Hawaii and in his college home of Oregon. This fall he will head to Washington, D.C., for a prestigious national fellowship addressing poverty and hunger policy.

So what inspired his interest in policymaking?

"I think a lot of it has to do with how I feel about the place I live," he says. "I really love Hawaii, for example, but I think there are things that could be improved. My interest has been in making my community stronger and helping people who are vulnerable. I don't think I could just have a career where I only make money all day. I want to do something meaningful with my life."

Siu is one of 20 people recently selected for the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship, a project of the Congressional Hunger Center. He will

spend six months with urban or rural community-based organizations involved in fighting hunger and poverty on the local level, followed by six months in Washington, D.C., working on the same issues at national organizations.

"The structure of the fellowship is great," he says. "You get to work on policymaking in a local community through a national organization. A lot of policymakers don't consider what people in communities think. They just take a top-down approach. It's important to have a view that also goes from the bottom up."

A double major in Spanish and economics, Siu got his first exposure to government policy during his freshman year at Willamette. He interned across the street in Oregon's Capitol building doing research for the state senate minority leader. During his sophomore year, he did research for one of the Oregon governor's general policy advisors. "It exposed me to a diversity of issues," Siu says. "I researched Indian affairs, driver's license issues and a network that links Oregon's after-school programs, to name a few."

He hopes to return home to Hawaii in the future. The summer after his sophomore year, he worked for the nonprofit organization Hawaii Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development, where he researched poverty issues and assisted with strategic planning for a state office to figure out how to better incorporate community views into policy.

He also spent time with the nonprofit ALU LIKE Inc., which assists Native Hawaiians in achieving social and economic self-sufficiency. Siu helped design a survey to collect data on whether matched savings accounts could improve life outcomes for poor Hawaiians.

Before he starts his National Hunger Fellowship, Siu headed to D.C. for a summer internship with the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies, an organization striving to involve Asians in the political process.

So with all this experience, is political office in Siu's future? Possibly. But he realizes that getting elected isn't the only way to make a difference. "Public policy is this really amorphous field that keeps growing. It's not just for politicians. It's for all individuals working for change in their communities."

### Students and Alumni Rake in National Honors

As of press time, 17 Willamette students and recent alumni received national scholarships this spring, including four Fulbright Grants, a Watson Fellowship, a Goldwater Scholarship and an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship. Meet all the winners in the fall issue of *The Scene*, and read their stories online now at <http://blog.willamette.edu/stories>.

## THE EMANCIPATION OF ROBIN MORRIS COLLIN



Collin with her father, John Peyton Morris (above), and with his photo (left)

Law Professor Robin Morris Collin knows a thing or two about social justice. She was raised on it.

Some of her great-grandparents were still slaves when Willamette University was founded in 1842. They were not allowed to marry, “own” their children or choose their profession. Perhaps that’s why their descendents have been righting wrongs ever since.

After Emancipation Collin’s great-grandfather became a university professor at a black college. Her grandfather became a minister and civil rights activist who focused his energy on ending segregation in the Methodist Church. And her father championed social justice as a lawyer, although his introduction to the practice of law didn’t come easy.

After graduating at the top of his class, Collin’s father received only one job offer, as a librarian with a Washington,

D.C., law firm, with the express understanding that he would not meet with clients. His classmate and best friend, with a GPA just 1/100th of a point higher, was inundated with offers. Collin’s father turned down the demeaning offer, established the first integrated law firm in Chicago, and made his name with a landmark case. He successfully sued to allow black doctors access to Chicago hospitals — not on the basis of discrimination, but antitrust laws; the hospitals, he said, had conspired to restrain competition. “My father saw that changes could be made using rhetoric and the law,” Collin says.

When Collin’s father was offered a position as a law professor in Arizona, he asked his 12-year-old daughter what she thought of the idea of moving.

“Are there any black people out there?” Collin asked. When her father said no, she said, “Well, we’d be kind of like pioneers then, wouldn’t we?” They moved in 1968, just months before Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, and Collin has been reflecting ever since about what it means to be a pioneer.

“African Americans are sometimes pioneers for much the same reason white people were pioneers,” Collin says. “If you feel you have an opportunity to live a more fully engaged life and develop

your God-given potential, you’ll change your life radically. You’ll move away from your comfort zone. I followed my father’s path.”

Collin first attended law school at age three, when her father parked her in a basket under the law library desk where he worked. After she earned her own law degree, she threw her energy into civil rights. “In my case there have been controversies white people could ignore that I can’t. If you’re going to open the way for others, you need to speak up.

“But I do think we’re in a different era. Our work is different. My grandfather knocked down structural barriers. The struggle now is one that addresses the narratives that go on in people’s minds. We need to dismantle the mental paradigm of racism, and that task is more nuanced and slippery.”

Collin also sees a changed landscape, one where environmental ills, not

barred lunch counters, are the primary threat to people of color. "We can't even talk about fixing the problems of poverty and racism without talking about the environment," says Collin, who has spent countless hours as a writer, speaker and advocate for environmental justice and sustainability. "We don't live in ecological communities alone, but in social communities, and for those communities to be sustainable, they must be fair and inclusive."

"The best predictor of toxic waste in a neighborhood isn't geology, hydrology or property values," Collin says. "It's race. The darker the skin or the poorer the people, the more toxic their neighborhood is likely to be. The pattern holds in neighborhoods and between nations. Look across the border of almost any poor country and you'll see it: illegal dumping of toxic waste, exploitation of environmental and human resources, and violation of

environmental laws. Poorer, less-developed nations are far more likely to be recipients of the new global trade in hazardous wastes, with the disenfranchised bearing the brunt of unsustainable lifestyles and behaviors. It's environmental racism.

"But environmental degradation eventually reaches us all," she says. "The Earth's natural systems are interconnected without regard to national borders, race or wealth. Contaminated water leaches from degraded landscapes into city water systems, just as the jet stream brings pollution from coal-fired power plants in Beijing to the Oregon Coast. One country's environmental development may lead to another country's environmental disaster, but our natural systems are becoming so deeply intertwined that sacrifice zones are no longer sustainable. Absurd and dangerous decisions are made when we fail to include the people who live with them. Inclusion

means a voice for all, not just for the economically and politically powerful."

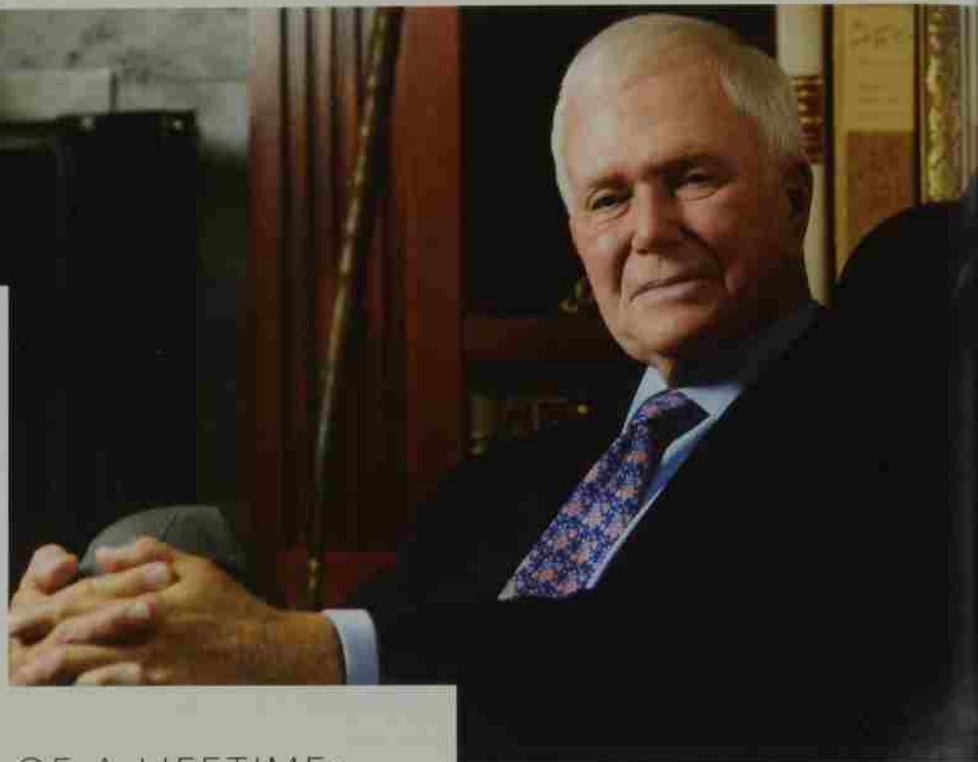
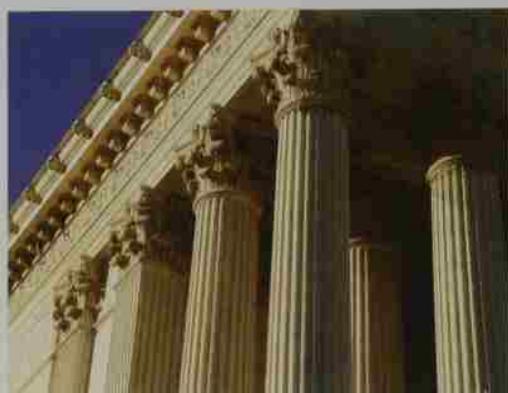
Collin co-founded the Conference Against Environmental Racism and the original Sustainable Business Symposium, both in Eugene, Ore.; helped establish the Environmental Justice Action Group in Portland; was appointed to Oregon's new Environmental Justice Task Force, and has served on the Willamette University Sustainability Council, where she helped frame Willamette's approach to environmentalism, in which equity plays a significant part. Collin's three-volume encyclopedia of sustainability, with one volume dedicated to equity, will be published in 2009. And she helped envision the College of Law's Certificate Program in Sustainability, where students combine studies about environmental, energy and natural resource law with environmental justice.

Collin also taught the first American law school course on sustainability, in 1993. The first time she taught it, her students were "profoundly depressed." She says, "I took that to heart. It's distressing to hear that everything is going wrong. But for me, sustainability is a way to make sense of the chaos and distress. I want to teach law and say, 'Here are the tools for changing the story.'"

For the last 13 years, Collin has done just that, giving students, faculty and community members the tools to protect not just the Earth, but also its most vulnerable citizens. Her ancestors taught her well.



Collin's father with her grandmother and grandfather, Grace Campbell Morns and the Rev. Robert Gammon Morns



## APPOINTMENTS OF A LIFETIME:

The Role of the Supreme Court in a Democratic System

With a historic presidential election just months away, *The Scene* asked former U.S. Senator Robert W. Packwood '54 about the role of the Supreme Court and the federal courts in our democratic system. Jeffrey C. Dobbins, former law clerk to Senior Associate Justice John Paul Stevens and assistant professor at the College of Law, interviewed the senator. To read a complete transcript of their conversation, go to [www.willamette.edu/scene/2008/summer](http://www.willamette.edu/scene/2008/summer).

**DOBBINS:** Senator, in your floor speech on Justice David Souter's confirmation, you said there was "no duty of a U.S. Senator more important or deserving of careful consideration than that of a nomination to the Supreme Court." Do you still agree?

**PACKWOOD:** Absolutely. You could give the president his sway on cabinet appointments. It was his cabinet, it was his policy. He'd been elected. But on Supreme Court lifetime appointments — people who are going to be there 10, 20, 30 years — they're going to go way beyond the span of this president and the next president. When it's lifetime and the Supreme Court, it's hard to tell which factor weighs more, but the two of them together are colossal.

**DOBBINS:** What would you tell a voter who came to you and complained about a decision of the U.S. Supreme Court and said, "These are unelected individuals, they have lifetime tenure, they can do whatever they want. It's completely contrary to the philosophy of a democratic system."

**PACKWOOD:** I would say that's what our founders intended. They did not intend this court to reflect public opinion. They wanted to protect the court from having to reflect public opinion.

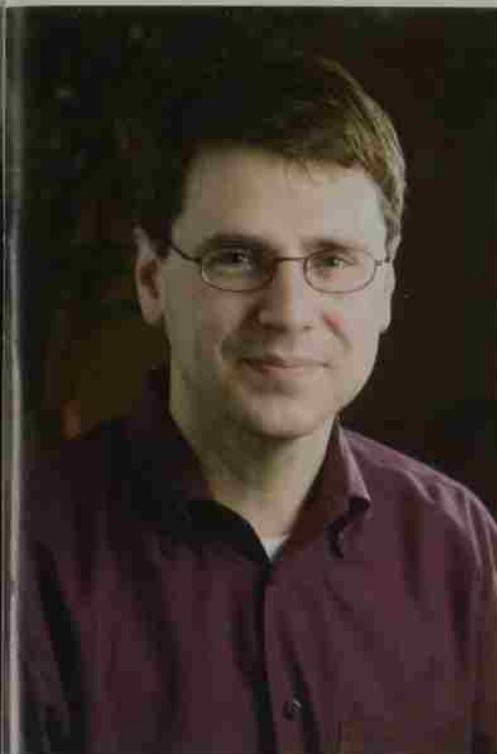
**DOBBINS:** So is the court a democratic entity?

**PACKWOOD:** I don't regard the court as a democratic entity, although it's certainly involved in the democratic

process — look at the Florida election cases from 2000. There, they decided the election of a president.

**DOBBINS:** If the Supreme Court is not itself a democratic entity, how does the system ensure that it doesn't go off on its own? Every time there is a new nominee, one hears concern that the court has drifted off track.

**PACKWOOD:** I hear people say that, but by and large, over 200 years, we've had a reasonably stable court. You know if the president is a liberal, you're going to get liberal appointees. If the president is a conservative, you'll get conservative appointees. But a president might only get a couple of nominees to the court, and that will only seldomly cause the court to reverse itself. What it will do is moder-



ate the direction the court was going before these appointees came along. So the appointment process is like trying to turn an ocean liner around, not a laser.

**DOBBINS:** Should we rethink the idea of lifetime appointments to the court?

**PACKWOOD:** Absolutely not. The bigger this government gets and the more that Congress and the executive do, the more I want to make sure I've got a court that is not going to be swayed in any way at all by the feelings of the moment. I just want the justices to have that lifetime feeling. No matter what this government tries to do, I want to make sure that they are making sure it doesn't step beyond the bounds of what is legal.

**DOBBINS:** Over the course of your time in the Senate, you cast votes on 16 different Supreme Court nominees. The Constitution provides that the president shall nominate and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint judges to the Supreme Court. What was your understanding about the Senate's role in that process?

**PACKWOOD:** "Consent" means consent. It's not just the president nominates and you say, "Mr. President, I'm not sure that person is too qualified." It means more than if the president has presented James Jones to the court, and James Jones has no felony convictions, James Jones had a good practice of law, and James Jones has no record of wife beating, that he automatically, therefore, should be confirmed. I don't think that's what that clause means.

**DOBBINS:** So not just competence, but the philosophy of the nominee matters?

**PACKWOOD:** Yes. There are a thousand best persons to be on the Supreme Court. There are probably more than a thousand who would be very substantial Supreme Court justices who are competent, but it requires more than competence. I was interested in their philosophy. Even President Nixon said to me that you have to appoint people who support your philosophy. And in that case I thought it was fair for me to at least question what their philosophy is and weigh it against mine, as it was for the president.

For example, in thinking about "original intent," my hunch is that, as smart as the founders were, the idea of sending information electronically over the airwaves would have been beyond them. So there's no point in trying to say I'm only going to vote for people who will appear to be [in favor of] the original intent of the founders.

The only thing static in history is change. Gradually the whole history of civil liberties in this country is the expansion of a people who were not covered at the time of its founding. By and large, the founding applied to white males over 21, and the history from that time on was the expansion of it. Were the founders to have thought about that, would they have

expanded it? Who knows? How do you know? It's more a personal decision.

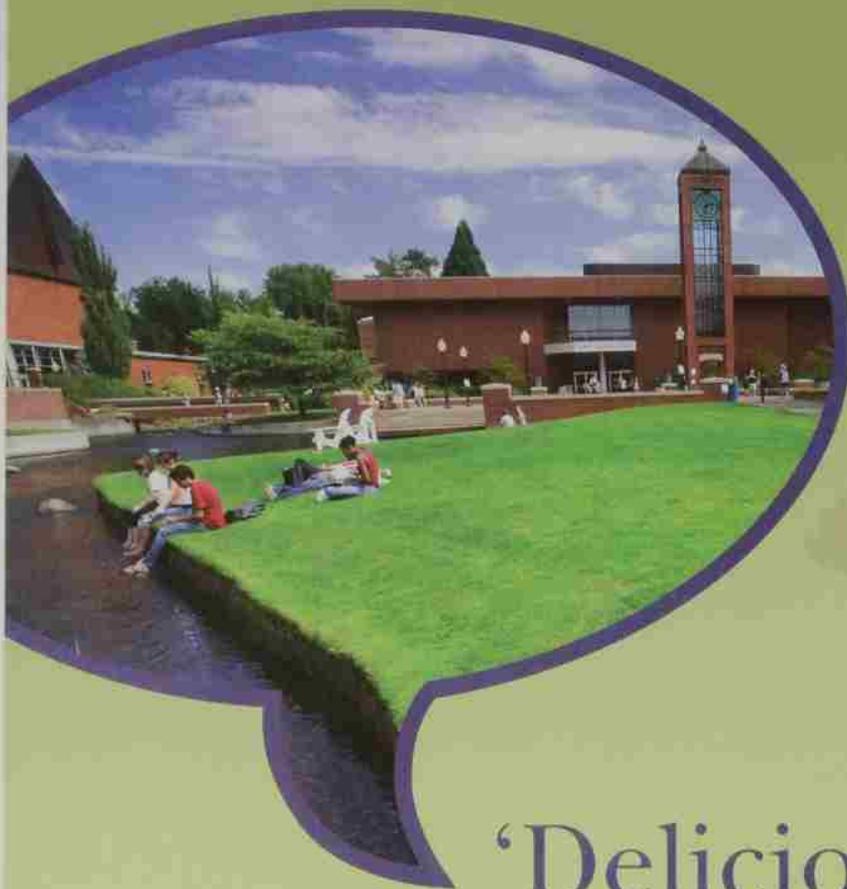
**DOBBINS:** Would the Supreme Court look different if the House of Representatives had the responsibility for confirmation?

**PACKWOOD:** Possibly, in a sense. There is a great advantage to the Senate's six-year terms. You can afford to ride out some rough spots, and you know there are going to be rough spots. The founders weren't wild about direct democracy, under any circumstances — they really wanted a republic in all its forms. I gather the founders wouldn't have even envisioned a direct election of senators — it took a constitutional amendment to get to it. So they wanted to isolate the Senate from the fractures of passion and public opinion. And by giving the confirmation process to the Senate, they were deliberately intending to separate the nomination process from passion and public opinion.

At the same time, though, the Senate provides an important connection to the people. When I was in the Senate, when I would come home for two and a half months, I'd cover the state. The senators can talk with the people, and then come back to Washington and sit with the president and say, "Mr. President, you don't understand what's going on." A president just doesn't have the same opportunity to do that.

**DOBBINS:** It seems in the end that while individual decisions of the court can seem critically important and draw great attention, the collective value is the stability in the process.

**PACKWOOD:** Absolutely, and the willingness of the public to accept the stability, even when the court issues decisions they don't like.



## ‘Deliciously Bewildering, Dialectic’

By Rebecca Brant “Without contraries is no progression,” William Blake wrote more than 200 years ago. And with that thought in mind, President M. Lee Pelton commissioned a series of essays exploring freedom of expression — a tenet of both education and democracy, and one that has focused the attention of the campus community for the past year and a half.

Events on and off campus during the 2006–07 academic year spurred discussion about diversity and social justice and led to passionate debate about freedom of expression and limitations on that freedom. In a letter March 8 to the campus community, Pelton wrote, “There is no official position to be taken except to promote — rather than squelch — the deliciously bewildering dialectic we commonly refer to as the ‘teachable moment.’”

Such moments have been varied and plentiful, including the formation of a Council on Social Justice and Diversity; Salman Rushdie’s opening convocation speech last September; a campuswide forum hosted by Pelton in March; curricular offerings including those of the American Ethnic Studies program; awareness training and mentoring through programming in residence life, student life and human resources; an increased focus on the Lausanne program to bring

faculty of color to campus, and an ongoing series of speakers and films.

Pelton invited faculty, staff and students to write essays, and the Dean's Council solicited and selected 12 for publication in *Campus Conversations: The Role of Freedom of Expression in a Multicultural and Democratic Society*.

The book launch, March 7, featured Richard Meeker, Pulitzer Prize-winning publisher of *Willamette Week*, who cited the "transformative effect of educational institutions" in the debate over freedom of expression, and praised college students and other young people for "getting it when it comes to questions of race, multiculturalism and freedom of expression."

The essay series will continue each year, Pelton says, explaining that "future editions will establish a historical record of the compelling vision of what we could be if we were truly open to what Matthew Arnold called 'the best of what has been known and said in the world.'" The next series of essays, based on the question "Who is my neighbor?" will explore the relationship between the individual self and community — considered locally, nationally, globally — and what duties and rights apply in that relationship.

Following are excerpts from essays in the first collection.



"We fail to appreciate that freedom of expression is just one democratic ideal that must be carefully balanced with myriad other democratic ideals such as equality and dignity."

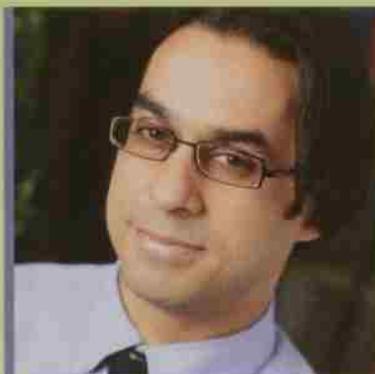
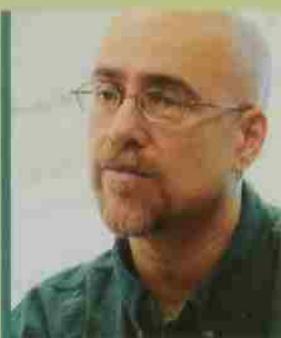
**Warren Binford,**  
assistant professor of law, Clinical Law  
Program director

*When Free Expression Gets Expensive:  
Legalities, Liabilities and Realities*

"... Increasingly atherosclerotic notions of multiculturalism, diversity and freedom of expression ... limit the rapprochement necessary to help us dispense with reified notions and move forward with an inclusive and just conception of plural community."

**Nathaniel "Nacho" Cordova,**  
assistant professor of rhetoric  
and media studies

*Between Freedom of Speech and Cultural  
Diversity of Expression: Bureaucratizing the  
Multicultural Imagination*



"Citizens ought to allow the widest latitude to free expression, including artistic and humorous speech that is odd, evaluative, transgressive, and/or shocking, but find intolerable 'fighting words' that are targeted at and continue to be spoken even though they transmit direct injury"

**Sammy Basu,**  
associate professor of politics

*"To try things themselves":  
Freedom of Expression in a  
Democratic Multicultural Polity*



"When we hear the phrase 'freedom of expression,' we all too often focus on the person speaking rather than on the person who responds to him or her. In actuality, communication is a two-way process that is complex, dynamic and highly reliant on context."

**Cassandra Farrin,**  
interim director of community  
service learning, TIUA

*Listening as Letting Go of Comfort  
and Embracing Difference:  
Responsibilities of the Listener in  
Freedom of Expression*



"Our society would benefit from a greater awareness of and respect for the difference between what we are allowed to do and what we ought to do."

**Joseph Kaczmarek '07**

*The Difference Between Can and  
Should: Protection and Exercise  
of Free Speech in a Democracy*

"A deep commitment to critical thinking

should provide members of the University community with the intellectual tools to withstand sometimes terrible assaults on their personal sensibilities that are a consequence of the free expression of others."

**Peter Harmer,**  
professor of exercise science

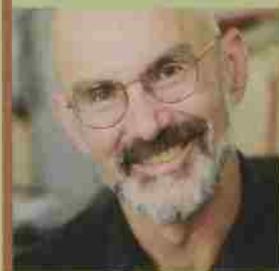
*The Lion, the Scarecrow and  
the Looking-glass, Darkly:  
Misadventures in the War of  
the Worldviews*



"Transgressive expression serves as the testing ground for free speech in America because the right of unfettered expression is only guaranteed by those willing to actually test boundaries."

**Christopher Hanson '08**

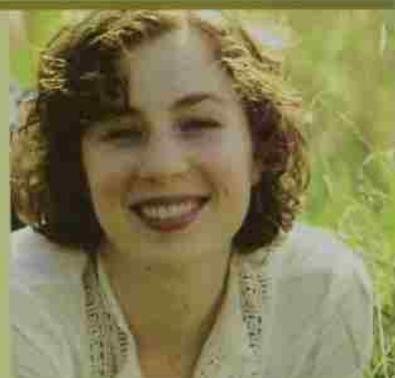
*Speech that Offends: The Treatment of  
Transgressive Expression and Hate Speech  
in the United States*



"If we refuse to be governed by our immediate and emotional reactions to ... events, we may find value in expression that originally disgusted us, and danger in speech that initially seemed innocuous."

**Shannon Lawless '07**

*Great Liberty, Greater Responsibility:  
Free Expression at Willamette University*





"Our identity development and understanding of self are closely tied to the way we perceive the boundaries of freedom of expression and react according to these boundaries."

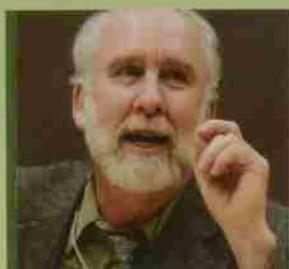
**Arminda Lathrop,**  
communications director and project coordinator for International Debate Education Association (IDEA) at Willamette University

*Expression and Identity: Collected Voices on "Freeing Space"*

"Freedom is at the core of what makes it possible for one to become human. Freedom distinguishes humanity from other species in degree if not kind. It is the capacity not to have to be satisfied with the world as it is but to imagine and initiate the shaping of the world as it can and should be."

**Douglas R. McGaughey,**  
professor of religious studies

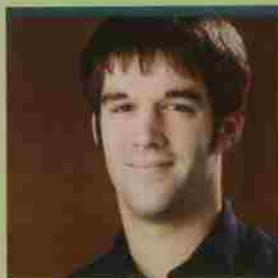
*Freedom of Expression*



"Open dialogue has often been described as a foundation of democratic society because it is in conversation, and not simply expression, that we test each other's beliefs while noticing and becoming responsible for our differences [an examination of J.M. Coetzee's novel *Elizabeth Costello*]."

**Tobias Menely,**  
assistant professor of English

*"Forgive me if I am forthright," or Conversational Freedom*



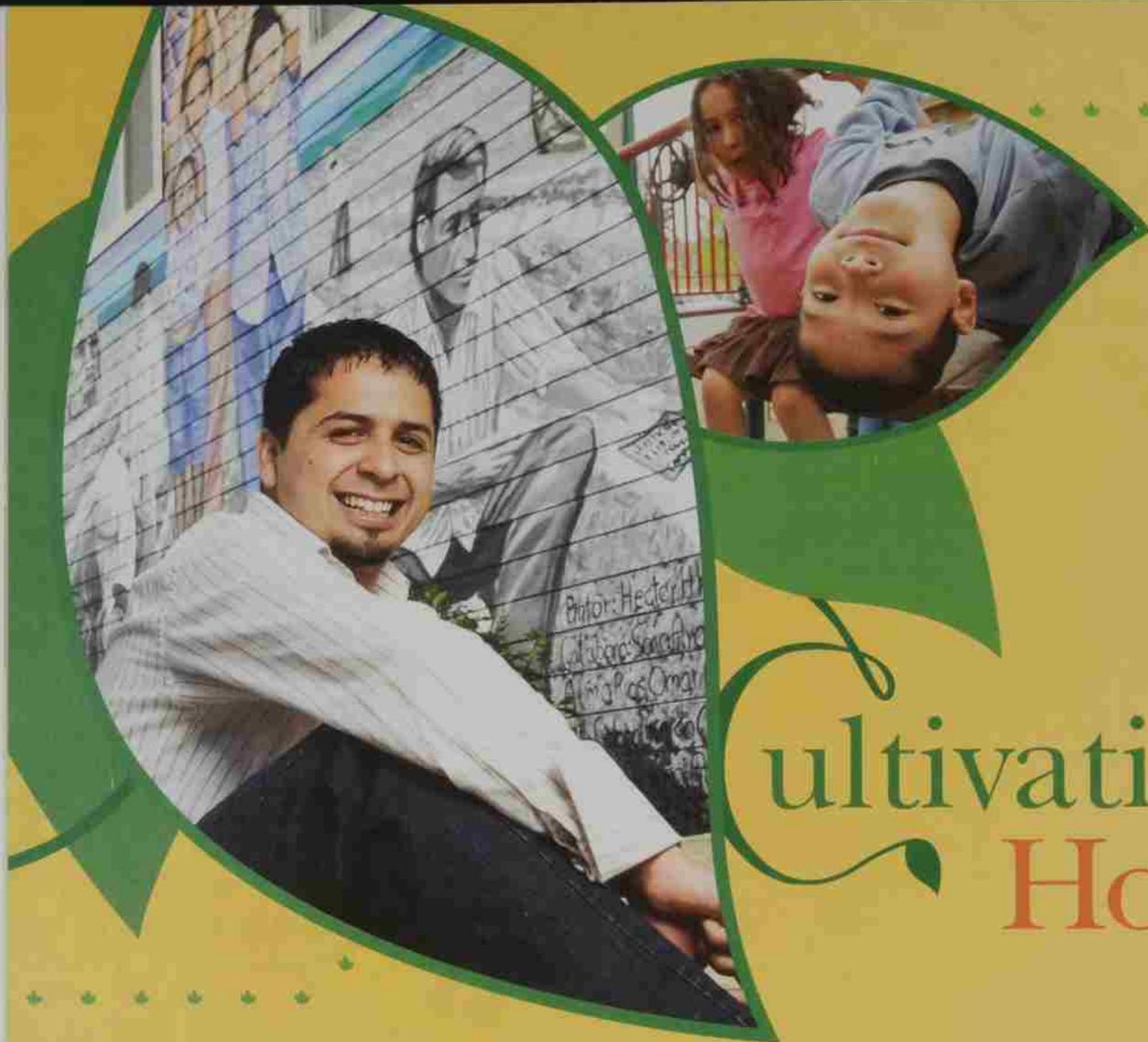
"Unfortunately, this right for which so many have struggled, fought and died is most often being used for celebrity gossip, message boards and reality shows. Important topics like race relations have been reduced to shouted slogans, overreaction and perceived slights."

**Rich Schmidt,**  
interlibrary loan and electronic reserves, Hatfield Library

*Censor This Essay*



Copies of *Campus Conversations* are available at the Willamette Store ([www.thewillamettestore.com](http://www.thewillamettestore.com)) for \$10, and the essays as well as Pelton's preface may be read online at [www.willamette.edu/events/conversations](http://www.willamette.edu/events/conversations).



# Cultivating Hope

By Sarah Evans

Above: Jaime Arredondo '05 in front of the inspirational mural at Colonia Libertad  
Right: Children at the Colonia Libertad playground

The shrubs and lawns at Colonia Libertad are meticulously manicured, the playgrounds covered with fresh bark mulch, and the basketball court well swept.

The cheerful golden siding on the apartment buildings and the multicolored concrete near the playgrounds conjure thoughts of sunny days, even in the persistent Oregon rain. The development's community center provides comfortable space for residents to take yoga, dance or aerobics classes and become conversant with computers. It's also a safe haven for children, a place where they can seek help on their schoolwork and play together under the watchful eye of older residents.

These sights greet you as you walk through the idyllic community in South Salem. But the crowning jewel is visible before you even enter the parking lot — a bright two-story

mural, Jaime Arredondo '05, who works for the corporation that owns the property, proudly shows the mural to everyone. The painting tells the stories of those who call Colonia Libertad home, and it tells Arredondo's story as well — one that leads from childhood heartache to unquenchable hope.

Colonia Libertad means "Freedom Colony" — an appropriate name for what the complex represents to the 48 families living there, families who make more than half their income from farmwork. These mostly Latino farmworkers come to the U.S. looking for well-paying jobs to break out of poverty, and they work tirelessly to pick or prepare the food we eat, tend

the plants we place in our yards, and care for the forests that blanket western Oregon.

The Freedom Colony represents liberation from the farms where they spend their days, from the labor camps where many lived before, from a life of hopelessness, illiteracy, isolation and the belief that they have no worth.

Local artist Hector Hernandez created the mural with help from the development's young residents. The bottom half is black and white, representing the residents' past: workers bending over rows in the field, Aztec symbols for their original Latin American homes, and, most important, their hero César Chávez, civil rights activist and labor leader. The top bursts into full color with a view of their future: grinning children holding their arms high in hope, Mt. Hood in the background, Monarch butterflies — themselves migrants — flying freely.

Casual visitors might think the farmworkers have it easy. The pristine facility often fools the Willamette University students who volunteer there, until they remember the alternative for workers who aren't lucky enough to get an apartment (more than 200 families are on a waiting list).

"When I first went to Colonia Libertad, I was surprised to see how nice it was and how happy the kids were," says Bekah Hykan '10, a student volunteer. "It's easy for me to forget that if the kids were living somewhere else, they would have a really hard life."

"I started working with migrants because I wanted to honor my family's sacrifice. It's the least I can do for what they've done for me."

### A Different Type of Poverty

Hykan witnessed that life in March as part of a group of Willamette students examining sustainable agriculture through the Take a Break (TaB) community service program. To learn about the workers who harvest much of the Willamette Valley's food, the group traveled to several labor camps.

Entering Campo Blanco near Cornelius, Ore., was like stepping into a poor, rural Mexican village. Bracing themselves against the rain, the students saw an elderly Mexican woman washing dishes in a courtyard. Cautious faces peered out of dirty doorways from the 24 surrounding housing units. The woman lived in one unit with her son, daughter-in-law, two young grandchildren and an unrelated teenager. To go to the bathroom or cook meals, they used filthy community facilities.

The daughter-in-law said they had been living in the camp for about a year, paying \$150 monthly rent while picking blueberries in a nearby field. They received minimum wage and, during harvest time, a set rate for each container they filled with produce.

Her two young sons clung to her, dirty and scared. The visitors wondered when the boys last ate, if they had ever seen a doctor, if they were safe.

## Latino Farmworkers: An Abbreviated History

### Come — and Go

The U.S. government implemented the Bracero program in 1942 to address a shortage of agricultural labor due mostly to men fighting in World War II. The U.S. brought in Mexican farmworkers, asking them to return to Mexico after the harvest. About 15,000 Braceros came to Oregon before the state ended the program in 1947; in many other states, the program lasted through the mid-1960s. Many consider the program the start of modern farmworker migration.\*



Mexican workers harvesting cucumbers in Columbia County, Ore., c. 1944 (P40.304, Courtesy OSU Archives)

### Be Our Guests

In 1943 the U.S. government established the H-2 guest worker program to allow agricultural employers to bring in nonimmigrant temporary foreign workers if the employers could prove a shortage of domestic workers. H-2 evolved into the H-2A program, and today agricultural organizations lobby to expand it.

\* Sources: Keith Cunningham-Parmeter, Willamette law assistant professor; "The Story of PCUN and the Farmworker Movement in Oregon" by Lynn Stephen

### Workers Unite

César Chávez formed the United Farm Workers of America labor union in the 1960s to address minimum wage and workplace rights for grape farm laborers. PCUN (Pineiros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste, or Northwest Treeplanters and Farmworkers United) formed in 1985 as Oregon's primary union for farmworkers.



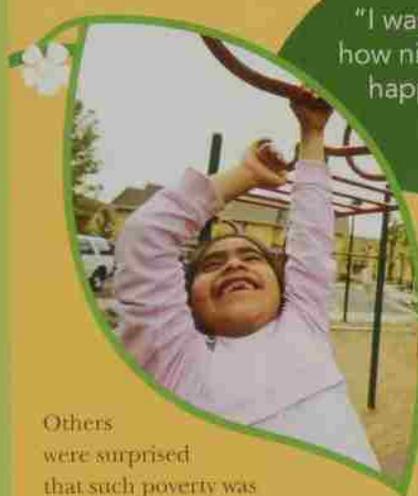
Chávez at a United Farm Workers Union benefit, c. 1976

### Legal Reform

The Immigration Reform Control Act (IRCA) of 1986 introduced the I-9 form, requiring documentation of legal eligibility for employment. It imposed a fine on employers who knowingly hired undocumented workers, although critics claim the act is poorly enforced. IRCA allowed undocumented immigrants who entered the U.S. prior to 1982 to apply for amnesty and permanent legal residency. Nearly 3 million immigrants received legal residency, the majority from Mexico.

At another camp outside Woodburn, Ore., a resident named Jorge surprised students by lauding his dismal housing. His rent of \$40 per month, including utilities, beat living in an apartment. Pointing across the road at a hops field, he explained that living near his job meant no worries about a car or fuel. The students were stunned to hear Jorge cite the benefits of a camp that appeared unlivable.

"The labor camps were really eye opening for me," says Yuta Kono '08, co-leader of the TaB trip and a Colonia Libertad volunteer. "When I entered the housing, it smelled bad. And still people said, 'This is a great place.' I was like, 'Oh, wow.'"



"I was surprised to see how nice it was and how happy the kids were."

### Others

were surprised that such poverty was so close to home — not far from urban centers — yet virtually invisible to most citizens. "People are really aware of urban poverty here, but if you showed them a picture of one of these camps, it's not the kind of poverty people think we have in the States," Hykan says. "They think it only exists in other countries."

### Story of the Worker

This poverty is what Arredondo and Colonia Libertad work so hard to fight. It's a familiar life to the charming 25-year-old who always offers a smile, laugh or welcoming

handshake. Arredondo is fond of Willamette, where he majored in rhetoric and media studies and was a resident assistant in Kaneko Hall, a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity and president of the Unidos Por Fin club, now known as Alianza. He was an activist who manned phone banks and canvassed neighborhoods during elections, marched with Oregon farmworker labor union PCUN (Pineiros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste, or Northwest Treeplanters and Farmworkers United), and worked with Willamette food-service provider Bon Appétit to strengthen its policy of purchasing produce from farms that hire union laborers.

He started picking strawberries at age 10 with his father and older brother, and first encountered activism two years later when a group of PCUN members marched by him in the field, shouting through megaphones about workers' rights.

Before coming to the U.S. in 1992, Arredondo's family lived in Michoacán, Mexico. Their tiny house, made of rocks and concrete, had no electricity or running water for many years. The children traded chicken eggs and corn seeds for pencils and paper.

When they moved to Salem, his parents and their five children crammed into a one-bedroom apartment — the best they could afford. In addition to his farmwork, Arredondo held a job during high school as the "beverage guy" in Willamette's Goudy Commons, refilling drink machines, washing dishes, serving food.

He watched the Willamette students and told his coworkers, "That will be me someday." They laughed. But a Latino mentoring program at Western Oregon University helped him realize college was possible, so he applied to Willamette and got in. When he went to Goudy for breakfast during his orientation, his coworkers wondered why he was there. When they heard he was a student, they were stunned silent.

Arredondo's father has a third-grade education. His mother finished fourth grade and is studying English, learning to use computers and working toward U.S. citizenship. Education is vital to success, the Arredondos told their children. Today, their youngest is in high school, and the others have graduated from or are attending college. Jaime's sister Lucia '07 followed him to Willamette.

"When I graduated, one of the reasons I stayed in Salem was I had an attachment to this community," he says. "If I left this place, it would be like losing a piece of my body. I started working with migrants because I wanted to honor my family's sacrifice. It's the least I can do for what they've done for me."

### Teaching Citizenship

Arredondo became a community organizer at Colonia Libertad, owned and managed by the Farmworker Housing Development Corporation (FHDC). Several organizations that assist farmworkers founded the FHDC in 1992 to create decent, affordable housing and help workers become self-sufficient. Today the FHDC runs three facilities in Woodburn, one in Independence and one in Salem.

The developments target farmworker families who live in the U.S. permanently. This status has become more common in recent years, as



## Dedicating the Break to Service

Take a Break (TaB) is a student-led alternative break program that takes Willamette students, faculty and staff across the country for community service and learning

about social justice issues. The program promotes critical thinking, social action and personal growth. During spring break 2008, 118 students and advisors participated in eight trips:

**Oregon Sustainability:** Participants visited area farms to learn about sustainable agriculture. They also examined the farmworker issues discussed in this article.

**Newark, N.J.:** This group worked with homeless families at a YMCA in a highly impoverished area.

**Chicago:** Volunteers examined poverty and hunger at an inner-city church and homeless shelters.

**Warm Springs, Ore.:** Participants assisted at a Boys & Girls Club and painted houses on the Warm Springs Reservation.

**Weslaco, Texas:** This group learned about literacy and immigration at a border town school and low-income housing project.

**Portland, Ore.:** Volunteers worked with organizations helping homeless people leave the streets.

**Jonestown, Miss.:** Participants traveled to one of the nation's poorest towns to make improvements to a church.

**Oregon Fish and Forests:** Members studied environmental and economic issues surrounding fish and forests in Oregon.



Robin Wright '10 (right) hoes weeds with Raymond Fordyce '95, MAT '96 in his strawberry field in Salem during the Oregon Sustainability TaB trip.

*Willamette Staff Writer Sarah Evans participated in the Oregon Sustainability trip. Look for her exploration of the local and organic food movements in the next issue of The Scene. In the meantime, read about her TaB experience online at [www.willamette.edu/go/tab](http://www.willamette.edu/go/tab).*

the Northwest's long growing season and prevalence of nurseries enable workers to find jobs year-round, says Andrea Cano, executive director of Oregon Farm Worker Ministry, a faith-based support organization.

"We want to empower these students to get a college degree and improve their lives."

Oregon has the sixth-largest farmworker population in the country, including

an estimated 35,000 in the mid-Willamette Valley. They work largely in nurseries, farm fields, canneries or in forests fighting fires or reforestation.

Historically, workers often lived in grower-owned labor camps on farms, like those visited by the TaB students. As more migrant men brought along their families, they sought apartments or other housing. Such living situations are typically crowded and sometimes worse than the conditions they left behind.

Few other industries provide on-site worker housing, says Willamette Assistant Law Professor Keith Cunningham-Parmeter, who previously provided legal counsel to area farmworkers through the Oregon Law Center. "When farmworkers live on site, they are more susceptible to exploitation. The FHDC's model of bringing workers off the farm and onto neutral territory, where they pay rent to a party other than the farm owner, is empowering."

The FHDC teaches farmworkers to be active community members, to function in a democracy and to be good citizens. "There's an emphasis on creating bridges between this community and the exterior community," says Arredondo, who now is

communications coordinator for the FHDC. "We're teaching people about civic engagement."

Each development has a community center where residents take English classes, improve their computer skills, meet members of community agencies and do academic enrichment activities.

The FHDC also hosts a resident association program, through which resident-elected officers for each property meet to hear presentations from community groups and discuss ways to improve their development. The president of each association also holds a seat on the FHDC board.

"The resident association model is giving these people a voice and teaching them leadership skills," Arredondo says. "You don't need to be college educated to be a leader. You lead by example. These people want to contribute, and they want to learn."

The developments' success has made them a magnet for volunteers, particularly college students. Colonia Libertad draws hundreds of volunteers from Chemeketa Community College, Willamette University and Tokyo International University of America who want to contribute to a program that improves the lives of a marginalized population.

**The Willamette Connection**  
Among those volunteers is Kono, a transfer student from Tokyo International University who has studied English and Spanish and hopes to one day work for the United Nations.

The minute Kono enters Colonia Libertad's community center, children's cries fill the air, "Yuta! Hi, Yuta!" Young girls immediately crowd around him, wanting to chat or show him their drawings. Kono is as excited about working with these children as they are about interacting with

#### Tougher Laws

The Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 disqualified many prospective immigrants from receiving legal status if they had been living in the U.S. without authorization. It created a deadline for undocumented family members of legal residents to file petitions for legal residency.

#### Court Decision

In the 2002 case *Hoffman Plastic Compounds, Inc. v. National Labor Relations Board*, the Supreme Court ruled that federal immigration policies prohibit undocumented workers from receiving back pay as a remedy if illegally fired due to union activity. This was one of the first times the court held that labor rights may differ depending on an employee's immigration status.

#### Continuing Debate

Illegal immigration continues to be a hot political debate, with much argument surrounding what to do about the estimated 12 million undocumented immigrants in the country. The U.S. House and Senate drafted competing bills in 2006 for immigration reform; neither became law. That same year, Congress authorized the construction of 700 miles of fencing along the U.S.-Mexico border.

him: "The kids are amazing," he says. "You can see their eyes sparkling."

Kono fell in love with Colonia Libertad while volunteering with a TaB trip his junior year. He arranged with Arredondo to do an internship last spring, tutoring students in the after-school program and assisting with adult computer classes. He even led a class on Japanese culture for residents last summer.

Kono feels a connection with Latino culture. "They are a minority and people of color," he says. "I'm also a minority in this country, so I felt a familiarity with them. I like to help people who don't have all the benefits in society."

He's also inspired by Arredondo's spirit and good-natured way of approaching others. "My dream is to work in Latin America and build a secure community for people who want a better way of life," Kono says. "Jaime is creating a good community for the migrant workers, which is exactly what I want to do."

Arredondo is dedicated to nurturing the relationship between Willamette and Colonia Libertad, and he estimates more than 250 Willamette students have volunteered there since it opened three years ago. Their involvement ranges from class projects and senior theses to volunteer work through TaB or the Jump Start pre-Opening Days orientation program.

Students from Tokyo International University of America are especially enthusiastic, Arredondo says. "The THUA students are still working on their English, and they don't speak Spanish, but they speak through action. They're nice, and they're here to learn, and our residents see and respond to that. The residents are foreigners here, too."

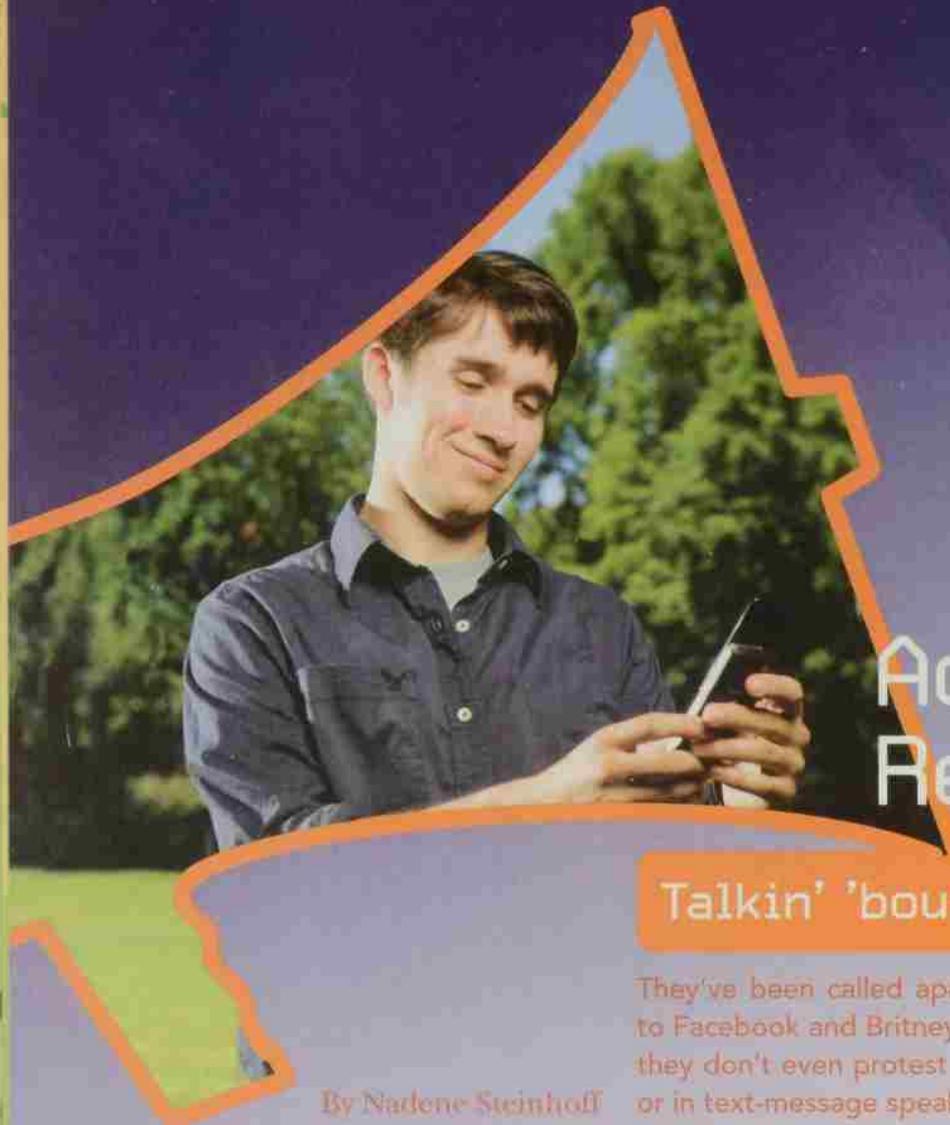
As Arredondo knows so well, being valued by others can have a lifelong impact on a child, whether the others are activists marching through a field or college students taking time to listen. "The kids don't care if the Willamette students are black, white or whatever. They just see college students who care about them. We want to empower these students to get a college degree and improve their lives. It expands their vision and gives them hope."

For more information about the Farmworker Housing Development Corporation, visit [www.fhdc.org](http://www.fhdc.org) or contact Jaime Arredondo at [jaimearredondo@fhdc.org](mailto:jaimearredondo@fhdc.org).



"Children's cries fill the air, 'Yuta! Hi, Yuta!'"

Yuta Kono '08 visits students at Colonia Libertad and helps them with schoolwork.



# Activism Reinvented

## Talkin' 'bout this Generation

By Nadene Steinhoff

Above, Trevor Latal '09 needs nothing more than a cell phone to rally his activism network.

They've been called apathetic. The generation that got lost to Facebook and Britney Spears and too much coddling. Hell, they don't even protest — they blog. And their motto? W/E, or in text-message speak, "Whatever."

But apathy is becoming so yesterday. While skeptical Gen Xers distanced themselves from the placard-carrying enthusiasm of the 1960s, the Millennials — born between 1980 and 2000 — are ready to believe again. "People my age have a reputation for not caring about what's going on in the world," says Michaela Gore '11, president of the College Democrats, "but there are growing numbers of young people getting involved, and many are dedicated to the core."

Numerous factors are driving the rise in political and civic engagement, including the urgency of global warming, the shock of 9/11 and the youth-led Rock the Vote movement. "The current historical presidential race has not gone unnoticed by students," says former ASWU President Tyler Reich '06. "I think you'd have to be dead or in a hole somewhere not to notice."

The Internet has also played a role. "Concerns about equality and social justice come along with being more aware of the world," Gore says. "We're shocked and horrified by images from Darfur — we haven't had time to grow complacent yet."

And the Iraq War has had an impact, according to last year's *Collegian* editor Emily Stauden '08, who says the Iraq War caused a huge change in her view of America. "I've seen the level of student activism increase dramatically since the war started," she says. "When our country engages in something so many people disagree with, it opens the floodgates for other causes as well."

### The Decade of Our Discontent

It's not the first time a war has unleashed a furor. Students protested by the hundreds of thousands in the late 1960s and early '70s, pushing

American society to rethink social structures, morals and politics.

"You can't find another period in our collegiate history that has such significance," says Tom Edwards '53, an emeritus history professor at Whitman College who wrote *Student Activism at Pomona, Willamette, and Whitman, 1965-1971*. The Vietnam War was the fuel that fed the fire, he says. Without the draft, a generation would not have been politicized, and once students began to question authority, they didn't stop. They questioned racism, sexism, environmental degradation and the war, and they pushed for academic reforms and more open, nontraditional living arrangements.

By 1968 anti-war passions had sparked protest on 80 percent of American campuses. In conservative communities like Salem, college campuses became the centers of anti-war activity, leading to some town-gown antagonism. Willamette activism was polite by national standards (too polite, according to some dissenters). "If you look at those first student activists, they were well dressed," Edwards says. "Men wore coats and ties and women wore dresses." In 1965 Willamette students organized Project Truth, writing letters to soldiers to express support regardless of whether they agreed with the war. They petitioned government officials, marched through downtown streets with anti-war literature, and rallied at the Capitol. In 1970 students held a candlelight vigil and a 36-hour recitation of the 44,800 names of the soldiers who had died.

The Civil Rights Movement also made its way to Willamette, beginning in an unexpected forum — the Glee song competition. The 1963 senior class interrupted a half-century of feel-good lyrics about school loyalty and campus

romance to sing about the rights of the "American Negro." According to then-chaplain Calvin McConnell, several Willamette students traveled to Mississippi and Alabama to help register black voters, a dangerous undertaking at the time — three civil rights workers had already lost their lives: Lemore Monk '65 and Beatrice Perry, a junior at a black women's college in North Carolina, traded schools for a year in an effort to build intercultural bridges. Other black students followed Perry, and when the Black Student Union was eventually formed, they advocated for recruitment of minority students and faculty, black studies courses and white involvement. By 1971 the University had its first black trustee, curriculum that addressed black culture, and 35 black, Latino and American Indian students.

Campus activists looked at other issues as well. The Young Republicans organized a 200-person march in support of a senatorial campaign. Students at Willamette and elsewhere played a pivotal role in launching the modern conservation movement, beginning with the first Earth Day in 1970. The Women's Movement didn't become a significant factor at Willamette — where male faculty dominated — until the 1970s, but by then campus activism was beginning to cool.

**1963**

Willamette students traveled to Mississippi and Alabama to help register black voters, a dangerous undertaking at the time.

### My Education, My Way

In 1969 when Willamette students became frustrated in their efforts to have more say in grading, graduation requirements, curriculum and faculty tenure, they established the Willamette Free University. Open to the community, students taught courses on poetry, race relations, sex and love, and "Scenarios of the Year 2000." The effort was short lived, but the legacy of students wanting to shape their own educational experience is alive and thriving.



Willamette students march against the Vietnam War, 1970.



The annual Clothesline Project gives voice to survivors of domestic and sexual violence, outside Eaton Hall, April 2008

### Leaving Mom and Dad at Home

During the heady 1960s, students seemed hell bent on pushing experience to the outer limits, bringing drugs, psychedelic rock and more liberal sexual mores to American campuses. At Willamette, the earliest intimations that the "Leave It to Beaver" era was over came in 1961, when students organized a successful boycott to protest compulsory chapel attendance. They also protested rules in the Student Handbook: one page for men and six for women, including a requirement that women sign in and out of dorms. Students complained that deans shouldn't be able to tell them what to wear, when to go to bed, or who could visit their rooms. "They wanted to throw off the chaperones," says Tom Edwards '53. Across the country, schools eventually dropped the parental rules, with the small private schools like Willamette being the last to give way.

"By the early '70s, people were weary of protest," Edwards says. "The war in Vietnam was playing down, the draft was ending, the economy was turning sour, and many students became more concerned about finding a job."

Willamette and other private liberal arts colleges saw less turmoil and violence than larger universities; they were somewhat insulated by traditions that emphasized moral as well as educational mentoring. Willamette's Methodist roots and Salem's conservative culture also served to dampen campus radicalism. At smaller schools like Willamette, a family atmosphere often prevailed — it's hard to attack the dean when he greets you on the sidewalk every day. While some complained that the "tea-cup protests" were too tame, many were glad to see the revolution sputter out. "I remember one professor at Whitman saying, 'When are they ever going to stop?'" Edwards recalls.

1988

"We adopted the University motto as our own and made the argument that divestiture was at the core of our institutional values"

By the time campuses quieted down, academia had been transformed. Students at Willamette and elsewhere held seats on academic councils and helped set university policy. Campus housing regulations had been liberalized. Dress codes had been thrown out the dorm window. Perhaps most significantly, campus unrest had played a role in ending what many saw as an unpopular and directionless war.

"If you graduated in '64 it was a completely different experience than if you graduated in '74," Edwards says. "Some alumni said, 'What the hell's going on there? What happened to

all the rules?' But many alumni and supporters came to be impressed with Willamette's moderate, thoughtful response." Edwards believes the dissent ultimately revitalized higher education.

### Not Your Parents' Political Activism

Four decades later, students are still reacting to war, social inequalities, environmental degradation and academic policies they disagree with, but their response is refreshingly new. Demographics, technology and political realities are leading to a reinvention of activism. "Our brand of activism is different from the 1960s," says Gore. "Our generation focuses more on peaceful discussions and negotiation. We've seen that confrontation doesn't work." In a sense, the Millennials are sometimes viewed as more apathetic simply because they are more pragmatic and conciliatory. They trust people over 30 and want to strengthen the political system, not tear it down. They are also more ideologically based, wanting to

put volunteer experiences into a broader

political perspective, to understand the root causes of prejudice and global poverty.

Technology has revolutionized revolution, with online student communities forming around issues like sustainability, poverty, AIDS, homophobia and feminism. Millennials react quickly and coordinate activities on the fly using blog postings, text messaging and mass emails. Case in point: Senator Barack Obama visited Salem in March. The visit was finalized at 2 p.m., the line around the block began forming by 3:30, tickets were given away at 5:30, and by 7:30 they were gone. The news was broadcast via thousands of individual text messages and emails; not one newspaper or printed announcement was involved.

Many tickets went to Willamette students, who abandoned campus by the classful. One professor, walking around the deserted Quad, said, "There wasn't any point in holding class. No one was coming." Students across the country have given an adrenaline rush to this year's presidential elections. In 2000, only 13 percent of young people were paying attention to the presidential campaign. This year, it's 75 percent and rising. "In the frat houses, people watched the Super Tuesday election returns like it was a football game, and every TV lounge in the residence halls was full," says Trevor Latal '09.

The Democratic contest has been the primary focus of student activism, with many conservatives still undecided. "McCain's too moderate on domestic issues and too pro-war for many student conservatives," says the president of the Willamette College Republicans, Annie Haury '09, who has diverted her energy into local races. Willamette students, Republican and Democrat, are canvassing, working phone banks, registering voters and even managing campaigns for national and local candidates.

Willamette's location across from the Capitol makes it an incubator for political activism, and many students enroll at the University to take advantage of the unique internship opportunity. More pick up fervor for public service once they arrive. During legislative sessions there are so many Willamette interns staffing the Capitol it could almost be called Willamette North.

#### Dismantling the Ivory Tower

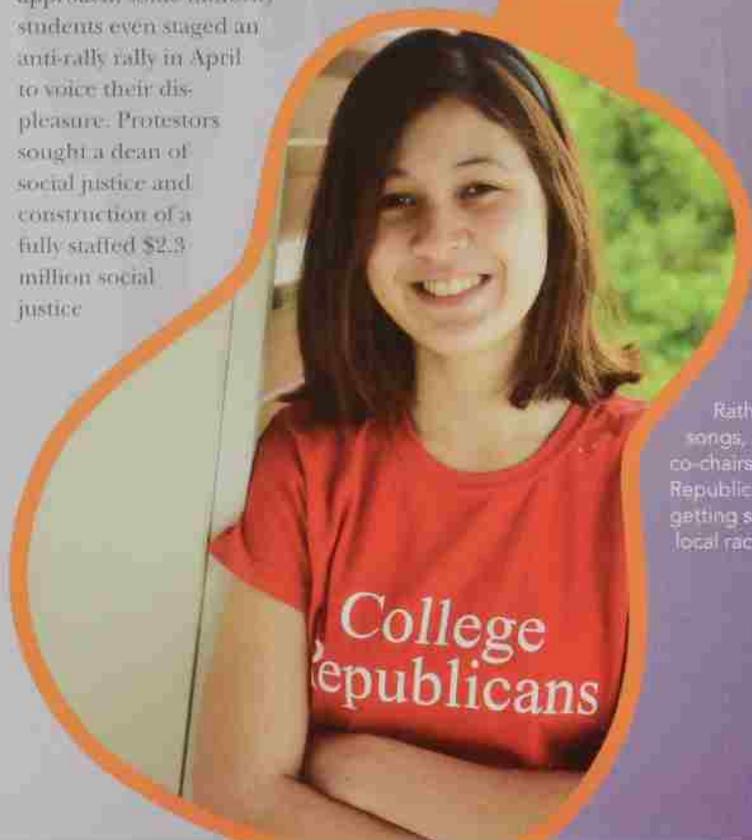
Internal university policies still cause a stir on college campuses. Between 1960 and 1970, the number of American students doubled, and with numbers came influence. In a sense, Baby Boomers initiated the concept

of students as "customers," unleashing a tug of war that is still being played out.

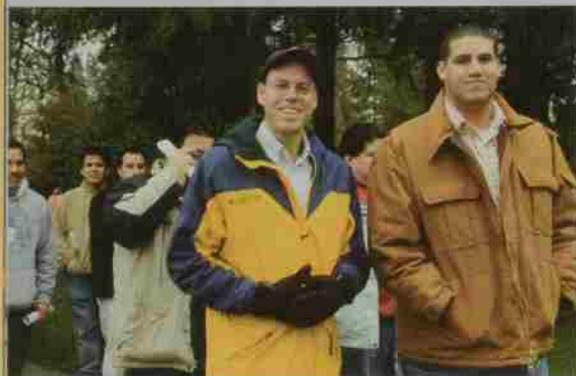
What Boomers, Gen Xers, and now Millennials say they want is an education that is relevant: curriculum that addresses ecology, racism and poverty; a seat at the table when recruitment decisions are made; and representation on administrative committees — with votes. They even want, according to one 1970 *Collegian* writer, to be "allowed to attend the sacred faculty meetings."

Institutional reform is often a divisive issue on campus, with proponents quick to complain of fellow student apathy. A frustrated *Collegian* editor once admonished his classmates to come "out of their caves." And Willamette activists have sometimes seen a backlash, not for their goals, but their tactics. Members of the Concerned Students for Social Justice, who disrupted classrooms across campus last year, were criticized by students who agreed with the goal but disagreed with the approach; some minority students even staged an anti-rally rally in April to voice their displeasure. Protestors sought a dean of social justice and construction of a fully staffed \$2.3-million social justice

center to supplement the already existing Multicultural Affairs Office, Willamette Academy, and Council on Diversity and Social Justice. Students of color make up 16 to 18 percent of the undergraduate student body each year, making Willamette one of the most diverse four-year undergraduate colleges in the Pacific Northwest. Activists hope to increase that number to 20 percent, and to achieve greater retention of minority students and faculty, an area of concern shared by administrators.



Rather than write protest songs, Annie Haury '09 co-chairs the Oregon College Republicans and focuses on getting students involved in local races.



Professor Peter Wogan's anthropology class asked to join the immigration rally as it passed by campus. Here, Wogan (center) and Aaron McKimmy '09 march to the Capitol, February 2008.

By and large, Willamette activists in recent decades have sought to achieve goals by working within the system. When students sought to incorporate sustainability goals into University activities in 2006, they gave a poignant and informed presentation to the board of trustees, helping spearhead a movement that has continued to gain support and funding from administrators.

The trustees were also consulted in 1988 by students pushing for University divestiture from South Africa. "We adopted the University motto as our own and made the argument that divestiture was at the core of our institutional values," says Trustee Eric Friedenwald-Fishman '88. Numerous well-attended gatherings were held, but no protests were

necessary. Board members agreed and voted to create a new investment policy.

#### Compassion in Action

Today's student activism is not just political, but humanitarian, with civic engagement at an all-time high. Volunteerism surged 20 percent after 9/11, according to a report from the Corporation for National and Community Service, which says that college students are twice as likely to volunteer as young people who are not enrolled in higher education.

Willamette students volunteered an incredible 57,500 hours last year. Each year they clean beaches, tutor children at local schools, offer pro-bono legal advice, restore streams and feed the homeless. "People are appreciative when 20 football players

## The New Activism on the Streets of Portland

"Some students said the Take a Break volunteer trip is a very nice experience, but I had few English skills so I didn't have the courage to join," says Yuki Sugisawa '09.

Until last spring, that is, when Sugisawa spent eight days on the streets of Portland with the homeless. Students organize alternative spring break trips each year and fan out across the country, volunteering in homeless shelters, inner-city schools and impoverished rural neighborhoods. They also take their first steps toward stewardship of their local and national communities, addressing literacy, poverty, racism, hunger, homelessness, HIV/AIDS and the environment.

"This was my first intense exposure to the volunteer experience," Sugisawa says. "We talked to the homeless people, and they were very kind. They tried to take care of each other and of us. For their community, we were visitors. We asked about their lives, but we

didn't ask directly. They are careful and so we used appropriate language.

"This trip made my point of view expand. If I don't talk to those who have different perspectives from my own, my vision will be very narrow. Before I thought studying was much more important, but now I know I need experience, too. For me, this connects my education and real life. Volunteering is important to understand how we are linked to each other."

"Student activism is a lot stronger than when I was a student," says Tyler Reich '06, who graduated just two years ago. "I think students are idealistic and see the real possibility of change, and they're not going to let others make that change — they want to affect their surroundings in a more personal way."

Sugisawa, called the "philosopher of the trip" by his teammates, is majoring in inter-

national studies and hopes to work at the United Nations someday. "I would like to change even a little piece of the world."



2008

"In the frat houses, people watched the Super Tuesday election returns like it was a football game."

come help out," says defensive tackle

Aaron

McKimmy '09, who helped his teammates spread bark mulch at Salem's 90-acre Bush Park. "It would have taken the city staff months."

For many, volunteer experiences help shape political views

and nurture deeper understanding about classroom concepts, such as social justice. "I decided I shouldn't blame myself for every injustice in the world," says Peter Henry '11, who spent spring break helping the homeless. "I don't have control over that. But I can volunteer, which I do have control over."

Students take the University motto to heart even after they graduate: Among small undergraduate schools, Willamette University ranks third in the nation for the number of students who enter the Peace Corps, and the University outranked every other Oregon liberal arts school in *Washington Monthly's* college rankings, which are based on civic engagement and volunteerism.

Altruism aside, simple curiosity fuels much of the humanitarian outreach at Willamette. "There's a commitment among the faculty and administrators to inspire debate, and there's also a more diverse student population with different backgrounds and ethnicities and understanding of the world," says Reich. "When you put those two together, it sparks conversations at a much deeper level." This generation, more color-blind and likely to celebrate diversity, is diverse itself: 40 percent are black, Asian, Latino or racially mixed. And in this

historic election year, gender and color are simply non-issues for many younger voters.

#### Reinventing Activism

One study suggests that Millennials may be the most socially active generation since the 1930s, when the Depression spawned widespread labor struggles. "We need to see today's student activism in the context of our current political climate and understand its enormous power," says Diana Alvarado, researcher with the American Association of Colleges and Universities. The generation, known for rewriting the rules has reinvented activism, she says. They're savvy enough to understand that it's easy to protest, but solutions are more difficult, requiring inclusiveness and pragmatism.

Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech is simply a page in a history book — or on the Web — for today's students, who were born long after it was given. But they have discovered their own dream and are taking former columnist Molly Ivins' advice to heart: Go forth unafraid and raise hell. "We may be young, and we need to respect our elders, but we have a voice, too," says McKimmy. "There are days when I think the world is hopeless, but I'm idealistic. One day the pieces will all get put together."

*What were the achievements of your class or generation? Share them online at [www.willamette.edu/scene/contact/comments/](http://www.willamette.edu/scene/contact/comments/) or write to The Scene, Willamette University, 900 State Street, Salem, OR 97301.*



Instead of raising a sign in protest, Kirsten "Kiry" Nelsen '08 hauls soil at a local community garden that assists needy families.

## FROM THE SENIOR DIRECTOR



Democracy is not only the theme for this issue of *The Scene*, it is one of the underlying tenets of a strong alumni relations program. As I begin my tenure as senior director, first and foremost on my mind is providing a forum for you to share your insights, opinions and experiences.

Over the years, your letters, calls, emails and other communication have acted as votes — you wanted a trip to Ireland and another to Greece, you wanted to expand your professional network with other alumni, you wanted more events for recent graduates and

a family friendly event at reunion weekend. We were able to respond to meet those requests, and your feedback will continue to shape the direction of our programming. We trust these developments will provide an avenue for Bearcats of every generation to get involved and stay connected with Willamette.

As we move ahead, I look for even more opportunities to build relationships and create dialogue within our community. A review and update of the online community is just one of the communications initiatives we'll be undertaking soon. As always, we welcome your news, stories and ideas. I'm happy to be on board as we chart this course together.

Warm regards,

Denise M. Crawford '95, MBA'00

## Reunion Weekend 2008 September 19-21

If your class year ends in an 8 or a 3, it's time to make plans to come back to campus. Reunion Weekend 2008 is just around the corner, and a great line-up of fun-filled events has been planned for all of you.

Visit your class page online at [www.willamettealumni.com/reunions](http://www.willamettealumni.com/reunions) for more information and to register.

Each of these classes will enjoy special events:

- Class of 1998 — 10 year reunion
- Class of 1988 — 20 year reunion
- Class of 1983 — 25 year reunion
- Class of 1978 — 30 year reunion
- Class of 1973 — 35 year reunion
- Class of 1968 — 40 year reunion
- Class of 1963 — 45 year reunion
- Class of 1958 — 50 year reunion
- The Jason Lee Society — 50 years (+)

- Class Gatherings on Friday night
- QuadFest picnic on Saturday, with children's area and live music
- Football game, wine reception and Greek Open Houses on Saturday
- "Celebrate Willamette!" awards dinner on Saturday night

Questions? Visit [www.willamettealumni.com](http://www.willamettealumni.com) or contact the Alumni Office at 800-551-6794 or [alumni@willamette.edu](mailto:alumni@willamette.edu).

## Beaton and Team Win Senior Tennis Championship



Russ Beaton '60, economics faculty emeritus, and six other members of the Courthouse Athletic Club 7.0 Super Senior Tennis Team captured the U.S. Tennis Association National Championship in May. The team was shut out in the championships last year, but took the title with a 2-1 victory over the Caribbean team in the finals.

Beaton taught economics at Willamette from 1982-98 and served as tennis coach as well. He led the team to the NAIA District II championships from 1986-94. His teams or individual players qualified for the NAIA post-season tournament 13 of his 17 years coaching tennis. Beaton himself was a standout on the Bearcats golf team, earning All-Conference honors three of his four seasons. He was inducted into the Willamette Athletics Hall of Fame in 2005.

Members of the Courthouse team include (l-r) Larry Staart, Dan Barram, Jim Feinney, Hans Witzberg, Russ Beaton, Rich Reiner, Tim Carlin, Richard Lewis and Dean Goetsch (not pictured). Readers may recognize Barram, who leads Young Life Bible studies on campus.

## JOURNEY: 2009 ALUMNI ABROAD

Willamette's new Passport to Learning program is off to a great start. More than 100 alumni and friends enjoyed our trips to the Caribbean and Brazil or have already signed up for our cruise to the Greek Isles and our annual trip to the Ashland Shakespeare Festival.



### Wonders of the Galapagos Islands Jan. 30–Feb. 7, 2009 (plus optional trip to Peru)

Join us for the journey of a lifetime to the Galapagos Islands, and discover a region unmatched in its beauty and for its role in the history of natural science. With virtually no natural predators on the islands, the abundant wildlife is fearless and accepts human observers at a close range not possible elsewhere on Earth. Excursions are led by a highly qualified team of certified naturalists, whose knowledge and enthusiasm will enhance your understanding and enjoyment of this fascinating natural realm. Our itinerary also includes time in mainland Ecuador, allowing you to browse the colorful Andean market of Otavalo, explore the magnificent colonial section of Quito (a UNESCO World Heritage site) and visit a traditional Incan village. And we are pleased to offer a six-night option to continue your trip in Peru's legendary "lost city" of Machu Picchu and the historic cities of Lima and Cuzco.



### Aegean Adventures June 12–24, 2009

Experience the eastern Mediterranean from Dubrovnik, Croatia, to Istanbul, Turkey, with the Greek Isles and Athens in between. Our itinerary for this stunning region will fulfill the dreams of many alumni and friends. College of Law Dean Symeon Symeonides, a native of Greece, will join us, sharing personal knowledge and insights that will enhance your travel experience. CLE lectures are available for law alumni and optional for undergraduate alumni.

For details on any of these trips, contact Jim Booth at 503-370-6746 or [jbooth@willamette.edu](mailto:jbooth@willamette.edu). All trips are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

### Paris and Normandy April 25–May 3, 2009

What could be better than Paris in springtime? Explore the historic beaches of Normandy and enjoy five days cruising the Seine. Pre- and/or post-trip stays in Paris are available to extend your journey. Join Senior Director of Alumni Relations Jim Booth for this special opportunity to enjoy the art, culture and landscape of northern France.



## ANSWERING YOUR CAREER QUESTIONS

By Stacey Lane, Associate Director of Alumni &amp; Career Networking



I want to brag a bit: I have the best job in the world, working with smart, talented people by connecting them to the career resources they need. I also have a unique bird's-eye view of career and hiring trends. Over the past few

months, I've talked with quite a few alumni and 2008 grads — all with the same question: I haven't had to look for a job in a few years. What do I need to do to be successful?

The elements of a successful job search remain timeless — from networking to interviewing skills — but the specifics change as trends evolve. Here are my top five suggestions to help ensure your job search is successful:

#### 1. Interests and exposure:

Opportunities exist at almost every intersection of interests, skills and experience. Take green living, land-use planning and business development. One intersection would be marketing and business development for a green architectural firm that wants to expand its land-use planning division. That's a real life example of how a liberal arts graduate discovered one of her intersections. Increase your exposure to what others are doing, stay on top of trends, and follow your natural interests to discover options that leverage your experience in new ways.

**2. Social networking:** If you're not using LinkedIn or other professional networking sites, you're missing an opportunity to expand your network across industries and professions. Connecting with former colleagues can provide you with invaluable

career research information, recommendations and new career options.

**3. Brand yourself:** You've been a professional for a while and know more about the world of work, but we're in a very cyclical job market now. This means more jobs are created from subtle changes rather than drastic shifts. The good news is that your experience can likely be used outside your current field or position. So determine your distinctive skills and experience, then start researching related fields and professions to determine niches or specialties. This can be challenging to do on your own. Get an outside perspective if necessary.

**4. Market yourself:** Your resume is a first impression and a powerful marketing tool. If you've been out of the market for a few years, make sure your resume is updated in today's style (keywords, targeted and relevant). This is particularly true if you're not getting past the resume submission phase of your job search. Check that you're showing quantifiable results, then edit to include only relevant information. If this still doesn't improve your results, get some outside advice.

**5. Build momentum:** The hardest part of a new job search is just getting started. Start with one step, like building your LinkedIn profile, and go from there. If that's not your style, start with face-to-face networking instead. You don't have to have all the pieces together before you get started. It's often an organic process, one that unfolds with unexpected twists and turns. Trust that the process will yield results — you're in the company of many other alumni with career challenges. Who knows, your job search story might someday inspire other liberal arts graduates.

If you have a career-related question, drop me a note, and I'll do my best to address it in a future column.

### Best advice?

If you're searching for a new job, you've undoubtedly heard more than your share of career advice — network, have a professional write your resume, practice your interview skills with a friend, etc. Whether you graduated 10 years ago or three months ago, you've probably heard something that made a difference.

So, what's the best career advice you've ever received? Write and tell us, and we'll publish your submissions in an upcoming Career Network article.

## YOU'RE DOING WHAT WITH YOUR DEGREE? 2008 Award Winners

In April, the Career Network held an event in Portland that shined a light (literally) on the fascinating and unexpected career paths Willamette undergraduate alumni have taken. After reviewing the nominees for the 2008 You're Doing What with Your Degree Awards, the Career Network honored these six alumni at the event. For those of you still wondering what to do with that French degree, read on for inspiration.

**Rob Aragon '99** parlayed an art degree, along with retail experience and snowboard instructing, into a career as manager and buyer for Exit Real World, a company created by Melissa Samiec MBA'93 as a master's thesis. Aragon manages four Portland-area locations, as well as the website, for the specialty snowboarding and skateboarding store.

**Kelsey Bunker '78**, who graduated with a biology degree at age 19, considered medical school but decided on law school instead. After practicing law for a few years, she took a workshop on ancient Toltec wisdom and spent six months in Spain with her three children. The Toltec training has been an asset in her latest business venture as co-owner of the swanky '60s Jupiter Hotel in Portland, which played host to our event.

**Justin Klure '98, MBA'03**, an environmental studies graduate, is at the forefront of the movement to bring wave energy to Oregon — likely the first state in the nation to utilize this new technology. Justin worked for the Department of Energy for about 10 years before starting his own consulting firm. He also served as executive director of Oregon Wave Energy Trust, but now spends most of his time consulting on wave energy.

"Gain knowledge, then experience. Stay focused on your objectives and, most important, be patient for the right opportunity."

— Justin Klure '98, MBA'03

**Minda (Hedges) Seibert '94, MBA'08** majored in business economics and minored in art before joining the Peace Corps and teaching high school economics in the Solomon Islands. She continued her international career doing humanitarian aid work with International Rescue Committee and Mercy Corps in hot spots such as Kosovo, East Timor, Iraq and Kuwait. She earned her MBA from Willamette this year.

**Lisa Tran '95**, a double major in English and politics, earned a master's degree in English literature at Mills College, then decided to try life on the other side of the classroom by teaching English in Vietnam with Volunteers in Asia. Returning to the States, Lisa spent three years with Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement and now is an optician in Portland. She recently appeared in her first bilingual commercial on Vietnamese cable television.

**Charlie Wolff '01, MBA'08** was a French major with minors in Spanish, economics and physics. Intrigued by a career with perks like independence, flexibility and potential, Charlie went into real estate, became a broker, and is now an entrepreneur. He earned his MBA from Willamette this year, and he also trains ski instructors on the side.

"Treat every client as if they were your mother."

— Charlie Wolff '01, MBA'08

"Always be open to the opportunities that arise, and never fear jumping into the unknown."

— Lisa Tran '95

## 2008 ALUMNI AWARD CITATIONS

Each September during Reunion Weekend, Willamette honors and celebrates outstanding alumni for their achievements and devotion to the University. Here's a look at those who will be honored this year:



### George Hoyt '58

Lestle J. Sparks Medallion 2008

George Hoyt '58 was in Salem recently, meeting with Debra Ringold, dean of the Atkinson Graduate School of Management. He was back the next week, meeting with classmates on the 50th Reunion Committee. Hoyt always makes himself available when it comes to helping Willamette.

His dedication is being recognized this year with lifetime status on the Willamette Board of Trustees as well as the Lestle J. Sparks Medallion, the University's highest honor for those whose lifetime loyalty and service reflect the ideals of one its most devoted alumni, Lestle J. Sparks, Class of 1919.

Hoyt's involvement with the University ramped up 12 years ago, after he retired from a successful career in publishing. The economics major began his publishing career as an advertising salesman at the *Tigard Times*, in a suburb of Portland. "After three years," he recalls, "I decided there were a whole bunch of answers I didn't know. So I went to the University of Oregon to get an MBA. What I found out is there aren't any fixed answers, so I was satisfied and moved forward."

After returning to Portland, Hoyt became general manager of *The Times* publications and was involved in all aspects of the publishing and printing business. From there his career path led him to become president and publisher of Pioneer Press in Chicago, vice president and publisher of the *Washington Star* in Washington, D.C., production director of Time Inc. in New York, and president and chief operating officer of Leshar Communications in the Bay Area. He retired from the San Gabriel Newspapers in Southern California.

Since settling down on 11 acres boasting woods, rhododendrons and ferns in Sandy, Ore., Hoyt has devoted his time to service. In addition to his many Willamette commitments, he is involved in a number of civic organizations, including the Portland Police Bureau's Sunshine Division, the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council and area libraries.



### Tara (Wilson) Graham '98

Young Alumni Leadership Award

Tara (Wilson) Graham '98 grew up in Nevada and didn't travel

much until after graduation. Then she took a job in the Willamette admissions office and traveled around the country recruiting students. That's how she caught the travel bug, but rather than becoming a tourist, she joined the Peace Corps and ventured to Tanzania, where she soon came to embrace the culture and learn from it.

"I used to think that I didn't need very much to be happy," says Graham. "But it wasn't until my Peace Corps experience that I had to live that." She recalls one Christmas overseas with a couple who was working to find housing for a

group of orphaned boys they had found living in a filthy warehouse. "It was the simplest Christmas ever, but it was a demonstration of how amazing spending time with people can be."

After two years teaching advanced-level chemistry in the small village of Mzumbe, Graham decided to extend her tour to build on her community work on HIV/AIDS prevention. She moved to the city of Dar es Salaam, working part time as a school health volunteer leader. She also worked with non-governmental organizations on a radio show, a magazine and a television show focused on educating youth about behaviors that could lead to contracting HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Back in the States, Graham worked at an inner-city school in Los Angeles

while waiting to hear about acceptance to graduate school. After working with people who had so little and who were grateful for their education, it was difficult for Graham to work with American school children who took education for granted. "I didn't lecture my kids about how lucky they were," says Graham, "but I would share my experience so they could come to conclusions on their own."

Graham earned her master of public health degree from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill in 2006. She continues to work with communities in the U.S. to identify needs and find solutions. "I feel very strongly about working with younger children and women to improve their lives," she says. "Empowering them will make the whole community better."



## Robert Schaefer '52, JD'55

Distinguished Alumni Citation 2008

Most people plan to retire, but Robert Schaefer '52, JD'55 has no intention of doing so. Schaefer's father and grandfather were both

attorneys in Vancouver, Wash., where he was born; his grandfather and uncle were superior court judges there. His family invested strongly in the community, and he follows in that tradition.

"I enjoy what I'm doing," says Schaefer, himself an attorney with a wide range of specialties. "It keeps me involved with my community and state. It's the relationships a person has in the community and church that help us all find ways to make a difference."

One of Schaefer's many contributions was his public service in the Washington

State Legislature. After serving six years, he was elected to serve as Speaker of the House from 1965-67, the youngest representative in Washington to serve his party in that position. His experience as a deputy prosecutor and as a legislator enabled his involvement with the major expansion of Vancouver to the east, as well as with the industrial expansion from the 1960s through the 1990s. His current practice involves major corporations in Clark County.

In addition to his economic development and business practice, Schaefer has contributed to the education of children in his community and in more than 40 states. In 1972 he helped found HOSTS (Help One Student to Succeed), an organization that has tutored more than 1 million U.S. students in reading and math. Schaefer was also instrumental

in bringing the Washington State University campus to Vancouver in the 1980s. "Education is the foundation for the success of any community," he explains. "There are two important things in life: Have a strong faith in God, and get a good education." The third, he adds, is to have a good spouse and partner, like his own wife, Sally Jo (Grimm) Schaefer '55, who received an Alumni Citation in 2005.

Schaefer's faith drives him to give back to his community with devotion, or, as he says, "For those who are given much, much is expected. The good Lord has been very good to me and my family," he continues, "and we all feel we have an obligation to give something back."



## Suzy Platt '58

Distinguished Alumni Citation 2008

Suzy Platt '58 is always on the move. Her father worked for Atkinson Construction, the company that built Baxter Hall in the 1940s, which is what brought Platt and her family to Salem when she was in the fifth grade. "I was around the campus from time to time, and I just decided at the age of 10 that I would go to WU — and never changed my mind." Platt's family had moved at least 10 times before that job brought them to Salem, and there were five more moves before she returned to enroll at Willamette.

Platt earned a degree in English, then took her love of reading to the University of California Berkeley to work on a master of library science degree. She was selected for the Library of Congress recruit program and soon took a position as a reference librarian. "There were times on Saturday afternoons when I was the only librarian on duty in the Main Reading Room of the Library of Congress — heady stuff when you're 24 years old," she recalls.

She worked for the Library of Congress for four years before heading to Pakistan, where she worked at a community library in a village built for U.S. and British supervisors of a dam construction project. Being on the same schedule as the schools, she spent summers traveling and visited 28 countries, seeing the Great Pyramids, the Black Forest and the Tiger Tops of Nepal.

Platt eventually returned to the Library of Congress and was selected editor for a book of quotations, *Respectfully Quoted*, on file at the Library of Congress or requested by members of Congress. Six librarians worked to verify quotes and sources, and Platt spent a year and a half editing the book. She continues to work on this project in her retirement, adding quotes to the online book, available at Bartleby.com. "It's very gratifying to know that people do use it and like it," she says.

Retirement has not slowed her down. She lives with and cares for her 94-year-old mother, who travels with her to California every year.



**Robert C. Seeger '62**  
Distinguished Alumni Citation 2008

Although the overall survival rate for children with cancer has improved from 15 percent to 80 percent during the past 40 years, more than 3,000 children still die of cancer every year. Dr. Robert Seeger '62 has committed his life to reducing that number. "Three thousand doesn't sound like a lot, but if it's your child, it's like 100 percent. Three thousand children dying is too many," says Seeger, director of the Cancer Research Program at the Saban Research Institute of Children's Hospital Los Angeles, one of the leading pediatric cancer research programs in the U.S.

Seeger grew up in Salem and developed an interest in biology at Willamette before attending the University of Oregon Medical School. He was drawn to working with children and trained in pediatrics at the University of Minnesota Medical School. After studying immunology at the National Institutes of Health, he completed a fellowship at University College London, where he began his life's work in cancer research.

Upon returning to the U.S., he joined the pediatrics faculty at the University of California Los Angeles. He became a top international researcher of neuroblastoma, one of the most common and deadly tumors in children. In 1985 he discovered a specific cancer gene in neuroblastomas that could predict survival — a medical breakthrough vital to the future of personalized medicine for cancer patients. In 1989 Seeger moved to Children's Hospital Los Angeles and the University of Southern California, where he led research that improved the survival for children with high-risk neuroblastoma from 15 percent to 45 percent.

Seeger has published 141 peer-reviewed papers, and he received the H. Russell Smith Award for Innovation in Pediatric Biomedical Research in 2001. Since 2000, he has headed a multi-investigator neuroblastoma program funded by the National Cancer Institute in which "gene chips" and other new technologies are used to better understand the disease, and new therapies are being developed for clinical testing in their nationwide New Approaches to Neuroblastoma Therapy consortium ([www.nant.org](http://www.nant.org)). "It's constantly a challenge to try to do better," Seeger says. "It's tremendously satisfying to see patients who were apparently doomed but now are surviving and doing well. That's what keeps pushing you."



**Marlene Anderson '68**  
Distinguished Alumni Citation 2008

In a world of seemingly insurmountable ills, Marlene Anderson '68 is changing things one person at a time. A biology major, Anderson began her career teaching high school science. When her husband went back to school in Ann Arbor, Mich., she took a position as a research associate at the University of Michigan Dental Research Institute

— a time she remembers as a highlight of her career. "It was total academia, and I had a lot of fun writing papers and teaching," she recalls. "My research was in tissue culture — that would make Grant Thorsett happy."

Two years later, Anderson realized that while she loved science, she really wanted to work with people. She completed a master's degree in social work from the University of Michigan in 1979 and spent the next 20 years in Portland, working at private mental health agencies — work some social workers consider "time in the trenches." But Anderson has a philanthropic approach to her career. "There are so many people in desperate need of help," she says. "Even in private practice, I have some people I don't charge so those who need help can get it."

In 2001, Anderson went on a safari to pursue her interest in birding. Along the delta on the Sabaki River in Kenya, she met Baya, a young boy who carried her bags. "We made a great connection," she remembers, "and I wanted to know more about this child." Through the one computer with Internet access in Baya's village, Anderson learned of the devastation there caused by HIV/AIDS. She soon returned to the village and began teaching families and groups of villagers how to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. She partnered with villager Francis Kahindi Mwaduna of Masheheni, Kenya, to start the Imani Project, and for the past seven years Anderson has taken volunteers from around the world to help Africans develop programs to bring HIV/AIDS education to rural villages. "The African people are so inspiring," she says. "If I can keep one person from getting AIDS, then I will have accomplished what I set out to do."

## THE CONVERSATION OF ART

Gwenn Seemel '03 doesn't believe in playing it safe. She took the risk to pursue her dream of a career as an independent artist. "I want to do work that matters," she says. "I want to think art is vital."

She also takes chances with her craft. The Portland-based portrait artist believes the vitality of art stems from its ability to generate conversation and act as a catalyst for change, and she thinks the local art scene could use a little shaking up. "There's a trend — at least in Portland — toward safe art," Seemel explains. "The work doesn't challenge the viewer in any way. It's simply decorative or maybe it helps them to emote, but it certainly doesn't ask them to rethink their way of looking at the world. And that's what art must do, especially in the United States. We live in a nation that protects our freedom of speech, and that makes it all the more unfortunate when we censor ourselves. I'm not calling for art that provokes without cause, but art that starts a conversation."

Seemel is most passionate about folk art because "it accepts the general public's one criterion when viewing art. All that people — including me — demand of artists is craft. It seems to me that the best way to cause revolution is to present a challenging topic in a well-crafted way. Even if the viewer doesn't agree with the message, the skill that went into the making of art ... should inspire deference on some level, and it might even cause the viewer to think again about what the artist is saying."

For Seemel, art is an expression of democracy. It is expression by and for the people. And in her new series, "Apple Pie," she draws on what she calls the "super genre" of allegorical



Liberty

portraiture to challenge viewers to rethink their concepts of what it means to be American. "Faces and stories are meant to be together," she says, and these portraits combine iconic American images with the faces of those Americans who were here first, those who were brought here against their will, those who chose to come here, those who have been here for many generations. Her "Amazing Gothic" features an Algerian-American father and daughter, while the subject of "Raha the Riveter" is a childhood friend of German and Iranian descent.

Seemel's self-portrait in the series, "Liberty," is a tribute to her mother, a native of France, who immigrated to Canada in her 20s and married Seemel's father, an American living in Montreal. "I have my father to thank for my American citizenship," Seemel says, "but I have my mother to thank for knowing how lucky that makes me." Noting that both she and Lady Liberty have their origins in France, Seemel says this particular work challenged her own concept of citizenship: "It's clear the French culture is not mine, but I could choose it instead of the U.S. at any time. With the help of [fluency in] the language, I could become almost fully French instead of American. My transitional status allows me to choose where and, to some degree, whom to be."

"I've chosen the United States. My intimate knowledge of another country helps me to appreciate the U.S., even when it disappoints me. In a way, it makes me more American than someone whose family has been here for generations. The United States is, originally, a nation of choosers. For everyone except those of Native American or African origins, early on, our ancestors chose to be here."

Seemel chooses to create art that generates a conversation, be it about life, love, art or democracy. "Maybe," she says, in her explanation of this portrait, "all the U.S. needs now is for every one of us to actively choose it again."

"Apple Pie" will be on display at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center in Portland from Aug. 28 to Sept. 20. Visit Seemel's website at [www.onefaceatatime.com](http://www.onefaceatatime.com).

## CLASS NOTES

College of  
Liberal Arts  
Class Notes

## 1960s

CLASS OF 1963 AND 1968 REUNION

**Ian Dorsett '63** retired in 1993 after 30 years with the Coquille school system. He invites friends to contact him at [doctordcoq@aol.com](mailto:doctordcoq@aol.com).

**Stephen Smith '65** and wife Patsy live in New Baden, Ill., and enjoy spending time with their seven grandchildren. Steve is director of continuing-care services for Kurus Funeral Home, helping families through the transition following the death of a loved one.

**Craig Chastain '68** is director of media and public relations for the Luis Palau Association, a global Christian ministry based in Beaverton, Ore. Chastain's career has focused on event and entertainment marketing and management, with his current work involving the promotion of faith-based music festivals around the country. Chastain and wife Kathy live in Aloha, Ore. They have three children and three grandchildren living in the Seattle area. Chastain writes that his "increasing resemblance to Santa Claus pays off during the holiday season."

**Greg Gourley '69** was recently featured in the *Lebanon (Ore.) Express* for his humanitarian efforts in Sierra Leone. He took his sixth trip to the country last spring. Gourley took part in the Air Force ROTC program while at Willamette. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1969 and worked as a protocol officer eventually retiring as a captain in 1975. During that time, he earned a master's degree in international relations from the University of Arkansas. He spent 25 years teaching history and citizenship classes in Seattle community colleges. Gourley volunteered to help coordinate VIP tours when the World Trade Organization scheduled its 2000 conference in Seattle. At the conference he met representatives from Sierra Leone, who invited him to visit their country. He met with chiefs of the Limba tribe on his first trip and promised to return with food. He raised \$65,000 by speaking to church and civic groups and returned to the capital city of Freetown six months

later with 10 trucks full of rice. The Limba people later made Gourley an honorary chief and presented him with a royal robe. He has continued to work to raise funds for an amputee soccer league, to secure donations from pharmaceutical and water purification companies, and to collect sewing machines and raise funds to create a vocational training program for women.

**David Moseley '69** is director of the Washington State Ferries. Moseley earned a master of divinity degree from Golden Gate Theological Seminary. He spent the last two years working as vice president for the Institute for Community Change after previously serving as town administrator of Steilacoom, Wash., city manager of Ellensburg, Wash., and director of Seattle's community development department.

**Robert Schaeffer '69** was featured in *BrainstormNW* last spring in an article on protecting investment earnings. Schaeffer is vice president of Becker Capital Management Inc. and manages tax-exempt stock portfolios and the Becker Value Equity Fund. A registered investment advisor, Schaeffer joined the company in 1984 after seven years with the International Bank of Oregon (now Wells Fargo). He became interested in investments while studying economics at Willamette. He served as an armor specialist with the Washington National Guard before beginning his investment management career.

## 1970s

CLASS OF 1973 AND 1978 REUNION

**Brad King '74, MA'76** was recently named to the Willamette University Board of Trustees. As a student, King served as president of the Associated Students of Willamette University and as the first student body president of the Atkinson Graduate School of Management. As a trustee, he will serve on the Finance and Audit Committee and on the Endowment Committee, where his experience in finance and investment management will be of most service.

**Patrick Pine '74, MBA'76** and wife Debbie welcomed their first grandchild, Michael Jacob Kaufman, born to daughter Courtney Kaufman and her husband, Brian, in Eugene, Ore. Patrick and Debbie reside in Hillsboro, Ore.

**Ronald Jordan '79** and his wife recently traveled to South Africa, a trip they won at an auction for the U.S./South African Wine Institute last summer. The auction was a fundraiser for the joint venture between U.S. and South African winemakers to bring black South Africans to visit American wine regions to learn how to become vintners. Jordan also enjoyed a gathering with other members of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity over the summer.

## 1980s

CLASS OF 1983 AND 1988 REUNION

**Sue (Werner) Lehman '80** has worked at a Christian nonprofit family practice clinic since 2003. She and her husband live in Westminster, Colo., where she also teaches pre-K and kindergarten Sunday school and a women's Bible study at their church.

**Katherine Barker '83** was recently promoted to data coordinator for the clinical department of LifeCenter Northwest, handling communications with the organ recovery staff, transplant centers and the quality staff. She previously worked as a data entry clerk and project assistant for the company.

**Bruce Clemetsen '84** was recently appointed dean of student services for Linn-Benton Community College. He has been with the college since 1999, previously serving as associate dean and director of enrollment management. Clemetsen also teaches administration and organization of student services at Oregon State University. He is a member of the Albany Rotary Club, serves on a number of statewide technical task forces for community colleges, and is involved in various youth organizations.

**Dirk Zeller '84** gave the keynote address at the China Trust Real Estate "Survival and Success" Conference in Taipei, Taiwan, in April. Zeller is CEO of Real Estate Champions, based in Bend, Ore.

**Mark Alan Olsen '85** married Kerry Rodgers Aug. 18, 2007. They live in San Francisco, where he is a self-employed business analyst and technology consultant.

**R. Scott Marshall '89** is director of Portland State University's Master of International Management Program and Center for Design

and Innovation for Business and Sustainability. He worked in private, government and nonprofit sectors for nine years before pursuing a career in academia. Marshall earned a master of arts degree from George Washington University and a PhD from the University of Oregon. He was profiled in the *Portland Business Journal* in March, saying his guiding principle is "to make decisions with my child's child's child in mind."

## 1990s

CLASS OF 1998 REUNION

**Joey Razzano '90, MBA'90** was recently named Oregon regional representative for the International Rett Syndrome Research Foundation. Razzano has a daughter with Rett Syndrome, a relatively rare but serious neurological disorder that usually affects girls because it is a genetic defect on the X chromosome. As part of her duties, Razzano will raise awareness and build community among families in Oregon and organize the third annual Stroll-a-thon, to be held at Laurelhurst Park Sept. 13. On behalf of her daughter, she testified before the legislature last year to get the Medically Involved Children's Waiver passed into Oregon law to benefit children with disabilities. For more information contact her at [joeyrazzano@comcast.net](mailto:joeyrazzano@comcast.net).

**Harlem Quijano '91** is a chiropractor with the Spine Clinic in Salem. He graduated from the Cleveland Chiropractic College in 2003, then worked as a certified personal trainer for performance athletes. Quijano is a native of the Philippines. His parents are doctors in Salem.

**Daniela Almeida '93** has been appointed to the board of directors of McDonough Holland & Allen PC in Sacramento. She will serve on the board for the 2008-09 fiscal year. A shareholder in the firm's health care practice group, Almeida focuses on health care operations, regulatory business litigation and contractual disputes. She is also experienced in representing municipalities, financial institutions, law firms and large corporations. Almeida is a member of the California State, New York State and Sacramento County Bar Associations, a member of the Women Lawyers of Sacramento and a board member of the Sacramento No Glass Ceiling Task Force. She earned her JD from the State University of New York School of Law.



**To Winona (Zeffiro) Nelson '93, MM'95** and husband Shane, a daughter, Mia Makanalani, born Jan. 6. She joins brother Seth, 3. The family lives in Boise, Idaho.

**To Anita Rose (Cate) Smyth '93** and husband Michael, a son, Ryan Andrews, born May 3, 2007. The family lives in Beaverton, Ore., where Anita works with Westbrook Science and Design.

**James "Jimmy" Chun '94** has been teaching Hawaiian history at Kamehameha Schools, Kapalama Campus, for seven years. He has one son who "has more energy than the Energizer Bunny."



**To Jonica Hogenson-Counts '94** and husband Roger, a daughter, Kaila Jayci, born Sept. 4, 2007. She joins sister Kiera. The family lives in Harare, Zimbabwe.

**Alison L. Schmitke '94** graduated from the University of Alabama in May with a PhD in education. Her dissertation was titled "Triple Threat: The Intersection of Race, Class and Gender on the High School Basketball Court." Schmitke lives in Eugene, Ore., with her husband, Jerry Rosiek, and 2-year-old daughter, Nellie. She works at the University of Oregon as undergraduate program director in the Department of Teacher Education.



**Denise Crawford '95, MBA00** is now senior director of alumni relations for Willamette University. She served as director of development and alumni relations at the Atkinson Graduate School of Management for the past five years.

**To Scott Eric Anderson '96** and wife Julie, a daughter, Natalie Marie, born April 15. The family lives in Santa Barbara, Calif., where Scott is a professor of graphic design and an illustrator at Westmont College.

**Mark Furman '96** joined the interactive division of Fisher Communications in April as web producer at KVAL.com, the online news site associated with the local CBS affiliate in Eugene, Ore. Furman also serves as an adjunct instructor

at the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication.

**Brian Shipley '96** joined Gov. Ted Kulongoski's staff in March as legislative director. He previously served as director of legislation for Senate President Peter Courtney since August 2006. Shipley's prior experience includes positions as chief of staff for the Senate Majority Office, senior policy advisor to Courtney, and legislative assistant to Sen. Frank Shields.

**Gonzalo Felipe del Real '96** married AnneMarie Sobiech in June 2007. They have a daughter, Arwen Olivia del Real Sobiech. Del Real taught Spanish and English as a Second Language and coached girls' soccer at Wyoming Seminary in Kingston, Pa., until June when he joined Mercersburg Academy, a top boarding school in Mercersburg, Pa., as a Spanish teacher and head coach of varsity girls' soccer.

**To Amy (Kahler) Nowak '98** and husband Gregory, a daughter, Hailey Elizabeth, born Dec. 26. She joins sister Kaitlyn Makenna, 3. The family lives near Monterey, Calif.

**Michael Omeq '98** returned to the family cherry farm, Oriag Orchards, as general manager in 2006. After earning his master's degree in entomology from Oregon State University in 2001, Omeq worked for WyEast Resource Conservation and Development, a consortium of soil and water conservation districts in northern Oregon, rather than return to the farm. "I wanted to do something on my own first," he told the *Capital Press* in an article in May. "I think it's very important you have the experience of working for someone else." Omeq was profiled as a "Western Innovator" in a story focusing on innovative farming methods and the minority of growers under age 40.

**To Conn '98** and Shannon (Spani) '00 Standfield, a son, Taylor Ayers, born Jan. 25. The family lives in Bellevue, Wash., where Conn works for AT&T.



**To Nels Swenson '98, MBA'99** and wife Kerry, a daughter, Lily Margaret, born Dec. 7, 2007. The Swensons live in Portland, where Nels manages a silicon supply chain team for Intel. Lily's aunt, **Barbra Boyen Littrell**

'97, and uncle, **Chris Littrell '97, MBA'08**, were her first visitors.

**Seth Peck '99** married Meghan Suzanne Grant Aug. 11, 2007. They live in Vancouver, Wash., where she practices physical therapy at Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital, and he teaches and coaches basketball at Hookinson Middle School.



**To Ty Merlock '99** and wife Stephanie Sass of Sherwood, Ore., Tyler Grace, born Sept. 19, 2007.

**To Matthew Richardson '99** and wife Michelle, a son, Kaiden Curtiss, born Nov. 12, 2007. They live in Grants Pass, Ore.

## 2000s



**Dani Crocker '00** and **Kelly Keogh '00** were married Oct. 7, 2006, in Portland. The wedding

party included several other members of the Class of 2000, including **Timelle (Barrans) Rosen, Celia Elder, Sara (Anderson) Gillette, Moe DesRochers, Nick Eby, Ryan Gould, Dave Higgs, Grant Norling** and **Tyler Wilson-Hoss**. The Keoghs live in Vancouver, Wash.



**To Shauna Purcell '00** and husband David, a daughter, Daphne Jo, born Feb. 12 in Salem.

**Michael Ray Ralls Jr. '01** married Suzanne Bleier Dec. 29, 2007, in Lake Oswego, Ore. Mike is pursuing his master's degree at Marylhurst University while working full time at Jay Lee's Auto Group in Gladstone. Suzanne works as a capital capacity manager at Intel while finishing the Professional MBA program at Willamette's Atkinson Graduate School of Management.

**Melissa Gunby '02** completed her master's degree in English with an emphasis in pedagogy at California State University, Sacramento. Her thesis was titled "Fringe Benefits: What Tutors Learn from Tutoring." Gunby hopes to teach at a local two-year college.



**Elizabeth Sweeney '02** married Justin Gillen Aug. 17, 2007, in Snohomish, Wash. They live in Seattle.

**Meghan McNeil '03** married David Aabo May 12, 2007, at Timberline Lodge, Ore. The wedding party included **Hillary (Arnold) Koning '02, Emily Bonifaci '03** and **Elly Schoop '04**. **Kavin Meyers '97, MBA'03** served as photographer. The couple met while serving with the Peace Corps in Peru from 2003-07. They live in New York City, where Meghan is pursuing a post-baccalaureate pre-health studies certificate at New York University.

**Rebecca Anderson '03** married Thurman Swain Aug. 8 in Runaway Bay, Jamaica. She works as the city clerk for Cherryvale, Kan., and is an EMT volunteer for the Cherryvale Fire Department.



**Megan Zellner '05** married Michael Gregor Dec. 28, 2007, at Bastyr Chapel in Seattle. The

wedding party included **Abigail Marshall '05** and **Jennifer Sirotek '05**. The couple lives in Evanston, Ill., while Megan finishes her master of library and information science degree at the University of Illinois.

**Mara Beth Johanson '05** married Sean Seifert at St. John's Episcopal Church in Seattle Oct. 6, 2007. The wedding party included **Kelly Schmidtbauer '05**, and several Willamette alumni attended. The couple honeymooned in Playa del Carmen, Mexico, and live in Salem, where both work in retail.

**Gabriel Bell '07** is an apprentice swordsmith and teaching assistant at Dragonfly Forge swordsmithing school in Coquille, Ore., owned by his father. The father-son duo was featured in a recent article in the *Coos Bay World*.

**David Charles Dorr '07** married Nicolette Dawn Larson at Old Laurelhurst Church in Portland Dec. 16, 2007. They live in Carbondale, Colo.

## CLASS NOTES

AGSM  
Class Notes

## 1970s



**Brad King '74, MAd'76** was recently named to the Willamette University Board of Trustees. As a

student, King served as president of the Associated Students of Willamette University and as the first AGSM student body president. As a trustee, he will serve on the Finance and Audit Committee and on the Endowment Committee, where his experience in finance and investment management will be of most service.

**Patrick Pine '74, MBA'76** and wife Debbie welcomed their first grandchild, Michael Jacob Kauffman, born to daughter Courtney Kauffman and her husband Brian, in Eugene, Ore. Patrick and Debbie reside in Hillsboro, Ore.

**James A. Connolly JD/MAd'78** lives in Olympia, Wash., where he has been in private practice since graduation. He was one of the University's first four joint degree graduates. Connolly handles civil litigation, estate planning and probate cases and has been active with the local and state bar associations and involved in the community. He is chair of the City of Olympia Heritage Commission and serves on the school board of the new Pope John Paul II High School, slated to open in September 2009. Connolly and his wife, Catherine, have been married 32 years, and their two daughters work as engineers. Connolly enjoys salmon fishing and attending Mariners games.

## 1980s



**Ron Owen MA'80**, after spending 25 years in human resources, is one of the founders of Humanity Unites Brilliance, which seeks to

create a global economic/social system to move people from survival to empowerment to sustainability. Current projects are focused on humanitarian efforts in Africa to provide food, water, education and micro-loans. HUB has groups in the Portland area, Hawaii, Arizona, southern California and elsewhere. Here Ron (top left) is shown with members of the Phoenix group.



**Jim Bernau MBA'82**, CEO and chair of the board of Willamette Valley Vineyards, was the featured speaker

at the *Portland Business Journal's* Power Breakfast in February. In 1983 Bernau cleared the land and planted the vineyard, becoming one of the early leaders in what has become a major Oregon industry. His wines have received some of the highest ratings and recognition among Oregon wines, including the "Top 100 in the World" designation from *Wine Spectator* magazine. Willamette Valley Vineyards is unique in that Bernau funded its start-up by conducting the nation's first successful, self-underwritten, public common-stock offering for a winery, creating a consumer-owned business. Today the winery has more than 4,500 shareholders and is traded on the NASDAQ. All the company's vineyards are certified sustainable. Raised on a small farm near Roseburg, Ore., Bernau attended Oxford University, the University of Oregon and the Atkinson Graduate School of Management. He has served in a number of leadership roles including president of the Oregon Winegrowers Association, where his work earned him the Outstanding Service and Founders Awards.

**Mark J. Van Heuvel MBA'82** is managing director of Leiden Capital Group, a merger and acquisitions and business sales firm based in Lake Oswego, Ore. He also has controlling interest in Leiden Properties, a full-service real estate brokerage company. Van Heuvel is past president of the Atkinson Student Association and the Atkinson Alumni Association. He and wife Trista live in Wilsonville, Ore.

**Geoff Guilfooy MBA'83**, principal of Aldrich Kibbide & Tatone and adjunct professor at Atkinson, conducted a seminar at University of San Diego's Annual Institute for Nonprofit Governance Conference. His company was honored as one of Oregon's Most Admired Companies

by the *Portland Business Journal*. AKT was named fifth most admired in the professional services category and was the highest ranked accounting firm on the list. **Jennifer Dale MBA'06** of the company's public sector division also attended the awards ceremony.

**Brian Bartholomew MM'84** and his family live in Lake Oswego, Ore. He is a partner with In Your Home, which provides a range of support services to help seniors remain independent. The business continues to grow and is close to selling its first franchise.



**Bill Prentice JD/MM'89** joined Ater Wynne LLP's Energy Group. Prentice has nearly 20 years' experience providing counsel to major Northwest

power companies, advising clients on complex transactions involving wind, solar, geothermal, natural gas, coal and hydropower projects.

## 1990s

**Joey Razzano '90, MBA'90** was recently named Oregon regional representative for the International Rett Syndrome Research Foundation. Razzano has a daughter with Rett Syndrome, a relatively rare but serious neurological disorder that usually affects girls because it is a genetic defect on the X chromosome. As part of her duties, Razzano will raise awareness and build community among families in Oregon and organize the third annual Stroll-a-thon, to be held at Lauralhurst Park Sept. 13. On behalf of her daughter, she testified before the legislature last year to get the Medically Involved Children's Waiver passed into Oregon law to benefit children with disabilities. For more information contact her at joey.razzano@comcast.net.

**Agnes Zach MM'90** is executive director with the Willamette Valley Development Officers, a nonprofit organization serving nonprofit fundraisers by connecting them with others in the community and providing affordable opportunities for professional development and education.

**Phil Allen MBA'92** manages bank client portfolio relationships for Key Bank Business Banking. He has worked in finance since graduation and has been with Key Bank for seven years.



**Jim Morrell MM'93**, senior vice president of support services and CIO

of IQ Credit Union, was named Information Technology Executive of the Year by *Credit Union Times* magazine. Morrell accepted the award at the Credit Union National Association's annual Governmental Affairs Conference in Washington, D.C., in March. Read the full article at [www.cuimas.com/article.php?article=36977](http://www.cuimas.com/article.php?article=36977).



**Jurate Musteikyte MM'95** (pictured center), senior advisor in the

information analysis department of Parliament for the Republic of Lithuania, served as an election observer in the country of Georgia in early January.



**To Winona (Zeffiro) Nelson '93, MM'95** and husband Shane, a daughter, Mia

Makarajani Nelson, born Jan. 6. She joins brother Seth, 3. The family lives in Boise, Idaho.

**Michael Rindfleisch MM'96** attended the George C. Marshall European Center's College of International and Security Studies. The program, located in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, is one of the leading transatlantic security and defense centers. Program participants are nominated from mid- and upper-level management positions within counterterrorism organizations throughout Europe, Eurasia and North America. Rindfleisch is chief of the Combating Terrorism Analysis Team for the U.S. European Command's Operational Air Component. He lives in Europe and works closely with security agencies in the aftermath of significant attacks in Madrid in 2004, London in 2005 and the foiled attempt in Germany in 2007.

**Michael Eber MBA'97** was promoted to director of operations at the Grameen Foundation. He continues to manage the strategic information management group, which provides process, strategy and technology integration services for the foundation's 50 microfinance partners around the world.

**Jon Lazarus MM'98** was promoted to research coordinator within the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) research division after five years in the intelligent transportation systems (ITS) unit, where he was responsible for the entire state. His new responsibilities include organizing research projects for ODOT, with emphasis on construction and materials topics. Lazarus and his family live in Salem.



**Kevin B. Dull JD/MBA'99** is an adjunct professor for Portland State University, teaching the Strategic Business Management capstone course for undergraduate business majors. He lives in the Portland area.

**John Lindquist MBA'99** earned his master of health administration degree from Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, in May. He began his doctoral studies in May through Walden University in Minneapolis. He is studying management and decision-making with an emphasis in leadership and organizational change. Lindquist was honored at the Ogden/Weber (Utah) Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner as the 2007 Volunteer of the Year.



**To Nels Swenson '98, MBA'99** and wife Kerry, a daughter, Uly Margaret, born Dec. 7, 2007. The Swensons live in Portland, where Nels manages a silicon supply chain team for Intel. Lily's aunt, **Barbra Boyen Littrell '97**, and uncle, **Chris Littrell '97, MBA'08**, were her first visitors.



**Denise Crawford '95, MBA'00** is now senior director of alumni relations for Willamette University. She served as director of development and alumni relations at Atkinson for the past five years.

## 2000s



**Ty Mollar Nkiwane MBA'00** and husband Scott Hanselman, a son, Thabo Daniel Hanselman, born Nov. 19, 2007. He joins brother Zeno.

**Alison Hohengarten JD/MBA'01** opened her own legal practice, Hohengarten Law LLC, in Bend, Ore. She previously spent a few years in private practice and as in-house counsel for a large builder/developer. She and husband Erich enjoy the quality of life in Bend with their sons Carson (3) and Garrett (2).

**Nick Jwayad MBA'01** was appointed chief information officer for Portland Public Schools. He has more than 10 years' experience in education and government, spending the last seven years in K-12 information technology management in Oregon. Jwayad has been with PPS since 2004, serving as an information technology director in the development and support of district information systems and applications. He has served as interim director following the departure of the former CIO. Previously he was information technology operations manager for Willamette Education Service District in Salem, where he drove the development and implementation of a student, fiscal and special education solution for several school districts across Oregon. He was involved in the State of Oregon's e-government initiative and held positions with the City of Portland, Washington County and the Oregon Secretary of State's office. He and his family live in Lake Oswego, Ore.

**Galym Pirmatov MBA'01** was appointed vice minister of economy and budget planning for the Republic of Kazakhstan in December 2007. He oversees international economic relations and policy for the management of state assets. Previously Pirmatov worked as managing director and head of investment banking at Halyk Savings Bank of Kazakhstan, one of the country's largest banks. He also worked as a chief financial officer and a chief commercial officer for a number of institutions in Kazakhstan, Ukraine and the United States.

**Scott Engel MBA'02** traveled to London to present on international fraud mitigation at the sixth, Prove It! Fraud Conference. He works for Expedia Inc. in the e-commerce global payments and risk department. His team mitigates fraud on more than 30 global sites and is responsible for protecting more than \$4 billion in annual sales. He lives in Washington.

**Adam W. Heaton MBA/JD'02** served as a judicial clerk in Oregon for a year after graduation. He and wife Brenda relocated to the Minneapolis area, where Heaton then worked as an attorney representing entrepreneurs and real estate investors for several years before opening his own practice. Today the five-attorney firm represents clients in all facets of business and real estate matters. Heaton was recently designated as a board certified real property law expert, a designation bestowed on less than one percent of all attorneys licensed in Minnesota.



**To Sid Parakh MBA'02** and wife Sneha, a daughter, Natasha, born April 6.



**To Mark Brown MBA'03** and wife Amy, a daughter, Miriam Sage, born Jan. 26 in Rochester, Minn. She joins siblings Holden, Lilliana and Asher.

**To Nuannutch (Tarn) Chulphongsathorn MBA'03** and husband Rungrode, a son, nicknamed "Tiger," born Feb. 20. Chulphongsathorn works for GE Energy Thailand as a finance analyst.

**Matt Haugh MBA'03** is director of sales and marketing at BigToys Inc. in Olympia, Wash. BigToys manufactures commercial play structures and is leading a green transformation of the playground industry.



**To Ghattas Khoury MBA'03** and wife Angela, a son, Omar Khoury, born Jan. 1.

**Thomas Smith MBA'03** was named partner with Jensen Investment Management, where he has worked for four years. He is the youngest employee to make partner in the history of the firm. Smith lives in Portland with his wife, Chari, and two sons, Miles (4) and Max (1). He spoke at the Northwest CIO Summit at the Oregon Convention Center in April.

**Lisa (Gislason) Hylton MBA'04** joined the Atkinson Graduate School of Management staff as recruiter/admission counselor for the MBA for Professionals. After earning her MBA, Hylton moved to Eugene, Ore., and worked as general manager of the Eugene Concert Choir. She left the choir to work as business development officer at Oregon Community Credit Union, where she helped expand the Community Business Partnership (CBP) program from 6 to 14 businesses in the Eugene and Springfield area, working closely with human resources professionals involved in the program to organize and offer financial literacy and educational seminars to their employees.

**Andee (Vassilaros) Masonek MBA'04** and husband Aaron started DrawBridge Creative LLC, a design firm offering a full range of graphic and web design services including custom logos, posters, flash animation, illustration and publication design.



**To Elliott MBA'05** and **Jennifer Dale MBA'06**, a daughter, Madeleine Jane, born Feb. 16.

**Alexandra Ness MBA'05** had a tree planted in loving memory of **Kuon Phou MBA'05**. As the two were planning their life together, Kuon expressed a wish to plant a tree and watch it grow as their family grew. In honor of his wish, a Gingko Biloba tree will be planted at the Portland Japanese Garden. Alexandra hopes that Kuon's friends will be able to visit the tree and reminisce about the time they enjoyed with him.



**To Jorge MBA'05** and **Jessica MBA'05** Ordenez, a son, Adrian Malvin, born Feb. 2. The family lives in Peru.



**Russell Yost MBA'05** was presented the 2008 Atkinson Administrator of the Year Award for his

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work as director of marketing for Willamette University's MBA programs. The Atkinson Administrator of the Year is selected by a committee that reviews nominations by students, faculty and staff. The award was presented at the University's Honors Ceremony in May.



**Heather Buxton MBA'06** married Chris Roberts March 15 in Lake Tahoe. More than 100 of their closest family and friends attended.

**Kirstan Changstrom MBA'06** left her position at Juniper Networks in mid-May to join Apple in their iPod/iPhone division as a supply chain manager for connectors. She lives in San Francisco.

**Steven Nord MBA'06** works as practice administrator for Central Oregon Ear, Nose and Throat. Previously he was finance manager for Oregon Health & Science University's Eastern operations, litigation manager for Crick Herrington & Sutcliff in San Francisco and a senior financial analyst for the Oregon Department of Administrative Services.



**To Mary (Simbala) Wheelwright MBA'06** and husband

Marcus, a son, Evan Robert Wheelwright, born March 11.

**Leah Daniels MBA'07** left her position with PEI Company to join the business development/marketing department at Steel River LLP as web content manager. Daniels lives in Portland.

## School of Education Class Notes

**John Erickson '67, MEd'72** was recently featured in the Vancouver *Columbian* in recognition of his 40-year career in education. He began teaching in 1967 in Salem-area high schools, going on to serve as superintendent for two Oregon school districts and as Oregon's superintendent of public instruction. He moved to Vancouver, Wash., in 1994 and began as associate superintendent before being appointed deputy superintendent and then superintendent. He retired in June.

In the article, Erickson lamented the shortage of time to teach increasingly demanding curriculum, noting that the 180-day school calendar was created to serve agrarian economies, where children were needed to help harvest crops and work in canneries. He believes schools need to move closer to a year-round calendar to accommodate today's curriculum and offer teachers fair compensation for the longer school year.

**To Monica Lee (Scott) Fiedler '01, MAT'03** and husband Aaron, a son, Jonathan Rex, born March 15. He joins brother Andrew.

**Katherine P. "Pat" (Leedy) Tatum MAT'70** died Dec. 30, 2007, in Everett, Wash. She earned her bachelor's degree in art from Stanford University, studying in Stuttgart, Germany, during her junior year. She and her first husband, John, lived at Deepwood while she completed her master's thesis on the preservation of historic homes in Salem. She later married Robert Kono in Honolulu, and they moved from Seattle to Oso, Wash., along the Stillaguamish River. She was an avid organic gardener and loved the wildlife around the river valley. She was a member of the Arlington Garden Club and is remembered for having a soft spot for older people, children and pets. She is survived by her husband Bob, two sisters, a brother, and many extended family members and friends.

## In Memoriam 1930s

**Loise (Benjamin) Gardner '30** died March 26 in Milwaukie, Ore. She was born in 1907 in Hibbing, Minn. She married **Everett H. Gardner '29** and joined him in Boston, working at the Church of All Nations while he finished his degree at Boston University Theological School. They returned to Oregon and served Methodist and United Methodist congregations from logging camps, small towns, and Portland and Eugene for 40 years. Her commitment and love for children and young people grew through her work with the UMC Children's Committee, writing curriculum for camp programs, leading teacher training workshops and camping programs, and writing and producing a Sunday school radio program. Gardner lived and worked faithfully and creatively with women's groups, Methodist youth fellowships and Sunday schools. Her husband and

brother preceded her in death. She is survived by two sons, daughter **Joan Gardner '66** and four grandchildren.

**Dorothy (Ghormley) Campbell '36** died Feb. 3, 2003, in San Jose, Calif. Her husband preceded her in death. She is survived by a daughter, son **Mark Campbell '67** and four grandchildren.

**Una (Lee) Kruse '38** died Sept. 25, 2007, in Sunnyside, Wash. She was 91. Kruse was born in 1916 in Saskatchewan, Canada. Survivors include a her son, two daughters, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

**Jean (Hollingsworth) Nohlgren '38** died Feb. 17 in St. Petersburg, Fla. She worked for the American Red Cross and was a member of the Philanthropic Education Association and the United Methodist Church. Her parents **Carl '13** and **Pearl '13 (Bradley) Hollingsworth**, husband **Ralph Nohlgren '40** and a son preceded her in death. She is survived by a son and two daughters, sister **Barbara Whalin '42**, niece **Mary Lee (McWain) Dutli '71** and **Judith (McWain) Armstrong '68**, 10 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

## 1940s

**George "Bill" Wimer '41** died March 17 in San Antonio, Texas. He was 89. He retired after 25 years with Georgia Pacific Corporation, after serving in the U.S. Army in the Pacific arena for six years during World War II and with the Army's 90th Infantry Reserve Command for 32 years, retiring as a colonel. He is survived by his wife, his daughter, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Elizabeth (Hamilton) Caldwell '42** died March 14, 2007, in King, Wash. She was 67.

**Clinton "Spike" Ferguson '44** died March 10 in Milton, Wash. He enrolled in the U.S. Navy V-8 pre-dental program, eventually graduating from the University of Oregon Dental School in 1949 and establishing his own practice. He was recalled to service with the U.S. Army Dental Corp during the Korean War for two years. He spent 25 years in partnership with his son Paul, retiring in 2000. He was a member of Calvary Lutheran Church and was involved in several civic, fraternal, athletic and professional groups. He will be remembered for his love of life, sense of humor, and in later years for his prize-winning

apple and green tomato pies. He is survived by his wife, two sons, six grandchildren, and many extended family members and friends.

**Gladys "Glad" E. (Crawford) Stern '44** died March 14 in Phoenix, Ariz. At Willamette she was a member of music honorary Mu Phi Epsilon and the Beta Chi Chapter of Alpha Chi Omega, in which she remained active all her life. She enjoyed a long music career, teaching in Portland elementary and high schools, then giving private piano lessons after moving to California. She volunteered with the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art and worked as a real estate agent while living in the Kansas City area for more than 20 years. She was a passionate gardener, remembered as a sweet, generous, gentle person, devoted to her husband, **Thomas '46**. She was predeceased by a son. She is survived by her husband, a son, a daughter, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**Robert S. Carpenter '45** died March 2 in Salem. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1942 and was a medical corpsman for the U.S. Marine Corps in the South Pacific for several years before being assigned to the Naval V-12 program at Willamette. After his discharge, he graduated from Oregon State University with a pharmacy degree. He married **Helen Craven '46** in 1947. Carpenter was a member of the Vista Masonic Lodge and volunteered with Meals on Wheels. He is survived by his wife, two sons, a daughter, a brother, five grandchildren, three step-grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**Edith M. (Schifferer) Larson '47** died March 8 in Redmond, Ore. She was 82. After attending Willamette for two years, she earned a degree in home economics from Oregon State University. She married Robert Lawson in 1949 and taught home economics in Lebanon and Portland for 16 years. Larson enjoyed church, travel, cooking, entertaining and spending time with friends and family. Survivors include her husband, a son, a daughter and five grandchildren.

**Elsie B. (Peterkott) Peck '48** died Jan. 6 in Eugene, Ore. She was 81. She and husband Dayton "D.C." Peck owned and operated a chain of lumber and hardware stores in the lower Willamette Valley as well as a construction company through which they built several homes and apartment complexes in Lane and Linn counties. After closing their business in the early 1970s, she was the accountant for Chip N.

Saw Corporation, then worked for Western Graphics as controller for 23 years. She was an active volunteer in her retirement. Her husband and a daughter predeceased her. She is survived by a daughter, two grandsons, one great-grandson and several extended family members.

**Harold E. Ranton '48** died Feb. 27 in Sacramento. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corp as a sea-search radar technician in the South Pacific theater during World War II. He was a Christian minister for more than 25 years after graduating from University of Chicago Disciples Divinity House Seminary. Brothers **Loren '53** and **Leonard '38** preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife, three daughters, one son, three step-children, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, two brothers, two sisters and nieces **Patricia (Ranton) Lewis '65**, **Barbara (Ranton) Gerrish '71**, **Sandra (Ranton) Schmor '73**, and **Judith Ranton '75**.

**Robert E. Haugen '49** died April 22 in Salem. He was born in Minot, N.D., and spent his youth on a farm near Minot, where he was active in the farmers' union youth debate program. He was a natural athlete and enjoyed track, basketball and played semi-pro baseball in a local league from age 15 until he joined the 103rd Infantry Division and served in the European theater during World War II. After graduating from Willamette and settling in the Salem area, he married Alice Locken in 1950, they lived most of their married years on a fruit farm in the Hazel Green area. Haugen was an active member of the Lutheran church, teaching Sunday school and serving in various positions of leadership. He later took up bowling and garnered a diamond ring from the American Bowling Congress for rolling a 300 in sanctioned league play at age 65. He is survived by his wife, a daughter, a son and three grandchildren.

**Thomas W. Tullis '49** died April 30 in Pendleton, Ore. He was 83. He attended Willamette for a year before returning to Pendleton after his father's unexpected death. He and his wife of nearly 60 years, Norma, were high school sweethearts and married in 1946. Tullis worked in the office supply business for a few years before opening Tullis Office Supply in Hermiston and a related business in Ontario. Later he was one of three founders of All Copy Corporation, which evolved into TRM Copy Centers, a NASDAQ company. He enjoyed music, wood-

working, golf, travel, helping others and civic engagement. Following his wife's death in 2005, he married Wanda Wyrick in 2006. He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife, two sisters and a brother. He is survived by his second wife, three sons and a daughter, seven grandchildren, one great-grandchild, a brother and a sister.

## 1950s

**Paul J. Smith '50** died April 15 in San Diego. He was 81. He was an All-Star athlete at Oceanside High School and had many fond memories of lifelong friends from his high school years. Smith served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and attended Oceanside Junior College before moving to Salem to attend Willamette. He married Dolly Davidson, and they moved to San Diego in 1951. He worked for the City of San Diego Recreation Department for 30 years. He was known for his love of family and is survived by his wife, two sons and three daughters, six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and many extended family members and friends.

**Richard C. Cole '52** died March 15 in Seattle. He was born in Albany, Ore., and was a lifelong resident of the Pacific Northwest. He attended high school in Klamath Falls and Salem and served in the U.S. Navy. At Willamette he met **Margie Dunigan '55**; they married and raised three children. Cole was a sales representative for Coca Cola, Union Oil and McGraw-Hill, traveling from Alaska to Idaho and every corner of Washington and Oregon. His career with Union Oil took the family to Seattle, where Cole joined the University Presbyterian church and choir and made lifelong friends. He was known as a libe tenor, and he and three Beta Theta Pi brothers won a fraternity song contest while at WU. He sang *Gamine* Burara with the Bainbridge Island Chorus. He always led the Sand Spit Fourth of July parade, drumming a bass drum and dressed as John Adams. He retired in 1989, and the couple moved to a cabin on the Spit, hosting many events for family and friends. They traveled to Asia, Europe, the East Coast and all over the Northwest. He will be remembered for his love of music, his love for his wife and family and friends. He is survived by his wife of more than 55 years, two daughters, a son, four grandchildren and extended family and friends.

**Ronald M. Coffey '53** died March 28 in Longview, Wash. After high school, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps and was stationed in Seattle until 1948, when he enrolled at Willamette. In 1950 he was recalled and deployed to Korea for a year. He returned to WU to finish his degree, and met and married Charlotte Moffitt. They returned to his hometown of Kalama, Wash., so Coffey could help his father at the Kalama Telephone Company. He worked nearly every position in the company until his father's retirement, when he took over operations until his own retirement in 1992. He enjoyed a distinguished career in the telephone industry, serving on many boards, including as president of the Washington Independent Telephone Association, and receiving many honors, including the Kalama Chamber of Commerce 1992 Citizen of the Year Award. He married Choan Shim Reese in 1992, and they enjoyed golfing, traveling and visiting with friends and family. Coffey was an avid sports fan and enjoyed sailing, skiing and tennis. He loved woodworking and reading. He is survived by his wife, two sisters and a brother, five children, 13 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

**Lyle O. Engelmann '53** died Feb. 2 in Walnut Creek, Calif. He was 82.

**Marilyn (English) Nelson '54** died Feb. 23 at age 76. She lived in The Dalles and Hood River and worked as an elementary school teacher before moving to Vancouver, Wash., in the late 1950s and opening her own hand-weaving business. She also taught calligraphy and art education. In 1957 she married William Nelson. He survives her, along with a daughter, two sons, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**Joan L. (Pangborn) Dodge '55** died March 6 in Salem. She was born in Tillamook, Ore., in 1934 and enjoyed working as a tour guide at the Tillamook Cheese Factory and helping her father raise a small herd of Jersey cows. She sold her herd to finance her education at Willamette. After graduation she began her career as a case worker with the Public Welfare Division in Portland. Dodge spent a lifetime in state service, retiring in 1990 as superintendent of Hillcrest Youth Correctional Facility. She married Thomas Dodge in 1957, and they had two children. The family moved to Salem in 1964. Dodge loved cooking, gardening, reading, traveling and following current events. She loved hissing family

and friends, especially family members pursuing their education at Willamette. Dodge is survived by her husband, her son and daughter, two grandchildren, and a host of extended family members including sister **Tamara (Pangborn) Manning '77**, brother-in-law **Mark Manning '77** and nephew **Matthew Johnson '99**.

**David J. Finlay '56** died April 6 in Salem. He served as ASWU president during his senior year. He continued his education at Stanford University on a Danforth Fellowship, graduating with a PhD in political science. He was an avid traveler, biked through Europe, conducted research in Africa and traveled the world for work and adventure. He was one of the first Americans to visit China in 1975. After a distinguished career teaching political science at the University of Oregon from 1965-77, he practiced psychotherapy in San Francisco, New Zealand and Eugene from 1977-99, training therapists in Germany and Brazil. Finlay was a devoted fan of track and field sports. He is survived by two daughters and four grandchildren.

**Gary G. Jones '56** died March 23 in Salem. He was a member of Sigma Chi, played football for coach Ted Ogdahl and joined the Air Force ROTC. He met the love of his life, **Justine Lewis '57** during his freshman year, and they were married in 1954. The couple moved to Eugene, where Jones graduated from the University of Oregon with a business administration degree and joined the Army ROTC. After graduation, Jones served with the U.S. Army in Oklahoma and California. He attained the rank of first lieutenant and was honorably discharged in 1958. The family then moved to Salem, where Jones worked for the Marvin Lewis Oil Company, then the Oregon Highway Department as he attended Northwestern School of Law at Lewis & Clark College, earning his LLB in 1964. After a year as a title examiner, Jones joined Rhoten Rhoten and Speerstra and began a long career as a probate and estate planning lawyer. He worked as a partner with that firm until 1982, when he opened his own office. He practiced with his son, **Rod JD '87** for the last 10 years of his life, working until just a week before his death. He was involved with numerous professional and civic organizations including the Marion County Bar Association, the Willamette Valley Estate Planning Council, the Oregon State Bar Association, the Salem Chamber of Commerce, the Salem Downtown Rotary Club, the Salem Masonic

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Lodge, the Benedictine Nursing Center of Mt. Angel and the Salem Evangelical Church. Jones was preceded in death by his wife, his parents, a brother and a sister. He is survived by his daughter and two sons; seven grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews and extended family members.

**Richard L. Maudlin '56** died April 11 in Bend, Ore., where he was born and attended high school. He worked for Brooks-Scanlon Lumber Company, Standifer Men's Store and the Gordon Randall Agency. He founded his own insurance company in 1972 and operated it until his retirement in 1984, the same year he named Ann Rasmussen. Maudlin served as a county commissioner and as a chairman for the Bend Water Pageant. He served on the board of directors for the Bend Chamber of Commerce and the Bend Golf and Country Club. He enjoyed golf, bird hunting, travel and spending time with family and friends. Maudlin is survived by his wife, two daughters, three sons, 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son.

**Malcolm L. Brand '57, JD'64** died April 9 in Salem. While at Willamette he served as director of the 12-man chorus of Sigma Chi. He served in the U.S. Air Force Reserves, seeing active duty in France in 1961 and being honorably discharged in 1965. He first practiced law in the City Attorney's Office before becoming a partner of Rhoten Rhoten and Speerstra. Brand later practiced independently until retiring in 1995. He served as president of the Marion County Bar Association. He and wife **Myra (Friesen) '58** were active in their church. He also enjoyed golf and traveling, woodworking, reading and animals. He is survived by his wife, brother-in-law **Jerry Friesen '55**, son **Marion** and wife **Marie (Green) Brand '85**, daughter **Janice '89** and husband **Daryl '90 Worthington**, two grandsons, a brother, and extended family members including great-niece **Kristin Akervall '04**.

**Sally A. (Jones) Van Niel '57** died Nov. 21, 2007, in Everett, Wash.

**Lucian "Mac" M. Baker '58** died March 29 in Salem. Baker and his family moved to Oregon in 1944. He earned his master's degree in interdisciplinary studies at what is now Western Oregon University. He pursued a career in theatre arts from 1956-74, then began a thriving restaurant business, owning several

establishments in the Independence, Ore., area. Baker actively supported the Pentacle Theatre and had produced, directed and starred in many shows for the Pentacle, WGU, Chez Robert and the Ashland Shakespeare Festival. He is survived by two sons, a daughter, a granddaughter, and brothers **Paul '54** and **George '62**.

**Robert L. Morgan '59** died March 5, 2007, in Oregon. He was 69.

## 1960s

**Diane R. McCutchan '60** died June 6, 2007, in Alameda, Calif. She was 68.

**Carmen A. (Hooker) Perkins '61** died March 11 in Hillsboro. She was born in Bluefields, Nicaragua, where her family lived until she was 9. They moved to Oregon and settled in Forest Grove, and she married David Perkins in 1959. She worked for Textronix and Merix as a production engineer, retiring in 1997. Perkins was a member of the First Baptist Church of Forest Grove and the Mothers of Twins Club, and she enjoyed sewing, cooking, baking and handicrafts. Her husband predeceased her in 1998; she is survived by two sons, two daughters, two brothers, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Thomas R. Olson '65** died Oct. 17, 2007, in Las Vegas. He was 73.

**Lynn M. (Zwald) Sellers '67** died Feb. 16 in Bend, Ore. She was 62. She married James Sellers in 2000. She was a registered nurse for St. Charles Bend for 20 years and was a member of Westside Church. She enjoyed flowers and country western dancing. Survivors include her husband, her mother and her sister.

**Christine A. Allen '68** died April 8 in Everett, Wash. She pursued graduate work at Ohio State University, Seaton Hall, Yale University and Portland State University. She taught social sciences in the Salem-Keizer School District for 32 years. Her passion was global studies, and she was active in the Oregon High School International Relations League Model United Nations program for more than 33 years, serving as the state secretariat advisor, writing the advisors manual, developing curriculum and organizing statewide programs. Under her direction, the program grew from a few Salem-area high schools to more than 41 Oregon and southwest Washington schools involving more than 1,500 students. She retired from teaching

in 1999 and started a consulting business, continuing to write specialized curricula for a variety of educational media. She was a member of several professional organizations including the National Council for Social Studies, the Willamette Valley and Oregon Councils for Social Studies and the Social Studies Supervisors Board of Directors. Allen traveled extensively, including journeys to Pakistan, China, Jordan, Syria, Israel and the West Bank, and South Korea. The only places on her wish list she did not visit were South Africa and Russia. She is survived by her father, brothers and sisters-in-law **Warner JD'69** and **Bonnie JD'68 Allen, Mark '73** and **Nancy '73 Allen**; by sisters **Mary Allen '77, Elizabeth Kilian** and **Rosemary Helou**, and many nieces and nephews including **Benjamin Allen '00**.

## 1970s

**Donald E. Newell '73** died Feb. 29 in Vancouver, Wash., at age 57. He was an ear, nose and throat specialist in Vancouver. A veteran of the U.S. Navy, he loved his family, his patients and water sports. Survivors include his wife of 26 years, **Shawna**, their son and three daughters including **Christy '08**; two brothers and extended family members including cousin **Virginia "Ginny" (Keats) Ball '62**.

**Charlotte R. Cooper '78** died March 6 in Salem. She met her husband, **Robert Cooper**, in 1947 when they attended Cornell College, where she earned a bachelor's degree in French. The couple celebrated their 56th anniversary in August 2007. She worked several medical-related jobs to support her husband during medical school. They moved several times while he served two years in the U.S. Air Force and took a residency in Iowa City. They had two sons and settled in Salem in 1960. Cooper was a devoted mother and grandmother, and she enjoyed community involvement with the Salem Volunteer Bureau, SOLV and Meals on Wheels. After her sons went to college, she returned to school herself and earned a degree in piano performance from Willamette. She enjoyed playing for Pentacle Theatre productions and special occasions. Her pastimes included poetry, making cards, quilting, cooking, reading and puzzles. She is survived by her husband, a twin brother, two sons, and five grandchildren.

## 1980s

**Ann S. White '83** died March 3, 2007, in Richmond, Va. She earned her PhD at the University of Pittsburgh and went on to teach at Michigan State, Connecticut College and Virginia Commonwealth University. She loved art, music and the Beatles. She is survived by her brother and his wife and her two nieces.

**Janelle "Jay" K. (Schaefer) Sleeper '86** died Feb. 26 in Vancouver, Wash. She attended Washington State University before graduating from Willamette. She worked for Conkling and McCormick in public relations in Portland, and later worked with the Vancouver-based HOSTS (Help One Student to Succeed) program to promote mentoring. After the birth of her two sons, Sleeper started her own consulting business. She is survived by her husband **Jeff**, her parents **Sally (Grimm) '55** and **Robert Schaefer '52, JD'55**, two sons, a brother, a sister and an extended family of aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews who offer their thanks to those who supported her at the end of her life.

## OPPOSITE PAGE:

1. The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon: *Stank'ya wuk (coyote design paddle)*, Jessie Hall, Travis Mercier
2. Coquille Indian Tribe: *Dentalium and coin necklace*, Brenda Meade
3. The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Tribes of Oregon: *Woman's Veil*, Adeline Miller family
4. The Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians: *Dentalium Hat*, Sue Perry Olson
5. Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians: *Obsidian blades*, Steve Allee
6. The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation: *Hand drum and drum stick*, Les Mirthorn
7. Burns Paiute Tribe: *Rabbit Robe*, Agnes Benning Hawley family
8. Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians: *Xee-t'at (Woman's cap)*, Alfred "Bud" Lane III
9. The Klamath Tribes: *David Chocktoot's allhide shot, drum and drum stick*, Collection of the Klamath County Museums



*The Art of Ceremony: Regalia of Native Oregon*

A 2008 National Endowment for the Arts American Masterpieces Project

Hallie Ford Museum of Art

September 27, 2008, through January 18, 2009

See page 8 for details.

## MAJOR GIFTS SHORE UP UNIVERSITY MISSION

As the University enters the final year of the Campaign for Willamette, several major gifts have infused energy into campus activities and initiatives.



Breaking ground for Ford Hall are (l-r) Allyn Ford, Carmen Ford Phillips, President M. Lee Pelton, Trustee Don Brown '88, Dean Carol Long and Trustee Jonathan Carter '68.

The thoughtful, soft-spoken demeanor of late philanthropist Hallie Ford was a reflection of her compassionate nature. She would have been gratified to see her children, son Allyn Ford and daughter Carmen Ford Phillips, gather with members of the campus community for the Ford Hall ground-breaking in May. Allyn spoke, University chaplain Charlie Wallace offered a blessing, the first shovel of dirt was turned, and construction was begun. Hallie's \$8 million leadership gift, along with gifts from trustees, provided half the funding for the building. "Resourceful and frugal in her personal life, my mother reserved most of her wealth to benefit others," Allyn says. "She was a woman of few words but great vision, one who believed in the transformational value of the arts and education."

The high-tech building will feature sustainable architecture, and the new landscaping will include a significant number of trees. The building will host arts and science classes beginning in the fall of 2009. View construction progress with the web cam at [www.willamette.edu/dept/facilities/projects/index.html](http://www.willamette.edu/dept/facilities/projects/index.html).

Dr. Robert Seeger '62 established the Lola Dasch Seeger '31 and Mervin E. Seeger Science Scholarship Fund in memory of his late parents. A chemistry major, Seeger took after his mother, who studied biology. "My father didn't have an opportunity to go to college because of the Depression, but my mother went to Willamette with the help of a scholarship," Seeger says. Both parents strongly encouraged their sons to pursue higher education,

Seeger, who is professor of pediatrics at the University of Southern California and director of cancer research at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, says the Willamette scholarship he received enabled him to obtain the education that provided the foundation for a career in academic medicine. By establishing a \$200,000 endowment for the Seeger Science Scholarship, he will help generations of students with financial need who choose to pursue careers in medicine or biomedical science. "I am committed to supporting education," he says.

When Roberto Casarez, executive director of Willamette Academy, first saw his budget, with a \$100,000 donation from Bob and Barb Griffin, both Class of '59, he thought he was looking at a typo. "The amount literally blew me away," he says. "This is a true blessing for us."

After Bob's retirement as president of Medtronic, a leading pacemaker and defibrillator company, the Griffins turned to golf, gardening, travel — and compassionate engagement. They founded a health care project to serve the poorest families in Tanzania, Africa, and work with an outreach

project in inner-city Minneapolis to help the homeless obtain housing and gain education and work skills. Now their generosity will assist ethnically diverse and economically disadvantaged teens at Willamette Academy. "I was a 'townie,' and were it not for Willamette, it's doubtful I would have gotten a college education," Bob says. "Barbara and I were the first in our families to get a college degree, so we can empathize with the Willamette Academy goals."

Trustee Brad King '74, MA'd '76 graduated with Atkinson's first class. "We had no building when I started," he recalls. That first year, classes were held in the west wing of Smith Auditorium. He served as student body president as an undergraduate and then in graduate school while working three jobs to make ends meet. "I also have one of the longevity awards for choir," laughs King, who sang in the choir every year.

Now executive vice president and chief financial officer for Portland's largest employer, Oregon Health & Science University, King hasn't forgotten his alma mater. "I know it's critically important for a dean to have discretionary funds to meet urgent needs," he says of his recent \$50,000 gift to the AGSM Dean's Initiative Fund. "I appreciated my time at Atkinson, and I'm happy to do anything I can to further the experience of students and faculty members."

## A Secure High-Yielding Investment

*A Willamette gift annuity is one of the safest and smartest investments you can make. Gift annuities pay guaranteed high annual returns — for the investor and for the future generations of students who benefit from the annuity.*



Judy Teufel '61 was pleased to invest in Willamette. "My Willamette education provided a platform for my successes over the years. The annuity is a wonderful way for ordinary people to give back by helping others benefit from a Willamette education," she says, adding, "My CPA likes the annuity because of the 6.3 percent guaranteed return and helpful tax savings." Annuities are available for \$5,000 or more.

Cassandra Farrin '05 is one of many recent students who owe their Willamette education to generous donors like Judy. "I would not have gone to college without the multiple scholarships provided by Willamette," she says. "The scholarships gave me confidence in my abilities and encouraged me to be actively engaged in the world around me." Cassandra recently received a highly prestigious Fulbright Scholarship, which will enable her to study theology in the United Kingdom for a year.



### One-Life Gift Annuity Rates for Selected Ages

(Contact us for rates for other ages or for joint annuities.)

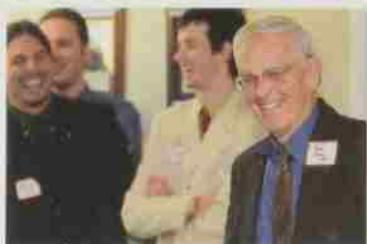
AGE	RATE
65	6.0%
70	6.5%
75	7.1%
80	8.0%
85	9.5%
90+	11.3%

The American Council on Gift Annuities has lowered annuity rates effective July 1, 2008. To allow donors to carefully reflect on their decisions, Willamette will continue to offer the current higher rates through December 31. If you are considering a gift annuity, we encourage you to make a decision before the end of the year.

**For more information about gift annuities, please contact**

**Steve Brier**  
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## BEHIND THE SCENES: LONG-AWAITED SERENADE

When Mark Hatfield '43 asked Antoinette Kuzmanich for her hand in marriage, the couple was serenaded by his Beta Theta Pi brothers at the home of Willamette President G. Herbert Smith in celebration. But these many years, she has continued to tease her husband that he had never given her his Beta pin.

The Hatfields were out of town when the Betas held an alumni event earlier this year. But the Gamma Sigma chapter, founded by Mark Hatfield, was adamant about honoring the No. 1 man on their roster, especially as they transition to their new house. And they were thrilled to help fulfill Mrs. Hatfield's longstanding wish. So on May 4, 2008, generations of alumni of the singing fraternity gathered to serenade the Hatfields as Mark finally "pinned" Antoinette.

Jon Steiner '63 and Trustee Doug Houser '57 helped organize the event, which drew alumni including Jon Strumfjord '41, Loren Hicks '42, JD '49, Winsor Acton '47, Tom Bartlett '51, Trustee Alan Goudy '51, Bob Bain '53, Chuck Peter '56 and Rich Litchfield '63. The next day, Mrs. Hatfield called Steiner, wanting him to tell all involved "how much the Founding Father Number One and I enjoyed yesterday at the Beta house. It was really such a treat and so heartwarming for both of us. Please tell the brothers it couldn't have been a better time for all of us, and we thank all of you who had a part in it."

Mark Hatfield remains the longest-serving U.S. Senator from Oregon, serving from 1967 to 1997. After graduating from Willamette, he served in World War II as a Navy lieutenant, then went on to earn his master's degree in political science from Stanford in 1948. He returned to the University, serving as dean of students and associate professor in the political science department. He began his political career as a state representative (1951-55), then served as a state senator (1955-57) and secretary of state (1957-59) before becoming governor (1959-67). He has authored numerous books and received more than 100 honorary degrees and other distinctions, including an honorary degree from Willamette in 1958 and the Beta Theta Pi Oxford Cup.



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