

The
Messenger

WINTER 2008

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

VOL. 23 NO. 2

THE NORTHWEST PHOTOGRAPHY SERIES



WILD BEAUTY

Photographs of the Columbia River Gorge, 1867-1957

TERRY TOEDTEMEIER AND JOHN LAURSEN

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ON THE COVER:
Published in Fall 2008, Wild Beauty chronicles the rich photographic history of the spectacular Columbia River Gorge.

(Permission to use image provided by the Oregon Historical Society.)

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The Valley Library
Main Campus, Corvallis

Marilyn Potts Guin Library
Hatfield Marine Science Center,
Newport

OSU-Cascades Campus
Bend

THE MESSENGER

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The Messenger is published biannually.

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*...your support helps to keep OSU Libraries
 on the cutting edge...*
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Hello Library Supporters,

I want to thank you for your support of the OSU Libraries! It seems odd to write this during such difficult economic times but, in terms of donor support, this has been a very good year for us. One of the most outstanding gifts we received was a \$2.6 million gift from Frank McEdward, a 1957 OSU graduate.



This gift will endow our first professorship — the Franklin A. McEdward Endowed Professorship for Undergraduate Learning Initiatives. OSU Libraries was very fortunate to have an advocate, Sam Rondos, a neighbor of McEdward who encouraged him to support the OSU Libraries. This extraordinarily generous gift will allow us to deepen our commitment to our students by providing Anne-Marie Deitering, the first holder of the professorship, the resources to fully explore the different learning styles of today's students and how we in the library can tailor our teaching to mesh more seamlessly with these specific styles.

What we already know about student learning styles is that group projects and group sharing of information is the norm. With this in mind, the library is investing the funds of another generous donor to repurpose our Autzen Electronic classroom. We have entered into a partnership with furniture vendor Herman Miller, who has identified OSU Libraries as one of eight libraries in the US where the company wants to invest in creating an innovative student learning space. The goal is to use furniture and space in ways that encourage student learning. This new partnership fits well with the McEdward Professorship's emphasis on undergraduate learning

initiatives.

These are two highly public ways your support helps to keep OSU Libraries on the cutting edge of providing outstanding library services to our students and faculty. Another key way your support helps is to allow us to buy those books and journals our faculty and students need to be successful teachers and researchers. If you are not of the library world, it may

surprise you to know that we can easily spend \$100,000 on a single purchase. Most recently we purchased the electronic back files to a title *Web of Science* which accesses a multidisciplinary database of bibliographic information gathered from thousands of scholarly journals. We would not have been able to buy this very important research tool without your help.

When I am asked about the OSU Press Director side of my job, I always point to the wonderful publications from the OSU Press. If you have not looked through our catalog and would like a copy, please contact Micki Reaman at 541-737-3166. Our most recent best seller is *Wild Beauty: Photographs of the Columbia River Gorge, 1867-1957*. The cover of this issue of *The Messenger* is representative of the many stunning illustrations from the book.

So, let me conclude by wishing each of you a joyous holiday season and by again thanking you for helping to make the OSU Libraries the very excellent resource that it is.

Sincerely,

Kayle Butcher
 Kayle Butcher

New Employees



Terri Allen

Terri Allen is a new member of the Instruction and User Services team, processing incoming and outgoing Summit loans and taking care of all the FedEx and US mail packages. Terri is not new to OSU; she has worked here since 1985.

Dan Bjerke was hired this August after working in a temporary position for several months. His new position is as the library's Instruction Services Coordinator. He received his Masters in Library Science from Emporia State University in 2006.



Dan Bjerke



Brian Helton

Brian Helton was hired this September as a Library Technician I in Instruction and User Services. He is both the Laptop Checkout and Study Room Coordinator. On occasion he also backs up Course Reserves and Circulation.

Uta Hussong is our newest Science Librarian, hired this June in the recently re-organized Instruction and User Services Department. She received her Masters in Library Science from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in 2005 and a bachelor in Biology from the University of Michigan. Her subject areas are Chemistry, Astronomy, Mathematics, Statistics and Physics.



Uta Hussong



Kevin Johnsrude

Kevin Johnsrude is the new Lead Programmer for Oregon Explorer. He comes to us with a strong background in software architecture and programming and most recently worked for Tripod Data Systems (Trimble) where he was a software architect. This is actually a return to OSU for Kevin — he worked for three years at the School

of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science as the architect and project lead for TaskTracer.

Congratulations

Anne-Marie Deitering, OSU Assistant Professor of Library Science, will hold the new Franklin A. McEdward Endowed Professorship for Undergraduate Learning Initiatives. She was hired at OSU Libraries in 2004 as the first person to occupy the Instruction Services Coordinator position and is now one of the nation's leading scholars on the academic library's role in fostering student learning. She has a passion for teaching students how to find the information they need to be successful as students and as lifelong learners. Anne-Marie has been active in the evolution of the Information Commons over the past two years, modifying the space and furniture to better serve the student body. As Anne-Marie says "Today's students communicate and use information in very different ways from a few years ago — from multi-tasking and small group learning to online social networking. That completely changes how students use the library. Today's academic library has to accommodate talking and group work, while still supporting our students when they need to focus and reflect."



Anne-Marie Deitering

After a national search, OSU Libraries has hired **Terry Reese** as the new holder of the Gray Family Chair for Innovative Library Services. Terry has been at OSU since 2003. He is known nationally and internationally for his leadership in the investigation and application of new metadata and digitization standards to digital collections. His MarcEdit program has been adopted by libraries in the US, Australia, France, and Pakistan. More recently he has, with former Gray Chair holder Jeremy Frumkin, developed LibraryFind — an open source resource discovery tool used by libraries in the US and Europe. The Gray Family Chair for Innovative Library Services is an endowed position. ❄



Terry Reese

Annual In-Service Day: Healthy Living

by Uta Hussong, Science Librarian

Over 80 library faculty and staff gathered at The Valley Library on September 10th for a full day of conference-style training, networking...and just plain fun. To address balance and wellness in our daily activities, the In-Service Committee planned the event around the theme “Work Well, Play Well, Live Well.” Session topics included:

- taking control of information overload: “Tune In. Turn On. Drop Out,”
- touring the Library’s Pacific Northwest Art Collection: “Love That! Hate That! What’s That?,”
- exploring Archives documents about games, rituals and organized contests at OSU: “Campus at Play,” and
- learning how to effectively use copyright transfer agreements: “Rights Well.”

Session formats included hands-on workshops, seminar-style presentations, walking tours, and poster presentations. Each of the nineteen different sessions offered during the day fit into one of four tracks: Work, Play, Live, or Déjà Vu (sessions from last year’s In-Service brought back by popular demand). Twenty-two library faculty and staff presenters, along with five presenters from outside OSU Libraries, contributed to the sessions this year.

Rochelle Schwab, Director of Faculty/Staff Fitness at OSU, gave the keynote address entitled “The Good Taste of Life—Living Well” and spoke about balance in the way we live and work. Too much of the “good life” can lead to serious consequences including major health issues. Rochelle highlighted the benefits of regular exercise and good nutrition in living well so that we can work well and play well. To underline support for this message, OSU Libraries provided each participant with a pedometer to encourage walking.

After a healthy and delicious lunch, we listened to Mary Van Denend, of the Corvallis Arts Center, speak about the innovative ArtsCare program she coordinates. ArtsCare provides opportunities for patient and caregiver healing by engaging in and with art; local artists participate in provid-



A little over 80 employees wait for the keynote speaker to begin the annual In-Service day in the 4th floor rotunda.

ing the art experience. Other non-library in-service presenters included Kyle Banerjee (Orbis Cascade Alliance), Dan Kermoyan (OSU Environmental Health Services) and Amy Spies (Corvallis-Benton County Public Library).

The committee worked hard to plan a day that offered a wide range of learning opportunities and fun activities. However, credit must be given to the 2007 Committee for moving to a conference-style format which has been well received. In-Service participants appreciate the flexibility to choose sessions that pertain to their work, their curiosity about other services provided by the library, and their sense of fun and adventure. Moving between various session locations throughout the day keeps energy levels up, as well.

The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. The following comments sum it all up: “Excited and could not wait for this year’s in-service! Valuable day.” “Thank you for the opportunity to be a little creative in front of our peers.” “Thank you! This was an excellent in-service with a great mix of ‘fun’ and ‘informative’ sessions.” “Great job planning and organizing the event.” ❁

Charitable Gift Annuity

by Tom McLennan, Director of Development

Benefit future generations of OSU library users while locking in fixed income for the rest of your life at a great rate.

How it Works

- To establish a gift annuity contract, you simply make a gift of cash or securities. The annual payout back to you is determined by your age at the time the gift is made (See chart below).
- Your gift is deposited into the OSU Foundation's gift annuity pool, where it is managed with hundreds of other gift annuities that benefit OSU.
- The OSU Foundation makes payments to you for the rest of your life, based on the fixed payout rate. Payments are secured by the assets of the OSU Foundation.
- The proceeds of the gift annuity will eventually benefit the program at OSU Libraries that you designated in the gift annuity contract, bypassing probate.

Benefits

- You receive secure, fixed income for the rest of your life regardless of market ups and downs.
- Income from your gift annuity may outperform CDs, bonds, or dividends.
- You get a significant charitable income tax deduction.
- With a minimum gift of \$25,000, gift annuities are easy to set up.
- You can diversify your sources of income.
- You can enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that your gift will one day benefit OSU library users in a very important way.

For Example

A 70-year-old library supporter can create a charitable gift annuity with \$100,000 in cash. They will receive an annual income of \$6,100 and a charitable income tax deduction of \$39,880. On top of that, they can fulfill their goal of one day benefiting the OSU Libraries with a significant gift.



Librarians provide students with hands-on training in the most efficient ways to conduct online research.

Gift Annuity Rates through December 31, 2008

Age: Rate Ratios

70: 6.1%	85: 8.9%
75: 6.7%	90 and over: 10.5%
80: 7.6%	

Rates shown are for one beneficiary only. Gift annuities are also available for two beneficiaries, but at slightly lower rates.

Our Pledge to You

Your payments are backed by the assets of the OSU Foundation. This organization has been managing life-income agreements for 45 years.

For more information, call or email me at 541-737-0847 or Tom.McLennan@oregonstate.edu.

ScholarsArchive@OSU Achieves National Ranking

by Sue Kunda, Digital Production Librarian

Our digital archive, ScholarsArchive@OSU, was recently ranked 5th out of all US university institutional repositories. But what does that ranking mean and what is an institutional repository anyway?

Let's start with that second question first. What is an institutional repository? An institutional repository is a digital collection of the university's research and scholarship. It can include faculty articles and working papers, student theses and dissertations, university-sponsored journals and publications, and a wide assortment of "gray literature" (technical reports, bulletins, research papers).

Unlike a print collection, with items that can only be used by one person (with specific borrowing privileges) at a time, items in an institutional repository can be viewed and downloaded, without limit, by anyone with access to the Internet. This opens up a university's research to anyone — and everyone — in the world, and that's pretty exciting to us.

A small group of interested OSU faculty and staff started kicking around the idea of an institutional repository in 2004. The goal: to gather all OSU research in one place, ensure its management and preservation, and make it accessible to a broader international community. Using DSpace, a software platform designed by MIT and Hewlett-Packard, ScholarsArchive was launched in 2005.



From laboratory discoveries to students' theses, ScholarsArchive collects OSU history to share with the world.

After testing the repository software with library faculty publications, we were open and ready for business. Since then, we've collected close to 10,000 documents from 47 different OSU or OSU-related departments and units.

Researchers from more than 100 countries and territories are using our collections on a daily basis. We've answered questions from scientists in Argentina, India, Italy, and Malaysia. Closer to home, we were able to help out the

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife — and some very unhappy Lemolo Lake trout — by digitizing and providing access to a 1975 thesis with information about controlling tui chub, an unwelcome inhabitant of the lake.

It's not only researchers, however, that appreciate open access to OSU scholarship. One Oregon family, with OSU alumni of all ages, was thrilled after we fulfilled their request to digitize their father's 1948 thesis.

On behalf of our family, thank you very much for helping bridge the many generations involved in this great institution. Because my dad died in 1976, his thesis paper will truly be a treasured piece of his early education to have for years to come.

*Most appreciatively,
Vickie M. Drischell (Kuvallis)*

Other alumni have written to ask about getting their master's level work digitized and added to our growing collection of electronic theses and dissertations. As of 2007, the graduate school requires all graduate students to submit a digital copy of their thesis or dissertation directly to ScholarsArchive.

Now back to that first question: What does it mean to be ranked 5th in US university institutional repositories? The "Webometrics Ranking of World Universities" looks at things like size (number of pages), file types (PDF is best), dates of publication, and whether or not the documents can be found via search engines, like Google, to determine its rankings. ScholarsArchive's score places us behind only MIT, the University of Michigan, Georgia Tech, and the University of Oregon.

However, we're not resting on our laurels! We continue to solicit content from OSU academic and administrative units, digitize OSU and library collections, and promote ScholarsArchive to faculty and students.

With a little luck and a lot of hard work, ScholarsArchive will continue its climb in the rankings, keeping OSU in the forefront in this increasingly digital age.

ScholarsArchive@OSU can be found at <https://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/dspace/>. ☼

Using Library Networks to Encourage International Dialogue

by Janet Webster, Department Head Marilyn Potts Guin and OSU-Cascades Branch Libraries

Why is a Kenyan librarian wearing an Obama button? In this case, it is because an OSU library staff person, Susan Gilmont, sent it to Isedorius Agola, the librarian at the Kenyan Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI). Over the years, the Guin Library has filled article requests for researchers at KMFRI through the network established by the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers, or IAMSLIC. This international group works to help each other serve our users through document delivery, suggestions on sources for collections, answers to difficult research questions, and professional camaraderie. A relationship that started with the provision of needed articles has grown into a dialogue between countries about politics, culture, and life. There was never a question that Susan wouldn't send Isedorius a bag of Obama buttons as soon as she could get them. And there



Isedorius Agola, librarian at KMFRI, proudly wears one of the Obama buttons shared by OSU Libraries staff.

was never a question that he wouldn't send a photo of himself wearing the button.

This says much for the OSU Libraries and our commitment to build relationships worldwide. I have been encouraged to be part of this endeavor since joining the OSU Libraries in 1989. My subject field, marine and estuarine science and management, led me to involvement with IAMSLIC. Most of the librarians at OSU and at other US university libraries look to the American Library Association (ALA) for professional development and networking. For me, IAMSLIC provides the venue to learn about marine science librarianship, develop my expertise to better serve OSU students and staff, and cultivate a wonderful network of colleagues. Consequently, my professional setting has always included the international perspective. I contribute my expertise with the science and management information pertaining to the Northeast Pacific Ocean to IAMSLIC. The staff members of the Guin Library also contribute through their enthusiastic participation in the resource sharing network. We all feel part of a larger enterprise through our work. Three examples, in addition to political buttons sent to Kenya, demonstrate how this OSU librarian participates in and learns from international efforts.

In 2004, I spent four months of my sabbatical in Rome (Italy, not Georgia) working with my colleague, Jean Collins, who is the librarian in the Fisheries Department at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN). How did I end up there? I knew Jean through IAMSLIC, of course, and we shared an interest in the information needed by fisheries managers. She proposed that I spend part of my sabbatical studying the nature of that information. Too often, fisheries managers, worldwide, complain that the lack of information hampers responsible management. But nobody ever described what that information looked like until Jean and I published *Fisheries Information in Developing Countries: Support to the Implementation of the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries*. FAO Fisheries Circular No. 1006 (<http://hdl.handle.net/1957/222>). Four years later, I found myself back in Rome for a week working with Jean and two other colleagues (one from India and the other from the United Kingdom) on technical guidelines on information and knowledge sharing. I learned so much about how other countries view fisheries as an industry and resource, how the international community approaches assisting developing countries with resource management, and how access to information varies worldwide. I brought

back to OSU a fresh perspective on our role in the library world as a partner and valuable resource. We sometimes complain about budgets that do not stretch as far as we would like, but my FAO experience reminded me that we have so much and we should value and share our wealth of information.

Closer to home, I got myself and IAMSLIC involved with the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES) with encouragement from Dr. George Boehlert, the Director of OSU's Hatfield Marine Science Center. Dr. Boehlert has been involved with this Pacific Rim organization for years through his scientific endeavors on the North Pacific. He also is familiar with many issues around information — the creation, access to, and sharing of it. He advocated to PICES that it partner with IAMSLIC to examine ways to promote PICES publications and enhance access to marine science information in the North Pacific. IAMSLIC decided that I should work on this, as I knew the players. I enlisted another IAMSLIC colleague, Brian Voss of the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Libraries in Seattle. We've worked together for the past two years studying how and who uses PICES publications with the goal of moving towards a more robust digital presence. Last year we presented our findings to the PICES Finance and Administration Committee, an impressive group of representatives from the six member countries — Canada, China, Japan, Russia, South Korea, and the US. This year we continued our work by surveying scientists and librarians in the PICES countries. Brian had the role of presenting at the October's PICES meeting in Dalin, China. I enjoy this work as it allows me to explore how scientists use information, how libraries in the region function, and most importantly, to mentor a young librarian.

My final example is my current participation on the Science and Technology Committee of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA). In 2007, I volunteered to represent the ALA's science libraries to this group. I was intrigued with how such a large international organization functioned and also wanted to get yet another perspective on international librarianship. My introduction to IFLA occurred in Durban, South Africa, and was challenging, stimulating, and slightly frustrating. I returned for my second conference, this time in Quebec City this August. While a more benign setting, it was also challenging, stimulating, and slightly frustrating. It is truly fascinating to learn how others do things that we are tackling at OSU. For instance, the Danish National Li-



Janet Webster, Marcel Branneman (right) talking to the director of the Oceanographic Research Institute located in Durban, South Africa.

brary harvests the Danish component of the World Wide Web regularly with the goal of preserving this digital record of its society. I brought this back to a more practical level — should we be harvesting everything with an oregonstate.edu domain so we can, at some point, sort out OSU's digital history? It's stimulating to have dinner with a university library director from South Africa who was the first black man in the post and talk about program assessment. However, IFLA remains a frustrating experience as it is a large bureaucracy, making it a little hard to find one's proper and productive role. Even so, this year I helped spearhead a response to the European Union's discussion about copyright law revisions. I would not have had that opportunity to learn more and then advocate for change unless the OSU Libraries valued my participation.

Obama buttons to Africa, comments to Finnish and German colleagues on copyright law, surveys of Korean marine scientists — these reflect my commitment to how libraries and the library community can engage in the global conversation. ❧

Beeswax or Something Else?

by Kerrie Cook, Editor

October 28th was an exciting day at The Valley Library. The Public Broadcasting Service arrived at OSU to film for season seven of the popular series *History Detectives*.

This episode investigates a large chunk of wax-like substance found on the beach. The day began with an interview with Dr. Michael Burgett, Emeritus Professor of Entomology, at the Honey Bee Lab on Oak Creek Bridge and 35th. Several forensic and DNA tests were conducted to determine if the substance was in fact beeswax, the type of bee it may have come from, and the possible geographic origins.

Later in the day, a crew of five unloaded cameras and lights at the library, setting up to film in the University Archives microforms area. With the crew was *History Detectives* Host Elyse Luray. Elyse reviewed several reels of microfilm (courtesy of Interlibrary Loan and the University of Oregon) from the *McMinnville Telephone Register*, the *Wheeler Reporter*, and the *Yamhill County Reporter*. One of our reels from *The Oregonian* was also included. In all, Elyse looked at issues ranging from 1894 through 1961.

Further investigation continued up in Special Collections for some book research. Apparently, large lumps of beeswax have been washing up on the Tillamook County coast for a long time; for over a hundred years in fact, ever since two Spanish Galleons were suspected of being ship-

wrecked off the coast near Nehalem Bay in the 1700s. Reports have come in about a variety of lumps of beeswax coming onshore — sometimes weighing several pounds, sometimes several hundred pounds. The galleons were carrying beeswax from Asia to Mexico and were somehow blown off course. It is suggested that up to 75 tons lay at the bottom of the ocean at one time.

After a long day at OSU, with evidence in hand, the crew was ready to continue their journey of discovery at Manzanita, in Nehalem Bay, talking to the person who started this episode's search and walking the beach in search of their own lump of history.

Stay tuned to your Public Broadcasting channel around June/July 2009 for all the answers to this mystery and discover other historical puzzlers at <http://www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/>. ❧



Nadine Jelsing interviews Stacey Smith.

OPB Interviews in Special Collections Wilson Room

November 12, Oregon Public Broadcasting executive producer Nadine Jelsing and two film crew members interviewed Dr. Bill Robbins, Emeritus Professor in History, and Stacey Smith, Associate Professor in History, for an upcoming episode of *Oregon Experience*. The episode (dedicated to the 150th anniversary of Oregon — to be celebrated in 2009) will air sometime in February and will review various governmental changes made over the years, leading up to today.

For more information visit <http://www.opb.org/programs/oregonexperience>.

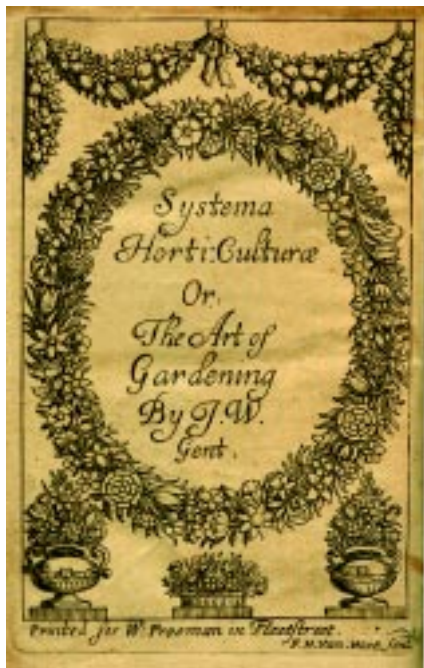


The PBS film crew focuses on the evidence.

Unexpected Gift a Welcome Surprise

by Cliff Mead, Department Head Special Collections

In the spring of 2007, the Linn Benton Community College Library received a large donation of books from the estate of Marilyn Mariner of Lebanon, an avid collector of historical botany books. As the materials were being processed, the librarians found a number of items which, from an historical and scholarly viewpoint, were considered quite scarce, and particularly valuable to any institution with a program in agricultural studies.



John Worlidge's *Systema Horti-culturae*, published 1688.

Reference and Instruction Librarian Bryan Miyagishima quickly realized that these items might be better housed and preserved in OSU Libraries' Special Collections. As such, the LBCC Library

generously offered eighty items to The Valley Library.

Some particularly interesting items include:

Systema Horti-culturae: or, the Art of Gardening. In Three Books.

BY JOHN WORLIDGE, 1688

One of the most influential books on English gardening, first published in 1677. John Worlidge was a popular and influential writer on husbandry and rural crafts, his books generally appearing under the name J. W., Gent. Worlidge stressed the benefits of cultivating vegetables and fruit — both to the gentry who made greater profit from their land, and to the populace whose diet was thereby improved.

Compleat Planter and Cyderist

EDITED BY B. E. JUNIPER & S. B. JUNIPER, 1690

This little known book, almost unknown to the antiquarian trade, was originally published anonymously in 1685. Only a handful of this printing survive. The text is packed with practical information on planting an orchard, grafting, pruning, manuring, and protecting fruit against enemies of all kinds. There is a comprehensive section on the production, casking, bottling, and storage of cider and other country wines.

The American Flower Garden Directory: Containing Practical Directions for the Culture...of the Flower Garden, Hot-House, Green-House, Rooms, or Parlour Windows for Every Month... Year

BY ROBERT BUIST, 1839

American printer Robert Buist, trained in the Edinburgh Royal Botanic Garden, became a leading seedsman — famous throughout the country for his roses and camellias. Buist's American Flower-Garden Directory was first published in 1832. Starting with the chapter "On Laying Out a Flower-Garden," the book provides a detailed monthly guide to the cultivation of plants in both indoor and outdoor environments.

The Hot-House Gardener on the General Culture of the Pine-Apple, and Methods of Forcing Early Grapes, Peaches, Nectarines, and Other Choice Fruits, Hot-Houses, Fruit-Houses, Hot-Walls, &C. With Directions for Raising Melons and Early Strawberries

BY JOHN ABERCROMBIE, 1789

John Abercrombie started his career with a lengthy tenure with the Royal Gardens at Kew. In following years, he was employed as principal gardener and horticultural surveyor for several noblemen, ran his own garden and nursery as a successful business, and became well-respected as a prolific author of practical works on various horticultural subjects. This title, one of several printed for Abercrombie in 1789, gives specific techniques for growing fruiting plants.

There are also a number of textbooks and gardening books dating from the turn of the century. ❧

Students and Administrators Connect at The Valley Library

by Anne-Marie Deitering, Franklin A. McEdward Endowed Professorship for Undergraduate Learning Initiatives

When you were in college, did you know what the President of your college or university looked like? Did you know what a Provost did? Did you know there was such a thing as a Provost? In the month of October, 700 of OSU's newest students came to The Valley Library to spend some quality time with University President Edward Ray, Provost Sabah Randhawa, and Vice Provost for Student Affairs Larry Roper. Twelve one-hour sessions were offered for students to attend in groups of up to 60 at a time.

The Valley Library Rotunda was the setting for a series of "Fireside Chats" connected with U-Engage, a university pilot project designed to increase retention and student success. They gave first-year students the chance to meet with one of these busy administrators in an informal, small group setting — an opportunity they may not find again in their time at the university. At each event the speaker of the day started things off with some opening remarks on topics ranging from personal insights on the college experience, to perspectives on why OSU is great, to advice on how these students can make the most of the educational journey they have begun.



OSU's President Edward Ray at a Fireside Chat in the Rotunda.



Vice-Provost for Student Affairs Larry Roper engages students in discussion.

The passion for discovery that is an inherent part of research was a recurring theme in all of the chats, making The Valley Library an especially meaningful setting for these events. President Ray told the students that they were very lucky to be at OSU, a major research university, where they have the chance to hear about new knowledge at the point of discovery. He warned them that the research university environment would be challenging, but added that the chance to learn in this environment would put them ahead of their peers, and could even give them the chance to engage in discovery and the creation of new knowledge themselves. Provost Randhawa picked up this theme, telling students that one of the best things they could do for themselves at OSU would be to get involved in research, and to do so as early as possible in their careers. He told them that inquiry and discovery is how they would find what their passions are. Dr. Roper focused on this idea as well, encouraging students to trust in their own brilliance. He told students to take advantage of college as one of the few times in their lives when they can put their whole focus on figuring out what they really care about and what they really want to be. OSU's role, he said, is "to add value to your lives."

After the opening remarks the students took control. Roper, Randhawa and Ray fielded questions ranging from

the personal to the political. Students asked them how they had made the transition to college, if they were still close to their high school friends, and how they found out what they wanted to do in life. And they also asked challenging questions about how the university was going to help them get through the next four years — questions about tuition, the economy, access to courses and resources, and the elections. The conversations were at times humorous, at times inspirational, and at times serious, as Roper, Randhawa, or Ray explained the challenges facing OSU and Oregon in the years to come.

At the end of the day, though, these Fireside Chats emphasized one primary point, that OSU is a dynamic, exciting place where the new knowledge that will make the world a better place is being discovered every day — and that our undergraduate students have an important role to play in that discovery and excitement. ❧



Provost Sabah Randhawa connects with first-year students.

Lundeen Award: A Chance for Students to Create an Orientation Video

Each fall thousands of new students descend on the OSU campus. Some of them have explored The Valley Library with a tour guide or visited us during CONNECT week. However, many students receive little or no orientation to the library or simply need more than one introduction to the many services we have available. When a group of librarians heard



Tommy guides students through an enthusiastic tour of library features and services.

about the Robert Lundeen OSU Library Faculty Development Grant, they saw an opportunity to help introduce the library to new students in a different way — while at the same time learning about project management and student engagement.

The basic idea was to create a video orientation to the library, which would be posted on the library's website where all students could have access to it at

any time. Rather than having librarians make the video, we decided to hold a contest for students to submit a video. A student-created video was more likely to appeal to other students, and it would give OSU students an opportunity to hone their video production skills and build up their resumes. Students were required to submit a proposal along with a storyboard. After the proposals were accepted, students created a video with some general guidance from the librarians.

Judging the videos turned out to be a tough job, but the process helped us learn what elements go into creating a successful video, such as creativity, filming and editing skills, appropriate use of copyrighted materials, and the ability to tell a compelling story. Based on our criteria, the top winner was **Ben Taucher**, who led us on "Tommy's Trip to the Library." The runners-up were **Amy Dennis** and **Mary Needham**, who tell the story of a moving textbook that travels through the library. The top prize winner was awarded \$500 and the runners-up received \$100.

Both videos can currently be seen on the library's website at <http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/videos/video-contest.html>. ❧

An OSU Tradition Lost in Time

by Karl McCreary, Archivist

Into a barrel of fire, deposits are gleefully made. In a long line, students one by one toss into the conflagration what has become in their freshman year a symbol of oppression and servitude. The objects at the center of all this attention were little green caps called “rook lids” and the equivalent green ribbons for the “rookess” female students. The event where these items were set to flame was an annual rite of passage on campus known as the “burning of the green.”

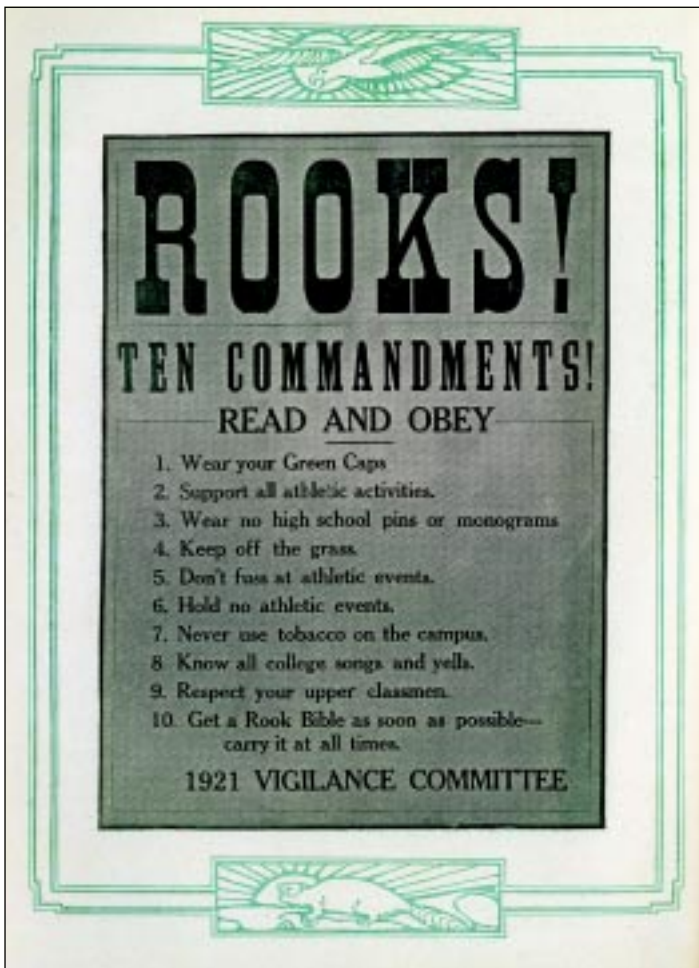
For over half a century on the Oregon State campus, freshmen stood out among their peers by the green they were required to wear on their heads or their dresses. Referenced as early as 1908 in that year’s *Orange* yearbook, the donning of green lids and ribbons was among

one of many regulations foisted upon “rooks.” These requirements were enforced by a Vigilance Committee comprised, not surprisingly, of a fresh crop of sophomores each year who were eager to keep the tradition alive.

Keeping the rooks green was not without its controversy. On campus, periodic protests over the requirement such as a 1939 strike by first-year women against wearing their ribbons prompted the *Daily Barometer* to note that the strike represented a “long suppressed rebellion against tradition.” To an increasingly diverse student population that included World War II veterans getting their education through the GI Bill, the donning of the green appeared to be less and less relevant to their lives and more of an archaic custom borne of a simpler time and smaller campus. This sentiment was observed in a February 1960 *Barometer* editorial about the wearing of lids and ribbons, which declared that the “green is fading at Oregon State College.” By 1968, the hated regulation that had governed incoming freshmen for decades seemed to have finally faded completely from campus consciousness. In the student handbook printed for that year, there is no reference to “lids,” “caps,” or “green” at all.

Fortunately for history, a few students avoided the temptation of “burning their green” and managed to keep their lids as a souvenir of their campus experience. One such student, James Callaway, pasted his beanie into a scrapbook containing all manner of objects a typical student might amass in his or her time on campus: photographs, dance cards, receipts, newspaper clippings, postcards, etc. Callaway’s scrapbook reflects the life of a gregarious Oregon Agricultural College student in the 1920s, one who easily filled up his dance cards at the many social events he attended on campus. In this context, it appears that Callaway regarded his rook lid as a relic of a fun and youthful time at college rather than a painful reminder of sophomore harassment. Among the several photographs in his scrapbook, there is even a snapshot of him wearing the cap with a wide grin on his face!

Another rook lid that managed to survive the embers of time can be found in the Archives’ Memorabilia Collection. Despite the fact that there is no information regarding the student who donned this particular cap, the lid is one of several caps in this collection that inspire reflections of another era at Oregon State. One of the other caps, an orange and black “rooter’s lid,” was meant to be worn at athletic events and dates back to the 1920s or 1930s. So, if you probe into OSU’s past, you can discover that even headgear has a history of its own!



The Rook's Ten Commandments from 1921.

Preserving evidence and knowledge of campus culture at OSU is one of the Archives' most important missions and one that makes my job as Archivist here a continuous and enriching education in and of itself. So stay tuned for more stories about some of the more colorful items in the Archives and the fascinating history they document in upcoming issues of *The Messenger*! ❁



OSU students at a Burning of the Green ceremony, ca. 1960.



A 1920s era scrapbook commemorates OSU tradition with rook bibles and a burning receipt.

Acquisitions of Note

OSU Libraries added over 10,000 books and videos to its collections last year on an incredibly wide variety of topics. These included award-winning children's books, scholarly texts, great literature, and opera DVDs. Picking a single item to highlight for this article was not an easy task. It finally came down to one book that has excited a lot of comments for its incredible illustrations. It is *The Cabinet of Natural Curiosities: the Complete Plates in Colour 1734-1785* by Albertus Seba, a reprint of 18th century scientific illustrations of natural curiosities from Seba's collection. Scientific illustrating is an art form that enhances comprehension of scientific writing. Even today, with modern cameras, scientific illustrators have an essential role in making scientific information clearer and easier to understand. This historical collection is a fascinating look at natural history as it was studied over two hundred years ago.



Two of the many color plates in this lavishly illustrated work.



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HOT OFF THE OSU PRESS!

This fall, the OSU Press published six new books and added one distributed title to its list.

The Oregon Library Association selected *Stubborn Twig: Three Generations in the Life of a Japanese American Family*, by Lauren Kessler, for the 2009 Oregon Reads program. The Press is pleased to have published the new edition with a foreword by Governor Kulongoski. And mark your calendars — Lauren Kessler will visit campus for a reading in The Valley Library Rotunda on April 17.

Wild Beauty: Photographs of the Columbia River Gorge, 1867–1957, published in collaboration with the Northwest Photography Archive, is a stunning collection of photographs that will appeal to photographers, historians, and anyone enamored with the awesome beauty of the Gorge.

Other new titles:

Beauty of the City: A.E. Doyle, Portland's Architect by Philip Niles

Catching the Ebb: Drift-Fishing for a Life in Cook Inlet by Bert Bender

Child of Steens Mountain by Eileen O'Keeffe McVicker with Barbara J. Scot

Skeena River Fish and Their Habitat by Allen S. Gottesfedl and Ken A. Rabnett (An Ecotrust Book)

Strand: An Odyssey of Pacific Ocean by Bonnie Henderson

For more information about OSU Press publications, visit <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/press> or call **541-737-3166** to request a free catalog.

