



This is Your OSU

A REPORT FROM PRESIDENT ED RAY

PREPARING TO BE THE BEST

This has been an extraordinary year for Oregon State University. Competitive research funding reached an all-time high. Going head to head with their peers, our students in engineering, forestry, business and pharmacy won national competitions. More than 150,000 Oregon children — more than one in five who are eligible — participated in our Extension 4-H programs. Our faculty earned high honors, including another membership in the National Academy of Sciences, the nation's most prestigious scientific organization. And generous private investment prompted by the public kickoff of our Campaign for OSU topped our previous giving record by a wide margin.

In the following pages and at This Is Your OSU, an accompanying online report, you will find ample evidence that our students are benefiting from the leading-edge educational, research and service opportunities we are creating.

At the same time, we continue to help resolve the challenges facing our state through research, outreach and education — including an award-winning distance education program — targeted at the needs of Oregonians. OSU is active in every Oregon county, with an economic impact exceeding \$1.5 billion. More than ever, Oregon men and women rely on us and routinely look to us for help.

Accordingly, we have transformed the annual president's report this year into a quarterly report to our alumni and supporters. I invite you to visit This Is Your OSU on a regular basis to see highlights of our progress and video updates of our activities.

As Oregon's land grant university, we are reaching Oregonians everywhere and letting them know how we are meeting the needs of this state and fulfilling the trust they place in us.

I am sure 2009 is going to be as eventful as 2008. Certainly it appears we will be living with greater economic uncertainty and the challenges that result. You can count on OSU to continue to educate the people and generate the discoveries that drive long-term sustainable economic prosperity and a better life for all Oregonians.

Ed Ray, President

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

In the last year, OSU students received recognition and won competitions in fields from tax accounting to robotics. And as Fulbright Scholars, they applied their skills throughout the world.

Mind and Body

OSU student athletes excelled in the classroom as well as on the playing field. Out of 17 athletic teams, 10 had cumulative grade point averages over 3.0. In the Pac-10, OSU had the second highest graduation success rate for women's teams and the fifth highest for men's. At the 2008 Summer Olympics, former and current OSU students competed in swimming, baseball, wrestling and gymnastics, while OSU alum Josh Inman took a bronze in rowing. They weren't the only OSU representatives in Beijing. Staci Simonich, associate professor in the College of Agricultural Sciences, tested air quality during the games. Carlos Jensen in the College of Engineering developed a prototype information system for broadcasters. And most of the fields at the Olympics were seeded with Oregon grass seed, thanks in part to an OSU marketing initiative.



Former OSU rower Josh Inman captured a bronze in the Summer Olympics, pulling in the men's eight. (Photo courtesy of OSU Athletics)

Six Fulbright Awards and an All-American Scholar

Six students received U.S. Student Fulbright awards for post-graduate study, the highest number ever from OSU. And one OSU student, Tari Tan, a 2008 graduate in biochemistry-biophysics, was selected over hundreds of contestants as an All-American Scholar — one of the top 40 undergraduate scholars in the nation — by *USA Today*. Reflecting OSU's goal for all its students, Tan said of her OSU education: "I cannot envision a better undergraduate experience."

Rovers and Beams

The robotics team entered the Mars Rover Challenge for the first time, winning so convincingly in the key challenge of bringing aid to a "distressed astronaut," that they might as well have been on another planet. Ditto a team from Civil and Construction Engineering, which placed first in the region and second nationally in the 2008 "Big Beam" competition sponsored by the Precast Concrete Institute. They beat teams from Virginia Tech, Georgia Tech, Lehigh and other nationally regarded engineering schools.



Tax Competition

A team in the College of Business confirmed that a string of impressive results in the national accounting exam was no fluke. Four accounting students won first prize in the 2008 Berntson Porter/University of Washington Master of Professional Accounting Tax Competition in Seattle.

Caring for Patients

Our pharmacy students are trained in an ethic of care, and it shows. In April, Linda Wylie took 3rd place in a patient-care competition involving students from more than 50 other colleges and universities. She also won one of four national student leadership awards from the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists.

Moral Courage

For their respective work on wolves and post-fire forest regeneration, Christina Eisenberg and Daniel Donato in the College of Forestry, received OSU's Mason Prize for Integrity and Moral Courage. The two graduate students were the first recipients of the award established last year by emeritus professor Robert G. Mason. Donato also received the Ecological Society of America's 2008 Outstanding Student Research in Ecology Award for his paper on the Biscuit Fire in southwestern Oregon.

Grand Tally

And in perhaps the best measure of student achievement of all, OSU graduated another record class in 2008, awarding 4,586 undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees to 4,365 students.

BEHIND THEIR SUCCESS

Student success stems from many factors such as modern facilities and well-supported faculty members. Much of our progress derives from the generous and enthusiastic support of The Campaign for OSU by alumni, friends and corporate and foundation partners.

Campaign Support

At the end of the fiscal year June 30, 2008, the OSU Foundation had recorded \$431 million in campaign contributions, moving us steadily toward our goal of \$625 million in our first university-wide campaign. (As I write this at the beginning of October, we are at \$450 million.)

The impact is manifesting itself in everything from scholarships to faculty performance. And, impressively, we are making these gains the Oregon way. Everybody has been involved and enormous numbers of people — more than 45,000 households — have given, including an impressive number of current and former staff and professors. This generosity has in turn translated into essential improvements in nearly every area of the university.



Jim Carrington (Photo: Frank Miller)

Impact: Faculty

When I arrived at OSU, I did not believe it was possible that this university could do all the things it was accomplishing — and seeking to accomplish — with the resources available. I was wrong. The capacity and quality of the OSU faculty is at such a high level that we outperform many larger institutions.

Recognition by colleagues is one indicator. This past year, Jim Carrington, director of OSU's Center for Genome Research and Biocomputing, became the university's fourth member of the National Academy of Sciences, one of the nation's most trusted scientific bodies. Three OSU scientists — Dudley Chelton, Robert Duncan and Anne Trehu, all in the College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences — were elected fellows of the American Geophysical Union, and OSU engineer Tom Diatterich was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In the College of Health and Human Sciences, Peter (Tony) Lachenbruch and Leslie Davis Burns were named president respectively of the American Statistical Association and the International Textile and Apparel Association. In the College of Science, Jane Lubchenco received the prestigious Zayed International Prize for the Environment.

Last year we ranked in the top 10 nationally in eight disciplines and set another record for external research support, \$231 million, an increase of \$75 million in the last five years. In this light, the creation of 27 new endowed faculty positions through The Campaign for OSU is profoundly important. Across the university, these new endowed positions are already drawing excellent students and faculty into productive relationships.



Part of an expansion to serve Oregon's large-animal industries, this covered arena enables veterinarians to diagnose horse injuries under a variety of conditions. (Photo: Karl Maasdam)

Impact: Facilities

Modern, technologically rich instruction and cutting-edge research require high-quality facilities. In the past year we opened new and expanded facilities at the College of Veterinary Medicine with funds contributed by the Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation and a bequest from OSU alumna Lois Bates Acheson. As I noted on the occasion, this contributed to a dream that many Oregonians had worked and lobbied for, the establishment of a comprehensive College of Veterinary Medicine prepared to serve the entire state with teaching, clinical care, research and outreach.



PREPARING FOR OREGON'S FUTURE

In a record-breaking year, our students continue to show us why they deserve everything we can do to prepare them for the future. Their achievements demonstrate the importance of making a high-quality university education available to every deserving man and woman who wants it. Nothing else will have a greater impact on the kind of state we will become, a fact that all Oregonians ought to recognize and support. Here are examples of how we are preparing our students to achieve their dreams.

Access: Bridge to Success

As of mid-October, a total of 2,902 OSU students had their tuition and fees paid through OSU's new Bridge to Success financial aid program. Of those, 1,325 students received additional gift support for books and supplies. This initiative makes a college education accessible for more Oregonians. We almost doubled our original goal of helping 1,500 students. In its first year this new program, which draws on federal and state student aid and generous gifts through the OSU Foundation, is assisting more than 15 percent of the Oregon students attending OSU. In addition, expanding scholarship support is the goal of a \$100 million initiative in the Campaign for OSU.

Internships: Career Development

Nothing helps us to learn quite as well as having to apply what we know. Engineering students solve production

problems for Oregon's high-tech sector. Pharmacy students fill prescriptions and advise customers in community drug stores. In Portland, OSU teachers-in-training learn to integrate diversity into public school classrooms. In OSU's Open Source Lab, the jobsite is online. Last summer, the Internet giant Google provided OSL students with stipends to participate in an event known as the "Summer of Code," allowing students to work on various open source projects.

Leadership: Liberal Arts

Last summer, we welcomed a new dean in our College of Liberal Arts, Lawrence Rodgers. While at Kansas State University, Rodgers chaired the international activity council and led development of programs for honors and the first-year experience.

Diversity: International Initiative

Last spring I began a series of visits to corporate and business association leaders in Portland. The most consistent message I heard was the pressing need in the workforce for well-educated, technologically adept workers who are prepared to work in a global economy. This prominently includes people who understand and respect other cultures and are willing to live and work overseas. OSU's new collaboration with INTO University Partnerships will move us toward this goal. We are the first American university invited to participate in INTO's international recruitment and training program. We aim to increase the number of international students on campus by 50 percent and enrich the educational experience of all our students.