

The HOOTER



Retirement Association of Portland State September 2003

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RAPS, ants enjoy annual picnic

What a day it was!

The person who ordered up the weather for the annual RAPS picnic should be awarded indefinite tenure in that role.

While most Oregonians groped mole-like through another day of dazzling sun and increasing heat, the 51 picnickers handled high 80° temperatures with a one-two punch. First, there was the shade of the picnic shelter at the Willamette Park site, and second, there was the river-generated breeze sifting in off the Willamette.

It was just a breeze, not a gale that would send napkins and paper plates flying through and out of the area.

Beryl and Vic Dahl worked their special magic in pulling together both a social event and a feast. RAPS provided both sliced turkey and sliced ham. Rumor has it that Vic invested the turkey with a smoky flavor. Coffee and hot water for tea were on the house.

RAPS members provided the salads and the desserts. These demonstrated the culinary inventiveness and expertise of the group. It is one of the mysteries of the cosmos that even without guidance the ratio of donated salads and desserts finds a happy balance.

The meal and the afternoon provided a congenial setting for con-
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2003-2004 RAPS meeting slate proposed

We are all looking forward to the next academic year (2003-2004) and the lecture series to be sponsored and organized by RAPS. Richard Brinkman, president-elect, presented a tentative schedule at the picnic held at Willamette Park, August 21st. The program, yet to be approved by the RAPS board, is basically as follows:

1. October: Marc Feldesman — PERS lecture/discussion (October 30, 2003) Open to RAPS membership and PSU faculty and staff at large.

2. November: Grant Farr—

Middle East Focus (November 27, 2003) Open to RAPS membership only (Potluck dinner).

3. December: Roger Moseley— Magic Show (December 18, 2003) Open to RAPS membership plus another PSU group yet to be decided (Multnomah Athletic Club-potentially).

4. January: Tom Potiowsky— Economic Issues-Oregon (January 29, 2004) Open to RAPS membership plus PSU faculty and staff at large.

5. February: Scott Burns —
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Kelly-Zimmers' life centered on the arts

By Mary A. Constans
Professor Emerita of Art

[Editor's Note: The following is a continuation of the tribute to Claire Kelly-Zimmers that began in the August issue. Dr. Kelly-Zimmers died July 4.]

Claire Callaghan was born into an Irish French family in 1938 in Willamantic, Conn. She graduated from Brown University in studio art and taught art in a local public school for a time. She earned a master's degree at Northwestern and a Ph. D. in Medieval Art History from the University of Iowa.

In 1970, Claire moved to Portland with her husband David Kelly. They later divorced. In 1970 she was hired by Dr. Leonard Kimbrell to teach Medieval Art History in the Department of Art. She was the first woman to be hired in a full-time, tenure-track position in the department.

In 1980 Claire married Jon Zimmers, a designer craftsman who studied art at PSU. They were a compatible couple, complementing each other's strengths – Claire's scholarly bent and Jon's hands-on approach. Together they started the Northwest Artist's Workshop, a gallery devoted to presenting new, off-beat talent in arts and crafts. The Workshop continued for 10 years in a competitive field of galleries.

Claire also served on the Board of the Portland Center for the Visual Arts, a gallery devoted to bringing contemporary art and artists from around the U.S. to Portland audiences. She was a popular lecturer at the Portland Art Museum, the PCVA, and various universities.

Claire's teaching and scholarly achievements are well known. While she taught medieval art history

Alumni association is seeking Simon Benson House guides

The Simon Benson House (SBH), home to the RAPS and Alumni Association, is looking for volunteers to staff the SBH Visitor's Center. Volunteers greet guests and assist visitors with general information about the House and the campus.

Training is provided, flexible scheduling is available, and parking passes are provided for those working 3-hour shifts.

Contact Mary Coniglio in the Alumni Relations Office, (503) 725-5073 or coniglio@pdx.edu for more information or log onto www.alumni.pdx.edu.

which she loved, she also developed and taught new courses in modern art, art since 1945, and women in the visual arts. The latter involved extensive research because there was little material published on the subject, fewer illustrations available, and even less academic interest at the time.

Claire ferreted out unknown women artists from the Italian Renaissance to the present time and developed a slide collection to supplement her lectures. She was one of the first authorities on this new subject. Upon her retirement, she donated her slide collection to the department where the course continues to be taught.

Claire's course on women artists was cross-listed with the fledgling Women's Studies certificate program. The course and her popularity as a lecturer helped launch that program into the degree-granting department it is today.

Claire's interests were wide ranging. She loved textiles and collected old quilts, Navajo rugs, and Hmong embroidery. She loved ethnic arts and crafts, old beads and colorful clothing.

She was an expert swimmer with lifesaver credentials and, in fact, saved Jenny Hibbard's life when Jenny fell overboard when they were white water rafting on the Rogue River years ago.

Well-read and well-spoken, Claire could always find exactly the right words for any given situation. She described colleague Dick Muller as "the conscience of the department," and indeed so was she.

She loved teaching and gave her all to her students. One student described her as always prepared, not only with the course material, but also with enthusiasm and dedication to the subject. She approached life with the same gusto.

Claire is survived by her husband, Jon, who cared for her at home throughout her long illness; their son, Willie, who wrote and read a tender poem at her funeral; stepson, Zak, and stepdaughter, Jonna, dear friends as well as family.

No General Meeting
In September
Mark Your Calendar for
October 30
Mark Feldesman on PERS

S. Epler building dedication set for Sept. 22

By Pat Squire,
Director, Alumni Relations

PSU's founder, Stephen E. Epler, Ph.D., will finally be recognized with a building named in his honor. The dedication of the new facility, located at 1136 SW Montgomery (the site of the former Birmingham Apartments), is set for Monday, September 22, from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

The building, designed by Mithun Architects of Seattle, is an interesting combination of 130 studio units for students, classroom space, offices and a patio garden. The building uses a number of recycled materials and has a system for reusing rain water. Students began moving in on August 23.

Epler was the founding director of the Vanport Extension Center, established in 1946 to serve returning World War II veterans at the old Kaiser shipyards on the Columbia River. Epler recruited faculty and staff, who in turn helped recruit students. The thriving young college was nearly wiped out by the Vanport Flood in May of 1948, but the students and faculty persevered and relocated the school, which became known as "the college that would not die."

Epler continued to fight against a variety of odds to keep the school open, and it moved to downtown Portland (Lincoln High School), gained four-year col-

lege status, and finally became a university in 1969.

"Every student who has attended and every faculty or staff member who has been employed by this institution in its various iterations owes a debt of gratitude and recognition to Stephen E. Epler," says Bill Lemman, former Vanport student and executive vice chancellor emeritus of the Oregon University System.

"Steve Epler's vision, courage and persistence kept the institution alive and growing, resulting in the outstanding university it is today."

Lemman will be the emcee at the dedication ceremony, which will include tours of the building, a history exhibit, and refreshments. Epler's children and grandchildren will be in attendance. Invitations are in the mail; no RSVP is required. For questions, contact Pat Squire at 503-725-5072 or at squirep@pdx.edu.

SAVE THE DATE

PSU Weekend

November 7-9

New RAPS aide brings broad travel, study background to the job

Alyse Collins is relatively new to Portland State University, although she's a native of Vancouver, Washington. She recently began taking courses in the Communication Studies MA program spring term 2003. Her emphasis is Intercultural Communication.

Before coming to Portland State, Collins worked at Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana, as Program Associate for the Japan Study program. Japan Study is a program linking mid-western colleges with Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan. While at Earlham College, she assisted both Japanese and US undergraduate students with their plans of studying abroad.

Collins earned her BA in International Relations with a minor in Japanese at Brigham Young University. Just after graduating, she worked with Sports Illustrated at the 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic Games as a translator/tour guide for corporate guests.

She also was involved in the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics — another great experience! She

hopes to take part in the 2004 Athens Summer Olympics as well.

Collins enjoys travel in her spare time; and, in fact, survived a recent trip to France and Italy in August, during the recent heat wave. Her first exposure to Europe was the summer of 1999 when she toured 21 countries in 3 months! She also studied in Jerusalem, Israel, during her sophomore year, and was a volunteer missionary in Kobe, Japan, for 1½ years.

Besides travel, she enjoys sports (volleyball and basketball) and music (voice, piano, and most recently, the cello). She has a small rose garden, which keeps her occupied during the summer with attempts at proper watering, feeding, and pesticide control.

Collins looks forward to meeting all of the RAPS members at various functions this coming academic year. She's excited to be working with such a vibrant, experienced group of people.

'03-'04 RAPS program preview . . . from page 1

Wine Lecture (February 26, 2004) Open to RAPS membership only (Potluck dinner).

6. March: Barbara Dudley--Trade Policy/Globalization (March 25, 2004) Open to RAPS membership, plus faculty and staff at large.

7. April: Marv Kaiser--Aging Process/Coping (April 29, 2004) Open to RAPS membership only (Potluck dinner).

8. May: Barbara Roberts--Death Without Denial, Grief Without Apology (May 27, 2004) Open to RAPS membership, PSU faculty and staff, and PSU alumni.

To be emphasized, the list and proximate dates for each lecture may be altered somewhat. In a few weeks after the RAPS Board meeting to be held September 4th, the dates, times and locations will

Picnic Review . . . from Page 1

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versation. The picnic benches lent appreciated comfort compared to the cocktail party ailments of stiff backs, aching legs, and numb knees that are an increasing problem for the members. The downside was the lack of movement that kept members from circulating as much as they perhaps wished.

All in all, it was a most successful event that causes one to look forward to the next one.

Max R. Reed, 88, (PSY) and Oma Blankenship, 74, (Phys Ed) die

By Victor C. Dahl,
Emeritus Professor of History

Max R. Reed died on June 28 at the age of 88. Dr. Reed held an appointment as associate professor of psychology at Portland State from March 1, 1962, until October 1, 1979.

Dr. Reed also maintained an active private practice in clinical psychology. Prior to coming to PSU Max served as director of children's service and child guidance at the University of Portland. He was born in Ames, Iowa, and earned a bachelor's degree (1936) at Texas A&I, a master's degree (1944) at Louisiana State University and a Ph. d. degree (1955) at Washington University in Missouri.

He is survived by a daughter, Tony; and two step-children, Clarke Canfield and Courtney Cronk.

be finalized and passed on to the RAPS members.

Certain points should be noted. Four of the lectures will be held during the afternoon hours, preferably on the last Thursday of each month.

The lectures given by Feldesman, Potiowsky, Dudley, and Roberts are of more general interest and will be open to PSU faculty and staff. The lecture by Roberts will be held in conjunction with the alumni as well. This would offer a fine opportunity for retired faculty and staff to meet with and renew acquaintances with former students.

The other four lectures will be presented for the RAPS membership alone, with the possible exception of the Moseley-magic show. The other three lectures, Grant, Burns, and Kaiser, will be conducted in the evening in conjunction with potluck dinners.

But the bottom line relates to an enhanced sense of community and collegial atmosphere for the RAPS membership. The objective also relates to an enhancement and expansion of the RAPS organization in its interrelation with the PSU community at large. Let us all work to make the lecture series a success through our attendance. Let us pay tribute to the fine group of scholars and academics who are willing to give their time in behalf of the RAPS membership and the overall PSU community.

Oma E. Blankenship died July 28 at the age of 74. Oma was a graduate of the Oregon College of Education. She earned a master's degree from the University of Portland and a doctorate from the Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College.

She was the director of women's sports and professor emerita of physical education. She retired in 1991.

Extensive obituaries appeared in *The Oregonian* on August 1, August 10, and August 19.

She is survived by a sister, Marilyn Stone; brothers, Warren Blankenship and James Kuhn; companion, Gladys "Babe" Michael; and nieces and nephews.

Remembrances may be made to the Viking Women's Athletic Scholarship Fund.