At 95, Robert D. Clark Still an Advocate for His Beloved University

By Donelle Manton

Although it’s been thirty years since Robert D. Clark retired from the University of Oregon, his support and enthusiasm for the institution he served as professor, dean, and, ultimately, president hasn’t waned. Neither has his legacy.

Having just turned ninety-five on March 30, Clark was honored at a special birthday dinner hosted by UO president Dave Frohnmayer and his wife Lynn on behalf of the Clark Honors College.

The honors college was named for Clark on his retirement in 1975 to acknowledge his vision and guidance for its conception. While today many universities have honors colleges, Clark established the country’s first at the University of Oregon in 1959.

When asked about the highlights of his academic career, Clark says the establishment of the honors college was one of the events that gave him the greatest pride. Another was the establishment of the Institute of Molecular Biology and its growth in worldwide repute.

Clark says the establishment of Oregon in 1959.

When Robert Clark retired in 1975 as president of the university, his staff loaded dozens of boxes with files—some eighty-three linear feet—and shipped them to Special Collections and University Archives. Over the next twenty years, Clark donated materials related to his research and writing, personal correspondence, and photographs—another thirty-eight linear feet of boxes. Now, a unique collaboration among researchers, archivists, librarians, and students is creating a growing digital collection related to the presidency of Robert D. Clark and other UO presidents.

In early 2003, as Professors David Frank and Suzanne Clark began work on a biography of Robert Clark, they found the material in its original state—not indexed for scholarly research. Working with university historian and archivist Heather Briston, Frank and Clark brought in a graduate teaching fellow and an undergraduate to begin preserving and describing the collections. But they didn’t stop there.

In fall 2003, Frank and Clark taught an honors college colloquium, The University in Peace and War, in which students made extensive use of the Robert D. Clark papers and other relevant materials. To help create easier access to the archives, Briston collaborated with Carol Hixson and the library’s Metadata and Digital Library Services to scan the materials students found and make them available online.

“There are thousands of documents related to Clark’s life and presidency—at the university and at San Jose State College—a wonderful boon to the university and to university scholarship,” Frank said.

Most recently, twenty students taking the winter 2005 colloquium added more documents to the online archive. According to Briston, a selection of materials from all of the university’s past presidents will eventually be available online at http://libweb.uoregon.edu/catdept/digcol/clark/index.html.

As a result of the project, many of the research papers from the two Clark Honors College courses are being loaded into the Scholars’ Bank, the institutional repository for the intellectual output of the university, found at https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/dspace/.
At 95, Robert D. Clark

Dear Friends and Alumni,

We have just sent out admission letters to our newest group of freshmen, who will enter in fall 2005. For 175 places, 811 applied. It is both gratifying and fun to work with such smart and ambitious students. But we also understand how traumatic the college application process can be.

We continue to pursue outstanding applicants. Our natural base is top students from the high schools in Oregon. We are always pleased to see applications from family members of our alumni, which naturally makes us feel as if we have done something right in the past. We are also on the look-out for students who may be the first in their generation to attend college, students from minority, students who may have grown up in another part of the nation or world, and students who will add to the diversity of our honors college experience.

We work closely with the Office of Admissions, especially with CHC alumnus Marisa Tahzibon ’98, who is the new assistant director of admissions for recruiting top scholars. In addition to special on-campus recruitment days, we have honors college tours weekdays at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., led by our own articulate and enthusiastic students. We also send our representatives to special events for high-achieving high school seniors and juniors in the Portland area.

One surprise for me is a generational change in which parents seem to take an ever more active role in the college selection process. Astonishingly few queries to our office are from potential students, but rather from their parents. We are, of course, happy to communicate with parents, but sometimes it does seem an odd way for our best young minds to present themselves to us. Moral: If you have a young friend applying to any college, encourage her to take the initiative in seeking information. It makes a much stronger impression on those who make admissions decisions.

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2004–5 Scholarship Recipients

The following scholarships were awarded by the Clark Honors College for the 2004–5 academic year:

**ROBERT D. CLARK HONORS COLLEGE SERVICE AWARD**
**PAUL LUBLINER**
Major: Spanish
Scholarship Criteria: Contribution to the Clark Honors College community

**JEAN WITTEMYER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
**ALLETTA BRENNER**
Major: Women’s and gender studies
Scholarship Criteria: Significant academic progress and promise of further outstanding achievement

**WILMA WITTEMYER MEMORIAL SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT PRIZE**
**DANIEL SELVIK**
Major: Biochemistry
Scholarship Criteria: Significant academic progress and promise of further outstanding achievement

**WIGGAM FAMILY THESIS PRIZE**
**ALICIA CRAYEN**
Majors: Psychology, Spanish, and political science
Scholarship Criteria: Significant academic progress and promise of further outstanding achievement, with first consideration going to Canadian students

**ANDREA GELLATLY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
**MEGAN MADDEN**
Majors: Political science and Romance languages

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**CORTNIE SHUPE SCHOLARSHIP**
**JOY POULT SCHOLARSHIP**
Catherine Rihoads
Majors: German, Spanish, and international studies
Scholarship Criteria: Awarded to women entering their final year in the Clark Honors College who demonstrate the qualities of academic excellence, breadth, of interest, and social concern, which characterized the late Andrea Gellaty’s short but influential life.

**EDWARD C. SARGENT III SCHOLARSHIP**
**GRACE WANG SCHOLARSHIP**
Major: Biology
Scholarship Criteria: A Clark Honors College student majoring in a pre-health care field or a natural science who combines the qualities of idealism, commitment to humanity, openness to alternatives, and love of nature that characterized the late Ed Sargent, M.D.

**RAUL McMAINS HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP**
**KATHERINE WAGNER SCHOLARSHIP**
Major: Undeclared
Scholarship Criteria: An ROTC student who is admitted to and completes scatt.

**JEAN WITTEMYER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
**PAUL LUBLINER**
Major: Economics
Scholarship Criteria: Awarded to those who demonstrate the qualities of idealism, commitment to humanity, openness to alternatives, and love of nature that characterized the late Ed Sargent, M.D.

**ANDREA GELLATLY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
**MEGAN MADDEN**
Majors: Political science and Romance languages

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**DANIEL SELVIK**

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**Class Notes**

**David Surdam** ’79 (mathematics) will be an assistant professor at the University of Northern Iowa in fall 2005. Previously he has taught at the Graduate School of Business at the University of Oregon, Loyola University of Chicago, and Northwestern University. After graduating from the honors college, Surdam earned his master’s and Ph.D. in economics from the University of Chicago. In 2001 his book, *Northern Naval Superiority and the Economics of the American Civil War*, was published.

**Brad Wright** ’79 (chemistry) is a patent agent in the Office of Patent Counsel for 3M Company. Wright has worked more than twenty years for 3M, much of it in research and development. As a patent agent, he has written and filed more than sixty patent applications within the past three and a half years. Wright received his Ph.D. from Ohio State University in 1983 and did a year of postdoctorate work at Yale University. He and his wife Julie have been married for twenty-three years.

**David Adams** ’81 (English, history) is an associate professor of English at Ohio State University at Lima. His recent book, *Colonial Odysseys*, has been called a major contribution to the study of modern fiction. The book, published by Cornell University Press, focuses on narratives published in English between 1890 and 1940. Adams received his Ph.D. in English in 1991 from the City University of New York. He has been a Fulbright lecturer at Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland, visiting assistant professor at Reed College and at Wake Forest University, a Mellon postdoctoral fellow at Cornell University, and a graduate teaching assistant and adjunct lecturer at Queens College of the City University of New York. In 2004 Adams received the Outstanding Scholar Award from Ohio State University.

**Keith Keana** ’91 (chemistry) is a major in the United States Air Force and chief of space support program integration. In 2003 he received the Arthur S. Fleming Award, applied science category, as the number one federal employee under forty. Early this fall, Keana and his wife Christy celebrated the birth of their second child, Seth. They also have a three-year-old daughter, Madelyn. The family lives in Colorado Springs, where Keana is stationed at Air Force Space Command headquarters. He is responsible for integrating space launch and range issues into the Air Force budget.

**David Robinson** ’91 (marketing, management) recently finished visual effects production on his second feature film, *Mr. and Mrs. Smith* as an assistant to the producer. My field of choice may be one of the last places in the business world that cares if I have a degree, but at least I can go further back than *My Mother the Car* for story development ideas (imagine: “It’s like Gilgamesh, only with really fast motorcycles and very little culture.”). So imagine my surprise one day in the kitchen (all important events in life revolve around food—Professor Franchia taught us that) when I met Dave Robinson, who works in the visual effects department. We start talking about Oregon and that we both went to school at the

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**Eric Mah** ’95 (chemistry, Chinese language and literature) was the visual effects producer for X-Men: X-Men United. Robinson’s first feature film was Scary Movie 3.

**Christina Wise** ’95 (history) writes: “I have been working in the film industry for four years, and finally landed my first big film [Mr. and Mrs. Smith] as an assistant to the producer. My field of choice may be one of the last places in the business world that cares if I have a degree, but at least I can go further back than *My Mother the Car* for story development ideas (imagine: “It’s like Gilgamesh, only with really fast motorcycles and very little culture.”). So imagine my surprise one day in the kitchen (all important events in life revolve around food—Professor Franchia taught us that) when I met Dave Robinson, who works in the visual effects department. We start talking about Oregon and that we both went to school at the
Firsthand Experience Invaluable

Shupe, who is graduating this spring, wants to pursue a career in development aid, working with a program such as FINCA that focuses on giving people the tools they need to improve their own lives. Though she was interested in this kind of work before, her internship has given her a better sense of what it really takes to improve people’s lives.

“It was a slow process of gaining trust,” Broadhurst recalls, “but finally one woman started talking and we all came together. At times, cultural differences made things difficult to talk about, but overcoming this discomfort was part of the positive change.”

Broadhurst says her internship in India has given her a much better sense of what it really takes to improve people’s lives.

“I always wanted to do good things, but now I know that to have the right kind of impact you need to understand people’s daily lives and value the quality of that life. I came to India with such an academic perspective of what needed to be done, and that changed. Now I know that you can’t understand the problems people face until you are living their life.”

Shupe, who also will graduate this spring, plans on going to medical school, and would like someday to apply her knowledge to international health issues.

Helping Students Achieve Lifelong Success

For many careers, internships are an integral part of the educational process. Along with helping students build their resumes, internships can provide critical insight into their field of choice. Chris Perdue, who, thanks to the scholarship, spent part of a summer working for the San Francisco district attorney’s office, can attest to this.

“It is so important to expose yourself to the job you want to do. It helps you narrow your focus and, more importantly, avoid a $100,000 mistake—like going to law school and then discovering you can’t stand being a lawyer,” Perdue said. Now I know that I definitely don’t want to be a prosecutor or work for the government.”

Financial Realities Impose Barriers

Again and again students say that the hands-on experience they gain through internships is as important as taking a course at the university. However, because few internship positions are paid, low-income and self-supporting students may have to forego these experiences. For them, programs like the unpaid internship scholarship make all the difference. Mara Broadhurst says she wouldn’t have thought about going to India if not for the scholarship.

“Money is the number-one barrier that keeps people from pursuing careers in things that they really care about. This scholarship is a wonderful way of opening that door. Without it, there is no way I could have done this,” she said.

Sarah Piazza, who used the scholarship to spend a summer working for Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide, had a similar experience.

“As wonderful as it is to volunteer, financial realities often impose barriers. The ability to spend a summer acquiring useful, real-life experiences in the workplace should not be limited to students whose families can afford to support them,” Piazza said. In that sense, I feel that this scholarship is the most important one offered by the honors college.”

In addition to making it possible for some students to take an internship, the unpaid internship scholarship provides a service to organizations that otherwise cannot afford to hire talented students. Sara Boettcher, who took on an internship with West Lane News, a small, community newspaper, agrees.

“A lot of organizations can really use the help, and students have a lot to gain from these experiences,” said Boettcher. But for some people it is really hard to do something that is unpaid, and this puts both at a disadvantage.”

Making a Visible Difference

All together, the unpaid internship scholarship provides a unique and exciting opportunity for Clark Honors College students—the chance to put their education to work for their dreams. In addition, it offers alumni a great way to make a substantial and visible difference.

Says Sara Boettcher, “If you are going to give money to education, giving it to a small program like this can allow you to really see the impact, and the impact can be huge.”
**Faculty News**

**Henry Alley** recently gave a presentation of his current book story “The Physically Challenged” in the Creative Writing Program Reading Series. He also gave two workshops in January, the Kidd Lecture, and a master workshop. In addition, Alley’s story, “The Summer of the Beautiful Puffin and Pinky,” was nominated for the 2004 Pushcart Award. He has also been invited to read from his book at the 2005 annual Conference on Virginia Woolf.

**Monique Balbuena** organized the panel “Gender Trouble: About Jewish Literatures?” at the annual Association for Jewish Studies Conference in Chicago, where she also delivered the paper “Reading Jewish Literatures.” In addition, Balbuena presented the paper “Is There a Jewish Brazilian Poetry?” in the panel organized by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese at the Modern Language Association Conference in Philadelphia. Recently she spoke at the Oregon Electric Station at a forum organized by the Jewish Council for Public Affairs. Balbuena spoke on the subject of “Tropical Voices: Constructing a Jewish Latin American Identity.” Her text “Brazil: The Hidden Jewish State,” was featured in the Jewish Experience, a magazine published by the Center for Jewish Education and Culture. Balbuena’s essay, “Sephard in Brazil: Between the Metaphorical and the Literal,” will appear in Modern Jewish Studies.

Louse Bishop delivered a paper at the nineteenth annual Bernardo Medieval and Renaissance Conference at Columbia University in December. The conference topic was “Medicine across Cultures 1400–1600.” The title of Bishop’s paper was “Early Modern Medicine: Self-Help and State Authority in Thomas Stow’s The Bower of Health (1541).” In March she organized and chaired a panel on the medieval theories of disease (how the brain works, sexual dysfunctions, and the analysis of urine) at a meeting of the Medieval Academy in Miami. Her article, “Dangerous Translation in the Canon’s Obedience: Prologue and Tale,” will appear in a forthcoming issue of the Chaucer Journal.


Dayo Mitchell returned to her alma mater, Williams College, in March where she gave a keynote address, “Academia versus the Real World?” at the fiftieth anniversary of the Williams College Multicultural Center. Mitchell also participated in several programs that encourage minority and lower-income students to pursue graduate education.

Roxann Prazniak is finishing a paper on the social and political developments that shaped both the Shanghai art market and acting as curator of the upcoming Bass Warner, donor of the University of Oregon’s Asian art collection. Juxtaposing Warner’s lantern slide collection and letters with contemporary events such as the Boxer Uprising, the advent of modern advertising, and the emergence of commercial art shops, she examines the translocal spaces in which the modern intellectual project of Sino-U.S. exchange originated. Prazniak’s paper was delivered in draft form at a conference on Republican China in Yinchuan, Ningxia, July 2004, and will be published with the conference proceedings by the Institute of Modern History in June 2005. In October she chaired and was discussant for a panel at the Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, held this year at the University of Washington in Seattle. The panel was titled “From Revolution to Nation Reconstruction: The Process of Depoliticization in Republican China, 1920s–1940s.”

Daniel Rosenberg recently published two articles, “Hété-rochronies” and “L’avenir des mots,” in issue 53 of Essae: Arts & Opinions (a special issue on Utopia and dystopia). The first concerns the relationship between local and global imaginations of the future; the second, electronic technologies and the future of writing. Rosenberg also delivered a New Year’s address to the Eugene Rotary Club, titled “Futuros, Pasados y Presentes.” He also recently received two research awards, a summer fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities and a two-month fellowship at the Huntington Library in California to conduct research for a book, “The Graphic Invention of Modern Time.” The book explores the origins of the modern notion of historical linearity. The project focuses on visual representations of history and the emergence of the convention of the timeline during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Ce Rosenow was interviewed by Steve Shankman for the Oregon Humanities Center’s UO Today. On the television show, she discussed her poetry and research into the life of Gertrude Bass Warner, whose collection of Asian art led to the construction of the University of Oregon’s Museum of Art.

Sharon Schuman’s opinion editorial in the Register-Guard on the presidential inauguration was excerpted in USA Today’s Forum section in January. In March she wrote a column in the Oregonian Commentary section on tuition at the University of Oregon, which was part of a debate with columnist David Reinhard titled “Breaking the Bank.” This spring, Schuman, who is teaching a course in public speaking (EDLD 199), which she developed over the last two years as part of the Residential Academy Pilot Project.

**Reception Planned for Henry Alley**

A retirement celebration will be held May 26 to honor Henry Alley, who retired from the university after twenty-three years as professor of literature with the Clark Honors College. Please join Honors college faculty, students, staff, and alumni at a reception in the Robert D. Clark Library, 301 Chapman Hall, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. For more information, telephone (541) 346-6084.

**In Memoriam**

Lucian Charles Marquis, former University of Oregon associate professor and first director of the honors college, died January 21, 2005, of Parkinson’s disease. He was eighty-four. A memorial service was held March 5 at Scripps College in Claremont, California. Marquis joined the UO faculty in 1959 and taught here until 1966. An early opponent of the Vietnam War, Marquis held one of the country’s first “teach-ins” on the war in 1965. While at the UO, he received the Erobot Award for Distinguished Teaching. Marquis taught political studies at Pitzer College in California from 1966 until his retirement in 1991. He is survived by his wife Jane; daughter Annie Marquis of Claremont, California, and son Joshua Marquis ’77, J.D. ’80, of Astoria, Oregon.
Class Notes

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UO. Then Dave lets it slip that he had to write a thesis—and by the distant look in his eye, I knew he was talking about the honors college. We had quite the time reminiscing about Chapman Hall, eating dinner with Fracchia, and sleeping on those green sofas in the library. “Chris-tina documented the random meeting—“like two molecules who bump into each other in the Petri dish”—with her picture phone. The photos, snapped at 3:00 a.m. in Pasadena while “waiting for the stunt people to crash a car,” are available on the honors college website, http://honors.uoregon.edu/alumni/.

Mark Rhinard ’96 (political science, English) is a political science professor at Leiden University in Holland.

Jade Rubick ’97 (Japanese, Asian studies) began SAFE (Stop Abuse for Everyone) in 1996. The Portland-based nonprofit is building a national support group program for victims of domestic violence who are often forgotten: same-sex victims and abused men. SAFE works to inform lawmakers of how their policies affect these groups. The organization is also busy setting up volunteer opportunities, such as a media-watch group, the SAFE Media Corps. Its New Hampshire chapter operates as an embassy. She instructs two enrichment classes, beginning French and basketball fundamentals, and working at One Thing Productions as an executive assistant to best-selling business-author and speaker Marcus Buckingham.

Joshua Yanov ’98 (business administration), J.D.’00, is on a three-year-assignment at the Royal Air Force base in Lakenheath, England. He, his wife Heather, and sons Taylor and Alexander are awaiting the arrival of a new baby, due in July. For the past two years Yanov served as an area defense counsel, defending airmen accused of violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice at courts-martial and other forums while stationed at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland.

Elizabeth (Citta) Streh, M.Ed. ’99 (educational policy and management), married John Streh, also a UO alum, in July 2001. She currently teaches fifth and sixth grades in the Glide School District in Oregon. Strehi recently achieved national board certification in the area of early adolescent language arts. Her husband teaches science at Glide High School.

Karen Sullivan ’01 (Germanic languages and literatures) is pursuing her Ph.D. in cognitive linguistics at the University of California at Berkeley. She is studying metaphor and metonymy, mental spaces, and construction grammar. Sullivan hopes to graduate in 2007. In 2004, she received her M.A. in linguistics.

Mary Elizabeth Madden ’02 (business administration) is in Pakistan for her first assignment as a foreign service officer staffing an embassy. She instructs two enrichment classes, beginning French and basketball fundamentals, and working at One Thing Productions as an executive assistant to best-selling business-author and speaker Marcus Buckingham.

Ting Ting Zhou ’04 (psychology, biology) is pursuing his M.D. degree at Oregon Health and Science University, with plans to graduate in 2006.