Events, lectures, exhibits featured during yearlong anniversary celebration

From the first University of Oregon honors program in 1896 and subsequent programs for honors work, the university sought to create a challenging experience for academically motivated students throughout their student years. The University of Oregon’s Sophomore Honors program was created in 1951 to meet the academic needs of the university’s most ambitious students: Those who ranked in the top 20 percent of their classes could elect to take their general education requirements through the program, receiving a distributive education that included humanities, philosophy, social sciences, and the sciences in small classes reserved for high achievers. Separate departmental honors programs also existed, providing a few students with the benefit of individual work with professors, but these two honors factions maintained no connection to one another.

Robert D. Clark, a UO speech professor, recognized the fundamental component missing from these earlier approaches to honors at the university: The sense of community, the cohesiveness so necessary to the success of our program for superior students . . . cannot come through minor changes in the requirements for Sophomore or department honors. We must seek a more radical solution. I wish to propose . . . a thorough-going study which will look towards the establishment of an Honors College.

Clark’s proposal was approved, and the Honors College opened on September 26, 1960, with a freshman class of 129 students.

The first home of the Honors College was the basement of Friendly Hall, a structure originally built in 1893 as a men’s dormitory. In 1975, the Honors College was renamed the Robert Donald Clark Honors College in recognition of Clark, who was retiring as UO president. The Friendly Hall basement housed the Clark Honors College until 1978 when operations moved to Chapman Hall.

In recognition of more than fifty years of exceptional students, faculty members, programs, and scholarship, the CHC is hosting a yearlong anniversary celebration. Events planned for spring 2010 include celebrations of two CHC alumni writers: 1993 graduate Jeff Whitty, coauthor of the 2004 Tony Award-winning play Avenue Q; and 1989 graduate Ana Maria Spagna, whose nonfiction book Test Ride on the Sunnyland Bus won the 2009 River Teeth Literary Nonfiction Prize. Beginning in March, we present Letters, Laurels, and Keys: A Tradition of Honors at the UO, an exhibit at Knight Library and the Living-Learning Center. Over the summer, watch our anniversary website (honors.uoregon.edu/50th) for special alumni events and discounts with the Oregon Bach Festival and Oregon Shakespeare Festival. And be sure to check the site for information on Homecoming 2010.

Whether you remember the basement of Friendly Hall or the third floor of Chapman Hall, the Turbots or the Platypus, we hope you enjoy—and participate in—these opportunities to reminisce. In addition to event information, the website features short alumni profiles that will rotate on an ongoing basis and stimulate many pleasant walks down memory lane to your student days.

We welcome any story, recollections, and photographs you’d like to share. Please send submissions and questions about the fiftieth anniversary to Renee Dorjahn ’82, chair of the Fiftieth Anniversary Committee, at CHC50@uoregon.edu.
Letter from Dean David A. Frank

Fifty years and 2,000 graduates after the honors college founding in 1960, we have proof that Robert D. Clark’s vision of a small liberal arts college nested within a large research university has successfully bridged the humanities and sciences. I invite you to join the celebration of our fiftieth anniversary, reflect on our heritage, and contribute to our future. Our future includes a renovation of Chapman Hall and the addition of a new residence hall that will incorporate language immersion and provide comfortable venues for scholarship outside the traditional classroom environment.

Throughout our fiftieth anniversary, we celebrate three themes important to Robert D. Clark: We celebrate scholarship—accomplishing significant research in widely diverse fields. We celebrate community—how a group of diverse voices joins together to become a community of scholars. And we celebrate the goal of becoming citizens of the world by preparing our students with a broad liberal arts education so they may practice leadership in a multicultural world. These are the foundations of the Robert D. Clark Honors College. We invite you to enjoy and contribute to our historical sketches and alumni profiles, and consult the fiftieth anniversary website (honors.uoregon.edu/50th) for upcoming events throughout the year.

Chapman Hall Renovation Campaign

For more than seventy years, Chapman Hall has done great service for the University of Oregon, housing the home economics department, the University of Oregon Cooperative Store (a forerunner of the UO Bookstore), the philosophy and religious studies departments, the Graduate School, and Creative Publishing. Through all of these years and uses, however, the building has never received a thorough renovation, and many crucial systems and features are unchanged since 1939.

It’s time to think big. Adding to previous alumni efforts, the Clark Honors College is setting out to renovate the remainder of Chapman Hall. Big thinking requires bold initiatives. In the past, our alumni have always led the way, and this time is no exception. At each stage in our ongoing renovation and development, our alumni have played the central role. To achieve our goal of a full building renovation, the CHC must raise $3.2 million. These funds will allow us to provide our students with the most up-to-date teaching technologies, a comfortable and flexible learning environment, and a truly distinctive home on campus. Please contact Kelly Menachemson, our development officer, if you have questions about the Chapman Hall Renovation Campaign.

Kelly Baxter Menachemson
Director of Development
Undergraduate Initiatives and Honors College
University of Oregon

Phone 541-346-8018
Fax 541-346-2574
E-Mail kbm@uoregon.edu
CHC Hires Angel Dorantes as Diversity Recruiter

To further the CHC’s diversity outreach plan, Angel Dorantes joined the Clark Honors College staff at the beginning of the 2009–10 academic year. Born in Mexico City, he has wide-ranging experience including student support services, outreach and recruitment, diversity and multicultural affairs, and enrollment management.

“I am very excited to join the Clark Honors College and the University of Oregon in the role of diversity recruitment coordinator,” said Dorantes. “Creating and developing programs and activities that diversify the student population at the CHC and the university; promoting diversity programming that challenges the mind, the spirit, and the heart; and implementing collaborative initiatives that advance higher education are invigorating personal goals that I will implement at the college in concert with students, faculty, staff, and the community.”

Alumni Advisory Council Update

The Alumni Advisory Council is focused on supporting the mission of the Clark Honors College dean, faculty, and staff. We are involved in an ongoing, dynamic campaign to improve the learning environment for current and future CHC students. Created by a group of gifts from council members, the Honors College Renovation Fund seeks to inspire other alumni to help rebuild the honors college into a modern, forward-looking space for the pursuit of academic excellence while preserving the characteristics that make the CHC a unique campus institution.

Made up of alumni from classes ranging from the 1960s to the 2000s, the council supports Dean David Frank’s diversity initiatives and participates in lively conversations about academic ideas with both students and faculty members. In the future, council members hope to provide mentoring to both incoming and current students with the goals of supporting under-represented communities and helping students find career success in the fields of law, science, business, medicine, and education. The council sponsors an annual Alumni Achievement Award and is planning the CHC Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration (see cover story).

Anyone interested in participating on the council, please contact Amy Kari at arkari@aol.com, or call 925-998-4517.

—Amy Rittenberg Kari ’82

Wanted: Class Agents!

Reunite with your classmates while supporting the CHC

To dovetail with its fiftieth anniversary celebration, the Clark Honors College is seeking alumni to serve as class agents in endorsement of our fundraising efforts. We need one agent for each five-year period of CHC graduates, beginning with 1961. Time commitment is expected to be a couple of hours each year. Lori Metz ’82 is spearheading this effort and is happy to tell you more. Class agents must be current donors to the CHC, and their names will appear on the CHC website as contacts for their classes.

For more information, and to express your interest, please contact Lori at lmetz8904@comcast.net.

—Amy Rittenberg Kari ’82

Tell Us Your News

The CHC community of scholars wants to hear from you. Please note changes in your address, employment, career development, professional activities, or personal life that you would like to share with your classmates and colleagues.

MAIL YOUR INFORMATION TO:
Scholar
Clark Honors College
1293 University of Oregon
Eugene OR 97403-1293

E-MAIL: scholar@uoregon.edu

Be sure to include your class year, major, employer, and professional title as well as your contact information. We look forward to hearing from you!
Mai-Lin Cheng

Hometown: Los Angeles, California
B.A. American Civilization, Semiotics, Brown University
Ph.D., English, University of California, Berkeley

Research focus: Gender and genre in the poetry and prose of the British Romantic period.

Mai-Lin Cheng’s passion for literature grew from a childhood steeped in books and a love for reading. Growing up in Los Angeles, she says, “The public library was this great meeting space in the community; it was very impressive, but also very welcoming. We knew our librarians, so it was sort of the small-town facet of big-city life.” Her classes at the Clark Honors College also build a sense of community—she creates assignments that both encourage student interaction and mirror course content. “One of the things that happened in the Romantic period was a lot of collaboration and intertextuality. Authors would address poems and letters to their friends and people would comment on them; Mary and Percy Shelley were editing and commenting on each other’s work.” Reading and writing can feel like a very isolated process, especially when the topic is difficult, she says. “But working and writing in groups helps students get a feel for that same collaborative process.”

Engaging students in course material is challenging, says Cheng, an assistant professor. “Especially when you’re teaching nonmajors, who, while they’re very good students, very curious, may not have an inherent love of literature,” she says. Cheng designs courses that include different genres—incorporating prose and poetry, fiction and nonfiction—and topics that are important yet accessible, which will appeal to a wide variety of student interests. “I find that Byron, with his numerous affairs and his generally outlandish behavior, can be quite a crowd-pleaser! He’s famously mad, bad, and dangerous to know, and they love to learn about him.”

Like her own college mentors, Cheng finds teaching to be an exciting endeavor. “I really enjoy being involved with students, introducing new

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Hank Alley’s novel Precincts of Light was accepted for publication by Inkwater Press; his story, “Tame,” was accepted for publication by Gertrude Press. Also accepted for publication (by Papers on Language and Literature) was his article, “To the Greenwood: Forster’s Literary Life to Come After ‘A Passage to India.’” Alley’s article, “The Gay Artist as Tragic Hero in ‘The Picture of Dorian Gray,’” appeared in CLCWeb: Comparative Literature and Culture, 2009. He and his partner, Austin Gray, had a joint literary reading in Tsunami Books’ Third Saturday Literary Readings Series in June 2009. Alley read his short story, “Girl on Ice.” His story, “Two Men of Letters,” was in the Top Twenty-Five in the October 2009 Family Matters Story Competition held by Glimmer Train Press.

Monique R. Balbuena’s paper, “Incorporating Latino Latin American Texts in Jewish Latin American Studies Courses,” was published in Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies. Her text, “Dibaxu: A Comparative Analysis of Clarisse Nicoïdski’s and Juan Gelman’s Bilingual Poetry,” was published in Romance Studies. Balbuena was selected for the Northwest Council on Study Abroad program in Siena for winter 2010, and she was selected for a University of Oregon Faculty Summer Research Award.

Jennifer Burns Levin attended the California Joyce Redux Conference in January 2010, where she presented a paper called “Obscene Joyce: Marketing Modernism in The Little Review and Two Worlds Magazines.” Held in Irvine,
Research Scientist Mary Goldring ’69 Wins 2009 Alumni Achievement Award

Mary (Brennan) Goldring ’69, an internationally recognized medical research scientist, accepted the 2009 Clark Honors College Alumni Achievement Award at the CHC’s commencement banquet on Friday, June 12, 2009. Selected by a subcommittee of the CHC Alumni Advisory Council, Goldring has distinguished herself as a leader in the field of chondrocyte biology. She developed in vitro methods for the study of the degeneration of human cartilage in osteoarthritis and inflammatory joint diseases, disorders that affect millions of people worldwide.

In presenting the award, UO President Dave Frohnmayer emphasized Goldring’s achievements in the domain of medical research. “Dr. Goldring is a pioneer in her field,” said Frohnmayer. “She is noted for her multiple awards, including a New Investigator Research Award from the National Institute of Health, and the highly competitive Searle Arthritis and Prostaglandins Research Challenge grant. She is also a three-time recipient of the prestigious Arthritis Foundation Biomedical Research Grant.”

Goldring’s major research contributions include the identification of the molecular and cellular mechanisms involved in the development of impaired cartilage cells that are present in rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis. Now a senior scientist at the Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS) in New York City—a position that includes an affiliated position as lecturer at the Weill Cornell Medical College at Cornell University—Goldring is moving forward with her research efforts. She is even undergoing injections of trial medication in her arthritic left thumb in order to broaden her knowledge in the field.

Goldring traces her scientific curiosity back to her elementary school days in Reno, Nevada. “The Sputniks went up in the late fifties, and there was a lot of hype about pushing science in schools,” she says. “If you tested well, they were pushing you to do math and science all the way through high school.” At that time, she notes, girls were not exactly encouraged to pursue medicine as a career. “I didn’t even think about doing pre-med, but I was helping all these pre-med guys with their work in our organic chemistry classes!” Goldring immersed herself in her high school laboratory studies, and worked as a teaching assistant for her biology teacher who recommended Oregon as a university with a well-rated science program.

At the honors college, Goldring quickly found her niche in biology classes with Professor George Carroll, a noted mycologist of the time. Selected for a National Science Foundation Undergraduate Research Participant (URP) Fellowship, Goldring completed a research project for her honors college thesis (entitled “Electron Microscopy of Sporulation in Imperfect Fungi”) while working with Carroll. “I really do credit him for giving me the opportunity to assist him with his project,” she says. “Even though I ultimately didn’t end up working directly in basic biology with fungi, it really gave me a taste for independent research.”

Throughout her career, Goldring has also functioned as an educator and mentor, beginning with several years teaching biology for the Peace Corps in Peru after completing her undergraduate degree. Goldring currently supervises students at HSS, guiding their research projects. Clinical trials go on for years, she says, “But there are new developments and discoveries made on an ongoing basis. That’s what’s exciting to me; I’m working with this group of eight very talented postdoctoral students. It’s great to see that I’ve guided them in the right direction.”

Goldring attended the CHC commencement and award ceremony accompanied by her husband, Steven Goldring, M.D., chief scientific officer at HSS, and their son Jamie, a recent graduate of Colby College. While on campus, Mary presented a public talk entitled “The Biology of Cartilage Cells and the Use of Mouse Models to Understand Arthritis: How the Chondrocyte Lost Its Way.”
**FACULTY PROFILE**

Reuben Zahler

**Hometown:** Charlotte, Vermont  
**Education:** B.A., history, Cornell University  
M.A., history, University of Chicago  
Ph.D., history, University of Chicago  
**Research focus:** Zahler studies the enormous transformations in honor, law, and political culture that occurred as Latin America (1780-1850) moved from a colonial era to a time of liberal republics (i.e., capitalism, civil rights, elected and representative governments, separation of church and state), and how ordinary men and women promoted, adopted, and rejected these changes.

In 2002, while performing his Fulbright-funded graduate research in Caracas, Zahler was trapped in a neighborhood between two heavily armed political factions during Venezuela’s national strike against President Hugo Chávez. Evacuated by the American government, Zahler abandoned his apartment and made his way to the airport through streets filled with thousands of terrified citizens, marching demonstrators, and armed insurgents. Not every history scholar has such an exciting fellowship, admits Zahler. “As far as trying to understand the transformation of political culture,” he says, “it was a fabulous ‘laboratory’ experience. I got to see what really happens when people don’t agree on which direction to go.”

Zahler says he can’t remember not being interested in history. “I actually think it’s because my father told marvelous stories about his life, his family, about growing up. I always really enjoyed it. I loved the mystery of trying to understand people and their motivations.” That psychological aspect of historical research—discovering what makes people tick in the midst of enormous transformation and change—also applies to teaching. “With students, I have to discover how to convey information, how to package it so it gets through to them. I love teaching, truly love it. It’s a blast. Part of what’s fun is the drama, the excitement—you’re up in front of a crowd! I get to tell stories, I get to ask questions and have the students change my perspective on those stories as well.”

Teaching also feels like important work to Zahler. He knows that the historical material he teaches may not actually change their lives, but he hopes the skills he is teaching will affect and improve his students “... for the next seventy years,” he says. “Research, writing, communication. More than ever students live in a world that is completely inundated with information. The ability to process an overwhelming amount of information, find and recognize new and innovative perspectives from that information—people who can see something new, then be able to communicate in a way that is clear, and meaty, and well organized—this will be an advantage to them, no matter what type of work they are doing.”

Zahler’s enthusiasm for teaching definitely “gets through” to his students. Nominated as an instructor who teaches with heart and passion, in 2009 he won the Excellence in Teaching Award from the UO chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success, Sigma Alpha Pi.

For relaxation: Zahler enjoys spending time with his wife (Deborah Green, assistant professor of religious studies) and their four-year-old son. Though research and academic schedules preclude much leisure, Zahler finds time to run on Eugene’s excellent trails and to bake the occasional loaf of bread.
Robert D. Clark Honors College
Rose Bowl ‘Quack’ Cocktail Hour

Faculty News continued from page 4

California, the conference gathered over fifty James Joyce scholars and many fans of Joyce. Levin’s paper, which compares the conscious marketing of obscenity as free speech in “high” and “low” periodicals that published Joyce’s fiction, will be expanded and presented at the International James Joyce Symposium in Prague in June.

Associate Professor Joseph Fracchia was promoted to professor in May 2009. He was awarded a Sherl K. Coleman and Margaret E. Guitteau Professorship in the Humanities for the 2009-10 academic year. The Coleman-Guitteau teaching-and-research professorship provides faculty members with a teaching fellowship during one academic quarter, and then with a research fellowship the following quarter to pursue full-time research on one or more of the topics explored in the course.

Reuben Zahler was invited to present his research at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom in spring 2009. He won a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and used the NEH monies to support a five-week trip to the archives in Caracas, Venezuela, in summer 2009. Also, he says, “The Venezuelan ambassador to Great Britain invited me to come to London to give a talk. I went there in December 2009 and stayed in the consulate’s apartment for three days. One highlight of this talk was that a member of the British Parliament attended. He invited me to visit Parliament, and he gave me a tour. We later went to the House of Lords, had tea and scones, and debated Latin American politics. Jolly good fun.” Zahler also won the Excellence in Teaching Award from the UO chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success, Sigma Alpha Pi. The award acknowledges instructors who “teach with heart and passion, and have motivated students in their pursuit of education.”

Faculty Profile Mai-Lin Cheng continued from page 4

material and new ideas, challenging them and exposing them to worlds they might not know,” she says. “My classes are discussion-oriented, and I see myself as a facilitator rather than just a distributor of knowledge. In any given session, we’ll have a question that we want to explore. We work together to figure out possible answers, rather than having a particular answer in my mind that I’m looking for, so that the process of discussion is a process of discovery, rather than just filling in the blanks.”

For relaxation: “It sounds cliché,” says Cheng, “but Eugene is a great place for the outdoors. It’s a great place for hikes, wine-tasting, even just walks in Hendricks Park. I also like Portland, and when I’m there I spend a lot of time at Powell’s Books.”

A flock of loyal CHC Ducks gathered at The Beverly Hilton to celebrate the Ducks’ journey south for the Rose Bowl game. The New Year’s Eve cocktail hour featured hors d’oeuvres, high hopes for the game, and a quackin’ good time for all. Words most frequently uttered that evening? “Go, Ducks!” Seen here: Al West, Chelsea Kari, Ross Kari, Amy Kari, Linda Tice, Larry Tice, Kelly Menachemson (Director of Development, Honors College) Don Klotter, Kristin Klotter, Mary Ellen Isensee, Dar Isensee

Robert D. Clark Honors College
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2009 Clark Honors College Scholarship Winners

**ANDREA GELLATLY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:** Anna Steeves-Reece was chosen for this scholarship because she demonstrates academic excellence and breadth of interest and social concern, all of which characterized the late Andrea Gellatly in her short but influential life.

Anna majors in Spanish and international studies. As a result of an internship with CARE Ecuador, she gained first-hand experience with the problems of social, economic, and political inequality. Upon returning home she was inspired to work as a multicultural recruiter on campus and to spend her spring break as a volunteer at a program for undocumented workers in the San Diego area.

**EDWARD C. SARGENT III SCHOLARSHIP:** Josh Lupton, a biology major, is receiving this scholarship because he combines qualities of idealism, commitment to humanity, openness to alternatives, love of the outdoors, and an interest in preserving and protecting the environment that characterized Edward C. Sargent, M.D.

Josh has been interested in a career in medicine since high school, and for the past four years has taken advantage of opportunities to job shadow physicians and to work as a volunteer in hospitals and clinics in Oregon. This hands-on experience has strengthened his commitment to practicing preventive and alternative forms of medicine.

Two outstanding CHC students were selected as recipients of the first IRA AND ELEANOR WONG SCHOLARSHIP for academic merit:

**Stella Chiu,** a biochemistry major, is already working toward her career as a medical researcher. Both in class and on her own initiative she is learning all she can about nanotechnology as a possible technique for treating cancer. In February 2009, Stella founded the UO chapter of the national organization, Colleges Against Cancer, to raise student awareness of the disease.

**Sara Quinn,** an anthropology major, is active in social justice and environmental issues. She is codirector of the UO Survival Center and cofounder of the UO Real Food Project, which promotes sustainable food practices while supporting local growers. She is looking forward to participating in the youth climate activist conference in Washington, D.C., in 2010, in what planners hope will be the largest lobbying day in history.

The **JEAN WITTEMYER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** was awarded to two students with very strong academic records who show exceptional promise for further achievement:

**Anna Waller,** a comparative literature major, brings an interdisciplinary focus to her studies. A recent project focuses on *Giselle,* a major ballet of the Romantic era, and draws on several of her interests: dance history, art, and literature. Anna presented a paper based on her research at a conference in May, and published her findings in the Comparative Literature program’s undergraduate journal, *Nomad,* in the fall.

**John Zatkowsky,** a biology major with an emphasis on environmental education and advocacy, approaches his work holistically, looking to literature as well as science for inspiration. He is completing the leadership certification requirements for the UO’s Outdoor Pursuits Program and knows that whatever his future career may be, it will involve being outdoors in nature.

The **JOY POUST SCHOLARSHIP**: Each year we award three scholarships to students in good academic standing who also have financial need:

**Lorie Ann Acio,** pursuing prejournalism, has been committed to fostering understanding between people of different cultures since childhood. In elementary school she began breaking down barriers—including differences in language—by sharing her Filipino culture during “Show and Tell.” She continues to work on issues related to social justice and ethnic diversity on campus and hopes to reach an even wider audience in her future career as a news reporter.

**Jeannette Kranick,** an English major, loves delving into the nuances of literary analysis in the works of great writers. She hopes to join their ranks one day as she hones her own writing skills. She is also seeking fluency in Spanish and spent fall term 2009 in Oviedo, Spain, reading Spanish literature and immersing herself in Spanish culture.

**Anna Wooley** is majoring in English and Romance languages, with a minor in Latin American studies. She is working as an intern for Siempre Amigos, an organization that offers psychiatric help to women who have been victims of political violence in Latin America. Her work will form the basis of her thesis project in her se-
nior year. She will spend the summer in Mexico perfecting her Spanish skills.

**ROBERT D. CLARK HONORS COLLEGE SERVICE AWARD:**
This scholarship is awarded to a student who has made significant contributions to the CHC community. For the second year in a row the recipient of this scholarship is **Caitlin Baxter**, a biology major. She is the cofounder of the Clark Honors Introductory Program (CHIP), our highly successful new mentoring program for freshmen, which is designed around the UO’s FIG model. As a result of the success of the first year of CHIP, the Honors College will integrate it with future orientation and advising programs. We are grateful to Caitlin for her hard work and dedication in helping to provide a firm foundation for a vibrant Clark Honors College community, both now and in the future.

**ROGER AND GINNY REICH SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDY ABROAD:** **Ellen Macomson**, who majors in international studies and political science, will be studying in Shanghai, China, next year. In addition to intensive study of the Chinese language, she will take classes in foreign relations and domestic politics. Ellen hopes to pursue a career in the world of diplomacy after graduation.

**SHEPHERD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDY ABROAD:** **Dylan Corbin**, an international studies major, will immerse himself in East African culture next year when he studies in Tanzania. In addition to gaining fluency in Kiswahtili, he hopes to learn firsthand about the needs of the people. In his future career he wants to promote positive change in the developing world and to increase understanding between the U.S. and Africa.

**SHEPHERD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:** **Opher Kornfeld**, an incoming first-year student, plans to pursue a career in medicine, but also loves to write poetry and short stories. An Israeli citizen, he is deeply committed to finding peaceful solutions to the political problems in his homeland. He comes to us with a strong record of volunteerism, with service to his school community at Oregon Episcopal School, in addition to many hours of work in the technology and chemistry labs at Oregon Museum of Science and Industry.

**WIGHAM FAMILY THESIS PRIZE** is being awarded this year to two students who have made significant academic progress and who show promise of further outstanding achievement, especially with regard to their CHC senior thesis project.

**Kathleen Dwyer**, has majors in comparative literature and sociology, nicely combining her love of literature and her commitment to social justice. Her thesis will explore the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program. Katie’s own experience studying literature alongside prison inmates in a first-year CHC course was transformative. She plans to attend the national training for Inside-Out professors this summer in Pennsylvania and teach her own literature class at the juvenile facility in Eugene.

**Margaret Keogh** majors in geological sciences and has a passion for fieldwork. As she told us, “For me there is no better office than a pristine creek in Oregon’s wildlands.” In addition to her field research in Oregon’s coastal watersheds, she has done research in Tanzania and Mexico. Her thesis will focus on the contested tectonic history of the Gulf of California region.

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**Jane Higdon Senior Thesis Scholarship Winner**

Congratulations to CHC senior **AlexAnn Westlake (class of 2010)** who won the first-ever Jane Higdon Senior Thesis Scholarship, which was awarded in December by the UO’s Center for the Study of Women in Society. Westlake, a Spanish major from Pleasant Hill, Oregon, completed her fieldwork in summer 2009 while doing research in a public hospital and private clinic in Chile. “When selecting a thesis research topic,” she says, “I wanted to combine my Spanish major studies with a women’s health issue. The opportunity came when I studies in Valdivia, Chile, for six months and investigated the differences between the birth experiences of women receiving care in the public and private health sectors. The research I did while studying abroad confirmed my desire to attend OHSU to become a nurse-midwife. I learned from every moment that I spent doing observations and interviews in the public hospital and private clinic in Chile.”
1970s

David A. Sonnenfeld '73 has published his third book, The Ecological Modernisation Reader: Environmental Reform in Theory and Practice, with Arthur P.J. Mol and Gert Spaargaren, Eds. The volume was released worldwide by Routledge, and is aimed at classroom, scholarly, and policymaking audiences. He is in his third year as professor and chair of environmental studies at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF), in Syracuse, New York.

Heather Henderson ’79 sends this update: “After my acclaimed performance in Animal House, I graduated from the honors college and moved to Portland with my boyfriend-later-husband (David Donelson ’76 and ’79) so that he could start at OHSU. I taught, worked in commercial writing and public relations, and went to grad school at the University of Washington, where I wrote a master’s thesis on Paradise Lost that I no longer understand. Dave and I then went to Yale—he for residency, me for grad school at the Yale School of Drama. There I earned an M.F.A. and a D.F.A. in dramaturgy and dramatic criticism.

We settled back here in Eugene, where Dave is in a medical practice based at Sacred Heart. I spent a year teaching at the UO, and our son Logan is a junior (in English, sigh) still working at Sacred Heart; our daughter Whitney is a junior (in English, sigh)” Meanwhile, Dave’s still working at Sacred Heart; our daughter Whitney is a junior (in English, sigh), and our son Logan is a junior at Shawnigan Lake School on Vancouver Island, British Columbia.”

1990s

Judy Corkery Hein ’90 is semiretired from a dual career in law enforcement and the insurance industry. Judy, along with several investors, is in the process of developing a new green kitchen product. Her contacts in China make an international marketing campaign probable. Says Judy, “While living in Shanghai, I fell in love with the city and its warm and ambitious inhabitants. I definitely plan to focus on the Asian market.”

2000s

Since fall 2008, Sarah Elizabeth (Sally) Boyer ’04, M.A. ’06, has been teaching first- and second-year Spanish classes at Oregon State University. In winter 2010 her duties expanded to online teaching through the e-campus program. Her short review of Amor, curiosidad, prozac, y dudas was recently published in Snodi. She is an avid tango dancer, and dances two or three times weekly in Corvallis, Eugene, and Portland.

Vanessa Elkan ’06 is working as the program and research fellow for the Southern Education Foundation in Atlanta. Vanessa says, “As the fellow, I have been involved with researching everything from why there needs to be a U.S. constitutional amendment guaranteeing education to all citizens, to the changing demographics of students enrolled in public schools in the South.

Emily (Tormey) Dew ’08 works as the development and marketing associate for the Broadway Rose Theatre Company in Portland, Oregon. She says, “My job description continues to expand. Some specific accomplishments I made include launching a fan page on Facebook for the Broadway Rose, which now boasts over 900 fans; increasing advertising revenue for our performance programs in 2009; and helping to plan a major annual fundraising event in 2009 that raised over $40,000 to support our theater and education programs.” In August 2009, Emily married Adam Dew, who is a physical therapy aide. They honeymooned at Disneyland and in Corsica, then moved into a new apartment in Lake Oswego.
Think Globally: CHC Students Study Abroad

Expanding a student’s world view is not just a good idea—it’s a crucial component of the undergraduate educational experience. CHC students trek to the corners of the globe to add context to their outstanding classroom encounters. Polishing language skills, exploring diverse political and social climates, learning about culture through immersion—students who study abroad become citizens of the world.

A Year in Japan

Nathan Goldberg ’10
Hometown: Bend, Oregon
(Summit High School)
Major: Japanese language and literature
Study abroad experience:
Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan

Nathan Goldberg’s interest in Japanese language, literature, and culture grew from stories related by his father—who was stationed at a Tokyo air base during the Vietnam War—and his grandfather, a professor who spent a year in Japan serving as an adviser for exchange students. Nathan also studied Japanese during all four years of high school. Here, Nathan provides some highlights from his study abroad experience:

Living abroad

I stayed with a host family, which I really recommend. Some students stay in international dorms, but then you’re mainly around people who speak English. My host family didn’t speak much English, so from the beginning, I had to speak, listen, and think in Japanese, which helped my language skills immensely.

My host family had a main house and a separate guest house where I stayed; they were terrific! The most important person was my host mother. The mother runs the Japanese family completely. She was so caring, and was always willing to listen and help with any problems I was having.

The educational component

In half of my classes at Waseda University, I was in specialized higher-level “elective” classes—similar to the colloquia classes in the Clark Honors College—with Japanese students. These classes are taught in English, and were really interesting because the Japanese students bring a whole different set of ideas and opinions to the table, much different from what we exchange students brought. My other classes were Japanese language courses—reading, writing, speaking, listening.

I also had a part-time job teaching basic English at an international day care. I’d work with the three- to five-year-olds for half an hour, twice a week. I did this from October to July when I left to come home. It was amazing to see how much they could remember and how much more speaking confidence that they had. I’d like to think that I had a small part in that; it made me very proud to see how much they had grown during that time.

Cultural Lessons

Everyone has the impression—and it’s true to a certain degree—that the Japanese are very polite and well-mannered, that there is a whole rigid, set way of behavior. But there are certain situations where those rules go out the window, and one of those situations is riding on the trains, which is a huge part of everyday life. In Japan, there’s a big premium placed on punctuality, so it’s a really big deal if you are late to work. People will shove and push their way onto trains that are already packed, and ignore common courtesies like offering a seat to an older person who is standing. They’ll pretend to be asleep so they don’t have to give up a seat! This fascinated me, so that’s where I am focusing my honors college thesis: That behavior on trains, which is so distinctly different from the usual Japanese behavior pattern.

Amazing experiences

I climbed Mt. Fuji toward the end of my stay. Westerners have this idea of hiking and climbing a mountain, that it will be a solitary experience. But Fuji is a destination for so many people, and the climbing season is limited because of weather. I went with two other UO students, and we decided to hike through the night (starting at ten p.m.) to catch the sunrise. We took a bus from Tokyo to a point about halfway up the mountain. Walking up became a human traffic jam, in the dark of night, in the cold and the wind. You’re just standing in line, shuffling along these switch-backs, completely surrounded by people. I remember at about four in the morning, I was shuffling along thinking “What am I doing here?” I was ravenous, so my friends and I sat down at the side of the trail to rest. I ate an apple, and it was the best tasting apple I’d ever had. Ironically, it was a Fuji apple.... We made it to the top about half an hour later in time to see the most incredible sunrise. It was arduous, but such a worthwhile experience.

Nathan’s post-graduation goals

I hope to teach in Japan for a year or so. Then, I’d like to come back to the UO for graduate school. Eventually, I hope to teach middle school students; it’s an age when you are becoming more self aware and you need a lot of positive role models in your life.
Save the Dates!

March 29–June 21
Knight Library, 1501 Kincaid Street, and Living-Learning Center, 1455–75 East 15th Avenue

May 6
Ana Maria Spagna ’89—Book reading and signing (Eugene)
175 Knight Law Center, 1515 Agate Street

June 25
CHC reception in conjunction with the Oregon Bach Festival (Eugene)
Ticket discount to June 25 performance of Verdi’s *Requiem*

June 27
CHC brunch in conjunction with the Oregon Bach Festival (Portland)
Ticket discount to June 27 performance of Verdi’s *Requiem*

July 29–31
Oregon Shakespeare Festival session with UO Shakespearean scholar (Ashland)

August 4–6
Oregon Shakespeare Festival session with UO Shakespearean scholar (Ashland)

August 6–8
Oregon Shakespeare Festival session with UO Shakespearean scholar (Ashland)

November 1–7
Homecoming Week: Watch website for events and updates (Eugene)

For more information, see honors.uoregon.edu/50th.