



AUGUST 6, 2018

*Currently* will resume weekly publication Monday, September 24. This is the only issue for summer.

## \$1 million for STEM teaching classroom

Education advocates and philanthropists Christine and David Vernier have donated \$1 million to the PSU Graduate School of Education to create a fully equipped STEM training classroom for PSU's new 4th and Montgomery building, expected to open in 2020. [READ MORE](#)



## New research VP on campus

Mark McLellan, a 30-year veteran of university research leadership, starts today, Aug. 6, as Portland State's new vice president of research. He was vice president for research and dean of the School of Graduate Studies at Utah State University, Utah's land-grant and space-grant research institution. During his seven years there, he helped build a

major research expansion and a record level of research funding, including a new infusion of state funding for support of graduate students and graduate education. [READ MORE](#)

## Beloved advisor passes away

The campus continues to mourn the loss of Paula Harris, student advisor in the Office of International Student and Scholar Services. Ms. Harris died July 9 from a heart attack. She was 63. "Our inboxes are overflowing with messages from students whose lives she touched in her time at Portland State," wrote Christina Luther, office director, in a student newsletter. Ms. Harris started at the University in 1997 in the Office of Admissions. To share a story about Ms. Harris, email [oaia@pdx.edu](mailto:oaia@pdx.edu) with "Paula" in the subject line. A memorial is tentatively planned for fall term.



## Building gets new name

The name of the Collaborative Life Sciences Building (CLSB) is changing to the Robertson Life Sciences Building (RLSB) on Sept. 1 to honor retired OHSU President Joe Robertson. The building's formal name will be the Joseph E. Robertson, Jr. Collaborative Life Sciences Building. The OHSU board is recognizing Robertson's vision, dedication, and record of accomplishments. OHSU's new president, Danny Jacobs, former provost and dean of the School of Medicine at the University of Texas Medical Branch, started Aug. 1.

## Diversity Awards recognize dedication

Faculty members Gita Mehrotra and Dawn Richardson and staff members Marina Barcelo and Shanice Clarke were honored at the President's Diversity Awards event on June 7. The staff and faculty members along with seven students and an alumnus were presented with awards for their advocacy, engagement, support and accomplishments. [READ MORE](#)

## Read latest

### Research Review

Research that provides insight into Oregon's food waste, marine ecosystems, and early childhood education, are just a few of the areas covered in the latest edition of Research & Strategic Partnerships' [Research Review](#) now available online. The issue highlights research PSU faculty members and students are engaging in to address key challenges facing the region and the state.



## Teaching grad students to teach

A new study suggests that universities should do more to invest in training graduate students in 21st century teaching methods, and that this may help better prepare them for a career in research. The study, [published online](#) in the journal PLOS ONE, was authored by Erin Shortlidge, Biology faculty, and a colleague at Florida International University's STEM Transformation Institute. The findings run counter to a widespread perception that any time spent teaching, or even learning about teaching methods, will take away from research productivity for faculty and graduate students. [READ MORE](#)

## Register for Care Ethics conference

International scholars from such diverse fields as art, business, childhood studies, criminal justice and sociology, to name a few, will present at the first-ever Care Ethics Research Consortium conference hosted by University Studies on Sept. 27 and 28 in the PSU University Place Hotel and Conference Center. The event is free to PSU faculty, staff and students, but registration is required as space is limited. To register and find out more, visit the [conference website](#), or contact Veronica Hotton, conference manager, at [cercinfo@pdx.edu](mailto:cercinfo@pdx.edu).



## Free bike rides for students

Portland State students may now ride Portland's iconic bright orange Biketown bikes for free. Thanks to a new agreement between PSU and Biketown, Portland's city-owned bike share program, current students can ride a Biketown bike up to 90-minutes per day at no cost by signing up for a student membership online. The PSU campus is now considered a Super Hub Zone, which means the bikes may be parked in any public bike rack on the PSU campus without penalty. [READ MORE](#)

## Benefits Buzz

Public Employees' Benefit Board (PEBB) open enrollment is Oct. 1-31. In September, staff and faculty will receive information on benefit changes.

PEBB is offering a free, six-week online workshop titled [Better Choices, Better Health](#) that employees can start at any time. It was designed to help people manage arthritis, heart disease, depression, sleep apnea and many other conditions.

The Oregon Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) and the Oregon Savings Growth Plan are holding a free resource expo on Thursday, Oct. 11, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Salem Convention Center. [Registration is required.](#)

*Content for benefits Buzz is provided by the PSU Office of Human Resources and more benefits information is available on the [Human Resources website](#).*

CURRENTLY IS PUBLISHED online every Monday during the academic year. News items should be sent to the Office of University Communications (mail code: UCOMM; e-mail address: [currently@pdx.edu](mailto:currently@pdx.edu)) by the Tuesday noon before publication.

## EVENTS

**August 7**  
[OIT Workshop: Excel Introduction](#)

**August 7, 20**  
[HR Training: New Employee Orientation](#)

**August 8, 15, 22, 29**  
[HR Training: Manager Basics Training Series](#)

**August 9**  
[Dig In: Smith Garden Work Party](#)

[Women's Soccer: PSU vs. Oregon](#)

[Rooftop Cinema - Godzilla](#)

**August 10, 17, 24, 31**  
[Donuts & D2L: Drop In Help Sessions for Faculty](#)

[Computational & Data Science Seminar](#)

[Friday Flat Fix at Noon](#)

**August 11**  
[Farm to Fork Fundraiser Dinner at Learning Gardens Laboratory](#)

**August 13**  
[Women's Soccer: PSU vs. British Columbia](#)

[OIT Workshop: Intro to Cognos \(DataMaster\)](#)

[OIT Workshop: Exploring Cognos Reports](#)

**August 16**  
[Rooftop Cinema - Breakin'](#)

**August 18**  
[Red vs. Blk Charity Basketball Game](#)

**August 20**  
[FS Training: PCARD Policy](#)

[Volleyball: PSU vs. Central Washington](#)

**August 21**  
[OIT Workshop: PSU CampusNexus CRM Training](#)

**August 21 & 23**  
[HR Training: Crucial Conversations-2-Day Training](#)

**August 22**  
[FS Training: Travel Policy and Viking Travel](#)

**August 23**  
[FS Training: AP Policy Training](#)

[PSU Opera at Festa Italiana](#)

[Rooftop Cinema - Bringing Up Baby](#)

**August 24**  
[OIT Workshop: Enrollment Management \(DataMaster\)](#)

[Volleyball: PSU vs. Long Beach State](#)

**August 25**  
[Volleyball: PSU vs. Boise State](#)

[Volleyball: PSU vs. Long Beach State](#)

**August 26**  
[Women's Soccer: PSU vs. CSUN](#)

**August 28**  
[OIT Workshop: Google Calendar](#)

[OIT Workshop: Google Mail Setup, Shortcuts, Tips, Chat, Tasks](#)

[OIT Workshop: Persistence Contact List and Visualization Trends \(DataMaster\)](#)

**August 30**  
[Harvest Party at the PSU Orchard](#)

[Rooftop Cinema - Escape from New York](#)

**August 31**  
[ODP: Labor Day Weekend Rental Special](#)

[OIT Workshop: Intro to Cognos \(DataMaster\)](#)

[OIT Workshop: Exploring Cognos Reports](#)

[HR Training: Benefits Only-Information Session](#)

[Volleyball: PSU vs. Oregon State](#)

## PEOPLE

Dave Ervin, Kathy Harris, Daniel Jaffee, Brian McCarthy, James Morris, Malgorzata Chrzanoska-Jeske, Tracy Prince, Aaron Whelton

## PRESENTED

Dacian Daescu, Scott DuHadway, Marek Elzanowski, Berrin Erdogan, Nathaniel Garrod, Tom Gillpatrick, Akiko Hashimoto, Cass Hausserman, Daniel Jaffee, Sejin Keem, Ted Khoury, Susan Kirtley, Piman Limpaphayom, Neera Malhotra, Aaron Roussell, Ken Ruoff, Dara Shiffrer, Suwako Watanabe, Amanda Winn, Hyeyoung Woo

## PUBLISHED/EXHIBITED

Elizabeth Almer, Paula Carder, Cassio de Oliveira, Barbara J. Friesen, Nancy M. Koroloff, Megan Horst, M. Michelle Illuminato, Maura Kelly, Amaradri Mukherjee, Aaron Roussell, Alex Ruzicka, Richard Hugo, Sue Taylor, Maika J. Yeigh, Todd Cherner

## GRANTS

Bruno Jedynak, Daniel Traylor-Rodriguez, Stéphanie Roulon, Anousha Sedighi

## ADDITIONAL LINKS

Currently  
Events  
Athletics News & Schedules  
Training & Development  
Vacancies  
HR Policies, Contracts and Forms  
University Policy Library  
University Place Hotel & Conference Center