

MAY 23, 2016

LAST CURRENTLY for the 2015-16 academic year will be published electronically Tuesday, May 31. Deadline for that issue is noon Tuesday, May 24.

First Freshman Inquiry Teaching Award winner announced

Chris Carey is winner of the first annual Freshman Inquiry Teaching Award. A former deputy district attorney, Carey is an associate professor in the School of Community Health. He teaches [Freshman Inquiry Globalization](#) as well as courses in health law, policy and human rights. The University Studies Council created the award to recognize excellence in teaching that includes integrated learning, transformative experiences, availability and personal interest in students, promotion of diversity and value of difference, and encouragement of self-expression and exploration.

President's Diversity Awards on Wednesday

Faculty, staff and students who have made PSU a more diverse, inclusive and equitable University will be honored at the [12th Annual President's Diversity Awards Ceremony](#), 2-4 p.m. Wednesday, May 25, in the Native American Student and Community Center. The campus community is invited to celebrate the award winners and enjoy light refreshments and entertainment. Canned food donations will be accepted at the door.

\$1.2 million grant to expand program for the blind

The U.S. Department of Education awarded the Graduate School of Education a \$1,247,470 grant to develop a new certificate program to train orientation and mobility (O&M) specialists in PSU's Visually Impaired Learner program. Over the next five years, the program will prepare 38 O&M specialists to help individuals who are blind or visually impaired develop the skills necessary for independent and safe travel within their homes, workplaces and communities. Holly Lawson and Kathryn Botsford, faculty in the Special Education Department, lead the project. [READ MORE](#)

Fink to step down as research VP

After nearly six years as Portland State's first vice president for research, Jonathan Fink will be leaving the post on June 30 to focus on "smart city" research projects. The University will conduct a national search for a replacement in the fall, and an interim VP will be named in the next few weeks. "Jon built a first-class research operation, and used his extensive outside connections and creativity to open many new doors for PSU," said President Wim Wiewel. [READ MORE](#)

Celebrating shared Marshallese craftsmanship

An unveiling and blessing of the completed outrigger canoe that was partially built on campus is scheduled from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, May 26, in the Native American Student and Community Center. From September through March, Marshall Island native Tiem Clement worked on the 25-foot craft on campus with the help of volunteers. The project was a partnership between PSU and the nonprofit Living Islands to raise awareness of the almost 7,000 Marshallese and Marshallese descendants living in the Pacific Northwest. The Thursday event will include Marshallese food and dancing, and officials from the island are expected to attend.

Support students at Honors Thesis Symposium

Honors students from all disciplines will present their original research projects at the annual University Honors College Thesis Symposium from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 26, on the second floor of Smith Union. Faculty and staff are encouraged to attend the presentations in support of the students. [A list of presentation times is available online.](#)

Time to celebrate sustainability

Where can you find all of Portland State's movers and shakers of sustainability gathered in one place? The ninth annual PSU Sustainability Celebration is from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday, May 26, in the Smith Union Ballroom. This annual party features live performances, a sustainability awards ceremony, and a sprawling project showcase that highlights the work of students, staff, and faculty who are making advances in sustainability and continuing to burnish PSU's reputation for leadership in all things green. [READ MORE](#)

Performing music that takes a Stand Against Violence

Around the world, music has often played a part in the struggle against violence, war and oppression. The Portland State Man Choir, Vox Femina and University Choir—with guest percussionist Valerie Naranjo of the Saturday Night Live Band—will perform this music for Global Rhythms: Stand Against Violence, with Ethan Sperry conducting. The Lincoln Hall performances are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 28, and 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 29. Tickets cost \$15 general and \$7 for seniors and students, and may be purchased from the [PSU Box Office](#).

New email and website address for PSU Foundation staff

By the end of May, PSU Foundation staff email addresses will end with "psuf.org" instead of "pdx.edu." The change leads the way for a database conversion and upgrade; mirrors the foundation's new web address, [www.psu.org](#); and reflects the foundation's status as an independent nonprofit organization. [READ MORE](#)

Encourage students...

To learn about summer class options and opportunities from advisors and financial aid counselors at the [Summer Session Information Fair](#) Wednesday, May 25, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Park Blocks outside Smith Union. It's their chance to explore how summer session can help them graduate on time, or enroll in a class they always wanted to take.

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) by the Tuesday noon before publication.

EVENTS

May 23
[Civil and Environmental Engineering MS Project Presentation: Nicholas Stoll](#)

[Second Annual Neuroscience Action Potential Awards Ceremony](#)

[Smallpox, Yellow Fever, Ebola, and now Zika: Western Disease Control and Eradication in Africa](#)

[PSU Jazz Night](#)

May 23, 25
[Meet with Career Services AVP Candidates](#)

May 23-28
[A Night of Strindberg](#)

May 24
[OIT Workshop: Intro to DataMaster](#)

[OIT Workshop: Exploring DataMaster Reports](#)

[New Era for PSU Athletics](#)

[Sharon Schuman: Freedom and Dialogue in a Polarized World](#)

[OIT Workshop: Excel: Advanced](#)

[The New Arab Wars: Anarchy & Uprising in the Middle East](#)

May 25
[YLG Leadership Forum with Carol Mayer-Reed](#)

[The Dynamic Geology of Iceland: The Land of Fire and Ice with Scott Burns](#)

[Joint Campus Environmental Research Colloquium & Alumni Lecture](#)

[Has Portland Lost Its Way? A Conversation About Urbanism and Capital](#)

[Minorities and The Modern Arab World: New Perspectives](#)

[PDX Collective Jazz Vocal Ensemble Spring Concert](#)

May 26
[Resilient Pacific Northwest Program: Creating Community Resilience](#)

[Performance Attendance Series: Composition](#)

[HR Healthy, Wealthy & Wise: Estate Planning](#)

[Ninth Annual Sustainability Celebration](#)

[Outrigger Canoe Project: Unveiling & Blessing](#)

[Zootopia Film Screening](#)

[Sara Glasgow Cogan Memorial Lecture featuring Author Ayelet Waldman](#)

May 27
[Chemistry Seminar: Chemistry Honors Presentations](#)

[Senior Recital: Eunice Burla, Classical Piano](#)

[Listening Session for the New Asian & Pacific Islander Cultural Resource Center](#)

May 28
[Outdoor Program Trip: Sahalee Tyee Backpacking](#)

[Senior Recital: Kevin Rahardjo, Classical Piano](#)

[Junior Recital: Samantha Clark, Classical Voice](#)

[Senior Recital: Kyle Peterson, French Horn](#)

[The 36th Annual African Cultural Night: My Afrika Is...](#)

[Senior Recital: Kanda Mbenza-Ngomu, Jazz Voice](#)

[Senior Recital: Meghan Wilson, Jazz Voice](#)

May 28, 29
[Global Rhythms: Stand Against Violence](#)

May 29
[Outdoor Program Trip: Clackamas Rafting](#)

May 30
[Memorial Day: University Closed](#)

PEOPLE

[Claudia Irla](#), [Kimberly Willson-St. Clair](#), [Priya Kapoor](#), [Bob Liebman](#), [Amy Lubitow](#), [Dara Shiffrer](#)

PRESENTED

[Eva Núñez](#), [Liane O'Banion](#), [Casey Payseno](#), [Mellie Pullman](#), [Gerry Sussman](#), [Donald Truxillo](#), [Todd Bodner](#), [David Cadiz](#), [JJP Veerman](#)

PUBLISHED/EXHIBITED

[Steven Carnovale](#), [Cliff Allen](#), [Mellie Wong](#), [Daniel Wong](#), [Ginny Garcia](#), [Hyeyoung Woo](#), [Sherril Gelmon](#), [Billie Sandberg](#), [Federico Perez](#), [Serge Preston](#)

GRANTS

[Judy BlueHorse Skelton](#), [Alex Stepick](#)

ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Currently Events Athletics News & Schedules Training & Development Vacancies HR Policies, Contracts and Forms University Policy Library University Place Hotel & Conference Center PSOM 2016](#)