

SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

## President stresses excellence and collaboration in convocation address

Rahmat Shoureshi outlined his priorities as Portland State's new president in a convocation address to faculty and staff, stressing collaboration across disciplines and across the campus as keys to elevating PSU to become the top college choice for Oregonians. "No other Oregon university can match PSU's value proposition," he said, citing PSU's mission to be accessible for all qualified students with affordable tuition and a variety of financial aid programs. His address on Wednesday, Sept. 20, in the Smith Union Ballroom was followed by the [presentation of faculty and staff excellence awards](#) for research, teaching and service. [READ MORE](#)

## The president's first day

The campus community welcomed new PSU President Rahmat Shoureshi on his first day, August 14, with tours, PSU gear and an outdoor party for 400. Shoureshi will spend his first few months immersing himself in the campus community; listening to faculty, staff, students, and alumni; and gathering ideas that will inform his priorities for PSU. [Watch the video](#)

## University named to top 10 innovative list

For the third year in a row, Portland State University has been ranked among the [10 most innovative universities](#) by U.S. News & World Report. It earned the ranking alongside such universities as Stanford, Harvard and Duke. PSU also made U.S. News' Best National Universities list—the first time ever in the University's history. PSU was grouped among schools ranked from 231 to 300. In addition, this year's rankings recognized PSU's service learning and undergraduate business programs. [READ MORE](#)

## Three colleges and the city to share new building

The Oregon Legislature approved \$51 million in bonds to fund a new PSU campus building that will house programs from Portland State, Oregon Health & Science University and Portland Community College, as well as Portland city offices. Located at Southwest Fourth Avenue and Montgomery Street, the \$100-million building will be nine stories tall and have classrooms, a dental clinic, and low-cost mental health services for the public, along with ground-floor retail and restaurants. Construction is scheduled to begin in summer 2018 and be completed in 2020. [READ MORE](#)

## New home for The School of Business

Students returned today to a remodeled and expanded space for The School of Business. The building, known as the Karl Miller Center, was a two-year, \$62 million project that will receive [LEED Platinum certification](#). Business students now have double the space, triple the classrooms and 10 project rooms as well as a light- and art-filled atrium.

## Campus gathering on sustainable work

Join the Institute for Sustainable Solutions and President Rahmat Shoureshi for a beginning-of-year gathering featuring local food, live music, and sustainability leaders from across campus and beyond. [Sustainability in Action at Portland State](#) is Thursday, Sept. 28, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Ballroom (room 355) of Smith Memorial Student Union. It will highlight discoveries and accomplishments at Portland State and explore opportunities for getting involved in sustainability work. [Free with RSVP](#).

## PSU Eats unveils new space and food

The campus community is invited to a [grand opening](#), Tuesday, Sept. 26, of the renovated dining areas on the first floor of Smith Memorial Student Union. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., there will be free food, giveaways, music and a cake-cutting with President Rahmat Shoureshi. Over the summer, new food service vendor Chartwells worked with PSU on a \$1 million renovation, and it will be running the University's dining services now known as PSU Eats. It is partnering with local favorites such as Salt & Straw, Cha Cha Cha and Stumptown coffee. PSU Eats is also holding a [catering showcase](#) for staff and faculty on Tuesday, Oct. 3 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Smith Union Ballroom. [RSVP](#) by Sept. 27.

## Join the chorus

The PSU Community Chorus is seeking new members for fall term. The fun, low-key, no-audition chorus consists of PSU faculty, staff and alumni who rehearse on Tuesdays from 12 to 12:50 p.m. and perform a concert at the end of each term. [View a song](#) recorded from their winter concert. Members pay a \$50 membership fee per term for sheet music and modest stipends for the director and accompanist (both graduate students from the Music Department). Scholarships are available. Go to the first rehearsal Tuesday, Sept. 26, in 453 Cramer Hall, or contact Samantha at [sapeters@pdx.edu](mailto:sapeters@pdx.edu) to find out more.

## Walk your way to good health

Walktober, a fitness challenge open to the entire PSU community, starts October 1 and runs for the rest of the month. Participants may use the new [ChallengeRunner website](#) and mobile app to log steps taken each day. Walkers will earn incentives and prizes and meet others on weekly guided walks. Visit the [Walktober](#) website to create an account and compete as an individual or team.

## International Affairs has moved

All offices and institutes of the [Office of International Affairs \(OIA\)](#) have moved to the sixth floor of the Karl Miller Center, 615 SW Harrison. OIA houses Education Abroad, International Partnerships, International Student and Scholar Services, International Special Programs, Transnational Programs/Waseda, Confucius Institute, Institute for Asian Studies and the Middle East Studies Center. Mail codes, phone extensions, and URLs remain the same. Campus community members are invited to visit the new offices, and an open house is planned for November.

## Join a flash mob and dance to "Thriller"

Rehearsals have started for anyone interested in joining a PSU flash mob that will dance to Michael Jackson's "Thriller" at the Urban Plaza on Tuesday, Oct. 17, as part of [Portland's "Thriller" Mind](#). Channel your inner zombie and learn the choreography on Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons through Oct. 14 in the Campus Rec Center. [Details and an interest and participation form](#) are available online. Or for more information, contact event hosts, Christian Aniciete, University Communications, [caniciet@pdx.edu](mailto:caniciet@pdx.edu) or Kara Hayes, Office of Student Success, [kahayes@pdx.edu](mailto:kahayes@pdx.edu).

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

**September 25**  
[HR Training: New Employee Briefing](#)

**September 25-27**  
[Decon + Reuse '17](#)

**September 26**  
[HR Training: PeopleAdmin](#)

[Smith Grand Opening Celebration](#)

**September 27**  
[Oregon's Housing & Transportation Future](#)

[HR Training: Webinar on 5 Keys to Managing Employees Effectively](#)

[Center for Public Service Open House](#)

[DACA: Know Your Rights](#)

**September 27-January 8**  
[Our American Eyes: Prints by Roger Shimomora](#)

**September 28**  
[Campus Police Chief Candidate Forum](#)

[Party in the Park](#)

[What the Heck Does Prof. Kim Brown Do?](#)

[OAI Faculty Event: Daylight Public Info Session](#)

[Sustainability in Action at Portland State](#)

**September 29**  
[HR Training: Benefits Only Overview](#)

[Transportation Seminar: Bicycle Safety Research at CARRS-Q in Brisbane, Australia](#)

[The Linguascape of English Social Media and the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster](#)

[Chemistry Seminar: David Stuart](#)

**September 30**  
[Football: PSU vs. Montana](#)

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

**October 1-31**  
[Walktober](#)

### PEOPLE

**Robert Asaadi, Maria Beebe, F. Rudolf Beyl, Steven Carnovale, Ted Khoury, Bob Lieberman, Sociology faculty, Fred Miao, Jack Straton, Gerry Sussman, Keith Walters**

### PRESENTED

**Talya Bauer, Berrin Erdogan, Anita Bright, David Cadiz, Heejun Chang, Stefan Talke, Jeanne Enders, David Ervin, Óscar Fernández, Michele Gamburd, Jacen Greene, Kris Henning, Dan Jaffee, Ted Khoury, Susan Kirtley, Meiru Liu, Masami Nishishiba, Mellie Pullman, Ken Ruoff, Robert Schroeder, Dara Shifrer, Kimberly Willson-St. Clair**

### PUBLISHED/EXHIBITED

**Shelby Anderson, Maria Beebe, Silvia Boero, Scott Burns, Heejun Chang, Jonah Eleweke, David Ervin, Tom Fisher, Andrew Fountain, Eliza Greenstadt, Alissa Hartig, Andres Holz, Susan Kirtley, Charles Klein, Meiru Liu, Nathan McClintock, Emily Fitzgibbons Shafer, Robert Schroeder, Greg Stewart, Kimberly Kahn, Joel Steele, Melissa Thompson**

### GRANTS

**Amy Lubitow, Julius McGee, Kelly Clifton, Mau Nam Nguyen**

### ADDITIONAL LINKS

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